

G.O., No. 1008. Quar.

DATED 10 Dec 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Irregular Bill of Health, Reviewing the circumstances under which the vessel "Hydroos" left Negapatam on 6 Oct last and arrived in Jaffna on the 10th idem with only 5 passengers, while the Bill of Health stated that there were 9 passengers and directing that a copy of the Correspondence be forwarded to the Governor of Ceylon.

Irregular Bill of Health: Forwarding Copy of Pross. reviewing the circumstances under which the vessel "Hydroos" left Negapatam on 6 October last and arrived in Jaffna on the 10th idem with only 5 passengers while the bill of health states that there were 9 passengers.

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Government { 1897 } of Madras.
MARINE.

Regd.

1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

Letter, No. 1009, 10th December 1897.

DECEMBER.

Irregular Bill of Health

Forwarding copy of Proceedings reviewing the circumstances under which the vessel *Hydroos* left Negapatam on 6th October last and arrived in Jaffna on the 10th idem with only five passengers, while the bill of health stated that there were nine.

Forwarding copy of Proceedings reviewing the circumstances under which the vessel *Hydroos* left Negapatam on 6th October last and arrived in Jaffna on the 10th idem with only five passengers, while the bill of health stated that there were nine.

No. 1009, MARINE, 10TH DECEMBER 1897.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—from

W. B. DEWINTON, Esq.,
Ag. Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Marine Department,

To

THE HONOURABLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
COLOMBO.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. —, dated 28th October 1897, on the subject of the bill of health of the ship *Hydroos* which left Negapatam on the 6th October 1897 for Jaffna; and, in reply, to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, the accompanying copy of Proceedings of this Government, No. 1008, Marine, dated 10th December 1897, reviewing the circumstances of the case as explained after inquiry by the Presidency Port Officer.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Ag. Secretary to Government.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10th December 1897.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Government { 1897 } of Madras.
MARINE.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1008, 10th December 1897.

DECEMBER.

Irregular Bill of Health

Reviewing the circumstances under which the vessel *Hydroos* left Negapatam on 6th October last and arrived in Jaffna on the 10th idem with only five passengers, while the bill of health stated that there were nine, and directing that a copy of the correspondence be forwarded to the Governor of Ceylon.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From the Colonial Secretary, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Marine Department, dated Colombo, 28th October 1897, No. —.

I am directed to inform you that it has been brought to the notice of this Government by the Senior Medical officer of the Northern Province that the ship *Hydroos* which left Negapatam on the 6th October for Jaffna arrived at Valuvettiturai on the 10th idem with a foul bill of health, stating that cholera was prevalent at Negapatam, dated 6th idem, and signed by the Civil Surgeon.

2. The bill of health stated that there were nine passengers on board the vessel, but the Health officer at Valuvettiturai found only five passengers, an entry appearing in the clearance to the effect that "four passengers landed at the time of sailing."

3. I am to observe that, if the entry which was made by the Customs authorities be a true one, and if the passengers did in reality disembark at the time of sailing, the vessel should in terms of paragraph 8 of your order No. 790, of the 11th September last (copy of which was forwarded for the information of this Government with your letter No. —, of the 17th September last), have been inspected again and another bill of health obtained, and the Customs officer who delivered the clearance knowing that four passengers had disembarked would seem to have deliberately disobeyed paragraph 9 of the order referred to above.

4. His Excellency the Governor desires me to ask you to be so good as to cause the necessary steps to be taken for the careful observance of the provisions of paragraph 8 referred to above, as otherwise cases of death from plague or cholera occurring on a voyage may be concealed.

5. I am to add that the vessel was quarantined for 24 hours only—the Medical officer accepting the statement in the clearance as accurate.

From Commander H. A. STREET, R.I.M., Presidency Port Officer, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated 25th November 1897, No. 949/419 G.

In reply to Marine Department endorsement No. 659-E, of 6th November 1897 (enclosure herewith returned), I have the honour to state that, from a report received from the Port officer, Negapatam, on the subject, it appears that the Health officer inspected nine passengers on shore prior to embarkation in accordance with regulations and issued the bill of health. These men waited to be conveyed to the ship in a boat in which the tindal of the *Hydroos* was also to go off with the vessel's clearance; but as there was some delay in his arriving, four of the men got out of the boat and went away, and only five proceeded by the ship. The tindal therefore got his port clearance endorsed as to the actual number that proceeded, which is the only alternative left in cases where passengers after examination on shore change their minds and decline to embark.

