

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *310*

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated *25-9*

18 *61*

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
25th September 1861.*

No. 64. Read the following letter from THOMAS H. TRONSON, Esq., Acting Superintendent, P. and O. S. N. Company; to A. M. MONTEATH, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, dated Calcutta, 27th August 1861.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 1,587, dated the 22nd instant, with copy of a communication from the Madras Government on the subject of the proposed distinctive flags to be shewn by the P. and O. Company's Mail Steamers on entering that Port, and suggesting that they should hoist Pendants, instead of the Company's private flag, as being distinguishable at a greater distance.

In reply, I beg to say, that orders have already been issued to all the Mail Steamers on this Station, in conformity with my letter of the 4th ultimo to the Government of India; that similar instructions have also been forwarded to the intermediate Ports along the line, and that from copy of a letter from the Brigade Major of Fort Saint George, forwarded to me by the Company's Agent at Madras, I find these instructions have been ordered to be carried out at the Fort Flagstaff there.

I would further point out to you that at Gibraltar, Malta, and other Ports in the Mediterranean frequented by the Company's Packets and where Steamers of all nations arrive daily, no necessity is felt for any distinctive flag, such as that called for by the Madras authorities, nor is any difficulty experienced in distinguishing the Mail Steamers.

I have also consulted with the Company's Commanders now in Port, and they agree with me, that with the Telegraph announcing the departure of the outward Steamer from Saugor, and that of the inward Steamer from Galle, by which the arrival of either at Madras can be calculated almost to an hour, the Signals proposed by me are quite sufficient.

Under these circumstances, and from the likelihood of further and contradictory orders being issued on this head, leading to confusion, I would suggest that the plan proposed in my letter of the 4th ultimo, be allowed to continue for the present, at least until it be found by experience, to be defective and insufficient for the purposes intended.

No. 1,732.

Copy of the foregoing forwarded to the Government of Fort Saint George, for information, with reference to Mr. Secretary J. D. Sim's letter, No. 251, dated 5th instant.

By Order,

FORT WILLIAM,
HOME DEPARTMENT,
The 31st August 1861.

(Signed) A. M. MONTEATH,
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

No. 65. ORDER THEREON, 25th September 1861, No. 310.

Communicated to the Superintendent of Marine, in reference to his letter of the 26th July last, No. 2,117.

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

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Order - 25th Sept^r 1861 No. 310.

Communicated
to the Superintendent of Marine,
in reference to his letter of
the 26th July last No. 217-

17th

17th

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The Supt of Marine 26/9
The Supt of Marine,