

1. Number of pages 1-22
2. Date of receipt 27-4-37
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1-20,000-10-10-37

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public
DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	767	Press
		Mis.
	16-18 (C 5-6-4871)	
Dated	5-6-	10-18/1

Not to be folded or roughly handled

27-4-37

Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Department,
5th June 1871.

No. 16. Read the following letter from the Officiating Protector of Emigrants, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 23rd March 1871, No. 27-W. :—

I have the honour to forward copies of two reports from the Karikal Consular Agent, reporting the embarkation of 153 souls* on board the *Souvenance* for Martinique on the 20th instant and of an accident which occurred to one of the female emigrants while in the act of mounting the companion-ladder hanging down the ship's side.

* 103 men.
47 women.
3 children.

2. I think that an order might be issued that women-coolies should be hoisted on board by means of a chair if they prefer it, but any rules regarding the construction of companion-ladders seem to me unnecessary.

From the British Consular Agent at Karikal, to the Protector of Emigrants, Madras, dated Karikal, 20th March 1871, No. 47.

The following emigrants embarked from hence this day, for Martinique, on the French Ship *Souvenance*, Captain Bruneteau :—

103 men,
47 women, and
3 children.
—
153 persons.

From the British Consular Agent at Karikal, to the Protector of Emigrants, Madras, dated Karikal, 21st March 1871, No. 48.

I have the honour to report a rather serious accident which happened to one of the emigrant women while embarking yesterday morning on board the *Souvenance*. She was crawling nervously up the companion-ladder and was half-way up the side of the vessel, which was rolling rather heavily, when the boat below, which was tossing about very violently, dashed against the lower part of the companion-ladder, and brought it suddenly and sharply in contact with the ship. The left foot of the unfortunate woman, partly on and partly over one of the wooden rungs, was so shockingly jammed between the rung and the ship's side that the big toe was cut off as clean as if it had been amputated by a surgical instrument. I visited the *Souvenance* later in the day accompanied by the Chef de Service and Dr. Croc, of Karikal, and, as we deemed it inexpedient to send the poor creature on to Martinique in her disabled state, especially as both Dr. Croc and Dr. Vezia were of opinion that the future effects of this wound would probably be still more serious, I ordered her to be landed and conveyed to the Karikal Hospital, where she now lies in a precarious condition. Dr. Croc assures me that it is impossible yet to predict what turn these injuries may take, but promises to report progress to me daily.

2. The person perhaps more immediately responsible for this accident was the first Officer of the *Souvenance*, as he made, or *allowed*, all the women to ascend the companion-ladder—no easy thing for an active man to do, and a still more difficult achievement for a poor bewildered woman who perhaps sees the sea and a ship for the first time in her life. Apart, however, from the danger, I consider that the indecency involved in making women ascend the companion-ladder of a large ship is too evident to need insisting upon, and I would suggest, therefore, that, in all future embarkations of emigrant women, the same means should be used for taking them on board as is used in the case of European women—a “chair” and that some such order to this effect should be issued by Government. I would also suggest, as the “moral” of this accident, that the rungs of the companion-ladder of an emigrant ship should be made of stout, strong rope instead of wood.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
5th June 1871.*

Rope rungs are just as good as wooden ones, and are less liable to conduce to such an accident as it has now been my duty to record.

No. 17. ORDER THEREON, 5th June 1871, No. 767.

The Government regret the occurrence of the accident reported in the foregoing papers.

2. The risk of such accidents might easily be avoided in future by hoisting female emigrants on board by means of a chair and tackle, and the Government are of opinion that such an apparatus should be provided for the purpose.

3. Resolved that this opinion be brought to the notice of the French Government at Pondicherry.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 18. To His Excellency M. MICHAUX, Provisional Governor of the French Settlements in India, dated Fort St. George, 5th June 1871, No. 768.

I have the honour to forward, for your Excellency's perusal, the enclosed copy of correspondence relative to an accident which recently occurred during the embarkation of female emigrants at Karikal. I beg to suggest that on such occasions a chair and tackle should be provided for hoisting females on boardship, and shall be glad if your Excellency concur with me, and direct that orders be issued accordingly to the Officers of your Administration charged with the supervision of future embarkations.

Accept Sir, &c.,
(Signed) NAPIER.

British Consular Agency
Hankow 21st March 1871

N^o 48

To
The Protector of Emigrants
Madras

Sir,
I have the honor to report a rather serious accident which happened to one of the Emigrant women while embarking yesterday morning on board the "Souveraine". She was crawling nervously up the companion ladder and was half way up the side of the vessel, which was rolling rather heavily, when the boat below, which was tossing about very violently dashed against the lower part of the companion ladder, and brought it suddenly and sharply in contact with the ship. The left foot of the unfortunate woman - partly on and partly over, one of the wooden rungs - was so shockingly jammed between the rung and the ship's side that the lig tie was cut off as clean as if it had been amputated by a surgical instrument. I visited the "Souveraine" later in the day accompanied by the Chef de Service, and Doctor Croe, of Hankow, and as we deemed it inexpedient to send the poor creature on to Martinique in her disabled state - especially as both Doctor Croe and Doctor Heyria were of opinion that the future effects of this wound would probably

Cont. of 18703 3110715

PUBLIC.

To
THE PROTECTOR OF EMIGRANTS.

Dated June, 6th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. June 1871, No. 767.

JUNE
Nos. 16-18.

Passing orders with reference to an accident reported to have occurred to a female emigrant while embarking on board the *Souveraine* for Martinique, and suggesting to the French Government that on such occasions a chair and tackle should be provided for hoisting females on board-ship.

probably be still more serious. I ordered her to be banded and conveyed to the Harital Hospital, where she now lies in a precarious condition. Doctor Crook assures me that it is impossible yet to predict what turn these injuries may take; but promises to report progress to me daily.

