

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1433	Press Mis.
Dated	15-11-	1918/7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
15th November 1867.*

Read the following :—

No. 106. Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council; dated India Office, London, 14th September 1867, No. 133.
I herewith forward a copy of a Report* from the Chairman of the Emigration Board, which has been communicated to

* Dated 14th August 1867.

this office by desire of his Grace the Secretary of State for the Colonies, suggesting alterations in the arrangements on board Coolie vessels, regarding the distilling apparatus and galleys. I desire that your Excellency in Council will take such measures as you may deem necessary for the adoption of the proposed alterations.

From T. W. C. MURDOCH, Esq., Chairman of the Emigration Board, to Sir F. ROGERS, Bart., &c., &c., &c.; dated Emigration Board, 14th August 1867.

In some recent reports on Coolie ships from Dr. Pearse, one of our most experienced Surgeons, he made two suggestions which appear to us worthy of attention—

First.—He suggested that the distilling apparatus should be so arranged as that the waste warm sea-water could be made available for the washing of the emigrants; and

Second.—That the galleys should be placed on platforms of firebricks laid in mortar, not less than three deep, and raised on wooden platforms a few inches off the deck. Dr. Pearse stated that, for want of precautions of this description, the decks of ships in which he had served have more than once caught fire.

2. We transmitted these suggestions to the Emigration Agents in India, with instructions to act upon them in the future fitting of emigrant ships. But we have been informed, in answer, that the fitting of the ships is done entirely by the Indian authorities, and that the Agents had, therefore, no power to carry out the alterations we have recommended. Under these circumstances, I would submit, for the consideration of the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, that the Secretary of State for India should be moved to issue such instructions to the Indian Government as will ensure attention to the points in question. The alteration in the fitting of the galleys is a matter, the importance of which cannot be exaggerated. If we are to accept Dr. Pearse's statement, the mode in which the galleys have heretofore been fitted, makes it a matter of astonishment that no catastrophe has hitherto occurred.

No. 5806.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Fort Saint George, with a request that the suggestions made in the 1st paragraph of Mr. Murdoch's letter may be adopted.

(By Order, &c.)

HOME DEPARTMENT, SIMLA,
25th October 1867.

(Signed) A. H. HARRINGTON,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 107. ORDER THEREON, 15th November 1867, No. 1433.

Communicated to the Protector of Emigrants for such remarks as he may wish to offer on Mr. Murdoch's suggestions.

(True Extract).

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Protector of Emigrants.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Public.

No. 132.

INDIA OFFICE;
London, the 11th September 1867.

To His Excellency the Right Honble the Governor General of India in Council.

SIR,—I herewith forward a copy of a Report* from the Chairman of the Emigration Board, which has been communicated

* Dated 11th August 1867.

to this Office by desire of his Grace the Secretary of State for the Colonies, suggesting alterations in the arrangements on board coolie vessels, regarding the distilling apparatus and galleys. I desire that your Excellency in Council will take such measures as you may deem necessary for the adoption of the proposed alterations.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE.

EMIGRATION BOARD,
The 14th August 1867.

To Sir Fred. Rogers, Bart., &c., &c., &c.

SIR,—In some recent reports on coolie ships from Dr. Pearse, one of our most experienced Surgeons, he made two suggestions which appear to us worthy of attention,—

First.—He suggested that the distilling apparatus should be so arranged as that the waste warm sea-water could be made available for the washing of the emigrants; and

Second.—That the galleys should be placed on platforms of firebricks laid in mortar, not less than three deep, and raised on wooden platforms a few inches off the deck. Dr. Pearse stated that, for want of precautions of this description, the decks of ships in which he had served have more than once caught fire.

2. We transmitted these suggestions to the Emigration Agents in India, with instructions to act upon them in the future fitting of emigrant ships. But we have been informed, in answer, that the fitting of the ships is done entirely by the Indian Authorities, and that the Agents had, therefore, no power to carry out the alterations we have recommended. Under these circumstances, I would submit, for the consideration of the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, that the Secretary of State for India should be moved to issue such instructions to the Indian Government as will ensure attention to the points in question. The alteration in the fitting of the galleys is a matter the importance of which cannot be exaggerated. If we are to accept Dr. Pearse's statement, the mode in which the galleys have heretofore been fitted, makes it a matter of astonishment that no catastrophe has hitherto occurred.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) T. W. C. MURDOCH.

No. 6806

COPY forwarded to the Government of *St. Saint George*, with a request that the suggestions made in the 1st paragraph of Mr. Murdoch's letter may be adopted.

By Order, &c.,

HOME DEPARTMENT;
SIMLA,
The 25th October 1867.

Asst. Secy.
Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Very truly
yours

Public Works Dept

From

Under Secretary, Gov. of

Indiana - Home Dept

No. 3806

2/20 Oct
by 11 Nov.

9881-766

3/20/82
1821

Transmitted despatch from

City of State regarding certain

alterations in Public Works

with reference to the district

Engineering apparatus and

galleys

Not an order

To the Sec. of the State

W

13- Nov 1881 11:14 32

Communicated to

the Secretary of the State

and the Secretary of the

Department of the Interior

for such remarks as he

may wish to offer in

W. Murdoch's suggestion

9875