

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 13th to 19th August 1859.*

Read the following letters.

No. 3. From Commander F. W. HOPKINS, I. N., Commanding Her Majesty's Steamer "Dalhousie," I. N.; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 11th August 1859, No. 153.

I have the honor to bring to your notice for the information of Government, that it is necessary for the "Dalhousie" to take in coal at Rangoon, and on my reaching that place indented for Europe coal, but the coal supplied was country, (Burdwan coal), and it is of such a description that at times the vessel had scarcely steerage way on her, and when she would have been steaming 9 knots with good coal she was going 4 or 5, and had I not had fine weather across and some good coal in the ship, it is impossible to say when the vessel would have got across to the Madras Coast, and had I experienced the same kind of bad weather, I had going to Rangoon, the ship would not have been able to reach a Port on the Madras Coast, I would have been obliged to bear up for Calcutta with about 130 sick on board, and besides a number of troops, followers and private passengers. The coal has a very large quantity of dirt and ashes in it, and it causes more than double work to the stokers, and I was obliged to make the lascars and others of the crew assist the stokers in their work, which if they have to do they would not remain in the ship, as they consider it an extra duty imposed on them, and the present complement of stokers has to burn the Burdwan coal as I suppose will have to be done, if I proceed to Rangoon again; I therefore most respectfully beg the special sanction of Government for entering 10 Native stokers as supernumeraries at 17 Rupees each per month, for the engine room of the "Dalhousie." I beg most respectfully to state that all the coal supplied round her, is usually of a bad description and gives the men a great deal of extra labour, and as I was informed there was no English coal at Rangoon, I most respectfully beg to point out the great necessity of good English coal being sent there as soon as possible, for the vessels, and trust Government will recommend the measure to the Supreme Government, Calcutta, as soon as it is convenient to do so.

Forwarded to the Superintendent of Marine for report.

FORT SAINT GEORGE, }
12th August 1859. }

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 4. From J. B. CROWTHER, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of Marine; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 13th August 1859, No. 3200.

In acknowledging the receipt of a letter from Commander F. W. Hopkins, forwarded to this Office for report, relative to the quality and efficacy of coal supplied to the steamer "Dalhousie" both at Rangoon and generally, also soliciting that in consequence of that obtained at the former being Burdwan coal, 10 Native stokers may be entered as supernumeraries by reason of the extra labour occasioned in using such a description of fuel, I have the honor to state that the "Dalhousie" is not going to Rangoon yet, and there is time to refer the question to Bombay.

2. I may just mention that from personal experience I am able to state that what Commander Hopkins observes with reference to the bad qualities of Burdwan coal is perfectly true, and I consider that with only such fuel on board, the "Dalhousie" would run some risk in attempting the passage from Rangoon to this Coast during the strength of the South West Monsoon. Generally speaking, only Burdwan coal is kept at Rangoon, but there is frequently English in store, and I beg leave respectfully to suggest the advisability of measures being adopted for the conveyance of instructions to the authorities at Rangoon, that whenever practicable, English coal shall be furnished to the steamers attached to this Presidency when employed in the conveyance of troops between Burmah and the Coast, also that if not able to supply the whole quantity of English, as large a portion of it as possible may be so.

*at Regu he addressed
regarding*

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 13th to 19th August 1859.*

No. 5. ORDER THEREON, 15th August 1859, No. 388.

Resolved that Commander Hopkin's application to entertain 10 Native stokers on Rupees 17 each, as supernumeraries, be referred to the Bombay authorities, who will be requested to communicate their reply by Telegraph.

2. Resolved likewise that the Commissioner at Pegu be addressed regarding the description of coal supplied at Rangoon to Government steamers, employed in the conveyance of troops to this Coast.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 6. TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY, dated Fort Saint George, 15th August 1859, No. 389.

SIR,

In forwarding, for submission to the Government of Bombay, copy of a letter, 11th Instant, No. 153, in which the Commander of the Steamer "Dalhousie," solicits the sanction of Government to engage (10) ten Native stokers on (17) seventeen Rupees a month each, as supernumeraries in the Engine room, in consequence of the additional labor arising from the use of Burdwan coal, supplied at Rangoon for the passage across the Bay. I am directed to state that as the "Dalhousie" will not be required to proceed immediately to Rangoon, it has been resolved to refer Commander Hopkin's application for the decision of your Government, and to request that the reply to this letter may be communicated by Telegraph.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 7. TO THE COMMISSIONER AT PEGU, AND AGENT TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, dated Fort Saint George, 15th August 1859, No. 390.

