1040

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

22nd April 1881, No. 1,040 W.

General.
Account.

Read the following papers :—

No. 59. Endorsement of the Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 1st March 1881, No. 1,230.

From Brigadier-General H. O'CONNELL, Quartermaster-General, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Bangalore, 24th February 1881, No. 88—1,512.

WITH reference to the enclosed copy of a letter from Major J. M. Smith, Secretary to the Special Commissioner, to Lieutenant-Colonel Beatty, Commanding Troops at Rajahmundry, I have the honor, by order, to state that, as far as military operations in the Godávari district are concerned, the services of the river steamer *Wurda* are not required.

2. It is understood from G.O., No. 4,720, dated 27th July 1880, that thi and other steamers of the Godávari Flotilla belong to the Public Works Department, and that Mr. James' engagement is one that will be terminated or continued as may be necessary under the orders of that department.

From Major J. M. SMITH, Secretary to the Special Commissioner, to the Officer Commanding Rajahmundry, dated Rajahmundry, 18th February 1881, No. 5.

THE Special Commissioner having returned yesterday evening from a tour of inspection in Rékapalle and Bhadráchalam taluks desires me to authorise you to remove the small detachment of the 36th Regiment Native Infantry now stationed at Wudagudiem, as he is satisfied that the services of the party are no longer required in that locality.

2. The men can drop down to Koide, twelve miles, in country boats and be taken on thence in the steamer *Wurda*, which under the command of Mr. James should be awaiting them at that spot. Mr. James, it is understood, continues to receive pay and considers himself a Government servant pending a certain term of notice that his services are no longer required, which notice he has not received.

3. Mr. Martindale, Special Assistant Agent for the upper taluks, came down with the Commissioner, and application should be made to him for any necessary subsidiary orders to the local Native Officers.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department with reference to its No. 243, dated 26th July 1880, and previous correspondence.

(By Order.)
(Signed) E. L. HANKIN, Colonel,
Acting Secy. to Govt.

No. 59-A. From G. T. WALCH, Esq., Superintendent of Works, Godávari District, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Cocanada Canal, 18th March 1881, No. 3,846.

I HAVE the honor to request that there may be definite orders as to whose requisitions for running the Upper Godávari steamers for special trips I must, as a matter of course, comply with *if possible*.

she cannot) go up through the gorge when there is more than 6 feet going over the anicut. For the second of the periods above named she can only get past five miles beyond Rajahmundry with great difficulty, labor, and expense, as special channels have to be cut for her in sand banks and she has to be dragged over shoals. In her last trip in this month when she went up on the requisition of the Superintendent of Police to bring down some Police men from Koide, who in former years would have marched down or come down in native boats, she was aground nearly half the time she took going up, and had a hole knocked in her in hauling her over a shoal; so for nearly six months in the year, certainly for five months, she cannot or should not go up the river, and should be laid up as used to be the case.

10. In the event of any real emergency, such as troops having to go up, one of our irrigation steamers could be used to go up as far as Bhadráchalam at almost any time of the year that the *Wurdah* could go. It is true that none of them could carry nearly such numbers as the *Wurdah*, but certainly from 50 to 100 persons could be sent at one time.

11. Of course these irrigation steamers could not be spared to take the "Assistant Agent and Police Officers" about the river whenever they wished, but I believe it would be better to supply the Assistant Agent with a special steam* launch something like the *Arthur Cotton*, but drawing somewhat less water, than to keep on running the *Wurdah* for the purpose, for which I consider she is particularly unfitted.

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* Instead of a boat as is now intended.

No. 60.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd April 1881, No. 1,040 W.

IN paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 921, dated 4th August 1880, Revenue Department, it was decided, in supersession of orders in the Public Works Department directing the sale of the Upper Godávari steamers, that the *Wurdah* should be retained for making occasional periodical trips, the arrangements for meeting the charges incidental to the working and up-keep of the steamer being determined in the Public Works Department.

2. It now appears that the vessel is not required so far as military operations in the Godávari district are concerned, that she is unfitted, owing to her draught of water and construction, for regular work on the river, and that the cost of commanding her (Rs. 4,000 per annum) is out of all proportion to the service which she is capable of rendering.

3. Under these circumstances it seems worthy of consideration whether the *Wurdah* should not be sold as originally contemplated. Her sister vessel the *Godávari* is to be retained for ferry work. She, as well as the irrigation steamers, will therefore be available on emergency. For departmental service a handy steam launch would be more suitable.

4. The papers are accordingly referred to the Revenue, Judicial and Military Departments for any remarks which those departments may have to offer on the proposal to dispose of the *Wurdah*.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Revenue Department.
" Judicial do.
" Military do.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

1040
3

P 2

and that Mr. James's engagement is one that will be terminated or continued as may be necessary, under the orders of that Department. —

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,
J. T. O'Connell Majr Genl.
Quarter Master General.

