

Public (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 003 & 004

Dated 24th June 1898

INDEXED. (not indexed)

[Despatch Abstract.]

Furnishing the point of India
with the opinion of this point regarding
the grant of certificates of identity to
seafarers of India proceeding to Europe.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

India Office,
London, 3rd March 1898.

Political.
No. 23.

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

MY LORD,

It not unfrequently happens that natives of India, students or others, who have come to this country, desire to obtain here passports to enable them to travel to Turkey or other foreign countries in which the possession of a passport is necessary or desirable. In such cases difficulty often arises from want of evidence to show that the applicant is a British subject and therefore entitled to a passport. A recent instance is that of Mirza Muhammad Aslam Beg, who states that he is an inhabitant of the Punjab, born at "Jailam," recently residing at Lahore. His grandfather (Mirza Muhammad Azam Beg), he says, is living in India and was in the service of the Indian Government, and his father is a doctor at Constantinople. He wishes to go there to join his father. Mirza Muhammad Aslam Beg has produced a certificate of identity from an Indian barrister residing in this country, who, however, was not acquainted with him in India, and presumably testified to his identity on the faith of Mirza Muhammad Aslam Beg's own statements.

2. I desire that your Excellency in Council will consider whether any measures can and ought to be taken to press upon Indian students and others coming to this country the desirability of their providing themselves with an authoritative certificate of identity from some officer of Government in their own district or province, and whether any precautions are in your opinion required before passports are issued in this country in circumstances such as those of Mirza Muhammad Aslam Beg above referred to.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servant,

GEORGE HAMILTON.

No. 801.

FROM

H. LUSON, Esq.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

The Chief Secy. to the Govt. of Madras.

Home Department
Public.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
10 MAY 1898
Simla, the 9 May 1898.

SIR,

I AM directed to forward, for the information of the
Governor in Council,

a copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 23-Political, dated the 3rd March 1898, regarding the grant of passports to natives of India when in Europe.

2. It will be seen that, in paragraph 2 of the Despatch, the Government of India are asked to consider whether measures can or ought to be taken to press upon native students and others going to England from this country the desirability of providing themselves with an authoritative certificate of identity from a Government officer, in order to meet the difficulty experienced at the India Office in granting passports to such persons who desire to travel in foreign countries.

3. It appears to the Governor General in Council that the proposed measure should be quite feasible, and that a District Officer granting a certificate of identity might at the same time endorse on the certificate his opinion whether the person to whom it is given is a suitable person to receive a passport at the India Office to enable him to travel in other countries. I am to ask for
the opinion of His Excellency in Council
on the matter.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

H. Luson

Deputy Secy. to the Govt. of India.

C. No 1674

- (1) H.M.
- (2) H.E. the Governor

SUBJECT.

Certificates of identity
for natives proceeding
to England.

FOR ORDERS.

Please see the current & its
before. The Govt. of India
has apparently made up
its mind that the advisability
of providing themselves with
certificates of identity should
be pressed upon natives
proceeding to England. The
Govt. is only asked whether
this proposed measure is
feasible.

Submitted that there need
be no difficulty in arranging
for the issue by Divisional
Officers (the Government of the

districts in this Presidency
would make it inconvenient
to impose his duties upon
District Officer as is suggested
by the Govt. of India.) The
Certificate might merely
state that A.B. who has
applied for this certificate
and whose signature is
affixed, is the son of
C.D. and lives at E, & that
he is proceeding to England.

The Govt. of India suggests
that the Officer granting the
Certificate might endorse
upon it his opinion whether
the applicant is a suitable
person to receive a passport
to enable him to travel in
other countries. On such
consideration the Officer is
to form his opinion is
not stated. & a question

I think it ^{is} better
that the C.O. of the District
should issue the certificate.
Persons wishing to go to
England will almost
always be resident
at Dist. H. 2 or
just can easily go
there

RS

RS

deal would of course
depend upon the country
to which the person might
eventually wish to travel. A
violent Muhammadan storm
it might be advisable to
keep from going to Turkey
might safely be supplied
with a passport to travel in
Spain. The endorsement of
the Dist. Officer on the subject
used obviously be of no
value. It used naturally
become a matter of mere
routine to endorse upon
the certificate a statement
that the person named
might be granted a
passport. Under the
circumstances it is submitted
that the India should be
recommended to give up
the idea of the endorsement.

yes
see below
↓

Such cases
23/5/98 will be few &
may be specially
treated. India may be told
this & that no general
endorsement of any value
could be given. 24.6.98

RS
24/6/98

1. 11.6.18
15.21.6.28

Public Department.

H.E. the Governor ✓
(Letter to the Secy of India)

Certificates of identity for natives

C.No.1674

proceeding to England.

ORDER No 803, d/24 June 1898
mva

The Govt. of India will be
addressed.

Letter No 804.

To

The Secy. to the Govt. of
India, Home Dept., (Public).

