(1) Number of pages 6 Sheets.

(2) Date of repair 27.10.81

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	5402	Press. / Mis.
Dated	12.9.1877	197 .

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Archives 1—10,006—19-4-79.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

28th August 1877, No. 493.

Fees on close Holidays.

Read the following papers :—

No. 36. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th March* 1877, *No.* 1,238.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 4th December 1876, No. 3051, and 18th January 1877, No. 198.

Read also the following letters :—

From J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 20th February 1877, No. 364.

I have the honor to submit the following report with reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 4th December 1876, No. 3051, and 18th January 1877, No.—.

2. On receipt of the Board's Proceedings of the 18th January, I wrote to the Master Attendant, fully explaining my views on the several points raised by the Board, and beg to submit copy* of my letter and the Master Attendant's reply.

* To the Master Attendant, dated 7th February 1877, No. 282.
From the Master Attendant, dated 15th February 1877, No. 1159.

3. The rules† for extra fees originally framed by the Master Attendant referred solely to his department, and were therefore necessarily inapplicable to Custom House officers whose work is entirely different.

† Paragraph 6, Board's Proceedings, dated 24th August 1876, No. 2173.

4. I have now revised the rules and beg to submit a copy thereof, approved by the Master Attendant, for the sanction of the Board.

5. The chief alterations are noticed below :—

First, as regards the days which should be considered close holidays. The list has been corrected so as to include the Christmas and Easter vacations, which have always been allowed to the Custom House. The Master Attendant desires to add Ash Wednesday and Ascension Thursday also. They have not been given as holidays to Custom officers, and I leave it to the Board to retain or expunge them.

To avoid confusion, I have, in Rule 3, defined "the emergent business" which has to be done during holidays without extra remuneration. On this subject I beg to refer the Board to my remarks in paragraphs 9 and 10 of my letter to the Master Attendant.

As to the establishment which should ordinarily be charged for, an omission was made in the letter of the Acting Collector of Sea Customs, dated 20th September 1876, No. 1631, in regard to export work. This I have rectified in Rule 4. Also two Duffadars were put down by Mr. Melville. One will be sufficient.

It will also be observed that I have provided for the attendance of a superior officer of the Custom House and the Marine Department, which is necessary.

A foot-note has been added to the Rule 4, leaving it open to Agents, Captains, and Merchants to obtain the aid of any additional officials on payment of fees.

6. With reference to the question of privileges enjoyed by the Peninsular and Oriental and Messageries Steamers referred to in paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings, dated 4th December 1876, No. 3051, it is my decided opinion,‡ after many years' experience, that no privileges should be allowed to any particular Company, and that same rules should apply to all steamers. The Board will observe that the Master Attendant is also of the same opinion.

‡See paragraphs 11 and 12 of my letter to Master Attendant.

7. The question of permitting coasting steamers to file import manifests after their departure from the roads, referred to in the latter part of paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings quoted above, has already been reported upon in my letter of the 14th December 1876, No. 2267, and does not call for further remarks.

8. With these remarks, I request the early sanction of the Board to the amended rules now submitted.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, to J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieutenant, R.N.R., Master Attendant, Madras, dated Madras, 7th February 1877, No. 282.

In their Proceedings, dated 4th December 1876, No. 3051, the Board make certain proposals for the revision of the rules regarding the payment of extra fees to Custom House and Marine Department officials, also regarding the propriety or otherwise of the extension of British India steam vessels of certain privileges enjoyed by the Peninsular and Oriental and Messageries Maritimes steamers, and request a report to be submitted after communication with you.

2. In my letter, dated 14th December 1876, No. 2267, I reported that the consideration of all these questions might be deferred till the introduction of the new Customs Act, when the rules must again be necessarily revised. The Board in their Proceedings, dated 18th January 1877, state that the question of modifying the Coasting Steamer Rules, evidently referring to the latter part of paragraph 3 of their Proceedings, dated 4th December 1876, No. 3051, may be deferred, but that there is no necessity for postponing the alteration of the rules for the grant of fees and request an early reply on this point.

