

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

Read the following papers:—

No. 20. From W. M. CADELL, Esq., Magistrate of Tanjore, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 26th January 1860, No. 10.

Paragraph 1. With reference to the Proceedings of Government under date the 15th December last, No. 638, and my reply thereto of the 19th idem, relative to an enquiry into the subject of the abandonment of the Crew of the English Schooner "Alice," I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of a letter this day addressed by me to the Superintendent of Marine.

2. This report would have been made at an earlier date, but the Captain and Mate did not appear before me till the 10th instant at Negapatam and I have since been absent from my Office.

From W. M. CADELL, Esq., Magistrate of Tanjore, to the Superintendent of Marine, Madras, dated Vellum, 26th January 1860.

With reference to your letter of the 13th December last, No. 4933, I have the honor to forward copies of 2 depositions taken before me on the 10th instant from John Douglas, late Master, and John Pye, late Mate of the Schooner "Alice."

It will be observed that the remaining parties* who sailed in the vessel from Acheen are not now forthcoming. The Log Book and other Ship's papers are also at Karical and I have not been able to have access to them.

* 1 Tindal.
Succany.
Captain's servant.

From the statements now made, it would appear that the case was one of desertion on the part of the Crew themselves rather than of their abandonment by the Master, and if an enquiry had been held on the Ship's arrival at Madras and the Log Book produced, further particulars would in all probability have been elicited.

The vessel is now reported to have been surreptitiously taken or sent away from the Roads at Karical by the father of the owner (who resides at Karical) and while the Captain and Mate were on shore. A law suit is also now pending between the Captain and the owner's father regarding the claim the former has for wages and which it is understood was in the first instance decided in favor of the Captain. It is also stated that the vessel is now at Adrampatam but no report has yet reached me on the subject. The Head Assistant Collector has, however, been requested to make enquiries into the matter and to detain the vessel should she make her appearance in any of the ports belonging to this district.

No. 21. From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 27th February 1860, No. 1016.

Dated 23rd December 1859, No 657.

Referring to Proceedings of Government, marginally noted, I have the honor to inform you that the accompanying depositions have been forwarded to me by the Collector of Tanjore, and from the evidence therein adduced, I am of opinion that the report of the Crew of the "Alice" having been abandoned by the Commander at Acheen is unfounded, and that on the contrary they deserted the ship there after receiving advances at Singapore.

2. The delay in transmitting these depositions has been occasioned by endeavours to find the Tindal of the "Alice" who was said to be at Madras. A man who had been Tindal of her was traced, but it appears that he was not on board at the time of the transaction under inquiry.

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

Declaration of John Douglas, late Master of the English Schooner "Alice," made on solemn affirmation on the 10th January 1860.

Q.—State under what circumstances you left your Native Crew at Acheen and how many of them you left there?

A.—About a dozen of the Crew went on shore without my orders at Acheen. I sent word to them to come on board but they did not do so and I brought the Vessel to Madras with two Crew and my own servant, the Chief Mate John Pye, and one Native Passenger.

Q.—Where did you Ship these Crew, and how many of them and under what engagements were they shipped?

A.—I shipped them at Singapore in number of about 15. I have engaged them for 2 months for a voyage for Madras and Karikal and thereafter to be discharged by mutual consent.

Q.—How many days were you at Acheen, and when bound to Madras how did you happen to go there?

A.—I was there about nine days. I went there on account of stores, rigging and sails being worn out and decayed.

Q.—Under what circumstances did the Native Crew leave the ship?

A.—The Vessel having no boat and the rigging and sail being in bad order, the Crew insisted upon returning to Singapore and refused to proceed further on the voyage.

Q.—Did you communicate this circumstance to any one at Acheen, and did you enter it in your Log book?

A.—I communicated it to the Sultan at Acheen and it is duly entered in the Log book by the Ship Mate, John Pye.

Q.—Where is your Log book and can you produce it?

A.—It is now at Karikal and can be produced.

Q.—How many days were you at Madras and when did you arrive there?

A.—About a month and half. I arrived there about the 16th October and left it about the 20th November.

Q.—When you were in Madras did you communicate this to the Master Attendant or any other authorities?

A.—Yes, I communicated it to the Deputy Master Attendant in a general way.

Q.—Did you produce your Log book before him?

A.—No.

Q.—Have you an Agent or owner to your Ship at Madras, or to whom the Vessel was consigned?

A.—I have no Agent in Madras and the Ship was not consigned to any.

Q.—What wages had the Crew received, and did they receive any advance when the Vessel left Singapore?

A.—They received two months' wages in advance.

Q.—The Agent or Dubash you employed at Madras, named M. Retnum stated to the Superintendent of Marine that you were apprehensive the Native Crew intended to take possession of the Vessel at Acheen; what reason had you for this apprehension?

A.—I did not make any such statement nor had I any such apprehension.

Q.—Have you any thing to state further regarding your Ship?

A.—No.

Q.—Who were with you in the Ship from Acheen to Madras and where are they now?

A.—John Pye, the Mate, is now at Negapatam, the Tindal is at Madras, he having left the Ship and the other two, the Seccany and a servant of mine left the Ship at Karikal.

(Signed) JOHN DOUGLAS,

Late Master of British Schooner "Alice."

Solemnly affirmed before me this 10th January 1860.

NEGAPATAM,
10th January 1860.

(Signed) W. M. CADELL,
Magistrate.

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

Deposition taken, on solemn affirmation, from John Pye, Mate of the Schooner "Alice," on the 10th January 1860.