It will thus be seen that there was no disembarkation, since the four men did not at all get to the ship, and consequently no evasion of the rules in regard to second inspection of vessels where passengers disembark at time of sailing.

ORDER—No. 1008, Marine, dated 10th December 1897.

In this correspondence the Colonial Secretary, Colombo, brings to notice that a vessel called the *Hydroos* which left Negapatam on the 6th October last arrived at Valuvettiturai in Jaffna on the 10th idem with only five passengers, while the bill of health stated that there were nine. The port clearance had, however, an entry to the effect that four passengers landed at the time of sailing. It is also pointed out that, if the passengers did really disembark at the time of sailing, there was a violation of the provisions of regulation 8 of G.O., No. 790, Marine, dated 11th September 1897, on the part of the master of the vessel, and of regulation 9 on the part of the Customs officer who granted the clearance.

2. The Presidency Port Officer explains that there were nine passengers at the time of examination by the health officer who inspected the persons on shore prior to the issue of the bill of health. The passengers got into a boat to be conveyed to the vessel; but as there was some delay in the starting of the boat, four of them got out again, and only five proceeded on board the vessel. The tindal who was on shore to take the clearance, obtained the port clearance for the number that originally got into the boat, and the Presidency Port Officer submits that there was, therefore, no "disembarkation," because the four passengers had never embarked on the vessel and that there was thus no evasion of the rules.

3. It is observed that this correspondence would have been saved, if the Customs officer had taken the trouble to state the facts correctly on the port clearance. It is there said that "four passengers landed at the time of sailing," whereas it is clear from the facts as mentioned above that this statement is untrue, seeing that these persons had never embarked at all. The Collector will deal with this officer.

4. The correspondence will be forwarded for the information of the Governor of Ceylon.

[Here enter No. 1009, Marine, dated 10th December 1897.]

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. B. DEWINTON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Presidency Port Officer,
Revenue Department.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

No 1008 Mar 10. 12. 97

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following

Letter from the Colonial Secy: Colombo (H.E. No. — d/ 28. Oct 1897)
 " " Presy: Port Officer (H.E. No. 949 d/ 25 Nov. 1897)

In this correspondence the Colonial Secretary, Colombo, brings to notice that a vessel called ^{the} "Hydroos" which left Negapatam on the 6 October last arrived at Valuvettiturai in Jaffna on the 10 idem with only 5 passengers, while the bill of health states that there were 9. The port clearance had, however, an entry to the effect that 4 passengers landed at the time of sailing. It is also pointed out that if the passengers did really disembark at the time of sailing, there was a violation of the provisions of Regulation 8 of G.O. 790 Marine dated

The Rev. Secy in favour of countermeasures.

There is no objection to the issue of the proposed order in the Rev. Secy.

KD 8/12/97

dated 11 September 1897 on the
part of the master of the
vessel and of Regulation 9 on
the part of the Customs officer
who granted the clearance.
2. The Presidency Port Officer
explains that there were 7
passengers at the time of
examination by the Health
Officer who inspects the
persons on shore prior to the
issue of the bill of health. The
passengers got into a boat
to be conveyed to the vessel;
but as there was some delay
in the starting of the boat, 4
of them got out again, and
only 5 proceeded on board
the vessel. The Tindal who
was on shore to take the
clearance, obtained the Port
clearance for the number that
originally got into the boat,
and the Presidency Port
Officer submits that there
was, therefore, no 'disembarka-
tion', because the 4
passengers had never
embarked.

embarked on the vessel
and that there was ^{thus} no
evasion of the rules. 3

3. It is observed that
this correspondence would
have been saved, if the
Customs officer had taken
the trouble to state the
facts correctly on the Port
clearance. It is there said
that "4 passengers landed
at the time of sailing"
whereas it is clear ^{from} the
facts as ^{mentioned} above that
this statement is ~~absolutely~~
untrue, seeing that these
persons had never
embarked at all. The
Collector will deal with
this officer.

