

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Police DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	313	Press
		~~418~~
Dated	13-7	1887

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 9th to 15th July 1859.*

No. 10. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 1st July 1859, No. 2356.

(*Vide Military Proceedings from 25th to 1st July 1859, Nos. 189 at 193.*)

(*Communicates order sanctioning, under the representation in the letters from the Superintendent of Marine, as a special case the payment of the Bill for Rupees 1,676, for table money due by certain Officers messed on Board Her Majesty's Indian Steamer "Sydney" calculated at the rate of 8 Rupees per diem and on certain conditions.*)

No. 11.

ORDER THEREON, 13th July 1859, No. 313.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letters :—

From the Superintendent of Marine, Madras, 1st June 1859, No. 2150; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I have the honor to submit the accompanying *bill for table money at (8) *Rs. 1,676. eight Rupees a day, claimed by the Commander of Her Majesty's Steamer "Sydney" for Officers who were messed on board that vessel on the passage from Rangoon to Moulmein and Madras in April and May last.

2. The order of Government dated 24th June 1856, No. 201, limits the table money to (4) four Rupees a day exclusive of wines and liquors, which are to be charged for separately. The Commander of the "Sydney" states that he was not aware that the order of the Supreme Government, which was adopted by that of Madras, was in force in this Presidency, although I must observe that he had already taken Government passengers to and from Quilon and charged the proper rate of (4) four Rupees a day. He has evidently not practised a wise precaution in setting aside the rules which have been in force for nearly three years in all vessels belonging to the Bengal Presidency,—but as he would have great difficulty in recovering the several amounts now that the Officers are so scattered, I beg to recommend that the bill be sanctioned under the distinct understanding that any complaint hereafter forwarded, that the liquors supplied were not of a quality or in that liberal footing to warrant a charge of (4) four Rupees a day for them, shall be open to discussion, and that any such sums shall be refunded if so ordered by me after due enquiry.

3. Two Officers, Captain Bond of the Artillery and Assistant Surgeon Ratton, both of H. M.'s Indian Service, have, it appears, left without signing their certificates. It will be for Government to decide whether under all circumstances they will sanction payment on the Commander's certificate of correctness of dates.

With report of the Military Auditor General, dated 8th June 1859, E.

From the Superintendent of Marine, Madras, 17th June 1859, No. 2409; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Military Auditor General's opinion, dated 8th instant, on the subject of the claim of Captain Neblett of the "Sydney" for (8) eight Rupees instead of (4) four Rupees a day table money, referred to me on the 10th for any further observations I might wish to offer.

2. That Captain Neblett is not strictly entitled to receive the higher rate, there can be no doubt. The order of the Bengal Government reducing that rate to 4 Rupees a day and payment for liquors actually consumed, was in his possession; and when he entertained doubts of this rule being applicable in the Madras Presidency, he should have inquired. The rate was made to effect vessels under the Bengal Presidency, and although the "Sydney" is for a time lent to Madras, she is none the less under the orders and regulations of the Marine authorities at Calcutta.

2. But although an error of judgment has been committed, I still think that, seeing the great difficulty that Captain Neblett would experience in recovering the various amounts due to him, and in fact the impossibility of his rendering to each Officer a correct account of what he owed, as no register has been kept of what each individual called for, the Government would not be wrong in taking a liberal view of the case, and in sanctioning the bill, subject to the condition suggested in my former letter—namely that any portion disputed should be returned if after inquiry I considered there was a fair claim to it. I do not perceive that this course would cause any annoyance, needless correspondence, or be objectionable as forming an inconvenient precedent. If the passengers have complaints to make, I am always ready to hear them, and any extra correspondence would principally fall on my department. As regards precedent, it is not at all likely to take place again.

4. Before concluding, I beg to correct an error into which the Military Auditor General appears to me to have fallen when in the 3rd para. of his memorandum he says that the order of the 24th June 1856, No. 201, was passed consequent on the constant complaint of Officers regarding the qualities of the wines &c., supplied in transports. Nothing is on record in my Office to shew,

nor have I ever heard, that such was the case. The order in question simply adopted for the Madras Presidency the previous one of the Supreme Government, without, as far as I am aware, any arguments being urged for or against it.

ORDER, No. 2356, 1st July 1859.

Under the representation in the foregoing letters, the Governor in Council sanctions as a special case the payment of the bill for table money, due by certain Officers messes on board Her Majesty's Indian Steamer "Sydney," calculated at the rate of (8) eight Rupees per diem, the Commander having on this occasion, supplied wines &c., subject however to the conditions suggested by the Superintendent of Marine in para. 2 of his letter, No. 2150, above recorded.

2. The regulated recoveries will be made by the Pay Department in accordance with the rate above mentioned.

3. It is to be understood that under the sanction accorded in para. 1 of this order, payment of the bill for table money to the Commander of the "Sydney" is only to be made after the amount has been collected from the parties concerned—No advance is to be made on the part of Government on this account.

(True Extract.)

W. Marshall
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent of Marine, with bill &c.

„ Military Auditor General.

„ Accountant General.

„ Marine Department, *with 3 spec. Copies.*

*No. of Govt. 15th July
Marine 1859 2356*
*Proceedings of Govt.
Mty Dept
2356*
21/9 3 July 1859
3 spec. Copies
No 341
*Communicator orders
sanctioning under the
provision in the letter
the draft of Marine in
a special case the pay-
ment of the bill for
the 16th, to the same
ship by certain Officers
messes on board of the
Indian M. Steamer "Sydney"
calculated at the rate of
8 Rs per diem, subject
to the conditions
N. 3. 3/3
13 July 1859*