

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	7	Press
		Mis-
Dated	21-11-60	1800.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 7. From Captain W. F. MARRIOTT, Acting Secretary to Government of Bombay ; to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated 12th December 1859, No. 1498.

In reply to your letter No. 602 of 26th November, I regret to have to explain that owing to communications from the Government of India on the same subject received at the same time, the information desired by your letter No. 272 of 21st June was sent to the Government of India and to the Secretary of State but, by oversight, not to you.

* No. 992 of 26th July.

† No. 59 of 20th August.

2nd. I have now the honor to communicate a copy of Commodore Wellesley's report No. 678, of 6th July, and of the letters to the Government of India* and the Secretary of State† thereon.

3rd. Copies of the papers which accompanied the Despatch to the Secretary of State are also sent herewith.

From Commodore G. G. WELLESLEY, Commander-in-Chief, Indian Navy ; to the Right Honorable Lord ELPHINSTONE, G. C. B. G. C. H., Governor and President in Council, dated Bombay, 6th July 1859, No. 678.

In compliance with the instructions conveyed to me in Government resolution No. 904 of the 29th ultimo, I do myself the honor to report to your Lordship in Council that since the Vessels of the Indian Navy have ceased to run as packets between this and Suez, and between this and Kurrachee, there have not been any regulations in force regarding the conveyance of private passengers, the custody of their baggage, and the conveyance of parcels.

7th September 1841, *Government Gazette*, page 621.
6th December 1841.
16th September 1843.
25th February 1845.

The rules and regulations which were in force previous to the relinquishment of the packet service are contained in the Government General Order and Notifications marginally indicated.

3. A perusal of these orders will show that the conveyance of merchandize or cargo, was not only not provided for but positively interdicted.

4. Government General Order No. 147 of the 24th October 1850, does specify the rate of passage money to be levied from private passengers who may proceed by Vessels of the Indian Navy, but as the accommodation of the Vessels, with but few exceptions is only sufficient for their own Officers and Crew, this order has seldom been acted upon, and may be said to be almost a dead letter so far as private passengers are concerned.

5. Having already in my letters Nos. 211, 435 and 659 of the 26th February and 23rd April last and 1st instant, represented the painful position in which Officers of the Indian Navy are placed by having to perform such duties as are required from them by the Madras Government and the prejudicial effects likely to result to the discipline of the service. I will not now enter further on the subject than to express a hope that it may meet the attentive consideration of your Lordship in Council and such an earnest recommendation to the Secretary of State as may at once relieve them from it.

From Captain W. F. MARRIOTT, Acting Secretary to Government, Bombay ; to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated 26th July 1859, No. 992.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 849, dated 29th April last, with its enclosure and, with reference to the previous correspondence from this Department on the subject, to transmit by direction of His Lordship in Council, the accompanying copies of a letter from the Commander-in-Chief, Indian Navy, No. 678, dated 6th instant, and of the General Orders and Notifications alluded to in the 2nd paragraph thereof.

2nd. I am desired to request consideration of Commodore Wellesley's letter and further Orders by the Government of India.

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

From A. MALET and H. W. REEVES Esquires; to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India, London, dated Bombay Castle, 20th August 1859, No. 59.

We beg to refer to paragraph 4th of Lord Stanley's Despatch to the Government of Fort Saint George, No. 14, dated 12th May last, relative to the conveyance of private passengers and cargo or merchandize by Steamers of the Indian Navy, and to transmit copy of our proceedings on the subject, from which it will be perceived that Commodore Wellesley is decidedly averse to the employment of the Indian Navy Steamers upon the service indicated. We fully concur with him.

From C. BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India; to Colonel P. M. MELVILL, Secretary to the Government of Bombay, dated 21st January 1859, No. 156.

Letter to Superintendent of Marine, No. 1705, dated the 24th July 1858.