3. As regards the rules the chief points for consideration are, as observed by the Board in paragraph 2, the establishment which should be ordinarily charged for and the days which should be considered as close holidays.

4. Particulars as to the subordinate establishment to be charged for at the Custom Houses and Marine Offices in the Mofussil and at the Presidency are given in the Revised Rules appended to your letter, dated 13th June 1876, No. 3935, and in paragraph 2 of the Proceedings under reference.

5. I observe, however, that no provision was made for the attendance of a superior officer of the Marine Department or of the Customs House, viz., the Deputy Master Attendant and the Deputy Collector of Sea Customs, &c., whose attendance is indispensably necessary for entering and clearing steamers. No provision is made for the export work such as the granting of boat notes, the register of shipping bills, the weighment of indigo, checking manifests, &c. The marginal establishment is indispensably necessary for this work. I think the rules should be explicit on this point and accordingly propose to alter Rule 4 so as to include these officers.

One Export Manager or his Deputy.
One Clerk for registering shipping bills.
One Clerk for granting boat notes.
One Weigher to attend to weighments, &c.
One Peon.

6. As regards the days which should be considered as close holidays, your rules propose to restrict them to the days marginally noted. According to Clause 2, Section 1, page 1 of the Custom House Manual, the close holidays for the Custom House are Christmas and New Year's

Christmas day, New Year's day, Good Friday, Queen's Birthday, Ash Wednesday, Ascension Day, and all Sundays.

Days, the Queen's Birthday, and those days on which the Madras Bank and the Merchants close their offices. Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day mentioned in your rules are not among these days and may be struck out as far as the Custom House is concerned. At the same time I protest most strongly against the exclusion of the Christmas and Easter vacations from your list. These have always been granted to the Custom House officials at Madras and other ports, and I believe to the Master Attendant's Department, also by all Merchants' Offices and Banks. Compared with other Government Offices, the holidays allowed to the Custom House are few, and I think it would be extremely unfair if Custom House officials should be required to work without

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extra fees during vacations, which are allowed by the mercantile community to themselves and their clerks.

7. You will observe that the Board of Revenue take the view of the case in paragraph 5 of their Proceedings, dated 24th August 1876, No. 2173, and in paragraph 3 of their Proceedings under reference. I accordingly propose to alter your Rule 2 and to include the Christmas and Easter vacations, leaving Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day to be settled as holidays or not by the Board and Government.

8. With reference to Clause 3 of Rule 1, I beg here to remark that under the general orders of Government no Government officer can be *obliged* to work on Sundays; his time on that day is his own, and he has a right to decline to do any work. Though some officials do not, others may, and have a right to, object to do work on Sundays; entering or clearing a ship certainly cannot be characterised as absolutely necessary work.

9. The Board desire that arrangements should be made for the despatch during Christmas and Easter Holidays of *emergent* business as defined in my letter recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 27th August 1874, No. 2410, without the payment of extra fees. The work which has hitherto been performed during these holidays without remuneration is the passing of goods for shipment and into town on application, which has been passed through the office previously and the passing of a few private packages and goods urgently required by tradesman on deposit. The work is of a general kind and two native clerks are told off to do it from day to day.

10. As for entering and clearing steamer, the work is of a special character for which other clerks have to attend specially on requisition made. The practice has always been to charge for their attendance, including that of the Deputy Collector, without whom the work cannot be done. In my letter of 30th July 1874, No. 882, recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 27th August 1874, No. 240, I certainly said that permission was made during the vacations for entering and clearing steamers, but the statement at the end of the paragraph, that for such work no extra remuneration is paid, *was a mistake*. Extra remuneration has *always* been paid both to Deputy Collector and Clerks, &c., for entering and clearing vessels during all holidays; all the other work mentioned in the same has always been done without extra remuneration by the two clerks deputed to attend daily, but entering or clearing cannot be done without other clerks and the Deputy Collector and Master Attendant's Department, who must be present to examine and sign papers. If entering and clearing or any other special work has to be done without fees, the Deputy Collector and clerks, so far as the Custom House is concerned, would be compelled to attend all through the Christmas and Easter Holidays of which they would be deprived and yet not be entitled to any fees for extra work, which would be most unfair.

