

25/9/85/RS

M.R.O. 1-32,400-28-11-28

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

470

Press

MIS.

Dated

20. 9

1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 17th to 23rd September 1859.*

No. 8. Read the following letter from W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, the 23rd August 1859, No. 1696.

Home Dept.
Marine. Sir,

I am directed, with reference to your two letters noted in the margin, to forward the accompanying copies of letters from Commodore Edgell and Captain Seymour, dated respectively the 30th and the 22nd June, on the subject of the over-drawing, by the Captain, Officers, and Crew of the "Pelorus" of War Batta, and to state that as the words "like the Naval Brigade in Bengal" made use of in the Under Secretary's letter of 11th March 1858, were no doubt misleading, the Governor General in Council will not insist upon a refund of the amount which has been over-drawn in this case.

2. I am, however, to observe, that it was not intended by the words above quoted to sanction, in favor of the "Pelorus" Crew, any alteration in the authorized rates of Batta; but merely to intimate "that like the Naval Brigade in Bengal," the Officers and men of that vessel would draw the Batta to which they were entitled, "from the date on which they left their ship for the interior."

3. Admitting that the sentence was ambiguous, the Governor General in Council thinks it to be regretted that the Government of Madras, upon the Civil Auditor bringing to its notice that Batta was claimed in excess of what that Government understood to be the established rate, did not at once refer the question for the instructions of this Government, a course which, with the Electric Telegraph open, might have been taken without inconvenience to the claimants.

From Commodore HARRY EDGELL, c. b., to CECIL BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, dated Trincomalee, 30th June 1859.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st October last, addressed to Captain DeCanecy relative to the War Batta claimed by Captain Seymour of Her Majesty's Ship "Pelorus," in which you request Captain DeCanecy's opinion on the subject.

2. In forwarding Captain Seymour's explanation, I beg to observe, that I have always understood, that it was mainly owing to the zealous and energetic conduct of Captain Seymour, his Officers and men, that tranquility was maintained on the Meaday frontier; and I am well aware that in placing the Forts, &c., in a state of defence both Officers and men were put to much expense in clothes, shoes, &c.

It of course rests with the Government to consider whether the presence of this Brigade on the frontier, although not engaged, was not morally a great protection to the province of Pegu.

From Captain F. B. SEYMOUR, Naval Brigade of Her Majesty's Ship "Pelorus"; to Commodore HARRY E. EDGELL, c. b., Commanding E. I. Division, Her Majesty's Ship "Retribution," dated Trincomalee, 22nd June 1859.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Memorandum, dated 14th June, calling upon me to furnish the Honorable the President in Council, with a statement of my reasons for considering the Pegu Naval Brigade under my Command, to have been entitled to more than the ordinary sanctioned rates of War Batta, and enclosing copies of letters from the Secretary of the Government of Fort Saint George, from the Acting Civil Auditor at the same Presidency and from Lieutenant Colonel Champneys, Military Auditor General at Fort William.

2. In reply thereto, I must beg to call your attention to the wording of the notification addressed to Commodore Watson c. b., by the Under Secretary to the Government of India in which it states that "like the Naval Brigade in Bengal the Officers and men of the "Pelorus" are entitled to War Batta from the date on which they left their ship for the interior."

3. The Royal Naval Brigades in Bengal at that time were composed of the Crews of Her Majesty's Ships "Shannon" and "Pearl" under the Command of the lamented Sir William Peel, and of Captain Sotheby, with but after whom I ranked as a Captain "above three years standing."

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4. By Mr. Chapman's letter we were, in my opinion, placed in an equality with the above-mentioned Brigades, and accordingly, having obtained a copy of the letter addressed to the Presidency Pay Master of Fort William by Lieutenant Colonel Champneys, dated 26th April 1858, stating the amount of War Batta allowed to the Officers and Seamen composing them (a copy of which I have the honor to enclose) and having received directions from that Officer to draw the Batta at Fort Saint George, I applied for the sum to which I considered we were entitled by Mr. Chapman's letter dated 11th April 1858; and received it on our calling at Madras in the following July; omitting to draw either for Tentage or Horse allowance, neither of which did I consider myself justified in claiming.

5. The nominal list sent to the Government of Fort William was made out with the above exceptions (and, of course, leaving out the Naval Pay) in conformity with the original one on which the "Shannon's" Brigade was paid, but owing to a mistake, the leading Seamen and Corporals of Marines were underpaid.

6. Under these circumstances I trust that the Honorable the President in Council will be of opinion that I was justified in drawing the sum I did—I do not for one second dream of comparing our services with those of the "Shannon's" and "Pearl's" Brigades but I beg to call upon the Commissioner of Pegu (a copy of a letter from whom is annexed) to state what his opinions as to our utility were; and with a reference to a paragraph in Colonel Champneys' letter, No. 395, I can assure you that the Officers and men under my Command were subjected to very considerable expense while on duty on the frontier 350 miles away from their Ship.

7. Should however the decision of the Honorable the President in Council be contrary to my expectations and hopes, and should we be called on to refund any portion of the War Batta received by us in July last we shall do so cheerfully, confident as we are that he will have given us the benefit of his consideration on the subject.

