

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>429</i>	Press
		<i>Mis.</i>
Dated	<i>20. 10.</i>	18 <i>58</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 29th October 1858.

No. 9. From Lieutenant R. A. STRADLING, I. N., Commanding H. C. S. V. "Coromandel," to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 18th October, No. 193 of 1858.

SIR,

It is with regret I have the honor to inform you that on the night of the 16th Instant, John Franklin, Sub-Conductor, Commissariat Department, who embarked from Madras for passage to Rangoon, is supposed to have drowned himself in a fit of "delirium tremens," as after a strict search at board day light on the morning of the 17th, he was no where to be found. As he was under treatment by the Medical Officer of this Vessel, I called upon him for a statement of his case, which I enclose.

DELIRIUM TREMENS.

JOHN FRANKLIN, Sub-Conductor,
Commissariat Department.

This Individual was a Passenger on Board the H. C. S. V. "Coromandel" and was bound for Rangoon. He embarked at Madras on the afternoon of the 14th October 1858, he then appeared to the Officer of the watch to be under the influence of liquor. From his Servant (who followed him on Board and who had been in his employ for the last two years) the following information was gained, that he was an habitual indulger in spirituous liquors, that he had an attack of Delirium about 9 months ago, when he was admitted into the Hospital at Saint Thomas' Mount, and that before embarkation he was more than usually drunk. During the afternoon and night of the 14th, he was very sick at stomach. When seen by the Medical Subordinate of the Vessel, he complained greatly of languor, loss of strength, and fatigue, thirst great, no appetite, skin warm and moist, pulse full and accelerated, countenance pale.

R/ Sodæ sesquicarb. ʒj.
Spts. Ammon. Aro. ʒj.
Tinct. Opii. m. xx.
Acid Tartaric gr. xv.

effervescing draught to be given immediately.

12 M. The vomiting continues and he is much depressed by violent retching and is constantly moaning.

Repeat draught.

15th. Was seen by the Medical Officer in charge. Passed a very restless night and is greatly exhausted. Stomach still irritable. Bowels confined for three days. Tongue coated and skin perspiring.

R/ Mag. Sulphas ʒij.
Mag. Carbonas ʒss.
Spts. Ammon. Aro. ʒiss.
Aq. Menth. pip. ʒiss.
Nt. ft. mist. st. sd.

6 P. M. Bowels still confined, expresses himself however as relieved. He eat a small quantity of bread and had the usual allowance of two drams of Rum.

R/ Ext. Col. Co. gr. x.
Pil. Hydrdrarg. gr. v.
Ext. Hyoscyami. gr. v.
Nt. ft. in pil iij.

H. S. S.

16th. Bowels once freely moved this morning, states that he feels a great deal better, Appetite improving: better in every way.

Nil.

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 29th October 1858.

6 P. M. During the day he was very quiet and drank his usual quantity of Rum. Towards night he was observed to be talking incoherently, asking foolish questions and interfering in matters of others which did not concern him. On being questioned, his answers were rational, but seemed to be quite suspicious of those about him.

R/ Opii. grs. ij.
st. sd.

9 P. M. Is much worse being now in a decided state of *Delirium Tremens*. All the symptoms of the disease being fully developed.

R/ Opii. gr. ij.
Brandy ℥ij.
immediately.

12 M. Vomited the liquor shortly after taking it, is very troublesome to all around him. He was with great difficulty kept on his bed. Eventually appearing inclined to sleep, and getting a little quieter, he was fastened in his Cabin by the Quarter-Master.

17. Was found missing this morning, all parts of the Vessel were examined but to no purpose. He was last seen by the Officer of the watch about 2 A. M., appearing asleep, and has not been seen since, and it is supposed that he threw himself overboard during a delirious fit.

H. C. S. V. "Coromandel,"
NEGAPATAM,
17th October 1858.

(Signed) HENRY J. BEACH, Asst. Surgeon,
In Medical charge of H. C. S. V. "Coromandel."

No. 10.

ORDER THEREON, No. 429; dated 26th October 1858.
Ordered to be communicated to the Military Department.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 429.

*Ordered to be communicated to
the Military Department.*

*Fort St. George,
26th October, 1858-5*

Copy to Military Dept. Disp. 29th