

No 3036 of 15th Nov 82

Sanctioned


13.11.82



13.11.82

Co 400. H. 12.2.81
" 1840. H. 22.4.81
" 1862. H. 29.7.81

To
The Supg. Engrs. First Circle
Examiners P.W.A.
desptd 16-11-82

From,

The Supg. Engineer
First Circle

To,

The Chief Engineer
P.W. Department

Dated 3rd

Desptd. 4

November 1882

Recd

No 3036 of 15th Nov 82
Co 1786 of 4th
Enclosure

Steamer "Surda". Advertisement
for sale - Charges incurred
by the Eastern Division office for -
Requests to attain sanction of Govt.
to the - As the Examiner passed
only provisionally -

with order

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 Godáviri 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 this and other steamers of the Godáviri 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 Rekapalle and Bhadrachalam 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, Godáviri 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 Godáviri steamers for special trips I must, as a matter of course, comply with *if possible*.

2. Requisitions have lately been made by the Officer Commanding Rajahmundry, by the Acting Sub-Collector, and by the Superintendent 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 hand-labor for her in sand banks and large numbers of coolies have 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 James, 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. 3,127, 22nd January 1881, and No. 3,242, 3rd February 1881, no one to whom I can entrust the command of the large Upper Godáviri steamer.

No. 59-B. Endorsement of the Judicial Department, dated Madras, 21st March 1881, No. 559.

From J. P. JAMES, Esq., Commanding Government Steam Flotilla, Godáviri, to the Collector of the Godáviri District, dated Dowlaishweram, 28th January 1881.

I HAVE the honor to call your attention to paragraph 2 of the enclosed letter from the Master Attendant, Administrative Department, Madras. Eighteen months ago I was sent here to command the steamer *Prince*, and was then attached to the Military Department, but since the Brigade which was acting up here under Brigadier-General Buck has been broken up and the steamers have been ordered to be transferred to the Public Works Department, I have received no orders as to the confirmation or abolition of my appointment. I have the honor to point out that my appointment was to the *Prince* temporarily; but on the 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 1st January 1880, since which time I have been in sole charge without receiving the extra pay which was drawn by Captain Barber.

2. I have the honor therefore to request that I may be confirmed 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.

3. 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.

No. 18.

SUBMITTED to Government for their favorable consideration.

2. Mr. James was sent here in August 1879 and was told to receive instructions from me. Not having heard anything 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. 1,970. 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 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 January 1881 and to no later period. From G.O., dated 24th July 1879, No. 1,757, it will be observed that the services of Mr. James are terminable on fifteen 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.

COCANADA,
9th March 1881.

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Collector.

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

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
for Chief Secretary.

No. 59-C. From G. T. WALCH, Esq., Superintendent of Works, Godáviri District, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 28th March 1881, No. 3,979.

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 to-day, the telegram which it embodies was duly received, but I had no idea that it was the Government Order referred to in your letter under reply.

2. I do not consider that the arrangements contemplated, as laid down in the Government Order 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 and frail in the extreme, is to be run up and down the river at all it will be necessary to employ a permanent Commander.

4. I have little doubt that Captain* Barber who used to command her will be willing to do so again if he be paid the difference between his pension and his former pay, which would amount to Rs. 2,200 a year, or that Captain James who has commanded her since Captain 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.

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 Rs. 7,200 according as the cost of the commander was one or other of the sums named in paragraph 4.

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 and 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 Godáviri. She is most unnecessarily unwieldy and expensive in working for the purpose for which it is now proposed generally to use her, and she is old and shaky.

9. For at least three months in most years she cannot, any more than any steamer on the river, get more than about five miles above Rajahmundry, for another three months she cannot in most years get past Koide (some ten miles below Wudagudiem), 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 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 Bhadrachalam 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.

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 Godavari 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 Godavari 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 *Godavari* 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.)

Captain, R.E.,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

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

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies



GENERAL.
ACCOUNT.

Gobt. of (1881) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated April, 22nd.

Encl.

Recd.

Encl.

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

APRIL.

No. 59-60.

Steamer "Wurdah."—Papers relative to the disposal of the —, referred to the Revenue, Judicial and Military Departments for remarks.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

29th July 1881, No. 1,862 W.

General.
Account.

Read the following papers :—

No. 78. G.O., No. 1,040 W., dated 22nd April 1881.

No. 78-A. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 13th May 1881, No. 2,628.

From the Public Works Department, dated 22nd April 1881, No. 1,040 W.

From the Quartermaster-General, dated 11th May 1881, No. 534.

ORDER.—Ordered that the Public Works Department be informed that there is no objection in the Military Department to the proposed sale of the *Wurdah*.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. L. HANKIN, Colonel,
Ag. Secy. to Govt., Mily. Dept.

No. 78-B. Endorsement of the Judicial Department, dated Ootacamund, 6th June 1881, No. 978.

From W. S. FOSTER, Esq., Government Agent, Godáviri District, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bhadrachalam, 22nd May 1881, No. 47.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 834, dated 9th instant, on the order of Government, No. 1,040 W., dated 22nd April 1881, I have the honor to inform you that I have no objection to the steamer *Wurdah* being disposed of.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department with reference to order in that department, dated 22nd April last, No. 1,040 W.

(By order),

(Signed) O. WOLFE-MURRAY,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

No. 78-C. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department, dated 17th June 1881, No. 1,607.

THE Revenue Department has no remarks to offer on the proposal to dispose of the *Wurdah*.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Offg. Secy. to Govt., Rev. Dept.

No. 78-D. From G. T. WALCH, Esq., Superintendent of Works, Godávári, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 21st July 1881.

WITH reference to your office note, No. 302 W., dated 20th July 1881, I have the honor to say that I recommend that the *Wurdah* should be advertised for sale as she floats for a moderate sum (say) Rs. 10,000, and that if she be not so sold within six months that then she should be put up to auction with a reserve price of the estimated bare value of her boiler (nearly new), engines (very old), and the materials of which she is composed supposing she were broken up.

The whole file received with the note under reply is returned.

No. 79. ORDER THEREON, 29th July 1881, No. 1,862 W.

IN the orders of the 22nd April 1881, No. 1,040 W., it was decided to dispose of the steam ship *Wurdah* if she were not required by any other department of Government.

2. It is seen from the replies now received that the vessel cannot be utilised by the State. She will therefore be disposed of on the terms specified by the Superintendent of Works, Godávári. It is presumed that the sum of Rs. 10,000 named by Mr. Walch is a reasonable price, and on this understanding the intended sale should be widely advertised and the terms of payment clearly specified.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintendent of Works, Godávári.
„ Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.



GENERAL
ACCOUNT.

**Govt. of (1881) Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.**

To

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF WORKS,
GODAVARI,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated July, 29th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 29th July 1881, No. 1,862 W.

**JULY.
Nos. 78-79.**

Steamer "Wardah"—Ordered to be sold
on the terms specified by the Superintendent
of Works, Godavari.

N: 7786 G.D.

Superintending Engineer's office.
First Circle. Godavari
3rd November 1882

From
The Offg Engr Engineer
First Circle

To.
The Chief Engineer
Public Works Department

Sir,
I have the honor to request you
will be good enough to obtain the sanction
of Government to the charges incurred by the
Godavari Eastern Division officer in January
and February 1882 for advertising steamer
"Wardah" for sale, as the Examiner
of P.W. accounts has passed the same
provisionally with reference to para 296 G
of the P.W. Code. S. O No 43 of 1881.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servant.
C. J. Wall

Offg Engr Engineer
First Circle

+ No 47-46

+ G.O No 1862 W
of 29-7-81.