PRC

F.

Forwarded
Colonel
Contr: Mily: Accounts.
Contig Office
25' Feby 1881.

1040
5

[illegible]
[illegible]

M.D. 1274/[illegible]

No. 3846 . 87

FROM

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKS

GODAVARI DISTRICT.

1040/7

TO

THE CHIEF ENGINEER P.W. Department
~~FOR IRRIGATION~~

Enclos.

Camp Cocanada Canal Dowlaishweram, 18th March 1881.

Despd 22d Do

SIR,

I have the honor to request that there may be definite orders as to whose requisitions for running the Upper Godavari Steamer for special trips I must, as a matter, of course, ~~to~~ comply with, *if possible*.

2. Requisitions have lately been made by the Officer Commanding Rajahmundry, by the Acting Sub Collector, & by the Supdt of Police, all these have been attended to. but it seems to me certain that there is a tendency to call for the steamer when she is not really an absolute necessity, and the cost of one of her trips, especially at this time of year when channels have to be dredged by hard labor for her in sand banks and large numbers of coolies have

to

to be employed to help her over shoals is so great that it seems to me that nothing but very urgent necessity would warrant her being used.

3. I would also request orders how the cost of these various trips is to be charged and not only the cost of the actual trips but also that of the crew which but for these frequent requisitions, I would dispense with, laying the steamer up at all events till next freshes.

4. I may mention that Captain Innes, who I believe is drawing his pay from the Marine Department, has taken command of the steamer on the various trips referred to — but he I suppose not being engaged by or under the orders of this Department may any day be removed or go and if so, I have as already stated in my No. 3127 – 22d January 1881 and No. 3242 / 3d February 1881 no one to whom I can entrust the command of the large Upper Godavari Steamer.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant.

C. Ewald

Compd T.K. Supdt. of Works Godavari.

retirement of Captain Barber who had been in charge of the Government Steam Flotilla for eighteen years I was ordered to take over charge from that officer on January 1st 1880 since which time I have been in sole charge without receiving the extra pay which was drawn by Captain Barber.

I have the honor therefore to request that I may be [illegible]firmed in this appointment, the duties of which I trust I have carried out satisfactorily.

As at present I do not know to whom to look for orders as regards supplies, I am indenting on my own responsibility for stores and fuel. Hitherto my indents &c had passed through the Officer Commanding Queen's Own Sappers and Miners, but his detachment has been withdrawn without transferring his authority.

I have the honor to enclose letters I received from General Buck, which I request may be returned together with the letter from the Master Attendant Madras.

I

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
(Signed) J. Polglase James.
Commanding Government
Steam Flotilla Godavari.

1040/10

No. 18

Submitted to Government for their favourable consideration.

2 Mr. James was sent here in August 1879 and was told to receive instructions from me. Not having heard any thing from Government about him before, I telegraphed and obtained orders to place him in charge of Steamer "Prince" vide Telegrams recorded in G. O. 11th August 1879 No 1970. From that time he performed his duties to the satisfaction of General Buck under whom he immediately served. From Mr. James' letter it would appear that he was placed in charge of the Steam Flotilla in the place of Captain Barber retired on 1st January 1880. The Superintendent of Works whom I have addressed on the subject says that the matter of employment of Mr. James by his Department is under reference to the authorities at

at Madras. While so Mr James was furnished on the 24th of last month by the Executive Engineer at Dowlaishweram with a last pay certificate that he was paid up to 31st of January 1881 and to no later period." From G. O dated 24th July 1879 No 1757 it will be observed that the services of Mr James are terminable on 15 days notice. No such notice has ever been given to Mr James and it is not known by whom such notice ought to be issued. It seems strange that Mr James should be driven adrift in this way. I have however in anticipation of the sanction of Government paid Mr James his pay for last month as I consider that Government will be bound to give him salary until the necessary notice is given and as I suppose Government do not wish to be in debt to their Subordinates. In case his services are not required by Government I request that the necessary notice be given him and sanction accorded for payment of his salary up to the date of the expiry of the notice including the sum I have paid.

[illegible]

Godavari District
Collector's office
Cocanada 9th March 1881
Despatched 10th Do.

W. S. Foster
Collector

Judicial Dept.

1040/11

From the Collector Godavery District
Dated 9th March 1881 No 18.

No 557

Referred to the Department Public Works for the favor of remarks.

Madras
21st March /81.

C. Masters
for Chief Secretary

To The Department of Public Works

18

Special 6 (1881) Dept

P.W.C. No. 1810

E. G.

Received 22 March 81

Await reply to memo No 506 of 1st March 1881

Yes E

Cy 23/3

Dw

O.K.4 R 22-4
R.A.C.

