M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1454 Press ~~Mis~~

44-45

Dated 14-10-~~19~~ 1858

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 19th October 1858.

No. 44. Read the following letter from M. MURRAY, Esq., Magistrate of Cuddapah; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 5th October 1858, No. 20.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to inform you, that a person from the northern provinces of Bengal, named Bowanee, had been apprehended by the Police of this Zillah, and forwarded to me in accordance with the orders of Government. He cannot or will not give any satisfactory account of himself. I request you will inform me how he is to be dealt with.

2. He states his name is Bowanee, and that of his father was Fakeeree, caste Dhanack, was an inhabitant of Bhansbarellie, was a number of years ago engaged in a robbery when he received a severe cut across his shoulders, the mark of which he now bears, as also injury on his fingers, that for this robbery he was confined a year in the Jail, that subsequently he had visited Burtpoor, Delhi, Jaulnah and proceeded to Ramisweram, that he had been in Madras for 10 days, but does not know where he lodged, and lived by begging. He had reached Goorrumcondah in this District, but the route he came he cannot tell, he is not acquainted with any person in Madras or this part of the country. He lives by begging.

3. I enclose a translation of the deposition given by him for your consideration and shall await your instructions. The man does not appear to be a Soldier or of a dangerous character, but he may have been employed as a letter carrier, which last, I have no means of ascertaining, there is a cunning about his eye, which induced me to suppose that he is not so simple as he pretends to be. I have therefore detained him pending the orders of Government.

Translation of a deposition given before the Magistrate of Cuddapah on the 18th September 1858, by Bowanee, son of Fakeeree, inhabitant of Bhansbarellie in Hindoostan, caste Dhanack, Vistnoo sect, about 40 years of age, lives by begging.

For the last 10 or 12 years I am wandering over the country and live by begging. I at last came to Goorumcondah, but being new to the country, I cannot say the names of the different places through which I had passed. I was seized at Goorumcondah and sent to the head of Police who sent me here. I have the mark of a sword-cut on my right shoulder which has been healed. I received this wound when I went to rob the house of a person named Dheenner in my country, I was afterwards tried for the robbery by the authorities of the place and imprisoned for one year. From the time I was released, I live by begging; after I left my country I travelled towards Burtpoor, Delhi, Jaulnah, and proceeded to Ramaswaram. I do not recollect the names of all the countries through which I passed. On my return from Ramaswaram I went to Mysore, there is no one in this country who knows me, my wife left me, and went astray, and I have no children. I do not remember the name of the gentleman who imprisoned me. I was at Madras also, and I was ten days there, living by begging, and sleeping at nights in the bazars. I can't say how long ago I went to Madras, and when I left it, I do not remember, whether I went to Poonganoor or not. On my way to Ramaswarara, I visited Seeva Cunjee, Vistnoo Cunjee, and I went by Trichinopoly, but I can't say the countries through which I came on my return. It is about 20 years since I received the wound. The cloth and handkerchief (old) which I have with me were given to me by some one in the Ameen's Cutcherry. My country Bhansbarellie is under British Government and there are Zemindars, whose names I don't recollect. I heard that the Zemindar's name was Rajah Ram.

Q.—When did you see Rajah Ram?

A.—I saw Rajah Ram in a car feast, and also near the Chowddy at Cuddapah.*

* This is a mad assertion.

Q.—When you went to rob the house which you mentioned in this deposition, who were the leader of the gang?

A.—When I went to rob, I went a distance of 12 coss, and committed the robbery. I went alone without a leader. In this robbery I received also a sword cut on my finger.

Q.—When you came to this part of the country, did the people of your country give any letter?

A.—No one gave me any thing.

I heard this deposition read to me, it is correct.

× The mark of BOWANEE.

Taken before me this 18th September 1858.

(Signed) M. MURRAY,
Magistrate.

(True translation.)

(Signed) M. MURRAY,
Magistrate.

No. 45. ORDER THEREON, No. 1454 ; dated 14th October 1858.

Resolved that the above letter be referred to the Chief Commissioner of Police for the Madras Presidency for his opinion as to the course to be pursued in dealing with such characters, and meanwhile that the individual be detained in Jail as a vagrant.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.