

Marine (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 205 Mar

DATED 21st March 98

Removed from 20.
402 Mar
18-5-98.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bureau Veritas Bros, Lond Dept, informing the Secretary
that Govt. prefers to procure the supply of the Register
through Messrs Baker & Co, and is requesting the latter to
make regular arrangements for the supply of the Register to
the P.D. & the Ch. H. T. Bz, and to report the future price
of the copies, come to the P.D. & the Ch. H. T. Bz.

26
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24/3/98

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
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In forming the Secretary Bureau
Veritas, that the Govt prefers to
procure the supply of the Register
that Society through Mess^{rs} Baker Co.
and requesting Mess^{rs} Baker Co. to
arrange for the continuance of the
supply of the several numbers of copies
of the register to the Presidency
Officers & to the Chairman Harbour
Trust Board, Madras & to report the
actual cost of the copies.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
137	28	3-3-98	
8	man	6-1-98	
584	28	16-9-97	papers

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Copy of letter from the London Secretary for "Bureau Veritas", dated 14th January 1898:-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your communication "order :- R.No.1678,dated 17th December 1897, and to thank you for having requested the Marine Department to arrange for the information, which I asked for in my letter of the 29th October, to be furnished to me direct.

The Marine Department havenot yet addressed me but I beg to inform you that in the meantime the suspicions suggested in my letter of the 29th October have been ^{proved} ~~report-~~ ed to be correct, namely that Messrs. F.P. Baker & Co., of London, obtained the copies of the Society's Register, supplied to the Madras Harbour Trust Board, in an indirect manner.

The parties who obtained the Registers from this Society for Messrs. Baker ,were quite unaware of the nature of the transaction and have at once ceased to be concerned in same.

As Messrs Baker will not be able to supply the copies of the 1898 issue, which they intended doing in the same way as before, I beg to enquire if you will be good enough to forward me your order, either direct or through some other Agent for the continuance of the subscription, the 1898 Registers being now ready.

I am not aware of the amount you were charged for 1897 by Messrs. Baker, but the subscription previously fix- ed and paid for the Harbour Trust Board since 1890,was £.15-15-0, for the two copies, and £.1-0-0,for forwarding expenses and postage of bi-monthly supplements for the year.

I enclose a prospectus showing terms of subscription to the Register.

Copy of letter from the same ~~officer~~,dated 21st January 1898:-

Confirming my letter of the 14th instant concern- ing the two copies of the Bureau Veritas Register 1897 supplied to the Madras Harbour Trust Board, I regret further to inform you that another copy of the Register supplied under

under the subscription order of a private individual since 1890, has, to the best of my belief, been sent out regularly each year for the Presidency, Port Office- Office, Madras.

As this indirect supply has also now been stopped I beg you will be kind enough to include this under the same arrangements as you are making for the supply of the Madras Harbour Board.

I would add that the name of the subscriber is always stamped on the cover of each Register so that if the books sent out for Madras have been received with wrong names (particularly the one since 1890) it would have saved the trouble which I regret I am causing you if the attention of the society had been called to this fact.

Copy of letter from the same officer, dated 28th January 1898:-

I confirm my letter of the 21st instant and regret exceedingly to be again obliged to trouble you on the question of the supply of Veritas Registers to the Madras Government.

It is now however my duty to inform you that the matter has been cleared up so far as the past is concerned since Messrs. F.P. Baker & Co. have now acknowledged the Society's accusations against them, explaining that they were not altogether cognizant as to the strictness of the Regulations governing subscriptions to the Register book and further they have paid the difference in subscription due to the Society.

There remains the regrettable fact that the Government offices have not had the copies of the Register properly prepared for them, and that the supply of the bi-monthly Supplements, which contain most important information, has probably been delayed and irregular.

Messrs Baker have requested that copies of the 1898 Register may now be sent either direct, or through them to the

Madras Harbour Trust Board (2 copies)

and Presidency Port Officer (1 Copy)

but having in my previous letters requested the favour of your instructions regarding this, I prefer waiting your decision as to whether these subscriptions shall be continued direct, or through

Messrs

Messrs Baker or any other Agents.

Copy of letter from Messrs Baker & Co., London, Madras, dated 21st January 1898:-

We deeply regret to report that we have unconsciously been making a great mistake by procuring copies of the Bureau Veritas through the assistance of an Underwriter at Lloyd's, instead of obtaining them from the London Office of this Register.

Soon after delivery to us of 3 copies of this book prepared for the current year we received a letter from the Underwriter in question whose name is known to the Secretary requesting us to return these books as he found he had been the innocent means of obtaining for us copies of the Bureau Veritas at a cheaper price than we should otherwise have procured them by doing which he had just found he had got himself into trouble with the Secretary to the Register.

After returning these books we went to the Secretary and asked him to send out 3 copies to the offices requiring them. This he declined to do on the grounds that we had been obtaining these books in an irregular manner. He added that he was in communication with the Madras Government and was awaiting an order direct. We asked him to commence at once and we would pay for the books at once. This also he declined to do and added that he would send them out only after receipt of an order from the Madras Government. We expressed ourselves prepared to repairing any wrong that might have been committed but still he refused.

