M.E. O. 1—32,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 847 Press ~~Mis.~~

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Dated 16-3-~~1929~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 1. Read the following letter from J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Joint Magistrate of Canara; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Potoly, 3rd March 1859, No. 103.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to report for the information of Government that the notorious bandit Seedy Bastian has again made his appearance in this neighbourhood with some 25 or 30 followers, and is daily adding to the long catalogue of outrages with which he already stands charged.

2. The first act of this gang was to plunder on the 22nd Ultimo, the house of a substantial ryot of Wuddermane, a small isolated Village on the south bank of the Kala nadi, after which they crossed the river and have made several night descents on Villages in this neighbourhood, looting 3 or 4 houses and carrying off considerable booty in cash, jewels and provisions. At Vernooli, a coss distant and Bastian's native place, the gang carried off prisoners the 2 men, who were rewarded by me last year for effecting the capture of Bundari Biccoo who was hanged at Soopa as a principal (Bastian being another) in the murder of Naraina Shenvy of that Village. When carrying off these men, the gang told their wives that they need never expect to see them again, so that it is only too probable that both have ere this been sacrificed to the spirit of vengeance which prompted the visit.

3. The re-appearance of these bandits has naturally caused considerable consternation in the neighbourhood.

4. In some of the more defenceless and exposed Villages the women and children have been sent to places of security, the males remaining behind to watch their crops and household property.

5. No sympathy I am glad to say has been shewn, and any evil effects that may arise from the movement will I believe be purely local and not affect the good feeling and confidence which prevail in other parts of the Talook.

6. I had the honor on the 29th January 1859, to solicit the instructions of Government on several points connected with the present management of matters in this portion of my Division. Under the conviction that these men have by their recent acts placed themselves beyond the pale of mercy and that so long as they are at large the re-establishment of good order and confidence is impracticable, I have taken upon myself to answer one of the questions on which I then solicited instructions, and have promised to pay the rewards originally sanctioned for the capture of Bastian and his brother Benow (recognised among the gang) to any party who may earn them under the conditions then set forth.

7. Several Brahmins are reported to be with the gang, which leads me to surmise that Gunabah Shenvy and some of the proscribed members of the Phadnees family are with them.

8. These are all men whose cases are so desperate that nothing remains but to hunt them down and clear the country of them as quickly and thoroughly as we can.

9. To this object I am devoting my best energies and resources, and do not despair of ultimate success, even although the country and previous knowledge of the ground gives the enemy every facility of escape.

10. I shall abstain as much as possible from making use of the Military, as such a measure would only tend to increase alarm and shall rely on the co-operation of the villagers and exertions of the Police, sharpened as both are by the promise of a handsome reward in the event of success.

11. Besides renewing the offer of reward and organising a select party of Police to follow up the gang, I shall distribute among the trustworthy of the neighbouring Villages such a quantity of arms and ammunition as will enable them to defend themselves against attack and secure the

confidence and independence of their fellow town's-people. I shall keep Government informed of my proceedings, and in the meantime beg respectfully to be favored with their instructions on the points noticed in my last communication.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, No. 347; dated 16th March 1859.

It is observed that orders have been sent Mr. Robinson on his letter under date 29th January last. His proceedings as now reported are approved. The Government will trust to him to follow up the marauders vigorously.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

No. 347. 2a.

It is observed that orders have been sent Mr Robinson on his letter under date 29 January last - His proceedings as now reported are approved - The Govt will trust to him to follow up the marauders vigorously JP

To Fort St George
16th March 1859

Marauders Govt Orders Signed 16th

Your most

Lon

Exrl. F. Cartledge.