„ *from Superintendent of Marine, No. 7599, dated the 29th July 1858.*

„ *from Superintendent of Marine, No. 7673, dated the 30th July 1858, and enclosure.*

„ *to Chief Secretary to Government of Fort Saint George, No. 1245, dated the 17th August 1858.*

„ *from Chief Secretary to Government of Fort Saint George, No. 414, dated the 12th October 1858.*

I am directed to transmit the accompanying copy of papers on the subject of the establishment of Steam communication between Madras and Burmah by means of the Government Steamers "Australian," "Coromandel" and "Dalhousie."

2nd. The President in Council requests that the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy may be desired to instruct the Officers of the Indian Navy, while employed on the "Dalhousie" and "Coromandel," to conform to all instructions they may receive from the Government of Madras through the Superintendent of Marine at Madras, or by the Superintendent of Marine at Madras, acting under the general authority of the Government of that Presidency.

3rd. His Honor in Council desires me to suggest to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that it would be desirable to employ the Commissioned Officers now on the transports "Dalhousie" and "Coromandel," on other more appropriate duties in which their services appear to be much required, supplying their places by Acting Masters and Mates of the Indian Navy.

From Commodore G. G. WELLESLEY, Commander-in-Chief, Indian Navy; to the Right Honorable LORD ELPHINSTONE, G. C. H., Governor and President in Council, dated Bombay, 26th February 1859, No. 211.

I do myself the honor to acknowledge receipt of Secretary Colonel Melvill's letter, No. 250, of the 17th instant, with its printed enclosures, now returned, on the subject of which I am directed to report.

2nd. The Steamers "Australian" and "Sydney" alluded to in this correspondence belong, I have reason to believe, to the Bengal Marine; and with regard to their employment on the proposed line between Madras and Rangoon, I have no remarks to offer.

3rd. The "Coromandel" and "Dalhousie" belong to the Indian Navy; and so long as they continue such, I am of opinion that their employment for the purposes, and subject to the control which is set forth in these papers will be very detrimental to the service.

4th. Although I believe I am justified in stating that the employment of Government Vessels of war for carrying mails and passengers is generally as opposed to economy as it is unsatisfactory to the public at large; I would not desire to raise an objection on this score, if the measure be deemed important; but it appears to be intended that these Vessels are to carry not only private passengers, but freight and merchandize, under which head is included cattle of all descriptions; I have never before heard of Vessels carrying a Pendant being employed in such a manner with the exception, I must admit, of the Indus Flotilla, where under certain regulations the Steamers

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

have been allowed since 1851 by Government to carry goods, there having been no private Steamers on the river; but this I presume will be put a stop to directly the Companies who are establishing Steamers on the river get their vessels to work.

5th. The Superintendent of Marine at Madras, in the 8th paragraph of his letter, justly alludes to the dislike which Officers of the Indian Navy would entertain to such employment; and suggests that Acting Masters, drawn from the Mercantile Marine, should be appointed as Officers. But an Acting Master belonging to the Indian Navy, while he remains in it is in all respects an Officer of the service, and like others subject to the same code, and the same control; and I do not consider it would be fair by the service, or by those Officers to place them in a position which is considered derogatory for others to hold.

6th. The Articles of War, Article 18, prohibit Officers from receiving on board merchandize of any description, except treasure and except any goods that they may be ordered to receive by competent authority upon pain of being cashiered, and rendered incapable of further Naval service under Government. Under this Article, it is competent to Government to authorize the employment of the vessels and Officers in the manner proposed; but I venture most earnestly to solicit your Lordship in Council to urge upon the Supreme Government the evil effects which must follow the adoption of this plan.

7th. If the "Coromandel" and "Dalhousie" are no longer wanted for the service of the Indian Navy, it would be better, I respectfully suggest, that they should be made over to the Madras Presidency, or lent for a time, the Officers and Crews being withdrawn from them, and their places supplied by Crews raised in Madras for the purpose of manning them; they would then be entirely under the control of the Government of that Presidency; your Lordship in Council will no doubt recollect that the subject of placing the "Coromandel" under the control of the Superintendent of Marine at Madras was formerly under consideration (vide correspondence as per margin) and I would beg to refer to the observations I then made on the subject.

Letter from Government to the Commander-in-Chief, Indian Navy, No. 1708 of 24th October 1857, with enclosure and No. 262 of 22nd February 1858, with enclosure.

