M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-23.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1182 ~~Mis.~~ Press

11–16

Dated 26 — 8 — ~~10~~ 1858

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1182

26-11-29

Read again the following papers.

Extract Minutes Consultation.....(dated 5th July 1858.)
From Commissioner of Police.....(„ 6th „ „)... ..... } Recorded in Cons.
„ Advocate General... ... .(„ 12th „ „) paras. 8—12 } of 27th July 1858.
„ Revd. Mr. Jenkins..... .....(„ 22nd „ „)..... ... ...Do. 3d Aug. 1858.

Read also the following letters.

No. 11. From C. A. ROBERTS, Esq., Madras Civil Service; to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 29th July 1858.

SIR,

In compliance with the orders of Government, received yesterday, on Mr. Jenkins' letter,* relative to the late riot on his premises, I have the honor fully to corroborate his statement in para. 8, and to inform you that I received the note, to which he alludes, when at the Club House, about 10 minutes to 7 on Thursday evening, the 1st Instant.

* Herewith returned.

2. I proceeded at once to the Mission premises, but on arriving at the gate, being informed no Police were present, I drove off to seek their aid, and was directed to the house of Inspector Stuart, immediately adjoining Colonel Colbeck's office.

3. He did not appear for some little time, not being dressed, and just then Mr. Stephenson arrived, perhaps 2 or 3 minutes after myself.

4. Mr. Jenkins has stated what took place. Stuart's delay and reluctance in meeting Mr. Stephenson's and my request, and when he did follow us, it was at a slow walk.

5. We first went to the Club Tannah, and the Inspector having summoned some half a dozen peons who were there, we entered the Mission compound.

6. The mob appeared to disperse in every direction at our approach, and we seized some 7 of those still about the premises on our arrival.

7. I feel it my duty to add, for the information of Government, my feelings of surprise at the apparent combination of the Police generally not to render assistance in this matter till so late as to be of comparatively little service.

8. With regard to Inspector Stuart, it was evident from what he said, that he considered himself acting under orders, and that he looked upon it as his duty not to interfere till informed that an actual breach of the peace had occurred.

9. And this statement appeared to some extent confirmed by Colonel Boulderson on his arrival, some 20 minutes or half an hour after ourselves, remarking to Mr. Stephenson, "had you taken my advice the day-before-yesterday, this would not have happened," (or words to that effect, in allusion to his recommending the Missionaries to give up their Convert) showing, so it struck me, that his sympathies at least were not with the sufferers from the riotous assault which had just occurred.

No. 12. From Colonel J. C. BOULDERSON, Commissioner of Police; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 31st July 1858, No. 105.

SIR,

1. In obedience to the instructions given in Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 21st Instant, No. 990, Judicial Department, I have the honor to submit the following further explanation of the circumstances connected with the late riot at Royapettah, accompanying it with a record of the proceedings judicially taken by me since the date of my former letter to you of 6th Instant, in order to ascertain how far Inspector Stuart and Duffadar Ramoodoo of the Police Force were justly chargeable with the gross neglect of duty imputed to them. The depositions made before me on that occasion, and the defence of the accused parties, throw additional light on the painful subject of the outrage at the Wesleyan Mission House on the 1st Instant, but only tend to strengthen the conviction expressed by me in the first instance, that an unfortunate error of judgment on the part of my Deputy, Mr. Lafond, which led to the precautionary measures ordered by me, not being carried out, was the proximate cause of the disturbance having occurred to the extent it did. Had these precautionary measures been taken, the riotously disposed would

most probably never have ventured on overt acts of violence, or would at all events have received an immediate check. I feel bound to add however, in part extenuation of the error of Mr. Lafond, whose zeal and efficiency have never been called in question until now, that when he left the Mission premises without having fulfilled my instructions, appearances did not seem to indicate hostile intentions towards the Missionaries on the part of the relations of the boy Convert. The depositions of the Reverend gentleman alluded to, mention no signs of a violent disposition up to that period, although apprehensions of such a contingency were expressed. The Reverend Mr. Jenkins in his examination states thus:

"About half past 5 o'clock, the first defendant, Stuart, a Police Inspector, now present came there, the second defendant, Ramoodoo, Duffadar, also present, whether he came with the Inspector or not, I do not know. Inspector Stuart came with the parents of the Convert boy, the father, mother and grand-mother to my premises, the latter were there by appointment, at that time there was only another person who held an infant in his arms in the garden. How long the Police officers remained there I do not know, may be 20 minutes. At that time no crowd assembled in the compound. I told the Inspector, Stuart, I will not allow the boy to be taken away against his will. I saw no crowd outside then, but I felt a great degree of insecurity, and I claimed protection from Mr. Stuart and the authorities. Mr. Stuart then gave me a letter which he received from Mr. Lafond. From the time Mr. Stuart first gave me that letter, and his asking me for it, and my returning it to him and his final departure, 10 minutes may have elapsed."

2. I do not of course offer these observations with a view to justify Mr. Lafond in the omission of the precautionary course which I had ordered, but because the fact of a friendly interview between the relatives of the young Convert and the Missionaries, and the absence of any apparent tendency to a breach of the peace at the time Mr. Lafond was present, should, I submit, be borne in mind when his conduct is under review.

3. Having made the foregoing preliminary remarks for the consideration of Government, I shall now proceed to furnish as well as I am able, the specific information called for.

Firstly.—I regret to be under the necessity of stating, that Inspector Stuart and the peons with him, did on this occasion withdraw from the compound of the Wesleyan Mission House, notwithstanding the request for protection of the Reverend Mr. Jenkins on the grounds of a feeling of insecurity. This withdrawal however being the result of orders given by their superior officer Mr. Lafond, for the reasons above explained by me and shown in his Memorandum which is already before Government, there being at the time no immediate cause of alarm, and he being of opinion that it was most expedient for the Police officers to return to the adjacent Tannah, thence to watch the progress of the affair and to avoid the appearance of unnecessary interference.

Secondly.—I have the honor to observe, that only one communication indicative of apprehended tumult at the Royapettah Mission House was received at this office between the hours specified in the Minutes of Consultation and 7 P. M., upon which communication, I forthwith acted by dispatching my Deputy to the spot. It must here be added however that Captain Hope voluntarily brought news of the actual occurrence of a riot, as will be explained hereafter.

Thirdly.—The absence of any report of the actual progress of affairs, except the communication above referred to, is sufficiently accounted for as appears to me, by the express declarations of Mr. Lafond, Inspector Stuart and subordinate officers of Police, that they anticipated no violence up to the actual moment of the outbreak; Captain Hope becoming casually aware of what was going on, immediately galloped off to the Troop Barracks with intelligence, and the Detachment of the Mounted Policemen, kept always in readiness, as soon as possible was in the saddle and hastening to Royapettah. Their tardy appearance, as remarked by Government, being attributable to the suddenness of the outbreak and the consequent absence of any intimation of their presence being required before Captain Hope brougbt the tidings.

4. Having thus answered in detail the several questions put by Government, it only remains for me to do myself the honor of submitting some remarks on the letter of His Honor the Chief Justice, and the Presentment of the gentlemen of the Grand Jury, with copies of which I have been favored.

5. In the first place, the Grand Jury present, that from the evidence which has come before them, in two or three cases, they are induced to believe that "the Police establishment is wanting in that efficiency, the maintenance of which is so necessary for the preservation of the public peace." I may perhaps be permitted to say that it is difficult to meet charges of so general a nature, and I know not to what cases the Grand Jury may here refer, but presume that reference is made to the two murder cases tried at the last Sessions on which verdicts of acquital were pronounced by the Petty Jury. Before blaming the Police in respect to the results of those two cases, I trust the Government will favor me by examining the evidence taken by the Coroner immediately after the tragic events took place, and before there was time for one party to make up a story, or for the other to tamper with the witnesses.

6. The trial of these cases did not come off for several months subsequent to the Inquests, and this department had no control over the witnesses in the interval. It is notorious to all who have had any experience of the administration of justice in this country, that the delay of trial is most favorable to the escape of guilty parties, who can bring money or influence to bear on witnesses, attempts to corrupt witnesses being the rule rather than the exception, and unfortunately proving successful in a vast number of cases, and I confidently appeal to the impartial judgment of His Lordship in Council whether the Police Department can fairly be held responsible for miscarriage of justice arising from causes such as these.

7. With reference to the specific accusation brought by the Grand Jury against this department in the matter of the Royapettah riot, viz., of "gross want of vigilance on the part of the Police, in permitting a serious riot during the space of 1 hour and a half in one of the most populous districts of Madras, and in the immediate vicinity of a Police Station," I have the honor to lay before the Government, the following explanations which will, I trust, be satisfactory, to some extent at least. It is not to be denied that the unfortunate error of my Deputy, the result of misplaced reliance on the peaceable disposition of the relatives who sought the recovery of the young Convert, afforded facilities for the disturbance which happened, and laid this department open to reflection; but it will, I think, appear when the depositions take before me are carefully examined, that the notion which has got abroad, that the Mission premises were "allowed to be in the possession of a riotous mob of more than one hundred persons for about an hour and a half, without the slightest interference on the part of the Police," is, to say the least, considerably exaggerated.

8. According to the statements of the Reverend Messieurs Jenkins and Stephenson, the riot did not commence until long after 6 o'clock, or near to 7. The latter gentleman says "I think it was about 20 minutes past 6 that the peons left the premises" and the former states that "all was quiet up to that time, he saw no crowd within his compound or beyond it." He says "how long the Police officers remained I do not know, may be about 20 minutes, at that time no crowd assembled at the compound." "I saw no crowd outside then." "Just afterwards," he adds, "people began to flock in fast," but a quarter of an hour or 20 minutes more elapsed before he reckoned "there were upwards of 100 persons in the garden." Then he looked round for help, and says, "I did not see a single Police officer present there at that time" "while the crowd was coming in, I wrote a note to Mr. C. Roberts, asking him to come in; at the time I wrote that note, the crowd was coming into the garden, but no assault had commenced." This note Mr. Roberts certifies reached him at the Club, only about a quarter before 7 o'clock, and it is obvious therefore, even supposing that the note was first taken to Mr. Roberts' house, which is close by, that much time could not have elapsed between the despatch and the receipt of the message.

9. The Reverend Mr. Stephenson's account of the commencement of the disturbance is somewhat different from that of his brother Missionary as to time, but both agree to the material point, viz., no intention of violence having been shewn up to a late hour.

"A riot" he states "commenced immediately Mr. Stuart and the peons left, the people were only clamorous at first and not violent."

10. Now I submit it is clear from the evidence of the Reverend Missionaries and Mr. Roberts, that the actual outbreak of the crowd, the majority of whom there is reason to believe, were only inactive spectators on the occasion, could not have begun until close on to 7 o'clock, and that its duration can have been scarcely a third of the period assigned to it, viz., an hour and half.

11. Mr, Roberts states, "in consequence of the communication contained in that note, (from Mr. Jenkins) I started immediately for the Mission premises, I walked from the Club to

the Mission gateway and then, in consequence of information I received, I got into the carriage of Mr. Apothecary Leonhard, and he drove me to the Royapettah Police Office."

12. To that spot Mr. Roberts was directly followed by Mr. Stephenson, who says he went there fearing the house would be broken into, and that after a few minutes' delay, they hastened to the Club House Tannah with Inspector Stuart, they there secured the attendance of several peons and went back to the compound, but, states Mr. Roberts, "the *mob* appeared to disperse in every direction on our approach."

13. The riot had then terminated and although there is no means of telling to a fraction of time when it did so, its close could not have taken place much after 7, any more than its beginning could have much preceded the same hour, in fact, not much longer, than the space of time occupied by Mr. Stephenson in going to and fro, between the Mission House and the Royapettah Police office. By the longest road from the Mission House to the Police office, the distance does not exceed 1,900* feet.

*Vide Sketch.

14. I arrived on the spot myself with Colonel Balfour about half-past 7, and the Police Troopers came up immediately after. I can speak positively as to the precise time of my arrival, because being engaged to dine at Colonel Balfour's at 7½, and to go with his family to the "*at Home*" at Government House afterwards, I had gone punctually, and immediately on arrival, hearing there was a disturbance close by, drove with Colonel Balfour to the spot* where we found all quiet. We remained on the premises sometime, and having made provision for the security of the prisoners, we returned home to dinner, and while in the middle of that meal, the 8 o'clock gun fired.

*Distance from Colonel Balfour's house to the Mission Premises 1,450 feet.

