Political (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 771

DATED 16th Nov. 1895

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

BRITISH CONSULAR AGENT AT PONDICHERRY AND KARIKAL.

Recording Proceedings, Public Department, forwarding to Lieutenant-General McLeod the letter of appointment received from the Government of India recognising him as --, and directing that future nominations to the said office be telegraphed to the India Office.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Colt

CURRENT No. 1573

Govt. of {1895} Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd. 8 Oct 1895. Encl.

G.O., No. 728, 2nd Sept. 1895.

SEPTEMBER.

Ref

The later acting appts are in Public. Look I wrote them up. CS 17/XI/95

Please see paper print up. The later acting appts are in Public. Look I wrote them up. CS 17/XI/95

British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal.

Forwarding to Lieutenant-General McLeod the letter of appointment received from the Government of India recognizing him as —, and directing that future nominations to the said office be telegraphed to the India Office.

I dont see them. Where is Capt. Kettle's acting appt in 1895 - vide Pol. GO 2/3 3.4.95

213: 3-4-95 Pol
R405: 2-4-95 Pub.
R379: 26-3-95 "
R371: 26-3-95 "
469: 19-7-93 Pol
111: 27-2-93 "
125: 22-2-92 "
610: 14-10-91 "
496: 8-8-91 " d.
495: 7-8-91 "
445A: 20-7-91 "
R126: 7-8-91
464: 13-6-91 Pub.
381: 27-5-91 Fin
391: 18-5-91 Pub.
300: 16-4-91 "
578/9: 4-7-89 "

Public Dept

Please say why this has been commd. to Political? It was decided recently that appts. of B.C.A Pondicherry should be notified in Public - vide Capt. Kettle's acting appt in March 1895.

C.S. 13/XI/95

Where please? PDB 13/11

Verbally, as far as I remember. He is an officer under Public not Political

CS 13/11

Mis

No. 771 d 19 Nov

Recorded

Cus

WCS. 18/11/95 3.11.95

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following papers :—

G.O., No. 146, Public, dated 28th February 1895.

Letter—to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, dated 16th March 1895, No. 196.

The papers received with your endorsement No. 463 I., of the 6th February, were duly communicated to the British Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal, for guidance. With reference thereto, General McLeod has forwarded a list (copy attached) of the Consular duties performed by him and has reported the following three instances in which inconvenience has already resulted from his refusal to perform duties in connection with shipping :—

(*a*) The master of the British barque *Cureem Bux* lying in the Pondicherry roads reported that the engagements of his lascars had expired, and he therefore wished to discharge them and take on fresh men. As the Consular Agent was unable, under the recent orders, to assist in the matter, the result was that the old crew refused to work, and the master could neither discharge them nor engage others at the port.

(*b*) The British India Steam Navigation Company's S.S. *Wardha* loading at Pondicherry for Mauritius sent her papers and bill of health to the Consular-General Agent for Visa. He was, however, compelled to decline to affix his signature and seal and the probable result will be that the vessel will be quarantined at Mauritius.

(*c*) A coasting brig, flying the British flag, arrived with the master on the sick list. The owner desired to change him, but the Consular Agent was precluded from taking the necessary action, and the brig could not leave the port without a master.

2. In view of the strong representation made by the Consular Agent of the urgent need for measures being at once taken to render it possible for British ships to receive the aid of consular services at Pondicherry, this Government has directed him to hold the recent orders in abeyance, pending a reference to the Government of India.

3. General McLeod has brought to notice that, although the Consular Agent was originally posted at Pondicherry for emigration duties only, yet, since then, a large trade has grown up in groundnuts, of which nearly the whole are exported in British steamers to Marseilles. About thirty vessels are engaged in the trade and lie at anchor at Pondicherry, on an average, fifteen days each. They all require consular services, the withdrawal of which could not but result in very grave inconvenience.

4. It is not necessary to enumerate here instances of such services rendered in the past which General McLeod has furnished. The inconvenience now complained of is sufficiently demonstrated by the three cases instanced above which have occurred within a few days. The emigration duties performed by the Consular Agent are now confined to return emigrants, of whom there are very few.

5. In these circumstances, I am to convey the strong recommendation of this Government that early steps may be taken in view to the Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal being recognised by the Foreign Office. Failing this, the only alternative appears to be the appointment of an officer of the regular consular service.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

Enclosure.

List of Consular Services.

(i) Receiving the ships' articles as soon as they arrive.
(ii) Attending to any complaints from the master and seamen.
(iii) Masters signing protest.
(iv) Entertainment and discharge of seamen.
(v) Arranging for medical help if required.
(vi) Settling the account of wages of discharged seamen.
(vii) Despatching them to Madras or Bombay, or finding them any employment with a view to send them home.
(viii) Attending to all the requisitions in the Board of Trade's instructions to Consuls.

Read— also the following paper :—

From H. DALY, Esq., Officiating Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, the 12th August 1895, No. 2628 I.

In continuation of the telegram marked in the margin, I am directed to forward under flying seal, for favour of delivery to Lieutenant-General H. McLeod, the accompanying letter of appointment recognizing him as British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal.

No. 2484 I., dated the 29th July 1895.

2. I am also to forward copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and to request that the instructions therein conveyed may, under the orders of His Excellency the Governor, receive all due attention.

Political No. 56, dated the 26th June 1895 (with enclosures).

Enclosures.

Despatch from the Right Honourable Mr. H. H. FOWLER, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 26th June 1895, No. 56, Political.

