

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2445	Press Mis.
Dated	24. 12.	1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

143-32

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
24th December 1860.*

No. 52. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated London, 17th November 1860, No. 28.

I forward to you in the packet herewith for such notice as you may upon enquiry find the case deserving of, a copy of a letter which has been addressed to me by Captain Sellar, who Commanded the late Ship "Tullochgorum," bearing strong testimony to the meritorious conduct of Captain Meppen, the Master Attendant at Vizagapatam in your Presidency, upon the occasion of the recent loss of that Vessel.

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COPY.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE SIR CHARLES WOOD, BART., G.C.S.,

Secretary of State for India.

Most respectfully I beg to bring to your notice my testimony to the meritorious conduct of Captain Meppen, the Master Attendant of Vizagapatam, on a late trying emergency.

2. The zeal, energy, and spirit with which he has discharged the functions of his responsible office in circumstances of peculiar peril to myself and Ship, and the readiness with which he has responded to my every requirements, at all times and on all occasions, demand my warmest thanks; but in a more emphatic manner would I express my lasting gratitude to him for the preservation of my life, which under Providence I owe entirely to his unwearied exertions; for when I was compelled by the force of necessity to run my sinking Ship ashore, and all relief from the shore became hopeless, from the failure of many and repeated attempts, he, at the hazard of his own life, and in the face of no ordinary difficulties, came to my rescue while in a position of extreme danger and succeeded in saving me, when perhaps a few moments more would, humanly speaking, have closed my earthly career.

3. The darkness of the night, the high surf, and the danger of the boat being stove by the pieces of my ill-fated vessel, which was fast going to pieces, the crumbling wreck irrespective of previous fruitless exertion would have discouraged further effort as fraught with increasing risk, but nothing daunted, Captain Meppen did his duty and that right nobly.

4. Such high spirited and disinterested conduct in the cause of humanity demands a more fitting acknowledgment than it is in my power to accord, but I bring it to the notice of the Government under which he serves to receive such consideration as merit deserves, or they may think right to bestow.

VIZAGAPATAM,
EAST INDIES,
20th July 1860.

(Signed) ALEXANDER SELLAR,
Commander late "Tullochgorum."

No. 53. ORDER THEREON, 24th December 1860, No. 445.

The Superintendent of Marine, to whom the above Despatch, with its enclosure, will be referred, is requested to furnish particulars as to the case of the late "Tullochgorum," and the conduct of the Master Attendant of Vizagapatam on that occasion. Mr. Franklin will state at the same time, what he would suggest in reference to Mr. Meppen.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

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Marine.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt
Read Despatches from
the Superintendent of
Marine — Inter 17th Nov. book No 28.

Order. 24th December, 1860. No 1115.

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The Suptt. of Marine. Sep 24th

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Machine No. 1 to Aug. 25. 2664
Feb 6 of 1861
Replaced by 16 May No. 16 of 1861.

(20)

Machine No. 1

28

Machine 1860. Chapter 1

No. 445

Proceedings of Court

No. 381/13

24 December 1860.

Further Desp. from the Secy. of State. 16 May 1861 No. 16.
No. 14 of 1861 - 25.
I request the duty
of Machine to pursue
particulars as to the
care of the late
"Willoughby" and
the conduct of the
Master attended to
of was a person and
that occasion