15. I think therefore that half an hour would be the extreme limit of time from the commencement till the close of the whole affair, involving the breach of the peace, and whilst I deeply lament that such breach should have remained unchecked within our Police jurisdiction, even for that short space of time, I most respectfully beg leave to submit that the aspect of the affair when considered with these additional details, is materially changed, and is by no means so grave as to justify its being held up to public reprobation, as a proof of the gross neglect and inefficiency of the Madras Police.

16. I may be also allowed to point out the strange and unfortunate oversight of the Reverend Missionaries and subsequently by Mr. Roberts, in failing to resort primarily for succour directly to the Club House Tannah close at hand, instead of seeking it from the comparatively more remote Royapettah Police office.

17. In conclusion, I must beg His Lordship in Council kindly to excuse my having written at such length in reply to the questions and other documents sent to me for reply and remark, and to bear with me a little longer as I feel bound to lay particular stress on the fact, that the parents of the Convert were on the Mission premises by appointment, and there is every reason to believe that they expected the lad would have been returned to their care, that there does not exist any grounds for supposing that an assault on the Reverend Missionaries and forcible entry into their dwelling house, or destruction of their property was premeditated, but rather that the disturbance, which ensued, was a sudden ebullition on the part of parties connected with the Convert, being the result of the disappointment of the expectation of his being voluntarily returned to his parents, and anger at the expressed determination of the Reverend Mr. Jenkins not to allow the boy to be forcibly carried off.

18. I feel myself called upon to challenge also the correctness of the report which has been put in circulation regarding the falling off of the Police force from that state of efficiency in which it was supposed to be when I assumed charge of the department.

19. Since that period the excitement of the native mind has been unexampliedly great, occasioned,

Firstly. By the introduction of the unpopular new Police and Municipal Codes.

Secondly. By the disbandment of the soldiery and servants of the late Carnatic Sircar, and other matters connected with the same subject; greater changes having in fact been made during this short period than had taken place during many years previous, and

Thirdly. By the unhappy events which have occurred in Bengal and Central India, during the past year.

20. All these circumstances have acted most powerfully upon the mind of a native population, a large portion of whom have not at all events of late years been well disposed towards our Government, and who are now still more enimical to our rule than ever.

21. This is a subject which few like to discuss, still fewer to say they credit, but nevertheless it is true, and with these facts patent, I do again confidently appeal to Government, and ask whether the state of quiet and perfect repose, in which this city has been kept during two years past, is not in itself a disproof of the allegations brought against this department, and lastly, as to the state of crime, a reference to the four last Police Reports will show, that there has been no increase of crime during my superintendence, and further that there is no unfavorable difference during the same period in respect to the result of trials held.

Charge against Inspector Stuart.

For gross neglect of duty and misconduct as a Police Officer, on Thursday afternoon, 1st Instant, in having left his proper post near the Wesleyan Mission premises in Royapettah, when there was every reason to apprehend a breach of peace might take place, and for dilatory and reluctant return to the Mission premises after an actual commencement of the riot had been made known to him, and his services as a Police Officer for the suppression of the same requested.

Madras, Police Commissioner's Office, 13th July 1858.

(Signed) J. C. BOULDERSON,
Commissioner of Police.

Charge against Duffadar Raumoodoo of the Club House Tannah.

For gross neglect of duty and misconduct as a Police Officer, in having on Thursday afternoon, the 1st Instant, allowed a serious riot to take place in the Wesleyan Mission garden at Royapettah, without making any attempt in proper time to suppress the same, and to render his assistance to the parties who were wantonly assaulted by a large mob, and for forsaking his post at a time, when a breach of the peace was anticipated and for the prevention of which he had received special orders to take measures of precaution.

Madras, Police Commissioner's Office, 13th July 1858.

(Signed) J. C. BOULDERSON,
Commissioner of Police.

Tuesday, the 13th day of July 1858, before Colonel J. C. BOULDERSON, Commissioner of Police.

Revd. Mr. Jenkins sworn, states—I reside in Royapettah, in the Wesleyan Mission premises close to the Club House of Madras. On Thursday, the 1st July Instant, a breach of the peace took place in the Mission premises occasioned by Tamil caste people, the crowd assembled at quarter past 6 o'clock in the evening, they came in gradually, in companies of 20 or 30. About quarter of an hour there were upwards of 100, they entered by the east-gate, furthest from the Tannah. After that, many came in by the west-gate; about half past 5 o'clock, the 1st defendant Stuart, a Police Inspector, now present came there; the 2nd defendant, Raumoodoo, Duffadar, also present, whether he came with the Inspector or not I do not know. Inspector Stuart came with the parents of the Convert boy, the father, mother and grand-mother to my premises, the latter were there by appointment. At that time there was only another person who held an infant in his arms in the garden. How long the Police officer remained there I do not know, may be 20 minutes; at that time no crowd assembled in the compound. I told the Inspector Stuart I will not allow the boy to be taken away against his will. I saw no crowd outside then, but I felt a degree of insecurity, and I claimed protection from Mr. Stuart and the authorities. Mr. Stuart then gave me a letter which he received from Mr. Lafond, from the time Mr. Stuart first gave me that letter, and his asking for it, and my returning it to him, and his final departure, ten minutes may have elapsed. As soon as Mr. Stuart left the premises all the peons went out one after the other. I called them back, they would not remain, they all left by the eastern gate, the most distant from the Club and so did also Mr. Stuart. After Mr. Stuart and

the peons left it, not five minutes I should think elapsed, before the people came in considerable numbers and by the same gate by which the Police officers retired; about ¼ of an hour or 20 minutes after that, I looked round, I did not see a single Police officer present there at that time, there were upwards of 100 persons in the garden while the crowd were coming in. I wrote a note to Mr. C. Roberts, asking him to come in. At the time I wrote the note, a crowd was coming into the garden, but no assault had commenced. On that evening I had no communication with any other superior officer of the Police except Mr. Stuart. I cannot tell at what time the Police officers came back. I was in the next house. I left my house when it was nearly dark and no peons had arrived; at that time considerable damage had been done by the riotors; when I left the house I should say it was quarter past 7. The assault commenced in full day-light and may have lasted nearly an hour.

1st Defendant Stuart has no questions to put to Mr. Jenkins.

2nd Raumoodoo states the same.

C. Roberts, sworn, states—I am an Officer of the Madras Civil Service. On Thursday the 1st Instant I recollect that a number of native persons assembled at Royapettah; on that evening I received a note from one of the Missionaries, Mr. Jenkins, that was about quarter before 7 o'clock. In consequence of the communication contained in that note, I started immediately for the Mission premises. I walked from the Club to the Mission gate-way, and then in consequence of information I received, I got into the carriage of Mr. Apothecary Leonard, and he drove me to the Royapettah Police office, where I saw no Police officers, but the residence of the defendant Stuart was pointed out to me. I called for him at his house, there was some delay of 2 or 3 minutes of his coming out. I do not recollect what I said when Mr. Stuart did come out. I gave him to understand that Police aid was required to suppress a riot at Royapettah. He showed no alacrity in affording me his assistance, but it was evident to me, from what he said, that he was acting under orders, as he appeared to hesitate to interfere till a breach of the peace had been committed. The Revd. Mr. Stevenson came up within two minutes of my seeing the Inspector and said the mob are breaking into the Mission house. Upon which I remarked "now will you come." A Mission peon ran up immedeately afterwards, and said that they were beating his master, we ran off at once there, myself and Revd. Mr. Stevenson in the direction of the Mission compound. Inspector Stuart followed us at a walk; seeing he was coming, we fell back and joined him, he showed no spirit in giving us his aid, we all walked to the Club House Tannah, whence he called 5 or 6 peons who were there. I cannot say that the 2nd defendant now present was one of them. We then proceeded to the Mission compound, but the mob appeared to disperse in every direction. On our approach some seven of them were taken prisoners; when I went into the compound I did not see a single Police officer there, except those who were present with us; on our arrival at the Mission house, Inspector Stuart appeared to me to be totally ignorant of his duty, and his services were of very little use in securing of prisoners; after their apprehension he took them in charge.

I would like to add, that I am not certain that Mr. Stevenson did not arrive at Mr. Inspector Stuart's house before he came out.

Inspector Stuart has no questions to put to the witness.

The Duffadar has no questions to put to the witness.

Revd. Robert Stevenson, Wesleyan Missionary, sworn, states—I reside in the Wesleyan Mission House in Royapettah close to the Club. On Thursday evening, July the 1st Instant, a serious riot occurred on the Mission premises. Inspector Stuart was at the Mission about half past 5 o'clock that evening. I saw Mr. Stuart there again about 6 o'clock, he brought to Mr. Jenkins a letter from Mr. Lafond; on reading that letter, Mr. Jenkins said to Mr. Stuart he would on no account give up Vejayarungum to a clamorous mob, and that he claimed the protection of the Police. At that time a considerable number of persons were present with the parents of the boy, many standing close to the house. Mr. Stuart made no reply, but said he would consult Mr. Lafond, who was at the gate. A few minutes after that I saw Mr. Stuart approach half way towards the house and motion to the peons, who were with us by the house, they presently left the compound in spite of Mr. Jenkins' repeated charge to

remain. A riot commenced immediately Mr. Stuart and the peons left. The people were only clamorous at first, not violent. I think it was about 20 minutes past 6 that the peons left the premises. In consequence of the violence of the mob, we were drove into the Mission house and then fearing the house would be broken into. I escaped by a back window and ran to the Royapettah Police Court, where I arrived, may be about quarter past 7. I went there for Police assistance. After a while I was taken by a peon to the house in which Inspector Stuart resides (it is close to the Court House.) I saw Mr. Stuart standing at the door-way and Mr. Roberts of the Madras Civil Service was with him. I said to Mr. Stuart, the people are breaking into the house, give us help directly, or words to that effect. He made no reply, but Mr. Roberts said, you cannot delay to come now, after what you have heard, or words to that effect. Mr. Stuart still delayed, and I said if you do not come to our aid, we shall certainly enter an action against the Police. Presently two of the Mission servants came running up to the house, and said the house is broken into, and the people are beating Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Stuart then put on his coat and came with us. I do not think I was at Mr. Stuart's house more than 4 or 5 minutes. Mr. Roberts and myself ran towards the Club House Tannah, and Mr. Stuart followed. As soon as we reached the Tannah, Mr. Stuart gave directions to the peons to come with him, and they immediately followed to the Mission house, and they took into custody such of the mob then running away as were given over to them by myself and with my knowledge, by the Mission servants. I cannot say that the peons did not take others into custody besides those delivered to them. I did not at that time see any Police peons on the premises except those who went in with us there.

I have to add that Mr. Stuart during Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning previous to the riot was frequently on the Mission premises, and as far as I could observe, discharged his duties zealously and efficiently, and during those days considerable excitement existed.

Mr. Stuart has no questions to put to witness.

The Duffadar has no questions to put to witness.

Shaik Sillar on solemn affirmation states—I am a Police peon, No. 1, stationed at the Club House Tannah. I recollect the Thursday evening 1st Instant, on which a riot took place at Royapettah. The 2nd defendant Raumoodoo, is the Duffadar of my Tannah. At half past 6 o'clock when I was on parah the 1st defendant Inspector Stuart came to the Tannah and took away the peons with him, the 2nd defendant was not present at the Tannah. They went to the place where the riot took place. It was a little dark then, he went away speaking with the Jemadar Chendrabun. It was only about 3 minutes after he had left the Tannah that the notice was given by Mr. Stuart. The Duffadar immediately returned and followed Mr. Stuart to the Mission house. Three minutes before Mr. Stuart came to the Tannah a Mission peon came to the Tannah and told me that the mob at the Mission compound was breaking the doors and glasses of the house. Immediately six of the peons who were ready at the Tannah with me proceeded to the spot, and no time was lost. Mr. Stuart also accompanied the peons, and the Duffadar followed him in 3 or 4 minutes.

Mr. Stuart has no questions to put to witness.

The Duffadar has no questions to put to witness.

