

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	98,	Press Mis.
Dated	12 . 3 .	1860

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 1. 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, 8th February 1860, No. 2.

• Herewith is transmitted a copy of a letter addressed to this office by order of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade on the subject of the Regulations to be enforced for carrying into effect Act 22 and 23 Victoria, Cap. 40, for the establishment of a Reserve of Royal Naval Volunteers.

2. You will observe that their Lordships anticipate that Royal Naval Volunteers may, not unfrequently, be discharged or left behind on account of sickness or other causes at Ports in India, and that they have therefore drawn up further instructions, in continuation of those already issued, for the use of Officers appointed to execute in British Possessions abroad, the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1854.

3. These "Supplemental Instructions" are intended as a guide to such Officers in all matters relating to the Royal Naval Volunteers, and each copy thereof includes the pattern of a new form of Return marked C. C. 21, to be used henceforth by all Shipping Masters in lieu of the Return marked C. C. 20.

4. I have now to advise you that there will be despatched by the overland route, 80 copies of the "Supplemented Instructions" referred to, and 800 copies of the new form of Return, for distribution in such quantities as may be suitable among the Officers acting as Shipping Masters in your Presidency; and you will impress upon those Officers the necessity of a careful attention to the duties required to be performed by them in connection with the form of Return generally as well as to the correct entry of the particulars required in regard to Royal Naval Volunteers, as set forth in the Instructions now forwarded, which, as will be seen by paragraph 79, are to come into operation as soon as they shall have been received by the Officer.

— — —

From JAMES BOOTH, Esq., to the Under Secretary of State for India, India Office, dated Whitehall, 20th December 1859.

I am directed by the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade to transmit for the information of the Secretary of State for India, the enclosed copy of Regulations for the establishment of a Reserve Force of Naval Volunteers (under the Act 22 and 23 Victoria, Cap. 40.)

My Lords request that you will point out to Secretary Sir Charles Wood that the Naval Volunteers will be selected from *Seamen* in the *Merchant Service*, and will be allowed under certain conditions to proceed on their usual employment.

My Lords therefore anticipate that, as in the case of other Seamen, the Naval Volunteers may, not unfrequently be discharged or left behind on account of sickness or other causes at Ports in India, and in consequence it will be necessary to obtain from the Officers in India, who act as Shipping Masters, certain additional Returns in order that Her Majesty's Government at Home may be kept advised of the whereabouts of these men.

My Lords have therefore caused the enclosed Instructions to be prepared for the guidance of the Officers referred to above in this matter, and they request that you will have the goodness to submit the same for the approval of Sir Charles Wood.

On referring to paragraph 80 of the proposed Instructions, which are numbered in continuation of the previous Instructions, Sir Charles Wood will perceive that the Officer is required to make a Return of *every* Seamen engaged or discharged before him in *pursuance* of the *Merchant Shipping Act* 1854.

As this regulation may entail upon some of the Officers additional trouble, my Lords direct me to explain that it is only by such a Return that the Government at Home will be enabled to trace effectually a Volunteer's engagements and discharges abroad, this is important not merely

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

with a view to check any possible desertion from the Forces on the Volunteers being called upon on emergency to serve in the Navy, but to enable the Registrar General of Seamen, on the Reserve being called out, to know the names of the ships on board of which Volunteers are to return, so that he may keep the Naval Officers at the different ports informed of the names of the ships arriving, on board of which the Volunteers will be found.

The proposed Return will be useful also for other objects connected with the duties of this Department under the Merchant Shipping Act 1854, one of which is that of calling upon owners to render accounts of the wages of the crews of ships which have been lost with all hands, when such vessels have engaged men at Ports in India.

The owners in some of these cases have stated their inability to comply with the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act as they neither know the names of the men engaged, the dates of their engagement, nor the rate of wages agreed on.

The Board of Trade not being in a position to supply this information cannot demand the usual accounts, and the families of the deceased seamen are consequently the sufferers.

My Lords direct me to request you will be good enough to state to Sir Charles Wood that although the Return C. C. 21 may at first sight appear voluminous, it will be found to include all the information contained in the Return C. C. 20 which is at present rendered to the Registrar General of Seamen by the Officers acting as Shipping Masters in India. The Officers will therefore, as directed by paragraph 93 of the Instructions, discontinue sending the Return C. C. 20 on commencing with the new form C. C. 21.

As it is important that the proposed Instructions should be issued without delay, my Lords will feel greatly obliged by an early reply.

No. 2.

ORDER THEREON, 12th March 1860, No. 98.

Copies of the above Despatch and its enclosure will be furnished to the Superintendent of Marine for communication to all Shipping Masters and Officers acting as Shipping Masters.

On arrival of the copies of the "Supplemental Instructions" and of the new form of Return, the Superintendent of Marine will transmit five copies of each to the Government Office, and retain the rest for distribution.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Marine Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

*Despatch from the
Secretary of State—Enter 8th Feby. 60. N^o. 2.*

Order thereon 12th March 1860. N^o. 98.

*Copies of the above
Despatch & its Enclo-
sure will be furnished
to the Superintendent
of Marine for com-
munication to all Ship-
ping Masters &
Officers acting as Shipping
Masters.*

*On arrival of the copies
of the "Supplemental Instruc-
tions" & of the new form
of Return, the Superin-
tendent*

142

Let to be

Order on
mine Despatch
No 2.

Further Cons. 9-10 Aug 183.
F.N. 182

Proceedings of Court
of March 183.

No 90

No of book 20 March
at 1000 1800 1800