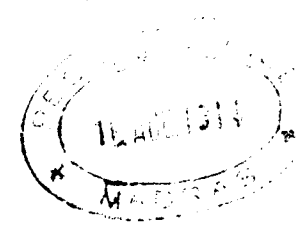


No. 73108

OFFICIAL REPORT OF A REVOLT
BY
POLEGAR NARSIMHA REDDY IN KOILEUNTA TALUK
(WHICH FORMED PART OF CUDDAPAH DISTRICT)
IN 1846



(29)
micro filmed
30/11/83



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OFFICIAL REPORT OF A REVOLT

Potegar Narsimha Reddy in Kollamta Taluk
(which formed part of Cuddapah District)

in 1846

(2)

Vol. I

A
SELECTION
OF

PAPERS FROM THE OLD RECORDS
OF THE

CUDDAH DISTRICT

Vol. I.

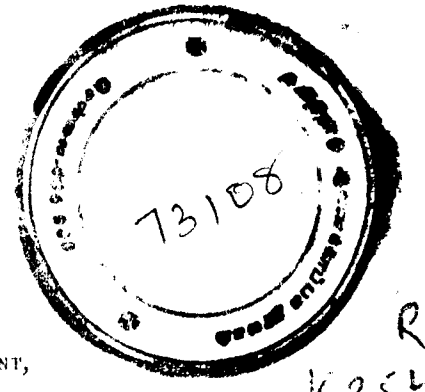
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CUDDAH
1914

 * செப்பனுவதற்காக எடுத்திக் *
 * கொள்ளப்பட்ட *
 * *
 * 22 மாதம் 1950 வருடம் *
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 * செப்பனிட முடித்த *
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 * 22 மாதம் 1950 வருடம் *
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 * ஓராய்ச்சி துறையாளர் *
 * கையெழுத்தம் *
 * *

29

1846



No. 1.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
 IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,
 Fort St. George.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of Government an outbreak that has occurred in the taluk of Koilgoontla in this district bordering on the Kurnool territory, to quell which I have thought proper to send in a requisition to the Officer Commanding Cuddapah, for the assistance of the military.

2. The Head of Police of Koilgoontla at first reported that a pensioned Poligar named Narasimma Reddy had collected a body of armed men and that on being sent for to ascertain from him the cause of this demonstration of his intentions, apparently anything but peaceable, he was refractory and set at defiance the local authorities, leaving at the same time the place accompanied by his followers. It appearing to me that a discontented Poligar with such an armed body of men at his back, if allowed to remain at large, resisting all Government authority would be attended with very serious consequences, I at once issued the necessary orders for his apprehension, directing Heads of Police of the adjoining Taluks to render assistance in the matter and I, at the same time, communicated with the Agent to the Governor at Kurnool and with Magistrate of Bellary and requested their co-operation, should the Poligar and his followers proceed into their districts.

3. Very shortly afterwards (yesterday) an express arrived from the Head Police of Doovor reporting that this Narasimma Reddy and his followers had plundered the village of Rhudravaram and that in an attempt made on the part of my Police to apprehend him at Mittapally, a village on the borders of his Taluk, the Surchasum or Head Duffadar and nine Peons were killed in the affray.

4. Matters having assumed a serious appearance and the number of the Poligar's armed followers being reported to be 9,000, I immediately despatched an express to the Commanding Officer at Cuddapah requesting him to order off with the least possible delay a sufficient body of military to render the Heads of Police of Dhoor and Koilgoontla, the promptest assistance possible and to apprehend him and deliver him over to me together with any others, who from information obtained from the Head of Police, were said to have taken a prominent part in the affray and I made arrangements with the several Heads of Police to ensure the Officer Commanding the Force correct information as to the place the Poligar and his followers may have betaken themselves, directing them to accompany the Force within their respective Taluks and to render every necessary assistance.

5. Another express having reached me this morning at 2 a. m. from the Head Police of Jummalmudgoon, who enclosed an urzee from the Sub-Officer of Koilgoontla, reporting that the marauders had plundered the Taluk Treasury at Cusba Koilgoontla, wounded the Head of Police and confined him as well as one of the principal merchants of the place, in the Fort and that 5 more Police peons had been killed in the resistance they made to save the Treasury, I, without loss of time, at 2-30 a. m., despatched an express to the Agent at Kurnool requesting him to send off without delay a body of his Irregular Hors; to the scene of disturbance bordering on his District and to communicate direct with the Brigadier-General Commanding the Ceded Districts, if he required further assistance and to act in the matter as his judgment dictated on any information he may receive, which his proximity to the scene of outbreak, would enable him to receive so much sooner than I could at a distance of 120 miles. I, at the



same time, intimated to the Agent at Kurnool the steps I had taken in communication with the Officer Commanding Cuddapah, who, from what I have first learnt from the Head Police at Cuddapah, sent off the military force this morning at 5 o'clock.

6. I shall lose no time in proceeding to the spot myself and I trust the measures already adopted will speedily put an end to the disturbance without the loss of further life and property.

7. From all the information I have as yet been able to obtain (which owing to the distance at which I am from the spot is somewhat limited) as to the cause of this sudden outbreak, I have reason to believe that this Nursim Reddy is supported by persons of influence in Hyderabad and Kurnool. It appears that he has been discontented for some time past (though he has never shown publicly that he was so) at his share of the pension allowed him (which is equally divided among their brothers) being insufficient in his support and as I have been given to understand that he has occasionally, of late, left his village and proceeded to Hyderabad and Kurnool, I cannot but come to the conclusion that he has for some time past been concocting this plan of suddenly possessing himself of money and property and taking refuge in Hyderabad, which scheme, however, the intimation given to the Agent of Kurnool, will prevent his carrying into effect as he must pass through the Kurnool Territory.

8. The above is mere surmise on my part. I shall, however, do my utmost to sift the matter thoroughly when I shall do myself the honor of reporting more fully on all the circumstances connected with the subject of this letter. All that I can, at present, say is that this disturbance never could have been created by Nursim Reddy without material assistance being rendered him from other quarters.

9. The number of his followers stated to be 9,000 is, no doubt, greatly exaggerated: he has, however, in a very short time, collected a body of men amounting, certainly, to 1,000 and the great portion of them, it is supposed, must have joined him from Kurnool and Hyderabad viz, Cuttoobuddies dismissed in the Kurnool Territory on the Government assuming the country. A few Arabs, residents in the said territory and several Cuttoobuddies in his own Taluk, are also said to have joined him.

10. In conclusion, I have the honor to state that the amount of cash in the Koilgoontla Treasury must have been inconsiderable, a remittance thence to the general Treasury having been lately made. The amount plundered, in all probability, does not exceed more than Rs. 1,000 or so, but as yet, I have not received full particulars.

I have &c.,

(Signed) J. H. COCHRANE,
Ag. Collector.

RAYACHOTI,
12th July 1846.

No. 2.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

Adverting to my letter dated 12th instant, I have the honor further to state for the information of Government that the disaffected Poligar and his party retreated to a place called Rhudrar on the borders of the Kurnool Territory on hearing of the approach of the Military, who, owing to the prompt manner in which they got under arms, moving as directed towards Jummulmudgo, no doubt, saved the place and Treasury from being plundered and the rebels from taking possession of the Fort, for they were making to the place as fast as they could. As the Military force approached Rhudrar within 20 miles of the place, the rebels retreated towards the hills on the Cumbum side of this District.

2. As I am inclined to think we shall now have some difficulty in apprehending the Poligar, I have the honor to suggest that I may be allowed to offer a reward of Rs. 1,000 for his apprehension, if circumstances render this adoption of this measure necessary. His followers, by the latest accounts, are said to be about 3,000, chiefly, Cuttoobuddies, Woodawars and Yanadies.

I have &c.,

BODEMANOOR,
20th July 1846.

(Signed) J. H. COCHRANE,
Ag. Collector.

No. 3.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

In continuation of my letters of the 12th and 20th instant, relative to the disturbance created by the rebellious Poligar and his party, I have the honor to report for the information of Government the measures that have since been adopted to quell the outbreak and to state that the rebels have, in consequence, been dispersed and tranquillity restored, though the Poligar has effected his escape to the hills deserted by his men.

2. While at Almore, a march from Rhudrar, (the place the rebels remained at until the military force came up) I received intelligence that they had crossed over by the Goota Canama Pass, the range of hills intersecting the Sub-division and the Kurnool territory and part of this district and immediately sent off a requisition for the relieved detachment from Cumbum to proceed to Moondlapad there to intercept the enemy, should they leave the hills and proceed into the Sub-division. On my arrival at Khudrar the following morning, we heard that the villages of Kistnumsettippully and Moondlapad had been plundered and as it appeared evident, that their intention was to make to Cumbum through Giddaloor, a town in which merchants of considerable wealth resided, the following arrangements were made without loss of time.

3. A force of 250 men and 50 Kurnool Sawars under Captain Nott, 19 Rgt. N. I. and Captain Russell, Asstt. Commissioner of Kurnool were directed to cross over the Nandy Canama Pass, the pass north of the one the enemy had crossed by, the latter being very difficult of transit and to co-operate with the detachment expected from Cumbum. Mr. Thornhill, the Head-Assistant, accompanied this force.

4. A detachment consisting of 90 men and 50 Sawars were stationed at Rhudrar under Lieut. Moore, 6th N. I. to guard the Goota Canama Pass and intercept the rebels, should they attempt to recross by the same pass and I proceeded south to Banchiapally—a village at the foot of the Istee Canama pass, accompanied by Captain Coats of the same Regiment and a similar force, with a view also of preventing the enemy from recrossing by this ghaut. A pass further to the south was also guarded by a body of Cuttoobuddies.

5. The extremely hilly and jungly nature of the country over which the enemy had traversed and there being so many passes over which they might escape backwards and forwards plundering villages on both sides, rendered it necessary that the precaution should be taken of hemming in the rebels on all sides to ensure any chance of success in the attempt made on our part to apprehend the Poligar and disperse his followers.

6. The force under Captain Nott and Russell marched the following morning and arrived at Kistnumsettippally on the 24th; but before their arrival, the enemy, hearing that Lieut. Watson had been summoned from Cumbum, proceeded to Giddaloor and there attacked him on the afternoon of the 23rd. The number of the rebels amounted to about 5,000, while that under Lieut. Watson was only 100, the Tahsildar of Cumbum and a few peons.

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7. The Sub-Collector, in a demi-official letter, informs me that Lieut. Watson finding himself surrounded by such an overwhelming force, got into a ruined fort, which he held out against the rebels for six hours; his ammunition being at last expended, night coming on, and his not being unmindful of the disastrous consequences attendant on a night attack, he called out and charged, drove back the Poligar and his rebels and dispersed them, killing about 200 of them and taking from them 4 *Jajoyes*. The enemy retreated to Moondlapaud and Lieut. Watson and his men also retreated to Settivida about 5 miles from Giddalur, as a precautionary measure.

8. On the day following, viz. 24th, Captain Nott's force having, as above stated, arrived at Kistnumsetypally after a very long and fatiguing march through the pass and there hearing that the enemy was at Moondlapaud, a distance of 5 miles, started off for that place after having halted his men for a short time and there encountered the rebels of whom about 25 were killed and as many made prisoners. Ten more *Jajoyes* were here taken. They fled in every direction and the Poligar managed to effect his escape towards the hills. It appears that he went to Kotakota, a place at the foot of the Goota Canama Pass on the Cumbum side, where there is a fort and when his family had been left, but neither he or his family remained there, but have taken refuge on the hills, being deserted by all but a very few of his followers.

9. I have the honor further to state that the loss on our side has fortunately been trifling viz. in the 1st encounter at Giddalur 4 Sepoys killed and 3 wounded, in the latter at Moondlapaud 1 Sawar killed and 1 Sawar and 2 Sepoys wounded. I regret however to state that the Tahsildar of Cumbum was killed, having been shot through the head.

This native officer has always been remarkable for his courageous conduct in the occurrence of gang robberies, in matters connected with his Police duties and I am therefore inclined to think that he must have been foremost in the affray and exposed himself. Several runaways have been apprehended, being intercepted in both the passes we were guarding on this side.