11. I now proceed to paragraph of the Board's Proceedings. The only privilege which the Peninsular and Oriental and Messageries Maritimes Steamers are allowed and which is not allowed to the British India and other steamers, is that the former are allowed to leave the roads without taking the clearance with them. I would rather take away this privilege from the Peninsular and Oriental and Messageries Steamers than extend it to the British India and other steamers which it is almost impossible to do (*vide* letter to Board, dated 13th June 1876, No. 1026).

12. There is no valid reason *now* why the Peninsular and Oriental, Messageries, and British India Steamers should have any extra privileges because they are mail steamers. They certainly do carry some unimportant mails, but they never allow their porterage of mails to interfere with their cargo arrangements. They are now exactly the same as all other steamers, cargo carriers, and treat their mails and passengers with the supremest indifference. The argument that they are mail steamers is one they constantly urge to try and obtain privileges denied to other Companies, which I always refuse to grant. My opinion is, after many years' experience, that all steamers should be put on the same footing, and the same rules should apply to all.

13. As regards permitting coasting steamers to file import manifests after their departure from the roads, the question relates exclusively to the Custom House and is connected with the coasting steamer rules. I have already reported to the Board that this indulgence has never been allowed even to the Peninsular and Oriental and Messageries, and cannot, in the interests of traders, be granted (*vide* my letter, dated 14th December 1876, No. 2,267).

14. An amended copy of the rules regarding extra fees, embodying the alterations referred to in paragraphs 5 to 7, is herewith forwarded.

15. I request to be favored with your remarks at an early date, so as to enable me to submit my report to the Board.

(True Copy.)

(Signed J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Collector of Sea Customs.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieutenant, R.N.R., Master Attendant, Administrative Department, Madras, to J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, dated Madras, 15th February 1877, No. 1159.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 282, of the 7th instant, furnishing copy of certain revised rules for the levy of fees by Custom and Marine officials for working over-time, and in reply to inform you that, after a careful perusal of the opinions and arguments therein advanced against the exclusion of the Christmas and Easter vacations from the list of close holidays, as submitted to Government by me, I cordially approve of the new rules as framed by you in their application to the Marine Department. I would, however, recommend the addition of Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day to the list of holidays, leaving it to the Board of Revenue to allow or expunge them from the same.

2. I also concur with you in thinking that the time has arrived for placing the Peninsular and Oriental Company's Steamers and Messageries on the same footing as the British India Steam Navigation Company's and other steam vessels both as regards restrictions and privileges, and that therefore the revised rules for the levy of fees should be enforced upon all alike, for, as observed by Government in their Order recorded in Proceedings, No. 420, of date 17th October 1876, Marine Department, special exceptions only give rise to dissatisfaction and will inevitably lead to troublesome questions.

3. In conclusion, I would point out that the rules framed and submitted by me to Government had reference solely to the wants and requirements of this department alone without taking into consideration the circumstances attending the discharge of extraneous work in the Sea Customs Department, and hence I did not enter into any correspondence with you on the subject as I was under the impression that separate rules would doubtless be framed by the Collector of Sea Customs.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Collector of Sea Customs.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Revised Rules.

From J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 5th March 1877, No. 488.

With reference to Board's official memorandum, dated 27th February 1877, No. 361, I have the honor to submit copies of the correspondence marginally noted between the Master Attendant and myself regarding the suggestion of the Collector of Malabar, and to state that it cannot possibly be carried out.

Letter to Master Attendant, dated 28th February 1877, No. 448.
Letter from the Master Attendant, dated 3rd March 1877, No. 1596.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, to J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieutenant R.N.R., Master Attendant, Madras, dated Madras, 28th February 1877, No. 488.

I have the honor to forward herewith, for your information, copy of Board's official memorandum, dated 27th instant, No. 361, and request you will be good enough to favor me with an expression of your opinion on the proposal made by the Collector of Malabar that the fee for the remuneration of Custom House and Marine officials working over-time should take the shape of a fixed charge per ship per hour.

