

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *30*

Press
Mis.

Dated *27. 1. 18 59*

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 1st February 1859.

No. 6. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine; to the Acting Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 29th November 1858, No. 4807.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the amended draft of the Merchant Seamen's Bill and in forwarding transcript of a letter from the Master Attendant to whom, as Registrar of Seamen, it was sent for his opinion, to state that I fully concur with his remarks regarding the inutility of the system of family allotments as a means of providing for the families of the Lascars, when serving on boardship.

2. The Government will perceive that the Master Attendant holds similar opinions to those advocated by the late Marine Board in the 5th para: of their letter of the 8th February last, No. 580, as to the inadequacy of the punishments to be inflicted under some of the provisions of Section 80 (Section 78 of the original draft.)

From H. D. E. DALRYMPLE, Esq., Master Attendant; to J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine, dated 25th November 1858, No. 709.

SIR,

1. *Draft Act for the amendment of the Law relating to Merchant Seamen.*
2. *Statement of objects and reasons for do.*
3. *Amended Draft Act for do.*
4. *Report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council of 3rd October 1858.*

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, under date 22nd November 1858, covering the papers marginally noted and requesting my opinion in regard to Sections 38 and 39 of the Original Draft Act for the amendment of the Law relating to Merchant Seamen.

2. In reply, I beg to offer my entire concurrence with the opinion of the Select Committee of the Honorable the Legislative Council in regard to these Sections. From my own observation it is my belief that the Allotment Tickets of the Lascars instead of being a boon to their families, are generally a source of revenue to "crimps and prostitutes."

3. With reference to Section XXX of the Act, I am of opinion that the fine therein proposed should be Rupees 500 instead of Rupees 100.

4. Section LXXV, I consider as far as Madras is concerned to be an unnecessary interference with Hotel Keepers,

5. With reference to Section LXXX, para: 2, I am strongly of opinion that "neglecting or refusing to join his Ship when the Ship is ready for Sea or within 48 hours of the Ship's sailing should be considered desertion. I have on many occasions known Ships to be detained for a length of time in Port and their Owners put to great expense in consequence of this disgraceful conduct on the part of the Seamen.

6. With reference to Section LXXX, para: 6, it appears to me that the offence therein treated, which if committed in the Navy, would be punished with death or transportation, is far too leniently dealt with, and it is my opinion that for such a grave offence, which may lead to Mutiny and Ship-wreck, two years' imprisonment with hard labour should be the punishment provided by this Act.

No. 7. To H. FORBES, Esq., Member for Madras of the Legislative Council of India, dated Fort Saint George, 27th January 1859, No. 30.

SIR,

In advertence to your letter of the 16th October last, transmitting copy of the Amended Bill for the "Amendment of the Law relating to Merchant Seamen," and of the Report of the Select Committee thereon, I have the honor, under the orders of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, to forward to you copy of a communication with an enclosure from the Superintendent of Marine, containing his own observations and those of the Master Attendant on the Bill in question.

No. 4807, dated 29th November last.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Supd 31/12

Int

Marine Department 1/2

N^o. 30.

H. Forbes Esq.
Member for Madras of the
Legislative Council of India.

Sir,

In accordance to your letter
of the 16. October last trans-
mitting copy of the Amended
Bill for the "Amendment of
the Law relating to Merchant
Seamen" & of the Report of
the Select Committee thereon,
I have the honor, under the
orders of the Rt. Honble the
Governor in Council, to for-
ward to you copy of a com-
munication with an encls-
ure from the Superintendent
of Marine, containing his own
observations & those of the
Master Attendant on the
Bill in question.

N^o. 4807 dated 29 Nov. last.

To Mr. St. George, &
27 January 1859.

J.P.

The Supd. Secy. to the Marine Department
12/1/59

Entered July 8th 1857

25th Nov 1st 1857
Marine 1857. Depart

Page 30.

To the Member for Canada
of the Legislative Council
of Nova Scotia

29th January 1857.

Received of Mr. J. A. B. 1857

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18/11/58

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18/12/58

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Forwarding copy of a com-
munication with our pro-
-secution from the Superior
-Court of Justice contain-
-ing various observations &
-those of the Hon. Mr. Abbott
-and on the Bill in question
-to the Hon. Mr. Abbott &
-acting as President of the