

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	412	Press Mis.
Dated	22.8	1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 20th to 26th August 1859.*

No. 5. Read the following letter from Captain W. F. MARRIOTT, Acting Secretary to Government; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Bombay Castle, 9th August 1859, No. 1024.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 300, dated 4th July, with its accompaniments regarding the unfitness of the Steamer "Dalhousie" for Trooping purposes in the Bay of Bengal, and am desired by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, in reply to transmit the accompanying copy of a report by the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, No. 744, dated 25th July on the subject.

2nd. With reference to the remark in the 3rd paragraph of your letter, that the "Prince Arthur" was sent out expressly for the communication between Madras and Rangoon, I am to state that Commodore Wellesley's observations are quite correct. The same Despatch from the Honorable the late Court of Directors, No. 46 of 23rd September 1857, which directed that appropriation of the Vessel ordered the purchase of two Vessels for employment on the Western side of India. The two, "Australian" and "Sydney" were purchased, but were not sent to this side of India as ordered, and consequently the "Prince Arthur" cannot be spared by this Government except on exchange for another Steamer.

No. 744.

Report by the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy.

There can be no doubt that it is highly desirable that the "Dalhousie" should be properly fitted for service as a Troop Ship, and I should recommend the "Prince Arthur" being sent round to relieve her on the return of the latter from the Mauritius.

2nd. In my letter, No. 234 of 4th March last, I suggested that the "Dalhousie" should be brought to Bombay, but she had already been sent to Calcutta by Orders of the Government of Madras.

3rd. The "Dalhousie" has never been to Bombay, and I know nothing about her fittings, or capacity for carrying Troops; but no attempt seems to have been made as yet to adapt her for these duties.

4th. I duly received the letter from Commander Hopkins, copy of which is contained in this correspondence, but the Vessel being at the disposal of the Madras Government, there seemed to me to be no utility in my again troubling Government with any further suggestions.

5th. With reference to the remarks in the 3rd paragraph of Mr. Secretary Pycroft's letter, No. 300. I imagine that the Government of Madras cannot be aware of the correspondence as per margin, which took place with reference to the provision of two Screw Steamers for Transports on this side of India. I have reason to believe that the "Australian" and "Sydney" were purchased by the Government of India, under the authority vested in them by the late Honorable Court of Directors in their Despatch, No. 46 of 1857, and as the Right

Government letter, No. 1878, dated 3rd November 1857 with enclosures.

Commander-in-Chief's letter to Government, No. 1446, dated 12th December 1857.

Government letter, No. 2038, dated 28th December 1857.

Commander-in-Chief's letter to Government, No. 71, dated 19th January 1858.

Honorable the Governor in Council is aware, both these Vessels have been detained in the Bay of Bengal, and have not been in any way attached to the Indian Navy. The retention of the "Prince Arthur" therefore became a positive necessity, and the despatch of this Vessel to Madras, should now be made contingent on one at least of the three Vessels now there being sent round to Bombay.

Office of the Commander-in-Chief }
Indian Navy, Bombay. }
25th July 1859.

(Signed) G. G. WELLESLEY,
Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy.

True Copy.

(Signed) W. F. MARRIOTT, Captain.
Acting Secretary to Government.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 20th to 26th August 1859.*

No. 6.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd August 1859, No. 412.

The above correspondence will be communicated to the Superintendent of Marine in reference to paragraph 4, of the orders of the 1st ultimo, No. 290. The Superintendent of Marine will report when the "*Dalhousie*" can, without seriously interfering with existing arrangements, be sent on to Bombay in exchange for the "*Prince Arthur*."

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. A. P. W. Begbie.

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No. 412 - 22^d August 1859.

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JF

The Superintendent of Marine. *Chief Secy*