

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

General DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 388	Press ~~Mis.~~
16-17	
Dated 2-4-1858.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

388

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Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 7th April 1857.

No. 16. Read the following letter from W. ROBINSON, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Malabar; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, dated Calicut, 12th March 1857, No. 42.

SIR,

I have the honor earnestly to request the attention of Government, to the correspondence herewith forwarded.

Letter from Joint Magistrate, Cochin, dated 9th Instant, No. 42.
From Civil Surgeon, Cochin, dated 2nd do. No. 200.

It appears from it that since January last, that is within two months, no less than eight cases of severe gun-shot wounds, one of which proved fatal, have been treated in the Civil Dispensary at Cochin, all inflicted by the preventive force &c., which the continuation of the tobacco and pepper monopolies causes to be kept up. Other cases have been reported of a similar nature; fatal ones probably occur without even being heard of where this horrid recklessness in the use of fire arms against smugglers exist. The matter unquestionably claims for the sake of humanity and civilization the interference of the Government, to prevent the loss of life and limb in these sad expedients resorted to by the Cochin Circar, to protect a vicious fiscal system already condemned on all hands. These are not I believe only inflicted in affrays with the preventive establishment but in "winging" men they cannot overtake. I have requested Mr. Cullin to examine and take up each case of this description with all its circumstances, with a view to exposing the whole evils of the system.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON,

Acting Magistrate.

From E. CULLIN, Esq., Joint Magistrate of Cochin; to W. ROBINSON, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Malabar, dated 9th March 1857, No. 42.

SIR,

Copy of letter from the Civil Surgeon, 2d March 1857, No. 200.
Do. order of the Joint Magistrate. 3d March 1857, No. 34.
Do. Report from the Police Fiscals, 8th March 1857, No. 26.
Do. do. do. 9th March 1857, No. 29.

I have the honor to transmit to you, for your information, copies of the papers noted in the margin, shewing the number of cases of gun-shot wounds which have been

recently treated at the Civil Dispensary at Cochin.

2. The wounds, in every case, were inflicted by the Police of the Rajah of Cochin in the Rajah's Territory, or rather in that part of the river or back-water which is bounded by the Rajah's Territory. The wounded men were engaged either in smuggling Tobacco from the Company's Territory into the Rajah's country, or of Pepper from the Rajah's Territory into British Cochin.

3. I have forwarded copies of the papers to the British Resident.

4. These unhappy conflicts between the Rajah's Police and the smugglers are, of course, beyond my control.

5. The wounded men came to British Cochin for the purpose of receiving surgical aid at the Civil Dispensary.

(Signed) E. CULLIN,

Joint Magistrate.

From Civil Surgeon J. PRINGLE, M. D.; to E. CULLIN, Esq., Joint Magistrate, Cochin, dated 2nd March 1857, No. 200.

SIR,

I beg to bring to your notice that a man Barky¹ Gabriel was brought to Hospital on Saturday morning (28th February 1857,) shot through the right side, the injury proved fatal I died. yesterday morning. On the 5th Ultimo, Itteary² Carambars and Cooromben³ Kaylen were admitted as Dispensary out-patients. The one shot through the right arm and the other with a gun-shot wound on the right shoulder. On the 21st Barky⁴ Ketta, and Barid⁵ Barid were admitted, the one with a ball in the left arm and the other wounded in the neck, shoulder &c. In January the following individuals Pylo⁶ Barid with gun-shot wound in neck

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in

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 7th April 1857.

and arms. Lonen? Lonen with eleven gun-shot wounds in various parts of the body and Chakoo? Barid gun-shot wound in right side were brought to me. All of these wounds were received in smuggling encounters with the Police of the Rajah of Cochin. It has been reported to me that several individuals besides the above have been wounded whose cases have not been brought to my notice.

(Signed) J. PRINGLE, M. D.,
Civil Surgeon.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) E. CULLIN,
Joint Magistrate.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) W. ROBINSON,
Acting Magistrate.

No. 17.

ORDER THEREON, No. 388; dated 2nd April 1857.

Resolved that copy of the above letter and of its enclosure be forwarded to the Resident of Cochin and that he be desired to make a forcible representation to His Highness the Rajah on the proceedings of the Cochin's preventive force as brought to notice in these and in previous papers.

2. The Government approve the instructions given by the Magistrate to the Joint Magistrate and desire that they may be informed of every similar case that may occur.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Judicial Department

No. 388

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Dated 2^d April 1857

Read the following letter
from the Acting Magistrate
of Malabar

(Here enter 12th March 1857 No. 42)

Resolved that

copy of the above letter
and of its enclosure be

forwarded to the Resident.

and that he be desired to make a

forcible representation

to His Highness the

Rajah on the proceedings

of the Cochin's preventive

force as brought to

notice in these and

in

in previous papers

JP

2. The first person

the witness is now given

by the Magistrate

to the Court may

and desire that

the fact may be

informed of every

similar case that

may occur

would approve

of the Magistrate

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Acting Magistrate of
Malabar
Retired of Tananore &
Cochin

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In 84 to County of Al 459
Judicial 1857 Sept 18

N. 388

Subscribed to the Court

8/22 April 1857.

7. Com. 28 to April 1857. 4/27 1850.
4/28 53.

Cash
revenue