Defence of Mr. Stuart.—Defendant Stuart states. On the evening of the 1st July Instant, at half past 5 o'clock, at the request of Revd. Mr. Jenkins, I took the parents of the boy Convert to the Mission house. Mr. Jenkins, had told them in the morning, that he would tell them, whether he would return the boy or not. Mr. Jenkins told me he was determined not to return the boy to the parents, and he said he did not fear, even if 5,000 entered his house. I was standing by the parents of the boy while they were beseeching him to return their son to them. While I was there, there was no crowd whatever inside the compound. A peon told me then, that Mr. Lafond wanted me, and before I could come out, Mr. Lafond had left. There I saw a few people 20 or 30 standing outside the Mission gate, (the east-gate.) Myself and Jemadar Chendrabun dispersed the mob and Mr. Lafond returned. He also spoke to the people, he told them not to stand at the gate, and not to enter the compound. As the parents were in the

compound and talking with Mr. Jenkins and as they were by no means violent towards him, Mr. Lafond said as a crowd would assemble, if the peons remain here, let us remove them to the Club House Tannah. We all went there. Mr. Lafond said if any breach of the peace takes place at the Mission house, to go up immediately and seize the parties. Mr. Lafond remained talking with us until half past 6 o'clock. He told us to be very careful and cautious and to give my instructions to the peons to be careful, he also told me to send for Constable Shaik Hoossain, and to keep him at the Tannah. I did so. I sent for him then; after Mr. Lafond left us, the Jemadar Chendrabun and myself remained a long time at the Club House Tannah. I sent a peon towards Mr. Jenkins' house to see if there was any disturbance at that time, he returned, and said there was nothing at all. I then told the peons, that Constable Shaik Hoossain would come soon, and that as I was taken short and as there was no place of convenience at the Tannah and my house not being far off, I would go to my house to attend to the calls of nature. I went. I left instructions for them to report to me as soon as any thing happened. While I was at the closet in my house, I heard that the Revd. Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Roberts had come to my place, having buttoned up, I came out to hear what they had to say to me. They said a disturbance was taking place at Mr. Jenkins' house. I asked if there was a large crowd, if there was any violence and what they were about doing. Mr. Roberts said never mind about all that, come along. I said to him if there is a large crowd I would rather gather all the peons I can, for the purpose. Whereupon Mr. Stevenson said, "If you do not come, we will take an action against you." I said if that is it, I shall follow you immediately. Whereupon I put on a holland coat which was at hand, and the Police cap and with the slippers I had on, ran after them, and I can prove I was running all the way. I went to the Club House Tannah and took with me all the peons that were there. We commenced dispersing the portion of the mob, which was at a distance from the house, and took charge of some prisoners. I did all that I could as a Police officer.

Abdool Ryman, on solemn affirmation states—I am peon of Police, No. 15, attached to the Royapettah Police Court. On the evening of the 1st July Instant, I saw three gentlemen come there for Mr. Stuart. After their arrival I saw Mr. Stuart and the gentlemen leave the compound with them in the direction of the large gateway, west. I observed Mr. Stuart walked rapidly after them. Mr. Stuart called upon me to follow him, and I did so.

Francis sworn, states—I am a Butler in the service of Colonel Colbeck, I recollect the evening of the 1st Instant, on that evening two gentlemen came to the Police Court, I heard them call out "boy," "boy" and I ran to them. One or two minutes after that, I saw Mr. Stuart go with those gentlemen at the west road to Royapettah. I do not know their names. I saw Mr. Stuart walking as rapidly as those gentlemen and following them with his coat on his arm and his slippers not properly on his feet.

Mrs. Turner sworn, states—I am an Ayah in the service of Mrs. Colbeck. I recollect the evening of Thursday, the 1st Instant, because two gentlemen after each other came to the Police Court. They asked for my master Colonel Colbeck, and then they asked for Mr. Stuart, the person now present, and in two or three minutes after that, I asked Mr. Stuart where he was going, he said he had no time to speak and went away with the gentlemen in the direction of the Royapettah road. All running.

Jacob sworn, states—I am a Maty in the service of Colonel Colbeck, I remember the evening of 1st July Instant, because two gentlemen came at the compound about half or three quarters past 6 o'clock, they asked me first where my master was, and then they asked for Mr. Stuart's house. About 2 or 3 minutes after that, I saw the gentlemen and Mr. Stuart with his coat half on, walking rapidly to the west.

Defence of the Duffadar.

2nd Defendant Raumoodoo states—I am Duffadar No. 28, stationed at the Club House Tannah. Agreeably to the appointment of Inspector Mr. Stuart, I went to the Mission gate at half past 5 o'clock with 6 peons. Mr. Stuart arrived there soon after. We were standing outside the gate. Mr. Stuart then took the parents and grand-mother of the Convert into the Mission compound. In the mean time Jemadar Chendrabun remained there with four peons from his Tannah and we all stood together. At about quarter to 6, Mr. Lafond came and he told me to call the Inspector Mr. Stuart from inside, I did, I returned and Mr. Stuart came after me, but Mr.

Lafond had left, in the direction of Royapettah, there were about 10 or 15 persons standing there. I heard Mr. Lafond tell the people that they should not create a row but go to the proper authorities to get back their boy. Mr. Stuart came from the compound and spoke to the Jemadar. In about five minutes Mr. Lafond returned. After they had spoken together, Mr. Lafond went away by himself towards the Club. The Jemadar Chendrabun and Inspector Mr. Stuart took all the peons to the Club House Tannah, and they directed the peons to return to their respective Tannahs, detaining five peons in the Tannah in excess of the regularn umber. The Jemadar went to his Tannah and the Inspector to his house and the peons dispersed. I followed the Jemadar and asked him what I was to do with the 5 peons if there was any disturbance. He said Constable Shaik Hoossain would come and give orders how to proceed. I further asked him whether I could go to the place if a disturbance should take place before the arrival of the Constable. He said I might do so. I followed the Jemadar to the north-gate of the Police compound leading to Jam bazar. I asked the Jemadar also if I might go home, as it was my turn. He told me to remain as usual until 8 o'clock, and then to go home; the Jemadar went his way and I returned to my Tannah. On my way I heard there was a great row in the Mission compound and ran back to it, just as Mr. Stuart entered the gate of the Mission compound. I followed him and did all I could as a Police officer.

2nd Defendant's witness, Paroomall Naidoo, on solemn affirmation, states—I am a dealer in rice opposite the Club-House Tannah. On Thursday the 1st Instant, about half-past 6 o'clock I saw the 2nd defendant Raumoodoo run from the east and enter the gate of the Mission compound in Royapettah and that too rapidly.

Mooroogasen, on solemn affirmation, states—I am a cart-driver residing in Poodoopaukum. I had been in Royapettah on Thursday the 1st Instant, to collect some debts due to my master. As it was getting dark between the hours of half-past 6 and 7 when I was on my way to Triplicane, I saw a large crowd assembled near the gate-way of the Mission compound in Royapettah. I did not like to stand there because I had money about me, and on coming forward I saw the defendant, Duffadar Raumoodoo, come running from the Police Tannah, he asked me to take his slippers to the Tannah, saying he could not run so rapidly as he wished with them. I did so.

The Inspector Stuart, in addition to his former statement begs to state—I have been five years a Police officer, I have never before this committed myself even once nor has my name been entered in the Defaulters' book and I throw myself on your compassion.

Decision of the Commissioner.—Having attentively considered the evidence brought forward on the trial, regarding the late riot in Royapettah, I have come to the conclusion, that the Police in the neighbourhood of the Mission House were on the alert, and in discharge of their duty up to about 6 o'clock, P. M. I find also that Inspector Stuart and Duffadar Raumoodoo whose conduct on the occasion forms the subject of this trial, continued in the active and zealous performance of their duty up to the time Mr. Deputy Commissioner, Lafond appeared on the spot, when the erroneous views of that officer as to the amicable agreement likely to result from the meeting of the parents of the boy Convert with the Missionaries and his neglect in carrying out the orders received by him, unfortunately had the effect of creating in the minds of Inspector Stuart, and other Police officers, a feeling of security, which led them to relax in the vigilance required under such circumstances, and which they had before exercised.

Such being the case, and believing that Inspector Stuart, and Duffadar Raumoodoo, are not the parties primarily deserving of blame, having only allowed themselves to be erroneously influenced by the views of their superior officer, I have come to the determination to order the return of Inspector Stuart and Duffadar Raumoodoo to their respective duties, without loss of rank or pay, trusting that *this lesson* will not be lost on them and will, added to their experience in Police duties, convince them, that a strict observance of the principle of never relaxing in vigilance, is indispensable to the proper discharge of their functions as officers of Police.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) J. C. BOULDERSON,
Commissioner of Police.

C

No. 13. MINUTE BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT.

My opinion on the subject of the riot at Royapetta having been requested by my colleagues, I have given all the papers connected with the case my careful consideration.

There is no doubt that a disturbance was anticipated by the Police authorities, for a day or two previously; that when it was actually commencing, the Police withdrew from the scene in spite of the remonstrances of the Missionaries, and that for nearly an hour the rioters were permitted to proceed from clamour to open violence, within a stone's throw of a Police Tannah, the superior Officers having absented themselves, and their subordinates remaining passive spectators of the outrage. It was with difficulty that they were at last induced to interfere, by the personal exertions and threats of Mr. C. Roberts and one of the Missionaries, upon which the rioters immediately dispersed.

I am inclined to trace the origin of this disgraceful occurrence, farther back than my colleagues have done, and I cannot conceal my impression that it was partly the result of what I must consider the very injudicious conduct on the part of the Commissioner of Police (Colonel Boulderson) himself, who when the Convert, his parents, and the Missionaries were previously before him in his official capacity, openly expressed himself so decidedly adverse to the right of asylum claimed for the youthful Convert, as most probably led the parents, and their friends, and even the Police themselves to suppose that the Missionaries need not expect his support in the event af an attempt being made to force the lad from them.

The question of right to the custody of the young man, was I conceive not within Colonel Boulderson's cognizance, the expression of his opinion in open Court so much in accordance with the prejudices and feelings of his native subordinates in regard to the Missionaries, gave them a cue which when the time arrived, they were not slow to act upon. His Deputy, Mr. Lafond, adopting the same line went still farther and at the very time his protection was most needed, treated them as if they were the offending parties, and guilty of abduction.

Under these circumstances, I am obliged to record my opinion that Colonel Boulderson, it may be indirectly, and unintentionally, was in some measure the cause of the wilful inactivity of the Police, and that his misapprehension of his duty in this respect should be noticed by Government.

In regard to the riot itself, Colonel Boulderson seems, as soon as the probability of a disturbance was reported to him, to have acted with promptitude, in despatching his Deputy, Mr. Lafond, to the scene of expected strife, with orders which had they been carried out, would probably have prevented mischief.

These orders Mr. Lafond did not obey, and I consider him responsible for the outrage that ensued. His excuse is that he thought it would all end quietly, and believing that the presence of the Police would rather attract a mob than otherwise, he withdrew them, and then withdrew himself. The incorrectness of his judgment was displayed by the immediate entry of a mob into the compound, who in a short time commenced an assault of a most determined character on the Mission house, having undisputed possession of the premises for upwards of half an hour. In this, the rioters were no doubt encouraged, not only by Mr. Lafond's withdrawal, but by the sentiments to which he gave expression as to the conduct of the Missionaries in refusing to give up the Convert.

It is in a crisis of this kind that the true character and value of a principal Officer of Police is tested. It is then that they who appointed him, and the public can judge how far they may rely on his judgment, impartiality and determination. Mr. Lafond shewed himself signally deficient in all these qualities, and whatever may have been his long service, and his acknowledged merits as a subordinate, it is clear that he is utterly unfit for the important and responsible post to which he has been lately appointed, and I agree with my colleagues that his dismissal is required. At the same time, when an opportunity offers, he might be re-employed in a less responsible position.

With regard to Inspector Stuart, the excuse offered by him for absenting himself from his post is one which I cannot accept. At all events the reluctance evinced by him to accompany Messrs. Roberts and Stephenson to the scene of outrage, was so marked that it amounted to nothing less than a refusal to perform his palpable duty, and I consider him unworthy to remain in the Police force. It may be true that he was acting as he believed under the orders of Mr. Lafond; but these orders, injudicious as they were, could never have applied when a breach of the peace had actually occurred. I am not disposed to permit the employment in the Police force of any European Constable or Inspector who does not know his duty better than Stuart, who should accordingly be dismissed.

Mr. Lafond and Inspector Stuart having disappeared, the next responsible person and in fact the only officer left was the Duffadar Ramoodoo. He followed the example of his superiors, and his sole excuse is that he went after a Jemadar, to obtain his instructions as to what he was to do in the event of a disturbance. Thss man is no longer fit to be in the Police, and should be dismissed.

I observe in this man's defence before Colonel Boulderson, that he states that a Jemadar named Chendrabun was there, with four peons from his Tannah; that he and Stuart took all the peons to the Club House Tannah, and then both went their way. This conduct of the Jemadar seems to require further investigation.

As to the Police peons left in the Tannah without any officer to direct them, and perceiving the feelings of their superiors with regard to the Missionaries, it is not to be wondered at, that they made the fact of having "no orders" an excuse to withhold all assistance. Their conduct is not to be defended, but I am unwilling to make the humbler class of peons suffer for what really was the fault of those under whose orders they were placed, and I would desire the Commissioner to summon all the peons before him in open Court and explain to them, that whatever orders they may receive, it is their duty to quell any disturbance that has actually commenced, and that any future inactivity on their part will be followed by immediate dismissal.

