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(6 sheets)

A
SELECTION
OF
PAPERS FROM THE OLD RECORDS
OF THE
CUDLAPAH DISTRICT
Vol V

(6)

15 sheets

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OFFICIAL REPORT OF A REVOLT BY POLIGAR NARASIMHA REDDI IN KOILKUNTALA TALUK (WHICH FORMED PART OF CUDDAPAH DISTRICT) IN 1846, VOL. V.

CONTENTS.

Letters received from the Board of Revenue—

- (1) Letter No. Nil, dated 25th March 1847, requesting the Collector to send a copy of his report regarding the causes of the recent outbreak at Koilkuntla.
- (2) Letter No. 397, dated 1st May 1847, report on the forts and strongholds in the Yerremalai and Nallamalai hills between Kurnool and Cuddapah.
- (3) Letter No. 358, dated 15th May 1847, remarks of Government on the report referred to above.
- (4) Letter No. 351, dated 26th June 1847, resuming the pension of Poligar Narasimha Reddi and doubling that of his brothers.
- (5) Letter No. Nil, dated 9th July 1847, granting pension to the relatives of Public servants in Cuddapah District, who lost their lives during the late disturbance.
- (6) Letter No. 695, dated 16th October 1847, Government passing orders on the letter from the Court of Directors regarding the commendations of the said Court for the action taken to suppress the insurrection.
- (7) Letter No. Nil, dated 15th May 1851, regarding the question of restoration of a share of the inam to the brothers of Nandhrugadu who was one of the adherents of Narasimha Reddi.
- (8) Letter Board's No. 421, dated 10th August 1848; Govt. No. 381, dated 4th June 1852. Board's review on the reports of the Special Commissioner and Magistrates of Districts (Cuddapah, Kurnool and Bellary) on the disturbance caused by the late Narasimha Reddi and the observations of Government thereon.

Letters sent to Board of Revenue—

- (9) Letter No. 89, dated 14th December 1846, regarding the misconduct on the part of the late Tahsildar of Koilkuntla during the late disturbance.
- (10) Letter No. 47, dated 6th September 1847, Collector's report on the petition of the Tahsildar of Koilkuntla for restoring him to his post.
- (11) Letter No. 59, dated 15th October 1847, regarding the repayment of pension to another Poligar who had taken a conspicuous part in the disturbance.
- (12) Letter No. 69, dated 25th November 1847 (extract of paragraph 48 of the letter), statement showing the different items of circular collections which had been plundered by rebels on the occasion of late disturbance from the Treasury of Koilkuntla taluk on 10th July 1846.

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Letter—from D. WHITE, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.
To—J. J. COCHRANE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah.
Dated—the 25th March 1847.
No.—Nil.

With reference to the extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date 2nd March last, No. 184, requiring you to submit your view of the causes of the recent outbreak in your district, and your opinion generally on Mr. Inglis' report of the 19th January 1847, copy of which was transmitted to you direct from Government, I am instructed by the Board of Revenue to request that, after despatch of your report to Government, you will be so good as to furnish them with a copy of it for their information.

Letter—from Colonel W. STRAHAN, Quartermaster-General of the Army.
To—Lieutenant-Colonel BROWNE, Secretary to Government, Military Department.
Dated—the 1st May 1847.
No.—307.

With reference to the Order of Government No. 665, dated the 9th February last, I have the honour, by desire of His Excellency the Most Noble the Commander-in-Chief, to forward the accompanying copy of Major Harris's (Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, Ceded Districts) report upon the hill country between Kurnool and Cuddapah, as desired by the order of Government above referred to.

ENCLOSURE.

Report of Brevet-Major Harris, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, Ceded Districts, on forts and strongholds in the Yerra Mulla and Nulla Mulla Hills, as pointed out to him by Sub-Officers of the Civil Department, deputed by the Collectors of the several districts, with general description of those ranges, prepared agreeably to the orders of Government, Minute of Consultation No. 95, dated 6th February 1847, and letter from the Quartermaster-General of the Army, No. 335, dated 11th idem.

With a view to simplifying the details, the report is divided into two parts—the first comprising a description of the forts on the Yerra Mullas, and the general character of the country, and the second of those pertaining to the Nulla Mulla range and, as far as practicable, a declaration of that densely wooded tract. The places described are entered in this report in the order in which they appear on the map.

YERRA MULLA RANGE.

Yerra Mulla range, its direction, extent and breadth.—The Yerra Mulla range takes its rise about 8 miles east of Yamavaram in the Jammalamadugoo taluk, Cuddapah zillah, on the high road from Madras to Bellary, and its general direction is from south by east to north by west as far as Moonemadugoo, and from south, south-west to north, north-east, thence to within 4 miles of Kurnool, a distance of about 70 miles; its breadth varies from $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to 12 miles.

Fort of Gunjiccottah: situation, extent and present state.—The first place met with on the range, about 12 miles from the eastward, is Gunjiccottah, a fort of some pretensions, which was garrisoned by British troops for some years after it was taken from the Moolhamaddan power. It is situated on the right bank of the river Pennar at its junction with the Shetravaty, which rivers conjointly pursue a serpentine course through the range at this point. The western face of the fort overhangs the river at an elevation of about 350 feet, and commands the approaches from the northward and southward by its bed. Its form is indescribable, the works, with the exception of the east and a portion of the south faces, which are at right angles to each other, following the curvatures of the bluff, and rugged rock on which it is built.

The extent of the body of the place from north-east to south-west is 3,574 feet and from east to west (the broadest parts) 2,684 feet.

The number of bastions is 22 square, and 20 in round, and the distances between them vary from 60 to 1,200 feet.

The square bastions on the east, and south faces, are pierced for cannon, the embrasures being square holes made in the parapets, which rise to several feet above them; the flanks only project about 6 feet in front of the curtain, and are not provided with embrasures.

There is only one gun in existence, and that in a perfectly unserviceable condition, but 2,000 maunds of powder, and 2,000 balls of sizes are said to be in an old magazine the doors of which are built up with stone.

The north face measures 4,995 feet.

The south face 3,396 feet.

The east face 3,576 feet.

The west face 2,187 feet.

The walls are constructed of stone throughout,—the old or Hindu portion without any other cement than a little mud, while the Mahommadan portions, principally on the east and south faces, are pointed with chunam.

The heights of the walls vary from 25 to 30 feet, and their thickness from 6 to 24.

There is no ditch.

A rampart and banquet run round the works generally.

There are two entrances to the Fort, one on the east or land face, and the other on the west or river face. The ascent to the upper gate from the river is defended by two other gateways, screened by a wall which runs up the side of the Hill, and of which they form the points of junction. These have all three been recently built up by the inhabitants as a protection against thieves, and under the dread of gang robberies, two having occurred within the last three years, so that there is now only one way of access, viz., by the eastern or land gate.

The approaches to Gunjeecottah from the river side are four in number three of which are accessible to cattle laden, while the fourth or the easternmost one is practicable for country carts. This leads to the east or land gate of the Fort, and commences at a ruined village immediately opposite to the town of Kaderabad, about a mile distant, and across the river. There are numerous foot-paths from the surrounding villages to the summit of this portion of the range.

The bed of the river forms the high road between the eastern and western parts of the Jammalamadugoo taluk, and is passable for country carts, excepting during the rains, which usually occur in the months of June, July and August, when the communication is confined to winding foot-paths, along the sides of the Hills.

The position of Gunjeecottah and the height of its walls, render its appearance from the outside, imposing; and its outward aspect conveys the impression of its being in a good state of repair, but this illusion is speedily dispelled by a visit to the interior, where a gradual decay progressing towards final desolation is indicated by surrounding objects.

The ramparts and banquets have in many parts fallen down; there is a breach in the wall to the right of the east or land gateway, two breaches in the walls on the south face were repaired by a subscription raised amongst the inhabitants when the late disturbance broke out, and with the exception of the Masjid and Minar, all the buildings are in ruins, while those portions of the works which have the outward appearance of stability would crumble and fall under the impulsive power of a few discharges of Artillery.

A deep ravine runs north and south about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and covers the Fort of Gunjeecottah to the eastward half a mile from the nearest point; it is screened by a stone wall on its inner side, or that nearest to the Fort, which is now falling to pieces.

The population consists of about 500 persons occupying 117 houses inside the Fort, and 200 occupying 47 houses in the Pettah, at a distance of three hundred yards from the Fort to the eastward.

The Fort contains seven Bowries and reservoirs; three of the former of which usually run dry during the hot season; the rest always afford an abundant supply.

Outside the Fort, and near the Pettah, there are also two Bowries that can always be depended on for water.

The general character of the ground about Gunjeecottah is that of sterility, the whole surface being covered with stone, with a sprinkling of bushes, principally thorn and prickly-pear, and tufts of a coarse kind of grass; it is gently undulating, about four miles across, and the descent to the plains on either side precipitous, though not unaccessible to foot men excepting in some parts where the strata assume the form of a wall which is perpendicular and impracticable.

The inhabitants are dependent almost entirely for sustenance on supplies of grain, etc., brought from below, and the very few articles that are grown in the slips of gardens in the neighbourhood such as turmeric, yams, sweet potatoes, plantains, oranges, etc., are cultivated for exportation to the market towns in the vicinity.

Dubboodapally, small fort: its extent and state.—The next village on the range about ten miles north-west of Gunjeecottah is Dubboodapally in the Jammalamadugoo taluk, Cuddapah zillah. It is situated close to its western edge; at a distance of 200 yards north of the village, there are the remains of a small quadrangular fort which measures from north to south 344 feet, and from east to west 290 feet. It is built of stone laid in mud, with rampart, parapet,

and a ditch 12 feet broad and 12 feet in depth. The ditch is entirely formed by a bank of earth thrown up on the outside, and lined with stone. It has no bastions, and no gate, and is altogether in a state of dilapidation.

The village contains 33 houses and about 100 persons.

There is only one Bowry, and that in the Fort, where it is turned to good account in watering a small field of Congonee, and one shop in the village.

Footpaths traverse the hill from the surrounding villages, and the character of the country continues the same as has already been described, open, very strong, and partially covered with bushes, and tufts of grass; small patches of cholam and castor-oil plant are met with occasionally but the inhabitants for the most part obtain their food from the villages below in exchange for firewood.

About 2 miles west of Dubboodapally and at the foot of the declivity is a large rent, called by the natives a *Kona*, caused by the rushing of the waters during the monsoon, and screened by the overlapping of a shoulder of the hill; it was used recently as a hiding place by the insurgents, and possess as the convenience of a good supply of water, but is altogether indefensible.

Oorchintala: its situation, extent, etc.—Eight miles north-north-west of Dubboodapally is the village of Oorchintala in the Taudputry taluk, Bellary zillah. Here is a small quadrangular stone Fort, with round towers at the angles.

It measures from north-east to south-west 279 feet and from south-east to north-west 255 feet, and is rapidly going to decay, — having no gateway, and the walls tumbling down in several places.

It is occupied by a small Jageerdar, and his family, and contains one Bowry of brackish water.

