

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

653

Press

~~Mis.~~

Dated

21 - 12 - 1859.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
for the month of December 1859.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 3. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 28th October 1859, No. 4406.

After much discussion and unavoidable delay, I have the honor to inform you that an agreement has been arrived at as to the amendments to be recommended in the present Boat Act, but as some of them are of a nature to affect the interests of Government, I think it advisable to solicit permission before finally having them embodied in the new Act.

2. At a meeting at which the Chamber of Commerce, the Boat owners and the Marine Department were represented, and which was assembled under the instructions of Government, conveyed in Extract Minutes of Consultation marginally noted, it was unanimously admitted that the boat hire was too low and that the

boats could and actually did carry more than was permitted by law. A fresh Schedule was then drawn up in which the hire was increased, and three distinct rates of lading were exhibited calculated at 3 tons for each boat in very fine weather and smooth water: at 2 tons with a moderate surf: and at 1½ ton with a high surf; a distinguishing flag at the Master Attendant's Office indicating the condition of the weather and the surf on each day. The Chamber, however, feared that this would be too complicated a system for practical use, and that it would involve them in difficulties as to insurance questions. While being willing to pay increased boat hire they therefore prefer leaving the quantity to be carried at its present rate. I do not agree with them, but think that when increasing the hire from Rupees 1-8-0 to Rupees 2-8-0 which has been agreed upon, it is but rational that the boat should be required to carry its full lading according to the state of the weather. Their views, however, are entitled to much weight, although the Government, as extensive employers of boats have a fair claim to be considered also, and before proceeding further in the matter I would solicit the views of Government.

3. The next point for consideration is the abolition of the extra hire for Sunday trips which is Rupees 1-8-0 for accommodation boats; 9 Annas for common ones, and 2 Annas for katmarams. These collections, which amount to from 50 to 150 Rupees a month, go towards a fund for the support of disabled boatmen and their families, and could not be abandoned without some substitute. There are at present persons receiving monthly stipends of

* One only at this rate. from 12 Annas to 3½ Rupees; * and as it would tend to induce boatmen to engage in the service of the port if a prospect of provision in their old age was held out to them, I would recommend that a stoppage of one Anna a trip be made, and that the proceeds should be credited to the disabled boatmen's fund in lieu of the present extra Sunday hire. This could be done by the Commissioner of Police who now levies 3 Annas a trip on cargo boats; and I may add that the Chamber of Commerce see no objection to the measure.

4. There are many other modifications proposed, but they are of a minor nature and need not be submitted for the consideration of Government until the Draft Act is completed.

No. 4. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 6th December 1859, No. 4831.

I have the honor in compliance with the instructions contained in Official Memorandum of the 15th ultimo, No. 454, to forward a statement shewing the receipts and disbursements of the disabled boatmen's fund from the 1st May 1858 to the 30th April 1859, from which it will be seen that on the last named date there was a floating balance to its credit of Rupees 8,419-5-2. The statement likewise exhibits the sources from which the fund is maintained.

2. I will proceed to give a brief sketch of the operations of the fund since the introduction of the Boat Act IV of 1842.

3. Between 1842 and 1848 the amount disbursed in pensions varied from 250 to 370 Rupees a month, and in the last mentioned year there were 218 persons on the fund receiving from 12 Annas, to 1 Rupee 12 Annas a month each.

4. The receipts having gradually fallen off, which induced the then Master Attendant to solicit assistance, Government in Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 15th August 1843 No. 315, directed that no more pensioners should be placed on the list, and that certain reductions should take place in the establishment kept up for managing the fund and collecting the monies credited to it.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
for the month of December 1859.*

5. On the 9th December following, the Assistant Master Attendant, who was then in charge of the Master Attendant's Office, found that there were not sufficient funds to pay the pensioners who were by this time reduced to 209, although all the higher stipends had been reduced to 12 Annas a month. The circumstance was reported to Government who ordered a strict scrutiny of the pension list. The result was that 49 women, who it appeared had some other means of support through their relations, were struck off, bringing the number to 160. Government in Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 30th March 1849, No. 128, authorized the continuance of these pensions as a temporary measure, renewed their injunctions as to no fresh pensioners being placed on the list, and on the 8th May following (Extract Minutes of Consultation No 188,) directed that a report on the state of the fund should be submitted at the end of 12 months.