10. In conclusion, I have the honor to state that I have made the necessary arrangements to prevent the Poligar from escaping by any of the numerous by-paths, the main passes being also guarded and that I have every reason to believe he will be shortly apprehended.

11. I have not yet received any official communication regarding the two encounters with the enemy above referred to and shall do myself the honor of entering more fully into particulars hereafter and of reporting on all matters connected with the cause of the outbreak on the enquiries that have been held and on the measures required to be adopted for reorganizing the Village Cuttoobudy Police, three-fourths of which body have sided with the Poligar and taken a part in the disturbance.

I have &c.
J. H. COCHRANE,
Ag. Collector.

(Signed)

ROODRAR
28th July 1849.

No. 4.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter regarding the Koilgoontla outbreak, I have the honor now to report for the information of Government that the rebel Poligar having dismissed his family in charge of his father-in-law, they have been secured and sent to Cuddapah under a suitable escort, there to be kept for the present.

2. I regret to state that all efforts to apprehend the Poligar and the few delinquents who are with him have proved unsuccessful, the numerous tracks and passes in the dense jungle in so extensive a range of hills in which they have taken refuge affording them a great

advantage, particularly, if accompanied by a few *Chentsawars* as guides, a class of people who live entirely in the jungles, and who are thoroughly acquainted with tracks and passes unknown to others but persons of this class.

3. As in all probability they will take refuge in the Hyderabad Territory, should they escape apprehension in disguise by travelling during the night escorted through the jungles by tracks unknown to any but their guides, I beg to state that I have

1. Gosayee Venkiah.
1. Curram Aswerthum.
1. Narasimha Reddy.
1. Dasary Rose Reddy.
1. Jangam Mulliah.

written to the Resident of Hyderabad and forwarded him descriptive rolls of the rebel * Poligar and 4 * others who are supposed to be with him and who have taken a conspicuous part in the disturbance, while the Commissioner of Kurnool will make the necessary arrangements to intercept persons wishing to cross the Kristnah at any of the ferries on the boundary of his District and the Resident of

Hyderabad has been requested to cause similar precautions to be taken at the several ferries in the borders of the Hyderabad territory.

4. I have the honor to state that papers of importance have been discovered in the fort at Kotakota, a place at the foot of the Goota Canama pass on the Cumbum side or eastern range of the hills, where the Rebel had left his family previous to his encounter with our forces at Giddalur and Moondlapaud, among which documents three letters are found, showing a correspondence that has been carried on between the Poligar and one Lalkhan Mahamagir, Jamahdar of Pratacoor in the Hyderabad territory. Translations of these documents are herewith forwarded, by which the Government will perceive that the Rebel had been promised assistance by this Jamahdar who has evidently conspired against the Government. I have sent the original documents to the Resident at Hyderabad and requested him to cause the immediate apprehension of the said Lalkhan Mahamagir and to investigate the matter reporting the result of the enquiry to Government. The other papers are letters of congratulation addressed to the Poligar from different persons, residents of the Koilgoontla Talook, letters from Heads of villages in the same Talook shewing that they have rendered assistance in supplying him with followers and accounts of batta paid to his followers in which all their names are entered. All these documents are very important and will afford me great assistance in the investigation I shall hereafter have to make.

5. Adverting to my letter of the 20th ultimo in which I stated that tranquility had been restored, I have the honor to inform you that a good deal of excitement has lately prevailed throughout the District, the cause thereof I cannot precisely account for, but I imagine it to be owing to reinforcements being ordered from Bellary and Hyderabad, the adoption of which measures, as being considered necessary, must have alarmed the inhabitants and led to the report that got abroad that Nursimha Reddy had collected his forces again and was on full march to the town of Cuddapah.

6. I have the honor further to state for the information of Government, who will, no doubt, have heard of these reinforcements having been ordered, that from a letter received from Brigadier-General Anderson, it appears that his additional military aid had been ordered consequent on a report received from Major Osborne, who, I presume, must have written immediately he heard of Lieut. Watson's retreat to Settivida and previous to the encounter our force under Capt. Nott had with the rebels at Moondlapaud on the following day where they were totally dispersed, which the total dispersion of the rebels was the first account I received. The circumstance of so large a force attacking Lieut. Watson added to the report Major Osborne received of his retreat, no doubt induced him and not without reason to suppose that matters had become far more serious than at first contemplated or than what the result proved to be the case.

7. The numerous tracks and passes in the dense teak jungle of so extensive a range of hills being inaccessible to sepoy, there being no force opposed to them to lead us to guard against the consequences of an incursion into our plains for the sake of plunder, I was on the point of dispensing with the further services of the military, having every reason to suppose that tranquility had been restored and the minds of the populace set to rest, but owing to the

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7. The numerous tracks and passes in the dense teak jungle of so extensive a range of hills being inaccessible to sepoys, there being no force opposed to them to lead us to guard against the consequences of an incursion into our plains for the sake of plunder, I was on the point of dispensing with the further services of the military, having every reason to suppose that tranquility had been restored and the minds of the populace set to rest, but owing to the

sentiment that suddenly prevailed as above stated, I thought it advisable to retain two companies, one on each side of the range of hills, lest the withdrawal of the troops should be the means of exciting alarm, though unnecessary and of not establishing confidence in the minds of the people.

8. Previous to the receipt of the letter from Brigadier-General Anderson intimating that their reinforcements had been ordered, I received a communication from the Commissioner of Kurnool informing me of the regiment having been ordered from Hyderabad and of his having sent off an express intimating that this additional military aid was not required, and on my receiving intelligence of the immediate march of a detachment of 200 rank and file from Bellary under the command of Major Reed C. B. having been ordered, I wrote to that officer by express acquainting him of the total dispersion of the Poligar's followers, stating that under existing circumstance further military could be dispensed with. But this letter, having been sent to Kristnamsettypully across the pass, owing to the carelessness of the Karcoon, a Native Officer, Major Reed did not receive it until his arrival at Chintacoonta, where receiving a note from Lieut. Moore (who was stationed with a detachment at Rhudrar, and had been summoned by the Commissioner of Kurnool,) giving information of a rising at or near Atmacoor in the Kurnool Territory, he proceeded towards that place by Erragoontla and Nundyal, where hearing from Mr. Scott that although the Atmacoor alarm was without foundation, still such a ferment and excitement existed among the people, that he was averse to dispense with the services of the troops altogether, he (Major Reed) made Nundyal his headquarters until 9th instant, when he received a letter from the Commissioner of Kurnool informing him that he required no further military aid beyond what he had at his own command and disposal at Kurnool.

9. In conclusion, I beg to state that I shall remain in this neighbourhood a short time longer having at my disposal half a company of sepoy at Kristnamsettypully, Rhudrar and the same force at this place under a command of an European Officer, which force I think it advisable to retain for the present until the villagers in the neighbourhood of these places got settled and all excitement has subsided and I trust to be able to get some information regarding the movements of the Poligar from some of the many peons and cuttoobuddies who are scouring the hills in different parties in every direction.

10. As I shall have to prosecute a series of trials relative to this outbreak, in which many of the Heads of villages and three fourths of the village Cuttoobuddy Police of the Koilgoontlah Talook have been concerned, I fear, I shall overwhelm the subordinate Criminal Court with business if carried on in the usual routine, I beg to suggest that a Commissioner may be appointed, to whom I might refer the cases for direct communication through him to the Court of *Foujdary Udahut* or that Government should adopt any other measures they deem expedient. Should a Commissioner be appointed, it would perhaps be advisable that the trials should be far advanced before his arrival to guard against his stay in the District being protracted.

I have &c.

CAMP, GAZOOLPULLY,
10th August 1846.

(Signed) J. H. COCHRANE,
Ag. Collector.

No. 5.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

Adverting to my several letters on the subject of the Koilgoontlah outbreak, I have now the honor to report for the information of Government that from the best intelligence I have been able to procure it appears that the rebel Poligar Nurasimha Reddy proceeded to the Hyderabad territory shortly after the dispersion of his followers at Moondlapaud on the

24th July last, but finding that the persons from whom he hoped to receive assistance declined affording it and (as I imagine) bearing that the Resident of Hyderabad had been written to regarding him, he has returned through the Kurnool country and taken refuge in the Yerramulla Hills which intersect this District from Kurnool and the eastern borders of Bellary.

2. As the Poligar's neighbourhood borders on these hills over which a body of his fugitives are scattered, some of whom, it is said, have rejoined him, (having nothing to hope for and being afraid to return to their villages) I have thought it advisable without loss of time to apply for reinforcements of 2 companies in order to guard the principal villages in the neighbourhood and also to raise a temporary Sibhendy Police of about 100 men (in anticipation of the sanction of Government) to assist those already employed as well as Cuttoobuddies from the neighbouring Talooks in apprehending and dispersing the rebels. These arrangements by affording increased security against Gang robbery and enabling me to employ a larger Police force on the hills will, I trust, be the means of peace and order being effectually restored as the rebels will soon perceive that nothing is to be gained by plunder and will be induced to seek for subsistence elsewhere by deserting their leader who, I hope, will now soon fall into our hands.

3. The hills being inaccessible to sepoys, a military force can only be useful in guarding against incursions into the principal villages for the sake of plunder and in this respect they are pre-eminently so, while the peons and cuttoobuddies by being employed in a large body and directed to follow up the rebels until they came upon them, will, I have every reason to hope, do their duty.

4. I beg however here to suggest that a higher reward should be offered for the apprehension of the Poligar. It would hold out an inducement to other Poligars to employ their retinue in so good an undertaking as ridding the District of a person of great hardness, activity and a most determined character with his wits fully about him and having the support of several heads of villages in his own neighbourhood.

5. There is every reason to suppose that eventually he will be apprehended in the hills, as after the discomfiture he met with at Giddaloer and Moondlapaud when in full force, he will not encounter a military force again. The greater number of Cuttoobuddies therefore there are (patrolling) the extensive range of hills in which he is at present or in any others he may take refuge in various parts of the District, the greater chance of their bringing the matter to a speedy and successful issue.

6. I have the honor further to state that during the night of the 4th, I received intelligence, in the correctness of which I could rely, that the Poligar had taken up his quarters close to Alavacondah, a village in his neighbourhood from which a few originally joined him. I and my Head Assistant lost no time in arriving at the spot accompanied by a few sepoy, but the Poligar, (who certainly had been there) must have received intelligence of our movement for he had quitted the place before we arrived. It appears that he had come there unattended but by 2 or 3 persons (but having a few followers at a moderate distance) in order to re-collect forces and to ascertain how the inhabitants were disposed towards him. The villagers, however, most of them fled from the place and I mention this to shew that it does not appear probable that any fresh followers will join him. The villagers were so afraid of him that I could get no intelligence as to the direction in which he had gone and of course the search that was made after him turned out unsuccessful.

7. I beg also to state that one of my public servants who had been directed to proceed to the neighbouring villages as a private individual in order to obtain any information worth bearing as to the Poligar's movements, returned and informed me last night, that the Poligar was bent upon marching direct on Cuddapah, travelling by night and along the hills, his object being, by a sudden attack, to release his family and to plunder the place. I cannot vouch for the correctness of the intelligence but have taken the precaution of immediately sending off an express to the Officer commanding Cuddapah, in order that he may be on the alert. If any such attack is made, it will most probably terminate in the capture of the Poligar and the annihilation of several of and total dispersion of his followers. Should this report be true, I am inclined to think he will, under any circumstances, the sooner, be apprehended as when once in,

another Talook, information as to his movement will be more readily forthcoming than in his neighbourhood where none can be obtained owing to the terror in which he is held by some and to the support given him by others. In conclusion, I beg to state that my movements will depend upon the information I receive and that I shall use my utmost exertions on the present occasion.

CAMP, KOILCOONTLAH, }
7th September 1846. }

I have &c.,
J. H. COCHRANE,
Ag. Collector.

No. 6.