3. The correspondence
will be forwarded for
the information of the
Governor of Ceylon.

To:

The Presidency Port Officer
& Revenue Department
25/11/98 H.

(H-E
M)

(H. E. No. 1009 dated 10.12.97)

To The Honnble
The Colonial Secretary
Colombo

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. - dated 28 October 1897, on the subject of the bill of health of the ship "Hydroos" which left Negapatam on the 6 October 1897 for Jaffna; and, in reply, to forward for the information of His Excellency the Governor the accompanying copies of Proceedings of the Port Officer No. 1008 Marine dated 10 December 1897 reviewing the circumstances of the case as explained after inquiry by the Presidency Port Officer.

I have &c

[Signature]
6.12.97

[Signature]
11/4/97

[43/509]

1518

Marine DEPARTMENT.

C. No. s. 1403 and 1518 of 1897.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.

THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

SUBJECT.

Irregular Bill of Health

FOR ORDERS.

In this correspondence the Colonial Secretary, Colombo, brings to notice that a vessel called "Hydroos" which left Negapatam on the 6th October last arrived at Valuvettiturai in Jaffna on the 10th idem with only 5 passengers, while the bill of health stated that there ^{were} 9. The port clearance had, however, an entry to the effect that four passengers landed at the time of sailing. He also points out that if the passengers did really disembark at the ^{time of} sailing, there was a violation of the provisions of Regulation 8 of G.O. 790 Marine dated 11th September 1897 on the part of the master of the vessel, and of those of Regulation 9 on the part of the Customs Officer who granted the clearance.

2. The Presidency Port Officer explains that there were 9 passengers at the

Marine (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.

1518

the time of examination by the Health Officer who inspected them on shore and issued a bill of health. These men got into a boat to be conveyed to the vessel. But as there was some delay in the starting of the boat, four of the men came out, and only five proceeded; and the tindal who was on shore to take the clearance obtained the Port Clearance for the number that actually ~~embarked~~ embarked.

3. In this explanation there is nothing to show that there was any difficulty in obtaining a revised bill of health from the Health Officer. If this had been done so much correspondence and valuable time would have been saved.

and he submits that there has therefore no 'discrepancy' because the four passengers had not embarked a ship to the island of the island.

3. It seems impossible to provide rules for every contingency of this kind, but the Port Clearance gave the correct number of passengers, there was no room for concealment of cases of death during the voyage, which is the reason of the Ceylon Port's circumstances.

4. No action in the matter seems necessary.

W. H. S. 1287

Order

From

The Presidency Port Office,
Madras

No. 949 of
419

Dated 26th November 1897.

Received

Registered

Enclosures one.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Explaining the circumstances under which there was a difference in the number of passengers entered in the Bill of Health of the ship "Hydroos".

Fine game

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.
655 E	6.11.97

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

Heading

No. 949
419

Presidency Port Office,

Madras, 15 November 1897.

From

Commander A. A. Street, R.I.M.,
Presidency Port Officer,

Madras,

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

MARINE DEPARTMENT,

CHEPAK.

Sir,

In reply to marine department,
Endorsement No. 6598, of 6th November 1897,
(enclosure herewith returned) I have the
honor to state that, from a report received
from the Port Officer, Negapatam, on the
subject, it appears that the Health Officer
inspected nine passengers on shore prior
to embarkation in accordance with
regulations, and issued the Bill of Health.
These men waited to be conveyed to the
ship in a boat in which the *Indal* of
the "Hydross" was also to go off with
the vessel's clearance, but as there was

some

Some delay in his arriving, four of the men got out of the boat and went away, and only 5 proceeded by the ship. The third therefore got his port clearance endorsed as to the actual number that proceeded, which is the only alternative left in cases where passengers after examination on shore change their minds and decline to embark.

It will thus be seen that there was no disembarkation, since the four men did not at all get to the ship, and consequently no evasion of the rules in regard to second inspection of vessels where passengers disembark at time of sailing.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
your obedt. servant,

H. H. Street
Commander, R.S.M.
Pray. Port Officer.

Private (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 1403

No 659 E. dy 6. 11. 97
End

Referred to the Presidency
Port officer for inquiry and
report.
Order

From The Colonial Secretary,
Colonies.