In transmitting, for the information of your Excellency's Government, a copy of the correspondence* that has passed with the Foreign Office in respect to the proposal that Lieutenant-General H. McLeod should be recognized by the Foreign Office as British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal, I have to call the attention of your Excellency's Government to the necessity of avoiding frequent changes in this post, as should the change be made without the formal sanction of the Secretary of State, the Consular powers would cease.

* From Foreign Office, 14th September 1894, and enclosure.
To Foreign Office, 3rd December 1894.
From Foreign Office, 1st January 1895.
To Foreign Office, 28th May 1895.
From Foreign Office, 11th June 1895.

2. In every instance of a fresh nomination being made, it will be desirable to make the announcement to this office by telegram.

Foreign Office,
14*th September* 1894.

Sir,

I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to transmit to you, herewith, a copy of a memorandum received from Her Majesty's Consul at Leghorn, relative to the agreements brought to that port by the steamship S.S. *Skerryvore*.

August 27th.

I am to request that you will move Mr. Secretary Fowler to inform Lord Kimberley, if possible, of the history and nature of the arrangements by which an Indian Officer acts as Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) H. PERCY ANDERSON.

To the Under Secretary of State, India Office.

The S.S. *Skerryvore* which arrived here on the 12th instant had three separate agreements, an English one taken out at Cardiff for the present voyage, and two lascar agreements surviving from previous voyages. The vessel had been to Pondicherry and the British Consular Agent there had on both lascar agreements made the customary endorsement (Fee 17) without affixing the Consular adhesive stamp. There was a further endorsement certifying that the lascars had made their marks in the Consular officer's presence also without fee stamp.

On reference to the Foreign Office list, 1894, it would appear that there was no British Consular Agent at Pondicherry at the beginning of this year. The signature on the agreements was illegible. The endorsements had been made last May.

Leghorn,
27*th August* 1894.

India Office,
3*rd December* 1894.

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th September, and in reply to invite your attention to the correspondence noted in the margin, which describes the circumstances in which Indian officers were appointed to act as Consular Agents at Pondicherry and Karikal.

Letter from Foreign Office, 10th September 1861.
Letter to Foreign Office, 27th September 1861.

2. It will be seen that these Consular appointments arose out of the convention with France for the regulation of cooly emigration to the French Colonies of Guiana and Guadeloupe.

(Signed) A. GODLEY.

To the Under Secretary of State, Foreign Office.

Foreign Office,
1*st January* 1895.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 3rd ultimo, respecting the circumstances in which Indian officers have been appointed to act as Consular Agents at Pondicherry and Karikal, I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to state that so long as the names of the officers selected for these posts by the Government of India are not submitted for the approval of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, they should be restricted from performing the duties which only Consular officers can perform.

Such duties are the services which Consular officers are obliged to render to British ships under the Merchant Shipping Act and it is thought that, if the action of the Consular Agents is limited to emigration duties, all that is required will be done.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) E. GREY.

To the Under Secretary of State, India Office.

India Office,
28*th May* 1895.

Sir,

With reference to Sir E. Grey's letter of the 1st January, I am directed by Mr. Fowler to forward, for the information of the Earl of Kimberley, copy of a letter from the Government of India, No. 87, Internal, dated 8th May 1895, with enclosure, submitting a proposal that Lieutenant-General H. McLeod should be recognised by the Foreign Office as British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal.

Should Lord Kimberley see no objection, I am desired to request that the necessary steps may be taken to give effect to this proposal.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

To the Under Secretary of State, Foreign Office.

Foreign Office,
11*th June* 1895.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 28th ultimo, respecting the proposed recognition of Lieutenant-General H. McLeod as British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal, I am directed by the Earl of Kimberley to state that in considering the suggested appointment some difficulty may be anticipated if the officer holding a post under this office is frequently changed, as, should the change be made without the formal sanction of the Secretary of State, the consular powers would cease.

In referring you to the correspondence between this office and your department in August and September 1874, and August 1875, I am to ask that the Secretary of State for India in Council will be good enough to favour Lord Kimberley with his observations on this point.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) H. PERCY ANDERSON.

To the Under Secretary of State, India Office.

Foreign Office,
6*th July* 1895.

Sir,

I have had under my consideration a letter from the India Office recommending you for the post of British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal, and I concur in that recommendation. You are accordingly constituted and appointed British Consular Agent at those places.

A copy of the General Consular Instructions will be forwarded to you together with an official stamp and seal.

I have to call your attention to Chapters IX and X of the instructions relating to fees and accounts. On such subjects you should correspond direct with this office.

No salary is assigned to this appointment and it will give you no claim on Her Majesty's Home Government when your services may cease. You will, however, be allowed to retain for your own use 75 per cent. of the actual fees collected in stamps under the Consular Fees (General) Order in Council, 1892. At the end of the first four completed quarters after your appointment you will report to this office the amount of fees so collected. During the provisional period the permission granted to Consular officers to retain one-half of Part III and four-fifths of Part IV of the table of fees is suspended.

You will take the proper steps for procuring your recognition by the local authorities, and you will send to this office your official signature and seal.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) SALISBURY.

To Lieutenant-General McLeod, Pondicherry.

Order—No. 728, Public, dated 2nd September 1895.

Communicated and the letter of appointment forwarded to General H. McLeod, British Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal.

2. In future, nominations to the office of British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal will be communicated to the India Office by telegraph.

(True Extract.)

[signature]
for *Chief Secretary.*

To General H. McLeod, British Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal.
,, the Political Department.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

When given for copying ____
When copied ____
When examined ____
When signed ____ } 189 .

Read again G.O., No. 189 , dated

Current No.

Enclosures to C. No.

Order of Government	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Letter of Government.							
Statement with ditto.							
Papers not filed up, being meant for despatch in original.							

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only