[ G./11 ]
2,500-8-3-95.

I
12/T.

ORDINARY, MS.

Mar. DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 6-7-95
No. 199

INDEXED.

When given for copying. 8/7

---

[Despatch Abstract.]

Commd. to the Inspr. Genl. of Ordnance, Madras Command, letter from the P. P. C. stating that the six sets of ~~Life Saving~~ Rocket apparatus referred to by him should remain in store & be issued without being replaced.

8/7

Read again Order of Government, dated
189 , No. , Miscellaneous.

Back Paper, No. of 189

Further Paper, No of 189
Mar: 258 d. 22.8.95

Enclosures.

Current No.

469 — a

503 — a

Statement with ditto.

Order of Government .. .. .. A A

Letter of Government.

Statement with ditto

Papers not filed up, being meant for despatch in original (not paged).

N.B.—
A — Copy in full.
B — Not to be copied.
P — Copy abstract only.
Q — Copy heading only.

---

CURRENT No. 503

Marine (1895) Department.

From
The Presidency Port Officer,
Madras,

To
The Chief Secy. to Government,
Marine Department,
Fort St. George.

No. 422/165 G

Dated 2d.
Received 3rd } July 1895.
Regd 4th
Enc. C No. 469 Ref.

CHIEF SECRETARY'S
469
3. JUL. 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
No.

Subject.

Stating that the six sets of Life Saving apparatus shall remain in store and be issued without being replaced.

N/ mis

C. 469 & 503

Order d/6th July 1895 No. 199.

The P. P. Officer's letter will be communicated to the Inspector General of Ordnance, Madras Command.

F. D. B.
for C. S.
5/7/95

To The Inspector Genl of Ordnance
Madras Command

DESPATCHED
JUL 95
IN M.S. 8/7 8/7

CURRENT No. 503

No. 422/165 G.

Heading.

Presidency Port Office,
Madras, 2d July — 1895.

From

Commander W. Powell. R. I. M.
Presidency Port Officer,
Madras,

To

The CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Marine Department,
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

In reply to endorsement No 1494 of 27th June 1895 on Marine Current No 469 (herewith returned) I have the honor to state that it is intended that the six sets of Life Saving Apparatus shall remain in store and be issued without being replaced. It is extremely improbable that a new set of apparatus will ever be required. All that is wanted is from time to time (perhaps once in every 10 years) to get new hawsers, whips and rocket lines. These can be procured from the India Office on Indent.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant
Walter Powell
Commander R. I. M.
Presidency Port Officer.

---

469.

Mar Marine Deptt–

Military {1895} Department.

No. 0/4647

From

Colonel T. WALKER, R. A.,
Inspector General of Ordnance,
Fort Saint George.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Military Department.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT
22 JUN 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

With the Governor
Stonehouse Hill

DATED
RECEIVED 21st June } 1895.

No.

Inquiring as to whether six sets of apparatus are to be stored in the Arsenal for Dy. Conservator of Port or shall be maintained complete as a reserve for the Port.

Mar G.O. No 169 dt 11-6-95 Mi 108 dt 11-4-95
5/319
Endt No 1494

Referred to the Presidency Port Officer for report with advertence to his No. 422/137 of the 31st May last.

by order

C. G. Todhunter
Ag Asst Secry
27.VI.95.

F.S.B.
27.6.95.

Ootacamund
27th June 1895

TO BE RETURNED
WITH REPLY.

4 JUL 95
MADRAS

No. 0/ 4647

Office of the Inspr. Genl. of Ordce.
*Fort Saint George,*
21 June 1895.

*From*

*Colonel T. WALKER, R. A.,*
*Inspector General of Ordnance.*
Madras Command.

*To*

*The* Chief *Secretary to Government* of Madras
~~*Military Department*~~.
With the Governor
Stonehouse Hill.

*Sir,*

I beg to apologize for troubling you again with reference to your No. 169 dated 11-th instant for information as to whether it is to be understood that the six sets of apparatus are to be stored in the Arsenal until required by the Dy. Conservator of the Port and then not again replaced or is it required that six sets shall always be maintained complete as a reserve for the Port.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
T. Walker Clonel R.A.
Inspector-General of Ordnance M.C.

