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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No. 468	Press / Mis.
Dated 5 8 6. 1874	196—

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1 N 18 Marine Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Appointments.

Read the following

No. 60.

It is requested that the above heading, with number and date of this communication, may be quoted in any subsequent correspondence on this subject.

Government of India,

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Fort William, the 18*th May* 1874.

To

CAPTAIN J. BYTHESEA, R. N., V. C.

SIR,

HER Majesty's Government having, with the concurrence of the Right Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council, nominated you for the appointment of Consulting Naval Officer for the Marine Department of the Government of India, I am directed to transmit for your information a copy of the Marine notification of this date, No. 5, announcing your appointment in the *Government Gazette*, and to convey to you the following instructions for your guidance until the Government of India,—either on your report or as circumstances and the development of your work may render it necessary,—shall see fit to lay down more detailed rules.

2. It is understood that the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State has informed you that from the date of your arrival in Calcutta you will be allowed a salary of Rs. 2,500 a month, with the addition of Rs. 250 a month for house-rent as long as the Government is unable to provide you with suitable quarters; that you will take rank and precedence according to your rank in the Royal Navy; and that His Excellency the Viceroy has been pleased to confer upon you the right of the private *entrée* to Government House.

3. For the present, at any rate, it will be more convenient on all accounts for you to carry on your work in the Military Department, which has since 1867 had the general control of the marine business of the Government of India, and contains the records of the Marine Department since August 1861, those only excepted which,—as having reference to the Commercial Marine, ports and port dues, lighting &c.,—have under recent orders been transferred to the Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce. A room will accordingly be placed at your service in this office, and all correspondence connected with the subjects you may be dealing with will from time to time be furnished you, as you may require them. But the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that, until some months' experience shall have shewn that other arrangements are preferable, all correspondence should be carried on, as heretofore, in the Military Department.

4. The nature of your work is generally indicated in the designation of your appointment. It will include the consideration of applications that have been, or may from time to time be, made for vessels &c. to meet the various marine requirements of particular Governments or Administrations, and of any other matters in regard to which your professional knowledge and experience may enable you to afford useful advice and assistance to the Government. The correspondence herewith made over to you* will render any further explanation on this point needless.

* See annexed list.

5. But by far the most important matter, and the one which you will at once have to take up, is a full and comprehensive review of the various wants and resources of the Government of India in the Marine Department, in order that all practicable economy may be effected and all necessary services efficiently provided for. This will include the consideration of vessels required,—of Dock-yard establishments,—the system of officering the vessels and of providing an effective system of control, so as to ensure a check on extravagance and the certainty of using the Marine Establishments in the best mode for the furtherance of the public service, irrespective of the locality in which they have hitherto been employed, but with as little interference as possible with purely local arrangements.

6. You will probably have already been furnished with and perused the reports of Rear Admiral Sir W. Mends, K. C. B., on the Marine Establishments in India, and the despatch to the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State, No. 4, dated 7th February 1873, copies of which will be found amongst the papers; and you will have learned from them the nature of the questions to be solved, and the difficulty which the Government of India felt in dealing with them in the absence of competent professional advice, whilst concurring generally in the conclusions at which Admiral Mends had arrived.

7. During the next few weeks, it seems desirable that you should devote yourself mainly to investigating these questions in Calcutta, in order that you may be thoroughly acquainted with the wants and resources on this side of India, and in doing this you will receive valuable assistance from Captain Baker, the Master Attendant of Calcutta.

8. Later on it is desirable that you should proceed to Bombay to make a similar enquiry there, and among other matters to report on the best mode of manning and using the turret ships *Abyssinia* and *Magdala*, should their services be at any time required.

9. In the course of your enquiries, should any thing that seems to require early attention come under your notice, you will be so good as to represent it at once, without waiting to submit your detailed report; and I am to add that it will be at all times open to you to confer with me or with Major-General Sir

2/48

Henry Norman, K. C. B., the Member of the Council of the Government of India in charge of the department.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. K. BURNE, *Colonel*,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 61.

Copy of the above forwarded to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, for the information of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, with the request that the Government of Madras may be moved to cause every assistance to be afforded to Captain Bythesea in the prosecution of his inquiries by officers under that Government.

By order,

/Signed/ B. E. Bacon Coll.
Depy. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 62. To the Secy. to Govt., Bombay, Marine Department.
No. 63. To the Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.
No. 64. To the Chief Commissioner, British Burmah.
No. 65. To the Master Attendant.
No. 66. To the Financial Department.
No. 66A. To the Dept. of R. A. & Commerce.
No. 66B. To the Home Department.

Order thereon 28th May 1874, No. 185.

Communicated to the Departments of the Secretariat, and to the Master Attendant, Madras, for information and guidance.

(True Extract)
Donald Campbell
Ag. Under Secretary
for Ag. Chief Secretary.

To
The Revenue Department.

Exd. G. C. Mookerjee.

12 Cc.

10 Calcutta and Bombay
Printed

No 1831.

Revenue 1874 Department

Pors: of Govt Marine Dept

Date 28 May
Rec'd 5 June } 1874

No 185. Ex. Mar.

Communicating for information & guidance Resolution of the Govt of India Marine Dept directing that the Govt of Madras may cause every assistance to be afforded to Captain Bythesea in the prosecution of his inquiries by Officers under this Govt

No 48 Recorded

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