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(3) Initials of the Referencer

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 20. 1. 1860

G.O. No.	109	Press / Mis.
49-50 Dated	13. 1.	1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Del/
12/12/38

No. 49. Read the following letter from Captain MAIDEN, Commanding H. M. Steamer "Thistle;" to D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Private Secretary to the Honorable the Governor, Madras, dated Nellore, 27th December 1859.

I have the honor to report for the information of His Excellency the Governor, the falling of the Pennair river so low, as to leave no hope of the "Thistle" getting above Nellore this season.

The vessel will be able to proceed probably in June. To save expense, I would respectfully suggest, that orders be given to discharge the crew, leaving the Serang and two men in charge of the steamer, under the supervision of the officer in charge of the Nellore anicut.

I shall also feel obliged if you would let me know if it is His Excellency's pleasure, that I return to my duties at Masulipatam.

In continuation of my report dated the 26th of November, I have the honor to inform you, I left Masulipatam at day light on the 27th, the threatening state of the weather obliged us to return the same afternoon. We left again on the morning of the 3rd of December, weather very fine, made the land near Isukapalle about 10 A. M. on the 4th. It had blown fresh during the night, and at the time the sea was so high we could not get a boat off. Tried at some other villages near the mouth of the Pennair with no better success. We lay to all the night of the 4th, and on the morning of the 5th, made another attempt to get a Pilot, but the wind and sea had increased during the night so much, that Kattamarams could not get off, we were short of wood. The bearings of the furnace bars had given way, rendering it difficult to keep steam up above 15 lbs. Under these circumstances, I considered it prudent to run for Middy river, a fine place of shelter for vessels of light draught of water.

There we repaired our furnace, and purchased fuel; left for the Pennair on the night of the 9th, crossed the Bar of the Pennair at 6 A. M. on the 10th; from the difficulty of getting the steamer over some sand banks almost dry, did not get up to Nellore until Sunday the 11th instant. From the 12th to the 14th, employed making preparations to get the steamer over the anicut, on the 15th the steamer crossed the anicut. In heaving the steamer over, she received some injury, and it was necessary to dock her for repair. This was done on the 17th. The repairs were completed and vessel out of dock on the 21st.

On the 22nd and 23rd, Mr. Cotton and myself examined the sand banks for some distance above the anicut, and found in many places less than a foot of water. We were thus reluctantly compelled to abandon the attempt of getting the vessel above her present moorings, as a useless expenditure of time and money.

No. 50. ORDER THEREON, 13th January 1860, No. 109.

Paragraph 1. In this letter the Commander of the steamer "Thistle" reports the progress made by that vessel, from the date of its leaving Masulipatam in pursuance of the instructions issued to him to examine the navigation of the lower course of the Pennair.

Paragraph 30 of the Minute of the Honorable the President dated 15th October 1859.

2. The "Thistle" left Masulipatam on the 3rd December but owing to untoward circumstances she did not cross the bar of the Pennair until the 10th or reach Nellore until the 11th. On the 15th she crossed the anicut, in doing which she sustained some damage which was soon repaired as the vessel is reported to have been out of dock on the 21st ultimo.

3. In consequence of the falling of the river there appears to be no hope of getting the "Thistle" above Nellore this season and probably not until June next, and the Commander suggests that in the mean time the crew should be discharged leaving the Syrang and two men in charge of the steamer under the supervision of the officer in charge of the anicut.

4. The Government approve of Captain Maiden's proposals in respect of the crew of the "Thistle" and they request that he will on the receipt of these orders pay up and discharge the

men with the exception of those required for the care of the vessel until the return of the freshes, and return to his duties at Masulipatam. The Chief Engineer will be requested to have the necessary instructions issued to the officer at the anicut to hold charge of the steamer.

5. The Government expect that Captain Maiden will furnish a more detailed account of his observations as directed in his instructions. They would also wish to have from him a statement of the cost per month of maintaining the steamer, and of the charges already incurred on her account.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

3

From

Captain Maiden

Commanding H. M.

Steamer "Thistle"

To

L. F. Carmichil Esquire

Private Secretary to the

Honorable the Governor

Madras

Sir

I have the honor to report for the information of His Excellency the Governor, the falling of the Pennair River so low, as to leave no hope of the Thistle getting above Nellore this season.

The vessel will be able to proceed probably in June. To save expence I would respectfully suggest that orders be given to discharge the Crew leaving

the Serang and two men in Charge of the Steamer, under the Supervision of the Officers in charge of the Nellore Anaicutt.

I shall also feel obliged if you would let me know if it is His Excellency's pleasure, that I return to my duties at Masulipatam.

In continuation of my Report dated the 26th of November, I have the honor to inform you, I left Masulipatam at day light on the 27th, the threatening state of the weather obliged us to return the same afternoon. We left again on the morning of the 3rd of December, weather very fine, made the land near Ed Kapilly about 10 A.M. on the

Ed Kapilly

the 4th, It had blown fresh during the night, and at the time the sea was so high we could not get a boat off. Tried at some other villages near the mouth of the Pennair with no better success. We lay to all the night of the 4th, and on the morning of the 5th made another attempt to get a Pilot, but the wind and sea had increased during the night so much, that Kattamarans could not get off, we were short of wood. The bearings of the furnace bars had given way rendering it difficult to keep steam up above 15 lbs. Under these circumstances I considered it prudent to run for Muddy River, a fine place of shelter

for vessels of light draught of water.