The village of Oorchintala is composed of 52 houses, and 150 persons, and possesses three Bowries that always contain water, and 2 that run dry in the hot season, and the people are dependent for nearly all their supplies on the weekly market held at Taudputry, which is about 6 miles distant.

Tallarycherroo: its situation, extent, etc.—A small village about 2 miles north-west of Oorchintala, in the Taudputry talook, Bellary zillah, having a Fort of exactly similar description, in a ruinous state, and occupied by the inhabitants. It contains 45 houses, and 150 persons, 4 Bowries that always supply water, and 1 shop.

Between Oorchintala and Tallarycherroo on the western edge of the hill is another rent or small screened valley, with a large Pagoda, and walled enclosure, and an abundant supply of water. The country continues open and gently undulating with here and there a deep ravine, and covered with stone and bushes as before stated.

Toomulapentta: its situation, extent, etc.—A small village 8 miles north by west of Tallarycherroo in the Jammalamadugoo talook, Cuddapah zillah, with a quadrangular Fort similar both as to extent and condition as those of Oorchintala and Tallarycherroo. It contains 209 houses and 588 persons, 2 Bowries and 1 shop.

Toomulapentta is situated at about 2 miles from the western edge of the hill, which continues precipitous, and is about 400 feet above the plain in that direction, while to the eastward the descent is very gradual for about 4 miles, at which distance about north-east several small hills spring up abruptly to the height of between two and three hundred feet; they are, without any other vegetation than thorn and prickly-pear bushes, and only one of them has a hamlet containing 10 houses on it, the inhabitants of which are obliged to descend the hill to procure water.

Two miles west-north-west of Toomulapentta there is a pass through the range leading from the Koilkuntla talook, Cuddapah zillah, to the Yadikee talook, Bellary zillah; the road is practicable for country carts and is used extensively in the conveyance of timber from the Nalla Mulla Hills to the eastern talooks of Bellary; about midway in the pass a tank of considerable size has been formed by a bund thrown across it, which irrigates a large patch of paddy pertaining to the village of Bagasamoodram, situated below the range on the western side, and in the Yadikee talook.

Baergul: its situation, extent, etc.—West-north-west of Toomulapentta 9 miles is the village of Baergul in the Panchepollum talook, Bellary zillah;—here is a small quadrangular fort with six round bastions, and measuring from north to south 200 feet, and east to west 340 feet. The village is surrounded by a wall connected at its south-east and north-west angles, by two round towers. Four of the bastions have fallen, and the wall of the fort on the east and west faces, while the whole is fast going to ruin.

Baergul contains 250 houses, 900 persons, 9 Bowries, and 2 shops. In the hot weather, after a bad season, water fails entirely, and the inhabitants are obliged to go to a distance of two miles to the westward with their cattle for that necessary of life.

South of Boorgul 3 miles in the Yadikee talook, Bellary zillah, there is a deep ravine called "Cotaryadoo Dewasthanam" and west of Boorgul 2½ miles another of a similar description called "Anthergungah," where the people say thieves hold their councils, but they are in reality nothing more than the common Nullahs or ravines met with in every hilly country, and no one can tell when they were used for the purposes ascribed to them.

Cholam, and the castor-oil plant are cultivated to a small extent but beyond this the food of the people is brought from the villages on the plains.

Oopulpaul: its situation, extent, etc.—North-east of Boorgul 6½ miles is the village of Oopulpaul, in the Koilguntla talook, Cuddapah zillah, adjoining the village and partially inhabited there is an old Fort in ruins, pentagonal in form, with 13 round bastions, and measuring on the east face 600 feet, on the south face 450 feet, on the west face 430 feet, on the north face 440 feet, and on the north-west face 260 feet. One bastion is entirely down, and the rest partially so; and there are several passages over the walls.

Oopulpaul contains 207 houses, 1,006 persons, 10 Bowries and 2 shops.

The country continues as before described.

Raicherlah: its situation, extent, etc.—North-west of Oopulpaul 6 miles is situated the village of Raicherlah, having a small stone, quadrangular fort adjoining it, and the ruins of a wall, with 16 round bastions surrounding it.

The fort measures from north to south 451 feet, and from east to west 360, and is surrounded by a shallow dry ditch.

It has 11 round and 1 square bastions.

One bastion has fallen down entirely and the rest are going to decay.

The wall on the east face has given way, and affords a passage into the fort.

The gateway has fallen down, and there is no gate. Indeed the whole place is in a melancholy state of desolation; it now consists of only 250 houses (the remains of a town numbering about 2,000), 1,232 persons, 5 Bowries, 4 small tanks and 1 shop.

The country continues of the same character as above described, but with small hills on either side, and rather more brushwood.

The land about Raicherlah is cultivated to a considerable extent, and yields the principal portion of the food of the inhabitants.

Moonemuddugoo: its situation, extent, etc.—North-north-east of Raicherlah in the village of Moonemuddugoo in the Panchepolliem talook, Bellary zillah, to which a fort of similar style, and dimensions as at Raicherlah is attached, but in a more advanced state of dilapidation.

Moonemuddugoo is situated in a hollow between the hills to which the descent is gradual from Raicherlah.

The town is in a condition similar to that of Raicherlah having once consisted of about 5,000 houses, which are now reduced to 206, with 777 persons, 50 Bowries, and 5 shops.

The place is considered unhealthy, and inhabitants are subject to dropsy, but the cause assigned for its depopulation is the carrying away, about 80 years since, by a native Mussalman commander, of the whole of the merchants and dealers of any substance to the Nizam's Dominions, on which their dependants left it in search of employment elsewhere.

The same is said of Raicherlah.

The country about Moonemuddugoo, and extending for some miles, is of more mountainous character, but continues open having only a sprinkling of bushes on the sides of the hills, and the ravines clothed with brushwood, in which offenders against the laws might evade detection for a time, but they would afford no protection or security when discovered.

Bhadrachellam: its situation, description, etc. etc.—About 8 miles east-north-east from Moonemuddugoo is a place called Bhadrachellam in the Panchepolliem talook, Bellary zillah, and spoken of as a fort, but which it would be difficult to discover as such were not the remains of a few walls, particularly pointed out. It is situated on the eastern edge of the range 1½ miles west of the small village of Mettopilly, and 4 miles north-north-west of Owk, both on the plain, in the Koilguntla talook, Cuddapah zillah, and, I conceive, is about 300 feet above them. The ascent is steep and difficult for cattle from its rugged and stony nature.

On the approach from the eastward the eye is struck by the strange appearance of strata of rock running in parallel lines and varying in height to 20 feet, and so chiselled by the hand of time as to give them a resemblance to the ruins of some vast city.

Some centuries since, as would appear from their present condition, an attempt seems to have been made to establish a position by throwing walls across the opposite ends of two of the lines of the rock above described, and building up any opening existing on either side; the result of which has been an enclosure measuring from north to south 500 feet, and from east to west, about 750 feet.

There are the remains of one square bastion on the west face; one on the south face, and one on the east face; but the whole now wears the appearance of having been destroyed by some convulsion of nature.

On the north face is a deep ravine which in the wet season contains water, but is now dry. Water is abundant in a Nullah close by, and communicating with the enclosure by two narrow ways on the south face, and is said to remain the whole year ruined.

This Nullah with the same strata of rock, howbeit on a smaller scale, extends westward as far as Moonemaddugoo, being in that direction covered by a good deal of low jungle, and in any part of which thieves and robbers might find shelter, as long as they were not sought after.

To the north and south of Bhadrachellam the country is open but stony; on the east is the ascent from Mettopilly, and westward the Nullah already alluded to, and I am of opinion, that, although an armed gang might probably temporarily resist the civil authorities, a rabble to any amount would be dislodged from it in a few minutes by a company of regular troops, and the terms 'fortification' or 'stronghold' seems to me quite unapplicable to it.

Pyent Puspullah: its situation, description, etc.—North-west of Bhadrachellam about 8 miles is the village of Pyent Puspullah, in the jagheer of the Nawab of Banganpilly with a small ruined Fort similar to those already described, and situated amongst small hills, on the high road from Cumbum to Bellary.

To the eastward 14 miles in the town of Banganpilly, beyond the Yerra Mullah range, and to the westward eight miles, the village of Teldroog within the range, having a small fort, similar in extent and condition to that at Pyent Puspullah.

Hence the Yerra Mullah range changes its direction from south by west to north by east and rapidly decreases in breadth until its termination in a point near Kurnool, where the table land is not more than half a mile in extent. The hills continue barren and with the exception of a hamlet here and there are altogether wast.

General remarks.—Having traversed the Yerra Mullah range, and visited such places as were pointed by the Civil authorities as deserving of notice, I may be permitted to observe that, with the single exception of Gunjeecottah, a place well known on the high road from Bellary to Madras, no such thing as a fortification in the strict sense of the term exists;—and although its surface is rough, being nothing more nor less than a bed of rock undergoing the process of breaking up, and consequently so far difficult, it presents no other obstacle from end to end to the free passage of troops, and it is crossed by such numerous footpaths that no impediment would be found in the transport of camp equipage, etc., on cattle.

The only roads practicable for bandies through the range in its whole length are those indicated, viz., at Gunjeecottah near Toomulapentah, and from Banganpilly via Pyent, Puspullah and Teldroog towards Gooty.

NULLA MULLA RANGE.

The range of hills commonly called the Nulla Mullas extend from the immediate vicinity of the town of Cuddapah in a northerly direction as far as the Kistna river, a distance of about 130 miles, and are in the Cuddapah Collectorate, with the exception of a narrow slip on their western edge in the Kurnool Zillah, which runs from Gazullpully, north-north-east to the Hoossainnuggur ghaut on the Kistnah, about 60 miles.

Rungahreddycoottah—its situation, description of, etc.—The only fort indicated by the Collector of the Zillah, as existing on these hills, is called Rungahreddycoottah, and is situated midway between the villages of 'Roodrar' on the western side, and 'Cottacottah' on the eastern side, the whole distance being about 30 miles.

On arrival at the site of Rungahreddycoottah which occupied six hours from Cottacottah, I found it so overgrown with trees and long grass that it was with difficulty I ascertained what was the nature of this reported stronghold, but which proved on a minute examination to have once been a small quadrangular fort, having six round bastions, one at each angle, and one in the centre of the north and south faces.

The fort measures from north to south 254 feet.

Do. from east to west 117 feet.

It is built of rough stone, without any cement, and is now mere heaps.

Water.—There is the bed of a small tank within a few yards, but no water within three miles.

After entering the jungle, water was only met with once, and that a mere pool in the bed of a ravine, which would very shortly be dried up.

The road.—The road, which is a mere footpath, is, in some parts so steep and stony, and so shut up by the overlapping of bamboos, and a peculiar kind of thorn, that it was with difficulty my horse was led over it, and the guides furnished by the civil authority declared it impossible for a horse to descend from Rungahreddycoottah to Roodrar, although it might at the risk of breaking its legs come up from that place.

Passes through the hills.—The passes through the range are three in number:—

First, the Nandialpettah pass, distant from Cuddapah, to the Northward, 19 miles, leading to Badvel and Cumbum.

