

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *90*

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated *12 3* 18*59*.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Marine Consultation, 15th March 1859.

No. 17. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 8th March 1859, No. 995.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 2nd Instant, No. 68, forwarding for report a communication from the Secretary to the Government of India of the 5th Ultimo, No. 262, respecting the proposal of Messrs: Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co. of Calcutta, for establishing a line of Steamers of about 600 Tons and 150 horse power each, between Calcutta, Madras and Colombo. Their offer at present, however, only extends to Calcutta, Madras and the intermediate Ports of Vizagapatam, Cocanada and Masulipatam.

2. Had arrangements not already been made for establishing the Madras, Northern Ports, and Rangoon line by Government Steamers, I should have strongly recommended their offer for acceptance, although at a reduced subsidy as the distance to be steamed between Calcutta and Madras is rather less than that between Calcutta and Moulmein, including the visits to the intermediate Ports in both cases, but, as that is about to be formed, it appears to me unnecessary, that a private line, such as contemplated, should be subsidized. Moreover, in the penultimate Clause of the agreement forwarded, and herewith returned as requested, it appears that the two lines could not be in operation at one and the same time, in as much as concerns private Passengers and Cargo.

3. If our Burmah line is to be kept up—which however I doubt the possibility of with the Steamers at command in India—the deviation to the Northern Ports is so little inconvenient in a nautical point of view, and of so great an advantage otherwise, that it is highly expedient they should be included in the Ports to be visited; and if Messrs: Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co. would modify their offer, so as to adopt the scheme now about to be brought into operation, I am of opinion that it would be advisable to accept it, Government paying of course a larger subsidy for proceeding across the bay, than has been granted for the line between Calcutta and Moulmein.

4. Should the Firm consent to this, I think this Government should be in possession of the Tariff to be charged on Passengers (Cabin and Deck) and Freight, before any Contract is entered into.

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, No. 90; dated 12th March 1859.

Resolved that the Post Master General be furnished with a copy of Extract Minutes of Consultation, No 68, dated 2nd Instant, and his opinion of the scheme, submitted by Messrs: Mackinnon, Mackenzie and Co., in a Postal point of view, be requested to be communicated to Government at an early date.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

N^o 995

From

J. J. Franklin Esq^r
Superintendent of Marine

To

T. Pycroft Esq^r
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George

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I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 2nd instant, N^o 68, forwarding for report a communication from the Secretary to the Government of India of the 5th ultimo, N^o 262, respecting the proposal of Mess^{rs} Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co^s of Calcutta, for reestablishing a line of Steamers of about 600 tons and 150 horse power each, between Calcutta, Madras, and Colombo. Their offer at present, however, only extends to Calcutta Madras and the intermediate ports of Vizagapatam, Cocanada and Masulipatam.

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the visits to the intermediate ports in both cases,
but, as that is about to be formed, it appears
to me unnecessary, that a private line, such
as contemplated, should be subsidized.
Moreover, in the penultimate Clause of
the Agreement forwarded, and herewith
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and of so great an advantage otherwise, that
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the ports to be visited, and if Messrs
Mackinnon

N^o 90.

Resolved that the Post Master
General be furnished with a
Copy of Ex: Offis: Cons: N^o 68
dated 2nd Instant, & his opi-
nion of the Scheme, submitted by
Messrs Mackinnon & Mackenzie & Co.,
in a Postal point of view, be
requested, to be communi-
cated to Govt. at an early date.

Port of George?
12 March 1859.

The Post Master General with
Ex: Offis: Cons: N^o 68 dated
2nd Instant & Contract Co.
be returned.)

12th Mch.