I cannot close this paper without expressing my surprise at the decision given by Colonel Boulderson, after a judicial enquiry by him on the conduct of Stuart and the Duffadar. Even according to their own admissions they were guilty of gross neglect of duty, whereas the Commissioner considers that it was a mere relaxation of vigilance; and directs their return to their situations without loss of rank or pay. Even in his letter to Government of 31st July 1858, there is so evident an attempt to extenuate the conduct of those whom it was the duty of the Commissioner to bring to account that I fully concur with the Honorable Mr. Elliot in his opinion of this mistaken bias and leniency.

I think the thanks of Government are due to Mr. Clarence Roberts for the promptitude and energy evinced by him on the occasion of the riot, whereby the Police were re called to a sense of their duty and the impending catastrophe averted.

August 17th, 1858. (Signed) HARRIS.

No. 14. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE WALTER ELLIOT, Esq.,

These papers relate to three different subjects.

1. The Royapettah riot and the conduct of the Police.

In this it is allowed on all sides that the mob held undisturbed possession of the Mission premises for a period of half an hour according to the admission of the Chief Commissioner, and of an hour and a half according to the statements of the Missionaries and others. The truth probably lies between these limits, and it may be assumed that the Police failed to interfere for a space of from $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour to an hour.

The remarkable features of this case are, that the scene of riot is close to a Police station, and that the officers of that station had been amply warned and were fully aware of the probability of an infraction of the peace.

We all know the localities intimately, (and there is a plan among the papers.) The Tannah is not 100 yards from the Mission gate. The Mission compound actually extends to the Tannah with the road only intervening. The peon on guard could see the ingress of any unusual number of people into the gate, and the whole guard could hear and must have heard the noise made by the mob in their assault on the Mission house. There can be no doubt that some little time after six o'clock P. M., the Police retired from Mr. Jenkins's premises, contrary to his entreaty and remonstrance, that about half past six the Police officers (if we are to believe the

Deputy Superintendent of Police) were strongly warned to be vigilant, and that the post was re-inforced, and yet between half-past six and a quarter past seven, a mob of 100 persons found no hindrance or difficulty in committing a most violent and destructive outrage under the very eyes of the Police.

The inactivity of the Police can only be attributed to cowardice or unwillingness to act.

It could not have been owing to the first, for the mob was a contemptible one, unarmed and only formidable from numbers. In fact the rioters fled at the first appearance of the peons.

It must therefore be attributed to the second cause. And there are indications sufficiently clear to account for this lukewarmness.

Mr. Lafond, the Deputy Commissioner, had formed his own opinions of the proceedings of the Missionaries. He considered that they were acting unjustifiably in giving an asylum to the boy, and he actually put this sentiment on paper when writing instructions to the Constable on the evening of the riot. Finding the Missionaries resolute in disregarding his advice, he seems to have resolved to let them incur the penalty of their temerity by leaving them to their own defence.

On no other supposition can I account for what followed. The riot began immediately after the peons left the premises, in broad day-light. Mr. Jenkins even asserts that the last peons must have passed through the crowd at the gate, but this the Police deny. Mr Lafond went home; soon after his departure, Constable Stuart left the Tannah and went to his own house. The road leading from the Tannah to the Police Court, where Stuart resides, passes by the back of Hinton's Stables into Yahy and Sahib's road, which is opposite the Mission gate, so that as the riot must by this time have begun, the Constable could not have helped both seeing and hearing the commotion, yet he goes quietly home and composes himself for the night. His pretext for leaving I consider to be simply a subterfuge. He could easily have found the accommodation he required at Hinton's Stables or some of the many East Indian houses in that quarter. But even had he failed, he needed not have been absent more than 10 minutes or a quarter of an hour at the outside. He would not have taken off his uniform. But Mr. Roberts found him in undress and slippers and extremely unwilling to be disturbed.

So also the Duffadar, on whom the charge of the Tannah next devolved. On various frivolous pretences he also was absent and did not return till after the party had proceeded to the Mission premises.

That all this remissness, or more properly, disposition to leave the mob scope for their proceedings was intended, is further proved by the judgment of the Chief Commissioner himself. He acquits the Constable and Duffadar on the ground of the erroneous views of the Deputy Superintendent, and his neglect to carry out his (the Chief Commissioner's) orders. He therefore gives no credit to Mr. Lafond's and the Constable's statements of the exhortations to vigilance which they assert were so pointedly enjoined.

I repeat therefore that I can only attribute the success of the outrage to Mr. Lafond's demonstration of sympathy with the parents and friends of the boy and to the impression produced on his subordinates by his language and demeanor that he did not wish the peons to interfere.

That Mr. Lafond knew well his proper line of duty is manifest from his own statement and those of his subordinates, as recorded.

I consider therefore that his conduct is without excuse and the Government will properly mark their sense of it by removing him from his office.

I think the Constable and Duffadar should also be dismissed. No excuse can be made for the inactivity of any Police officer when acts of violence have actually begun.

The same may be said of the peons at the Tannah.

The enquiry has been very insufficient. The Commissioner has contented himself with the evidence of some of his own peons only, in addition to that of the Missionaries and Mr. Roberts. But Captain Hope took an active part in restoring order and he was not examined. Captain A. Drury, I understand, also exerted himself in the affray and both he and the people at Hinton's Stables and probably others, as the Apothecary who lent his carriage to Mr. Roberts could probably have given useful testimony.

I regret to observe the desire evinced by the Chief Commissioner to extenuate every circumstance telling against the conduct of the Police and the erroneous conclusion at which he has arrived in exculpating them from all but the most venial neglect. There is too much reason to apprehend that the general tone of commisseration for the authors of the disturbance expressed by the words and acts of the Police was derived from the Chief Commissioner himself, as appears from Mr. Jenkins's statement of what took place at the Police Office on the Wednesday preceding the riot. (See para. 5.)

2. Ramachendra Row's explanation of the connection between himself and Vencatasawmy Butten is satisfactory and refutes the supposition of the Advocate General that an ancient feud subsisted between them. So far then the Chief Commissioner is free from blame.

3. Colonel Colbeck's explanation of the mode in which Rudrapen's evidence was recorded, is so far satisfactory that it shews this was done in the usual manner. But the mode of procedure therein described is far from being adapted to secure an accurate record.

The witness appears to have deposed in Tamil; this was explained to the Magistrate in English by the Interpreter Mahomed Esoff and the Magistrate then dictated to his amanuensis the words to be recorded. These were again re-translated to the witness before he subscribed the deposition.

It is difficult to obtain a true record of a man's evidence by the ordinary mode of recording the words in his own tongue as they fall from his lips, and generally the Gomashta writes rather what he supposes the witness to mean than what he actually says. How much greater must be the difficulty of filtering the man's words through two distinct media in another language, especially when the Magistrate is disposed to turn and shape the evidence in the way reported by the "Examiner" of the proceedings in the Royapettah office on the occasion of Mr. Jenkins's examination.

(Signed) W. ELIOTT.

5th August, 1858.

No. 15. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE W. A. MOREHEAD, ESQ.,

I concur with Mr. Elliot in the view he takes of the riot case.

The parents of the lad on the evening in question had been taken by Constable Stuart to the Mission house.

The Missionaries had refused to give up to them their son.

The parents and their friends, were loud in their clamour for the restoration to them of the lad. A disturbance likely to end in something serious was thus in progress. At this juncture Mr. Lafond arrives, he does not go to the scene of the disturbance, but sends for the Constable, and after hearing his report, desires him to leave the Mission compound and withdraw the Police peons who had apparently been there for some time. The Missionaries remonstrate, demanding protection, no heed is given to their request, and within certainly half an hour of the withdrawal of the Constable and the peons their house is broken into, their property destroyed and their lives endangered.

After the riot had commenced, no movement is made by the Police, and considerable exertion on the part of Mr. Roberts and others is actually required to get them to leave their different stations.

Strange to say, the above conduct of his subordinates, Colonel Boulderson defends; for Mr. Lafond he pleads error of judgment, and for the Police that they were obeying orders, and in no respect failed in alacrity.

I cannot admit that such pleas are valid. Mr. Lafond would not permit the Police to act as a preventive body, when urgent necessity for their so doing existed, and the Police failed to perform their duty when urgently required so to do, and ample warning had been given them.

It is impossible to imagine a grosser case of stupidity, indifference and general inefficiency than is exhibited in the whole of this matter from first to last.

Ramachendra Row, in my opinion, should have informed Colonel Boulderson of how matters stood between him and Vencatasawmy Butten, his taking up the case was a serious error on his part.

Colonel Colbecks' explanation is satisfactory. The mode of taking depositions related by him, is the usual one, and it is unfair towards Colonel Colbeck to suppose that an error was committed in recording the deposition, when at the time the deponent might have had it corrected.

The Advocate General, I should say, committed an error in dealing as he did with the poisoning case, the blame of his so doing however falls upon himself.

In respect to the Presentment made by the Grand Jury, I think with Colonel Boulderson that, save in the Royapettah case, it is too vague to be dealt with.

6th August 1858. (Signed) W. A. MOREHEAD.

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, No. 1182; dated 26th August 1858.

The above papers relate to the riot which occurred in the premises of the Wesleyan Missionaries at Royapettah, on the evening of Thursday the first of July last.

2. The immediate cause of this disturbance was the shelter given by the Missionaries to a Native Convert, who had sought their protection, and their refusal to deliver him up to his parents. The youth had placed himself under the protection of the Missionaries on Monday the 28th June, from which day until that of the riot—Thursday—there had been communications between them and the friends of the Convert, respecting his residence at the Mission House. Application was made by the latter to the Commissioner of Police, who, on Wednesday the 30th June, had the youth brought before him, and gave him perfect liberty to go where he pleased. He returned to the Mission House. On the ensuing day—Thursday—at about half past five o'clock, the father, mother and grand-mother of the youth waited, by appointment, upon the Revd. Mr. Jenkins to learn his final determination in regard to the restoration of their son. They were accompanied by Inspector Stuart of the Police. Before their arrival, Mr. Jenkins, after consulting one or two of his friends, had resolved to abide by the decision which he had previously formed, not to allow the youth to be carried off against his will. On the morning of the preceding Tuesday, on Mr. Jenkins' refusal to give up the youth, his friends had conducted themselves in a violent and menacing manner, and the Missionary, on Thursday, apprehending that, when his ultimate decision should become known in the evening to the friends of the young man, they would make another attempt upon the house, wrote in the afternoon to the Magistrate Colonel Colbeck, requesting assistance, as he anticipated a disturbance about 5 o'clock. The note was given by Colonel Colbeck to Inspector Stuart with positive instructions to have it forwarded to the Commissioner. On the parents of the youth and the Inspector appearing at the Mission premises, Mr. Jenkins informed the Inspector that the boy was unwilling to quit his house and that he should do his utmost to shelter him from violence. Stuart produced a letter from the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Lafond, in which the latter told his Subordinate that Mr. Jenkins was not doing right in keeping the youth from his family. The Missionary persisting in his refusal, the Inspector withdrew, leaving the boy's friends behind, and giving the parties to understand that he was going to consult with the Deputy Commissioner who, it was said, was waiting outside the compound gate. In a few minutes he returned, came half way towards the house, sent a Peon to ask Mr. Jenkins for Mr. Lafond's note which had been left in his hand, then retired and drew off with him all his Peons, in spite of the strongest remonstrances on the part of the Missionaries. The mob then poured in, held possession of the Mission premises for a period, estimated by the Missionaries at 1½, and by the Commissioner of Police at ½ an hour, broke into the house, destroyed the property, and, but for the escape of the Missionaries, would probably have proceeded to acts of serious violence against them. The rioters ultimately withdrew at once on the reappearance of Inspector Stuart and some Peons, the Inspector having been brought back to the scene of the outrage, very reluctantly, by the Revd. Mr. Stephenson after his escape from the Mission House, and by Mr. C. Roberts of the Civil Service, who on receipt from Mr. Jenkins of a note, apprising him of what was taking place, had at once lent his assistance for the suppression of the riot.

3. The above is a general outline of the case.

4. The remarkable features are, that the scene of riot is close to a Police station, and that the Officers of that station had been amply warned and were fully aware of the probability of an infraction of the peace. The Tannah is not 100 yards from the Mission gate. The Mission compound actually extends to the Tannah with the road only intervening. The Peon on guard could see the ingress of any unusual number of people into the gate, and the whole guard could hear and must have heard the noise made by the mob in their assault on the Mission House. Yet the Police who had been in or about the Mission premises retired from them. Those on duty at the Tannah who, it is alleged by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, had been strongly warned to be vigilant, and whose post had been re-inforced would not interfere, and in consequence a mob of full an hundred persons found no hindrance in committing a most violent and destructive outrage under the very eyes of the Police.

