

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 53

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated 1-2-1858

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 2nd February 1858.

No. 11. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Secretary Marine Board; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 14th January 1858, No. 177.

SIR,

I have the honor by desire of the Marine Board to acknowledge receipt of Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 4th Instant, No. 1, communicating a letter from Colonel Melvill, Secretary to Government, Bombay, with enclosure from Commodore Wellesley, Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, to the Government of that Presidency.

2. By these letters it is evident that Colonel Melvill, as well as Commodore Wellesley, is under the impression that the Marine Board advocate interference with the internal economy of the Vessels belonging to the Indian Navy. This is quite a mistaken notion, which has arisen from the Board's previous letters on the subject of Vessels to be supplied for the service of this Presidency not having been perused by the writers.

3. What the Board have invariably advocated was, that the Madras Vessels should not belong to the Indian Navy, but be commanded and officered by persons appointed by this Government, which would then exercise that control over their movements and expenditure which, it is believed, would tend to make them more serviceable to the Presidency to which they are said to belong.

4. The Board in those paras: of their letter of the 27th January 1857, No. 316, animadverted on by Commodore Wellesley, took that opportunity of again pointing out the disadvantages under which this Government labored in having Vessels of the Indian Navy allotted to the ordinary duties of the Presidency, and the correspondence now communicated shews that they were right in supposing that no power is vested in any authority whatever at Madras to pass any order regarding the internal economy of what are termed the Madras Vessels.

5. But at the same time these remarks were never intended as a complaint that this power was not granted over Officers and Vessels of the Indian Navy. This is a service under its own laws and regulations, and if any such interference were permitted they are fully alive to the irregularities it might lead to. They think that this Government ought to have the power, but to enable them to exercise it, the Vessels at their permanent disposal should belong to this Presidency and to no other, and the Commanders and Officers should be of their own appointing.

6. The Board think that they have said enough to shew that they never did contemplate any such interference with the Vessels of the Indian Navy as Commodore Wellesley supposed. They were remarking on the disadvantage of the system which placed Vessels nominally at the disposal of this Government, over which so little local control could be exercised, and, as a proof that their observations were not idly penned, they may remark that although the Steamers

Hydaspes.

Robert Lowe.

Carthage.

Manila.

"Prince Arthur" and "Dalhousie" were both purchased and sent out expressly for their requirements, they have not as yet received any aid from them. One is working for the Bengal Government, the other is at Bombay. Fortunately they have been able to supply their places by hired Steamers, of which they now have four employed, but the expense of course is much heavier than if they had Vessels on whose services they could depend as being entirely under their control.

(Signed) J. J. FRANKLIN,

Chief Secretary.

No. 12. From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government; to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Military Department, Marine Branch, dated Fort Saint George, 1st February 1858, No. 53.

SIR,

Your letter of the 18th December last, No. 2007, and its enclosure, having been communicated to the Marine Board, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of Bombay, copy of one from that Office and to state that neither this Government nor the Board contemplated any interference with the interior economy, or accounts, or discipline of any of the Ships belonging to the Indian Navy.

Smithy to notice man of many things

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 2nd February 1858.

2. I am instructed at the same time to forward to you
Dated 23rd March 1855, No. 723. copy of a letter from the Marine Board and of a Despatch
addressed by this Government to the Honorable the Court
of Directors under date 13th April 1855, No. 3, in which it was strongly advocated that Steam
Vessels sent out for the use of this Presidency should be placed at the entire disposal and under
the direct control of the Local Government and consequently should not belong to the Indian
Navy at all. The Board's remarks, commented on by the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy,
referred, it will be seen, to the opinion to the above effect previously given, and to the disadvantages
of the present system whereby so little control can be exercised by this Government over Vessels
supplied for their service.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

as being entirely under their control.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant

Wm. B. Smith

Secretary

Madras.

Marine Board Office.

14th January 1858.

I do not see any copy of the letter
with this letter. It is not in my
whole file. I have been told
is merely what has been said
already on the occasion, 25th January
1855 & 27 Jan 1857 - both sent
home to the C. - and the final resolu-
- tion strongly backed by the
Gov. Despatch 13 April 1855
but without producing the smaller
effect.

Jps

I think a copy of this letter
forwarded to the Bombay Govt -
it is to be brought home from
the 11th - it is to be brought

Marine Depart.

No 53.

To The Secy to the Govd of Bombay.
Military Depart.
Marine Branch.

Sir,

Your letter of the 18th
December last No 2007
and its enclosure
having been communi-
cated to the Marine
Board, I am di-
rected to forward for
the information of the
Bombay copy
that

and to state that neither
this Govt nor the Board
contemplated any inter-
ference with the interior
economy or accounts, or
discipline of the Ships
belonging to the Indian Navy.

I am instructed
at the same time to for-
ward to you copy of a
letter from the Marine
Board and of a des-
patch

Sept 5th

Can 8th January 1858
Marine Branch

Thames 12th to 13th of 1858.

Re: 12th to 13th of 1858.
of the 12th of 1858.

Marine Branch 2nd Feb
1858

of the 12th of 1858.
of the 12th of 1858.

of the 12th of 1858.
of the 12th of 1858.

of the 12th of 1858.
of the 12th of 1858.

Dated 11 January 1858 No 1177

Dated 23 March 1858 No 123

by this Government
despatch addressed to
the Honble the Court of
Directors under dated 13th
April 1855. No 3, in which
~~the Board recommended that~~
~~it was~~ ^{it was} strongly advocated
that Steam Vessels sent
out ~~exclusively~~ ^{for the}
~~service~~ ^{service} of the Presidency
should be placed at the
entire disposal and un-
der the direct control
of the local Government,

~~and to state that the~~
Board's remarks, com-
mented on by the Com-
mander in Chief of the
Indian Navy, ~~applied~~
~~apply~~ ^{apply} to the disadvantages
of the present system
whereby so little control
can
~~could~~ be exercised by
this Govt over Vessels ap-
plied for their service.

and consequently should
not belong to the Indian
Navy at all -

Deferred it will be
seen to the opinion to
the above effect previously
given - and

Fort St George
1st February 1858.

Copy to the Marine B. Supd.

JF

Marine B. Supd. letter to follow

12 Feb

Letter dated 9/2/58

Subject same. 2. Feb
Marine 1858 & 1859

Thence to 1858 & 1859

Re: 1858 & 1859 from the 1858
of State for 1858 & 1859
Jan 8. 1858 of 1859

1858

At the day 1858 of
February

1858

11-12

To forwarding copy

a letter received from the
Marine Board and State
that neither this government
nor the Board could compel
any interference with the
interior economy or account
or discipline of any of the
ships belonging to the United
States Navy.

The paper was taken
from the record.