6. It appears that no such report was sent in till May 1851, when the Master Attendant represented that consequent on the reduction of the pensions and 26 lapses since the 1st May 1849, the receipts exceeded the expenditure. He noticed, however, that the voluntary contributions were falling off; Rupees 518-2-9 having been raised from this source in 1849-50, while in 1850-51 only Rupees 276-6 were received. He stated that about 40 candidates sought admission to the fund, of whom 25 were utterly destitute and unable to earn their livelihood and solicited sanction for their being placed on the fund. Government authorized the addition of 9, which raised the number to 140. The establishment was also reduced to one kannakapillay at 8 Rupees a month, the writer at 14 Rupees being discharged.

7. Since this no new pensions have been granted nor has any alteration been made in the amounts, which with one exception remain at 12 Annas a month. The recipients have dwindled by deaths to 51, involving a monthly outlay of 41 Rupees and all voluntary contributions have long ceased.

8. From the foregoing short account of the fund since 1842, the Government will learn that it has gradually diminished in its operations as a charitable institution, which I think is to be regretted. Seeing that the boatmen at the port of Madras, who probably number some 1700 or 1800 men, are a most improvident race, it appears to me that it would be very advisable to keep up a fund to which they might look in their old age or when disabled in the execution of their duty, for support, and I objected to the abandonment of a source from which a considerable portion of its income was derived, without some equivalent.

9. But apart from its being a question of charity, I look upon the establishment of a fund of this description as an act of policy, inasmuch as it holds out an inducement to good behaviour in a proverbially unruly set of men. All boat-men are registered, and with the prospect of provision in his old age and aware that serious misconduct will cause a mark to be placed against his name which hereafter, when he falls into helplessness, may militate against his chances of obtaining a pension, a man will naturally find his interest in becoming a better member of the community.

10. The present object of the Chamber of Commerce is to render the boat service sufficiently attractive to induce more men to engage in it, and I see no way more likely to operate beneficially in this respect than by encouraging a fund wherewith to secure them from absolute want when worn out. The Chamber recommend an increase of hire, but this will be more apparent than real, for the boat-men extort in a great many cases that which is proposed to legalize: yet even admitting that it does increase their earnings, they will be wasted improvidently, and the old and maimed will be left just as destitute as at present. For these reasons I am strongly in favor of encouraging the present disabled boat-men's fund and if the Government concur with me no better mode of proceeding seems open than by a levy of one Anna per boat of cargo which the Chamber is ready to agree to.

No.	Accountant General's Number on the Bond.	Date of Bond.	Principal of each Bond.
1	220 of 5810 of 1835-36...	1836 March 31st...	Co.'s Rs. 2,300-0-0
2	6201 of ditto.	Do. 1832 May 1st.....	Sicca Rs. 6,000-0-0
3	1176 of 1832-33.....	May 1st.....	3,500-0-0
		Total Rupees.	11,800-0-0

11. The Capital of the fund is vested in Government Securities as noted in the margin.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
for the month of December 1859.*

Statement shewing the Receipts and Disbursements of disabled Boatmen's Fund from 1st May 1858 to 30th April 1859.

Year, month and date.	Disabled Boatmen's fund by voluntary contributions.	Sunday extra boat hire.	License Fees.	Drawn from the General Treasury.	Fines levied by the Magistrate under the Police Act No. 4 of 1842.	2½ per cent. on the amount value of the salvage fund.	Total Receipts.	Amount paid monthly to the boat pensioners.	Amount paid monthly to the Establishment.	Amount remitted to the General Treasury.	Total disbursements.	Monthly balance.	Remarks.
1858.													
May.....			10			10 8 0	20 8 0	47 12 4	8 0 0		55 12 0	265 9 0	927 Males & 33 Females.
June.....								46 4 8	8 0 0		54 4 0	211 5 9	33
July.....								45 8 0	8 0 0		53 8 0	157 13 9	32
August.....		183 12 0					183 12 0	44 12 0	8 0 0		52 12 0	288 13 9	32
September.....								44 12 0	8 0 0		52 12 0	236 1 9	32
October.....						2 4 0	2 4 0	44 0 0	8 0 0		52 0 0	186 5 9	32
November.....								43 4 0	8 0 0		51 4 0	135 1 9	31
December.....			238				238 0 0	42 8 0	8 0 0		50 8 0	322 9 9	31
1859.													
January.....						57 10 8	277 10 8	41 12 0	8 0 0		49 12 0	272 13 9	31
February.....			220					41 12 0	8 0 0	500 0 0	549 12 0	0 12 5	31
March.....		395 13 0	27			28 15 1	422 13 0	41 0 0	8 0 0		49 0 0	374 9 5	30
April.....			4				32 15 1	41 0 0	8 0 0		49 0 0	358 8 6	30
		579 9 0	499			99 5 9	1177 14 9	524 4 0	0 96 0	500 0 0	1120 4 0	...	