No. 3979

f19

1040/12

FROM

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKS

GODAVARI DISTRICT.

TO

THE CHIEF ENGINEER

P.W. Department
~~FOR IRRIGATION.~~

Enclos.

Dowlaishweram, 28th March 1881
Despd 31st do

SIR,

With reference to your No. 506 1st March 1881 I have the honor to inform you that G.O No. 400 W. 12th February 1881 has only been received by me today, the Telegram which it embodies was duly received but I had no idea that it was the G.O referred to in your letter under reply.

2. I do not consider that the arrangements contemplated, as laid down in the G.O under notice, are feasible, because it is in the highest degree unlikely that any one fit to command the "Wurdah" would remain here on the chance of getting temporary employment at considerable intervals.

3. I consider that if this large steamer, which is difficult to handle,

P20

& frail in the extreme is to be run up & down the river at all it will be necessary to employ a permanent Commander.

4. I have little doubt that Captn Barber× who used to Command her—will be willing to do so again if he be paid the difference between his pension & his former pay—which would amount to Rs 2,200 a year,—or that Captn James who has commanded her since Captn Barber's departure will be willing to continue to do so for say Rs 350 a month = 4,200 a year— The former arrangement of the two being much the cheaper would be the preferable one.

×Captain Barber is now in England

5. As regards how the cost of running the Steamers, is to be met, I know of no way other than that which used to obtain of providing for it under "Provincial" "Communications" (See provision of Rs 5,000 in the Provincial Budget of 1876-77).

6. The amount to be so provided would be approximately Rs 5,200 or Rupees 7,200 according as the cost of the Commander

P21

Commander was one or other of the sums named in Para 4— 1040/B

7. But the question arises is it worth while any longer using the "Wurdah" and my belief is that it is not.

8. That steamer & her sister boats were specially designed for the purpose of conveying large quantities of heavy material in flats up the River for the use of the Godavari— She is most unnecessarily unwieldy & expensive in working for the purpose for which it is now proposed generally to use her— & she is old and shaky—

9. For at least 3 months in most years she cannot, any more than any steamer on the River, get more than about 5 miles above Rajahmundry for another 3 months she cannot in most years get past Koide (some 10 miles below Wuddigudem) and during the remainder of the year she cannot (or it has always been supposed that she cannot) go up through the Gorge when there is more than 6' going over the Anicut. For the second of the periods above named she can only get past 5 miles

miles beyond Rajahmundry with great difficulty, labor and expense — as special channels have to be cut for her in sand banks and she has to be dragged over shoals — In her last trip in this month when she went up on the requisition of the Superintendent of Police to bring down some Police-men from Koidi — who in former years would have marched down or come down in native boats — She was aground nearly half the time she took going up, and had a hole knocked in her in hauling her over a shoal — So for nearly six months in the year, certainly for 5 months, she cannot or should not go up the River and should be laid up — as used to be the case —

10 In the event of any real emergency such as troops having to go up One of our Irrigation Steamers could be used to go up as far as Bhadráchalam at almost any time of the year that the "Wurdah" could go — It is true that none of them could carry nearly such numbers as the "Wurdah" but certainly from 50 to 100 persons could be sent at one time —

11 — Of course these irrigation steamers could not be spared to take the "Assistant Agent & Police Officers" about the River whenever they wished — but I believe it would be better to supply the Assistant Agent with a special steam× launch something like the "Arthur Cotton" but drawing some what less water — than to keep on running the "Wurdah" for the purpose, for which I consider she is particularly unfitted —

×Instead of a Boat as is now intended —

I have the honor to be,
Sir
your most obedient Servt.

Supdt of Works Godavari

1040
15.

From P.W.C. No. 2171

The Superintendent of Works
Godavari

To

The Chief Engineer
P. W. Dept

F.O. No. 4578 W. 29-11-78.
" " 1291 W. 2-5-79
" " 2049 W. 20-8-80.
" " 109 W. 15-1-81.
" " 400 W. 12-2-81.
C.E. " 506. 1-3-81.

Dated 28th March 1881
Despd 31st March 1881
Received 5 April 81

No. 3979

L. & O. Plans put up

Steamer "Wurda" Proposals contained herein as to the Command and maintenance of. Requesting to get sanctioned the

O.14.4. R22/4
C.74. R.24.

1040/16

From the Superintendent of Works Godavari No. 3979 d/ 28th March 1881.

FOR ORDERS.

There are three main questions involved in this correspondence.

1st Whether the Wurda should be maintained at all.

2nd If maintained, what arrangements should be made for her command

3rd What officers have the power of requiring the Steamer to be run for their use.

