

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

167

Press

~~Mis.~~

Dated

2. 5. 1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled

7. 2. 1859

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 30th April to 3rd May 1859.*

No. 12. Read the following letter from J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 28th April 1859, No. 1720.

The Revenue Board have reported to Government that the Master Attendant at Tuticorin, Captain Robertson, left that Port on the 12th Ultimo, in the Pattimar "Pownah" to proceed to the Aripo pearl Banks, for the purpose of making inquiries into the system adopted for guarding those Banks: that he left Manaar on his return in the same vessel on the 28th of that month: that the vessel was seen off the land for two days and that since then no tidings of her have been obtained; the inference being that she had foundered during severe weather which had been about that time experienced in the Gulf of Manaar.

2. The Collector of Tinnevely has pointed out the absolute necessity of appointing some one to act as Master Attendant in lieu of Captain Robertson till further intelligence of the Pownah's fate has been received, and has recommended Mr. Barter, the Agent of Messrs. Line and Company, for the situation, he being fully competent to the duties. He likewise inquires up to what date he may disburse Captain Robertson's salary to his wife and daughters who are residing at Tuticorin in much distress.

3. Taking into consideration the number of vessels plying between Tuticorin and Ceylon, with emigrant Coolies, there can be no doubt that the appointment of an acting Master Attendant is urgently required. I would therefore recommend that, as a temporary measure Mr. Barter be nominated to perform the duties, but as he is engaged in private trade, that he be at the same time distinctly informed that it will not give him a claim to the Office should subsequent inquiries lead to the proof of its having been permanently vacated.

4. With respect to the payment of Captain Robertson's salary, it appears that it is still due for March. As the "Pownah" was seen on the 30th there would seem no objection to its being disbursed in arrears to Mrs. Robertson for that month.

No. 13. ORDER THEREON, 2nd May 1859, No. 167.

Resolved that Mr. Barter be appointed to act as Master Attendant of Tuticorin for the period of one month if Captain Robertson, does not re-appear within that time. At the end of the month the matter will be further considered.

2. Captain Robertson's full salary will be disbursed to Mrs. Robertson up to the date on which Mr. Barter may take charge of the Office.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 167.

Resolved that Mr Barkin
appointed to act as Master
abundant of Tortoise for
the period of one month - if
Mr Capt. Robertson does
not appear within that
time - at the end of the month
the matter will be further con.

Tort. St. George -

22 May 1859.

Sup of Marine

Clerk

Acct General

Cap. Robertson's full salary
will be distributed to Mr Robert.
- from up to the date on which Mr Bar
- ter may take charge of his office &c