358 8 6

Balance up to 30th April 1859 as per statement.....
Amount remitted into the General Treasury on the 18th January 1851, 1st December 1854, 2nd January and 4th December 1856, 11th January 1858, 10th February 1859, to the credit of this fund.....
Interest accumulated in the General Treasury in favor of the fund up to 1st November 1858.....
Amount of interest to be hereafter drawn up to 30th April 1859, on 3 bonds.....

3,400 0 0
4,392 9 3
268 3 5

Total Rupees... 8,419 5 2

(Signed) H. D. E. DALRYMPLE,
Master Attendant.

MASTER ATTENDANT'S OFFICE,
28th November 1859.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
for the month of December 1859.*

No. 5. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT, dated 14th December 1859.

I concur with Mr. Pycroft on both points. Compulsory charges in aid of charitable funds are open to great objection; and the advantage even to those who are intended to be benefitted is very problematical.

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.

No. 6. ORDER THEREON, 21st December 1859, No. 653.

The discussion upon the revision of Act IV of 1842, or the Madras Boat Act, has been going on for three years or longer, and it is satisfactory to find that there is some chance of its drawing to a close, and of the revised Bill making its appearance.

2. As to the first of the questions mooted by the Superintendent of Marine in his letter of the 28th October last, viz., as to the load to be carried by the cargo boats, Government think it would be as well to let matters remain as at present, as the Chamber of Commerce, who are the parties most interested, do not desire any change.

3. As to the second point, the state of the disabled boatman's fund for some years past, is shown in Mr. Franklin's letter of the 6th instant, and its enclosure. There certainly seems no reason why higher fares should be paid on Sunday merely to keep this fund in force. The proposal to provide for it still further by a deduction from all trip money seems very objectionable. Government consider it inadvisable to connect themselves with funds of this nature for the benefit of those not in their service. Funds for the pensioning of Police, or other public servants, stand on a different footing.

4. With regard, however, to the fund itself, it is stated by Mr. Franklin that the invested capital amounts to Rupees 11,800, yielding an interest of Rupees 480 per annum. The floating balance is Rupees 8,420, which put into the 5½ per cent loan, would bring about Rupees 470 more, the total income being thus Rupees 950 or thereabouts, whereas the present expenditure is only Rupees 620 a year. There can, therefore, be no necessity for Government continuing to contribute to it in the way of License fees, fines, extra hire, &c., still less for their making stoppages from trip money on that account.

5. For the reasons adduced in Mr. Franklin's letter of the 6th instant, Government consent to the fund being kept up to the extent of its own actual revenue, Rupees 950 per annum. The management of it will remain as at present with the Master Attendant, and pensioners be brought on it as far as its own resources will go, but no further. These, it is remarked, will provide for pensioning half as many persons again as are now upon it.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Accountant on the Board	Balance of Board cash	Principal
1 220 of 1835/36	1836	6 Rupees
2 621 of 1836/37	1837	2300 "
3 1176 of 1837/38	1838	6000 "
	1839	3500 "
	1840	11800 "

*Madras
Marine Office
6th December 1859*

*in Government
securities as
noted in the
margin*

*which the Boarder is ready to agree to.
" the Capital of the fund is needed*

*2 4406.7
-4831.
upon
-1842
has
years
ectory*

*to find that there is some
of its drawing to p*

Con 15th August 1848-52-17-19-
"-3rd April 1849 No 283
"-8th May -" -" -14 115
"-3rd February 1852 No 6-7-

Marine Letter to England dated
26th January No 2 of 1850.

M-5-69-
2-7-69-11

306

4

13 Dec
1819

37 Jan 59
Marine 1859 Dept
From
The Superintendent
of Marine
Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St George
Dated 6th
Recd } December 1859

No 4831

1 Encls.

No 568

Forwards a Statement
showing the receipts and
disbursements of the Disabled
Boat-men's Fund from the
1st May 1858 to 30th April
1859 from which it will
be seen that on the last
named date there was a
floating balance to its
credit of Rupees 8419-5-2
and also the sources from
which the Fund is
maintained.

In 1859-31 Decr-306.

4

Marine Department.

Memorandum.

Read the following Letters:-

From the Superintendent of Marine. (Here enter 28th Octr 1859, No 4406.)

From the - do - do - (" - " 6th Decr - " - 4831.)

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making its appearance.

2.- As to the first of the
questions mooted by the Su-
perintendent of Marine in
his present letter - viz. as to
the load to be carried by the
cargo boats, it may be as
well to let matters remain

28 Oct

ad

as at present, as the Chamber of Commerce who are most interested, do not desire any change.