To

E. P. THOMPSON Esqr.,
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,
Fort St. George.

Sir,

With reference to the 2nd para of my letter dated 7th instant in which I mentioned that I considered it advisable consequent on the return of the rebel Poligar Narasimha Reddy to apply for reinforcements of two companies and to raise a temporary Sibbundy of 100 peons in anticipation of the sanction of Government, I have now the honor to report for the information of Government that in four days after the Reddy's reappearance in the District, I had three companies detached in parties guarding the principal villages in the neighbourhood of the Yerramalah Hills, into which have been since sent a large body of Police amounting to upwards of 500 Peons and Cuttoobuddies among whom were included 150 temporary Sibbundy and that this force is now following up the principal party of the rebels, who by the latest accounts, have gone northwards into the Kurnool territory, where with the assistance of a Police force sent by the Commissioner of Kurnool to intercept their progress and to join and co-operate with my Police, I trust matters will be brought to a crisis and terminate favourably. Other Cuttoobuddies from the southern Talooks, the retinue of Poligars pensioned by Government, are also on the point of joining, headed by their masters, by whom further assistance will be shortly afforded.

2. I deemed it expedient to increase the number of Sibbundy to 150 picked men as they are a far more effective body than Cuttoobuddies and as I did not think it advisable to weaken the Police forces of the District by withdrawing too many peons from the other Talooks.

3. The reports in regard to the number of the Poligar's adherents are very vague but I am not inclined to think that they exceed 400. It nevertheless seemed advisable to employ a force larger than the one they were required to assist as these descriptions of Police are not effective unless in an overpowering number and as by so doing, many of the Reddy's former followers, who are still fugitives among the hills, will be deterred from joining the enemy when aware of the preparations that were made on our part.

4. It appears that the rebels have formed into two parties, one of which has proceeded southwards and as it must be expected that Gang robbers will join them for the sake of plunder, I beg to state that I have thought proper to strengthen the Police belonging to the neighbouring Talooks of Jummalmudgo and Chennoor by adding 30 Sibbundy to the former and 40 to the latter. I consider this precaution necessary as the range of hills in which the rebels are, border also on the former Talook and with the exception of a break in the range of a few miles, adjoin the Palacondah hills bordering on the Chennoor Talook, which run into the very extensive range of the Nullamala hills, in the neighbourhood of which the encounters with the rebels took place at Giddaloor and Moondlapaud and in which the Poligar first took refuge after the dispersion of his followers. I trust the Government will therefore approve of what has been done and sanction the employment of the Sibbundy force above specified.

5. I have further the honor to state that I have in the meantime written to the Brigadier-General of the Division to ascertain his opinion as to the feasibility of employing Light Company Troops on the hills in case our operations (the result of which is not yet known) should not terminate successfully, having afforded him every information as to the extent and nature of these hills, but I hope it will not be necessary to employ the sepoys on such harassing duty.

6. I have the honor further to report that I have detected the younger brother of a family of rank and influence (residing at Owk) as having been concerned in the treasonable proceedings of Narasimha Reddy. He had joined the Reddy, on hearing which I proceeded to Owk; but it appears that his brothers had before my arrival persuaded him to return to his village (which they heard I was about to visit) lest his absence should lead to suspicion. There is every reason also to believe that the Reddy (whose return was first heard of when in the neighbourhood of Owk) had paid them a visit in their house and this, I have no doubt, will be satisfactorily proved. It was deemed absolutely necessary that the three brothers should leave this Taluk while in its present disturbed state. I therefore proposed in an interview with them that they should proceed to Cuddapah or to Chitvail in which taluk the elder brother (who is in the receipt of a pension of Rs. 13-5-0 a month) has his residence, intending to keep a guard over them until the disturbance was over, when a strict enquiry could be held. But as all persuasions were unavailable, I was obliged to take them by force by the assistance of the military and send them to Cuddapah in charge of a guard, in doing which, no injuries were sustained in any way though they threatened to resist until the last.

7. I may here state that among the papers that were found at Kotakota, as alluded to in the 4th para of my letter of the 10th August, was draft of a letter from Narasimha Reddy addressed to the second brother asking him for his assistance which, though he denies having received, sufficiently shows that they must have been on friendly terms. I considered it would be injudicious at that time to do anything more than to warn him against any treasonable acts and let him know that he was suspected, lest tranquility which had then been restored, should have been disturbed by a second commotion being created by his brothers, intending however to watch him and obtaining, if possible, any positive evidence against him of his having aided in the disturbance. The family above referred to are connected with the Zamindar of Chitvail, lately deceased and one of the brothers appears to have been adopted by the late widow of the pensioned Poligar of Owk, also deceased.

8. I beg also to state that I have strong reasons for believing that the half-brothers of Searally Khan Gohlam Mahammed Khan, the Nabob of Bunganpully, have all along assisted Narasimha Reddy and that I hope shortly to forward to the Commissioner sufficient evidence on which he may think it necessary to adopt similar measures of apprehending them and sending them away as prisoners under an escort from the scene of disturbance.

9. This course of proceeding in securing the persons of the chief supporters of Narasimha Reddy, I consider, will be a death blow to all further proceedings on his part, the effect that will be thereby produced in the minds of all will be such as to induce the greater number of those who have joined him at his bidding to desert him while such as are willing to afford him assistance will be deterred from embarking on so rash and hazardous an undertaking.

10. Other persons of influence have also been detected in having afforded assistance to the rebel Poligar and have been apprehended and I am now engaged in obtaining all the information I can with a view to apprehending any such who may have aided and abetted in the disturbance, as the sure means of crippling Narasimha Reddy's influence. This information is, of course, not so readily forthcoming as long as the Reddy is at large, but that which has been obtained will produce a beneficial effect.

25th September 1846,
Camp.—NOOCKAMULLAH. }

I have &c.,
(Signed) J. H. COCHRANE,
Acting Magistrate.

No. 7.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

Adverting to the 5th para of my letter of the 25th instant, I have the honor to report for the information of Government that on receiving a reply in the affirmative from the Brigadier-General of the Division regarding the feasibility of employing Light Company Troops in the Yerramalla hills, I have requested him to order the movement of them to put an end to the disturbances created by the rebel Poligar Narasimha Reddy, the measures I had adopted having as yet failed to effect the object in view owing to the rapidity of the movements on the part of the rebels in so extensive a range of hills, rendering the employment of a Police force alone not sufficiently effective, as the latter cannot be made to pursue a systematic plan of attack and as co-operation from the Police of the Districts bordering on these hills cannot be obtained at the time and place when required to intercept the rebels in their movements, who never remain long in one place.

By posting parties of troops in properly selected positions of the hills and by employing peons and outtobuddies with them and in different parts of the hills for the purpose of affording information as to the localities which the rebels may occupy, the Reddy's party will be shortly run down, by one party relieving the other and following them up. The Magistrate of Bellary, the Commissioner of Kurnool and I will co-operate, as much as possible, in the execution of the service,

I have &c.,

29th September 1846, }
THIMMANAYINPET.

(Signed) J. H. COCHRANE,
Acting Collector.

No. 8.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

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3. With reference to para 2 of the Proceedings of Government under date 1st instant, I have the honor to state that I had, on the receipt thereof issued proclamations doubling the rewards already offered for the apprehension of the Poligar and his principal adherents and availed myself of the permission of offering rewards for the apprehension of 5 more persons without waiting for the orders of Government. The number of persons for whom rewards have been offered is twelve; five have been apprehended and three are supposed to have been killed—the latter point will, hereafter, be ascertained as persons acquainted with those have been sent to the place to identify them.

4. The Quarter Master-General of the army in his letter to Government dated 14th September having been pleased to remark that I had made a fresh demand for troops after having a few days before dispensed with their services and allowed them to return to their stations, which has brought upon me the animadversion of Government inasmuch as my proceedings have been considered, I beg to explain the reasons which induced me to withdraw the troops (though not entirely) at a period, I thought, their services would not again be required. I beg to state that Nursimha Reddy was at that time a fugitive in the Nullamullah hills, which were quite inaccessible to troops, that his followers had been totally dispersed with and that I had not the most remote grounds for supposing that if he was not apprehended in the hills (which at that time under arrangements made appeared highly improbable) he would return and make his appearance in the opposite range of hills. Under these circumstances, I was afraid of incurring the displeasure of Government, if I retained so large a Field force on so remote a probability of their services being again required, the more particularly as troops could so expeditiously be sent into the disturbed part of the District and I considered that one company, which I had all along retained, would meet any emergency of the sort, however improbable it appeared, as the Reddy could not possibly suddenly shew himself in my force. The moment he did return, the promptest measures were taken for the security of the country and every means used and endeavoured for his apprehension and the only chance he has ever given was not lost yesterday.

6. I beg also to observe that at the time I dispensed with the services of so large a body of troops, there was strong grounds for supposing that the Poligar had crossed the Kistnah, as he had not been seen or heard of for days and that upwards of a month has elapsed before a fresh demand for troops was made. I am not inclined to think that if the troop had not been withdrawn, the Reddy would not have returned, for it is now evident he had no place to fall back upon but the hills in his neighbourhood, his doing which no troops stationed in the low country would have prevented. The probability however at the time seemed greatly in favor of his not returning and I acted to the best of my judgment. If therefore I am deserving of censure, I must be blamed for want of judgment and not for indecision and wavering in what I did. I was in anticipation of my proceedings meeting with the approbation of Government and I regret to have been disappointed in this respect.

I have &c.,

CHERLOGLLY, }
7th October 1846.

(Signed) J. H. COCHRANE,
Ag. Collector.

No. 9.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of Government that B. Mullareddy, the eldest son of the rebel Poligar Narasimha Reddy, a lad of about 16 years of age, who was with his father at Rhudrar and had been left at Kotakota from whence he effected his escape, has been delivered up to me and that he is now kept under surveillance.

Adverting to the 1st part of my letter dated 10th August last, I have the honor to state that the family of Narasimha Reddy were on their arrival at Cuddah, provided with a house over which a guard is stationed and that they have been allowed as batta the amount of pension the Poligar was on the receipt of from Government viz., Rs. 10-10-8 per mensem and to solicit instructions in regard to their disposal and to the continuance of the pension for their subsistence. I beg to suggest their removal to another district.

JUMMULMUDGOO,
23rd October 1846. }

(Signed)

I have &c.,
J. H. COCHRANE,
Ag. Collector.

No. 10.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

With reference to extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Judicial Department No. 625 and dated 13th instant, I have the honor to state for the information of Government that 181 prisoners were apprehended at Moondlapaud and shortly after the dispersion of the Poligar's followers at that place, of whom 35 were taken in arms, that thirty three (33) prisoners were, this morning, forwarded to the Commissioner and that the rest with the exception of 12, have all been examined and will be ready for committal just as the Criminal reports are completed.

2. I have the honor further to state that 84 prisoners were taken in arms at the storming of the Pairsomala hill and that 59 have been apprehended since the Reddy's capture at that place. Warrants have been issued and every exertion is being made to cause the apprehension of those who have been concerned in the late disturbance as shewn by the lists referred to in the concluding para of my letter dated 10th August (to the correctness of which the Reddy and his principal adherents have deposed) as also of others implicated by the prisoners already examined and I have every reason to hope by far the greater portion of them will eventually be brought to trial.

3. The number required to be apprehended is about 1,000, of which, merely one half are outtoobuddies or village hereditary Police. In regard to these, I am of opinion, that they should be all deprived of their hereditary emoluments and be otherwise punished as may be decided on hereafter by the Court of Foujdary Adalat: but in respect to the remainder who are of the lowest order and more rabble, living from hand to mouth, most of whom joined the Poligar from want of subsistence in a year of scarcity or were pressed into service, I am inclined to think that it would be advisable to issue a proclamation desiring them to return to their villages and surrender themselves, when due enquiry can be held and some consideration made in the event of nothing appearing against their characters individually previous to the outbreak. I beg to solicit the opinion of Government on this point.

JUMMULMUDGOO,
23rd October 1846. }

(Signed)

I have &c.,
J. H. COCHRANE,
Ag. Collector.

No. 11.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 23rd ultimo, I have the honor to state for the information of Government that 153 persons have been forwarded for trial to the Commissioner, as having been concerned in the late disturbances in this District, that 96 have since been examined and are ready for committal, when the present crowded state of the Jail will admit of it and that there are besides 103 who have been apprehended and are under examination.

2. As owing to the lists of the Poligar's followers having fallen into our hands, as alluded to in my former letters, it is well known to all those whose names are therein entered and who have been concerned in the outbreak, that these lists have been found which will identify them and that they are themselves consequently liable to be seized, they will of course not think of returning to their villages, which unless they do, they will have no alternative but to form into bands and subsist by plundering.