2. As regards the Custom House, when Commanders of Vessels or their Agents apply to discharge or ship cargo on holidays or out of office-hours, the extra fees are charged to the ships, but in cases where merchants apply to clear goods from the beach or do work in the Custom House, &c., out of office-hours, the charge is made against applicants in such cases. The proposal to charge the ships cannot possibly be carried out.

3. The suggestion that the fee should be a *fixed* one per ship per hour could not possibly be carried out. When a number of ships worked at the same time, a large amount of fees than

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necessary would be collected. Moreover, as the same establishment is not always employed on the extra work, it would be impossible to divide the fees equally between the men employed according to their respective salaries.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Collector of Sea Customs.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieutenant, R.N.R., Master Attendant, Madras, to J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, dated 3rd March 1877, No. 1596.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No 1404, dated 1st March 1877, and in compliance therewith to record my disapproval of the suggestion made by the Collector of Malabar in regard to remuneration for working extra time, which, if adopted, would, I feel convinced, lead to complications and to complaints from agents and others that duty is unnecessarily prolonged from hour to hour in order to earn extra fees. The present plan has worked well in this respect on the whole; has been in force for some years, and should not be lightly departed from.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Collector of Sea Customs.

The revised rules for regulating the levy of fees payable to Customs House and Marine officials who may be required to transact business on close holidays or out of office-hours for the convenience of ship-owners, merchants, and others have the Board's approval, and, with a few verbal alterations, are submitted for the sanction of Government with reference to G.O., dated 17th October 1876, No. 420.

2. The rules have been amended in accordance with the instructions of the Board and Government and appear to be complete in every respect. They should be held applicable to all without distinction as already ordered by Government.

3. The Board concur in considering Mr. Logan's suggestion impracticable.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Sub-Secretary.

Referred to the Marine Department for disposal with reference to G.O. in that Department, dated 17th October 1876, No. 420, and Revenue G.O., dated 23rd February 1877, No. 792.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10*th April* 1877.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

No. 294.

Before disposing of the amended rules for regulating the levy of fees payable to Customs and Marine officials on close holidays, the Governor in Council desires to be informed whether it is compulsory on Europeans and Christians to work on Sundays. The rules imply that if extra pay is given, they must work.

2. Ascension day and Ash Wednesday should be omitted from "close holidays."

3. The word "Sundays" should be inserted between the words "other than" and "Christmas" in paragraph 3.

4. In the second clause of paragraph 4, it should be distinctly shown whether any charge will be made. The clause would probably read better if worded thus: "No extra charge," or "no charge" (as the case may be), "will be made for Government boats, &c;" and *for* "payment of *their* fees," "payment of *additional* fees" substituted.

5. The intention of paragraph 5 is obviously that the additional fees paid for Customs and Marine officials should be equally divided between the agents or owners of vessels which may be landing or clearing on the same day.

6. In paragraph 6, the word "first" should be inserted between "is" and "submitted."

7. It is not clear whether it is intended that officers working over-time should receive half of a day's pay from "6 to 7-30 A.M.," or from "5 to 7 P.M." The rate seems excessive. The basis of calculation should, in the opinion of Government, proceed at so much per hour, and twice that "per hour" on close holidays.

8. The Board of Revenue will be requested to reconsider the rules* with reference to these remarks and modify them accordingly.

* Returned in orginal.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
30*th April* 1877.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 37. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated* 14*th May* 1877, *No.* 2210.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 30th April 1877, No. 294, Marine Department.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting Board to reconsider the rules for regulating the levy of fees payable to Customs and Marine officials for working on close holidays.

Communicated to the Collector of Sea Customs for any remarks he may have to offer in communication with the Master Attendant.