Port Officer.

---

ORDINARY, PRINTED.

Marine DEPARTMENT
Desp ~~G.O.~~, DATED 5-7-95
No. 4

INDEXED.

First copy sent to Press. 27/6
Returned for signature. 3/7
Despatched in print. 10/7

[Despatch Abstract.]

Inviting attention to certain letters from this Govt regarding the missing Officer [illegible] Pottinger of the S.S. [illegible] and forwarding copy of a letter addressed to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India regarding the supineness of the French Police in the matter.

9

Previous Papers, No. 525 of 1895

U/

554 of 95

Enclosures

Current No.

Statement with ditto.

Order, No., of Government—A.

Papers kept out of File for despatch in original (not paged).

Press.

Please print the [illegible] despatch & the letter to the French Governor [illegible]

Number of copies required:
- Order complete.
- Letter only.
- Order complete with Letter.

N.B.—
A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
F = Print abstract only.
G = Print heading only.
E = Print, but not for monthly volume.

---

# GOVT. OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

## *MARINE (1895) DEPARTMENT.*

**Letter to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India.**

**Dated 5th July,**

**No. 4 of 1895.**

*Inviting attention to certain letters from this Government regarding the missing officer, Mr. Pottinger, of the SS. "M. Meanatchy," and forwarding copy of a letter addressed to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India regarding the supineness of the French police in the matter.*

## ANNEXURE.

Letter—to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India, Pondicherry, dated 7th June 1895, No. 163, Marine.

On the 2nd September last, Mr. Pottinger, the 3rd Officer of the British S.S. *M. Meanatchy*, then at anchor at Negapatam, disappeared in one of the vessel's boats and has not since been heard of alive. The result of enquiries made by the British police is that a boat was washed ashore at Keerapolliyam, a village within your Excellency's jurisdiction, and was broken up; and that previous to that a fisherman (name unknown) had seen a European in a boat some miles out at sea opposite French territory, that he was naked and making signals of distress, but the fisherman being alarmed made off without affording any assistance.

2. It was also ascertained that the body of a European was washed ashore at Ponnithittu, a French village close to English territory, and that although the fact was reported to the French police no notice was taken of the matter and the body was permitted to remain on the beach. When the English police arrived at the spot, only the bones remained and all chance of identification was therefore lost.

3. In the event of the foregoing statement being confirmed by the enquiries which I trust your Excellency will cause to be instituted, I venture to express the hope that some notice may be taken of the supineness of the local police authorities which has resulted in its being impossible to identify the remains and thus satisfy the parents of the missing man that they were those of their son, as at present there is only circumstantial evidence on this point.

(Signed) WENLOCK.

Keep Papers, No.

Previous Papers, No. 525 of 1895

554 of 95

U/

Precis.

Despatch No.

Statement with ditto.

Order, &c., of Government—A.

Papers kept out of File for despatch in original
(not paged).

Press.

Please print Desp.
Despatch & the letter to
the French Governor
on [illegible]

Number of copies required
- Order complete
- Letter only
- Order complete with Letter

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
F = Print abstract only.
G = Print heading only.
H = Print, but not for monthly volume.

---

[illegible] 20 copies

[illegible] 8/7

5th July 1895, No. 4, Marine.

## MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Letter—to

The Right Honourable the SECRETARY of STATE for INDIA.

Right Honourable Sir,

With reference to your despatch, No. 2, Revenue, dated 23rd May last, we have the honour to invite your attention to the further letters from our Chief Secretary to the Under Secretary of State for India, Nos. 122 and 162, of the 29th April and 7th June, respectively, regarding the missing officer, Mr. Pottinger.

2. We also forward for your information copy of a letter addressed by His Excellency the Governor to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India regarding the supineness of the French police in the matter.

3. We shall duly communicate to you any further information we may receive.

4. We take this opportunity of acknowledging letter, R. and S. 934, of the 31st May last, on this subject. The particulars furnished will be communicated to the Inspector-General of Police and the Presidency Port Officer, but, in the circumstances already reported, we can hold out no hope of definite identification of the body found on the beach, which was reported to have been quite naked.