Second, the Yadadugoo Pass, distant from Cuddapah to northward, 23 miles, leading to Cumbum. These are both practicable for bandies.

Third, the Nandy Canamah Pass, distant from Cuddapah 70 miles, north, is the direct road leading from Bellary, Ghooty, and Kurnool to Cumbum, Dhoopsud and the Northern Circars, but is barely passable for bullocks laden, wheeled carriages being obliged to make a detour of from five and thirty to forty miles and proceed by the Yadadugoo Pass.

Footpaths over the hills.—There are several footpaths across the hill, which are very little frequented, and that only by individuals having occasion to visit the villages on the opposite sides:—

First, Goota Canamah between Roodrar in the Koilgoontla taluk, and Giddaloor in the Cumbum taluk, Cuddapah Zillah.

Second, Cottah Canamah between Buswapoor, Koilgoontla taluk, and Cottacherroo, Cumbum taluk, Cuddapah Zillah.

Third, between Naglapoor in the Kurnool Zillah, and Awkneed in the Cumbum taluk, Cuddapah Zillah.

Fourth, between Naglapoor in the Kurnool Zillah and Cottoor in the Cumbum taluk, Cuddapah Zillah.

Fifth and sixth, Koorty Canamah, and Muntrull Canamah both between Atmuccoor in the Kurnool Zillah and Dornal in the Cumbum taluk, Cuddapah Zillah;

Seventh, between Movacherroo in the Kurnool Zillah and Guntawanpilly in the Cumbum taluk, Cuddapah Zillah.

And there are doubtless others known only to the Chenchewars, a race of men who dwell in the jungles, and obtain a scanty livelihood from roots, herbs, honey, and a chance elk, or deer that may occasionally fall to their bows and arrows.

The breadth of the range varies from about 16 to 20 miles, to the northward of the Yadadugoo Pass; between this and Cuddapah it is considerably circumscribed.

General character of the hills.—The Nulla Mullas are covered with a dense jungle composed, on the lower parts, of them intermingled with forest trees, and on the upper of forest trees and bamboos and are generally impervious, both from the closeness of the jungle and the precipitous and rugged nature of the soil.

There are numbers of places of refuge, provided by nature in these hills, where bands of rogues or rebels might for a season, escape the arm of the law and set the civil authorities at defiance; but so inimical to human life, according to common report, is the climate that a protracted stay in any of these retreats would assuredly rid the Government of the greater portion of them, in corroboration of which opinion I may mention that according to the testimony of some few persons who having been implicated in the late Reddi's rebellion had fled to these jungles, and were driven from their hiding place by the alternative of speedy death, or returning to their houses. Hundreds of their companions had been carried off by fever, and to this is to be added the difficulty of procuring food, which in itself would necessitate a speedy withdrawal unless supplied by plunder, or the good will of the proximate villagers; which latter it is to be feared, was extensively the case during the late disturbances, and against both of which the only feasible provision would seem to be military posts for protection and prevention.

Regular troops would necessarily have to encounter some difficulties in traversing these hills by the few footpaths that are known to exist, and indeed but little advantage could be expected from it; yet, in the event of circumstances rendering it indispensable, there is no difficulty that might not readily be overcome, and as far as I could learn, and judging from the general character of the country at the season in which I last visited it, when the grass had been burnt, no natural position from which any amount of rabble could not be immediately dislodged.

Ramachamully, 20th April 1847.

H. L. HARRIS, Major,
Deputy Asst. Quarter master-General, Ceded Districts.
J. ANDERSON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding, Ceded Districts.

(True copy.)

T. A. JENKINS, Captain,
Asst. Quarter master-General.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 15th May 1847,
No. 358, Judicial.

Read the following extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department:—

(Here enter 4th May 1847, No. 2348).

The most Noble the Governor in Council observes from the Report furnished by Major Harris on the Hill country between Kurnool and Cuddapah, that there are twelve forts in the Yerramulla and Nalla Mulla ranges, of which two only seem ever

to have been of any importance, Gunjiccotah and Bhadrachellam. Of the former the ramparts and banquets are represented to have fallen down in many parts, while, as Major Harris states, those portions of the work which have the outward appearance of stability would crumble and fall under the impulsive power of a few discharges of artillery. It is stated that in an old Magazine of this Fort is a quantity of powder and balls. His Lordship in Council considers it desirable that this should be ascertained and that whatever powder may be found should be removed or destroyed if unserviceable.

2. Major Harris' account of Bhadrachellam does not bear out the opinion of its strength given by Ensign Firth of the 19th Regiment, N.I., in his letter of the 6th October 1846. His Lordship in Council however resolves, with reference to the recommendation of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, conveyed in the Quarter-master-General's letter of the 23rd October, to forward Major Harris' report to the Board of Revenue, with a request that they will, in furnishing copies of the same to the civil authorities, instruct those officers to be careful that no addition or repairs are ever allowed to be made to these unoccupied places of defence, amongst the Hill tracts of the Cuddapah district.

(True extract)

H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated the 31st May 1847.

Ordered that copy of the foregoing extract from the Minutes of Consultation and of the papers which accompanied it be communicated for the information and guidance of the Collectors and Commissioner of the Districts noted in the margin, whose particular attention is called to the orders therein conveyed.

(True extract)

D. WHITE,
Acting Secretary.

Letter—from G. A. BUSHBY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Revenue).

To—Sir H. C. MONTGOMERY, Bart, Secretary to Government, Fort St. George.

Dated—the 26th June 1847.

No.—551.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 673, dated the 8th instant, and to acquaint you that in compliance with the recommendation of the Most Noble the Governor in Council, the President in Council is pleased to sanction the third share of the pension drawn by the late Poligar Narasimha Reddi to be resumed, and the remaining two-thirds or Rs. 23-5-4 drawn by his two elder brothers to be doubled and continued for life in the name of Coomara Mulla Reddi, as a mark of the approbation for the services rendered by him during the recent disturbances created by the former in Cuddapah.

I have, etc.,

FORT WILLIAM,
The 26th June 1847.

G. A. BUSHBY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 818.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue, with reference to their proceedings, dated 27th May 1847, No. 260, and also to the officers of Account and Audit.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
17th July 1847.

H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Secretary to Government.

V-3

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd July 1847.

Resolved that a copy of the foregoing order of Government, and of the letter from the Government of India to which it relates, be transmitted for the information and guidance of the Collector of Cuddapah, with reference to his letter, dated 12th May last:

(True extract)

D. WHITE,
Acting Secretary.

To J. H. Cochrane, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah.

Read—the following letter :—

Letter—from L. DORR, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department.

To—the Chief Secretary to Government of Fort St. George.

Dated—Fort William, the 9th July 1847.

No.—1425.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Secretary Sir H. C. Montgomery's letter in the Judicial Department to the address of Mr. Secretary Bushby, No. 436, dated the 15th ultimo with its enclosure, and in reply to inform you that as therein

	Amount of pension.	recommended, the Honourable the President in Council is pleased to sanction pensions for life to the aggregate amount of Rs. 62-12-0 per mensem to the nearest relatives, as noted in the margin, of the Public Servants of the Government in the District of Cuddapah who lost their lives in the service of Government during the
Seshammah, widow of Jangam Reddi Streenivasa Row, Tahsildar ..	35 0 0	
Bhavaneebhoys, widow of Ramprasad, Daffadar ..	3 0 0	
Fautma Bebee, widow of Syed Enom Daffadar ..	4 0 0	
Ramaabhoys, widow of Hannman Singh, Surcheysum ..	5 0 0	
Janakcebhoyee, widow of Gopaul Row, Carcoon ..	6 0 0	
Jamnabhoys, mother of Boulajee, Peon ..	1 12 0	
Nursummah, widow of Canagery, Curnum of Owk ..	4 0 0	
Chenchukah, widow of Appaswami Reddi of Owk ..	4 0 0	
Total per mensem ..	62 12 0	

late disturbances in that district, the pensions to take effect from the dates on which the heads of the families concerned respectively lost their lives.

2. The original Descriptive Roll of the Pensioners which accompanied Secretary Sir H. C. Montgomery's letter under reply is herewith returned as requested, copy having been kept for record.

No. 531.

Ordered that a copy of the foregoing letter be furnished to the Board of Revenue for communication to the Magistrate of Cuddapah.

Ordered also that the sanction of the Government of India be communicated to the Offices of Account and Audit.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd August 1847.

H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT from the proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th August 1847.

Ordered to be communicated for the information and guidance of the Collector of Cuddapah.

(True extract)

D. WHITE,
Acting Secretary.

To J. H. Cochrane, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 16th October 1847, No. 695, Judicial.

The Most Noble the Governor in Council proceeds to pass orders on the letter in this Department from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 22nd June 1847, No. 14.

1. Copies of paragraph 1 of this despatch will be furnished to the Board of Revenue and to the Military Department in view to the commendations of the Honourable Court being communicated to the officers and men concerned in the suppression of the insurrection in Cuddapah.

EXTRACT from a General letter from the Honourable Court of Directors, dated 22nd June 1847, No. 14.

1. *Disturbances in Cuddapah.*—With the letters noted above, you have transmitted to us a copy of the proceedings relative to an insurrection in the district of Cuddapah which at one time threatened to assume a serious character, but which was happily suppressed by the capture of the Poligar Narasimha Reddi, the leader in the insurrection, and of several of his principal adherents, in an action in which a considerable number of his followers were killed. The activity and energy of Mr. J. H. Cochrane, the acting Magistrate of Cuddapah, and of Captain Nott, who commanded the detachments of troops, of Lieutenant Russell, commanding the Kurnool Horse, and generally of the officers and men engaged in this service, were most praiseworthy.

(True extract)

H. C. MONTGOMERY,
Secretary to Government.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th November 1847.

Orders to be communicated to the Collector of Cuddapah, and to the Agent to the Governor in Kurnool.

(True extract)

D. WHITE,
Acting Secretary.

To J. H. Cochrane, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th May 1851, Revenue.

Read letter from the Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated 8th April 1851, in reply to the Board's letter dated 27th February 1851, respecting the petition of Venkatappa, lately a sharer in a Cutbuddy Enam in the Coilgoontla taluk.

(Here enter No. 28.)

Paragraph 1.—It appears from the endorsement on this person's petition, that he was one of three brothers holding shares in a small Cutbuddy Enam of the net value, after payment of Joori, of Rs. 5-14-2, that the brothers disagreed, and divided the Enam, which however still stood registered in the name of the eldest of them, Nanchurgadoo. This man, it appears, became in some manner mixed up with the disturbances created by the rebel Poligar Nursim Reddy and was imprisoned. It is not alleged that either of his two brothers were in any manner implicated but as the Enam stood in the name of Nanchergadoo, the whole of it was resumed by the late Collector and Magistrate, and apparently incorporated with the Government lands.

2. On receipt of the petition from Venkatappa, one of the other brothers, and a perusal of the Endorsement of the Acting Collector, it appeared to the Board that innocent and unoffending parties had by this measure been made to suffer for an offence in which they took no share and they expressed their opinion that as they were avowedly in the separate enjoyment of their shares of the hereditary Enam at the time of the occurrence above referred to, those shares ought not to have been resumed in consequence of the offence of their elder brother. The Board at the same time requested to be informed under what authority this Enam, and others attached on similar grounds were originally resumed.

