

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1429	Press
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Dated	2-11-1915	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1429 orig

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 3rd November 1857.

No. 10. Read the following letter from R. R. COTTON, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Guntoor ; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 23rd October 1857, No. 24.

SIR,

I have the honor to report the following circumstances for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor.

On the return of an American Missionary who resides here, the Reverend Mr. Grönning, from a tour in the Palnaud, it came to my ears, that he had in conversation with the Natives in the Datchapully Talook, discovered that there existed in some villages a feeling against the Government, and that this had especially been shewn by a Jemadar of Police ; on this I called on Mr. Grönning, and enquired of him if what I had heard was correct, and finding it to be so, I determined on calling upon the Jemadar for explanation ; he happened to be on leave at Guntoor, and I immediately called him, and after having learnt from him, that he had been 38 years in Government employ, I asked him, how it was that he was now speaking against the Government ; he did not deny having done so, and was silent. I then forwarded him to Mr. Grönning with a note, requesting him to let me know if he was the person he alluded to in his conversation with me, and if so, that he would give me in writing the tenor of his conversation with him ; he replied that he was the person ; and I enclose copy of his statement. I then again called on the Jemadar to submit his statement which I took down ; it will be seen he admits having conversed with Mr. Grönning but not with the Colporteurs Joseph and Peter, that when asked why he spoke against the Government, he gave no answer.

I submit likewise the statements of the Colporteurs Joseph and Peter, taken down by me in the Jemadar's presence, confirmatory of Mr. Grönning's account. The Jemadar on being asked if he had aught to say in reply to these, or any questions to put to them, was silent. Mr. Grönning and his Assistants are unanimous in describing the conduct of the Jemadar, as evincing a hostile feeling towards the Government, and that he with great excitement upheld the conduct of the mutineers in destroying their Officers. Under these circumstances, I have dismissed him * 20 Rupees. from his appointment,* considering him quite undeserving of Government employ, and have detained him in custody, pending further enquires into his past character and conduct.

(Signed) ROB. R. COTTON,
Acting Magistrate.

To R. R. COTTON, Esq., Acting Collector of Guntoor, dated 21st of October 1857.

SIR,

As you have asked me to mention the details of a conversation which took place between me and the Jemadar of Datchapully at Adugupala, on the 6th of this month, I have the honor of forwarding the following particulars.

Immediately after having commenced to address some people, the Jemadar appeared and began to converse with me about the disturbed peace of this country, and told me that the Nabob of Hyderabad is still contented with Government. I asked him if he had heard of Delhi's fall, and the reinforcement of troops from England. Delhi's fall seemed to grieve him, but he could not believe it ; however, said I, you may have heard of the victories of the English, when the Sepoys came out from Delhi to fight against them. You may also have heard of the dissatisfaction of the Sepoys in that place, for not receiving their pay regularly, and for not being attended to when sick, and wounded. Moreover, do you think that the king of Delhi has money enough to carry on war against the English. To all this he answered in a kind of sneer " money sufficient." Judging from his manner and mode of speaking and the impression it made on the people, it seemed to be clear, that he argued in favor of the rebellion. Then he asked me how long a time the Subadar of the mutineers may have served ; to which I replied ; " some perhaps 20 years and others 30 years." Well said he, " they have probably children in the army and what

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may they *not* do to preserve their caste"? I answered, the mutiny is not caused by Government's interference with caste, and the alleged cause in regard to the cartridges was a mere pretense. No answer. Then I resumed the conversation and said, Sir, consider the handsome salary of the Sepoys, as well when sick and infirm as when in active service and then I will ask you, "have they any reason to complain and is it right to return evil for good and to kill?" No answer, but he asked me, "how long a time did the English rule in Bengal, and have the Sepoys ever revolted before?" hence he continued, "there must be some reason for doing so now," "is it certainly a cause, said I, but whatever the cause may be, I asked again, right to kill," as they have done? No answer, but addressing two of my Colporteurs he began to vindicate the proceedings of the sepoys, and when one of them replied quietly, "Government have never interfered with caste," he was almost prepared to beat him. Seeing this I tried all in my power to pacify him, however, his final remark was, which two of my servants are ready to testify, "since the beginning of the British authority in this country the Sepoys have not revolted, and except there were a cause for revolting now, they would not have done so; therefore the fault is with the English and not with the Sepoys." The whole multitude was evidently impressed with the idea of his arguing in favor of the rebellion and against Government.

(Signed) C. W. GRONNING,

Missionary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. COTTON,

Acting Magistrate.