2. With reference to paragraph 1 of the Government Order, the Board observe that it cannot be left optional to officers to work or not on Sundays. The Board presume that, at the Madras Customs Office, clerks are detailed in turn for working over-time, and that, as far as possible, Europeans and Native Christians are relieved from the necessity of working on Sundays against their will, but at some of the outports it may not always be possible to dispense with their attendance, especially in the case of the superior officers; if Superintendents of Sea Customs and Masters Attendant may decline to transact business on Sundays, the object of the rules will be in a great measure defeated; the necessity for working on Sundays probably does not arise very frequently at ports other than Madras, where the establishment is sufficiently large to enable arrangements to be made for rele[illegible]ng Christians on that day.

3. With reference to paragraph [illegible] Board understand the intention to be that no charge whatever should be made for [illegible]rnment boats' crews, &c. The Collector will ascertain from the Master Attendant whether this interpretation is correct.

4. As regards the fees to be charged, the Board do not think it will be possible to frame a suitable scale of payments by the hour, as the same establishment is not always employed, and the rates of pay of the officials in attendance on different occasions vary. Such an arrangement is also likely to lead to complaints that work is unnecessarily delayed in order to earn extra fees; these objections to the system were put forward in the papers embodied in the Government Order (*vide* enclosures to Mr. Hunter-Blair's letter of the 5th March), and the Board consider them valid. If the remuneration proposed is considered excessive, it can be reduced by charging a quarter of a day's pay from 6 to 7-30 A.M. or 5 to 7 P. M., half a day's pay from 6 to 9-30 A.M. or from 5 to 9 P.M., and one day's pay for working for any length of time on Sundays and close holidays. The maximum fee payable to any individual officer might also be reduced by one-half. The Collector of Sea Customs will report on this point and will submit a revised draft in accordance with the remarks of Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Sub-Secretary.

Transferred to the Mrine Department.

Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secy. to Govt. Rev. Dept.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
18*th June* 1877.

No. 47.

The Government await the further repo[illegible] of the Collector of Sea Customs on the points noticed in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the [illegible]oard's Proceedings.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
21*st July* 1877.

No. 38. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated* 9*th July* 1877, *No.* 3181.

Read the following letter from R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Sea Customs, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 22nd June 1877, No. 1246:—

I have the honor to submit the following report with reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 14th May 1877, No. 2210.

Letter to Master Attendant, dated 12th June 1877, No. 1184.
Letter from Master Attendant, dated 19th June 1877, No. 4346.

2. Copies of the papers marginally [illegible]oted, embodying the correspondence between the Master Attendant and myself, [illegible]re submitted for the information of the [illegible]oard.

3. With reference to paragraph 2 of [illegible]he Board's Proceedings and the remarks of Government in paragraph 1 of their [illegible], I have to observe that the only work which is permitted at the Custom-house here on Sundays is the in-door office establishments shipping work. No business requiring the services of the in-door office establishments is, as a rule, allowed. At present, however, owing to the famine, arrangements have been specially made to pass grain on Sundays, but this will cease shortly.

4. The Customs Act does not contemplate work being done on Sundays, and it will be observed from Sections 58 and 118 of Act VI of 1863 that even beach-landing and shipping work on Sundays is not to be allowed as a rule. A paper (to be returned) containing the opinions of the leading firms in Colombo on the subject of Sunday work obtained by the Ceylon Government and forwarded to me by the Honorable the Principal Collector of Customs, at Colombo, is herewith forwarded, and it will be seen from it that the firms are almost unanimous[illegible]pposed to work being done on Sundays. I propose accordingly to alter the existing [illegible]ctice as to beach-landing and shipping work on Sundays and to allow it only in special and emergent cases.

5. With this modification the necessity for the attendance of Christians on Sundays will be further reduced.

6. The rules for extra fees under consideration do not require any alteration on the subject of Sunday work. The rules apply not only to the Customs Department, but also to the Marine Department.

7. I may observe here that no scale of payment by the hour can be satisfactorily arranged. The rates prescribed in the rules do not appear to me to be excessive. It must be remembered that such work should only be allowed under exceptional circumstances and not as a matter of course. The rates proposed are the same as those now and for a long time obtaining, with the one exception that clerks are classed with Conicopillays and Peons, and get a day's pay for all over-time work, whereas under existing rules they get half a day's pay for working from 6 to 7-30 A.M. and 5 to 7 P.M., and one day's pay for working from 6 to 9-30 A.M. or 5 to 9 P.M. or later.