3. In his reply now under consideration, Mr. Murray objects strongly to the restoration of their share of the Enam. He considers that 'it would be tantamount to sanctioning the subdivision of these Service Enams so repeatedly condemned by the Board of Revenue,' that 'the present sanction of a portion of the Enams to the petitioners virtually dis-annuls (annuls?) the orders' of the Board of Revenue and of Government which he has quoted. He is of opinion that 'if any restrictions be placed on the authority of the Collector and Magistrate in respect to the dismissal of village officers with forfeiture of emoluments, it will be attended with serious consequences as regards the welfare of the Province'. He deprecates very strongly the interference of the Board of Revenue as subversive of the authority of the Collector, and earnestly requests the Board 'to consider well before they issue orders for the restoration of any one dismissed'.

4. The Board think that on the present occasion Mr. Murray has misapprehended the object of the orders regarding the subdivision of Enams to which he refers, as well as the intention of the Board in the instance under reference, and this appears to have arisen for his confusing the dismissal of village servants for offences, and the *transfer* of their emoluments to others who may be appointed to conduct the duties with the entire resumption of such Enams. Considerable latitude has been granted to the Collector in removing inefficient or corrupt village officers and making over their service Enams to others, but the Board are not aware that he has received authority absolutely to resume such Enams and incorporate them with the Government lands without reference to higher authority. He himself observes that only

(Paragraph 3.) in cases 'where the Meerassy is excessive, is the amount resumed incorporated

with the Circar lands, for all others, it is appropriated to those who perform the duties of the village officers', but has not shown that the Enam was excessive in the present instance, or what provision has been made for the performance of the duties for which the Enam was granted.

5. It is quite true that both the Government and the Board have given orders to discourage the subdivision of Enams which has been carried to so inconvenient an extent in Cuddapah, but they are not aware of any instance where a division having already taken place, the misconduct of one of the co-sharers has been considered sufficient ground for subjecting the shares of others to forfeiture. The insufficiency of one share for the due remuneration of the person holding the office has been admitted to be a good ground for transferring to him the shares of others, but the extinction and not the greater efficiency of the office appears to have been the result in the present instance.

6. Mr. Murray argues the case as one of the resumption of an Enam for misconduct and in the concluding paragraph of his letter, he speaks of its restoration at some future date 'when the conduct of the parties is amended', but he seems to have overlooked the circumstances that the conduct of the petitioners has not been called in question and that they were deprived of their shares not for their own misconduct but for that of their brother. The Board did not express any disapproval of the resumption of his individual share, although as the entire Enam appears very small, and the forfeiture of portion of it may reduce it too low to afford an adequate remuneration for any service, they consider that it would have been preferable that the share of the offender should have been made over to one of his brothers and the service exacted from him.

7. The Board wish to point out to the Acting Collector that the object of the instructions which have from time to time been given on this subject has been essentially the increased efficiency of the several descriptions of village service, to which the Enam is attached, but in the present instance, this forms no part of the question. The effect of resuming a part or the whole of a small Enam is either to *diminish* the efficiency of the service or to abolish the office altogether, and the Board did not contemplate either of these alternatives in issuing the instructions referred to by the Acting Collector. They consider that no such office created by the State, can properly be cancelled, except under the authority of Government.

8. The Acting Collector is therefore requested to state whether the service in this case is now performed by any one, what the number of Cudbuddy peons in the

village is, and whether the entire Enam, as it before stood, was more than sufficient for the remuneration of the service for which it was granted, and on receipt of his reply, the Board will pass orders on the subject.

9. With reference to the remarks contained in paragraph 6 of the Acting Collector's letter, the Board think it only necessary to observe that while they will always be ready to uphold the legitimate authority of the Collector and support his orders, where they appear to them judicious and proper, they are not prepared to admit that their 'interference' is likely to be productive of the evil consequences anticipated by Mr. Murray, nor can they consistently with their duty, dispense with all supervision of his proceedings in regard to the important subject of the Village Servants, or abstain from revising his acts where they may appear to them defective or unjust.

(True extract)

W. H. BAYLEY,
Secretary.

To M. Murray, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah.

EXTRACT from the proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th August 1848, No. 421.

Read Extract Minutes of Consultation under date 2nd March 1847 forwarding report of the Special Commissioner in Cuddapah of the 19th January on the origin and causes of the outbreak in that district for any observations the Board of Revenue may desire to offer, especially with reference to that portion of it which adverts to the interference with the Cuttoobudy Enams of the District seemingly contrary to the wishes of Government conveyed in a letter, dated 18th September 1821, and directing all orders for their discontinuance to be held in abeyance.

(Here enter No. 148.)

Read also Extract Minutes of Consultation under date 27th May 1847, transmitting reports from the Acting Magistrate of Cuddapah, and the Agent in Kurnool dated 15th April and 11th May 1847, respectively, for consideration with the above.

(Here enter No. 382.)

Read also Resolution of Government, dated 26th August 1847, sending the report of the Collector of Bellary of the 29th July 1847 on the same subject.

(Here enter No. 595.)

Read also Extract Minutes Consultation under date 4th January 1848, transmitting a copy of a Despatch No. 19 from the Honourable Court of Directors, dated 13th October 1847, for the information and guidance of the Board, and calling attention to the Court's orders for the suspension of all interference with Bhutvurtee Enams in like manner as had already been prescribed by Government in the case of the Cuttoobady lands.

(Here enter No. 4.)

Read also letter from the Collector of Cuddapah under date December 16th, 1845, forwarding revised statement, and affording the explanation required by the Board regarding the proposed reform of the Village Police of his District.

(Here enter No. 94.)

Read also Extract Minutes Consultation, 8th February 1848, communicating extract from the Honourable Court's Despatch No. 27, dated 21st December 1847, relating to the disturbances in Cuddapah and directing that no time be lost in removing from the minds of the people all apprehension that the rights of property will not be duly respected by the Officers of Government; also requesting the Board to report what measures are adopted towards giving effect to their orders.

(Here enter No. 101.)

Paragraph 1.—In the month of May 1846 the local authorities of the Talook of Coileoontla in Cuddapah became acquainted with rumours of suspicious movements on the part of a descendant of one of the dispossessed Poligars of that District named Narasimha Reddy, who was stated to be parading the country attended by a number

of armed men, and conferring with the former Military retainers of his family. In the month following he sent for his pension or allowance, instead of attending to receive it in person. Although similar applications had sometimes been granted, the Tahsildars in consequence of the above reports declined acceding to his request on this occasion and desired him to come himself to the Catcherry. Compliance being evaded, a detachment of Police was sent to apprehend him. The attempt was not successful. Narasimha Reddy at once broke into open rebellion, plundered the Talook Treasury and made head against the constituted authorities, until the appearance of regular Troops. His first success drew numbers of idle and dissolute characters to his support but he was joined by no adherents of any weight or respectability, and only by those of the Village Militia who had formerly derived their fiefs from his family. On his first encounter with a small party of regular Troops, the whole body of his followers dispersed. He again attempted to make head in the mountainous tracts to the East of the District but without success. The only support he received in his last attempt was from the covert aid of another dispossessed family (the Owk Jamindars) and a discontented relative of the Nabob of Banaganapally. None of the Cuttoobadies again joined him, and the few persons who did were of the poorest and most desperate description.

2. The reports of all the officers under consideration unite in describing Narasimha Reddy as a man of a moody and dissatisfied temper. He was the youngest of three brothers, representatives on their father's side of the Poligars of Oyelwada, a district assessed at Rs. 30,480-8-5 and through their mothers (their father having married two sisters, the daughters of the last Poligar) of the Zamindar of Nossam whose estate was rated at 21,840-8-2 per annum. On the Cession of the Bellary and Cuddapah Provinces by the Nizam, both these Petty Chiefs were deprived of their lands in common with many others who received pensions or allowances varying with the circumstances that led to the resumption in each case.

From Collector, dated 15th April 1808.

From Collector, dated 13th August 1808.

From Collector, dated 15th September 1822.

Rs. 35) descended to this three sons of whom Narasimha Reddy was the youngest. Unable to agree with his elder (half) brothers he separated from them and claimed his share of the pension. Contrary to the usual rule, this farther subdivision was permitted; and burthened with a large family of his own, he set up a separate establishment on the pittance of Rs. 10-8-6 per mensem. The Nossam Poligar on the other hand, though this Estate was smaller, received the more liberal allowance of

From Major Munro, dated 15th November 1802.

From Collector, dated 24th March 1817.

From Collector, dated 22nd November 1830.

then reverted to Government and a request preferred by the Oyelwada family in 1830 to procure its continuation in their favour was rejected. The two elder

brothers acquiesced in this decision and have uniformly manifested their submission to the constituted authorities, but Narasimha Reddy appears to have been unable to reconcile himself to his straitened circumstances. He is represented as having for some years past led an unsettled life eking out his small income by appeals to the inhabitants of the former estate of his Grand-father, several of whom being heads of villages and large farmers were not unwilling to contribute to his wants. At other times he sought for service in the Nizam's country and at one period was engaged by a dependant of the Bunganapully Nawab. In these precarious circumstances he fell in with a Gosaen or recluse named Venkiah residing at Akoomalla in the Coilkoontla Talook. It is not clear whether this man was a mere fanatic or one of those disaffected characters who under the cloak of ascetic observances are too ready to engage in seditious proceedings. This much however is certain that about a year before the outbreak, an intimacy sprung up between them that the Reddy found a sympathising listener to the detail of his grievances, that he was encouraged to look to force for the recovery of his rights that predictions of entire success were confidently pronounced, that he was dazzled by prophecies of future greatness and dignity, and

that his courage was fortified by charms against the power of hostile weapons. A surmise is hazarded by the Special Commissioner and adopted by others that Narasimha Reddy was not the dupe of these representations, but merely wished to compel attention by a show of resistance, and to purchase the concession of his demands as the price of his abstinence from mischief. But the general tenor of his conduct and the concurrent description given of his character are opposed to this supposition. It seems more probable that a fancied sense of injustice working on a proud and sensitive mind, prepared him for the reception of dangerous counsels, while the contemplation of his poverty and embarrassments made him reckless of consequences and the credulity of superstition encouraged him to rely on the success of a trial of strength. At the very time that these causes of excitement were in full operation, the contumelious treatment of the Tahsildar hurried him into the premature develop-

NOTE.—All the local officers concur in bearing testimony to the offensive proceedings of the Tahsildar, though the Special Commissioner singularly enough draws from them a conclusion the very opposite of that which seems obviously to have presented itself to every one else. The forbearance shown to the Tahsildar after he was taken is sufficiently accounted for by the fact of his being a Brahman and a follower of the same sect or Muthum as the Reddy.

ment of his schemes. There is no evidence whatever to show that he had any ulterior views. His acts were those of a hasty desperate man who had nothing to lose and sanguine

enough to believe he had much to gain. This is not the first instance of the confidence of ignorant and misguided men in schemes which could not but end in disappointment and ruin, and it seems unnecessary to impute motives unavowed by the parties themselves and which, there is no real ground to suppose, had any place in their deliberations.