5. Their inactivity can only be attributed to cowardice or unwillingness to act.

6. It could not have been owing to the first, for the mob was a contemptible one, unarmed, and only formidable from numbers. In fact the rioters fled at the first appearance of the Police.

7. It must therefore be attributed to the second cause. And there are indications sufficiently clear to account for this lukewarmness.

8. Tracing this most disgraceful occurrence back to its first origin, the Governor in Council cannot but consider that it is in part to be ascribed to the injudicious conduct of the Commissioner of Police himself, who when the Convert, his parents, and the Missionaries were previously before him in his official capacity, openly expressed himself so decidedly adverse to the right of asylum claimed for the youthful Convert as most probably led the parents and their friends, and even the Police themselves to suppose that the Missionaries need not expect his support in the event of an attempt being made to force the lad from them.

9. The question of right to the custody of the young man was not within Colonel Boulderson's cognizance. The expression of his opinion in open Court so much in accordance with the prejudices and feelings of his Native Subordinates in regard to the Missionaries, gave them a cue which, when the time arrived, they were not slow to act upon.

10. Under these circumstances, the Government are constrained to express their disapproval of Colonel Boulderson's conduct in this particular, and to record their opinion that—although indirectly and unintentionally—he was in some measure the cause of the wilful inactivity of the Police.

11. In regard however to the riot itself, as soon as the probability of its occurring was reported to him, the Commissioner seems to have acted with promptitude in despatching his Deputy, Mr. Lafond, to the scene of expected strife, with orders which had they been carried out, would probably have prevented mischief.

12. Mr. Lafond, the Deputy Commissioner had, like his principal, formed his own opinion of the proceedings of the Missionaries. He considered that they were acting unjustifiably in giving an asylum to the boy, and he actually put this sentiment on paper when writing instructions to the Constable on the evening of the riot. Finding the Missionaries resolute in disregarding his advice, he left the place accompanied by all the Peons. His excuse that he thought all would end quietly, and believed that the presence of the Police would rather attract a mob than otherwise, if it be accepted as his real opinion, can be regarded only as evincing an utter want of judgment and of knowledge of his duty.

13. It is in such a crisis as this that the true character and value of a Principal Officer of Police is tested. It is then that they who appointed him, and the public can decide how far they may rely on his judgment, impartiality and determination. Mr. Lafond shewed himself signally deficient in all these qualities, and whatever may have been his long service, and his acknowledged merits as a Subordinate, it is clear that he is utterly unfit for the important and responsible post to which he has been lately appointed. He will therefore be dismissed, but without prejudice to his re-employment in a less responsible position when an opportunity offers.

14. The conduct of Inspector Stuart is no less reprehensible. He is above shown to have retired from the Mission House to the Tannah, and to have withdrawn the Police thither in defiance of the entreaties of the Missionaries, and in the face of the clearest indications of the coming tumult. From the Tannah he went to his own house. The road leading from the Tannah to the Police Court where Stuart resides, passes by the back of Hinton's Stables

into Yahy and Sahib's road, which is opposite the Mission gate, so that as the riot must by this time have begun, the Inspector could not have helped both seeing and hearing the commotion. Yet he goes quietly home and composes himself for the night. His pretext for leaving is an evident subterfuge. He could easily have found the accommodation he required at Hinton's Stables or some of the many East Indian houses in that quarter. But even had he failed, he needed not have been absent more than 10 minutes or a quarter of an hour at the outside. He would not have taken off his uniform. But Mr. Roberts found him in undress and slippers and extremely unwilling to be disturbed. This reluctance may perhaps in some measure be attributable to his belief that he was carrying out the instructions of Mr. Lafond. But it is clear that these instructions how injudicious soever they might have been, ceased to have any application when a breach of the peace had actually occurred. The Governor in Council cannot permit the continuance in the Police Force of any European Constable or Inspector who has so imperfect a knowledge of his duty as Stuart, and must therefore order his dismissal.

15. The Duffadar Ramoodoo followed the example of his superiors in withdrawing from the scene. His sole excuse is that he went after a Jemadar, to obtain his instructions as to what he was to do in the event of a disturbance. This man is no longer fit to be in the Police, and should be dismissed.

16. With regard to the Police Peons left in the Tannah without any Officer to direct them and perceiving the feelings of their superiors with regard to the Missionaries, it is not to be wondered at, that they made the fact of having "no orders" an excuse to withhold all assistance. Their conduct is not to be defended, but Government are unwilling to make the humbler class of Peons suffer for what really was the fault of those under whose orders they were placed. They desire the Commissioner will summon all these Peons before him in open Court and explain to them, that whatever orders they may receive, it is their duty to quell any disturbance that has actually commenced, and that any future inactivity on their part will be followed by immediate dismissal.

17. The Government cannot close these observations without expressing their surprize at, the decision given by Colonel Boulderson after a Judicial enquiry by him on the conduct of Stuart and the Duffadar. Even according to their own admissions they were guilty of gross neglect of duty, whereas the Commissioner considers, that it was a 'mere relaxation of vigilance,' and directs their return to their situations without loss of rank or pay. Even in his letter to Government of 31st July 1858, there is an evident attempt to extenuate the conduct of those whom it was the duty of the Commissioner to bring to account.

18. Finally, the Governor in Council must express his thanks to Mr. C. Roberts for the promptitude and energy evinced by him on the occasion of the riot, whereby the Police were re-called to a sense of their duty and the impending catastrophe averted.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

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Madras Police Commissioner's
Office, 31th July, 1858.

From
Colonel S. C. Boulderson
Commissioner of Police

To
T. Pycroft Esqre
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St George

Sir,

In obedience to the instructions given in Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 21th Instant, No 990, Judicial Dept. I have the honor to submit the following further explanation of the circumstances connected with the late Riot at Royapettah, accompanying it with a Record of the Proceedings Judicially taken by me since the date of my former letter to you of 6th Instant, in order to ascertain how far Inspector Stuart and Dafadar Ramoodoo of the Police Force were justly chargeable with the Gross Neglect of Duty imputed to them.

The Depositions made before me on that occasion, and the Defence of the accused parties, throw additional light on the painful subject of the outrage at the Wesleyan Mission House on the 1st Instant, but only tend to strengthen the conviction expressed by me in the first instance, that an unfortunate error of judgment on the part of my Deputy Mr Lafond, which led to the precautionary measures ordered by me not being carried out, was the pro-

proximate cause of the disturbance having occurred to the extent it did. Had these precautionary measures been taken, the riotously disposed would most probably never have ventured on overt acts of violence, or would at all events have received an immediate check - I feel bound to add however in part extenuation of the Error of Mr. Lafond, whose zeal and efficiency have never been called in question until now, that when he left the Mission Premises without having fulfilled my instructions, appearances did not seem to indicate hostile intentions towards the Missionaries on the part of the relations of the Boy Converth - The Depositions of the Reverend Gentlemen alluded to, mention no signs of a violent disposition up to that period, although apprehensions of such a contingency were expressed - The Reverend Mr. Jenkins in his Examination states thus,

"About half past 5 o'Clock, the first Defendant Stuart a Police Inspector now present came there, the second Defendant Ramoodoo Duffadar also present, whether he came with the Inspector or not, I do not know - Inspector Stuart came with the parents of the Convert Boy, the Father, Mother and Grand Mother to my Premises, the latter were there by appointment - at that time

time there was only another person who held an Infant in his arms in the Garden - How long the Police Officers remained there I do not know, may be 20 Minutes - at that time no crowd assembled in the Compound - I told the Inspector, Stuart I will not allow the Boy to be taken away against his will - I saw no crowd outside then, but I felt a great degree of insecurity, and I claimed protection from Mr. Stuart and the authorities - Mr. Stuart then gave me a letter which he received from Mr. Lafond - From the time Mr. Stuart first gave me that letter, and his asking me for it, and my returning it to him and his final departure, 30 Minutes may have elapsed."

2. I do not of course offer these observations with a view to justify Mr. Lafond in the omission of the precautionary course which I had ordered, but because the fact of a friendly interview between the relatives of the young Convert, and the Missionaries, and the absence of any apparent tendency to a Breach of the Peace at the time Mr. Lafond was present, should, I submit be borne in mind when his conduct is under review.

3. Having made the foregoing preliminary remarks for the consideration of Government, I shall now proceed to furnish as well as

I

I am able the specific information called for.

Thirdly. — I regret to be under the necessity of stating, that Inspector Stuart and the Peons with him, did on this occasion withdraw from the Compound of the Wesleyan Mission House, notwithstanding the request for protection of the Reverand Mr. Jenkins on the grounds of a feeling of insecurity, this withdrawal however being the result of orders given by their superior Officer Mr. Lafond, for the reasons above explained by me and shown in his memorandum which is already before Government there being at the time no immediate cause of alarm, and he being of opinion that it was most expedient for the Police Officers to return to the adjacent Pannah — thence to watch the progress of the affair and to avoid the appearance of unnecessary interference.

Secondly. — I have the honor to observe, that only one communication indicative of apprehended tumult at the Royapettah Mission House was received at this office between the hours specified in the Minutes of Consultation 4 P.M. upon which communication I forthwith acted by dispatching my Deputy to the spot. It must here be added however that Captain Hope voluntarily brought news of the actual occurrence of a Riot, as will be explained hereafter.

Thirdly. — The absence of any report of the actual progress of affairs, except the communication above referred to is sufficiently accounted for as appears to me, by the express declarations of Mr. Lafond, — Inspector Stuart and Subordinate Officers of Police, that they anticipated no violence up to the actual moment of the outbreak, Captain Hope becoming casually aware of what was going on, immediately galloped off to the Troop Barracks with intelligence and the Detachment of the Mounted Police-men, kept always in readiness, as soon as possible was in the saddle and hastening to Royapettah. Their tardy appearance, as remarked by Government, being attributable to the suddenness of the outbreak, and the consequent absence of any intimation of their presence being required before Captain Hope brought the tidings.

4. Having thus answered in detail the several questions put by Government, it only remains for me to do myself the honor of submitting some remarks on the Letter of His Honor the Chief Justice, and the Presentment of the Gentlemen of the Grand Jury with copies of which I have been favored

5. In the first place the Grand Jury present, that from the evidence which has come before them, in two or three cases they are induced to believe that "the Police Establishment is wanting in that efficiency, the maintenance of which is so necessary for the preservation of the Public Peace!" I may perhaps be permitted to say that it is difficult to meet charges of so general a nature, and I know not to what cases the Grand Jury may here refer, but presume that reference is made to the two murder Cases tried at the last Sessions on which Verdicts of acquittal were pronounced by the Petty Jury. Before blaming the Police in respect to the results of those two Cases, I trust the Government will favour me by examining the evidence taken by the Coroner immediately after the tragic events took place, and before there was time for an party to make up a Story, or for the other to tamper with the witnesses.

6. The trial of these Cases did not come off for several Months subsequent to the Inquests, and this Department had no control over the Witnesses in the interval. It is notorious to all who have

Balfour's at 7½, and to go with his family to the "At Home" at Government House afterwards, I had gone punctually, and immediately on my arrival hearing there was a disturbance close by, drove with Colonel Balfour to the spot where we found all quiet. We remained on the Premises sometime, and having made provision for the security of the Prisoners, we returned Home to Dinner, and while in the middle of that meal, the 8 o'Clock Gun fired.

15. I think therefore that half an Hour would be the extreme limit of time from the commencement till the close of the whole Affair, involving the Breach of the Peace, and whilst I deeply lament that such Breach should have remained unchecked within our Police jurisdiction, even for that short space of time, I most respectfully beg leave to submit that the aspect of the Affair, when considered with these additional details, is materially changed, and is by no means so grave as to justify its being held up to Public reprobation, as a proof of the Gross Neglect and inefficiency of the Madras Police.

16. I may be also allowed to point out the strange and unfortunate oversight of the Reverend Missionaries and subsequently by Mr. Roberts, in looking to resort primarily for succour directly to the Club House Tannah close at hand, instead of seeking it from the comparatively more remote Royapettah Police Office.

