

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	174	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	21. 5.	1861

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
21st May 1861.*

No. 34. 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, Bombay, dated London, 25th March 1861, No. 34.

1. Your Marine letters, dated the 6th of August and 10th of November 1860, numbered 40 and 50 respectively, requesting a decision on the questions raised in the reports submitted to you by the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, relative to the classification of Engineers sent from this country under covenant to serve in Her Majesty's Indian Navy, have had my consideration in Council.

2. Commodore Wellesley states that he is not aware whether the Engineers detached for duty in Bengal or Madras are intended to rise in rank as vacancies may occur among those serving in the same Presidency, or whether they are to be considered as belonging to the general list of Engineers of the service; and further, that he is ignorant of the object of appointing Engineers so detached to the Indian Navy; and that, in order to make the system work satisfactorily, it is necessary, in his opinion, that they should form part of one General List.

3. There is no question, as it appears to me, but that those Engineers already form part of the general list of Engineers attached to the Indian Navy and they are merely detached for temporary service, and are liable, on the completion of the work on which they have been originally engaged, or at any other time, to be sent to the head-quarters of the Indian Navy by the Government under which they may have been serving. They should undoubtedly rise according to their seniority in the general list of Engineers as vacancies may occur.

4. The claim of Mr. Clements, 3rd Class Engineer, detached for service in the Madras Presidency, out of which the present reference has more immediately arisen, is quite inadmissible. He can have no claim to be promoted over the heads of his seniors in the same class with himself in the general list, and his promotion must be regulated by the occurrence of vacancies, as before intimated.

5. With regard to irregular record of the details connected with the Engineers of the Indian Navy being kept up in the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of the service, the Government of Madras should have informed you of the casualties which may have occurred among the Engineers detached for duty in that Presidency, and they will doubtless do so in future, at your request.

6. The recommendation submitted with your letter of the 6th August 1860, as to the appointment of all Engineers to the third class on entry into the service, will be attended to in future engagements for the Indian Navy. It has been usual to follow that course, except in special cases, where it was necessary to obtain the services of Mechanics for the working of some particular machinery, and consequently requiring larger pay than that given under the regulations to Engineers of the 3rd or junior class. These exceptional cases, however, appear to work inconveniently, and therefore all future special engagements of Mechanics or Engineers will be made so as to be quite distinct from the Indian Navy.

7. With reference to the suggestion contained in the letter from your Government dated 12th October 1859, No. 71, "that it would be better not to enter into covenants with persons subject to martial law," I have resolved, after careful consideration of the whole subject in Council, that the persons who may be hereafter engaged here to serve as Engineers in the Indian Navy, shall, instead of entering into Civil covenants as heretofore, be required to enter into a contract or agreement, whereby they shall bind themselves to proceed forthwith to India, there to join the Indian Navy, to accept an Indian Navy warrant, and to serve in the Indian Navy, conformably to all the rules and regulations of that service. This provision will bring the parties within the scope of Article 492 of Act XLV. of 1860.

8. With regard to such Engineers as it may be necessary to engage for service, either in Bengal or at Madras, I have determined that they shall hereafter be appointed under Civil covenants, and on special terms and conditions, apart from, and without reference to, the Indian Navy.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Marine Department,
21st May 1861.

No. 896.

Copy of the foregoing forwarded to the Government of Fort Saint George for information.

By order,

FORT WILLIAM,
HOME DEPARTMENT, MARINE,
30th April 1861.

(Signed) A. MONTEATH,
Under Secy. to the Government of India.

No. 35.

ORDER THEREON, 21st May 1861, No. 174.
Communicated to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

N^o. 174 - 21 May 1861.

Communicated to
the Pub. Wks. Dept.

JP

Memorandum
In relation to the
the mechanical en-
gineers, holding
Indian Navy
rank, are under
the orders of the
Chief Engineer.

The Pub. Wks. Dept.
" Suptdt. of Marine, 21-5-61.