Commander-in-Chief's reply to Government, Nos. 1400 and 1401 of 30th November 1857, and No. 425 of 23rd April 1858.

8th. There is one other point which should be noticed. If the Vessels carry cargo, they must enter at the Custom House like any Merchant Vessel, or they will be liable to seizure, and they will forfeit the rights which, as Vessels of war, they possess in visiting any Ports but those of the Presidency of Madras, where probably the ordinary rules would not be insisted on.

From Colonel P. M. MELVILL, Secretary to Government, Bombay; to the Secretary to the Government of India dated 17th March 1859, No. 428.

I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 156 dated 21st January last with its accompaniments, relative to the establishment of Steam communication between Madras and Burmah by the means of the Government Steamers "Australian," "Coromandel" and "Dalhousie," and in transmitting the accompanying copy of a letter from the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, No. 211, dated 26th ultimo, reporting upon the subject, I am to convey the full concurrence of this Government in the views therein expressed.

With reference to the remarks of the Commander-in-Chief relative to the Steamers in question conveying merchandize, I am to state that it was decided in a former correspondence, by the Government of India that there is no law which prevents the carrying of merchandize in Vessels of the Indian Navy. But at the same time the Indian Navy Vessels cannot, it is understood, take out papers from the Custom House as ordinary Merchant ships.

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

2. In transmitting these papers, I am instructed to state, that the Honorable the Governor in Council sees in them nothing which leads him to alter the views expressed in my letters of the 19th August and 22nd September last, that vessels of the Indian Navy in the service of this Government whether for maintaining the communication between Madras and Burmah via the Northern Ports, or for any other duty should be placed in the Marine Department, and their Commanders required to obey all orders issued by the Head of the Department, the Superintendent of Marine acting under the general authority of Government.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

N^o 1498 of 1859.

Marine Department.

*To The Chief Secy. to the Government
of Madras.*

The Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir,

With reference to my letter under date the 26th November^{last} N^o 601, I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to forward to you the enclosed copy of a letter of the 12th instant from the Bombay Government and of its accompaniments in reply to the application made by this Government for information as to the practice obtaining in the Bombay Presidency relative to the carrying of private passengers and cargo or merchandise by Steamers of the Indian Navy.

2. In transmitting these papers, I am instructed to

C 22 Dec 11
R 3 Aug 16

Dec: 30th 1859 18th 22nd
" 23rd 1859 12th 15th
" 19th Aug 1859 32nd 35th
" 24th June 1859 6th 7th
" 25th July 1859 14th
" 15th " " 5th 8th
" 12th Oct 1858 23rd 25th
" 14th Oct 1858 19th 22nd
" 8th Jan 1859 6th 9th

Commanders required to be
tendent of Marine acting under the general authority of Government.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT
Chief

Sept 11

Marine Department

To
The Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir,

With reference to my
letter under date the 26th
November^{last} No. 601, I am directed
by the Honorable the Governor
in Council to forward to
you the enclosed copy of a
letter of the 12th Instant
from the Bombay Govern-
ment and of its accom-
paniments in reply to the
application made by this
Government for information
as to the practice obtaining
in the Bombay Presidency
relative to the carrying of
private passengers and
cargo or merchandise by
Steamers of the Indian
Navy.

2. In transmitting these
papers, I am instructed
to

Exd. F. Cartledge.

to state, that the Honorable the Governor in Council sees in them nothing which leads him to alter the views expressed in my letters of the 19th August and 22nd September last, that vessels of the Indian Navy in the service of this Government whether for maintaining the communication between Madras and Burma via the Northern Ports, or for any other duty, should be placed in the Marine Department, and their Commanders required to obey all orders issued by the Head of the Department, the Superintendent of Marine acting under the general authority of Government.

I have, &c.

JF

Fort Saint George,
4 January 1860.

Commandant

11/7 Bombay Fort
2 Enclos to follow

the 10th Jan'y -
March 1850. Departs

2004

Order
The Secy: to the Comptroller
of the Treasury
of the Treasury

C22 Decn
R9: Jan/60