

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 3rd to 9th September 1859.*

No. 13. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, in the Revenue Department, (*Marine*) dated 29th August 1859, No. 1155.

(*Vide Revenue Proceedings from 27th August to 2nd September 1859, Nos. 11 & 12.*)

(*Transferring for consideration that part of the letter from Mr. T. J. Knox, Officiating Collector of Salem, complaining of the rates charged him on board the Steamer "Sydney" as exorbitant.*)

Referred for the report of the Assistant Superintendent of Marine.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
2nd September 1859. }

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 14. From J. B. CROWTHER, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of Marine ; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 3rd September 1859, No. 3515.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Madras Government marginally noted, and as therein directed beg to submit the following report.

No. 1155, dated 29th August 1859.

2. The charges for passage and freight as stated by Mr. Knox, are in accordance with the published scale, and as he must have embarked on the "Sydney," with so large an establishment and amount of baggage, &c., knowing that such would prove an heavy expense to him, I cannot perceive that Mr. Knox, has any grounds for complaint on the score of the Steamer's charges. I have no doubt that an empty Vessel proceeding up the Coast to load, would as mentioned by Mr. Knox, provide him with cheap passage, but I must observe that as a general rule, the Packet rates of passage are lower than those charged by sailing Vessels, while in the case of freight, it is admitted that the certainty, and time saved, is a fair balance against the difference in charges, and ready advantage is taken of the regular communication now made available by means of the Government Steamers.

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, 8th September 1859, No. 440.

Mr. Crowther's reply does not meet the reference made to him. The question is not whether the passage and freight charges of which Mr. Knox complains, are according to the published scale, but whether they are fair and reasonable in themselves. The Government would wish for further information on this point—the rates charged on the Government line of Madras and Rangoon Steamers being compared with those charged on private Steamers in the Indian Seas, or by the P. & O. Company's Steamers for equal distances.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. A. P. W. Begbie.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from T. J. KNOX, Esq., Officiating Collector of Salem; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Oosoor, 16th August 1859.

I had on a former occasion with misfortune of being obliged to bring to the notice of Government the ruinous expense I was put to when ordered by Government to officiate as Agent to the Governor in Ganjam and the very liberal treatment I then experienced induces me to submit for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council a somewhat similar grievance in the hopes both of receiving some redress and of bringing to the notice of Government a peculiar item in the expenses of a Revenue officer which will be more felt in future days when proposed reductions in allowances are enforced.

2. When en route for Salem I engaged my passage from Vizagapatam to Madras in the Government Steamer *Sydney* and paid the Master Attendant for my Cabin... Rs. 160 0 0
 1 Horse 48 0 0
 1 Dog 5 0 0
 for 6 servants with families... .. 157 8 0
 Baggage and Tents. {at 24 Rupees the } 97 0 0
 {ton of 50 Cubic feet } 212 5 9

680 11 9

Thus a sum exceeding half a month's pay was expended in 4 days, and I assure the Government I did not bring a single box with me I could have done without, for I was most anxious to travel cheaply.

3. I would first respectfully observe that these charges are on the whole very high. I went from Madras to Binlipatam in 1855 in a 1000 Ton Ship with 3 Horses, 2 Palanqueens, Carriage, Peiana, and 120 cases of furniture and many more servants and I only paid 400 Rupees, of course the great difference arises from the high rate of freight Government charge; 24 Rupees for a Ton of 50 Cubic feet would be remunerative freight to England; and on the Coromandel Coast the Government never pay for their stores more than 10 Rupees a Ton of 50 Cubic feet. However on this I must not remark more.

4. My special grievance however is the amount my tents have cost me, and as Government oblige me as a Revenue officer to carry them about I feel justified in attempting to recover from Government some portion at least of the money I have paid Government as freight.

5. My tents are considerably damaged by the journey, and judging from what I have seen of bags torn, bamboos broken, and ropes missing. I believe 50 Rupees will be required to render them fit for use:

So that with freight	Rs. 212 0 0
Hire of 7 Carts to Oosoor	108 0 0
And repairs	50 0 0

I am out of pocket 370 Rupees with deteriorated tents and the pleasant prospect of a return journey.

6. I honestly declare that after nearly 20 years' service I am not in a position to think lightly of 370 Rupees, and however trifling the amount may appear to those members of my service who have reached the highest offices under Government it is not so with me. The more so when it is only a third of the actual extra expenses this removal has entailed upon me, which expenses including the travelling allowances I draw will swallow up 2 months' of my extra allowance as officiating Collector.

ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1859, No. 1155.

Mr. Knox has received the travelling allowance payable to him under the rules, and the Governor in Council is not aware how he can give him further relief from the expense which he incurred in joining his present acting appointment. It is observed too that it was Mr. Knox's own choice to go to Salem.

2. As he complains of the rates charged him by the Steamer as exorbitant, that part of his letter will be transferred to the Marine Department for consideration.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,

Secretary to Government.

To T. J. Knox, Esq.
 To the Marine Department.

Exd. H. M. Elliot.

Madras.

Marine Dept. Office

3rd September 1859.

Have the honor to be

Sir.

Your Most Obedient Servant

W. B. Mather

Read in the Revenue Dept. 29 Aug 80/153
" letter of 29 Aug of Marine 3 Sept. 3815
Order thereon - 8 Sept 1859 at 1140.

List.

Mr. Mather's reply does not meet the reference made to him. The question is not whether the passage & freight charges of which will know complaints, are according to the published scale, but whether they are fair and reasonable in themselves. The Govt. would wish for further information on this point - the rate charged on the Govt. line of Madras and Rangoon steamers being compared with those charged on Private steamers in the Indian Seas, or by the P. & O. Co's steamers for equal distances.

29. 11. 59.

The Assistant Superintendent of Marine.

With an Order.

Copy of Govt. Order
Chambers 1859 Sept
Shew
The Assistant Superintendent of
Marine
The Chief Secretary to Govt
Port of Madras
8 Sept 3 Sept 1859
No. 3515
No. 1140.
Reference is made of the
order of the Govt. dated
29 Aug 1859, whereby the charges
for passage by the Govt.
steamers are ordered to be
in accordance with the published
scale. Whereas that no general
rule the restriction of passage
one lower than those charged by
other vessels, which in case of
it is suggested that the Government
have passed a year before of
the difference in charges.

From
The Assistant Superintendent of Marine.
To
The Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

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Proceedings of the Madras Government marginally noted,
and as therein directed beg to submit the following report.

2. The charges for passage and freight as stated by
Mr. Knox, are in accordance with the published scale,
and as he must have embarked on the "Sydney," with
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I must observe that as a general rule, the Packet
rates of passage are lower than those charged by
sailing vessels, while in the case of freight, it is
admitted that the certainty, and time saved, is a
fair balance against the difference in charges,
and ready advantage is taken of the regular commu-
-nication now made available by means of the
Government Steamers.

N^o 1155.

Dated 29 Aug 1859.