

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
for the month of January 1860.*

No. 15. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Military Department, dated
13th January 1860, No. 172.

*Communicating correspondence from the Super-
intendent of Marine and the Deputy Quarter
Master General of the Army on the subject
of the despatch of Her Majesty's 44th Foot
and the Battery of Artillery to China.* } (*Vide Proceedings, Military Department, from
11th to 20th January 1860, Nos. 74 @ 80.*)

No. 16.

ORDER THEREON, 16th January 1860, No. 27.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

need not be sent. The intention evidently is, that the men should groom their Horses as in Europe, and forage can it is supposed be provided through local agency in China.

Referred to the Superintendent of Marine for immediate report, on the concluding clause of para. 3.

7th January 1860.

From the Superintendent of Marine, Madras, 9th January 1860, No. 105; to the Secretary to Government Military Department, Fort Saint George.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the order of Government of the 7th instant, referring for report on the concluding part of the 3rd para., a letter (herewith returned) from the Deputy Quarter Master General of the Army of same date, suggesting that immediate steps should be taken to ascertain whether tonnage could be obtained for the immediate transport of H. M.'s 44th and a Battery of Royal Artillery to China. I beg also to acknowledge receipt of the Proceedings of Government of the 8th instant recording three telegrams from the Secretary to the Government of India, and directing that tenders shall be called immediately for the requisite transport of the troops.

2. My letter of the 7th, No. 81, will have made known to Government my opinion regarding the dispatch of Troops at this early period of the season, when strong contrary winds and a heavy sea must be expected in the China sea. I have since carefully re-considered the question in all its bearings, and feel confident that time would be lost rather than saved, by embarking Troops in sailing vessels before March. The passage would probably occupy 50 to 60 days, and if they left in a fortnight which would be the earliest date at which they could be dispatched, their arrival at Hong Kong could not be anticipated before the latter part of March; I have therefore ventured to delay the calling for tenders until I receive instructions on the following proposals.

3. There is apparently some urgent necessity for the immediate dispatch of the 44th. The "Ferooz" and "Punjab" are near, and if one or the other could be obtained, she might receive between 2 and 300 of the Regiment, and with a transport in tow, could convey at least a Wing to China by the Palawan passage in about a month. These vessels might leave about the 30th or earlier if provisions could be obtained sooner, and be at Hong Kong on the 2nd March.

4. Should it however appear that neither of these Steamers could be spared, the "Oriental" might be re-called from Kakinada and take in 600 of the 44th for China, but she could not tow a transport.

5. These are the only measures I can devise for the immediate dispatch of the 44th or any portion of them, but I must add that it is doubtful if the "Oriental" would effect her passage without breaking down; and moreover, the "Punjab" has two lakhs (1350 boxes) of copper treasure on board for Bombay, and is to carry a party of 82* men of H. M.'s 91st to that Presidency, to be taken on board the "Ferooz" here, and transferred to her at Negapatam or Galle.

6. Instead of the transport to be engaged here, arrangements may perhaps be made for the employment of the "Louisiana," a large vessel of 1264 tons, which was sent over from Rangoon to Kakinada with 60 Elephants. The Commander is willing to proceed to China from this, if he can obtain a release from his charterers at Calcutta, to whom he has telegraphed.

7. My next suggestion is, and it is one which will place the troops in China at a date little later than that above mentioned, that if neither the "Ferooz" nor "Punjab" can be spared, the "Pottinger" and "Oriental", towing the "Tubal Cain" and "Louisiana," be dispatched in the early part of February. They may all be expected here by the beginning of that month, and could leave about the 10th so as to arrive at Hong Kong about the 10th March. The sailing vessels could take the whole of the Batteries with horses &c., while the 44th could be sent by the Steamers.

8. This is the plan I would recommend unless it is considered of great importance to have part of the 44th at Hong Kong a week or 10 days earlier.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department, dated 11th January 1860, No. 19.

This Government will be unable in the absence of the "Punjab," to send the Regiments to China, which it has been ordered to send, but it is unwilling to take her away from Madras, where she is urgently required for a similar duty. I am directed therefore, to request, that having taken the 44th Regiment to China, she may be directed to return straight to Bombay."

(True Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary.

ORDER, No. 172, 13th January 1860.

Ordered that the foregoing letters from the Superintendent of Marine be communicated to the Commander-in-Chief and the Government of India.

2 The Government of Bombay having consented to the employment of the "Punjab" or the conveyance of Her Majesty's 44th to China, such portion of that Corps as can be conveyed in her with a transport in tow, will be dispatched as early as practicable, the Commissary General and all other Departments expediting their arrangements.

3. The Governor in Council approves of the plan suggested in paragraph 7 of the letter from the Superintendent of Marine dated 9th January being adopted for the conveyance of the remainder of the 44th and the Battery of Royal Artillery.

4. In reply to paras. 4 and 5 of the Quarter Master General's letter, it is observed that the limitation of a Syce to every Non-Commissioned Officer's horse is applicable to the Dragoons; and the Commander-in-Chief's opinion that Grass Cutters need not be sent, is confirmed in the annexed Telegram.

Telegram and letter to the Secy. to the Govt. of India, in order 9th January 1860, No. 103. Grass Cutters are not to be sent and Syces only for Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers.

(True Extract.)

M. Marshall
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General.

- Adjutant General.
- Dy. Adjutant Genl. H. M. British Forces.
- Dy. Quarter Master General, H. M.'s British Forces.
- Superintendent of Marine.
- Marine Department.
- Inspector General of Ordnance.
- Director General Medical Department.
- Commissary General.
- Military Auditor General.
- Accountant General.
- Auditor of Commissariat Accounts.
- Town Major.
- Clothing Department.
- Superintendent of Family Payments.

Exd. J. Davis.

No. 4080.

29 Feb 1860

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absence 1860 Defiant

Proceedings of Court
in the Military District

No 172

8/13 Jan 1860
2/14 Jan 1860

2 of Jan 1860

No 15

Communications

Communications from the
Dept of Justice & the
Dept of War of the Army
the subject of the
of the 14th post and
the battery of 1860
to China

1860

To be recorded.

1860

1860

1860