

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *1490*

Press
Mis. ☒

Dated *30. 9.*

18 *59*

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
from 24th September to 4th October 1859.*

No. 23. Read the following letter from J. B. CROWTHER, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of Marine; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 24th September 1859, No. 3856.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from Messrs. Lecot & Co., to the Madras Chamber of Commerce, which has been submitted by the Chairman of that body for the consideration of Government, and as directed beg to offer the following remarks thereon.

2. The Agents of the "Sea Park" and "Cressy," after a few preliminary remarks which need no comment from me, proceed to state that they tendered the above ships at the several rates of £15 19s. 6d. and £16 and in concluding with a detail of circumstances which they suppose might act favorably in the case of the "Sea Park," would evidently wish it to appear that their plans and intentions had to be very hurriedly expressed from the shortness of the notice given to them.

3. On this point I have to observe that the Commander of the "Sea Park" attended by one of the Firm of Messrs. Lecot & Co., had for some days previous to the call for tenders been in the frequent habit of enquiring at this Office regarding the probability of ships being wanted for the conveyance of Troops, and both were therefore well aware that sooner or later such would be the case, and on the evening of Saturday last, I had myself informed the Commander of the "Sea Park" that a Circular had been sent from this Office the day before inviting tenders, which I also told him were to be opened at 1 P. M. on the following Monday. Respecting the observation that the Circular was only presented to the Agents a short time previous to that appointed for opening the tenders; I can only say this must have arisen from no one having been present at their Office on the preceding Saturday, a contingency which I myself had not calculated upon, for though aware that such was a holiday, I imagined that some responsible party would attend at each House of Agency for the transaction of all necessary business.

4. Referring to the comparison as to seaworthiness between the relative vessels, I have to observe that the "Seringapatam" brought out Troops from England to Madras in February last, as a natural consequent therefore she is equally eligible for their conveyance in the present instance, and it may not be out of place to remark here, that on the above occasion great satisfaction was expressed respecting the manner in which Captain Gimblett had fulfilled the terms of his Charter Party. My professional antecedents entitle me to put forth an opinion on such a matter, and I have therefore no hesitation in stating that, in my judgment, the "Seringapatam" is fully as efficient and seaworthy as either the "Sea Park" or "Cressy."

5. Messrs. Lecot & Co., affirm that their tender mentions that the Captain "would comply with all the conditions," and would further imply that he was prepared with a Doctor, I cannot however myself perceive that any such stipulation has been entered therein, and it would seem that the Charter Party has been by them erroneously alluded to in place of the call for tenders, in which letter it is expressly stated that ships tendering should be provided with a Surgeon besides which in my conversations with the Commander of the "Sea Park" he distinctly led me to understand that his vessel had no Surgeon.

6. In conclusion I have to submit that taking into consideration the circumstance of the "Seringapatam" being provided with a ship's Surgeon, her tender was in reality the lowest and most eligible of all, and as such was therefore accepted, for though the other vessel's rates which were tendered at the same time might be lower, yet as they would in all probability have had to be provided with a Government Medical Officer, whose passage to England and back together with his full pay should also be included in the calculation, to say nothing of the possible inconvenience which the state might suffer from his being sent away on such a duty, the actual expenses incurred in their case, had any other ship been accepted, would have very far exceeded those of the "Seringapatam."

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from 24th September to 4th October 1859.*

No. 24. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT, dated 26th September 1859.

A copy of this explanation may be sent to the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 30th September 1859, No. 490.

The Government regard the explanation furnished by Mr. Crowther in the above letter, to be quite satisfactory, and they resolve to forward a copy of it to the Chamber of Commerce, in reference to the communication from their Chairman, under date the 21st instant.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

I learn from Mr. W. B. [unclear] that
both the [unclear] & the Capt. of the
[unclear] [unclear] had been [unclear]
that the ship had been accepted &
that they were [unclear] to the
owners by the Bombay Express.

with a surgeon, besides which in my
conversations with the Commander of the
"Sea Park", he distinctly led me to understand
that his vessel had no surgeon.

6. In conclusion I have to submit that
taking into consideration the circumstance
of the "Sringapatam" being provided with a
ship's surgeon, her tender was in reality the
lowest and most eligible of all, and as such
was therefore accepted, for though the other
vessels' rates which were tendered at the
same

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Read letter from the Asst Supt of Marine 24th Sep 59
Minute by the Hon the President — 26 —

Order thereon 30th September 1859. No 490.

The following is the explanation
furnished by Mr Crockett in
the above letter to be put to
satisfactory and they resolve
to forward a copy of it to
the Chamber of Commerce in
reference to the communication.
— from the Chairman
under date the 21st inst.

J.P.

Chamber of Commerce } Dispt 3/10
Supt of Marine.

A copy of this explanation
 may be sent to the chairman
 of the Chamber of Commerce
 all yours
 26 Apr 59.

In my opinion this statement
 from the Mills & Francis & others
 satisfactory -

The illustration speaks for
 itself & says more

No 23 September 59 No 16 C 18

No 10 4 20 Sept
 20 Nov 1859 Sept

From
 the Hon. Secretary of the
 Chamber of Commerce
 dated 24 Sept. 1859
 recd.

No 409

193856

The Committee of the Board of
 a letter from the Board of the
 the Board of the Board of the
 which has been submitted by
 the Chairman of that body for
 the consideration of the Board
 directed for reasons assigned
 submit that the "Service"
 "Native" tender was in
 reality the lowest and
 most eligible of all and
 as such was therefore
 accepted

23 @ 25-

For orders