

(1) Number of pages \_\_\_\_\_

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(3) Initials of the Referencer \_\_\_\_\_

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Public works* DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <i>1150</i>	Press
<i>80-81</i>	Mis.
Dated <i>4 5</i>	18 <i>...</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
4th May 1872.*

No. 80. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Bezwarah, 5th April 1872, No. 2 :—

REFERRING to the enclosed petition forwarded with your No. 548, 5th ultimo,

1 License Form.  
1 Petition.

I have the honour to report that I have never received any appeal from either boat-owners or travellers against the action of the clause inserted in the license, in pursuance of G. O., No. 2,528, 24th October 1870, on a reference made by the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division. The Government will have seen from my No. 93, 23rd October 1871, that I deprecated the interference with the trade suggested by the Collector of the Kistna District.

2. So far as I can discover the persons who complain are Christian converts, or pariah servants of gentlemen; few others of the classes objected to travel at all. The latter, if accompanying their masters, I believe find no difficulty, and my own servants say that they have never failed to get conveyance, though perhaps after some short delay. — I am free to confess that I see small prospect of any accommodation being specially provided for persons of these classes under ordinary circumstances.

3. There is certainly no religious reason why the brahmin and the pariah should not travel together; more than one brahmin subordinate of mine has gladly accepted the convenience of travelling in my boat, in the full knowledge that my cook and sweeper were on board. The ordinary transit boats are manned by large numbers of Mussulmen, and I cannot conceive that they can be admitted as less alien than the pariah.

4. At the same time it must be acknowledged that the prejudice does exist very strongly in the Kistna District. I have heard that a high native official was taunted by his stricter brethren with sitting under a pariah coachman in his palanquin carriage, and that he was obliged to dismiss him.

5. While this feeling prevails, it is clear that such a clause in the boat license as the one complained of may affect very seriously the earnings of the boat-owners, who may be obliged, by fear of having their licenses suspended, to sacrifice the passage money of a large number of Brahmins and Sudras, because one pariah insists on being admitted.

6. It must be borne in mind that no boat has been allowed to pass our locks (unless by oversight) without a license. I was not aware till lately, or I should have urged it in my No. 93 of 23rd October 1871, that, under precedent of long standing, Mr. Norris, Assistant Engineer, and other gentlemen had been called on to pay license for their pleasure boats.

7. Many of the boats are not plying for hire. They carry their owners goods from some entrepôt inland to the coast, and either convey return goods of theirs or in some cases go back empty; they receive licenses to carry goods or passengers, but I fail to see how they can be compelled to carry either.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
4th May 1872.*

8. I have reason to understand that no passengers are refused except in cases where those already on board object; and till this G. O. was issued the action of the boat-owner or his Agent was regulated by his calculation as to the profit which he might expect either immediately or on the whole by rejecting this or that party.

9. A form of license now issued to boat-owners in the Kistna canals is enclosed.

No. 81.

ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1872, No. 1,150.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 7.

As the question raised in Petition No. 548 of 1872 affects boat-owners in the Godavery as well as the Kistna canals, the Government resolve to forward the papers now before them to the Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division, with a view to obtaining the opinion of that officer as to the general working of the license now granted, and the existence or otherwise of any grievance of the nature complained of by the petitioners.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

*Officiating Secretary to Government.*

to the Superintending Engineers, 1st and 2nd Divisions.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

No 2

Superintending Engineer  
Office 2nd Division  
Camp B of Warab  
5th April 1872

From

Colonel F. J. Nicholas RE  
Superintending Engineer  
2nd Division

To

Colonel J. Carnevale RE  
Secretary to Government  
Public Works Department

Sir,

Incluse  
1 License form  
1 Petition

Referring to the enclosed petition forwarded with your No 548, 5th Ultimo, I have the honor to report that I have never received any appeal from either boat owners or travellers against the action of the House inserted in the license in pursuance of G.O. No 2528, 24 October 1871 or a reference made by the Acting Superintending Engineer 1st Division. The Government will have seen from my No 93, 23rd

GO No 305

14th July 1872

October 1871, that I deprecated the interference with the trade suggested by the Collector of the Krishna District. So far as I can discover the persons who complain are Christian converts or Pariah servants of gentle men - few others of the classes objected

to travel at all. The latter, if accom-  
-panying their masters, I believe, find  
no difficulty, and my own servants  
say that they have never failed to  
get conveyance, though perhaps after  
some short delay. I am free to confess  
that I see small prospect of any  
accommodation being specially  
provided for persons of these classes  
under ordinary circumstances.

3. There is certainly no religious  
reason why the Brahmin and the  
Pariah should not travel together.  
more than one Brahmin subordinate  
of mine has gladly accepted the  
convenience of travelling in my  
boat in the full knowledge that  
my cook and sweeper were on board.

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5

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pay license for their pleasure boats.

7. Many of the boats are not plying for hire. They carry their owners' goods from some interior inland to the coast, and either convey return goods of theirs or in some cases go back empty - they receive hire to carry goods or passengers - but I fail to see how they can be compelled to carry either.

8. I have reason to understand that no passengers are refused except in cases where those already on board object; and till this G.O. was issued the action of the boat owner or his agent was regulated by his calculation as to the profit which he might expect either immediately or on the whole by rejecting this or that party.

9. A form of licence now issued to boat owners in the Panama Canal is as follows. I have the honor to

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Alfred S. Colver

Superintending Engineer

No 2528  
24 Oct 1870

Handwritten text at the top of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is written in a cursive script and is partially obscured by a vertical crease.

Main body of handwritten text on the left side of the page, written in a cursive script. The text is arranged in several lines and is partially obscured by a vertical crease. The ink is dark and the paper is aged and yellowed.

Handwritten text at the bottom right corner of the page, possibly a signature or a date. The text is written in a cursive script and is partially obscured by a vertical crease.



Pro 24 Oct 170 70 829 350  
" 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 72 - 6-8.

Ed W. 1872 Richard.  
Mr. of Genl. of War  
No. 1753.  
From  
The Supt Engineer  
2<sup>d</sup> Division  
To  
The Secretary to  
Govt P.W.

Dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 1872

Rec 10<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
Enclos 2

Submits report on the  
petition (herewith returned)  
from boat owners & others  
objecting to convey fares  
with high caste people  
on these boats & encloses  
a form of licence as requested.

No 80

No 1150 - 4<sup>th</sup> Aug 72 -

6/17/72 @ 22W

Public Works Department  
J. 115  
Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

From The Sup<sup>r</sup> Engineer  
2<sup>nd</sup> Div<sup>n</sup>

} H. E. No. 275<sup>th</sup> April 1872

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

As the question raised  
in Petition No. 528 of 1872  
affects boat owners on  
the Godavery as well  
as the Krishna Canals  
the Government resolve  
to forward the papers  
now before them to the  
Sup<sup>r</sup> Engineer of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Division with a  
view to obtaining the  
opinion of that officer  
as to the general working  
of the license now  
granted and the

existence or otherwise  
of any grievance of the  
nature complained  
of by the Petitioners.

Ames  
13-4-72

~~Ames 15/4~~

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*[Faint handwritten text]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text on the left side of the page]*

26  
3  
Safe Custody of 182  
Dep<sup>d</sup> 6/5/72  
X into two Enclaves

Cp-175

Govt. of [1872] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To Superintending Engineer  
1st Div. (Circular)

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 4<sup>th</sup> May 1872, No. 1150.

Nos. 80481

Papers. Papers on the  
subject of the Regulation  
caused by bank owners  
in the Krishna Canal  
for the conveyance of  
mixed passengers forwarded  
for the opinion of the  
Superintendent of the