17

17. In conclusion, I must beg His Lordship in Council kindly to excuse my having written at such length in reply to the questions and other Documents sent to me for reply and remark, and to bear with me a little longer as I feel bound to lay particular stress on the fact, that the Parents of the Convert were on the Mission Premises by appointment, and there is every reason to believe that they expected the Lad would have been returned to them - that there does not exist any grounds for supposing that an Assault on the Reverend Missionaries and Forcible Entry into their dwelling House, or destruction of their Property was premeditated, but rather that the disturbance which ensued, was a sudden ebullition on the part of parties connected with the Convert, being the result of the disappointment of the expectation of his being voluntarily returned to his Parents, and anger at the expressed determination of the Reverend Mr. Jenkins not to allow the Boy to be forcibly carried off. -

18. I feel myself called upon to challenge the correctness of the Report which has been put in Circulation - regarding the falling off of the Police Force from that State of Efficiency in which it was supposed to be when I assumed charge of the Department.

19. Since that period the excitement of the native mind has been

9 12/11

immeasurably great, occasioned, Firstly, by the introduction of the unpopular New Police and Municipal Codes -

Secondly, by the disbandment of the Soldiery and Servants of the late Carnatic Sircar, and other matters connected with the same subject, greater changes having in fact been made during this short period than had taken place during many Years previous, and Thirdly by the unhappy events which have occurred in Bengal and Central India during the past Year.

20. All these Circumstances have acted most powerfully upon the mind of a Native Population, a large portion of whom have not at all events of late Years been well disposed towards our Government, and who are now still more Enimical to our Rule than ever.

21 This is a subject which few like to discuss, still I even to say the credit, but nevertheless it is true, and with these facts patant, I do again confidently appeal to Government, and ask whether the state of quiet and perfect repose, in which this City has been kept during Two Years past, is not in itself a disproof of the allegations brought against this Department, and lastly as to the State of Crime, a reference to the Four last Police Reports will show that there has been no increase of Crime during

during my superintendence, and further that there is no unfavorable difference during the same period in respect to the result of trials held.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant

Commissioner of Police

Tuesday the 13th day of July 1858

Before
Colonel J. C. Boulderson
Commissioner of Police

Revd. Mr. Jenkins Sworn States.

I reside in Royapettah in the Wesleyan Mission premises close to the Club House of Madras. On Thursday the 1st. July Instant a Breach of the Peace took place in the Mission premises occasioned by Tamil Caste people. The crowd assembled at quarter past 6 o'Clock in the evening, they came in gradually, in companies of 20 or 30. about quarter of an hour there were upwards of 100 - they entered by the east gate, furthest from the Tannah. after that many came in by the west gate. about half past 5 o'Clock, the 1st. Defendant Stuart a Police Inspector, now present came there - the 2nd. Defendant Ramoodoo Duffadar also present. whether he came

came with the Inspector or not I do not know. Inspector Stuart came with the parents of the Convert boy - the father, mother and Grand-mother to my premises. the latter were there by appointment. at that time there was only another person who held an infant in his arms in the garden. How long the Police Officer remained there I do not know - may be 20 minutes. at that time no crowd assembled in the compound. I told the Inspector Stuart I will not allow the boy to be taken away against his will. I saw no crowd outside then. but I felt a degree of insecurity, and I claimed protection from Mr. Stuart and the authorities. - Mr. Stuart then gave me a letter which he received from Mr. Lafond. from the time Mr. Stuart first gave me that letter, and his asking for it, and my returning it to him, and his final departure, ten minutes may have elapsed. As soon as Mr. Stuart left the premises all the Peons went

went out one after the other. I called them back, they would not remain they all left by the eastern gate. the most distant from the Club and so did also Mr. Stuart - after Mr. Stuart & the Peons left it, not five minutes, I should think elapsed - before the people came in considerable numbers and by the same gate by which the Police officers retired. about ¼ of an hour or 20 minutes after that, I looked round I did not see a single Police Officer present there at that time - there were upwards of 100 persons in the garden. while the crowd were coming in, I wrote a note to Mr. C. Roberts asking him to come in - at the time I wrote the note a crowd was coming into the garden - but no assault had commenced - On that evening I had no communication with any other superior officer of the Police except Mr. Stuart. I can not tell at what time the Police officers came back. I was in the next house - I left my house when it was nearly dark and no Peons had arrived - at that time considerable damage had been

been done by the Rioters, when I left the house I should say it was quarter past 7. The assault commenced in full day light and may have lasted nearly an hour.

1st Defendant Stuart has no questions to put to Mr. Jenkins.

2d Raamoodoo States the same.

C. Roberts - Sworn States.

I am an officer of the Madras Civil Service. On Thursday the 1st Instant I recollect that a number of native persons assembled at Royapettah - On that evening I received a note from one of the Missionaries Mr. Jenkins. that was about quarter before 7 o'Clock. In consequence of the Communication contained in that note, I started immediately for the Mission premises. I walked from the Club to the Mission Gate way, and then in consequence of information I received, I got into the Carriage of Mr Apothecary Leonard, and he drove me to the Royapetta Police Office, where I saw no Police Officers. but the residence of the Defendant Stuart was pointed out

the Club, on Thursday evening, July the 1st Instant, a serious riot occurred on the Mission premises. Inspector Stuart was at the Mission. About half past 5 o'Clock that evening I saw Mr Stuart there again about 6 o'Clock, he brought to Mr Jenkins a letter from Mr Lafond, on reading that letter, Mr Jenkins said to Mr Stuart he would on no account give up Vejayarungum to a clamorous mob, and that he claimed the protection of the Police. at that time a considerable number of persons were present with the Parents of the Boy. many standing close to the House. Mr Stuart made no reply, but said he would consult Mr Lafond, who was at the gate. a few minutes after that I saw Mr Stuart approach half way towards the House and motion to the Peons, who were with us by the House, they presently left the Compound in spite of Mr. Jenkins repeated charge to remain - a riot commenced immediately, Mr Stuart and the Peons left. The people were only clamorous at first, not violent. I think it was about 20 minutes past 6 that the

Peons

Peons left the premises. Inconsequence
of the violence of the mob, we were drove
into the Mission house & then fearing the
house would be broken into, I escaped
by a back window and ran to the Royapettah
Police Court, where I arrived, may be
about quarter past 7. I went there
for Police assistance. After a while
I was taken by a Peon to the House
in which Inspector Stuart resides
(it is close to the Court House) I saw
Mr. Stuart standing at the door way &
Mr Roberts of the Madras Civil service
was with him. I said to Mr Stuart,
the people are breaking into the House,
give us help directly, or words to that
effect. He made no reply, but
Mr Roberts said, you can not delay
to come now, after what you have
heard, or words to that effect - Mr Stuart
still delayed, and I said if you
do not come to our aid, we shall certainly
entre an action against the Police.
Presently Two of the Mission Servants
came running up to the House,

and

and said the House is broken into,
and the people are beating Mr Jen Rus-
Mr Stuart then put on his Coat and came
with us. I do not think I was at Mr.
Stuart's house more than 4 or 5 minutes.
Mr Roberts and myself ran towards
the Club House Tannah, and Mr Stuart
followed. As soon as we reached the
Tannah, Mr. Stuart gave direction to
the Peons to come with him, and they
immediately followed to the Mission
House, and they took into custody such
of the mob, then running away as were
given over to them by myself and with
my knowledge, by the Mission Servants.
I can not say that the Peons did not
take others into custody besides those
delivered to them, I did not at that
time see any Police Peons on the
Premises except those who went in
with us there.

I have to add that Mr Stuart
during Monday, Tuesday Wednesday
and Thursday morning previous to
the riot was frequently on the Mission
premises, and as far as I could observe
discharged his duties zealously & efficiently,

and

Continued

and during those days considerable excitement existed.

Mr. Stuart has no questions to put to witness
The Duffadar has no questions to put to witness.

Shaik Sillar on Solemn affirmation States.

I am a Police Peon No. 1 Stationed at the Club House Tannah. I recollect the Thursday evening 1st. Instant on which a Riot took place at Royapettah the 2nd Defendant Ramoodoo, the Duffadar of my Tannah. at half past 6 o'Clock when I was on parah the 1st Defendant Inspector Stuart came to the Tannah and took away the Peons with him, the 2nd Defendant was not present at the Tannah - They went to the place where the Riot took place. It was a little dark then. he went away speaking with the Jemadar Chendraban. It was only about 3 Minutes after he had left the Tannah that the notice was given by Mr Stuart. The Duffadar immediately returned and followed Mr Stuart to the Mission House. Three Minutes before Mr Stuart came to the Tannah a Mission Peon

came

to the Peons to be careful. he also told me to send for Constable Shaik Hoosain, and to keep him at the Tannah. I did so. I sent for him then. after Mr Lafond left us, the Jemadar Chendraban and myself remained a long time at the Club House Tannah. I sent a Peon towards Mr Jenkins House to see if there was any disturbance - at that time he returned, & said there was nothing at all. I then told the Peons, that Constable Shaik Hoosain would come soon, and that as I was taken short - and as there was no place of convenience at the Tannah and my house not being far off I would go to my house to attend to the calls of nature - I went - I left instructions for them to report to me as soon as any thing happened - while I was at the closet in my house, I heard that the Revd Mr Stevenson and Mr Roberts had come to my place - having buttoned up I came out to hear what they had to say to me. They said a disturbance was taking place

at

at Wm Jenkins House, I asked if there was a large crowd - if there was any violence and what they were about doing. Wm Roberts said never mind about all that, come along - I said to him if there is a large crowd I would rather gather all the Peons I can, for the purpose - whereupon Wm Stevenson said "If you do not come, we will take an action against you - I said if that is it, I shall follow you immediately - whereupon I put on a Holland Coat which was at hand and the Police Cap and with the slippers I had on, ran after them, and I can prove I was running all the way - I went to the Club House Tannah and took with me all the Peons that were there - we commenced dispersing the portion of the Mob, which was at a distance from the House, and took charge of some Prisoners, I did all that I could as a Police Officer.

Abdool Rymun on Solemn affirmation states - I am Peon of Police No 15 attached to the Royapettah Police Court.

On

at half past 5 o'clock with six Peons - Mr Stuart arrived there - soon after we were standing out side the gate - Mr Stuart then took the Parents and found Mother of the convert into the Mission Compound - in the mean time Jemadar Chendraban remained there with four Peons from his Tannah & we all stood together - at about quarter to 6, Mr Lafond Came & he told me to call the Inspector Mr Stuart from inside - I did - I returned and Mr Stuart came after me - But - Mr Lafond had left - in the direction of Royapettah - there were about 10 or 15 persons standing there - I heard Mr Lafond tell the people that they should not create a row but go to the proper authorities to get back their boy - Mr Stuart came from the compound & spoke to the Jemadar - In about five minutes Mr Lafond returned - after they had spoken together Mr Lafond went away by himself towards the Club - The Jemadar Chendraban & Inspector Mr Stuart took all the Peons to the Club House Tannah, and they

directed

directed the Peons to return to their respective Tannahs detaining five Peons in the Tannah in excess of the regular number. The Jemadar went to his Tannah and the Inspector to his House and the Peons dispersed. I followed the Jemadar and asked him what I was to do with the 5 Peons if there was any disturbance. He said — Constable Shaik Hoosain would come and give orders how to proceed. I further asked him whether I could go to the place if a disturbance should take place before the arrival of the Constable. He said I might do so. I followed the Jemadar to the North gate of the Police Compound leading to Jam Bazar. I asked the Jemadar also if I might go home, as it was my turn. He told me to remain as usual until 8 o'Clock, and then to go Home. the Jemadar went his way and I returned to my Tannah. On my way I heard there was a great row in the Mission Compound and ran

Judicial Department=

271

No 1392 - From the Commissioner of Police - dated 31st July 58.
" 1359 - From the " Do " of Do " " 26th " "
1330 - From the Senior Magistrate of Police " 24th " "
1370 - From C. A. Roberts Esqr Actg J. " 29th " "
1327 - From the Revd E. Jenkins - - - - - " 22d " "

For Orders=

These papers relate to three different subjects

1. The Roy apettah Riot & the conduct of the Police.

In this it is alleged on all sides that the mob held and illtreated a Peon of the Mission premises for a period of half an hour according to the admission of the Ch. Constable & of an hour and half according to the statements of the Missionaries & others. The truth probably lies between these limits & may be assumed that the police failed to interfere for a space of from 3/4 of an hour to an hour.

The remarkable features of this case are that the scene of riot is close to a Police Station, & that the officers of that Station had been amply warned & were fully aware of the probability

probability of an infraction of the peace.

We all know the localities intimately — (& there is a plan among the papers). The Tannah is not 100 yards from the Mission gate. The Mission compound actually extends to the Tannah ~~on the opposite side of the~~ with the road only intervening. The peon on guard could see the ingress of any unusual number of people into the gate & the whole guard could, ^clear & must have heard the noise made by the mob in their assault on the Mission House. There can be no doubt ^that some little time after six o'clock the police retired from Mr Jenkins premises, contrary to his entreaty & remonstrance, that abt. half past six the police officers (if we are to believe ~~the~~ Depy. Supt. of Police) were strongly warned to be vigilant ~~to be vigilant~~ & that the post was reinforced & yet between ½ past six & a quarter past seven, a mob of 100 persons found no hindrance or difficulty in committing a most violent and destructive outrage under the very eyes of the Police.