3. As to the second point - some account of the origin of the Disabled Boatmen's Fund, and of the sources from which it is supported will be found in the accompanying Memo. I state for some years past it also shown in Mr. Franklin's letter of the 6th instant and its enclosure. There certainly seems no reason why higher fares should be paid on Sunday, merely to keep this Fund in force. The proposal to provide for it still further by a deduction from all trip money seems to me very objectionable. Government should not connect themselves with funds of this nature for the benefit of those not in their service. Funds for the pensioning of Police or other public servants stand on a different footing.

With

Note - The levy of higher fares on Sunday than on a week-day appears to me *per se* to be objectionable. Government might not well charge higher Railway fares on Sunday. Men do not embark or disembark on Sunday from choice, but from necessity. Further, the levy affects natives who do not observe Sunday at all.

4. With regard however to the Fund itself, it will be seen from Mr. Franklin's letter that the invested capital amounts to Rupees 11800 yielding an interest of Rupees 480 per annum. The floating balance is Rupees 8,420 which put into the open 5½ per cent loan would bring about 470 Rupees more; the total income being thus Rupees 950 or thereabouts, whereas the present expenditure is only Rupees 620 a year. There can therefore be no necessity for Government continuing to contribute to it in the way of licence fees, fines, extra hire &c. still less for their making stoppages from trip money on that account as proposed by Mr. Franklin.

5. Much of the present accumulations funded and unfunded, have arisen from public sources, fees, fines and such like. On the other hand some portion has accrued from the subscriptions of the boatmen themselves. The Government may

may therefore not be prepared to put an end to the Fund, and appropriate its capital on the lapse of the present incumbents. The alternative would seem to be to keep it up to the extent of its own actual revenue, Re-
 p. 950 per annum. The management might remain as at present with the Master Attendant, and pensioners be brought on it as far as its own resources will go - but no further. These it will be remarked would provide for pensioning half as many persons again as are now upon it.

JP

I concur with Mr. Graft on both points - compulsory charges in aid of charitable funds are open to great objection; and the advantage even to those who are intended to be benefited is very problematical

So do I & Mrs.

Wm. Graft

14 Dec 57

Dec 16 6

My dear Mr. Graft

My people have left office and - I cannot help to ask the question in your letter without reference, but I think the interest in the Capital of the 2 B. Fund is now to 482. Represented your, and that the paper is in the 4 per cent. fund. Some in Company, and

some in Texas papers.
There was an un-
derstand balance on
the 30th April last of
\$419.52 which the
Capital and it has
increased since.
The people on the
Island are trying off
and so there are
substituted. Explain
African manager the
Island and after the

more of the white
is the first instance
to get him to enter
the functions, and
to sign the limited
the admissions to him
only a number of
applicants, second
advice to make any
further representation
about it. Matters
have therefore here
allowed to take their
course, the disbarment
events have become

Marine.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the following letters
from the Superintendent of
Marine

Enter 28th Oct^r & 6th Dec^r
1859 Nos 44068 & 4831.

Minute by the President
in Council

14th Dec^r 1859.

Order—21 December 1859. No 653.

The discussion upon the
revision of Act IV-1842—
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has been going on for
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tion from all trip mo-
ney seems very objection-
able. Govt. consider it
unadvisable

unadvisable to connect
themselves with Funds
of this nature for the
benefit of those not in
their service. Funds for
the pensioning of Police,
or other public servants
stand on a different
footings.

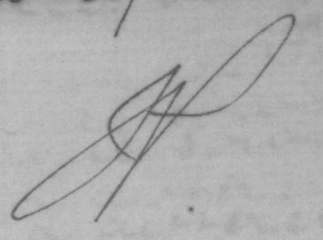
4. With regard, however, to the
Fund itself, it is stated by
Mr. Franklin that the
invested capital amounts
to Rs 11,800, yielding an
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The floating balance is
Rs 8,420, which put into the
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bring about Rs 470 more —
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of

of License fees, fines, extra
hire, &c. - still left for
their making stoppages
from trip money on that
account, as proposed
by Mr. Franklin.

5. For the reasons adduced
in Mr. Franklin's letter
of the 6th instant, Govt.
consent to the Fund
being kept up to the ex-
tent of its own actual
revenue, R. 950 \$ an-
num. The manage-
ment of it ^{will} might re-
main as at present with
the Master Attendant,
and pensioners be
brought on it as far
as its own resources -
will go - but no fur-
ther. Hence, it is re-
marked,

Present Income -	950
Expenditure -	620
<u>R. 330</u>	

12
remarked will provide
for pensioning half as
many persons again,
as are now upon it.



The Superintendent of }
Marine. }
" Aect. Genl. }
Govt. Solicitor. }
9th Jan'y 1847

of Letters, State and
and Order