3. I have thought it proper to issue warrants for all those whose names are entered in the lists and, providing the reference to Government made in the concluding part of my letter above referred to as regards the advisableness of proclaiming a conditional pardon to all such who are not outtoobuddies or hereditary village Police, not to stop the process of the warrants, being of opinion (as they will not return to their home until a pardon is proclaimed) that as many as can be, are better apprehended than allowed to wander over the country away from their villages. These form but a small portion of the 4,000 or 5,000 who were with the Poligar at Giddaleor, most of whom though known to have been absent from their villages at the time the outbreak was at its height, it was not thought prudent to interfere with in consequence of their names not being entered in the lists, it being far more desirable that they should return quietly home than be wanderers over the country.

4. As the disturbance has been thoroughly quelled and peace and good order reestablished by so many of the principal adherents of the Poligar having been apprehended, to the number of whom an addition has lately been made in the capture of one Roshe Reddy for whom a reward had been offered, I am inclined to think it would be advisable to confine myself in the trials to the heads and principal persons, heads of villages and others of influence who may have assisted the Poligar and otherwise aided and abetted in the late disturbances.

5. Exclusive of the number of hereditary village Police, there have been 93 persons of the lower classes apprehended and committed, having been either taken in arms by the troops or apprehended in the neighbourhood of the Nullamullah hills immediately after the dispersion of the rebels at Moondlapaud and elsewhere, since on a rough calculation 200 must have been killed and many more, of course, wounded. If the Government are of opinion with me that sufficient of these have been killed, wounded and captured for example's sake, they will perhaps be disposed to sanction the proclamation of a conditional pardon for the remainder, as an inducement for them to return to their villages which, for reasons above stated, they will not otherwise do.

I beg to solicit the instructions of Government on this point and also their opinion and wishes as regards apprehending and bringing to trial as many of the outtoobuddies as possible.

16th November 1846.

I have &c.,
(Signed). J. H. COCHRANE,
Ag. Collector.

No. 12.

TO

THE OFFICIATING SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date 18th ultimo and with reference to Para 4, to state that I have in communication with the Brigadier-General of the Division already arranged for retaining in the field 150 rank and file, a full company of which under command of a Captain has been stationed at Cusbah Koilecoontlah and a detachment of 50 men under a Subaltern at Owk, at which place the Razas alluded to in my letter of the 25th September 1846 resided (one of whom had latterly joined the Poligar) who had acquired considerable influence in the place and consequently have many friends and adherents there. I have also expressed my opinion to the Brigadier-General in favor of a full company remaining in this Talook for some time longer, perhaps for the period of one year. This arrangement made in regard to the number of troops to be retained, is, I trust, in accordance with the views of Government.

2. From the 1st and 2nd paras of the above Minutes of Consultation, it would appear that Government have been led to suppose that the Poligar was in this District during the interval that elapsed from the date of his flight to that of his return, that the rebels who joined him a second time were identified with those who were his followers on the former occasion, that the services of all the troops had been dispensed with and that the Poligar returned immediately after the withdrawal of the military. I beg respectfully to state that the whole of the troops were never withdrawn and that such whose services were dispensed with were not dismissed suddenly. Four companies remained in the field upwards of a week after the total dispersion of the rebel's followers, during which interim I was perfectly satisfied as to the Poligar's destitute and fugitive condition at the time, my information regarding which proved correct, from the circumstance of the Poligar never having been since seen or heard of for nearly six weeks and when apprehended shortly after his reappearance from (sic) hardly a single person (with the exception of the principals who were fugitives with him) of those who joined among the rabble he had lately and within a few days collected. The investigation held since the capture of the Reddy clearly establishes the point that he was a deserted fugitive in the Kurnool Territory. Two companies were then retained for some time longer and latterly only one.

3. The full regiment from Hyderabad and additional reinforcements from Bellary sent into the field without a requisition from me who was on the spot and was the best judge as to whether they were required or not, I dismissed as the order for their movement was made subsequent to the dispersion of the rebels. Circumstances rendered it incumbent on me to do so. The Poligar was at the time a deserted fugitive in the Nullamala Hills where troops could not be employed and I considered 4 companies quite a sufficient force after the discomfiture the rebels met with at Giddaloor and Moondlapaud, which ended in their total dispersion and as it has turned out in their not joining the Poligar again.

4. In retaining what I considered a sufficient number of troops with the Police for security sake and in dismissing the remainder, I felt satisfied that if the Poligar returned at all, he would not do so suddenly or in any force. The events that followed bear me out in the view I took. The Poligar did not return until upwards of five weeks after his discomfiture at Moondlapaud, his followers were in number inconsiderable and never exceeded 200, the force in the field was immediately increased and as stated in the 1st Para of my letter dated 25th September 1846, in four days after the Reddy's reappearance in the District, I had reinforcements detached in parties guarding the principal villages in the neighbourhood of the Yerramala hills.

5. My acquaintance with the nature and features of the Nullamala and Yerramala Hills induce me respectfully to express my opinion that the return of the Poligar would not have been guarded against however large a field force had been retained though perhaps he would have

returned to the Yerramala. It was natural under any circumstances to suppose that if he returned at all he would have taken refuge a second time in the Nullamala Hills, the fastness in which afforded him the greatest security and which being perfectly inaccessible to troops, no field force could have prevented his returning to his old haunts. I therefore did not think that the then existing state of affairs warranted my retaining a body of troops in the field, at an expense to Government on so remote a probability of the Poligar ever shewing himself again at all, far less on the Yerramala hills. The disturbance had hitherto been confined to the Eastern or Nullamulla range in which the Poligar and his principal followers took refuge when every exertion was made and nothing was left untried to apprehend them. They however soon left this District and from nothing having been heard of them, it was universally believed that they had continued to cross the Kristnah.

6. It was with reluctance I called out troops to be employed on the hills in the end as I knew full well the extremely harassing duty they would be subjected to and the obstacles they would have to surmount. I was in hopes the Police force would have done their duty against an enemy smaller in number and not nearly so well armed as themselves, but their cowardice rendered no alternative after the trial was once given and it was fortunate the troops were saved this harassing duty by the Poligar and his adherents being taken at the storming of the Paroosomala hill as reported in my letter of the 7th October 1846 before the troops had arrived even at their respective posts.

7. As matters terminated, the result could hardly have been more successful and favourable. The return of the Reddy under the events that ensued was most fortunate, whereas had the greater portion of the Troops not been withdrawn but been employed in guarding the fastnesses of the Yerramala Hills and thereby prevented his return to those hills, this measure must have been considered a most injudicious one entailing upon the troops harassing duty unnecessarily and defeating, at the same time, our object which was more to capture the Reddy than allow him to be at large; the withdrawal of the troops would have been made at a later period, after a vast expenditure had been incurred in retaining them in the field when in the end the Poligar would have made his reappearance and most probably with greater force, having had more time to mature and carry on his designs secretly and if perchance, he had never returned at all, I should have been liable to censure for having caused such unnecessary expense to Government.

8. My impression is that the Poligar would not have been captured so long as he was deterred from returning to Yerramala hills or shewing himself in the low country with a few adherents, for though deserted by his followers entirely for some time, experience has proved that it was no easy matter during that period to obtain information in regard to his locality, owing no doubt to the excitement that had prevailed and the dread entertained of incurring his displeasure, as also to his not being entirely without friends to afford him shelter secretly. The people had nothing to fear from us by withholding information they could give us, but a great deal from the poligar by affording it and as they were credulous enough to be persuaded by those favorable towards the enemy that the Poligar shortly expected assistance, they thought it advisable to be, what they considered, on the safe side and await the result of events.

9. In regard to the adoption of measures most conducive, speedy and permanent and to the lasting security of the District and public at large and to the interest of the state under existing circumstances, the only one which seemed to present itself was to withdraw the greater portion of the troops (which were replaceable in 3 or 4 days) and to retain only a sufficient force, Military and Police, for security of the District and to run the risk of the Poligar's return. It held out the prospect of more speedily capturing the Poligar if he was determined to act on the offensive again, whereas had the troops been retained to guard against his return, the same ultimate result would have ensued but at a later period and after an additional expenditure. I think the measure adopted was the preferable one, that it was more judicious to meet the evil consequent on the Poligar's return and if required the evil could only, at any rate, be guarded against temporarily by retaining in the field for a period (however protracted it might be) a large body of troops, the withdrawal of which must have eventually have taken place when the Reddy would have shewn himself. Moreover, the chance of his not returning was not to be overlooked.

10. No serious consequences have been occasioned by the measures that were adopted; on the contrary, a satisfactory result. I trust I have clearly shown that circumstances at the time justified my measures, which also had economy and the saving of the troops in view. I trust also under this explanation I may be relieved from the charge of "vacillating and defective judgment" founded apparently on representations made through the Military Department who are not as conversant with matters connected with the late disturbance as myself.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Cuddapah District Magistrate's
Circuit Office, Kolligootla,
2nd December 1846.

Your Most Obedient Servant,
(Signed) J. H. COCHRANE,
Acting Magistrate.

1847

No. 13.

To

SIR H. C. MONTGOMERY, BART.,

OFFICIATING SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Fort. St. George.

Sir,

With reference to extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date 16th March 1847, I have the honor to state for the information of the Most Noble Magisterial Department, the Governor in Council that every exertion has been made to secure "Gosayee Venkyah" who took so prominent a part in the late disturbances and that on the 14th January, I, a second time in offering an increased reward of Rupees 200 for his apprehension, communicated with the officers specified in the * margin as also with the Resident of Hyderabad forwarding to them descriptive Rolls of the "Gosayee" and three others together with proclamations offering rewards for their apprehension, to which I requested publicity might be given.

* Omitted in the copy.

2. These persons have, no doubt, long left the District and it is to be presumed the Gosayee has travelled to a distant country. Eight months having now elapsed since the latter took flight from Moondlapaud (where the rebels were first dispersed) during which period no tidings have been heard of him and all endeavours used towards apprehending him having unfortunately proved unsuccessful, I would beg to suggest that a higher reward be now offered for him with a view to persons in the village in which he lately resided and others in the District who may also be intimately acquainted with him (and who consequently from their cognition of his appearance and features could detect him under any disguise he may have assumed) being stimulated to renewed exertions and induced to leave their homes for distant parts of the country, by the increased remuneration held out to them. I fear there is little chance of the Gosayee being apprehended by a stranger owing to a descriptive roll of a person being always in a great measure defective and not sufficient, if disguise is resorted to, as it no doubt is in the present instance.

Cuddapah District Magistrate's
Circuit Office, Pulivendla,
23rd March 1847.

I have &c.,
(Signed) J. H. COCHRANE,
Acting Magistrate.

No. 14.

To

SIR H. C. MONTGOMERY, BART.,
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
IN THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,
Fort. St. George.

Sir,

Agreeably to the requisition contained in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date 2nd March 1847, I have the honor to submit my Magisterial Department. opinion generally on the report furnished by the Special Commissioner and my views of the causes of the late disturbances in this District and in so doing shall be as brief as possible consistently with the importance of the subject.

2. The report of the Special Commissioner being voluminous and the reasons he has adduced in support of the views he has taken of the causes of the late insurrection, proximate and remote, being scattered, I shall, with a view to facilitate reference, quote *seriatim* in an abridged form the principal points on which his opinion has been deduced and without entering into any disputations thereon, consisely state the grounds on which I differ with him generally in the opinion he has recorded.

3. From the report submitted by the Special Commissioner, it appears that in his opinion the proximate causes of the outbreak were attributable to the measures proposed to be adopted by the Board of Revenue for reforming the village Cuttoobadee Police and more immediately to the resumption of certain "Cuttoobadee Enams", which had been entered in the statements lately prepared as liable to resumption on the occurrence of lapses and that the excitement, alarm and discontent which prevailed throughout the District "owing to rumours current regarding the correspondence carrying on and the measures intended with respect to the *Bhatavrittee* as well as the Cuttoobadee Enams, was much increased by the measures adopted within the last 18 months".