8. But I beg most earnestly to point out to him and to the Honorable Council generally, in justice to the Seamen and Marines under my Command, that owing to the wear and tear and to the dryness of the atmosphere during the greater part of our stay at Meaday, there was not one of them but had to take up from the Paymaster from two to three pairs of shoes, above what they would have required had they been on board their ship; and when their value is deducted from 35 Rupees, the sum received by petty Officers, and 26 Rupees which is what the Seamen were entitled by the "Shannon's" scale, the sum remaining will not, I think, be considered a larger one than men, situated as they were, had earned.

9. With regard to the War Batta fixed by the scale of 1841 to which reference is made in Mr. Pycroft's letter, I can assure the Honorable the President in Council that until now, I have never heard of its existence.

10. In conformity with your orders I have the honor to return the papers sent to me on the 14th Instant.

From Major A. P. PHAYRE, Commissioner of Pegu, and Agent of the Governor General; to Captain B. SEYMOUR, R. N. Her Majesty's Ship "Pelorus" Senior Naval Officer on the Irrdy: Frontier, Meaday, dated Rangoon the 3rd April 1858, No. 58 A. Military.

I have the honor to inform you, that as Her Majesty's 29th Regiment has now been ordered to re-occupy Thayetmyo, I am of opinion that you may safely withdraw the Naval Force you now command at Meaday.

2. I take this opportunity of stating that your presence at Meaday has been productive of great public benefit, both in giving encouragement to the Burmese (British subjects) within our frontier, and in displaying to those beyond it, the means of punishing aggression. I beg to return you my hearty thanks for the assistance thus given to the Province of Pegu, in the welfare of which, from your having been present during the War of occupation, I know you feel a warm interest.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 17th to 23rd September 1859.*

From Colonel E. G. J. CHAMPNEYS, Military Auditor General; to the Presidency Paymaster, Fort William, dated 26th April 1858.

Government having requested the early adjustment of the enclosed abstracts for War Batta to the Naval Brigade, I have the honor to forward them for completion by the responsible Officer on board Her Majesty's Ship "Shannon."

2nd. Government has granted to the Officers of the Naval Brigade, the pay and allowances of the corresponding rank in the Foot Artillery. In the abstracts I have computed the full rates of pay and allowances, and therefore the British Naval Pay of the Officers for the relative period must be deducted at foot of the abstracts.

3rd. For Naval Cadets, Midshipmen, unpassed Clerks, Secretary to Senior Officer, Masters, Captains Clerks, Gunners, Boatswains, and Carpenters, and School Masters, not being Seamen, a War Batta of three Rupees a-day has been authorized.

4th. War Batta being giving to the permanent rank of the claimants, I have restricted Acting Masters to 3 Rupees a-day, though permanent Masters would if second Masters, have received the pay and allowances of a second Lieutenant of Artillery.

	R.	A.	P.	5th. For Petty Officers and Sea-
Petty Officers, Serjeants, and Corporals, R. M.	0	10	0	men the rates in the margin have been
Leading Seamen and Lance Corporals.....	0	8	0	sanctioned. In classifying the seve-
Able and Ordinary Seamen and Privates, R. M.	0	6	0	ral grades, under the heads stated in
Boys... ..	0	4	0	the scale, I may have erred, and to

this point the attention of the Paymaster of Her Majesty's Ship "Shannon" should be particularly directed. The following is my classification.

PETTY OFFICERS.

Boatswains Mate, Gunners Mate, Quarter Master, Ships Corporal, Coxswain, Armourer, Master at Arms, Carpenter's Mate, Sailmaker, Captains Steward, Captains of Mizen, Main, and Fore, Tops, Fore Castle, and After Guard.

LEADING SEAMEN.

Leading Seamen, Shipwright, Caulker, and Leading Stoker.

MARINES.

Bombadier with Private, being an inferior rank to Corporal.

The sums which have been advanced to the Naval Brigade, will of course be adjusted on payment of the abstracts when Audited.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) J. D. GORDON,
Officiating Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ORDER THEREON, 20th September 1859, No. 470.

No. 9.

To be Recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. A. P. W. Begbie.

No. 1696.

FROM

W. GREY, Esquire,
Secy. to the Govt. of India,

TO

T. PYCROFT, Esquire,
Chief Secy., Govt. of Fort St. George.

SIR,

*Dated Fort William, the 23rd August 1859.*HOME DEPT.
MARINE.

I AM directed, with reference to your two letters noted in the margin, to forward the accompanying copies of No. 282, dated the 22nd July 1858. letters from Commodore Edgell and Captain Seymour, dated respectively the 30th and the 22nd June, on the subject of the overdrawn, by the Captain, Officers, and crew of the *Pelorus*, of war batta, and to state that as the words "like the Naval Brigade in Bengal," made use of in the Under Secretary's letter of 11th March 1858, were no doubt misleading, the Governor General in Council will not insist upon a refund of the amount which has been overdrawn in this case.

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I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Encl.—M. A. Mendes.

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21.62/62 - 14.573-

March 1857. Page 16

No of feet 22 1/2 ft

From the day to the last
of June. 1846.

2/23. Aug. 1
4. 8. 1865 / 59.

Nov 23
Went - before coffee

With reference to the Porti-
cellers of the 1830 and 1834 cases
respectively the 22 July & the
20 & 21st 1838, I have not with
certain observation, copies of
letters from Remondino
Cibotti and Capitanelli more
on the subject of the overland
pass, by the Egyptian, Cyprus,
and near of the Hellespont,
than before. —

24/10/19

To be recorded

20/9/59

Noted. J. J. J.