The inactivity of the Police can only be attributed to Cowardice or unwillingness to act. It cd. not have been ^owing to the first — for the mob was a contemptible one, ^unarmed & only formidable fr. numbers. In fact the rioters fled at the first appearance of the peons.

It must

It must therefore be attributed to the second cause. And there are indications sufficiently clear to account for this lukewarmness.

Mr Laford the Depy Comr. had formed his own opinions of the proceedings of the Missionaries. He considered that they were acting unjustifiably in giving an Asylum to the Bay, and he actually put this sentiment on ~~writing~~ paper when writing instructions to the constable on the course of the riot. Finding the missionaries resolute in disregarding his advice he seems to have resolved to let them incur the penalty of their temerity by leaving them to their own defence. On no other supposition can I account for what followed. The riot began immediately after the peons left the premises, the ... must have ... Jenkins even asserts that the ... passed thro the crowd at the gate, ... after his departure. Mr Laford went home ... & went to Army ... left the ... the Tannah to ... his own house. The road leading from the back of the Tannah passes the Mission gate ... so that the Police at where Stewart ... road, ... the constable of Heatons stables ... have heard the commotion as the riot must ... both seeing & hearing himself for could not have helped ... and ... & Commander ... yet he goes quietly home ... leaving ... to have found the night. His pretext for ... the ... be simply a subterfuge.

the accommodation he required at Hinton's Stables or some of the many Eastindians houses in that quarter. But even had he failed, he needed not have been absent more than 10 minutes or quarter of an hour at the outside. He w^d not have taken off his uniform. But Mr Roberts found him in undress & slippers & extremely unwilling to be disturbed.

So also the Duffadar, on whom charge of the Launch next devolved, on various frivolous pretences he also was absent & did not return till after the party had proceeded to the Mission premises.

That all this remissness or proper disposition to leave the Mob free scope for their proceedings was intended is farther proved by the judgment of the Ch^t Comr. himself. He acquits the Constable & Duffadar on the ground of the erroneous views of the Dep^y Sup^t. & their neglect to carry out his (the Ch Comr^s) orders. He therefore gives no credit to Mr Lafond's & the Constable's statements of the exhortations to vigilance wh. they assert were so pointedly enjoined.

I repeat therefore that I can only attribute the success of the outrage to Mr Lafond's demonstration of sympathy with the parents & friends of the boy & to the impression produced on his subordinates by this language & demeanour that he did not wish the peons to interfere.

That Mr Lafond knew well his proper line of duty is manifest from his own statement & those of his subordinates, as recorded.

I consider therefore that his conduct is without excuse & the Gov^t. will properly mark their sense of it by removing him fr. his office.

I think the Constable & Duffadar sh^d also be dismissed. No excuse can be made for the inactivity of any police officer when acts of violence have actually begun.

The same may be said of the peons at the Launch.

The inquiry has been very insufficient. The Comr has contented himself with the evidence of some of his own peons only in add^n. to that of the Mission^ies & Mr Roberts. But Capt. Hake

Capt. Hake took an active part in restoring order & he was not examined. Capt. A Drury I understand also exerted himself in the affray & both he & the people at Hinton's Stables & probably others as the Apothecary who lent Mr Roberts c^d. probably have given useful testimony.

I regret to observe the desire evinced of the Ch^f Com^r to extenuate every act in telling against the conduct of the police & the erroneous conclusion at wh he has arrived in ... to exculpating them from all but the most venial neglect. There is too much reason to apprehend that the general tone of commiseration for the authors of the disturbance expressed by the words & acts of the police was derived fr. the Ch^f Com^r himself as appears fr. Mr Jenkins statement of what took place at the Police Office on the Wednesday preceding the riot (see para 5)

2. Ramchunder Rows explanation of the connection between himself & Venkatasami Bathen is satisfactory & refutes the supposition of the Rev^d Gent. that an animosity & feud subsisted between them. So far then the Ch^f Com^r. is free fr. blame.

3. Col Colbeck's explanation of the mode in wh. Rudrapa's evidence was recorded is so far satisfactory that it shows this was done in the usual manner. But the mode of procedure

procedure therein described is far from being adapted to secure an accurate record

The Wss appears to have deposed in Tamil, this was explained to the Magte in English by the Interpreter Mohd Yusuff & the Magte then dictated to his amanuensis the words to be recorded. These were again re-translated to the Wss before he subscribed the deposition.

It is difficult ~~to obtain~~ a true record of a mans evidence by the ordinary mode of recording the words in his own tongue as they fall fr. his lips & generally the Gomashta writes rather what he supposes the Wss to mean than what he actually says: how much greater must be the difficulty of filtering the mans words thro ~~..~~ two distinct media in another language especially when the Magte is disposed to turn & shape the evidence in the way reported by the Examr of the Proceedgs in the Royapettah Office on the occasion of Mr Jenkins examination!

5/8/58

W.J.

I concur with the Chief in the view he takes of the whole case

The Parents of the lad on the evening in question had been taken by Constable Stuart to the Mission house—

The Missionaries had refused to give up to them their son

The Parents & their friends were loud in their clamour for the restoration to them of the lad.

A disturbance likely to lead to some thing serious was thus in prospect—

At this juncture Mr Lefond arrives he does not go to the scene of the disturbance but sends for the Constable & after ~~hearing~~ his report desires him to leave

the Mission com- pound & with=
=draw the Police Peons, who had
apparently been there for some time.
The Missionaries remonstrate, demand-
-ing protection - no heed is given to
their request, & within certainly half
an hour of the withdrawal of the Con-
stable & the Peons their house is broken
into, their property destroyed & their
lives endangered -
After the riot had commenced no
movement is made by the Police, &
considerable exertion on the part
of Mr Roberts & others is actually

required to get them to leave
their different stations -
Strange to say the above conduct
of his subordinates (de Bouldue=
=ron defends - for Mr Lafond he
pleads error of judgment &
for the Police that they were obey=
ing orders - & in no respect failed
in alacrity -
I cannot admit that such pleas
are valid - Mr Lafond would not
permit the Police to act as a
preventive body when urgent neces=
sity for their so doing existed - and
the Police failed to perform their

duty when urgently required to do & ample warning had been given him -

It is impossible to imagine a grosser case of stupidity, indifference & general inefficiency ~~[illegible]~~ than ~~[illegible]~~ is exhibited in the whole of this matter from first to last -

[illegible] Mr Chandler then - in my opinion should have informed Col B. of how matters stood between him & O.B. - his taking up the case was a serious error on

his part -

Col Collister's explanation is satisfactory - the mode of taking depositions related by him, is the usual one - & it is unfair towards Col C - to suppose that an error was committed in recording the deposition when at the time the deponent might have had it corrected -

The Advocate General should [illegible] they committed an error in

dealing as he did with the
portioning case - the blame
of his doing however all falls
upon him -

In respect to the present-
ment made by the Grand
Jury - I think with Col. B that
case in the Royapettah
case - it is too vague to be
dealt with -

W.M.

my turn - He told me [illegible]
usual until 8 o'Clock, and then to go
Home - the Jemadar went his way
and I returned to my [illegible]
my way I heard [illegible]

20 - 8 - 58

My opinion on the subject of
the riot at Royapettah having
been requested by my Colleagues,
I have given all the papers con-
nected with the case my care-
ful consideration

There is no doubt that
a disturbance was anticipated
by the Police authorities, for a
day or two previously; that
when it was actually commenc-
ing the Police withdrew from
the scene in spite of the re-
monstrances of the Missionaries,
and that for nearly an hour
the rioters were permitted to
proceed from clamour to open
violence, within a stone's throw
of a Police Tannah, the superior
Officers having absented them-
selves & their subordinates
remaining passive spectators
of the outrage. It was with
difficulty that they were at
last induced to interfere, by

Missionaries to a Native
Convert

the personal exertions and threats of Mr C. Roberts and one of the Missionaries, upon which the rioters immediately dispersed.

I am inclined to trace the origin of this disgraceful occurrence farther back than my colleagues have done, & I cannot conceal my impression that it was partly the result of very injudicious conduct on the part of the Commissioner of Police (Col. Boulderson) himself, who when the Convert, his parents, & the Missionaries were previously before him in his official capacity, openly expressed himself so decidedly adverse to the right of asylum claimed for the youthful convert, as most probably led the parents, & their friends, & even the Police themselves to suppose that the Missionaries need not expect his support in the event of an attempt being made to force the lad from them.

The question of right to the custody of the young man, was not within Col Boulderson's

what I must consider the

most probably share the

I conceive
I conceive

cognizance, the expression of his opinion in open Court so much in accordance with the prejudices and feelings of his native subordinates in regard to the Missionaries, gave them a cue which when the time arrived, they were not slow to act upon. His Deputy Mr Lafond adopting the same line went still further and at the very time his protection was most needed treated them as if they were the offending parties, and guilty of abduction.

Under these circumstances I am obliged to record my opinion that Col Boulderson — it may be indirectly, & unintentionally — was in some measure the cause of the wilful inactivity of the Police, and that his misapprehension of his duty in this respect should be noticed by Govt.

his mis-apprehension of his duty in this respect ought to be noticed by Govt

In regard to the riot itself, Col Boulderson seems, as soon as the probability of a disturbance was reported to him, to have acted with prompti-

missionaries to a certain

Convert

tude in despatching his Deputy Mr Lafond to the scene of expected strife, with orders which had they been carried out, would probably have prevented mischief.

These orders Mr Lafond did not obey, & therefore I consider him responsible for the outrage that ensued. His excuse is that he thought it would all end quietly, & believing that the presence of the Police would rather attract a mob than otherwise, he withdrew them; & then withdrew himself. The correctness of his judgement was displayed by the immediate entry of a mob into the compound, who in a short time commenced an assault of a most determined character on the Mission House, having undisputed possession of the premises for upwards of half an hour. In this, the rioters were no doubt encouraged, not only by Mr Lafond's withdrawal, but by the sentiments to which he gave expression as to the conduct of the Missionaries in refusing to give up the convert

25

It is in a crisis of this kind that the true character & value of a Principal Officer of Police is tested. It is then that they who appointed him, & the Public can judge how far they may rely on his judgement impartiality & determination. Mr Lafond shewed himself equally deficient in all these qualities, and whatever may have been his long services, & his acknowledged merits as a subordinate, it is clear that he is utterly unfit for the important & responsible post to which he has been lately appointed, and I agree with my colleague that his dismissal is required. At the same time when an opportunity offers, he might be employed in a less responsible position.

With regard to Inspector Stewart, the excuse offered by him for absenting himself from his post is one which from other sources I cannot accept. At all events the reluctance evinced by him to accompany Messrs Roberts & Stephenson Stevenson to the

[illegible] Missionaries to a place of Convert

scene of outrage was so marked that it amounted to nothing less than a refusal to perform his palpable duty, and I consider him unworthy to remain in the Police Force. It may be true that he was acting as he believed under the orders ~~[illegible]~~ of Mr Lafond; but those orders ~~not~~ injudicious as they were could never have applied when a breach of the peace had actually occurred. I am not disposed to permit the employment in the Police Force of any European constable or inspector who does not know his duty better than Stuart, who should accordingly be dismissed.

Mr Lafond & Inspector Stewart having disappeared, the next responsible person & in fact the only officer left was the Duffadar Ramoodoo. He followed the example of his superiors, & ~~[illegible]~~ his sole excuse is that he went after a Jemmadar, to obtain his instructions as to what he was to do in the event of a disturbance. This man is no longer fit to be in the Police, and should be dismissed.

I observe in this man's defence before Col. Boulderson, that he states that a Jemmadar named Chendraban was there, with four peons from his Tannah; that he and Stuart took all the peons to the Club House Tannah, & then both went their way. This conduct of the Jemmadar seems to require farther investigation.

As to the Police peons left in the Tannah without any ~~superior~~ officer to direct them, and perceiving the feelings of their superiors with regard to the Missionaries, it is not to be wondered at, that they made the fact of having "no orders" an excuse to withhold all assistance. Their conduct is not to be defended, but I am unwilling to make the humbler class of peons suffer for what really was the fault of those under whose orders they were placed, & I would desire the Commissioner to summon all these peons before him in open Court & explain to them, that whatever orders they may receive, it is their duty to quell any dis

Missionaries to a Native Convert

turbance that has actually
Commenced, and that any
future inactivity on their part
will be followed by immedi
ate dismissal.