4. The Special Commissioner has stated that it appears obvious to him "that the insurrection was, in the first instance, solely that of the Cuttoobadees and their friends, that it is equally obvious and notorious that the resumption of Cuttoobadee Enams under the order of the Board of Revenue of the 28th May 1846, was the immediate cause of the rising in rebellion by the Cuttoobadee Peons, being as it were the spark which set fire to a train previously laid, the people having been previously aware that such measures were threatened and would probably take place".

5. Mr. Inglis has also represented that "Narasimha Reddy, being of an ambitious and expensive turn, who with an increasing family found the allowance he received of Rs. 11 per mensem quite insufficient for his wants even with the contributions he appears to have been in the habit of receiving from the hereditary retainers of both the families of his father and mother, was solely actuated in his revolt by discontent with his condition in life and perhaps in some degree by the feeling that the impending curtailment of the means of his relations and friends would diminish their ability to contribute as formerly to his support and tend to reduce his circumstances still lower." It appeared to him "that the poligar's relations and friends, the principal cuttoobadees, being alarmed at the threatened loss or curtailment of their Enams consulted and complained to Narasimha Reddy, when the idea of bettering himself and them by an insurrection ending in a compromise such as he may have seen or heard of elsewhere suggested itself to his mind, that the resumption of the Enams already mentioned merely brought to a crisis a conspiracy which had been going on for many months previously."

6. The remote causes of the outbreak, it would appear, has been attributed by Mr. Inglis "to the frequent changes in the office of Collectors in this District" which, he thinks, "have undoubtedly tended in a great measure to produce the state of affairs which ended in open rebellion." "These frequent changes" he has ascribed "to the prejudice that has generally prevailed against this District for reasons assigned, rendering it quite natural that acting Collectors who are of course always anxious for permanent appointments, and permanently appointed Collectors who dislike a District and are anxious to leave it, should be desirous to lose

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no time in recommending themselves to Government by shewing their zeal in bringing forward seeming abuses in the District in which they are and pointing out imperfections in the system of such District (which in his opinion, has often been done) and that in their anxiety to do so, they should be apt to overlook and not sufficiently consider the history and customs of the District, the nature of the tenures of land, and the rights and the feelings of the people whereas, the same individuals, if permanently appointed and satisfied with their situations, might probably hesitate to embarrass themselves by raising discussions prematurely on subjects not long and well weighed and considered".

7. I have given the report submitted by the Special Commissioner my most anxious and attentive consideration and regret I cannot coincide with him generally in the views he has taken of the causes of the outbreak, proximate or remote. There can be no doubt that Narasimha Reddy was discontented and I think it very probable that discontent (I shall not say want of loyalty or disaffection) might have existed to some extent among the 1,557 cuttoobadees throughout the District, whose emoluments were, by the measures proposed, rendered liable to resumption on the occurrence of lapses, as also among 1,396 others whose Enams individually being in excess of Rs. 23-10-0 were proposed to be reduced on their demise to the above standard for the benefit of the remaining 6,032, the emoluments of whom singly fall short of the above remuneration, the minimum it has been deemed desirable they should receive to guard against their services being rendered inefficiently.

8. It is very natural that present incumbents who have been for years in the enjoyment of Enams which had been guaranteed to their ancestors as hereditary and which have always been considered strictly so, should now view any infringement on their rights and privileges with discontent, as involving a breach of faith in the promises made on the part of the Ruling Power, the more particularly as many may allege that notwithstanding the universal complaint of their being as a body decidedly corrupt, no proof of misconduct against them individually has been established to warrant a measure which in its object has the restoration of the Cuttoobadee Police to its former state of efficiency; but that the meditated interference with their Enams by the measure proposed to be carried out for the reform of the Cuttoobadee Police caused such disaffection as to have alienated the minds of the people from their Rulers has not, in my opinion, been established from facts or from results attendant on the late outbreak nor can such opinion after the several points connected therewith which have come under elucidation during the investigation be even assumed on any reasonable conjectures, though perhaps "prima facie" in abstractedly considering the matter and in endeavouring to account for the causes of so sudden an eruption demonstrative of apparent disaffection on the part of the Cuttoobadee peons, there were strong grounds for supposing that such disaffection did exist, which was obviously and naturally caused by the measures proposed by the Board alluded to from the circumstance of so many Cuttoobades having at that particular period, so shortly after the resumption of a few Enams, joined in the insurrection.

9. It is needless for me to enter into the subject of the hereditary rights and privileges of the different classes of Cuttoobadee peons. It has been fully dwelt on by the Special Commissioner, whose views thereon are amply supported by the records of the office, which he has consulted and by the highest authority Sir Thomas Munro. I shall therefore strictly confine myself to the main point and show that the arguments on which the Special Commissioner has deduced his opinions are not supported by facts or borne out by incidents and events that have been ascertained to have occurred during the insurrection.

10. It is to be observed that the reform of the Village Police proposed to be introduced under the sanction of Government was a general one for the whole District, while the disaffection, if any existed, was entirely local, as is evident from the circumstance of the late disturbance having been confined solely, at first, to the Taluk of Coilecoontla in this District, not a single Cuttoobadee from any of the neighbouring Talooks having joined the insurgents and latterly to Bungnapally and part of Kurnool bordering thereon, where, however, no such interference with the Enams of the Cuttoobades was contemplated at all and when it is also taken into consideration that among the total number of Cuttoobades, viz, 300 ascertained to have taken part with Narasimha Reddy, no less than 240 are to be found whose Enams were

For detailed
Statement
marked *

not to have been interfered with as liable to resumption on the occurrence of lapses, but that the emoluments of 79 of them were proposed to be increased to the proper standard, while the Enams of only 60 were liable to resumption as lapses occurred, one cannot but feel convinced that the Cuttoobades in the Coilecoontla Talook in having tendered allegiance to Narasimha Reddy were not roused to adopt their rebellious proceedings owing to disaffection engendered either by the proposed measure for reforming the Police or by the resumption of certain lapsed Enams in conformity with the orders of the Board of Revenue. The latter only, whose services were to have been dispensed with, could consequently have had any grievance or just cause for complaint.

11. If the above exposition of facts is not sufficiently convictive and conclusive there can, I think, be no room left for doubting the correctness of my reasons and the validity of grounds on which I differ in opinion with the Special Commissioner, when to these is added the fact also that not a single Cuttoobadee joined the poligar from any one village (out of 100 comprehended in the Talook of Coilecoontla) which was not in past times attached to the Jaghiredars of Ooyalawada and Nossum held by Narasimha Reddy's, the former by his grand father in the male, and the latter by his grand-father in the female line, the Cuttoobades belonging to which villages were decidedly more favourable towards Narasimha Reddy to whose interests they were strongly fixed than they were disaffected towards Government.

12. The villages which comprised these two Jaghires are marginally * shown and also the number of Cuttoobades in each who identified themselves with the cause of Narasimha Reddy. The total number of those who have taken a part in the late disturbances as above exhibited in detail has been ascertained on data which may be relied upon as strictly correct.

* OOTALAWADA SAMASTANAM.			Names of villages.		No. of Cuttoobades.
1	Ooyalawada	...	...	10	
2	Ramapoor ...	...	...	2	
3	Wontaddoopilly	...	...	...	
4	Reddywari Jambooldinny	...	...	14	
5	Padegapad	...	...	...	
6	Suggapattum	...	...	38	
7	Ulloor	...	...	1	
8	Oumpamalla	...	...	17	
9	Cakarawada	...	...	4	
10	Poochacoyelpully	...	...	...	
				Total...	76
* NUSSUM SAMASTANAM.					
1	Nossum	...	...	...	43

Names of villages.		No. of Cuttoobades.
2	Pedda Yemmanoor	49
3	Golladurti	43
4	Harevarum	...
5	Injadoo	3
6	Mookamullah	...
7	Kistepand	9
8	Roopanagoody	10
9	Pottepaud	2
10	Gondoosmullah	...
11	Toodoosmuddin	...
12	Soodonmullah	1
13	Nayaloor	1
14	Alavakonda	19
15	Reodra	33
		Total... 224
		Grand Total... 300

13. The statement alluded to by the Special Commissioner as having been made by Narasimha Reddy when examined before me to the effect "that the Cuttoobadees insisted upon his remaining with them and going on when he hesitated to take the first fatal step" ought not, I think, to be considered as deserving of such credence or importance as the Commissioner appears to have attached to it or as evincing in support of his views that the Cuttoobades were primarily the cause of the insurrection, for it must not be overlooked that the Deponent was a rebel, one who had opposed for months all lawful authority and who was the avowed leader of the insurgents. No reliance can be placed on a statement coming from a person put on his trial and charged with such serious crimes as he was, the punishments of which, he must have known, was death. This part of Narasimha Reddy's deposition can be viewed in no other light than an attempt to palliate the degree of criminality attached to himself, yet the confession of his guilt in the very same deposition before me on a most important point ought to have its due weight in as much as in the case he had no object in implicating himself as well as implicating others of influence who rendered him a very essential service.

14. I must, here, in explanation of what I have above stated, be guilty of a slight digression which, I trust, the importance of the subject will render any apology unnecessary, no allusion having been made to it in the Special Commissioner's report. The circumstance I advert to is the Poligar having confessed that he, in company with Aswerthum, Ramiah, Narsiah, his principal adherents, visited the Owk Rajahs in their house at their request (on the very evening on which the serious affray occurred at that place attended with the murder of the Curram by one of the principal adherents of the said Owk Rajahs and with the plundering of the town by the rebel insurgents) on which occasion treasonable plans were there discussed to all of which the said principals spoke corroborating each other's statements. Other important disclosures were also made by Narasimha Reddy in the said deposition, to which I shall allude hereafter in support of the views I have taken of the causes of the outbreak.

15. It is to be remarked that even after a cessation of six weeks during which period Narasimha Reddy took refuge in the fastness of the Yerramala hills, his Cuttobadies who were dispersed at Moondlapaud on the first collision with the troops never rejoined him and that among the few followers he had lately re-collected in the vicinity of Owk and in the neighbourhood bordering on the Kurnool Territory who were (with the exception of the few that escaped) killed, wounded and apprehended at the storming of the Paroosomoola Hill at which I was present, only about 25 of the computed number of 5,000 who joined him in the first instance formed his force on the occasion of the second outbreak and of these there were only 15 Cuttobadies, of whom 6 had lately joined. Had the insurrection originated with the Cuttobadies, Narasimha Reddy having been so deserted by them, it is to be presumed, would have made an attempt to escape by leaving the country in disguise instead of re-collecting other followers through the assistance of these Owk Rajahs, who being equally disaffected as himself, were anxious to keep up the ferment by causing a second insurrection; but the circumstance alone of the Cuttobadies having so readily left the Reddy, a deserted fugitive, on the first collision with the troops is, in my opinion, clearly demonstrative of their not having been engaged in a common cause as concerned themselves which engendered their (supposed) disaffection.

16. It is sufficiently established by the evidence of witnesses and by other corroborative testimony and presumptive proof that the Owk Rajahs took a conspicuous part in the second outbreak, cautious and guarded as they certainly were; but the witnesses having on their examination before the Special Commissioner retracted their depositions and stated that they had been compelled by intimidation and maltreatment by the Police to give false evidence before me, has led to a correspondence between the Special Commissioner and myself in which (not coinciding with him in the course of proceeding he adopted and being firmly of opinion that the witnesses had been tampered with by the friends of the prisoners) I suggested in my letter dated 27th February last that a free pardon should be offered to Ramiah with a view to his evidence being obtained in a case of such importance. The circumstances which led to the seizure of these persons of rank and influence and to their being forwarded to Cuddapah under an escort I alluded to in my letter of the 25th September 1846. I beg here to state that the younger brother Narsaranze, who has been sentenced to transportation for life, was living in the same house with his two elder brothers at the time he joined the Poligar in person, that his brothers must have had sufficient influence over him to have prevented his taking such a step and failing this, that it was their duty to Government (one of them deriving a pension) to bring to my notice the circumstances of their having done so (of which they could not have been ignorant) the more particularly as the second brother had been previously summoned in my presence at Gazoolapalli and warned against taking any part in the outbreak then apparently quelled in consequence of a copy of a letter addressed to him by Narasimha Reddy of a treasonable nature having been discovered among other documents found in the fort of Kottacota immediately after the dispersion of Narasimha Reddy's followers in the first instance.