My name is Veranah. I am Police Jemadar of Datchapully, I have eaten the Sirkar's salt 37 years and I now draw the Sirkar's pay, I recollect having conversed with Padre Grönning.

Question.—Since you have been eating the Sirkar's salt for so many years, how is it that you have been speaking against the Government. No answer.

Question.—Why did you say that it was the fault of the Europeans and that it was right that they were murdered? *Answer.* I did not say so. I am a Soodra. Government have never interfered with my caste, nor with that of the Hindoos and Mahomedans.

Question.—Then why did you speak against the Government. *Answer.* I did not speak against the Government. I never spoke to the Colporteurs Joseph and Peter, nor did they speak to me. I never asked the Padre why the gentlemen were so afraid.

(Note.—Has nothing to say to the statements of Joseph and Peter.)

(Signed) R. COTTON.

My name is Joseph, I am a Colporteur under Mr. Grönning. I accompanied that gentleman in his last tour to the Palnaud. I saw the Jemadar now present there. I recollect a conversation that took place between him, Mr. Grönning and Peter. On the 5th* Instant, at 5 P. M., I went with Mr. Grönning to the village of Adegapula; there was a crowd of ryots and Mr. Grönning addressed them on the peace of the village and about God. The Jemadar came there and sat down near Mr. Grönning and they asked each other when, and whence they came, Mr. Grönning asked if he had heard any thing of Delhi; he replied he had seen some thing in the Gazette; Mr. Grönning said Delhi has fallen, to which the Jemadar replied, he did not believe it; on which Mr. Grönning asked him if he thought the mutineers had money sufficient to prevent Delhi from falling, he replied they had plenty. Mr. Grönning then asked if he had not heard of the complaints of the mutineers that when serving Government they were well taken care of and now they were wounded, they were left and have no doctors to attend them; to this the Jemadar made no response. Mr. Grönning then asked him if it was right for the sepoys to kill their Officers who treated them so well; he replied as they commenced to interfere with their caste it was right for them to kill them. Mr. Grönning then asked if murder was right; to which he received no answer. The Jemadar then asked Mr. Grönning how long the Sepoys and Soobadar mutineers had served; Mr. Grönning replied perhaps 20 and 30 years; he then said they have not

*This is an error, Mr. G. says 6th.

R. C.

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quarrelled before, but that they fought now as there was a just cause, and remarked that the Hyderabad Rajah was content. Peter then said to the Jemadar, the Government did not corrupt caste with grease, the Jemadar replied angrily, what do you know; you know nothing; you are ignorant. Mr. Grönning then said if caste is the cause you should kill us Missionaries, but why kill your Government superiors, he replied whatever you may say, the English are unjust. Upon this, thinking there would be a disturbance, we got up and went away. When the Jemadar was speaking he was much excited and very angry; his demeanour was decidedly against the Government. The crowd at first listened quietly, but when the Jemadar got angry they became somewhat excited.

(Signed) R. C.

My name is Peter, I am a Colporteur under Mr. Grönning, and accompanied him to the Palnaud. I saw the Jemadar now present there, and I heard the conversation related by Joseph and it is correct; the Jemadar also said that as the English were bad people, the mutineers killed them. I spoke quietly to the Jemadar, but he got very angry.

(Signed) R. C.

Statements taken down this 22nd October 1857.

(Signed) R. R. COTTON,

Acting Magistrate.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) ROB. R. COTTON,

Acting Magistrate.

No. 11.

ORDER THEREON, No. 1429; dated 2nd November 1857.

To be recorded. The Government will await the Acting Magistrate's further report.

(Signed) E. MALTBY,

Acting Chief Secretary.

with the means general...
...now are - his despatches seem to be
...will

No 1429.

H
Cly.
11/5.

To be recorded - The Government will await
the Acting Magistrate's further report.
For S. George, 2.
2^d Nov. 1857. } Will
Copy to the Acting Magistrate of Quintero. Dec 2^d.

Public Proclamation
No 2 of 1858 - Para 9

10411

Proclamation No 2 of 1857.
To the Acting Magistrate of
Quintero
The Chief Secretary
to Government
For Mr George
Dated 23^d October 1857.
Proviso Do - 3
No 24
Enclotured 2.
No 1792
Sept 1857

With an order

Can not this man be punished under one
of the laws? But?
I am very doubtful
that this man's offence comes under any of the laws.
The sentence is not the same.
But how can we punish a man for a crime?

20 Rs.

him from his appointment, considering him quite undeserving of Government employ, and have detained him in custody, pending further enquiries into his past character and conduct.

Guntur
Magistrate's office
23^d October 1857.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

R. R. M. S.

Acting Magistrate

Exd.

A. R. M. S.