

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1191

Press
Mis.

26 - 27

Dated 28 - 8 - ~~1918~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 31st August 1858.

No. 26. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th August 1858, No. 3116.

Read the following letter from W. E. UNDERWOOD, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated 12th August 1858, No. 291.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward to you to be laid before the Board of Revenue and Govern-
* Dated 31st July 1858. ment the accompanying petition.* It is numerous and highly respect-
ably signed.

2. The petitioners complain of the robberies which occur on the beach, and the little assist-
ance they receive from the Police to suppress them. I am aware that robbery is very extensively
and systematically carried on, and has been for a considerable time, in the Boats and on goods
landing and shipping, and while lying on the beach.

3. The Commissioner of Police and the Collector of Sea Customs have given unremitting
attention to suppress the robberies as set forth in the petition, yet there is no doubt the griev-
ances complained of are intolerable, as the robberies are constant. With a view to put a stop to
them the Officers above mentioned have exercised unsparing vigilance to detect robberies, in
which they have been energetically assisted by Mr. Police Inspector Ansell, but the inferior ser-
vants of the owners of goods, the Police, and the lower grade of Custom House Officers are, there
is reason to fear, all in collusion, and defy all our exertions to put down this iniquitous system,
so that the detection and punishment of parties concerned in crime are few, compared with the
robberies committed.

4. This evil has been increasing year after year, and I am decidedly of opinion, nothing
but a well organized establishment will put it down. Supervision of the Police by parties who
can be trusted is necessary, and to ensure men of character accepting service they must be well paid.
The Police force should be increased to act effectually, and employed afloat as well as on shore.

5. Considering the large amount of Port dues paid, the amount of the Customs collections,
and that parties must land their packages at the Custom House, I respectfully submit the owners
of property may reasonably expect that an establishment should be maintained sufficiently
strong in number and so superintended that it shall guarantee the safety of property which par-
ties, as before observed, are compelled by law to land at a particular spot and place in the custody
of an Officer of Government.

6. The Marine Police Act, so far as I am aware of its provisions, will not provide a remedy
for the evils complained of.

To W. E. UNDERWOOD, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, dated 31st July 1858.

SIR,

We beg respectfully to bring to your kind notice that, much inconvenience, trouble, and
roguey is always experienced on the beach by the cooly people, boat-men, beggars, and especial-
ly by the basket bazar people, who are all in the habit of plundering our grain, &c., by making
holes and cutting up bags when landing on the beach, and for which purpose, notwithstanding,
all that we could do ourselves to prevent the acts, we have hardly any aid from the Police Peons
stationed in the lines of the beach, as they are very indifferently disposed to our frequent com-
plaints and thereby those inconveniences are most rashly increasing every day, as to subject our
trade to much loss.

The quantity of grain thus plundered every day, even at a rough guess, will amount to a
great deal, and which can only be estimated by a personal inspection, and with a view of convinc-
ing yourself as to the truth of our statement, we most respectfully solicit your goodness will be

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 31st August 1858.

pleased to take a glance over the north beach on some of these mornings, when landing operations take place, and favor us with the protection we so much stand in need of, and for which act of condescension, we one and all shall ever prove grateful.

We beg to remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servants,

(Signed) చిన్న వీరాసామిశెట్టి.

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and several others.

The Board have no authority in this matter, but resolve to submit the Collector's letter for the consideration of Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary.

No. 27. ORDER THEREON, No. 1191; dated 28th August 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Commissioner of Police at Madras.

The pilfering complained of will, it is to be hoped, be put down by the Marine Police Force about to be entertained.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 3116.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th August 1858.

In Con. 16th August 1858.

Read letter from the Collector of Sea Customs, dated 12th August 1858, forwarding a petition from certain respectable Natives, complaining of the robberies which occur on the Beach and the little assistance they receive from the Police, and offering opinion as to the means that should be adopted for the suppression of the same.

(Here enter No. 291.)

The Board have no authority in this matter, but resolve to submit the Collector's letter for the consideration of Government.

(A true Extract.)


Secretary.

To

T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.
Copy to Collector of Sea Customs.

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28th Aug. 1858.

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