17. From all that has been above advanced, I am firmly of opinion that Narasimha Reddy was not swayed in the part he took as the leader of the rebellion or dictated to in any way by the Cuttobadi peons. The evidence on the record of the trials shows that from the commencement he acted in a most determined and resolute manner, for, in the resistance made by a Daffadar and a few peons, who, when the Treasury of Koilooontla was attacked, ascended the roof of the building and kept the rebels at bay for some time killing a few and wounding several of them by firing on them, Narasimha Reddy snatched a matchlock from the hands of one of his followers, took a deliberate aim at and shot the Daffadar himself, who fell and died almost instantaneously. He also wounded a peon firing a second time. No extenuatory circumstances marked the commission of the deed, and from the determined manner in which he perpetrated this crime, it does not appear that "he hesitated to go on with the rebellion or to proceed to Cuddapah to make a representation to the Collector regarding his circumstances and motives, but was persuaded to adopt the former course."

18. I am not myself aware "that a feeling of discontent and disposition for insurrection prevails universally throughout the district amongst the Cuttobadies," and know not from what source the Special Commissioner has derived his information. I can only say that their readiness to render their services when called for and in great numbers as they were and that the fact of their not having, as already shown, availed themselves of the opportunity offered of joining in the rebellion, would justify a very different conclusion, their conduct having afforded a satisfactory assurance of their fidelity and their feelings of loyalty. I would beg also to observe that no representations have been made to me by any of the several Tahsildars throughout the district of any of these Cuttobady peons having expressed themselves in the manner stated in the 36th para of the Special Commissioner's report.

19. I shall not enter into arguments and disputations on the various points the Special Commissioner has adduced in support of his views, but there is one, which I think, particularly deserving of notice. I allude to the opinion he has expressed that "the discontent occasioned by the measure regarding the Bhutavrittee Enams caused the upper classes generally to view the insurrection much more favourably than they would otherwise have done, the knowledge of which general feeling doubtless encouraged many of the leading insurgents to make themselves more prominent in the outbreak than they would have otherwise ventured to do." This appears to me a very grave assertion, which if founded on correct and authentic information, would involve very serious considerations. I should be very sorry to think that such has been the case or otherwise than that the Special Commissioner has been misled. That the discontent among the upper classes should have been so general as to have induced the principal insurgents from their knowledge thereof to have taken the part they did in the late outbreak, mature reflection will not for a moment admit of my supposing even if the respectable and higher classes of natives did for the reasons assigned view the outbreak with satisfaction or in any favourable manner, which I venture however to affirm with the greatest confidence was not the case. The Bhutavrittee question appears to me to be quite extraneous and foreign to the subject under discussion and on which the report was called for and the measures lately adopted regarding the Bhutavrittee Enams in accordance with the instructions received from the Board of Revenue, I submit, could in no way have influenced parties concerned in the late disturbances. Not a single Bhutavrittee Enamdar was ascertained to have directly or indirectly rendered assistance to the rebels during the late outbreak, and it cannot be reasonably supposed that the insurgents under any circumstances were instigated to commit such acts of outrage by persons from whom they obtained no assistance at the time or expected remuneration or compensation ultimately.

20. It is unnecessary to enter further on the subject and as no reasons have been assigned by the Special Commissioner in support of the opinion he has expressed on this important point, I shall simply state that I differ with him on the grounds of my not having in all my constant travelling from village to village for the last 8 months during the insurrection or subsequently received the slightest information or heard the most vague rumour from any quarter to have justified my thinking for a moment otherwise than that all classes of respectable natives as well as others who had any honest means of livelihood viewed the insurrection with the loyal feelings of the greatest horror and consternation.

21. Having confined myself to the main features of the Special Commissioner's report, as appeared to me most deserving of remark, it rests with the Government to consider whether the reasons for which it has been assumed obvious that the insurrection was in the first place solely that of the Cuttoobadies and that the immediate cause of the rising of rebellion of the Cuttoobuddy peons was the resumption of their

* 12 in number amounting to Rs. 370-4-4

Revenue are sufficiently supported by facts, by any recorded testimony of evidence, or by incidents and events ascertained to have occurred during the period of the outbreak, whether in fact these reasons are or are not the result of consequences deduced from the premises and whether the reasoning is conclusive and ought to carry with it weight in forming a judgment or otherwise.

22. I have only a few remarks to offer on the 4th para of the Special Commissioner's report as regards the remote causes of the outbreak. I must dissent from his opinion therein expressed as the inferences drawn (which in my humble opinion bear the appearance of a fallacy) are at variance with my own feelings by the touchstone of which I should wish to judge of the motives of my predecessors which have guided them in their public capacity and as I cannot think that any measures they may have recommended for adoption and which have been sanctioned or approved of by the higher authorities, could have possibly been the most remote cause of any disaffection, far less of the rebellion against the State which has lately occurred. The subject is one of rather a delicate nature and the arguments advanced appear some what sophistical inasmuch as the duties of this district are not less onerous than any other in the Presidency.

23. I now proceed to submit my view of the causes of the outbreak. I am decidedly of opinion that Narasimha Reddy himself instigated by one Gosayee Venkyah was the *primum mobile*, the mainspring to the whole machinery which set the late treasonable proceedings at work. I purpose to explain why Narasimha Reddy became disaffected, the causes which immediately led to the rebellion and the circumstances which favored his undertaking.

24. Narasimha Reddy's prospects in life were at one time very favorable. The forfeiture of his share as pension on the resumption of his patrimonial estate owing to the misconduct of his father and the comparatively

* The Ooyalwada Jaghire yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 30,480-8-5.

indigent circumstances to which he was reduced, added to the attendant loss of rank, influence and power, made him a discontented man. He is said to have been for years past always repining and drawing a comparison between the rank and affluence of his ancestors and his impoverished circumstances and unexalted condition in life, reduced a pensioner as he was on a stipend of Rs. 11-10-8 a month.

25. I shall here for the information of Government give a short account of the family of Narasimha Reddy and shew the circumstances under which the prospects of his family were destroyed. His two elder halfbrothers, Mulla Reddy and Varada Reddy (who are alive) are the grandsons in the female line of the late Jeyaram Reddy himself, their father, the late Jageerdar of Ooyalawadah having married two sisters, the daughters of the said Jeyaram Reddy, the youngest of whom was Narasimha Reddy's mother. Shortly after the cession of this district to the British Government, Narasimha Reddy, the son of the Jemindar of Nossum (whom I shall designate the "Nossum Narasimha Reddy" in contradistinction to the "Ooyalwadah Narasimha Reddy," the late leader of the rebellion) having become refractory and refused to appear before Colonel Munro, when called upon, absconded. The records do not show what specific charges of turbulence were alleged against him, but it is known that he resisted authority and that after some efforts to apprehend him, his person was secured, and that he was confined in the Fort on the Gooty hill in the Bellary District. Pedda Mulla Reddy being his brother-in-law left his *Samastanum* with his brother Chinna Mulla Reddy and took refuge in the Hyderabad Territory, where they remained 8 years. The Jaghire of Ooyalwadah which yielded a revenue annually of Rs. 30,480-8-5 was consequently resumed and an allowance was granted to their mother of Rs. 88-9-0 per annum. Subsequently the Nossum Narasimha

Reddy was released from confinement and a pension to the large amount of Rs. 8,323-10-5 was granted to him out of the revenues of the Nossum Jaghire. This circumstance induced the father and uncle of the Ooyalawadah Narasimha Reddy to return to this district,

* Rs. 21,840-8-0.
† Pedda Mulla Reddy.
‡ Chinna Mulla Reddy.

when they presented themselves before Mr. Chaplain, the Collector at the time and solicited a pension, who after an enquiry into matters connected with their case, granted a monthly allowance to them of Rs. 70 per mensem, viz., Rs. 35 to each. This amount of pension inadequate as it was, to support them in a suitable manner and altogether very trifling in comparison with the revenues of his jaghire lately resumed, still, the Nossum pension having in the meantime reverted on the demise of the Nossum Narasimha Reddy to his step mother Seetamah, they derived pecuniary assistance from her, one of them being a son-in-law to her late husband Joyarama Reddy in having married two daughters

of her husband by his second wife. The Nossum pension was subsequently after some years continued on the death of the said Seetamah (before the date of which both Pedda Mulla Reddy and Chinna Mulla Reddy died) to Siddumamah, the widow of the Nossum Narasimha Reddy, who also assisted pecuniarily her relatives, the Ooyalwadah poligars, viz., Pedda Mulla Reddy's sons, the mothers of whom were both sisters of her late husband.

26. On the death of Siddumamah, Coomara Mulla Reddy, Vurda Reddy and the late rebel Narasimha Reddy, the sons of Pedda Mulla Reddy advanced their claims for the continuance to them of the Nossum pension on the plea of their relationship as above shewn to the original grantee, the Nossum Narasimha Reddy. This pension having however reverted to Government and Chinna Mulla Reddy's share of the allowance granted by Mr. Chaplain, viz., Rs. 25 per mensem having been continued to his widow Doddumamah, who is still alive, the remaining share of Rs. 35 fell to three sons of Pedda Mulla Reddy. Some disagreements having occurred in the families of the three brothers, Narasimha Reddy separated himself with his family and lived dividedly drawing his third share of the pension which amounted to Rs. 11-10-8 per mensem.

27. Narasimha Reddy being the grandson in the male line to the Ooyalawadah Jemindar and also grandson on his mother's side to the Nossum Jemindar, finding his circumstances so reduced and having a large family to support as marginally shewn, became discontented, while his elder brothers were satisfied with their lot and not only held themselves aloof from the cause of Narasimha Reddy, but afforded me the most essential service during the late insurrection, particularly, Comara Mulla Reddy (who also, of course, had some influence over the retainers of his ancestors) a circumstance which I wish prominently to bring to the notice of Government as deserving their marked approbation. The Cuttoobadies who joined Narasimha Reddy, indiscriminately all are the descendants of the dependants and retainers of Narasimha Reddy's

ancestors from whom they had derived their Enams. Narasimha Reddy, having become disaffected and thrown off his allegiance, it was naturally to be expected that, under the circumstances as above detailed, he could have readily commanded the services and good will of these Cuttoobadies, among whom he had so many relatives and friends. Their having responded to his appeal and identified themselves with his cause is, in my opinion, solely to be attributed to the influence he possessed over them hereditarily.

28. It is worthy of remark that among the many Cuttoobadies I examined not an individual pleaded any grievance as the consequent cause of their disaffection in palliation for their conduct and rebellious proceedings, the common cause in which many as stated in the 35th Para of the Commissioner's report indirectly admitted to have been engaged, must be considered that of Narasimha Reddy, for otherwise they surely would have pleaded the same and stated the causes thereof not indirectly but openly, with a view to the mitigation of the punishment they expected they would be visited with.

1. 1st. Wife's son Buthee Mullah aged 16 years.
1. 2nd. Wife's daughter.
1. 3rd. Wife Wobalumamah.
2. 2 Sons.
 1. Mullah.
 2. Soothiah.
1. Mother Neelumamah.
1. Father-in-law Narrainreddy.
1. Mother-in-law.

24. About a year previous to the insurrection, Narasimha Reddy became acquainted on terms of intimacy with this Venkiah above alluded to, a Gosayer or devotee, who had for years, resided at Ankoomulla, a village not far from Ooyalawadah, whom he was in the habit of visiting as occasions required for the performance of any religious ceremonies etc., etc. To this Gosayer, who was Narasimha Reddy's Gosayer or priest, the latter freely opened his mind expressive of his discontentment and repined at the changes that had occurred in the prospects of his family &c. It has been universally asserted that the Gosayer at first suggested to Narasimha Reddy the justifiableness of having recourse to arms against Government to recover his patrimony and predicted that success would certainly attend him in his undertaking, assuring him that he would by means of incantations and enchantments and such like supernatural powers (with which he was too readily believed to be gifted) guarantee him against injury, that he (Narasimha Reddy) should have a charmed life proof against bullets or any weapons of warfare and in short, be invulnerable.