SIR,

From the Commander of the "Dalhousie," 11th Instant, No. 153.

From the Superintendent of Marine, 13th Instant, No. 3200.

I am directed to forward to you copies of the letters noted in the margin, respecting the description of coal supplied at Rangoon to Government steamers employed in the conveyance of troops to this Coast.

2. Commander Hopkins states that he indented at Rangoon for English coal, but was supplied with Burdwan coal, containing a large quantity of dirt and ashes—that from using it, the steamer made but 4 or 5 knots an hour, whereas with good coal, of which he had some remaining on board, her rate would have been 9 knots—and that had he experienced the same kind of weather as he had in proceeding to Rangoon, he would not have been able to make for any Port on this Coast, but would have been compelled to bear up for Calcutta. He had on board 130 sick, besides a number of troops, followers, and private passengers.

3. The Assistant Superintendent of Marine, who speaks from personal knowledge of the bad qualities of Burdwan coal, considers that with only such fuel on board, some risk would be run in attempting the passage from Rangoon to this Coast during the South West Monsoon.

4. I am desired to request your attention to this matter, and that instructions may be issued to the authorities at Rangoon, to supply, whenever practicable, English coal to the steamers attached to this Presidency, when employed in the conveyance of troops between Burmah and this Coast—or if unable to furnish the whole quantity required of English, that as large a portion as possible of the supply, may be English.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. W. Thomas.

Marine.
Proceedings of the Madras Govt.
Read the following letters—
From the Commander
of the Str. Dalhousie
11th Aug. 1859 No. 153.
" the Superintendent
Marine 13th " 3200.

Order thereon - 15th August 1859 - No. 388.

Resolved that Commander Hopkins's application to entertain 10 Native Stokers on Rs. 17 each as Supernumeraries, be referred to the Bombay authorities, who will be requested to communicate their reply by telegraph.

2. Resolved likewise that the Commissioner at Pegu be addressed regarding

regarding the descrip-
tion of Coal supplied
at Rangoon to Govt. Steamers,
employed in the con-
veyance of Troops to
this coast.

JF

The Superintendent of
Marine - for commu-
nication to the Commander of the Dalhousie.

Marine.

N^o. 389.

Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay.

Sir.

In forwarding, for submission to the Govt. of Bombay, copy of a letter, N^o. 153, in which the Commander of the Str. Dalhousie solicits the sanction of Govt. to engage 10 ten Native Stokers on 17 Seventeen Rupees a month each as supernumeraries in the Engine Room, in consequence of the additional labor arising from the use of Burdwan Coal supplied at Rangoon for the passage across the Bay — I am directed to state that, as the Dalhousie will not be required to proceed immediately to Rangoon, it has been resolved to refer Commander Hopkins's application for the decision of your Govt. — & to request that the reply to this letter may be communicated by telegraph.

For S^t Secy,
15 August 1859.

J.P.

Coal supplied
at Rangoon

19th Aug 59

Marine 1859 Sept 15

N^o 388

Proceedings of
Government.

Dated 15th Augt. 1859.

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Sept 17th
1859

Marine

N^o 390.

The Commissioner at Pegu, & Agent to the
Governor General of India.

Sir-

I am directed to forward to
you copies of the letters noted
in the margin respecting
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Steamers employed in the
conveyance of Troops to
this coast.

2. Commander Sopkins states
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pelled to bear up for Cal-
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Followers, & Private Passengers.

+ of which he had some
remaining on board,

Further Pro: 16th September 1859

to the Government
Secretary -
Pegu -
15th Sept 1859

Secretary

1859

Marine 1859

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that, ^{with} only such fuel on
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to this Coast during the
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4. I am desired to request your attention to this matter, & that instructions may be issued to the authorities at Rangoon, to supply, when ever practicable, English Coal to the Steamers attached to this Presidency, when employed in the conveyance of troops between Burmah & this Coast — or if unable furnish the whole quantity required of English, that — as large a portion as possible of the supply, may be English.

Fort George,
15th August, 1859.