There we repaired our furnace, and purchased fuel; left for the Pennair on the night of the 9th inst, crossed the Bar of the Pennair at 6 A.M. on the 10th inst; from the difficulty of getting the Steamer over some sand banks almost dry did not get up to Nellore until Sunday the 11th Inst. From the 12th to the 14th employed making preparations to get the Steamer over the Anaikatt, on the 15th the Steamer crossed the Anaikatt. In heaving the Steamer over she received some injury, and it was necessary to dock her for repairs. This was done on the 17th inst. The repairs were completed and vessel out of Dock on the 21st inst.

On the 22nd and 23rd Mr Cotton and myself examined the land banks for some distance above the Anaikatt, and found in many places less than a foot of water. We were thus reluctantly compelled to abandon the attempt of getting the vessel above her present moorings, as a useless expenditure of time and money.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
J. W. Maidens
Capt
Commanding A. M.
Steamer "Thistle"

Nellore
27th December 1859

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 13th January 1860.

Read the following
Letter from Captain J. W. Maiden
Commanding H.M. Steamer "Thistle"
dated Vellore 27th December 1859.

Reports the progress of the Steamer "Thistle" from Madras to Vellore, regrets that he was unable to proceed owing to the falling of the Pinch Pennair, but will probably be able to do so in June. Suggests that the Crew may be discharged leaving the Steamer in charge of the Serang & 2 men, under the supervision of the Officer in charge of the Vellore Godown; and requests to be informed if it is the pleasure of the Govt that he should return to his duties at Mamulipatam.

P. Ch. Sec.

Read the following Letter from Commander of the Steamer "Thistle" reporting the progress made by that vessel towards the date of his leaving Madras for the purpose of surveying the Pennair River.

Ordered that Captain Maiden be informed that this experiment has turned out well and that his proposals should be approved. He will also be required to furnish a more detailed account of his observations as directed in his instructions.

Ld Tranby

Simla 30 Dec 1859

No. 109.

Public Works Department
Fort St. George 20th January 1860.

No. 3411

Captain J. W. Maiden
Commanding H.M.
Steamer "Thistle"
Vellore.

Dated 27th December
Rd 31st December 1859.

No. 109. 18th January 1860.

In continuation of his Report of the 26th ult. reports the progress of the Steamer "Thistle" from Mamulipatam to Vellore, about which he states she could not proceed owing to the falling of the Pinch Pennair & will probably be able to do so in June. Suggests that the Crew may be discharged leaving the Steamer in charge of the Serang & 2 men, under the supervision of the Officer in charge of the Vellore Godown; & requests to be informed if it is the pleasure of the Govt that he should return to his duties at Mamulipatam.

Transferred to Govt
(Signed) H. Hammond
Sy.

Copy in a Letter to C
dated 1st February 1860 No. 8

No. 49.

Entd 1st January 1860 87

navigation of the lower reaches of the Pennair.

2. The "Thistle" left Masulipatam on the 3rd December but owing to untoward circumstances she did not cross the Bar of the Pennair until the 10th or reach Nellore until the 11th. On the 15th she crossed the Anicut, in doing which she sustained some damage which has since been repaired as the vessel is reported to have been out of dock on the 21st instant.

3. In consequence of the falling of the river there appears to be no hope of getting the "Thistle" above Nellore this season and probably not until June next, and the Commander suggests that in the meantime the Crew should be discharged leaving the Syrang and two men in charge of the steamer under

under the supervision of the Officer in charge of the establishment.

4. The Government ~~of Madras~~ ~~has~~ ~~forwarded~~ ~~a~~ ~~copy~~ ~~of~~ ~~a~~ ~~letter~~ ~~from~~ ~~Captain~~ ~~Maidens~~ ~~to~~ ~~Government~~ ~~to~~ ~~have~~ ~~been~~ ~~laid~~ ~~before~~ ~~the~~ ~~Board~~ ~~at~~ ~~their~~ ~~last~~ ~~meeting~~ of Captain Maidens proposals in respect of the crew of the Thistle and they request that he will on the receipt of these orders pay up and ~~discharge~~ the men with the exception of those required for the care of the vessel until the return of the freshes, and return to his duties at Masulipatam. The Chief Engineer will be requested to have the necessary instructions issued to the officer at the Anicut to hold charge of the steamer.

5. The Government expect that Captain Maiden will furnish a more detailed account of

of his observations as di-
-rected in his instructions.
They would also wish to
have from him a state-
-ment of the cost per month
of maintaining the steamer,
and of the charges already
incurred on her account. –

10 Copies to the Chief Engrs Dated 14th
1 — " Capt. J W Standen
1 — " Account Genl
3 — " Maitland

C. 4½ Sam'l 80-87

Copy in a letter to C.
d/ 24th ult Feby 1860 No 8.

Public Works 1860 Dept.
Pro: of Govt 20th January,
No 109.

Pro: of the Madras Govt
d/ 13th January 60.

From Captain J. M. Maiden
d/ 31 January 60 C. No 231 in Pro. 20th Feby 61-82.
From the Chief Engr d/ 15th
Feby 1860 C. No 430 Pro: 29th do 93-94.

Captain Maiden
to discharge the Crew of
the steamer "Thistle"
leaving the men required
for the care of the vessel
and to return to his
duties at Masulipatam.

No 49 & 50.

From Commandant Cuddapah
Pro: 31st March 60. 125-126