3. The preceding observations apply to the personal motives of the leader of the outbreak only, those which induced his followers to embark in the same cause are now to be considered. It has already been stated on the concurrent testimony of

Special Commissioners's Report, paragraph 35. Special Commissioner fully agrees, that, with the exception of certain Cuttoobuddies

Peons, none but the lowest and most worthless characters took part in the insurrection. The participation of the Cuttoobuddies has been accounted for by the fact of their hereditary connexion with the Poligar family, from which the Reddy is descended. Mr. Inglis alone not only endeavours to explain their ready adhesion by a reference to some late measures for the improvement of the Police introduced by the

Paragraph 5.

Board of Revenue, but is of opinion that it was in fact 'the resumption of certain Cuttoobuddies Enams' (in connexion with the abovementioned plan) 'which immediately led to the insurrection.' He then points out that in December 1845 the

Acting Collector despatched a report on the said Police arrangements, that in the beginning of the following year he requested instructions regarding the disposal of certain Manyems of deceased Cuttoobuddies, that in conformity with the directions of the Board of Revenue under date 28th May 1846, the lands of 23 individuals, all of whom, except two, had left heirs, were resumed in the month of June that one of these was an extensive Cavilli Maniem, that with the exception of four, all the lapses occurred in Koilcoontla or adjoining Talooks, and that the Cuttoobadies of Goondladoorty, Nossam and other villages of Coilgoontla, in which such resumptions occurred, were the first to take Arms. He then proceeds to show that the origin of the outbreak was simultaneous with these proceedings, that the rumours of disturbance were first heard in June, that in July these were confirmed by the movements of Narasimha Reddy, that wherever he went the Cuttoobadies turned out to receive him, that the Cuttoobadies sent to apprehend him went over to his side, that on the 10th July the Cuttoobadies summoned to defend the Taluk Cutcherry, deserted to him on his making his appearance, and that the whole body of Cuttoobadies in that neighbourhood were more or less implicated in the insurrection.

NOTE.—To the same effect he states in another place, paragraph 35, 'the insurrection was in the first instance solely that of the Cuttoobadies and their friends', and again, 'it is obvious and indeed notorious that the resumption of the Enams under the orders of the Board of Revenue was the immediate cause of the rising in rebellion.'

4. The coincidence pointed out between these occurrences and the agitation of the Police reforms lend an air of plausibility to this conclusion. But no argument beyond this coincidence has been adduced by Mr. Inglis in favour of his view, and the facts stated by the other local officers not only lend no support to his opinion, but

Mr. Scott's report, paragraph 5.

lead to a totally different conclusion. Messrs. Scott and Cochrane go farther and express their entire dissent from Mr. Inglis' views. The former observes that no such grievance was brought forward at the time, and that neither he nor his Assistant Lieutenant Russell who was actively engaged in quelling the outbreak ever heard any complaint on the subject from the Cuttoobadies. The Acting Magistrate of the district Mr. Cochrane who had certainly equal or rather superior opportunities of forming correct judgment, declares, that the facts of the case are altogether opposed to the Commissioner's inference. He observes that the measures affecting the Cuttoobadies were general, while the disaffection was local and confined entirely to Coilgoontla (Narasimha Reddy's) talook, and latterly to Bunganapally and parts of Kurnool districts, exempt from the operation of the abnoxious measure, that of the

See Marginal Statement of paragraph 12.

Oyalwada retainers	76
Nossum retainers	224
	300

total number of Cuttoobadies who joined Narasimha Reddy, not exceeding 300 in all, the Enams of 60 only were liable to resumption on the occurrence of lapses, while of the remaining 240, 161 were holders of Enam not liable to resumption under the new Police arrangements, and of those whose Enams being considered inadequate were to be raised to the annual value of 23¹⁰/₁₆ Rupees, that of the 23 cases of lapses detailed by the Special Commissioner, the representatives of two only can be shown to have joined the insurgents, that of the whole number of villages

Villages in the Oyalwada Palliem ..	10
Villages in the Nossum	15
	25

comprised in the Coilgoontla talook amounting to 100, the Cuttoobadies of 19 only took part with Narasimha Reddy, that these 19 villages were all of them included in the Polliems of Oyalwada and Nossum, the only remaining six villages of which contained no Cuttoobadies, and that the Cuttoobadies of the rest of the District numbering 11,756 individuals not only exhibited no signs of discontent but rendered good and zealous service against the rebels.

5. These facts are conclusive. The blind attachment of such feudal retainers to their Samasthans is well known, and is not confined to Cuddapah. Examples can easily be cited where, in like manner, the landed retainers without being able to plead the shadow of a grievance flocked to the standard of their supposed liegeland under circumstances as desperate and holding out just as slight prospects of success as the enterprise of Narasimha Reddy.

Special Commissioner's report, paragraph 38. The assertions of that individual himself when under trial for his life are utterly unworthy of notice. Mr. Inglis maintains his supposition of the movement having originated with the Cuttoobadies not by quoting circumstances elicited during his enquiries as Special Commissioner, but by suggesting the probable line of conduct, which men so situated might be supposed to adopt. The preliminary meetings and consultations of the Cuttoobadies resulting in their supposed appeal to Narasimha Reddy, are not supported by a little of evidence, and are opposed to his own previous statement that Narasimha Reddy himself went round the villages in the first instance to seek out the Cuttoobadies instead of the latter having repaired to him. Equally erroneous appears the inference that the absence of complaint against the proposed Police reforms 'makes it pretty clear' were it not otherwise sufficiently obvious and indeed notorious that such grievances were beyond the usual means of redress. The pertinacity with which petitions are daily brought forward after all reasonable ground of hope has been extinguished, proves that the people are not usually deterred by such motives. They do not even appear to have been more communicative on their trial when all reason for concealment was past. Mr. Inglis indeed states that 'many of the Cuttoobadies admitted indirectly in their depositions th-

all that class were engaged in a common cause.' Of the precise value of these 'indirect admissions', the Board have no means of judging, but it can hardly be believed that men under such circumstances should have withheld the open expression of their grievances or rather should not have loudly availed themselves of pleas presenting such an obvious line of defence.

6. But the Special Commissioner in addition to what he considers the more immediate causes of disaffection adduces others acting more remotely but all according to his view tending to bring about the actual catastrophe. These were, (1) the frequent change of Collectors, and (2) the postponement of the examination of rent free tenures.

7. That the first contingency is one which is much to be lamented and which should as much as possible be guarded against; no one for a moment will think of denying but when circumstances have rendered such changes unavoidable, and when no specific ill consequences can be shown to have resulted from them, it is hardly reasonable in the face of other palpable and self-evident causes to charge them with such remote effects. In commenting upon these changes, the Special Commissioner remarks that acting incumbents seeking confirmation, and permanent Collectors anxious for change must doubtless be desirous to lose no time in recommending themselves to Government by showing their zeal in bringing forward seeming abuses 'in pointing out imperfections of system', and that they must be apt to 'overlook the rights and feelings of the people' to say nothing of minor evils connected with improper selection of agency, imperfect supervision and ignorance of language, etc. The Board are constrained to observe that these remarks are not supported either by proof or examples, and in justice to the parties affected, they must add that neither their own knowledge nor the records of their office lend any colour to Mr. Inglis' assertions.

8. During the last thirteen years the gentlemen named in the margin have exercised the office of Collector of Cuddapah and though there is reason to lament the frequency with which the office passed from one to the other, the cause for the most part has been the unavoidable one of failure of health in a climate uncongenial to the European constitution, and it may be asserted without fear of contradiction, that the list comprises a more than ordinary proportion of men distinguished for humanity and honesty of purpose, some of whom moreover have been eminently noted for ability, conscientious devotion to their duty, and a thorough knowledge of the system of administration. But it seems unnecessary to dwell on a subject which cannot without the most forced construction be brought to bear on the transient events of the insurrection.

9. The argument built by the Special Commissioner on the question of the rent free Maniems may be explained in a few words. The thorough investigation into the validity of rent-free tenures so necessary to be made on a newly acquired territory was never completed in the Ceded Districts. The amount of such alienations was unusually large, and it was notorious that much of it had been surreptitiously acquired under the alternative administrations immediately preceding the British when the supreme authority swayed successively by the Mysore Princes, and the Nizam was largely usurped by petty local chieftains. Many Maniems were held on insufficient titles emanating from no better authority than village officers, while others were enjoyed on no authority at all. An investigation involving matters of such magnitude and importance was felt to be beyond the means of the local officers, and the prosecution of it has been deferred from time to time. At the conclusion of the survey in 1807, Colonel Munro reporting the extent of inam land observed that this ought all to be examined, and 5 per cent would probably be found liable to resumption. In 1809 the Collectors were called upon to submit the registers

of Enams required by Regulation XXXI of 1802. In 1813, Regulation V of 1813

From Collector, 22nd April 1809.

From Mr. Seery. Hill, 23rd July 1813.

From Mr. Chaplain, 24th April 1814.

From Government, 25th November 1825.

To Collector, Bellary, 16th February 1826.

From Government, 16th May 1828.

of the Bengal Code was circulated for the opinions of Collectors regarding its applicability to the investigation of the Enams of this Presidency. In 1825 orders were again issued for the investigation of all Enam tenures, and an extra establishment was sanctioned for the execution of the duty in Bellary. In 1831, Regulations IV and VI were passed defining the tenures of service and charitable Enams, and in addition to these the question of the impending investigation came under discussion in almost every annual report from the Collectors of the Ceded Districts. No one therefore could plead ignorance of the scrutiny to which all grants of land were ultimately liable, and many must have felt that the insufficiency of their titles would one day or other be made manifest. Meantime measures of precaution were taken to preserve the rights of Government from being unduly sacrificed. But the orders issued from time to time, as circumstances required, had no special reference to the Ceded Districts and were enforced in every zilla throughout the Presidency. In 1831, Regulation IV was passed for the restriction of all grants of money or revenue made by the British Government, to the precise parties and objects for which they were conferred. Act XXXI of 1836 extended the rule to all grants made by the preceding Governments which had been confirmed or continued by the British Government. These laws however are little more than dead letters for the transfers or lapses of Enams were not subjected to examination as they occurred. Provided the lands appeared in the Register as Maniems, no questions were asked about them, and it was neither the interest nor the desire of the native Revenue officers to bring them to notice. In

Extract Minutes Consultation, 26th April 1845.

occurrence of lapses, and directing each case to be specially reported for their orders

Extract Minutes Consultation, 16th March 1846.

involving inheritance to Enam lands would not be recognised unless concluded at least six months before the death of the party making them. The promulgation of these orders led to a lengthened correspondence between the Acting Collector, (Mr. Cochraue), the Civil and Sessions Judge (Mr. Ingles) of Cuddapah, and the Board of Revenue relating to the opposite views adopted by the two former officers of the bearing of the above orders on the tenures known as Bhatavurthee and Khurate Manyam. The Board of Revenue concurring in opinion with the Acting Collector that all such grants came strictly within the provisions of Regulation IV of 1831, and the subsequent enactment XXXI of 1836 directed him to abstain from bringing forward the question in a general form as he had proposed doing; but on the first occasion that should arise of such lands being made subject to transfer or other alienation from the purpose of the original grant by civil process, they instructed him to move the Court and to plead the above enactments in bar of its jurisdiction. Should the Judge refuse to concur in this view, he was directed to bring the case by appeal

Note.—This step appears to have escaped the recollection of the Special Commissioner, see paragraph 12 of Mr. Inglis' report.

that certain Bhatavurthee Enams in one case attached and in another sold in satisfaction of decrees of Court should be released in the former instance and the sale annulled in the latter, on the ground that they were assignments of Land Revenue for charitable purposes and came under the descriptions of grants specified in Regulation IV, 1831, extended by Act XXXI, 1836, and consequently under section III as amended by Act XXIII of 1838, were not liable to attachment in satisfaction of any decree or order of the Court.