30. Narasimha Reddy does not enter into these details in his defence, but simply implicates the Gosayer as having poisoned his mind. I here only state what the universal opinion is among all natives from whom my information has been obtained, through the Head Sheristadar and other public servants attached to my outcherry, in support of which opinion, the records show the prominent part the Gosayer took during the outbreak and how Narasimha Reddy was guided by him. These points as involving the primary motives which induced the Reddy to turn his thoughts seriously towards rebelling against the State and other points to which I may hereafter allude as having led, from the best information I can obtain, to the consummation of events that followed, may I think strictly be relied upon as authentic and can, I imagine, be satisfactorily established on a thorough investigation of the causes which have led to the late disturbances, which enquiry, however, otherwise than *viva voce* my other duties will not admit of my instituting and which, moreover, I am not required by Government to make. I have only acted as a Committing officer and the evidence before me on the part of witnesses criminating prisoners and the defences given by the latter throw but little light on the subject as regards the causes of the outbreak. This, I consider sufficiently accounted for by the disaffection of Narasimha Reddy, instigated as he was, by the Gosayer being the principal and chief cause of the insurrection. For otherwise, some further elucidation on this subject would have been obtained.

31. The Cuttoobadies being as already stated, the descendants of the retainers of Narasimha Reddy's family, they had nothing to plead in extenuation of their guilt and simply stated that they have joined in the disturbance because Narasimha Reddy had taken the country. The inference to be drawn is that they voluntarily did so, feelings of fidelity and adherence to their Poligar and master being prominent over all other considerations and that Narasimha Reddy's ambition was the chief cause of the outbreak. The remainder of his followers (with the exception of three Brahmins) were robbers and persons of suspicious character and the "foes populi" who solely joined him for the sake of plundering or for the means of subsistence in a year of scarcity bordering on a famine. The defences given by the Brahmins would, however, lead one to arrive at the conclusion that the disturbances originated with Narasimha Reddy and it is evident from their statements that they were equally as credulous as the Reddy in believing the predictions of the Gosayer and joined in the rebellion in hopes, as they confess, of being promoted to some conspicuous appointments on the Poligar getting possession of the country.

32. The superstitious feelings of Narasimha Reddy, his credulity and the infatuation which induced him to believe that the prophecies of his ministering priest would be verified, his ambitious character and warlike disposition, his disaffection towards Government, all these combined, it did not require much encouragement to induce him to take the fatal step he did.

33. The evidence shows that he had visited Hyderabad, Kurnool and the neighbouring Poligars of this District and it has been ascertained from the statements of some of his principals, that he had possession of a sunnad (supposed to have been forged) bearing the impression of a large seal in Persian characters which he carried about with him stating that it had been sent to him by the Nabab of Goleconda. The purport of the sunnad, it is said, was an injunction to all the Poligars in the Ceded Districts who were formerly attached to the Nizam's

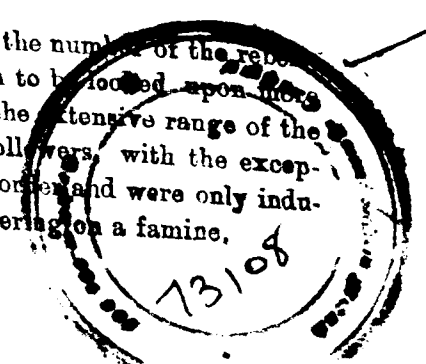
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Territory to assist him (Narasimha Reddy) in the object he had in view. With this sunnad, he visited also all the villages which formerly comprised the jaghires of his ancestors and obtained the goodwill and promised assistance of the Cuttoobadies, easily persuading them, no doubt, that the assistance he expected from other quarters would be great and secure success in his undertaking. At this period, he was accompanied from village to village by these armed Cuttoobadies, who then amounted to about 30 men, which number gradually increased. Narasimha Reddy, in his deposition before me, acknowledged having received the sunnad above alluded to through one Yusuf Khan of Hyderabad, to whom he had written for assistance and confessed to having shewn the same to the persons of influence specified in the margin whom he visited personally, to having then returned to his village and caused the Owk Rajahs to write to the Poligar (Pumpaputy Razu) of Aumagondy Sumastanum in the Bellary District on the subject of the said sunnad having been received with a view to assistance being obtained through their intercession and to having written himself also to the five Poligars of Pundacolah &c. in the same District.

34. Coomara Mulla Reddy having received intelligence of the treasonable intentions of his youngest brother Narasimha Reddy, wrote and informed the Tahsildar of the same a month previous to the outbreak and warned him of the consequences unless prompt and effective measures were adopted to nip the planned insurrection in the bud and also a second letter shortly afterwards from the Village Officers of Jumbaldinnay apprising him of Narasimha Reddy having visited their village and incited the Cuttoobadies &c. among whom several had joined him. Upon this, the Tahsildar issued a warrant for his apprehension, which fortunately brought matters to a crisis sooner than he wished.

35. No further proof adducible by facts can, in my humble judgment, be required to evince and clearly shew that the insurrection originated with Narasimha Reddy himself and that it was not, in the first instance, stirred up by the Cuttoobadies and their friends. The facts as above elicited must speak for themselves.

36. It is unnecessary to dwell on events that occurred from this period till the disturbances were quelled. The Talook Treasury having been plundered by about 200 rebels and the Tahsildar made prisoner, it was to have been expected from the state of anarchy which immediately followed such a catastrophe that parties in great numbers would have flocked to the standard of Narasimha Reddy, most of whom in their ignorance believed that the country was lost to Government, while heads of villages and others of substance, merchants &c. who knew better, only thought of the evil that existed at the time, their best plan of alleviating which to save themselves, they considered, was to side with so strong a party by rendering the Poligar assistance in sending him followers, arms, money, grain &c., and also letters of congratulation—all as a sort of black-mail to save their houses from being plundered and to ward off a more direful consequence such as maiming and wounding, the cutting off of ears and such like summary proceedings attendant on incurring the wrath of the Reddy which they might otherwise have entailed upon themselves. This disastrous state of affairs was greatly increased owing to the incessant rain and to the swollen state of the rivers at the time, causing unavoidable delay in the assistance being rendered by troops. The rebellion cannot, however, be said to have reached to any length, for it was quelled the moment the troops arrived, the insurgents having, as the Special Commissioner has very justly observed, dispersed as rapidly as they had collected on the first collision with the troops.

37. A second outbreak occurred after an interval of six weeks, the number of the rebels, however, never increased above 200 and Narasimha Reddy was then to be traced as the leader of a gang of robbers as he and his followers never left the extensive range of the Yerramala Hills until the very day they were apprehended. His followers, with the exception of those the Owk Rajahs assisted him with, were of the lowest order and were only induced to join him for the sake of subsistence in a year of scarcity bordering on a famine.



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38. The family of the Owk Rajahs are connected with that of the late Rajah of Chitwail, the eldest brother is on the receipt of a small pension from Government and resides in the Chitwail Talook. The second brother was adopted by the widow of the late Zamindar of Owk Samustanum, but on her death her pension amounting to Rs. 2,362-8-0 per annum reverted to Government and the adopted son has become discontented at no portion of it having been renewed to him. They were glad to keep up the ferment not having scrupled to do so as the influence they had acquired in the neighbourhood must have led them to have supposed that there was every probability of their escaping with impunity.

39. The security afforded to Narasimha Reddy and his gang by the fastness of the Yeramula Hills might have perhaps induced him to have imagined (as the Special Commissioner has observed) that he could have succeeded in keeping up the excitement and ferment to so protracted a period that Government would have felt inclined to have entered into some compromise with him, for, among his papers which were discovered at Kottakota there was copy of a letter he had addressed to the Board of Revenue promising allegiance if his patrimonial estate or part of it was restored to him.

40. The Special Commissioner has dwelt at length on the measures proposed for adoption in regard to the reform of the village Cuttoobadee Police and has expressed his opinion strongly against them as dangerous and inexpedient. The subject, in detail, having been already brought under the consideration of the Board of Revenue, I shall but dwell briefly thereon.

41. The Special Commissioner questions whether the proposed measures, if carried out, would be the means of rendering the Police more efficient. My firm conviction is that such would be the result, that the restoration of the Police to its former efficiency would be attendant on a measure which raised the emoluments of those retained as required for service so as to afford them decent competency, who now owing to the inadequacy of their emoluments (amounting only as has been shewn on the average to 1 Rupee per mensem) are obliged to have recourse to illicit means for their subsistence. I must confess I can see no reasons for such a distinction being made between Cuttoobadies and Taliars nor can I understand how by reducing the number of the former and retaining them as Taliars and by thereby increasing the number of the latter, it would be "the means of placing more tools at the disposal of the misul Reddies and Curnums, admitting even that the extent of crime is to be ascribed chiefly to the Heads of villages harbouring robbers and not to the Cuttoobadies being thieves themselves." The Cuttoobadies are no doubt equally subservient to the Heads of villages as the other classes of Village Police and the placing the former on a better footing as regards remuneration for services required would, I imagine, certainly render them in a body more efficient and less inclined to dishonesty either on their own account or in subservience to their immediate superiors.

42. The cause of the inefficiency of the Village Cuttoobady Police has been justly ascribed to the inequality and insufficiency of the remuneration they receive, their lands being generally highly assessed by a quit-rent as to exceed in many instances the survey assessments on lands of the same quality held by oircar ryots, so that many are desirous of resigning their *maniams*, if such they can be called, while in most instances, the remuneration is very inadequate, the average being 12 Rs. per annum, per man.

43. The number of Cuttoobadies exclusive of Taliars, it has been considered desirable should be retained for service, has been decided on with reference to that absolutely requisite according to existing circumstances, their distribution having been proportioned to the exigencies of the several villages. I am therefore of opinion that the Village Police alone would be in number inadequate to the due performance of the duties required of them, the average of 5 for each village as shown in the statement A submitted by the Special Commissioner varying in number as they do though disproportionately as to the size of the village being considered by all former Collectors insufficient.

44. There can be no question that the Cuttoobadee Enams have always been considered hereditary and that the privileges of parties should be maintained and had these maniams been continued hereditarily to the nearest of kin according to the usage of the country, there could have been no cause for interference. Parties of minors or otherwise unfit for service could nominate substitutes, but the emoluments as they are now enjoyed have dwindled to nothing owing to the manner in which they have been allowed to be partitioned and sub-divided among relatives and co-sharers. The sub-division of these maniams have been allowed to be carried on to such an extent that the original rules laid down by which certain classes of the hereditary village officers were required to perform fixed duties have for years exploded and are a dead letter.

45. The establishment as a body has been universally condemned by all my predecessors as decidedly corrupt and dishonest. It cannot possibly be otherwise, considering how inadequate their emoluments are towards affording them the means of honest livelihood and it certainly is a most grievous evil that the villagers should be plundered by the very persons to whom they ought to look to for protection and assistance.

46. A reform in the Village Cuttoobady Police is so much called for that expediency requires that some measures should be adopted toward ameliorating the condition of such who are actually required for service with a view to their becoming more profitable and useful servants of the State. ✓

47. According to the plan proposed, out of 11,756 Cuttoobadies whose enams amount to Rupees 2,93,849, the services of only 1,557 were to be dispensed with and their enams amounting to Rupees 30,984-5-7 were to have been resumed on the occurrence of lapses: a reduction amounting to Rupees 29,623-12-5 in the enams of 1,396 Jungy Cuttoobadies alone whose emoluments (individually exceeding Rs. 23-10-0 the minimum standard proposed to be allowed to each) amount to Rs. 64,738-6-0 was to be effected on the deaths of present incumbents to be transferred to 6,032 persons whose emoluments amounting to Rs. 77,767-10-0 fell short by Rs. 64,738-6-0 of the proper amount according to the standard above mentioned. The remainder viz Rs. 32,980-8-0 was to be continued hereditarily to the present holders. Rs. 4,130-4-0 would be the eventual loss to Government after deducting the two items viz, 29,623-12-5 being the amount of reduction in the maniams of 1,396 Cuttoobadies and Rs. 30,984-5-7 being the enams of 1,557 Cuttoobadies whose services are to be dispensed with and whose maniams were to be resumed on the occurrence of lapses, total Rs. 60,608-2-0 from Rs. 64,738-6-0 being the amount to be made good to 6,032 persons, the value of whose maniams were below the standard.