We have the honour to be,
Right Honourable Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servants,

(Signed) Wenlock
( " ) H. W. Bliss
( " ) J. Grose

Ootacamund,
5th July 1895.

Exd. A. Raitt.

[Annexure.

# GOVT. OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

*MARINE* (1895) *DEPARTMENT.*

**LETTER to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India.**

**Dated July,**

**No. of 1895.**

*Inviting attention to certain letters from this Government regarding the missing officer, Mr. Pottinger, of the SS. "M. Meanatchy," and forwarding copy of a letter addressed to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India regarding the supineness of the French police in the matter.*

# ANNEXURES

## Letter—to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated 7th June 1895, No. 162, Marine.

In continuation of my letters, dated the 2nd and the 29th April 1895, Nos. 95 and 122, respectively, I am directed to forward copy of a communication from the Inspector-General of Police, dated the 24th ultimo, No. 3657, regarding the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger, 3rd Officer of the S.S. *Meanatchy*. It will be seen that the substance of the Inspector-General's report is the same as that of the account contained in the correspondence transmitted with my previous letters and that all information available was communicated to Mr. Pottinger's father on the 6th May.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council regrets that the matter did not attract the earlier attention of the British authorities, but this is accounted for by the fact of the body—which there seems to have been but little doubt was that of Mr. Pottinger—having been washed ashore in French territory. The conduct of the French police in not instituting enquiries when the finding of the body was first reported to them will be brought to the notice of the Governor of the French Settlements in India.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
*Chief Secretary.*

omit

---

## Letter—to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India, Pondicherry, dated 7th June 1895, No. 163, Marine.

On the 2nd September last, Mr. Pottinger, the 3rd Officer of the British S.S. *M. Meanatchy*, then at anchor at Negapatam, disappeared in one of the vessel's boats and has not since been heard of alive. The result of enquiries made by the British police is that a boat was washed ashore at Keerapolliyam, a village within your Excellency's jurisdiction, and was broken up; and that previous to that a fisherman (name unknown) had seen a European in a boat some miles out at sea opposite French territory, that he was naked and making signals of distress, but the fisherman being alarmed made off without affording any assistance.

2. It was also ascertained that the body of a European was washed ashore at Ponnithittu, a French village close to English territory, and that although the fact was reported to the French police no notice was taken of the matter and the body was permitted to remain on the beach. When the English police arrived at the spot, only the bones remained and all chance of identification was therefore lost.

3. In the event of the foregoing statement being confirmed by the enquiries which I trust your Excellency will cause to be instituted, I venture to express the hope that some notice may be taken of the supineness of the local police authorities which has resulted in its being impossible to identify the remains and thus satisfy the parents of the missing man that they were those of their son, as at present there is only circumstantial evidence on this point.

(Signed) ~~J. F. PRICE,~~
~~*Chief Secretary.*~~
Wenlock

July 1895, No. , Marine.

please furnish
revised copies
—vide alterations
w appended
2/7

## MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Letter—to

The Right Honourable the SECRETARY of STATE for INDIA.

Right Honourable Sir,

With reference to your despatch, No. 2, Revenue, dated 23rd May last, we have the honour to invite your attention to the further letters from our Chief Secretary to the Under Secretary of State for India, Nos. 122 and 162, of the 29th April and 7th June, respectively, regarding the missing officer, Mr. Pottinger.

2. We also forward for your information copy of a letter addressed by His Excellency the Governor to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India regarding the supineness of the French police in the matter.

3. We shall duly communicate to you any further information we may receive.

4. We take this opportunity of acknowledging letter, R. and S. 934, of the 31st May last, on this subject. The particulars furnished will be communicated to the Inspector-General of Police and the Presidency Port Officer, but, in the circumstances already reported, we can hold out no hope of definite identification of the body found on the beach, which was reported to have been quite naked.

We have the honour to be,
Right Honourable Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servants,

Ootacamund,
*July* 1895.

Exd. A. Raitt.

[Annexures.

