M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-23.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 640	Press ~~Mis.~~
7-72	
Dated 26-4- 1860.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, for the month of April 1860.

No. 71. Read the following letter from W. C. GIBSON, Esq., Colonial Secretary, Colombo, to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government Fort Saint George, dated Colombo, 7th April 1860, No. 35.

With reference to your letter, No. 435 of the 21st ultimo, and to previous correspondence on the subject, I am directed to transmit, for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor of Madras in Council, copy of a letter from the Master Attendant here, and of the reply, as also copy of a communication to the Master Attendant of Tuticorin.

From J. A. PRITCHARD, Esq., Master Attendant, Colombo; to the Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary, dated Colombo, 5th April 1860.

In reply to your letter of to-days date, relative to the employment of the English Divers in the service of the Madras Government, I have the honor to report that Mr. Barton, the chief Diver and his Assistant, Mr. Farmer, have agreed to go; but Mr. Shalletto, being in ill health, requests to be sent Home according to the terms of his agreement. The terms Mr. Barton requires are, that he be paid £ 7 per week, to find himself entirely, except a little Spirit when diving, that his passage to and fro is to be found him and that nothing in this arrangement is to viciate any of the terms of his former agreement with the Government of Ceylon when he returns to Colombo. Mr. Farmer agrees to go for £3 per week and his passage to and fro and to find himself except in Spirit, as aforesaid. They both require an advance. Mr. Barton of £ 10 and Farmer of £ 5, which I think is but reasonable. With regard to the question of the usefulness of the English Divers, I beg to observe, that they are most useful and valuable as a check upon the Native Divers and Head Men, with regard to the nature and limits of the ground to be fished, but they by no means conduce to the fishing or the value thereof.

A passage for these men has been secured by the Schooner "Elizabeth," which sails on Saturday for Tuticorin, I therefore request instructions for these men as to whom they are to report themselves, and authority for their advance and passage money.

From JAMES SWAN, Esq., to J. A. PRITCHARD, Esq., Master Attendant, dated Colombo, 5th April 1860.

With reference to your letter, No. 21 of this day's date, I am directed to approve the terms upon which you have engaged the services of the Diver, Mr. Barton, and his Assistant, Mr. Farmer, to be employed in the service of the Madras Government, and to request that you will direct them, on their arrival at Tuticorin, to report themselves to the Master Attendant at that place. You are authorised to advance the sum of £10 to Mr. Barton and £5 to Mr. Farmer.

From JAMES SWAN, Esq., to the Master Attendant, Tuticorin, dated Colombo, 7th April 1860.

I am directed to acquaint you that at the request of the Madras Government, the services of an English Diver and his Assistant have been secured for the service of that Government, and I am to transmit to you, copy of a letter from the Master Attendant here, showing the terms upon which they have been engaged.

The Divers have been instructed to place themselves under your orders on their arrival at Tuticorin.

No. 72. ORDER THEREON, 26th April 1860, No. 640.

Paragraph 1. In the letter from this Government, dated 21st ultimo, No. 435, now acknowledged by the Ceylon Government, it was intimated that the lateness of the season did not admit of a successful examination of the Pearl Banks off Tinnevelly, and that in consequence no engagement should be entered into with the European Divers in Ceylon. The Government learn from the correspondence forwarded by the Colonial Secretary that notwithstanding this intimation two Divers have been engaged and

Mr. Barton.
Mr. Farmer.

have already been despatched to Tuticorin. Under these circumstances there seems to be no alternative but to direct the Collector of Tinnevelly to make the most of their services even at this late season and report the result in due course.

2. According to the engagement entered into by the Ceylon Government, Mr. Barton will receive a weekly allowance of seven pounds and Mr. Farmer of three pounds, besides a little Spirit when diving, and a passage to and fro. The advance of ten and five pounds which they have respectively received in Ceylon, will be recovered from them and credited to the Ceylon Government.

3. A copy of the Colonial Secretary's letter and of its enclosures with the above proceedings will be forwarded direct to the Collector of Tinnevelly for his information and guidance, a copy likewise being sent to the Board of Revenue.

4. The Collector will direct the return of the Divers to Ceylon as soon as he considers that the object of their employment has been sufficiently accomplished.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Revenue Dept.

No 649

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 26th April 1860.

Read the following letter from the Colonial Secretary Colombo.

Transmits for information Copies of correspondence between himself and the Master Attendant at Colombo relative to the employment of English Divers in the Service of the Madras Government.

Received 7th April 1860 No 355

P. In the letter from this Government dated 21st ultimo No 1155 now acknowledged by the Ceylon Government, it was intimated that the lateness of the season did not admit of a successful examination of the Pearl banks off Tinnevelly, and that in consequence

consequence no engagement should be entered into with the European Divers in Ceylon.

The Government learns from the correspondence forwarded by the Colonial Secretary that notwithstanding this intimation two Divers have been engaged and have already been dispatched to Tuticorin. Under these circumstances there seems to be no alternative but to direct the Collector of Tinnevelly to make the most of their services even at this late season and report the result with other courses.

2. According to the engagement entered into by the Ceylon Government Mr Barton will receive a weekly allowance of seven pounds and Mr

Mr Barton
Mr Farmer.

Farmer of three pounds ten besides a little spirit when Diving, and a passage to and fro. The allowance of ten and five pounds which they have respectively received in Ceylon, will be recovered from them and credited to the Ceylon Government.

Ordered that a copy of the Colonial Secretary's letter and of its enclosures with the above proceedings will be forwarded direct to the Collector of Tinnevelly for his information and guidance, a copy likewise being sent to the Board of Revenue.

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N.B.

4 The Collector will direct the return of the Divers to Ceylon as soon as he considers that the object of their employment has been sufficiently accomplished

1 Copies to Bd of Rev Circ. 26
1 Coll. of Tinnevelly 3 with papers.
1 Accountant General
3 Civil Auditors

R.D. Rw S-6

31-3-60

copy in a Letter to Engr.
of 1-6-1860 No 54

copy to the Board of Rev
& collector Limerick
of 26-6-60