8. The interpretation referred to in paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings is correct. The rule has been altered as suggested by Government in paragraph 4.

9. A revised copy of the rules abodying the verbal alterations suggested by Government is herewith forwarded.

10. The intention of Rule 5 is that the fees paid for Customs and Marine officials should be equally divided between te agents or owners of vessels which may be landing or clearing on the same day.

11. With reference to the first art of paragraph 7 of the Government Order, I beg to observe that it is intended by tule 1 that officers working over-time should receive half of a *day's* pay from 6 to 7-30 A.M. or from 5 to 7 P.M. The words "half pay" in Rule 1 have been altered to "alf a day's pay."

12. There is a further point whic I think should be provided for by the rules. At present the Deputy Collector inform me it not unfrequently happens that he gets written notice from firms requesting hn to make arrangements for clearing vessels during the Christmas or Easter holidas. No particular day is mentioned, and the consequence is that he is unable to avil himself of his holidays. His services on this account are not perhaps required till he last day or so of the holidays, and he is only paid for the day in which he is actuay in attendance, although he loses the benefit of the whole holiday. I think that infuture, firms making such applications should be required to specify the exact date or o pay for the number of days during which the Deputy Collector or other officer is prevented from availing himself of his holiday.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Colector of Sea Customs, to J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieutenant, R.N.R., Master Attendant, Administrative Department, dated Madras, 12th June 1877, No. 1184.

With reference to Board's Proceedings, lated 14th May 1877, No. 2210, and the Order of Government dated 30th April 1877, No. 294, copies of which are stated in the Board's Proceedings to have been communicated to you, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to favor me with any remarks you may have to offer on the several points discussed by the Board and Government, and also to inform me whetler the interpretation referred to in paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings is correct.

2. The enclosures to Mr. Hunter-Blair's letter of the 5th March 1877, referred to in paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings, are the papers marginally noted. Copy of Mr. Hunter-Blair's letter of the 5th March 1877, No. 488, is herewith forwarded for your information.

Letter from this office to Master Attendant, dated 23th February 1877, No. 448.
Letter from Master Attendant, dated 3rd March 1877, No. 1598.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieutenant, R.N.R, Master Attendant, Administrative Department, to R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Sea Customs, dated Madras, 19th June 1877, No. 4346.

Referring to your letter, No. 1184, of 12th instant, and its enclosures, I have the honor to observe that I do not consider the present rates of remuneration excessive for over-time and work during holidays.

2. No charge is admissible for boat's crew.

3. No arrangement for payment by the hour will ever be satisfactory.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Revised Rules.

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ENCLOSURE No. 4.—Opinion of leading Firms of Colombo.

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., dated 30th April 1877, No. 294, Marine.

2. The Government will observe, withreference to paragraph 1 of their Order, that though Custom-house officials must work on Sundays if required, the Collector intends to limit the occasions for their being called on to do so to special and emergent cases. The Board consider that this is a proper arrangement as regards either side.

3. The revised rules now sent contain the modifications suggested in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 of the Order.

4. No modification has been made as to the fees mentioned in paragraph 7 of the Order. The Board agree with the Collector that the fees are not excessive.

5. As regards the subject of the concluding paragraph of the Collector's letter an addition to clause 6 of the Rules to the following effect will obviate the inconvenience adverted to:—

"Such requisition shall specify the date on which the services of the establishment will be required; otherwise it will not be attended to."

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. D. MACLEAN,
Addl. Sub-Secretary.

REVISED RULES for levy of FEES by CUSTOMS AND MARINE OFFICIALS for working OVER-TIME and on SUNDAYS and CLOSE HOLIDAYS.

1. Customs-house or Marine officials who may be required to transact business out of office hours or on close holidays for the convenience of ship-owners, merchants and others, shall be entitled to extra remuneration according to the following scale:—

For all officers in the Presidency from 6 to 7-30 A.M., or 5 to 7 P.M. Madras time, half a day's pay. From 6 to 9-30 or till office hours A.M., and from 5 to 9 P.M., Madras time, or later, one day's pay.

