

Foreign Department
Simla
The 27 July 1850.

W.D.A.

to

The Honble the
Court of Directors

From Lt. Col. Mackeson C.B.
and
Capt. Ramsay
d/18th May 1850 with
Enclosures

Honble Sirs,
I have the honor
to transmit the Despatch
noted in the margin
which I received on the
14th Instant from Lieut.
Col. Mackeson and
Capt. Ramsay sent
on special service to
England in Her Majesty's
Ship Indea, reporting
their arrival at the
Cape of Good Hope on
14th May and detailing
the proceedings of the
Governor of Mauritius
on the Indea reaching
Port Louis.

I approve of the
letter addressed by these
Officers to Capt. La Roche
d/6th April 1850, and
I have no doubt that

Capt. B

Approved.
Correct the fair copy
in accordance with this
attend. draft.

J 24/7/50

rec 27/7/50

Capt. Sackbyer in complying
with the special requisition
addressed to him, will be
considered by the Lords,
Commissioners of the
Admiralty to have
acted as the Service
of Her Majesty required
him to do.

3. I approve also
of the letters addressed
to the Colonial Secretary
at the Mauritius; and
I concur with Colonel
Maekeson & Captain
Ramsay in the sentiments
they express on the
treatment which Her
Majesty's Ship received
from the authorities of
that Island.

4. Although it
appears to me that very
unnecessary countenance
was given by the authorities
of the island to the ridiculous
panic which seized the
inhabitants, I do not
complain, any more
than the Officers have
Complained

complained, of the strictest
 enforcement of Quarantine
 at Port Louis which the
 Officers of Government
 might have thought
 necessary. But I have
 good reason to complain
 of the conduct of the Governour
 and of the Senior naval
 Officers of the Station, in
 issuing orders which were
 quite unnecessary for
 the fullest enforcement
 of quarantine, and
 which interfered materially
 with the efficient performance
 by the Ship of the Service
 on which she was
 employed.

were calculated to

5. The orders trans-
 mitted to me by your
 Honble Court were, that
 every possible precaution
 should be taken for the
 safety of the freight
 which the ~~Merchant~~
 conveyed. One of Her
 Majesty's Ships had
 been placed at my
 disposal by the Admiralty
 as properly

expressly for the purpose of
providing most effectually
for its security. By a
delay of two months which
occurred in placing the ship
at my disposal, her
voyage was to be made
at a season of the year
when bad weather was to
be expected. - Yet the
authorities at Mauritius
first refused any coal
whatever to Her Majesty's
Steam Vessel, subsequently
sent little more than
half of what was
required; and ultimately
the ship was forced
to put to sea by the
orders of the Senior Naval
Officers, without having
been able to take on
board even the insufficient
quantity of fuel which
had been supplied. The
consequence was that
18½ days instead of 11
were occupied in the
passage to the Cape,
where the vessel arrived

Parait

with

A to C

with only ten tons of coal left, and if the bad weather which I learn from a demi Official letter of May 15th prevalent at the time (and by which the Medea herself lost two of her boats and nearly all her bulwarks, had continued, an additional & serious risk might have been incurred.

O. No additional risk whatever to the island would have been incurred by sending 250 tons of coal instead of 150 in the bulk. I consider, therefore, that in giving an insufficient supply of fuel to this Steam Vessel at that season of the year & in ordering her to sea before she could take in even the supply sent, tho' they were informed that the Majesty's Ship was employed on special and secret service, the Governor

Governor and the naval
Officer in Command
unwarrantably obstructs
Her Majesty's service &
involved Her Majesty's
property, specially
embarked on the Indea
under strict orders from
England by the Governor
General of India, in
additional & unnecessary
risk.

I have deemed it
expedient to transmit
this report by the present
mail. Beg to represent
that my orders issued
in pursuance of
instructions from your
Honble Court, approved
by Her Majesty's Court,
have been thwarted
by the Governor of
Mauritius; and that
the security of the object
of which I was enjoined
to take every possible
care has been exposed
to unnecessary risk
by the act of that
office

Officer and of the naval
Commander at Port
Loul.-

8. I beg to submit
these circumstances
to your Honble Court
and to request that
the facts may be laid
before His Majesty's
servants for such
notice as His Majesty
may think fit to
direct.

I have Genl

Yours A