

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1675

Press
~~Mis.~~

17-18

Dated 12-11-1948

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1675

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 17th November 1857.

No. 17. Read the following letter from WILLIAM KNOX, Esq., Acting Magistrate, Ganjam; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Chitterpoor, 14th October 1857, No. 93.

SIR,

1st. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 2nd September 1857, No. 1138, on the subject of Hydrophobia, and the remedy proposed by Mr. Glass, and in obedience to instructions, now submit my opinion for the consideration of Government.

2nd. I regret to say that Hydrophobia is but too common all over this district, not only dogs, but Jackalls go mad, and it was but a short time before Mr. Onslow left, that a peon was bitten by a mad Jackall, and died in agony, this occurred at this station. The number of wretched, half-starved dogs in every village is, I think, on the increase, and quite agree with Mr. Glass that some steps should be taken to check this. As soon as I heard of the death of the boy Mr. Glass alludes to, I sent out strict orders to all Police officers, and wrote to the Officer Commanding Chicacole, and begged of him to issue the usual order to kill dogs; he did not do so before, as he thought he could only pay for dogs killed in the Cantonment square, but when I pointed out that the lines and bazaar frequented by the Sepoys were outside, and were the places where the men were most likely to suffer, he gave the necessary orders, but I would submit, this order should not be restricted to towns in which Sepoys are stationed, but be extended to all large villages. With the number of well paid officials of the Department Public Works, it would be easy to keep a check on the expenditure, as payments might be made on certificates granted by all Executive officers, Sub Engineers, and Supervisors during their tour through the district, as well as by Tahsildars. I consider the present reward would be found enough, if speedily paid at any time of the year, without reference to season. A large sum would probably be paid away at first, but it would soon decrease as dogs were killed off.

3rd. The proposition that a tax should be levied on all dogs, is also well worthy of consideration, and would probably be a useful auxiliary to the above, and defray the expenses of the destruction of loose dogs. The tax, say 4 Annas on each pariah dog, would not be by any means heavy, and it should not protect a dog running loose during the hot months, viz., from March to end of July; all dogs to have a log attached to their neck with the owners' mark or number when let loose, and in the hot months, all dogs should be kept tied up, except when taken out by their owners. I would exempt from tax, Shepherds' dogs and Brinjaries' dogs, if the latter are kept tied up during the day.

4th. If it seems good to Government to impose a tax on dogs, I think Europeans should in fairness, bear their share; and that for every greyhound, spaniel, terrier or other dog, of a European breed, kept for sporting purposes or amusement, the tax should be one Rupee for the first three, and half a Rupee for each dog above that number. Bull-dogs as being of little use and dangerous, should be taxed double, but for pariahs kept by Europeans, the tax should be 4 Annas. Parties should be required to register their dogs twice a year in March and October, and a fine should be imposed quadruple the tax on all who try to evade this, half to go to the informer.

(Signed) W. KNOX,
Acting Magistrate.

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, No. 1475; dated 12th November 1857.

In their orders, marginally noted,* Government referred for the
* Judicial Dept., No. 1138, dated 2nd September 1857. Magistrate's report a letter from the Civil Judge of Chicacole, who, advertent to a recent case where a young European lad had died of Hydrophobia, pointed out the great extent to which wild pariah dogs infest the town, and suggested two remedies; a tax on dogs generally, and the offer of a reward for the killing of all stray dogs. A very trifling reward it appears, is even now given, but Mr. Glass suggests 3 annas for every dog, and 4 annas for every bitch.

2. The Acting Magistrate concurs with the Civil Judge. He adds that Hydrophobia is often imparted by the bite of a Jackall. A peon on his establishment not long ago died from this cause.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 17th November 1857.

3. The Government observe that no *general* order appears to have been issued on this subject. Sanction has been accorded to rewards for the slaughter of dogs, as occasion arose, in different Zillahs: thus in Extract Minutes Consultation, Revenue Department, No. 273, dated 3rd March 1842, Rs. 320-11-9 was sanctioned for that purpose in *Malabar* for Fusly 1249; and in Extract Minutes Consultation, Judicial Department, No. 566 dated 26th July 1845, the Magistrate of *Cuddapah* was allowed to disburse rewards for the destruction of dogs at the rate of 2 annas for each dog, and 3 annas for each bitch; payment on such account to be submitted through the Board of Revenue in the "Annual Statement of charges incurred without estimate in the Magistrate's Department."

4. The Government consider the rates above specified in the case of *Cuddapah* may be extended to other Zillahs, and where Jackalls are found to infest the suburbs of large towns they are willing to sanction rewards for the slaughter of those animals at the same rates. Generally speaking the offer of a reward should be restricted to the hot months of the year, but Magistrates will use their discretion on this point.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial.
Public Sept

No. 1475

Encl. under date 13th November 1857

following letter } here enter No. 98
Magl. of Ganjam. } 6/16 = Oct/57.

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In their orders, marginally noted, Govt referred for the Magistrate's report a letter from the Civil Judge of *Chicacole*, who, alluding to a recent case where a young European had had died of *Hydrophobia*, pointed out the great extent to which wild pariah dogs infested the town, and suggested two remedies; a tax on dogs generally, & the offer of a reward for the killing of all stray dogs. A very trifling reward, it appears, is even now given, but Mr. Glasp suggests 3 annas for every dog, & 4 annas for every bitch.

2. The Acting Magistrate concurs with the Civil Judge. He adds that *Hydrophobia* is often imparted by the bite of a jackall. A person on his estate - Parliament not long ago died from his

Cause.

3. The Govt. think that no general order appears to have been issued on this subject. Sanction has been accorded to rewards for the slaughter of dogs, as occasion arose, in different Billahs: — thus in O.M.C. Rev. Sept. No. 273 D/3rd March/42, P. 2320 "11" 9 was sanctioned for that purpose in Malabar for Rs. 1249; and in E.M.C. - Judicial Dept. No. 566 D/26th July/45, the Magistrate of Cuddalore was allowed to distribute rewards for the destruction of dogs at the rate of Rs. 2 as for each dog, and Rs. 3 as for each bitch; payment on such account to be submitted through the Bd. of Revenue in the Annual Statement of Charges incurred without estimate in the Magistrate's Dept.

4. The Govt. consider the rates above specified in the case of Cuddalore may be extended to other Billahs, and where jackals are found to infest the suburbs of large towns they are willing to sanction rewards for the slaughter of those

animals at the same rates. Generally speaking the offer of a reward should be restricted to the hot months of the year, but Magistrates will use their discretion on this point.

3-11-57

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To the Board of Revenue
Revenue Department
Magistrates of the several
Districts & Agent at Karmoor } Disposed 17/6

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