We knew nothing whatever of the rules that regulate the sale of this work but from the Secretary we have learnt something now of the restrictions imposed which we known earlier would have prevented our going to an Underwriter notwithstanding we were impressed with the idea that the Underwriters at Lloyd's possessed some privileges in connection with these Marine Registers.

We trust after our explanation we may be pardoned for being the cause of trouble being given to Government in having to correspond with the Bureau Veritas & issue a direct

direct order for the books required.

We respectfully beg to offer to pay for the copies required amounting to £.22-10-0 as shown in Para 5 of our letter of 9th May 1896 and entering the amount our periodical account after being paid.

Copy of letter from the same ~~office~~ dated 28th January 1898:-

We respectfully beg to address you again upon the subject of the Bureau Veritas case laid before you in our letter of 21st instant a very regretful one that would never have arisen had we been acquainted with the restrictions imposed by the Rules that regulate the sale of copies of the Book; instead of being as we were under the delusion that Underwriters had privileges in connection with it.

As soon as Mr. Baker was disabused of this erroneous idea by the Secretary to the Bureau Veritas, at his office when Mr. Baker made the call mentioned in our letter of 21st instant, he gave a full explanation to the Secretary ~~and deeply~~ deeply apologised for all errors committed and expressed readiness to make amends in any way required.

That our explanations have been accepted by and that satisfaction has been given to the Bureau Veritas Committee is shown by the letters copies of which we attach and we are not likely to allow ourselves to get into such trouble again.

Should the Government give their order to the Bureau Veritas direct, we should be happy to pay annually for it and to enter the charge in our periodical account, thus obviating the necessity of an extra account.

We trust in consideration of our long service and careful execution of indents joined to an assurance that grounds for every ^{com}plaint against ^{us} ~~no staff~~ ^{shall} never arise again that we may in this instance be pardoned for the trouble we have given.

Copies
attached

6 Bond Court,
Walbrook, London
25th January 1898.

P.L. Beeslaner Esq.,

Secretary, "Bureau Veritas"

Dear Sir,

We have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 22nd instant and we thank your Committee for the promise considerably given therein viz., to write to the Madras Government, as suggested in para 5 of your letter of 20th Instant.

Now that we have fulfilled the requirements of your Committee without delay ^{also} (those given in your letter of the 20th Instant, as Mr. Baker expressed his readiness to do at his interview with yourself when you were so good as to explain the Rules that govern issues of the "Bureau Veritas", we trust you will allow 3 (three) copies of the book to be supplied to the offices described below that the continuity of issues may not be broken to be forwarded either direct from your office or through ours, the cost of which copies and postage we are quite prepared to defray.

We should be very thankful indeed for a favourable consideration of our request.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) F.P. Baker & Co.

Government offices in Madras requiring Copies.

2 Copies - Harbour Trust Board, Madras.

1 Copy - Presidency Port Officer.

P.S. We can assure you that we are concerned in no other cases of this kind.

Copy

155, New Church St.,
London, 26th January 1898.

TO

Messrs F.P. Baker & Co.,

6, Bond Court, Walbrook E.C.

Dear Sirs,

We are in receipt of your letter of the 25th Instant and having noted contents beg to inform you ~~you~~ that

the matter will receive further consideration and you will be advised accordingly.

As however we wrote to the Madras Government on the 14th Instant for further instructions regarding the future supply of our Registers we are inclined to await their reply, although it is possible the letter we are sending by next mail may, if in time alter matters.

Yours faithfully
(sd) for "Bureau Veritas"
C. P. Breslau
London Secretary.

See

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Mar 31/3*

G.
259-14-2-08.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.
Read again G.O. R. No.1678, dated 17th December 1897.

also
Read the following paper:—

Copies
attach-
ed.

From the London Secretary for "Bureau Veritas",
dated 14th, 21st and 28th January 1898.

Copies
attach-
ed.

From Messrs . F.P. Baker & Co, dated 21st and 28th
January 1898.

Endorsement of the Marine Department, No.137 E,
dated 3rd March 1898 on letter from the Chairman, Harbour
Trust Board, Madras, No.5130, dated 2nd March 1898.

Order No.226, dated 4th March 1898.

The Secretary, Bureau Veritas will be informed that
the Government prefers to procure the supply of the Register
through Messrs Baker & Co. who are its Agents in England.
2. Messrs. Baker & Co will be requested to make
regular arrangements with the Bureau Veritas for the supply
of the Register to the following officers:—

Presidency Port Officer.....	1 Copy
Chairman, Harbour Trust Board (for the use of the Deputy Conservator of the Port of Madras).	1 2 Copies

They will, after consulting the Secretary of the Society ,
report the future cost of the copies. (True Extract)

To
The Secretary Bureau Veritas.
Marine Department.
Messrs. Baker & Co.

A. Edington
for Chief Secretary.