10. The Court of Sudr Udalut in their proceedings of the 24th January 1848 justly observe that this reference involves the decision of the general question whether Bhatavurthee Enams from their origin and for the purpose for which they

of the Bengal Code was circulated for the opinions of Collectors regarding its applicability to the investigation of the Enams of this Presidency. In 1825 orders were again issued for the investigation of all Enam tenures, and an extra establishment was sanctioned for the

execution of the duty in Bellary. In 1831, Regulations IV and VI were passed defining the tenures of service and charitable Enams, and in addition to these the question of the impending investigation came under discussion in almost every annual report from the Collectors of the Ceded Districts. No one therefore could plead ignorance of the scrutiny to which all grants of land were ultimately liable, and many must have felt that the insufficiency of their titles would one day or other be made manifest. Meantime measures of precaution were taken to preserve the rights of Government from being unduly sacrificed. But the orders issued from time to time, as circumstances required, had no special reference to the Ceded Districts and were enforced in every zilla throughout the Presidency. In 1831, Regulation IV was passed for the restriction of all grants of money or revenue made by the British Government, to the precise parties and objects for which they were conferred. Act XXXI of 1836 extended the rule to all grants made by the preceding Governments which had been confirmed or continued by the British Government. These laws however are little more than dead letters for the transfers or lapses of Enams were not subjected to examination as they occurred. Provided the lands appeared in the Register as Maniems, no questions were asked about them, and it was neither the interest nor the desire of the native Revenue officers to bring them to notice. In

1845 the Government were pleased to issue orders strictly prohibiting local officers from renewing such grants on the

occurrence of lapses, and directing each case to be specially reported for their orders through the Board of Revenue, which was followed the year afterwards by a proclamation notifying that adoptions

involving inheritance to Enam lands would not be recognised unless concluded at least six months before the death of the party making them. The promulgation of these orders led to a lengthened correspondence between the Acting Collector, (Mr. Cochraue), the Civil and Sessions Judge (Mr. Ingles) of Cuddapah, and the Board of Revenue relating to the opposite views adopted by the two former officers of the bearing of the above orders on the tenures known as Bhatavurthee and Khurate Manyam. The Board of Revenue concurring in opinion with the Acting Collector that all such grants came strictly within the provisions of Regulation IV of 1831, and the subsequent enactment XXXI of 1836 directed him to abstain from bringing forward the question in a general form as he had proposed doing; but on the first occasion that should arise of such lands being made subject to transfer or other alienation from the purpose of the original grant by civil process, they instructed him to move the Court and to plead the above enactments in bar of its jurisdiction. Should the Judge refuse to concur in this view, he was directed to bring the case by appeal

for the final decision of the Court of Sudr Udalut. This course was accordingly adopted. On the 31st December 1846,

the Collector presented a petition praying that certain Bhatavurthee Enams in one case attached and in another sold in satisfaction of decrees of Court should be released in the former instance and the sale annulled in the latter, on the ground that they were assignments of Land Revenue for charitable purposes and came under the descriptions of grants specified in Regulation IV, 1831, extended by Act XXXI, 1836, and consequently under section III as amended by Act XXIII of 1838, were not liable to attachment in satisfaction of any decree or order of the Court.

10. The Court of Sudr Udalut in their proceedings of the 24th January 1848 justly observe that this reference involves the decision of the general question whether Bhatavurthee Enams from their origin and for the purpose for which they

were bestowed were not of the class of grants contemplated by the Provisions of the Law above referred to, in other words, whether they are or are not of the nature of charitable allowances, and the conclusion at which the Court arrive is that they are. They 'concur entirely in the view recorded by the Revenue Officers and declare that Bhatavurthee Enams are consequently excluded from the jurisdiction of the Courts'. The proceedings of Mr. Inglis were accordingly overruled, the sale of the Enam out of which the reference arose was cancelled and the attachment of the other withdrawn.

11. After the preceding explicit exposition of the Law by the highest Judicial authority, it is unnecessary to dwell on the depreciating notice of the Collector's arguments and the lengthened exposition of his own views by the Special Commissioner with which he has occupied so large a portion of his report.

12. The question of the future policy to be pursued in disposing of the Ceded District Manyams is a matter for consideration hereafter. It is sufficient to observe now that the orders of Government in dealing with it, have, on every occasion, been marked by the greatest liberality, and that the Board of Revenue have been unable to discover a single fact or valid statement in support of the assertion of general insecurity and disaffection in connection with the pending enquiry so strongly directed in Mr. Inglis' report. Not a single representation is quoted by him as having been made to the local authorities expressive of the universal alarm, not a petition on the subject has been presented to the Board of Revenue, nor have any such addresses been referred to this office by Government, which they assuredly would have been had they been received. If the Board were disposed to follow Mr. Inglis' example in judging from inference only, they might with more reason argue in favour of the satisfaction with which the Enamdars must have regarded the permanence and security conferred on their property by its exemption from ordinary process under the late dictum of the Sudr Udalut. This exemption, it is important to remark, is the sole condition to which an Enam is rendered liable by being declared to fall under Regulation IV of 1831. That enactment while it changes the tribunal by which claims of succession to certain classes of Enams are cognizable, contains no provisions for their resumption and makes none resumable that were not so prior to its being passed. Its object indeed as shown by the Preamble, is rather to secure and confirm Enams to their rightful owners than to subject them to sequestration.

13. The last point on which the explanation of the Board is required is the interference with the Cuttoobady Enams occasioned by their orders of 28th May 1846 in seeming opposition to the wishes of Government conveyed in the letter of the 18th September 1824, paragraph 32. In replying to this call, it will be necessary to go back to the commencement of a protracted correspondence on the state of the Police in Cuddapah, the inefficiency of which has constantly challenged observation for the last fifteen or twenty years. The attention of the Board of Revenue appears to have been first prominently called to the subject by an Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 15th November 1836, transmitting for their consideration certain proceedings of the Court of Fouzdary Udalut on the general state of the Police of several districts. With reference to Cuddapah, the Court observe that the larger number of crimes of which the perpetrators have eluded discovery, continues to be as remarkable as it had been for some time previously and a special report on the causes and remedy of this state of things received from the Acting Magistrate Mr. J. A. Casamajor, is then brought under review. Mr. Casamajor attributes the evil "mainly to the combinations between gangs of robbers and the Cuttoobadi peons, and sometimes even the Reddies or the headmen of the villages robbed", a state of things which he considers peculiar to Cuddapah. He describes the Cuttoobadies as a class, numerous, unequally distributed, ill-remunerated, deriving support from small patches of over-assessed land, often so unprofitable that many would gladly resign their Enams on condition of being relieved from service. "It is" he proceeds "the universal opinion of the best informed natives that every gang-robbery and house-breaking that is committed is instigated and assisted by these Cuttoobadies that they are in league with all the gangs of robbers in the zillah with those in Mysore and Bellary, and that they are likewise connected with numerous receivers who dispose of the plunder and share in the booty."

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14. The condition and prospects of this class of individuals was accordingly made the subject of examination by the Revenue Officers. Mr. Blane, the Collector in 1839, in reply to a reference from this office, transmitted a copy of his annual Police report, in which after stating that it exhibits a very great increase in the number of the graver species of crime aggravated by the prevailing scarcity, he observes in a subsequent paragraph "Gang robberies are now reported to me almost daily, and I must confess myself fairly baffled as to the means of suppressing them". Although not altogether concurring in Mr. Casamajor's general opinions, Mr. Blane in his communication to the Board addresses himself more directly to the state of the Cuttoobadies. He shows that they amount in number to 16,991 persons, that their Enams are rated to yield Rs. 3,46,153 per annum, affording a monthly average income of Rs. 1-11-2 for each individual, but that in fact this valuation was considerably exaggerated, so that the actual average emolument did not exceed one rupee a month, and that very unequally divided, some receiving more, others less, and even this frittered away by subdivisions among the different members of the family. It could not be matter of surprise that such an inadequate provision should render them prone to engage in crime, but if properly remunerated they might become an efficient body of Police, particularly the Jungi Cuttoobadies or Military retainers of the old Poligars, whose tenure bound them to serve for the preservation of the peace, but the extra expense to make up the lowest adequate pay reckoned at Rs. 23 per annum would amount to Rs. 2,03,892 per annum. It was further proposed by Mr. Blane to dispense with the services of 6,437 of these peons altogether, and to retain the remaining 10,554 only on the improved footing; but an entirely new local distribution would be required some Talooks being without any, whilst others had for more than a due proportion. Farther representations of the insecurity of the District were afterwards repeated by the Joint Magistrate in charge (Mr. Cochrane), and the necessity of some remedial steps being taken was again urged by the Fouzdary Udaulut in forwarding the last half-yearly returns of 1838, and the first and second of 1839, on both of which occasions instructions were issued to this office to devise means for abating the evil. The attention of the Home authorities had likewise been attracted to Mr. Casamajor's report above noticed, and surprise was expressed that nothing had been done in consequence.

Pro. Fouzdary Udaulut, 20th September 1838.
From Government, 4th January 1839.
Pro. to Fouzdary Udaulut, 21st June 1839.
From Government, 16th July 1839.
To Collector of Cuddapah, 1st August 1839.
From Government, 15th December 1840, forwarding Hon'ble Court's Despatch of 19th February 1840, No. 2.

15. The result of the consideration given to the subject by the Board is recorded in their proceedings of the 16th July 1840. They observe that the evils to be remedied are—

- First: The insufficient remuneration of the Cuttoobady Police.
- Second: Their excessive number.
- Third: Their unequal distribution.

The principal remedy (as subsequently modified) suggested for the first was that of reducing the quit-rent of a certain number of the peons so as to provide for the organization of an efficient body of Police in each village, with the option to the rest of being transferred to other villages on a higher scale of remuneration, or of resigning their lands and liability to service altogether. But unless the later alternative should be adopted to some extent, it was feared that their number could not be materially reduced, and the Board expressed their unwillingness to recommend any measure for resuming or curtailing privileges which had been so long enjoyed.

From Collector, 19th September 1840.
were submitted to Government with their proceedings of the 7th June 1841, and on the 26th January following, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council was pleased to express his approbation of the course therein recommended.