48. The proposed adoption of a measure by which the immediate cost incurred to Government annually would be Rs. 64,738-6-0, an amount which would only gradually be reduced by the resumption of enams as they lapsed, to an eventual loss of Rs. 4,130-4-0 and by which measure the number of the Cuttoobadies who would benefit by the increase of emoluments preponderates, cannot have caused such universal disaffection. Doubtless, the heirs of parties whose enams were to be resumed on the demise of present incumbents and of others whose maniams were made liable to reduction on lapses are somewhat dissatisfied, but there has been no deducible evidence from any movement on their part to shew that they are so. Unadvisable as it is certainly as a general rule to tamper with the enams hereditarily enjoyed by parties, still as the exigencies of the State require that a more proportionate and equal sub-division of the enams should be made by the introduction of some general reform, it remains for the Government to decide under existing circumstances and taking into consideration the manner in which these Cuttoobady enams have been partitioned and that they may be considered as service maniams, whether they are disposed to sanction, as not involving any harsh or unwarrantable measure, the resumption of the enams of some and the reduction in the enams of others which are excessive, to the extent required to such exigency or whether the Government think it preferable that the proposed measure should be carried out at an additional cost.

49. If I may be allowed to express an opinion in the matter, I would beg to recommend, after all that has occurred, a modification of the proposed measure, the hopes and expectations of such Cuttoobadies whom it would affect having been buoyed up by the report of the Special Commissioner (the subject of which as far as it concerns their interest is now generally known

to them). Disappointment may create further dissatisfaction, after their cause has been so strongly advocated in favour of the non-interference with their rights and privileges as they have thereby been given to understand that the measures are considered harsh. I would beg to propose that enams entered in the statement as liable to resumption on the death of present incumbents (the services of their heirs being dispensed with) should only be resumed in the event of a late incumbent not having left a son, a widow, or brother (who has lived undividedly) and as regards Jungy Cuttoobady enams entered as liable to reduction to the standard of Rs. 23-10-0; that emoluments of such exceeding Rs. 40 after the deduction of the usual remission should only be so dealt with and that lapsed enams in excess of Rs. 70 should not be reduced to the full extent proposed, but to Rs. 40. These measures as modified would be some what more favorable for the Cuttoobadies and would press with less severity on the heirs of those whose emoluments run high while at the same time though an increased expenditure would be incurred, still it would be considerably under the costs of the plans suggested by Government in extract from Minutes of Consultation, 21st November 1843, which were exhibited in my letter, dated 16th December 1845.

50. The subject of Bhatavrittee Inams, though in no way connected with the late disturbance, has occupied a considerable space in the Commissioner's report. Our differences of opinion as to the nature and origin of these *rent free grants*, the purposes for which they were bestowed and as to whether they do or do not fall under Regulation IV of 1831 will be decided by the most competent judges. The subject is, however, one of great interest and importance and I am therefore induced to offer these few observations. The term Bhatavrittee was introduced by the former Government as the *Sunnads* and written orders of servants of former Government satisfactorily show, alluding as they do, to grants bestowed as charity under the said term, the derivation of which implies "means of subsistence or livelihood to Brahmins" and these grants having been granted to parties by the former Government. Mr. Inglis appears to be mistaken in supposing that enams having no specific designation at the time the country was surveyed, were classed as Bhatavrittee, if belonging to Brahmins. Kyrathi enam being of the same description were also granted by the former Government, but such as were bestowed on Brahmins were designated at the time as "Bhatavrittee," those given to Muhammadans as "Kyrattee," and both were entered under the general head of "Dharmadayem" in the statement framed by Sir Thomas Munro. They cannot, I conceive, be considered as secular grants under the most strained interpretation of the terms Bhatavrittee and Kyrattee as designated by the former Government or of that of Dharmadayem. There is no recorded opinion of this great authority as to the light in which these enams were considered by him whether of a secular or charitable nature, but, whatever might have been his opinion on this point, as also as regards the manner in which these grants should be dealt with, still Regulation IV of 1831 promulgated subsequent to the date on which he is stated to have framed his order alluded to as regards the classification of Bhatavrittee enams, declares, that grants of a charitable nature are not transferable and that claims advanced to them are not cognizable by the local Courts. The question, it appears to me, is whether these enams are or are not to be considered as having been bestowed by the former Government for charitable purposes and not whether Sir Thomas Munro could have been aware at the time that any subsequent Regulation would affect these enams of whatever nature they may be considered, admitting even that the term Bhatavrittee was introduced by him, which was, however, not the case. To enter into particulars on this important subject would lengthen this report considerably and I should, in a great measure, be only reciting my opinion already expressed in the appeal motion dated 11th December 1846, which I forwarded to the Judges of the Court of Sudr. Udalat, to which I would beg to refer the Government.

51. These enams having been allowed to be considered transferable and cognizable by the local Courts, the insecurity of tenure is very great, great inducement being held out to persons to get possession of them in an unlawful manner by false documents and although the practice has prevailed for so many years, it can never be too late to correct an existing evil, particularly as the said practice, so highly objectionable for various reasons quite unnecessary for mention, is clearly in direct contravention to the spirit of the Regulations, for, I imagine, there can be no doubt, that these enams are strictly grants of a charitable nature. I am aware from

* Bhuttee=
Brahmins,
Vrittee=
Livelihood or
maintenance.
* Kyrattee adj.
intended for
charitable pur-
poses, given
or to be given
or received in
charity.—
SHAKESPEARE'S
Hindustani
Dictionary.

what source the Special Commissioner has obtained his information as to the "discontent, alarm and excitement" he states "to have prevailed, owing to the measures intended in respect to these Bhatavrittee enams". But having made every enquiry I venture to assert with the greatest confidence, that it would afford the present incumbents, generally the greatest satisfaction, if the prohibition in regard to these enams being transferable as contained in Regulation IV of 1831 was in future to be strictly enforced and I am equally satisfied that, if claims of parties to succeed to these enams were rendered not cognizable by the local Courts, but decided by the Governor in Council after due investigation and in such manner as he may deem fit and that in such adjudication by Government if these enams were dealt with as hereditary and continued in accordance with the usage of the country and the cherished feelings of the people in a similar manner as parties succeed to private property, confining however the renewal of them to lineal descendants and failing them, to adopted sons, (the registry of which adoption must be required to be made six months previous to the demise of the adoptive father) and to brothers having lived undividedly with the late incumbent and if a registry of all parties as they succeeded was kept, these measures would afford the greatest and most universal satisfaction by the security they would hold out to parties in the enjoyment of their privileges, whereas by the practice that has hitherto prevailed I am certainly inclined to think from matters that come under my knowledge that the uncertainty of tenure is very great.

Order of
Government,
dated 10th
March 1846.

52. No restrictions having been hitherto placed in the renewal of these enams granted as the *Sunnads* show as strictly hereditarily, claims on whatever grounds advanced having been admitted and such enams having been for a series of years considered private property, it may perhaps not be considered as conceding too much, if the renewal of grants were sanctioned in the manner abovementioned on the occurrence of lapses, disallowing, of course, all claims otherwise advanced by parties more distantly connected or on documents such as *Danapatrams* &c., which latter, if acknowledged, would render the enams transferable and defeat the desired object.

53. Should the Government be of opinion that this would be conceding too much, the renewal of these grants by the adjudication of Government to descendants in the male line alone, would, I am sure, afford the enamdars more satisfaction than if the present practice was

54. If on the other hand, it is decided that the enams ought to be considered as transferable and cognizable by the local Courts as not falling under Regulation IV of 1831 and that Government have no reversionary interest in the matter in default of heirs on the demise of incumbents, some measures should, I think, be adopted if it were only to check false litigation and its concomitant evils and render the occupancy of parties more secure.

55. The Government in the extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date 5th September last, required me to report the measures I would propose to guard against the recurrence of similar outbreaks. I beg to state that the measures as suggested by the Special Commissioner towards improving the general efficiency of the Police appear to be in every way judicious, the adoption of which would doubtless produce beneficial results, particularly, the plan proposed of opening the *passes* and improving the roads and thereby affording increased facility of communication from one part of the district to another.

56. In a province intersected, as this is, with ranges of hills over which there are numerous *passes* or *ghauts*, the employment of a body of Pioneers organized as *militia* for the purpose of carrying out so desirable a measure would at the same time greatly check the perpetration of gang robberies and if a few Irregular Horse were also placed at the disposal of the Magistrate (as in Kurnool and in Bellary), this measure would considerably tend in addition towards the efficiency of the Police. A body of mounted Police of this description, from the rapidity of their movements, are of the greatest assistance in intercepting and cutting off any gangs of robbers before they have time to retreat to the hills after any incursion they may have made into the open country and they are held in great terror and dread. A small body of only 50 would, I am satisfied, be of the greatest service towards the security of the district.

The placing of the Police upon a better footing and equality with those in other branches suggested by Mr. Inglis, I think, **deserving of consideration** and I equally coincide with him in regard to the propriety of **adopting the measures he has suggested**, of affording the Headmen a remuneration commensurate with the duties they have to perform, and an equitable distribution of service namums both to Reddies and Curnums in accordance with a view to induce them to become more honest servants, being of paramount importance. These measures have, however, been in operation since last *Fuly* under sanction of the Board of Revenue.

17. The plans above suggested though they have reference more particularly to the general efficiency of the Police, if carried out, must necessarily tend towards guarding against a recurrence of an outbreak similar to that which has lately taken place. The outbreak in the second instance was caused by the *Owk Rajahs and Mahomed Ali-Khan (a half brother of the Nabob of Banganapally and natural son of the late Nabob) also a discontented person at variance with his brother and with the Nabob himself. Mahomed Ali-Khan, to whom I have not hitherto alluded, appears from the records of trials before me to have taken a part in the Simha Reddy and has, I believe, been committed to the Special Commissioner's cage by the Commissioner of Kurnool. It is evident under all the circumstances connected with the insurrection that discontented, adopted and illegitimate sons of late Poligars (to whom no pension or a trifling portion has been renewed on the death of their fathers) have caused and kept up by their countenance the ferment in the district owing to the influence they possessed in the neighbourhood and it appears therefore necessary to devise some plan to check and curtail in future such influence devoted to such injurious purposes.

59. I am inclined to think the means to this end might be effected by all adopted and natural sons of deceased Poligars to whom the pensions of their fathers had not been continued or only in such portion as to render it probable they would be disappointed, being sent to reside in some other part of the district away from the scenes in which they were brought up and from the persons who continue to look up to them with the same feeling of awful respect and veneration (a circumstance which enables the latter to keep up their dignity and influence) and who being retainers, the descendants of retainers of their ancestors, are too much under their control.

80. Of the Owk Rajahs, one of them was in the receipt of a pension from Government which he drew in the Chitwail Talook of Rs. 14 per mensem, but during the disturbance he came and resided with his two younger brothers at Owk. The latter have no pension, hold puttah lands to a very inconsiderable extent and apparently have no ostensible means of livelihood, though they kept up their rank and dignity in the place and with their servants and retinue lived in a style as if they were *bona fide* the lineal descendants of the late Zemindar of Owk and in the receipt of the pension, the adoptive father of one of them lately drew, living in fact on the ryots from whom they obtained payments and from whom they made their collections annually in grain during harvest time either by fair means or otherwise by visiting such as refused to contribute in the manner required, with their displeasure which rendered a compliance as the only alternative, the lesser evil.

61. The levelling to the ground of Forts and fortified positions in the neighbourhood of and on the Yerramula hills, at least such as are not so dilapidated as to prevent their being put in a state of defence in a short time is, I think, a measure which ought to be adopted. Under instructions from Government, Major Harris having been directed to inspect and report on the hill country in this district as well as in Bellary and Kurnool and on all Forts and fortified positions which may exist in the ranges of the Nallamala and Yerramala hills, it is unnecessary for me to allude further to the subject.

I have the honor to be,

Your Most Obedient Servant,
(Signed) J. H. COOKE
Agent

CUDDAPAH DISTRICT MAGISTRATE'S
CIRCUIT OFFICE, AT POOLEVENDLA
15TH APRIL 1847.

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