Q.—You are or were the Mate of the Schooner "Alice," are you not? State the circumstances under which the Native Crew of the Ship in which you sailed were left behind at Acheen and how many were so left?

A.—Yes I was; on account of the insecure state of the rigging and sail the Ship had put at Acheen for repair, we were there for about nine days, during which the Native Crew exhibited a disposition not to proceed on the voyage and insisted on their return to Singapore. The reason they gave for this was the vessel was ill found and unseaworthy. The Captain endeavoured to persuade the Crew to return to their duty but without avail, and finally he sailed away to Madras. They were 13 in number.

Q.—Did you make any entry of this in the Log book, and is it by your own hand-writing?

A.—Yes I did, and is by my own hand-writing.

Q.—Where is the Log book?

A.—At Karikal.

Q.—On your voyage from Singapore to Acheen did the Crew evince any disposition of insubordination and did they exhibit any inclination to take possession of the vessel?

A.—Not till we came to Acheen, where they refused to proceed further on their voyage.

(Signed) JOHN PYE,

Late Mate, British Schooner "Alice."

Solemnly affirmed before me this 10th January 1860.

NEGAPATAM,
10th January 1860.

(Signed) W. M. CADELL,

Magistrate.

No. 22.

ORDER THEREON, 10th March 1860, No. 96.

Ordered that the following be dispatched.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary.

No. 23. To the Secretary to the Government of India, dated Fort Saint George, 10th March 1860, No. 97.

The Superintendent of Marine, 13th December 1859, No. 4932, in Proceedings, 15th idem, No. 638. Proceedings, 23rd do. No. 657. The Magistrate of Tanjore, 26th January 1860, No. 10. The Superintendent of Marine, 27th February 1860, No. 1016.

I am directed, with reference to your letter, 25th November last, No. 2366, to transmit, for submission to the Government of India, the papers noted in the margin, which contain all the information which has been obtained, relative to the alleged abandonment at Acheen of the Native Crew of the Schooner "Alice," Commander John Douglas.

2. From the inquiries made by the Superintendent of Marine, it appeared that the "Alice" arrived in these roads on the 16th September last, having on board only the Commander, the Mate, one Seacunny, a Lascar, and the Cook; the remainder of the Crew, to the number of 11, including the Syrang, having been reported as deserters. The Agent of the vessel, N. Ruthnum, stated that the Commander declared as the reason for leaving his Crew behind at Acheen, that he had strong suspicions of their intending him foul play on the voyage, and that he had left without them as a matter of precaution.

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

3. The Schooner having proceeded to Tranquebar, the Magistrate of Tanjore was communicated with on the subject. The Magistrate examined the late Master and the late Mate of the Vessel at Negapatam, but the other parties who sailed in the Vessel from Acheen to Madras were not forthcoming. One of them, the Tindal, was said to be at Madras, but the endeavours made to trace him out proved unsuccessful.

4. From the depositions of the Master and Mate, it would appear that the report of the Crew of the "Alice" having been abandoned by the Commander at Acheen is unfounded, and that, on the contrary, they deserted the ship there, after receiving advances at Singapore.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Marine Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

following-

5th Decr. 1859 N^o 21 & 21 A.

2nd do. " 13th 14.

*from the
of Tanjore
of Tanjore
Marine*

Enter 26th Janry. 1860 N^o 10.

27th Feby. " " 1016.

Order thereon 10th March 1860 N^o 96.

*Ordered that the fol-
lowing be dispatched-*

N^o 97-

to the Govt. of India.

Sir,

*I am directed, with refer-
ence to your letter, 25th No-
vemb^r. last, N^o. 2366, to
transmit, for submissi-
to the Govt. of India,
the papers, noted in
the margin, which
contains*

*of Ma-
1859 N^o 4932
idem N^o 538
Tanjore, 26th
Feb. 1860 N^o 1016.*

contains all the information which has been obtained, relative to the ^{alleged} abandonment at Achien of the the Native Crew of the Schooner "Alice", Commander John Douglas.

2. From the inquiries made by the Superintendent of Marine, it appeared that the "Alice" arrived in these roads on the 16th Sept. last, having on board only the Commander, the Mate, one Seaman, a lascar, & the Cook. The remainder of the crew, to the number of 11, including the Syrian, having been reported

as deserters. The Agent of the vessel, N. Rithum, stated that the Commander declared as the reason for leaving his crew behind at Achien, that he had strong ^{intended} suspicions of their ^{unfounded} play on the voyage, & that he had left without them as a matter of precaution.

3. The Schooner having proceeded to Tranquebar, the Magistrate of Tanjore was communicated with on the subject. The Magistrate examined the late Master & the late Mate of the vessel at Negapatam, but the other parties who sailed in the vessel from Achien to Madras were not forthcoming. One of

of them, the Lindal,
was said to be at Ma-
dras, but the endea-
vors made to trace
him out proved un-
successful.

4. From the depositions
of the Master & Mate,
it would appear that
the report of the crew
of the "Hlice" having
been abandoned by
the Commander at
Acheen is unfounded,
& that, on the contrary,
they deserted the ship
there, after receiving
advances at Singa-
pore.

Mr. George?
10 March 1860.

116
J.F.
Put on a separate Paper the
letters (with encls) from the
Master of Tanjong and Capt.
Gardner - & say "True Copies
of the same."

Abandon-

ment at the

view of the

present state of

No 10th March.

Marine 1870 Depart

No 96

Proceedings of the

No 97

The day to the port of
India

No 10 March 1870

20 @ 23.