The person, perhaps, more immediately responsible for this accident was the First Officer of the "Souramance" as he made or allowed - all the women to ascend the companion ladder - no easy thing for an active man to do, and a still more difficult achievement for a poor bewildered woman who, perhaps sees the sea and a ship for the first time in her life. Apart however, from the danger, I consider that the indecency involved in making women ascend the companion ladder of a large ship is too evident to need insisting upon, and I would suggest, therefore, that in all future embarkations of Emigrant women, the same means should be used for taking them on board as is used in the case of European Women - a chair - and that some such order to this effect should be issued by Government. I would also suggest - as the moral of this accident, that the rungs of the companion ladder of an Emigrant ship should be made of

4?
of stout, strong rope instead of wood - Rope rungs are just as good as wooden ones, and are less liable to conduce to such an accident as it has now been my duty to record.

I have the honor to be very
Signed, B. Fischer Esq. M. P.
British Consular Agent.

Yours Truly

J. H. Garstin

Offy Protector of Emigrants

1871.

2

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Harikal, 20th March 1871.

From

The British Consular Agent at
Harikal.

To

The Protector of Emigrants
Madras.

Sir,

The following Emigrants
embarked from hence this day, for Martinique,
on the French Ship "Souverance", Captain Bruneteau

103 Men
47 Women and
3 Children

153. Persons.

I have the honor to be &c

/Signed/ Bowness Gischer
Captain L.C.

British Consular Agent Harikal.

/True Copy/

J. H. Austin.

Offy Protector of Emigrants

See Packet - 5000/71

24 2/5 June 71
See B. 13. 4 71/1

N^o $\frac{W}{27}$

From

Protector's Office

Madras 23 March 1871

J H Garstin Esqr

Offy Protector of Emigrants

To

The Honorable R S. Ellis C B

Chief Secretary to Government

Fort St George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward Copies
of 2 reports from the Harikal Consular Agent
reporting the embarkation of 153 ^x Souls on board
the "Souverance" for Martinique on the 20th Inst^{ce} and
of an accident which occurred to one of the female
Emigrants while in the act of mounting the
companion ladder hanging down the ship's side.

2
I think that an order might be
issued that women coolies should be hoisted
on board by means of a chair if they prefer it
but any rules regarding the construction of
companion ladders seem to me unnecessary.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant

J H Garstin.

Offy Protector of Emigrants

* 103 Men
47 Women
3 Children

In Public - 5600/71

23.75 June 1771
Jan 13. 1871

218/4
R 46
230/5
246

11

~~1871~~ 1871 Report
of
The Protector of Aborigines
The North Queensland
to Government

1871 } March 1871
Rea 25

No 560. Index

Forwarded Copies of 2
Reports from the Honorable
Commissioner of the
the under the fund 53 shd
on board the clearance
The report that from the
should be included on board
by the name of a Chair

5-134
Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT:

Read the following letter from
the Protector of Emigrants
dated 23 March 1871 No. 40.
Order thereon 5 June 1871 No. 767

The Govt. regret
the occurrence of the accident
reported in the foregoing
papers.

2. The risk of such
accidents might easily
be avoided, in future, by
hoisting female emigrants
on board by means of a
chair and tackle; and
the Govt. are of opinion that
such an apparatus should
be provided for the purpose.

3. Resolved that
this opinion be brought
to the notice of the French
Govt. at Pondicherry.

J. D. S.

2.
The Protector of Emigrants. dated 12/6

M
[Signature]

*Accident to a female
found at Madras.*

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the

Protector of Emigrants dated
23rd March 1871, N^o 48.

Order thereon

The Government re-
- gret the occurrence of the
- accident reported in the
- foregoing papers, but they
- do not consider it neces-
- sary to adopt any measures
- with reference to the recom-
- mendations made by the
- Consular Agent Karikal.
When the weather is so
boisterous as to render the
embarkation of the female
emigrants

*I think they
should have a
chain - it gives
little extra trouble
& it is a link to
run the risk of
accidents.*

*J.P.
A.V.*

Bot. of 118 Madras.

To

Dated
Recd. } 18 , No.

Nos.

emigrants attended with
dangers, the Consular Agent
should represent the fact
to the French authorities,
and the Govt do not doubt
that on such representation
special arrangements will
be made.

H.S.
M

I think that the
circumstance should be
brought to the notice of
the French authorities
at Pondichery so that
we should express the
opinion that a chair
might be provided.

A.

Accident to a female
emigrant.

Dept. of 1871 & Gardens.

To
Public
The Protector of Emigrants.

Dated June 5 }
Recd. 1871, No. 767.

Nos. 15. 18.

Having orders with reference
to an accident reported to
have occurred to a female
emigrant while embarking
on board the "Dovermouth"
for Marseilles and making
arrangements to the French
Govt. that on such occasions
a chair and tackle should
be provided for hoisting female
emigrants.

Letter circulate

Loz

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
J. G. G.

and 13th with
copy of No 767.

As above

18

Public Department.
No. 768.

To,
His Excellency M. ~~Boutin~~ Michaux
Provincial Govt. of the French Settlements in
India.

Sir,
I have the honor
to forward, for your Excellen-
cy's perusal, the enclosed
copy of correspondence
relative to an accident
which recently occurred
during the embarkation
of female Emigrants at
Karikal. I beg to
suggest that on such
occasions a chair and
tackle should be pro-
vided for hoisting fe-
males on board ship, and
shall be glad if your
Excellency concur with
me, and direct that
orders be issued accord-
ingly to the Officers of
your Administration
charged with the
supervision

supervision of future
embarkations.

L.R. Accept Sir
St. Napier

Sub Lt George
15 June 1871