On Sundays and close holidays, two days' full pay; provided that the total amount of fee payable to any individual officer shall in no case exceed Rupees 30 for work done upon any one day.

For Clerks, Conicopillays and Peons; one day's full pay for working out of office hours either morning or evening.

On Sundays and close holidays two days' full pay.

2. The following days shall be considered as close holidays within the meaning of these rules:—

Christmas vacation, including Christmas and New Year's days	8 days.
Easter vacation, including Good Friday	4 „
Queen's Birthday	1 „
All Sundays.	

3. During the Easter and Christmas vacations other than Christmas-day, New Year's day, and Good Friday provision shall be made for the despatch of emergent business, viz., the passing of goods for shipment and into town on applications which have been passed through the office previously, and the passing of private packages, and the few goods urgently required by tradesmen on deposit, without extra remuneration.

4. The following establishments only should be employed and charged for:—

Customs-houses in the Mofussil.	Marine Department in the Mofussil.
1 Superintendent.	1 The Master Attendant of the Port.
1 Gumastah.	1 Clerk.
1 Peon.	1 Peon.

At Madras.

1 The Deputy Collector of Sea Customs or other superior officer.
1 Clerk for clearance and entry of vessels.

Import Department.

1 Clerk.
1 Jamadar.
1 Duffadar.
4 Conicopillays. } Double the number if more than one vessel is at work.
4 Peons. }

Export Department.

1 Export Manager or his Deputy.
2 Clerks for registering shipping bills and granting boat notes.
1 Weigher.
1 Peon

At Madras.

1 The Deputy Master Attendant or other superior officer.
1 Clerk.
1 Peon.

The whole Boat Establishment consisting of—

1 Boat Overseer.
1 Deputy Overseer.
1 Boat Maistry.
2 Conicopillays.
2 Peons.

4. The boat establishment to be charged for when vessels discharge or take in cargo on Sundays or close holidays.

No charge whatever will be made for Government boats' crews, signallers, flag lascars and quarantine officers.

It will also be open to agents, captains and merchants to obtain the aid of any additional officials upon payment of additional fees.

5. When one or more vessels enter or ...r on the same day and ship or discharge cargo at the same time, and when one or more ... nts transact business at the same time, the fees prescribed by these rules shall be divided be... them in equal proportions.

6. No vessel shall be allowed to enter or ...ear, nor shall any merchant be allowed to transact business out of office hours, or on Sundays ... close holidays, unless a written requisition to that effect is first submitted by the agent ...ommander of such vessel and by the merchant concerned. Such requisition shall specify ...tes on which the services of the establishment will be required, otherwise it will not be at... to.

7. These rules will be applicable to all ports.

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Collector, Sea Customs.

Transferred to the Marine Department.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
26*th July* 1877.

C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

No. 39. ORDER THEREON, 2... ugust 1877, No. 493.

The Governor in Council is pleased to approve and sanction the amended rates submitted with the Board's Proceedings, No. 3181, for regulating the levy of fees payable to Customs and Marine officials on close holidays, and directs that they be published in the Fort St. George and Coat District Gazettes.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
„ Board of Revenue.
„ Master Attendant, Madras.
„ Collectors of Coast Districts.
„ Accountant-General.

Exd. W. H. French.

Revenue Department
No 3960

Govt. of 1877 Madras.

MARINE.

To

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT;
&c., &c., &c.

Sir

Dated August, 28th.

Issued — 10 — 9

Read 10 September Inst.

G.O. 284 Mar

AUGUST.
Nos. 36—39.

Fees on close Holidays.—The amended rates submitted with Board's Proceedings, No. 3181, for remunerating the levy of fees payable to Customs and Marine officials on close holidays, approved and sanctioned; and their publication in the *Fort St. George and Coast District Gazette*, directed.

No 5402

Lodged

12 Sept/77

5402

27/12/1877