From Government, 26th January 1842.

17. Meantime the Fouzdary Udaulut continued to press on the attention of Government the necessity of adopting early measures for the security of person and property in Cuddapah, and the attention of the Board was specially called to the subject by Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 27th December 1841. The Court of Directors likewise recurred to it in a dispatch bearing dated 30th November 1842, No. 17, observing that the efficiency of the Cuddapah Village Police was 'an acknowledged fact which called for immediate remedy.' The Board stated in reply that they were in daily expectation of receiving information from the Collector regarding the specific arrangements for the improvement of the Cuttoobady Police which had been some time in progress agreeably to the outline of the plan formerly submitted by them which had received the approval of Government.

From Government, 14th February 1843.
To Government, 23rd February 1843, forwarding the Collector's letter of 9th September 1842.
To Collector, 23rd February 1843.

18. The report of Mr. Arbuthnot here alluded to was laid before the Government with the Board's Proceedings of the 12th October 1843. They observed that that portion of it relating to the question immediately under consideration was confined to a full Statistical Return of the numbers and the present and proposed emoluments of the Cuttoobadies, but that the principal object, that of their organization and distribution as a more useful Police force was altogether overlooked. The Board therefore required three additional statements, the first showing the number of persons to be retained on an annual allowance of not less than 23 rupees 10 annas; second the number of those consenting to be transferred to other villages on a like amount of payment; third, the number of those who not coming within either of the former classes, should be relieved, from service and allowed to hold their Manyams during their lives when they would lapse to the State. They added that both on grounds of economy and with reference to the inefficiency of a Police force constituted like the Jungi Cuttoobady, they considered it desirable to restrict the number of those permanently retained upon the improved footing within the narrowest possible limits.

E. M. Conl., 21st November 1843.
19. In reply, the Most Noble the Governor in Council resolved before coming to a final decision, to await the result of this additional information, and the Board in submitting it were at the same time required with reference to their statements of the unfavourable condition of these tenures to consider 'whether the employment of the Cuttoobady peons in the General Police of the district was in itself a desirable measure? or whether a more effective and less costly Police force might not be eventually created by placing the hereditary Village Police alone as in other Districts upon a stable and proper footing.' Agreeably to this view, the Collector was farther requested to furnish a statement of the details required to carry out the latter suggestion also, together with an estimate of the expense, it being presumed to be the intention of Government that the Junjee Cuttoobady should be at once relieved from all liability to render service, or that duty be required only of those who are at present in the enjoyment of sufficient emoluments, and that the Enams of all be resumed, as lapses occur.

20. The Collector's return to this call was not received until 16th December 1845. Mr. Cochrane showed, as regarded the points first referred for his consideration, that the true number of Cuttoobadies exclusive of co-sharers was 11,756 of which it was proposed to retain 10,199 to provide a clear income of 23-10, for whom would involve a charge of 64,738-6-0 against which was to be set the value of the Enams of those 1557 in number, who had voluntarily resigned, and of those whose service not being required would only retain a life interest in them, amounting to 30,984-5-7, leaving a net annual charge to be provided for of 33,753-0-5. The intention of the other proposition suggested by Government was overlooked by Mr. Cochrane, and his reply therefore does not bear on the object proposed.

157 persons Enams valued at 2,685-6-2 averaging Rs. 17 each.
1410 . . . 16928 averaging Rs. 12 each.

21. Shortly after the receipt of the above papers, and whilst they were still under consideration, Mr. Cochrane reported the death of 5 individuals in the Doooor and Jummalmadagoo Talooks among those whose Enams he had proposed in his report to consider as life tenures only, and asked for instructions whether these were to be treated as lapses or to be made over conditionally to the next heir, with the understanding that they would be subject to such general measures as should be eventually ordered. In reply he was directed to charge the land with the regular rate of assessment less the usual remission, giving the next heirs the option of retaining it on these terms and keeping the difference (where there was any) between the former quit rent and the ayen assessments in deposit until the general question was finally settled.

22. Meantime the disturbances connected with Narasimha Reddy's proceedings broke out, and the farther prosecution of the Police reforms was suspended.

23. Such is an outline of the proceedings of the Board of Revenue as regards the reform of the Cuttoobady Police. It will be observed that the measure did not originate with them, but arose out of repeated and pressing representations of the Judicial Officers, referred to this office by the Government, both in India and England. They were thus called upon to provide a remedy for evils which every concurring testimony represented as originating in the lawless and disloyal conduct of a body of men holding landed possessions by the very tenure of maintaining the efficiency of that Police against which they were themselves the most notorious offenders. On similar and even on less pressing occasions in other districts no hesitation was evinced in superseding such effete and unsuitable institutions by the establishment of a more effective agency. Thus the whole of the Cavelly Police machinery has been swept away in repeated instances, some of them of very recent occurrence and with a very moderate compensation to the present incumbents. Sometimes even with none at all, on the plea that the Government would provide for the

From Mr. Ravenshair dated 8th September 1806.

To Government, 25th September 1806, paragraphs 15 and 20.

From Government, 1st November 1806.

required, the lands being continued for life, subject to a quit rent equal to half the Sirkar assessment on the adjoining land. No reason was apparent why the same description of functionaries should be viewed in a different light in the Ceded Districts, and the Board when ordered to provide the means for correcting acknowledged and crying evils saw no objection to the extension of a policy which had

Mr. Inglis' report, paragraph 29. been repeatedly approved and adopted, elsewhere. The Special Commissioner refers to Colonel Munro's Police report of the 10th April 1806, paragraph 15 in regard to the Cavulgar and Cuttoobady tenures of the Ceded Districts, but so far from bearing out his opinions they lead to a directly opposite view "Neither the great nor petty Cavilgars" it says "can now be regarded as Police Officers." "The former are all pensioners receiving allowances in land or money from Government not for services to be performed but merely to induce them to live in quiet, by leaving them no motive to plunder for a subsistence. The petty Cavilgars are also on the same grounds permitted to enjoy their allowances, but no useful service is or can be got out of them. They are the remains of a race of men who have always been dangerous to the tranquility of the country. It is therefore better that Cavilgars of every description should be regarded as pensioners from whom no service is to be exacted, and that their lands, etc., should be gradually resumed on the failure of heirs". In another place he states that "all the Cavilgars are either themselves robbers or employ them; and many of them are murderers, and though they are now afraid to act openly, there is no doubt that many of

From Collector, Munro, 10th April 1806, page 15.

Indian Selection, volume II, p. 220.

them still secretly follow their former practices." He had on a previous occasion

From Major Munro 20th March 1802. made equally unfavourable mention of them. "At present it is among the Cavalgars (i.e., the Poligars) Peons that almost all thieves are sheltered; for it is to that body that all the most skilful adepts belong who therefore rob as it were under public authority. Though they are always suspected, when a robbery is committed, it is difficult to fix it upon any individual of the Gang, not only from the dexterity in eluding discovery which they have learned from long practice, but also from the dread in which the inhabitants stand of them". Similar statements are found in the Report of the General Police Committee of the 24th December 1806 where after describing the tenure of "Kutpuddy" in the Northern Circars and observing upon the rarity of the crime of theft where it obtains, they go on to say that "Gang robbery committed by that very description of persons who formed the Military dependants of the Zamindars is much more prevalent and may be ascribed to their want of employment under the present system, and to the idle habits in which they have been brought up". That the character of this class of persons have (has?) not improved by the lapse of time has been made apparent by the circumstances out of which the present correspondence originated. The measures proposed by the Board for the correction of the excesses which defied the efforts of the Police in Cuddapah were dictated by the same policy which had been approved and enforced under similar circumstances. They were fully reported from time to time, and no objections appear to have suggested themselves until the reception of Mr. Inglis' Report.

24. It only remains to explain the reference made in Extract Minutes Consultation 2nd March 1847 to the former orders of Government under dated 18th September 1821, regarding the hereditary tenure of Cuttoobady Peons. That order arose out of the power assumed by the Collector to attach or discontinue such grants at his discretion without reference to superior authority. In the instances brought to notice the parties so dealt with were individuals of notoriously bad character, who had either connived at crimes themselves or had forced the peaceable inhabitants to purchase relief from molestation by the payment of gratuities. The proper remedy for such abuses was to bring the culpable parties to justice; but in the absence of sufficient proof the Collector took upon himself to remove them, after which he proceeded to dispense with the services of others, against whom no such charges had been brought, simply on the ground that they were unnecessary and no longer required. Most of these cases occurred in the Pollem of Chitrial (Chitvel?) regarding which Colonel (Sir Thomas) Munro had prescribed the adoption of such a line of policy in a letter dated 22nd June 1801, paragraph 5. It appeared to the Board that the orders issued by Government on this occasion referred only to the irresponsible power then assumed by the Collector, and that they were not applicable to a course of policy devised by them in obedience to the requisition of the highest authorities the details of which were fully discussed in communication with Government and submitted as a measure, the general adoption of which was necessary, for the security of that part of the country.

(True extract)

T. PYORORT,
Secretary.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 4th June 1852, No. 361, Judicial.

Read Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

(Here enter 10th August 1848, No. 421.)

1. In these proceedings the Board submit their sentiments on the origin and causes of the outbreak in Cuddapah, of which Narasimha Reddy was the leader, with reference to the report on that subject made by the Special Commissioner, and give a statement and explanation of the steps taken for the investigation of Enam tenures generally and for the regulation of the Cuttoobady Enams of that district to which proximately the Commissioner ascribed the insurrection.

2. The Board have in the opinion of Government demonstrated that the insurrection did not spring from the measures to which the Special Commissioner had referred it. It is worthy of particular remark that the grievances to be apprehended from those measures were not deemed of sufficient weight to serve as a cry even after the insurrection had broken out. Nay it would seem that the Cuttoobadies who, according to the hypothesis, of Mr. Inglis, were moved to join the insurrection, by a sense of the wrong done to them, did not think of urging this as a plea in defence or excuse of their conduct, when they were brought to trial. The Special Commissioner indeed has spoken of indirect admissions by many of the Cuttoobadies in their depositions 'that all that class were engaged in a common cause', but 'as the Board justly observe, 'it can hardly be believed that men under such circumstances should have withheld the open expression of their grievances, or rather should not have boldly availed themselves of pleas presenting such an obvious line of defence'.

3. With respect to the Cuttoobadies far from a general rising for a 'common cause' it is stated as a certain fact that those who joined in the insurrection to the number of 300 were all of one taluk and belonged exclusively to 19 (out of 100) villages of that taluk pertaining to the Polliems of Oyalvadah and Nossum formerly held respectively by the paternal and maternal ancestors of Narasimha Reddy, 'whilst the Cuttoobadies of the rest of the District numbering 11,756 individuals not only exhibited no signs of discontent, but rendered good and zealous service against the rebels'. Further it is stated that of the said 300, who joined Narasimha Reddi, the Enams of 60 only were liable under the proposed Police arrangements to resumption on the occurrence of lapses, while of the 240 remaining, 161 were holders of Enams not liable to resumption, and the other 79 were included in the number of those whose Enams being considered inadequate were to be increased. This analysis appears very conclusive against the idea of a class grievance being the exciting motive which gave Narasimha Reddi the aid of the few Cuttoobadies who joined him from the villages in which he had an hereditary influence. The alternative suggestion that they yielded to that influence and to the sympathy which his personal appeals to them to assist in raising him from his fallen state were calculated to rouse seems on the other hand to be well supported.