2. With regard to the first question the

I think we had better get rid of the Wurdah if she is not required for the purpose for which she was retained prior to the Rumpa disturbances. –

7/4/81

FOR ORDERS.

the undersigned entirely agrees with the Superintendent of Works that the running of the Steamer is not desirable, and that it would be far better for the departments which require frequent communication up the river to have small launches of their own.

3. It will be seen that the Supt. of Works considers the arrangements ordered in G.O. No. 400 W of 12 Feby 1881 are impracticable. With regard to the two alternatives mentioned by Mr. Walch it has to be observed that it is not certain that Captain Barber would consent

1040/17

to come out to India again and probably the normal cost of the command would not be less than Rs 4000 per Annum.

4 It is thought that in any case the cost of maintenance of the Steamer ought not to be thrown upon the P.W.D. She is not required for departmental purposes, and her cost is a heavy charge against our already insufficient grants.

5. On the third question no opinion appears called for.

Penny
Major R.E.
for Secy to Govt. P.W.D.

O.14.4.
C.7.4. R.A.1.

W.

1040/18

The accompanying draft has been signed in full, with the intention it is thought, of being circulated in original to the Departments concerned. In drafting the order this course occurred to me, but I thought it would be best on the whole to print the papers, so as to allow the several Departments to refer them for the opinions of their own officers. It is not likely that the Secretaries in the various Depts. will be in a position to give a direct reply to the question asked, and if they have to refer between the

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Hon'ble Anderson

Memo.

1040W

In recirculating this file, the undersigned has the honor to invite attention to G.O. No 2049 W of 30th Augt on Rev. Pro. No 921 of 4th August 1880, & to inquire whether the H. M. considers that the "Wurda" should be sold; also whether he approves of the proposal to purchase a steam launch to replace her.

13.4.81

Ci 1014 Old 5

Secretariat, it is better that these papers should be in print

R.S.
20/4.

C A W

Print as proposed

20/4/81

Hon'ble Anderson

Memo.

1040W

In recirculating this file, the undersigned has the honor to invite attention to G.O. No 2049 of 30th Augt on Rev. Pro. No 921 of 4th August 1880, & to inquire whether the H.M. Considers that the "Wurda" should be sold; also whether he approves of the proposal to purchase a steam launch to replace her.

13.4.81

1040/15

Ref. this copy of [illegible] the other Depts for [illegible] with the remark that as the [illegible] be retained for [illegible] work [illegible]

O.14.4.
C.9.4. R.R.L.

O.14.4. R 224

Ci 1614 Old

available & [illegible]
+ that under the
Circs. stated it seems
undesirable to retain
the "Wardah" but
that one Land Steam
Launch shd. be
provided for ordy.
Deptl. service

18/4

From orders

1040/20

No. 1040 W PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 22nd April/81

Read the following :—

Indn. Mily: Deptt. — Lr. No: 1230 of 1st March/81.
From the Supdt. of Works Godavary } " " 3846 " 18th do
Pro: Jud. Deptt. — " " 559 " 21st do
" The Supdt. of Works Godavary } " " 3979 " 28th do

P.N.

In para 2 of G.O. 121 dated 4th August 1880, Revenue Department, it was decided, in supersession of orders in the P.W. Deptt. directing the sale of the Upper Godavary Steamers, that the "Wardah" should be retained for making occasional periodical trips; the arrangements for meeting the charges incidental to the

R.S.

P 28

working and upkeep of the steamer being determined in the P.W. Dept.

2. It now appears that the vessel is not required so far as Military Operations in the Godavary Dist: are concerned, that she is unfitted, owing to her draught of water and construction, for regular work on the river, and that the cost of commanding her (Rs 4,000 per annum) is out of all proportion to the service which

P 29

she is capable of rendering 1040/(2)

3. Under these circumstances it seems worthy of consideration whether the "Jundah" should not be sold as originally contemplated. Her sister vessel the "Godavary" is to be retained for ferry work - she, as well as the Irrigation steamers, will therefore be available on emergency. For departmental service a handy steam launch would be more suitable.

P30

4. The papers are accordingly referred to the Revenue, Judicial and Military Depts. for any remarks which those Depts. may have to offer on the proposal to dispose of the "Jaudah".

D W Stanley

25/4/81

Issue 27/4

To the Rev Deptt ✓
" Jud Deptt ✓
" Mily Deptt ✓

Despd 6-5-81

9th Jan. Obl 14 Recd 22/4

1042/22

2177 a

Govt. of (1881) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

13/11

Encl.

G. O. 22 April 1881, No. 1040 W

Nos. 5-6

Steamer "Imerda" Papers relative to the disposal of the — referred to the Rev, Judl & Mily Depts for remarks.