

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 297.

Press
Mis.

Dated 12-9-

1861

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
12th September 1861.*

No. 40. Read the following letter from J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Marine Department, Fort Saint George, dated 4th September 1861, No. 2,474.

I have the honor to submit the following circumstances and to solicit orders thereon.

2. The Government on my application were pleased to telegraph orders to the Collector of Vizagapatam, to institute an inquiry into the circumstances attending the wreck of the "Hersilia" on the coast of Ganjam. Upon this a Court was assembled at Bimlipatam on which Captain Ashby of the British Ship "Maori" was appointed by the Collector, I presume, the Marine Member. The Court sat for two days and their proceedings were forwarded to Government with my letter of the 14th ultimo, No. 2,321, for transmission to the Board of Trade.

3. On the 31st July last, I received an intimation from Mr. Fane, that Captain Ashby claimed 31 Rupees 8 Annas, as the customary fee on the occasion, and a request that instructions might be forwarded how to act in the matter. He further stated that Captain Ashby mentioned his having received a similar fee at Cocanada shortly before. A telegram was immediately despatched inquiring who paid the fee at Cocanada, and a communication in reply has only just been received, which will account for the delay that has taken place in submitting the question to Government, to the effect that no such fee was paid by any Government Officer. The vessel has since left Bimlipatam, but it is probable that the Captain may have been employed on some investigation by Lloyd's Agent at that port and received the fee from him.

4. The Indian Act, No. I of 1859, does not provide for any payment of expenses under such circumstances, but the British Merchant Seaman's Act, Section 436, expressly empowers a Court assembled for a similar purpose to pay the Marine Assessor such remuneration as it thinks fit. The sum of three guineas or Rupees 31, Annas 8, does not appear to me an unreasonable claim for two days' labor in investigating the case, and I would recommend that the Collector of Vizagapatam be authorized to discharge it and that recovery should be effected from the Board of Trade on whose behalf the investigation was undertaken.

No. 41. ORDER THEREON, 12th September 1861, No. 297.

The Government sanction payment of the fee Rupees (31-8-0,) thirty-one and eight Annas, claimed by Captain Ashby of the "Maori" for his attendance as the Marine Member of the Court of Inquiry appointed under Act I of 1859, in the case of the loss of the "Hersilia." The Secretary of State will be requested to recover the equivalent of that sum from the Board of Trade.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. T, O'Connor.

Revenue Post Office 13th 1861
Sept 22 1861

Revenue 1861, 1862

No 2474

From
The Superintendent of Marine
The Secretary to Government
Marine Department
Fort Saint George

Dated 1st September, 1861
No 2474

No 2474

From the Board of Trade.
J. D.

The Suptd. of Marine.
" Collr. of Viragapatam.
" Civil Paymaster.
" Actl. Lieut.

Recommendation to the
the Collector of Viragapatam to
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With an Order

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