

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 561

Press
Mis.

Dated 8.10.

18⁰⁰.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
8th October 1860.*

Read the following letters :—

No. 23. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 2nd October 1860, No. 4,328.

Referring to my letter of the 21st ultimo, reporting the loss of the Barque "Hopewell," I have the honor to forward the accompanying letter with [accompaniments from the Collector of Malabar on the same subject.

2. The circumstances mentioned are similar to my report above cited, but the Collector further supports the recommendation of the Master Attendant at Cochin for a special grant-in-aid of the shipwrecked parties. I therefore submit the question for the consideration of Government, but must at the same time observe that I do not see any grounds for compliance therewith. As shipwrecked British seamen the greater portion of them are entitled to subsistence and to such clothing as may be absolutely necessary; but I do not consider that the Government are called on to do more.

3. From a letter I have noticed in a local Journal copied from the Cochin Courier, I infer that the Crew have already left for Bombay.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine, dated Calicut, 24th September 1860, No. 5,417.

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Master Attendant of Cochin, together with a declaration from Captain J. Barrow regarding the total loss of the Bark "Hopewell."

2. The Master Attendant it will be observed, recommends that some special grant may be allowed towards the relief of the distressed seamen, and under the circumstances represented by Captain Castor, I beg to solicit the favor of your submitting his recommendation for the favorable consideration of Government.

From JOHN CASTOR, Esq., Master Attendant, to P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Malabar, Calicut, dated 14th September 1860, No. 212.

I have the honor to report for your information, the total loss of the Bark "Hopewell," belonging to the Port of London, of 481 tons, Captain J. Barrow, on the Island of Kalpeni the most South-eastern group of the Laccadives, at 1 A. M. on the morning of the 11th September.

2. The vessel left Bombay on the 6th instant, bound for London, with a cargo of Seeds, &c., and experienced fine weather, until this sad catastrophe overtook her.

3. Immediately after the vessel struck on the reef, adjoining that Island, she was thrown in so critical a position, with her decks to windward, that instant abandonment became necessary, and the little time left, was employed in getting the long boat out, for the preservation of life.

4. The Captain, Officers, and men, 19 in number, arrived here this morning in a most deplorable condition, after an exposure, in an open boat of four days, without water, but what was caught from the rain, deprived of every thing, but the clothes they had on.

5. The seamen are now being subsisted under the prescribed rules fixed by Government. Their situation is so destitute and forlorn, that I am constrained to respectfully but earnestly solicit that you will be so good as to recommend to the favorable consideration of Government that some special grant may be allowed towards their relief.

6. The Crew consist of fourteen* British born subjects, one American, two Chinese and two Prussians. They landed in so severe a state of destitution that I could not allow them to remain any longer so, but purchased some clothes and shoes for them at once.

* 2 West Indians out of 14 British Seamen.

I purpose making an appeal to the community in behalf of these unfortunate men.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
8th October 1860.*

I do hereby declare the following to be the particulars, as far as I can remember, to the best of my belief, regarding the loss of my vessel.

The Bark "Hopewell" belonging to the Port of London, of 481 tons, belonging to Messrs. Alexander Sim and Co., of London, left Bombay on the 6th September 1860, laden with a cargo of Seeds, &c., bound for London. After leaving Bombay, experienced fine weather with occasional squalls and showers of rain. On the 10th of the said month, at noon, sighted the Island of Underoo, and steered a course to pass to windward of the Island of Kalpeni. At 1 A. M., on the 11th, without any previous notice of the danger, struck on the reef adjoining the Island of Kalpeni and immediately after the vessel struck, she fell over with her decks to windward, which forced us to abandon her at once in the long boat, and this we had to do, without either myself or the Crew saving any thing belonging to us save the clothes we had on at the time, (excepting a Chronometer and a Sextant). We left the wreck at about 3 A. M., on the 11th September and arrived at Cochin on the morning of the 14th instant, destitute of every thing, and was met by the Master Attendant on the Bar.

(Signed) JOSEPH BARROW,
Master.

Sworn to before me at Cochin this 20th day of September 1860.

(Signed) E. CULLIN,
Joint Magistrate and Justice of the Peace.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) J. B. CROWTHER,
Asst. Supt. of Marine.

No. 24.

ORDER THEREON, 8th October 1860, No. 351.

The Government remark that there is nothing to distinguish the case of the Crew of the late Barque "Hopewell" from that of other shipwrecked seamen, nor any call for a special grant. As observed by the Superintendent of Marine, the greater portion are British seamen, and entitled to subsistence and any clothing absolutely necessary; and as regards the Foreigners among them, the Government have recently—Proceedings 29th ultimo, No. 337—approved arrangements for their subsistence, by which any expense, they may not repay on obtaining employment, will be borne by the State.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 351. 8 October 1860. No. 351.

The Govt. remarks that there is nothing to distinguish the case of the Crew of the late Barque "Hopewell" from that of other shipwrecked seamen, nor any call for a special grant. As observed by the Superintendent of Marine, the greater portion are British Seamen, & entitled to