4. It does not appear necessary to enter particularly into the History of Narasimha Reddy; it need only be remarked incidentally that the reason of the great difference in the provision made for the Ooyalvada and Nossum families is to be found in this, that the former refused to come in under Colonel Munro's Cowle, and to accept the liberal terms which were granted to those who did submit and were equally held out to them. They did not come in until 1808. They were then considered to have forfeited all claim of right, and the small allowance granted for their subsistence was regarded as purely gratuitous.

5. The allowance to the Nossum family on the other hand was given as *Mahikana* in the proportion of 10 per cent on the revenues of the zamindary. From Major Munro, 15th November 1802. The allowance amounted to Rs. 8,323 per annum; the revenue must therefore have been estimated at Rs. 83,230 instead of Rs. 21,840 as stated in the second paragraph of the Board's Proceedings. The zamindary was a very considerable one compared with that of Ooyalvada.

6. In paragraphs 9 to 12 of their proceedings, the Board of Revenue give a succinct account of the discussions which have taken place relative to the rent free lands of the Ceded Districts. The Government do not deem themselves called upon to dwell upon this part of the subject. The principles which should be followed in dealing with such tenures on lapses occurring among the holders have been enunciated by Government in the orders of 1848, and if any more general enquiry into the Enams of the Cuddapah and Bellary districts should hereafter be deemed advisable, the arrangements to be adopted for that purpose will receive mature attention. Meanwhile it may be observed that the view taken by the Commissioner that the Enams falling under the classes of Bhutvarti and Kyratee, and

which compose the bulk of the rent free lands of the Ceded Districts do not come within the provisions of Regulation IV of 1831, has been disproved by a formal decision of the Judges of the Court of Sudr Udalut.

7. The last point on which the Board offer explanation is the interference with the Cuttoobady Enams occasioned by their orders of 28th May 1846 in seeming opposition to the wishes of Government conveyed in the letter of the 13th September 1821. The Board recapitulate the correspondence which has taken place during the last ten or twelve years with a view to the reform of the Police in Cuddapah which embraced arrangements for reorganizing the Cuttoobady peons and making them an effective part of the system. They refer particularly to their proceedings under date 12th October 1843, in which their views as to the arrangements which should be adopted were fully set forth.

8. In these proceedings they directed the whole body of Cuttoobadies to be divided into two classes, the first to comprise those absolutely required for the public service in the villages, the second those whose services might be dispensed with. Those in the first class were to have their Enams made up to a certain amount. The Enams of those in the second class, with the exception of such as would take service in other villages were to be continued during the lives of the present holders, and at their death to be resumed; the proceeds being expected to compensate in part for the expense incurred in raising the emoluments of those retained and in improving the condition of the Village Police generally. Upon these proceedings being laid before Government, it was resolved to await the further information which the Board

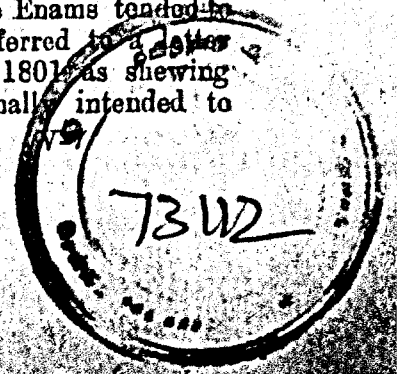
Minute of Consultation 21st November 1843. had called for in order to ascertain the number of Cuttoobady peons to be retained, the number to be transferred, and the number whose Enams would eventually lapse to the State, should this plan be carried out. It was however intimated to the Board that Government entertained doubts as to the feasibility of the proposed incorporation of the Cuttoobady peons with the general Police Force and they were desired to consider and report 'whether a more effective and less costly Police force might not be eventually created by placing the hereditary Village Police alone as in other districts upon a stable and proper footing.' The Board called upon the Collector to furnish the details required to carry out this suggestion of Government together with an estimate of the expense 'presuming it to be the intention of Government that the Junjee Cuttoobady should be at once relieved from all liability to render service, or that duty be required only of those who are at present in the enjoyment of sufficient emoluments, and that the Enams of all be resumed as lapses occur. The Collector did not submit his report until the end of 1845, and while it was under consideration, he reported the death of 5 persons among those whose Enams he had proposed to consider as life tenures only, and asked whether they should be considered as lapses; upon which the Board directed that the lands should be charged with regular assessment, but that the difference between that and the former quit-rent should be kept in deposit until the general question was settled. Meantime the insurrection broke out, and the further prosecution of the Police reforms was suspended.

9. It does not appear that the Board had reason to conclude from any of the observations of Government that they intended the Enams of the Junjee Cuttoobadies to be resumed as lapses occurred, in the event of the plan of employing them as a part of the general Police being abandoned. It would rather seem that this was a point reserved. But certainly in all this discussion it appears to have been taken for granted as well by the Government as by the Board that these Enams were liable to resumption if it should be deemed fit to take them. The order passed by Sir J. Munro's Government in 1821 declaring

18th September 1821.

that they had always been hereditary was never adverted to in the correspondence. The Board construe this order as having a more limited application than the terms of it imply, but it is apprehended that no such limitation was in the contemplation of Government at the time. The order had reference to a proposition of the Collector very similar to that which is now under consideration. The Collector argued that the continuance of these Enams tended to render the families of the Cuttoobadies idle and dissipated; he referred to a letter from Major Munro in 1801 as shewing that it was not originally intended to

22nd June 1801.



long before the matters arrived at a crisis, by the assistance of the numerous Cuttobadies of other villages unconnected with the Jahgirs of Ooyalawadah and Nossum previously held by the ancestors of the late Narasimha Reddy. My opinion is that the corruption of the late Tahsildar deprived him of all authority when in difficulties for when the row occurred, every one instead of wishing to assist him, seemed glad to see him in a dilemma and his having been made a captive by the Rebels was a matter of universal rejoicing as far as he was concerned though no doubt the events that followed the first burst of the disturbance caused considerable alarm and consternation in the minds of all.

4. I am not aware in what deducible grounds the Special Commissioner has recorded a favourable opinion towards the petitioner as he alluded to in his petition but I cannot but dissent from the same, and in support of such dissent I beg to forward an extract from the Report furnished to Government by Mr. Scott who having all along acted in co-operation with me in quelling the outbreak had also a good opportunity of judging what the feelings of the people were towards the late Tahsildar.

5. The petitioner did apply to me as he has stated to be recommended for a pension. His application however I could not support under paragraph 4 of the Pension rules. As regards the grant of a pension the circumstance of his having been severely wounded in the hand when in the service of Government, and the hardship he underwent when a captive in the hands of the Rebels might perhaps induce the Government to take his case into favourable consideration, but I need hardly say that I entertain a most unfavourable opinion of him and that I consider him quite undeserving of further employment.

Letter—from J. H. COCHRANE, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah.

To—the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort St. George.

Dated—Cuddapah, the 16th October 1847.

No.—59.

I have the honour to forward translation of a petition from M. Venkatrama Razu, a Poligar resident of Moolackoyapally in the Chitwail talook who previous to the late disturbances, received an annual pension of Rupees 156-5-4 but the payment of which has been suspended and the amount kept in deposit in consequence of the conspicuous part he as well as his two brothers, took during the late outbreak in having afforded his support and assistance to the Rebels. He and his brothers were all committed to the Court, one of them (who actually joined Narasimha Reddi in person) has been transported for life and the other two were released on security being each required to find two sureties of 500 Rupees each for their good behaviour and appearance when required for the period of three years.

The petitioner prays that the pension hitherto allowed him may be paid to him, in arrears, and continued to him as heretofore. I beg to be favoured with the Board's sentiments as to the propriety or otherwise of complying with the petitioner's request.

Translation of an arzi to the Collector of Cuddapah from Nandyal Venkatrama Razu, one of the Poligar pensioners in the Chitwail Talook.

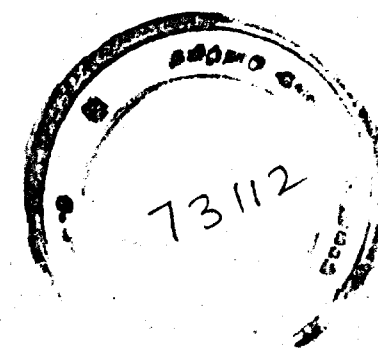
After usual compliments—

For a considerable time, the monthly pension of Rs. 13-0-5, which had been granted us, was usually paid us in the Talook Cutcherry but it not having been paid us since the period of our having been detained at Cuddapah through our ill-luck, and according to the pleasure of the authorities I and my dependants and children suffer much for want of common necessities. Subsequently we furnished the security required of us and now live at Moolackoyalapally, a hamlet of Munnoor, in the Chitwail Talook. You are a charitable gentleman. Please bestow your favour on us, and continue to us the pension which we have hitherto enjoyed and thus protect us.

Paragraph 48 of Letter—from the Collector of Cuddapah.
To—the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort St. George.
Dated—the 25th November 1847.
No.—69.

The following statement showing the different items of circar collections which had been plundered by Rebels on the occasion of the late disturbance from the Treasury of Coilcoontlah Talook on the 10th July 1846:—

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Amount of collections for Land Revenue as entered in paragraph 46 of this Report.		422 5 6	
Amount of collections under the head of extra sources of Revenue as entered in the Report already submitted to the Board of Revenue on the 4th November 1847—			
Amount of Ahkari deposits for fasli 1256.	200 0 0		
Amount of Moturpha collections for fasli 1256.	12 4 8		
Amount collected under the item of orchards.	15 0 0		
Amount collected under the item of stamps	0 4 0	228 8 8	650 14 2
Amount of collections under the sundry sources of Revenue, viz.—			
Amount collected for postage	2 3 6		
Amount of deposit under the head of Amaunt Enam.	4 4 8		
Amount of pension due to the late Rebel Poligar Narasimha Reddy for the month of May 1846 charged in the accounts but remained undischarged.	11 10 8		
Amount debited in the accounts but which remained undischarged in the Talook Treasury, viz.—		18 2 10	
Amount due to an attavany peon for broken periods.	0 14 3		
Amount of pay due to Police Daffadar and peons.	19 0 0		
Amount for contingent due to a merchant for articles supplied by him to the Talook Cutcherry.	3 5 5		
Amount of Batta to prisoners	0 4 0		
Amount due to the Durmakirtas of the Pagoda of Paroosomala Chennaswaraswami	87 8 0		
Amount of fees due to a Brahman on account of Veasapoojah.	4 10 8		
Amount of over collections from Ryots required to be refunded.	4 15 0		
Amount of the value of Iron purchased for public purposes remained in the Treasury unpaid.	16 0 0		
		136 9 4	154 13 2
		Total ..	805 10 4



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