Sir,

With reference to ^{Mr. Lucas'} ~~your~~ letter
No. 801, d/9th May 1898, enclosing a
copy of a despatch from the Secy. of
State regarding the grant of certifi-
cates of identity to natives of India
proceeding to Europe, I am directed
to state that H.E. the Governor in
Council anticipates no difficulty in
arranging for the grant of such certi-
ficates by District Officers. With re-
gard to the proposal that the officer
granting the certificates should en-
dorse on it his opinion whether the
person to whom it is given is a suit-
able person to receive a passport to
enable him to travel in other countries

His

His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that in the absence of information as to the country for which ~~the~~ ^{likely to be} a passport is required, the District Officer ^{could} ~~hardly~~ ^{possibly} record an ~~endorsement~~ ^{endorsement} which would be of any real value. Such an endorsement would probably become a matter of routine and as such worse than useless. I am therefore to suggest that any cases in which the authorities at the India Office have reason to doubt the desirability of granting a passport should continue to be the subject of special enquiry.

I have etc.

/from orders/

MX
14/6/98

15/6/98

When given for copying 23/6
When copied 23/6 } 1898.
When examined 23/6
When signed

READ AGAIN G.O., No. , DATED
189

CURRENT No.

MEASURES TO G. No

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

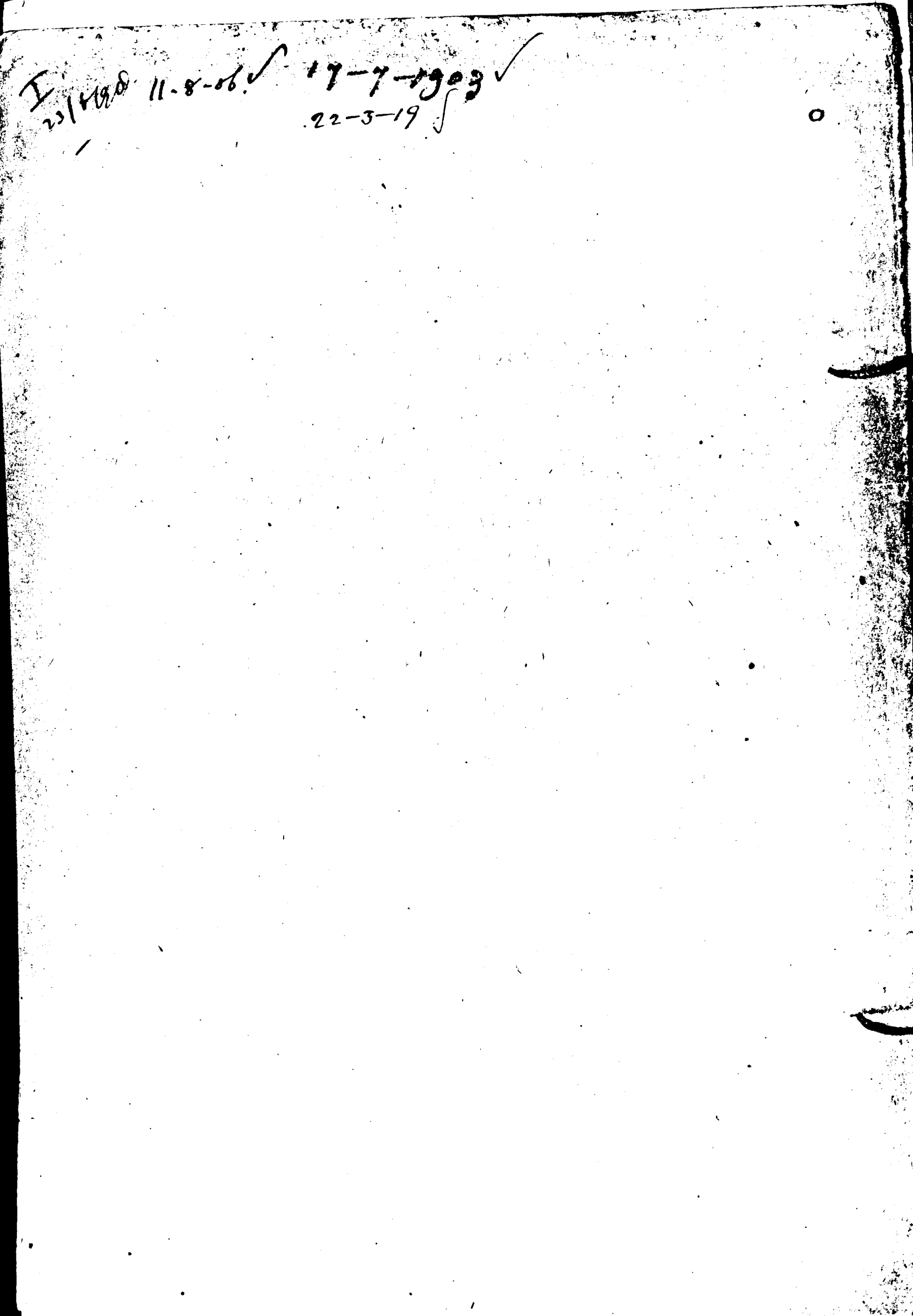
ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

MEASUREMENT WITH DETTO.

LETTERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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I 23/11/98 11-8-06 ✓ 17-7-1903 ✓
22-3-19 ✓