

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	974	Press
		Mis.
30 . 31		
Dated	7 - 8 - 1857	

Not to be folded or roughly handled*See**974*

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 11th August 1857.

No. 30. Read the following letter from C. WHITTINGHAM, Esq., Magistrate of North Arcot; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Palmanair, 17th July 1857, No. 48.

SIR,

Para. 1. I have the honor to state for the information of Government, that although during the last 3 months, there has been a considerable decrease in the number of gang robberies, as is shown by the quarterly statement lately submitted by me, yet a case of gang robbery of a very grave nature has recently occurred in the Trivalum talook, situated in the divisions of the Head Assistant Magistrate.

2. The details of this outrage are given in a letter from the Joint Magistrate, dated 14th Instant, of which a copy is enclosed.

3. I have offered a reward of 100 Rupees for the apprehension of a leader, and 20 Rupees for that of a member of the gang. I have also sent 3 detective Police officers to assist in discovering the offenders, and I have requested the Head Assistant Magistrate, whose head station is 12 miles from the spot, to hold his cutcherry there at present, with a view of facilitating enquiry.

4. It appears from the report of the head of Police, that the 3,150 Rupees, the property of the Railway Company, had been that morning received by Mr. Webster. The conduct of his servants, in absenting themselves from their usual place of sleeping, seems to imply complicity on their part.

5. I have requested the Consulting Engineer to impress upon the Railway authorities, the necessity of affording adequate guards to those of their inferior officers, who are obliged to have the custody of large sums of money, and the advisability of disbursing at once the payments they are required to make.

6. As detective Police officers sent from my office have repeatedly, during the last 3 months, apprehended and brought to justice notorious offenders, I have reason to hope that their endeavours will in this instance be successful.

(Signed) C. WHITTINGHAM,

Magistrate.

From A. W. SULLIVAN, Esq., Joint Magistrate of North Arcot; to C. WHITTINGHAM, Esq., Magistrate of North Arcot, dated Vellore, 14th July 1857, No. 152.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that at gun-fire this morning, I received the letter and its enclosure, copies of which are hereunto annexed from Mr. Collins, the Resident Railway Engineer at this station.

2. Breemapoorun is in the Trevellum talook, north of the Paular, and about 7 miles from this, it is not within my jurisdiction, but I considered it right at once to proceed to the spot, which I did, reaching there between 6 and 7 o'clock A. M.

3. I found the Railway Inspector Mr. Webster, seriously wounded on the head, but quite in possession of his faculties, and able to depose to the principal facts of the outrage.

4. The Inspector's house is an isolated situation, about a furlong from the Railway, and rather more from the village, and the attack appears to have been one of the usual torch-light description, which have been of such lamentably frequent occurrence of late years in this district, the sole object, the plunder of the Railway cash-chest, from which about 3,150 Rupees have been carried off, the property of the Railway Company, and about 685 Rupees of money and Bank Notes, the property of Mr. Inspector Webster.

5. From distress from his wounds, beyond a few articles capable of identification, Mr. Webster was unable to ascertain or depose to the extent of private property stolen from him, but has promised to furnish a list when somewhat recovered.

6. He fortunately had the number of the Bank Notes, which I immediately telegraphed to Madras, and have taken measures to stop here.

7. I have sent the depositions taken by me on the spot to the Acting Head Assistant Magistrate, that he may proceed with the case, but in the meanwhile, I shall use every effort myself for tracing the perpetrators of this gross outrage.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 11th August 1857.

8. The head of the Police arrived at the spot shortly after I did, and I gave him personally, the strictest orders on the subject, he was unattended by a Goomastah, or as far as I could see a single peon.

(Signed) A. W. SULLIVAN,
Joint Magistrate.

Madras, Railway Engineer's Office,
Vaniembady Division, Vellore, 14th July 1857.

MY DEAR SIR,

I have just received the enclosed from Inspector Webster. Will you please to send Police at once to Bramapooram to investigate the matter, and take such of the measures as are necessary to trace the perpetrators of the outrage.

(Signed) JAMES COLLINS.

2 o'clock, 14th July 1857.

SIR,

I regret to inform you, that my house has been attacked by a gang of robbers, between the hours of 12 and 1 this night, and I have been sadly beaten, and every cash of money has been taken away.

(Signed) J. WEBSTER,
Inspector.

Please come out as soon as you can.

To James Collins, Esq., Resident Engineer, Vellore.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) A. W. SULLIVAN,
Joint Magistrate.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. WHITTINGHAM,
Magistrate.

No. 31.

ORDER THEREON, No. 974; dated 7th August 1857.

To be recorded,

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Special Agent
 in Charge
 The Department of
 Justice
 Washington
 D.C.
 August 11, 1907
 To the
 Honorable
 Mr. Justice
 of the
 Supreme
 Court
 Building
 Washington
 D.C.
 Dear Sir:
 I have the honor to
 acknowledge the receipt
 of your letter of the
 7th inst. regarding
 the case of John
 Doe, who was
 arrested on the 1st
 inst. and is now
 in custody of the
 Department of Justice.
 I am sorry to hear
 of the trouble
 which has been
 caused by this
 matter, and I am
 sure that the
 Department will
 do all in its power
 to bring the case
 to a speedy
 conclusion.
 Very respectfully,
 J. Edgar Hoover
 Special Agent
 in Charge

C. 28 July
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