Mr G.O. No 162-63 d 7-6-95

S. 934 of the 31st May
st. on this subject. The
articulars furnished
will be comd: to the
Inspr: Genl: of Police & the I.G.P. but,
in the circumstances
already reported, we can
hold out no hope of
definite identification
of the body found on the
beach, which was reported
to have been quite naked.

Ootacamund
5th July 1895 J.B.
21/6/95.

F.B.
21/6/5.

Copy Des: sent to Govt of India
12/7/95

Mr Pottinger

H.E. the Governor

C 21/6.

recd 10-7-95

Marine Department. 95

18

C.No. 448.

LETTER No 4

TO

The Right Hon. the Secretary of State
for India.

Right Hon. Sir,

W
22 June

With reference to your despatch No. 2, Revenue, dated 23rd May last, we have the honour to invite your attention to the further letters from our Chief Secretary to the Under Secretary of State for India Nos. 122 & 162 of the 29th April and 7th June respectively, regarding the missing officer, Mr. Pottinger.

2. We also forward~~ed~~ for your information copy of a letter addressed by H.E. the Governor to H.E. the Governor of the French Settlements in India regarding the supineness of the French Police in the matter.

3. We shall duly communicate to you any further information we may receive.

20/6/95.

F.B.B.
18.6.95.

4. We take this oppor-
tunity

---

Mar Go. No 162-63 d/ 7-6-95
" " 122 d/ 29-4-95 "
" " 95 d/ 2-4-95 "

CURRENT No. 448

No 9.

~~Marine Dept~~

Revenue.

23rd May 1895

The Letter to Fort St George

No 2.

Read 11/6/95
wd for Regy 146
Enclo: 1

Subject.

Forwg: copy of a letter from the Board of Trade re the disappearance in Septr last of Mr Pottinger, 3rd Officer of the S.S. "Meanatchy"

CURRENT No. 448

500.

INDIA OFFICE,
LONDON. 23rd MAY 1895.

REVENUE,
No. 2.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR
IN COUNCIL FORT ST. GEORGE.

My Lord,

No. 7855 dated 6th May 1895.

With reference to your Secretary's letter, No. 95, dated 2nd April 1895, I forward copy of a letter from the Board of Trade regarding the disappearance in September last of Mr. Pottinger, 3rd officer, from his ship the S.S. "Meanatchy", then lying in the Negapatam roads.

2. I observe that you are making further enquiry through the Police Department, and I shall await the result of such enquiry, both in regard to the further identification of the body, and in regard to the extraordinary negligence of the Police in having left a human body on the shore for nearly four months after they had learned that it had been cast ashore.

[illegible]

I have the honour to be,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient humble Servant,
Henry H Fowler

---

No 10.

Copy letter from Board of Trade dated 6th May 1895

Referred to in Madras Revenue Despatch No 2 d/. 23rd May 1895

1895
Marine Dept.
Enclos. No. 1
To
C. No. 448

attention to the body cast ashore.

The Board of Trade understand that the Police Authorities are still making enquiry into the case, and they would be glad to be favoured with any further information which may be received.

In the meantime the Board propose with Mr.Fowler's concurrence, to inform Mrs Pottinger that a body has been cast ashore near Pondicherry, which there is some ground for believing to be that of Mr. Pottinger, but that further inquiries are being prosecuted by the Madras Police Authorities.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Sd, Ingram B. Walker

Dft 500

Board of Trade,
(Marine Dept.)
7 Whitehall Gardens, S.W.

M. 7858.

6th May, 1895.

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo transmitting a copy of a letter from the Madras Government in reference to the circumstances connected with the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger, 3rd Officer of the S/S. "Masnatchy" in September last, while that Vessel was lying in Negapatam roads.

It appears that the Government consider that there is reason to suppose that the body which was cast ashore near Pondicherry, shortly after Mr. Pottinger was missed, is that of the Officer in question.

The circumstances of the case as set forth in the Report by the Port Officer seem to be very unsatisfactory, both in regard to the alleged omission to render assistance to the person who was observed to be apparently in distress in an open boat on the day after Mr. Pottinger's disappearance, and also as regards the delay which occurred in paying proper

By a native French fisherman,

attention

The Under Secretary of State,

India Office.