H. H. Street
11. 11. 97

M

No.

To The P.O. in original - to be
returned
L.S.

Dated 28th October 1897
Received 2nd November 1897
Enclosures
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Requesting to take such steps
under order No 790 of the 11th
Sept 1897 as to prevent
cases of death from Plague
or cholera occurring on a
voyage being concealed.

6/11/97

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.
790-912a	11-9-97 ✓
879	16-10-97 ✓

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

[43 / 509]

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 28 October, 1897.

No.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that it has been brought to the notice of this Government by the Senior Medical Officer of the Northern Province that the Ship "Hydroos" which left Negapatam on the 6th October for Jaffna arrived at Valuvettiturai on the 10th Idem with a Foul Bill of Health, stating that cholera was prevalent at Negapatam, dated 6th Idem and signed by the Civil Surgeon.

2. The Bill of Health stated that there were nine passengers on board the vessel, but the Health Officer at Valuvettiturai found only 5 passengers, an entry appearing in the Clearance to the effect that "four passengers landed at the time of sailing."

5. I am to observe that if the entry which was made by the Customs Authorities be a true one and if the passengers did in reality disembark at the time of sailing, the vessel should in terms of paragraph 8 of your order No. 790 of the 11th September last (copy of which was forwarded for the information of this Government with your letter No. ___ of the 17th September last) have been inspected again and another Bill of Health

The Secretary,

To the Government of Madras-

Marine Department.

obtained

2P
obtained, and the Customs officer who delivered the clearance knowing that four passengers had disembarked would seem to have deliberately disobeyed paragraph 9 of the Order referred to above.

4. His Excellency the Governor desires me to ask you to be so good as to cause the necessary steps to be taken for the careful observance of the provisions of paragraph 8 referred to above as other wise cases of death from Plague or Cholera occurring on a voyage may be concealed.

5. I am to add that the vessel was quarantined for 24 hours only - the Medical Officer accepting the statement in the clearance as accurate.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. L. Crawford.

for Colonial Secretary.

C.No.s:-1403 & 1518 of 1897.

~~HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.~~

SUBJECT.

THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.

Irregular Bill of Health.

~~THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.~~

FOR ORDERS.

In this correspondence the --- Colonial Secretary, Colombo, brings to notice that a vessel called -- "Hydroos" which left Negapatam on the 6th October last arrived at -- Valuvettiturai in Jaffna on the 10th idem with only 5 passengers, while the bill of health stated that there were 9. The port clearance had, however, an entry to the effect that -- four passengers landed at the time of sailing. He also points out that if the passengers did really disembark at the time of sailing, there was a violation of the provisions of Regulation 8 of G.O. 790 Marine d/ 11th September 1897 on the part of the master of the vessel, and of --- those of Regulation 9 on the part of the Customs officer who granted the clearance.

2. The Presidency Port Officer explains that there were 9 passengers at

Pres. Secy 15/10/97

~~C. A. W.~~

at the time of examination by the Health Officer who inspected them on shore and issued a bill of health. These men got into a boat to be conveyed to the vessel. But as there was some delay in the starting of the boat, four of the men came out, and only five proceeded; and the tindal who was on shore to take the clearance obtained the Port Clearance for the number that actually embarked and he submits that there was therefore no 'disembarkation' because the four passengers had never embarked and therefore no evasion of the rules.

3. It seems impossible to provide rules for every contingency of this kind, and as the Port Clearance gave the correct number of passengers, there was no room for concealment of cases of death during the voyage, which is the 'raison d'etre' of the Ceylon Government's remonstrance.

4. No action in the matter seems necessary.

except that perhaps Health Officer might be ordered to issue bills of health in board ship & not on shore M. L. B. C.

2.12.97

He - it did not. I said that four passengers landed at the time of sailing, which was absolutely untrue, seeing that they had never embarked at all. If the Customs officer had taken the trouble to take the facts correctly this correspondence would have been saved. The C.M. should be told to deal with him & copy of the P.P.O.'s letter should be sent to the Ceylon Govt.

MS

3/12/97

But the point is that the inspection is to be on shore

MS