I cannot close this paper
without expressing my sur
prise at the decision given
by Col Boulderson after a
judicial enquiry by him
on the conduct of ~~the accused~~
Stewart & the Daffadar.
~~reluctant~~. Even according to
their own admissions they
were guilty of gross neglect of
duty, whereas the Commissioners
consider that it was a mere
"relaxation of vigilance", and
directs their return to their ~~last~~
stations without loss of rank
& pay. Even in his letter to
Government of 31st July 1858 there
is so evident an attempt to
exonerate the conduct of those
whom it was the duty of the
Commissioners to bring to account
that I fully concur with the Hon'ble
Mr Elliot & in his opinion of their
mistaken trial and leniency.

I think the thanks of Govt
are due to Mr Clarence Roberts
for the promptitude and energy e-
vinced by him on the occasion of
the riot, whereby the Police were
recalled to a sense of their duty
and the impending calamities
averted.

Harris

Augt 7/58.

C23 Aug.
R24 "

Missionaries to a Nati

Judl. Cons. 26 Augt. 13th Decr. No. 2 of 1858 Received

Extd. to Cons. 26 August Judicial 1858 Deptt.

Minute by the Rt. Hon the President

D/17 Augt./58

No. 1541

Regarding opinion on the Royapettah Riot Case

C 23 Augt.
R 24 "

The Minute of Rt. Hon. the Presdt. has been sent and should be read before this draft is issued

Judicial Deptt

No. 1182

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation dated 26th August 1858.

Read again the following papers

Extract Mins Cons.	D/5 July 1858.-		
From Commissioner of Police	6 " "		Recorded in Cons. of 27 July/58
" Advocate General	12 " "	paras 8 — 12	
" Revd. Mr. Jenkins.	22d " "		do- 3d Augt/58
Read also the following papers " C. A. Roberts Esq	29 " "		
" Commissioner of Police	31st " "		
Minute by the R. H. the President	17 Augt. "		
by the Hon. Mr. Elliot	5 " "		
by the Hon. Mr. Morehead	6 "		

W.M.

The above papers relate to the riot which occurred in the premises of the Wesleyan Missionaries at Royapettah on the evening of Thursday the first of July last.

2. The immediate cause of this disturbance was the shelter given by the Missionaries to a Native Convert

convert who had sought their protection - and their refusal to deliver him up to his parents. The youth had placed himself under the protection of the Mis-sionaries on Monday the 28th June, from which day until that of the pres-ent Thursday - there had been communications between them and the friends of the Convert, respecting his residence at the Mission House. Application was made by the latter to the Commissioner of Police, who, on Wednesday the 30th June, had the youth brought before him, and gave him perfect liberty to go where he pleased - He re-turned to the Mission House. On the ensuing day Thurs-day - at about half past nine o'clock the father, mother and grandmother of the youth waited, by appointment, upon the Revd

Revd. Mr Jenkins to learn his final determination in regard to the restoration of their son. They were accompanied by Inspector Smart of the Police - Before their arrival, Mr Jenkins, after consulting one or two of his friends, had resolved to abide by the decision which he had previously formed, not to allow the youth to be carried off against his will. On the morning of the preceding Tuesday on Mr Jenkins' refusal to give up the youth, his friends had conducted themselves in a violent and menacing manner, and the Missionary on Thurs-day, apprehending that, when his ultimate decision should become known in the evening to the friends of the young man, they would make another attempt upon the ho- wrote in the afternoon

to the Magistrate Col. Colbeck requesting assistance, as he anticipated a disturbance about 5 O'clock. The note was given by Col. Colbeck to Inspector Stuart with positive instructions to have it forwarded to the Commissioner. On the parents of the youth and the Inspector appearing at the Mission premises. Mr Jenkins informed the Inspector that the boy was unwilling to quit his house and that he should do his utmost to shelter him from violence. Stuart produced a letter from the Deputy Commissioner Mr Lafond, in which the latter told his subordinate that Mr Jenkins was not doing right in keeping the youth from his family.— The Missionary persisting in his refusal, the Inspector withdrew leaving the boys friends behind- and giving the parties to understand that

that he was going to consult with the Deputy Commissioner who, it was said, was waiting outside the Compound Gate. In a few minutes he returned, came half way towards the house- sent a Peon to ask Mr Jenkins for Mr Lafond's note which had been left in his hand- then retired and drew off with him all his Peons, in spite of the strongest remonstrance on the part of the Missionaries. The mob then poured in, held possession of the Mission premises for a period, estimated by the Missionaries at ½, and by the Commissioner of Police at ¼ an hour, broke into the house, destroyed the property, and, but for the escape of the Missionaries, would probably have proceeded to acts of serious violence against them.— The rioters ultimately withdrew at once on the reappearance of

of Inspector Swart and some peons. the Inspector having been brought back to the scene of the outrage, very reluctantly, by the Revd Mr Stephenson after his escape from the Mission House, and by Mr C. Roberts of the Civil Service, who on receipt from Mr Jenkins of a note, apprising him of what was taking place, had at once sent his assistance for the suppression of the riot.—

3 The above is a general outline of the case. It has been taken from the Revd Mr Jenkins' letter of 22nd July the main statements in which are corroborated by those of other parties. the Revd Mr Stephenson, Mr C. Roberts or by the admission of the Police themselves.

Quotation marks

omit

4 The remarkable features are, that the scene of riot is close to a Police Station, and that the Officers of that

that Station had been amply warned and were fully aware of the probability of an infraction of the peace. The Tannah is not 100 yards from the Mission gate. The Mission compound actually extends to the Tannah with the road only intervening. No peon on guard could see the ingress of any unusual number of people into the gate, and the whole guard could hear and must have heard the noise made by the mob in their assault on the Mission House. Yet the Police who had been in or about the Mission Premises retired from them. Those on duty at the Tannah who, it is alleged by the Deputy Superintendent of Police had been strongly warned to be vigilant and whose post had been re-inforced would not interfere. and in consequence a mob of full one hundred persons

found

found no hindrance in com-
-mitting a most violent
and destructive outrage
under the very eyes of the
Police. 5 Their inactivity can
only be attributed to cowar-
-dice or unwillingness to
act.-

6 It could not have been
owing to the first. for the
mob was a contemptible
one, unarmed, and only
formidable from numbers.
In fact the rioters fled
at the first appearance of
the Police.

7 It must therefore be
attributed to the second
cause. And there are
indications sufficiently
clear to account for this
lukewarmness. P S Tracing
this most disgraceful occur-
-rence back to its first
origin, the Governor in
Council cannot but con-
-sider that it is in part
to be ascribed to the inju
-dicious conduct of the
Commissioner of Police himself
who

who knew the convert, his
parents, and the Mission-
-aries were previously before
him in his official capacity
openly expressed himself, to
decidedly adverse to the
right of asylum claimed
for the youthful convert as
most probably led the parents
and their friends, and
even the Police themselves
to suppose that the Mission-
-aries need not expect his
support in the event of an
attempt being made to
force the lad from them.-

9 The question of right to
the custody of the young man
was not within Col: Boulderson's
cognizance. The expression
of his opinion in open Court
so much in accordance
with the prejudices and
feelings of his native
subordinates in regard
to the Missionaries, gave
them a cue which when
the time arrived, they were
not slow to act upon.-

Under

10 Under these circumstances the Govt are constrained to express their disapproval of Col. Boulderson's conduct in this particular), and to record their opinion that although in direct & unintentionally he was in some measure the cause of the wilful inactivity of the Police.-

11 In regard however to the riot itself, as soon as the probability of its occurring was reported to him, the Commissioner seems to have acted with promptitude in despatching his Deputy, Mr. La Fond, to the scene of expected strife, with orders which had they been carried out, would probably have prevented mischief.-

12 - Mr La Fond the Deputy Commissioner had, like his principal, formed his own opinion of the proceedings of the Missionaries.

He

left the place accompanied by all the people

He considered that they were acting unjustifiably in giving an asylum to the boy, and he actually put this sentiment on paper when writing instructions to the Constable on the evening of the riot. Finding the Missionaries resolute in disregarding his advice he seems to have resolved to let them incur the penalty of their temerity by leaving them to their own defence. His excuse that he thought all would end quietly and believed that the presence of the Police would rather attract a mob than otherwise, if it be accepted as his real opinion, can be regarded only as evincing an utter want of judgment and of knowledge of his duty.-

13 It is in such a crisis as this that the true character and value of a Principal Officer of Police is

is tested. It is then that they who appointed him, and the Public can decide how far they may rely on his judgment, impartiality and determination. Mr Lafond showed himself signally deficient in all these qualities, and what ever may have been his long service, and acknowledged merits as a subordinate, it is clear that he is utterly unfit for the important and responsible post to which he has been lately appointed. He will therefore be dismissed but without prejudice to his re-employment in a less responsible position when an opportunity offers.-

14 The conduct of Inspector Stuart is no less reprehensible. He is above shown to have retired from the Mission House to the Tannah and to have withdrawn the Police

thither in defiance of the entreaties of the Missionaries, and in the face of the clearest indications of the coming tumult. From the Tannah he went to his own house. The road leading from the Tannah to the Police Court where Stuart resides, passes by the back of Hinton's Stables into Yaby and × Sahibs road, which is opposite the Mission gate, so that as the riot must by this time have begun, the Inspector could not have helped both seeing and hearing the Commotion. Yet he goes quietly home and composes himself for the night. His pretext for leaving is an evident subterfuge. He could easily have found the accommodation he required at Hinton's Stables or some of the many East Indian houses in that quarter. But even had he failed, he needed

needed not have been absent more than 10 minutes or a quarter of an hour at the outside. He would not have taken off his uniform. But Mr Roberts found him in undress and slippers and extremely unwilling to be disturbed. This reluctance may perhaps in some measure be attributable to his belief that he was carrying out the instructions of Mr Lafond. But it is clear that these instructions how injudicious soever they might have been, ceased to have any application when a breach of the peace had actually occurred. — The Governor in Council cannot permit the continuance in the Police force of any European Constable or Inspector who has so imperfect a knowledge of his duty as Stuart and must therefore order his dismissal

15 The Duffadar Ramoodoo followed

fact of having "no orders" an excuse to withhold all assistance. Their conduct is not to be depended, but if not are unwilling to make the humble class of peons suffer for what really was the fault of those under whose orders they were placed ~~and~~ They ~~would~~ desire the Commissioner will to summon all these peons before him in open Court & explain to them, that whatever orders they may receive, it is their duty to quell any disturbance that has actually commenced, and that any future inactivity on their part will be followed by immediate dismissal. —

18 The Govt cannot close these observations without expressing their surprize at the decision given by Col. Boulderson after (a judicial enquiry by him on the conduct of Stuart and the Duffadar. Each according

followed the example of his superiors in withdrawing from the scene. His sole excuse is that he went after a jemadar, to obtain his instructions as to what he was to do in the event of a disturbance. This man is no longer fit to be in the Police, and should be dismissed. P16 — It is observed in this man's defence before Colonel Boulderson, he states that a jemadar named Chendraban was there with four peons from his Tannah; that he and Stuart took all the peons to the Club House Tannah, and then both went their way. This conduct of the jemadar ~~[illegible]~~ requires further investigation. P 10 — With regard to the Police Peons left in the Tannah without any Officer to direct them, and perceiving the feelings of their superiors with regard to the Missionaries, it is not to be wondered at, that they made the fact

Whether this is [illegible]. The Jemadar left the [illegible] Stuart [illegible] his own Station [illegible] his proper duty

omit

according to their own admissions they were guilty of gross neglect of duty, whereas the Commissioner considers that it was a mere 'relaxation of vigilance'; and directs their return to their situations without loss of rank or pay. Even in his letter to Govt of 31st July 1858 there is an evident attempt to extenuate the conduct of those whom it was the duty of the Commr to bring to account.

19 Finally, the Governor in Council must express his thanks to Mr C. Roberts for the promptitude and energy evinced by him on the occasion of the riot, whereby the Police were recalled to a sense of their duty and the impending Catastrophe averted. —

To Commr of Police
Last para to Mr C. Roberts } Dispd 26th, MS.
Civil Auditor — The 2 last sentences in Para 13 - last sentence in para 14 & the 1st last sentences in para 15. } desp 8/9 - MS.

Judl. Lr. to Eng'd
13th Decr. No. 2 of 1858
Para 43.

In 24th to Cons: 31st August
Judicial 1858 Departt.

No. 1182.

Extract Mins. Cons.

Dated 26th August 1858.

~~7 N. 1583~~
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11 @ 16.

C 23 Augt.
R 24 "