

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1462	Press
54-55	~~Mis~~
Dated 16 10 - 19 18	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 54. Read the following letter from GEO. STUART, late Police Inspector; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 20th September 1858.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward a Memorial to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, and beg you will be pleased to lay it before them with my humble respects.

To the Right Honorable GEORGE FRANCIS ROBERT LORD HARRIS, Governor in Council, &c., &c., &c., Fort St. George,

The humble Petition of GEORGE STUART,
late a Police Inspector, Royapettah Division.

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

That your Lordship's petitioner had the good fortune to be entertained by the late Chief Magistrate, E. F. Elliot, Esq., as a Police Constable, that your Lordship's petitioner for the period of 5 years discharged faithfully and zealously his arduous duties, with the approbation of Mr. Elliot and of Lieutenant Colonel Boulderson, the present first Commissioner of the Police, who was pleased to promote him to the situation of Inspector of Police.

2. That your Lordship's petitioner has had the misfortune to be dismissed by Government from his situation, in consequence of not preventing a recent riot which took place at Royapettah at the Wesleyan Mission House.

3. Your Lordship's petitioner respectfully trusts, that your Lordship will attribute the violation of the law which has unhappily taken place at Royapettah, not to your Lordship's petitioner's want of energy and zeal in the proper discharge of his duties as a Police officer, but to the sacred obligation he felt he owed to his superior officer, Mr. Lafond, who ordered your Lordship's petitioner to withdraw the Tannah peons from the Mission house.

4. That your petitioner attended at the Mission house by direction of his superiors, accompanied with a number of the Police force at five o'clock on the evening of the first of July last, but neither on his arrival there nor during the hour or nearly so that he remained there, did he see any indications which would lead him to suppose that a breach of the peace was about to take place. In the compound there were no strangers except those invited there by the Revd. Mr. Jenkins, and if your petitioner accompanied the friends of the boy on the evening of the riot, it was not by their desire, but at the earnest request of the Revd. Mr. Jenkins, made to him that same morning. It is true as stated in the Minutes of Consultation that your petitioner retired to the Tannah and withdrew the peons with him, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Missionaries. But your Petitioner has already shewn and Mr. Lafond himself has admitted that the force was withdrawn by order of the Deputy Commissioner. Your petitioner would humbly bring to your Lordship's notice that an Inspector owes it to the force under his orders not to harrass them beyond what is necessary for the public interests, and if he had of his own authority withdrawn the men, he most respectfully begs to say that his conduct should not be considered reprehensible. Your petitioner detained the force for nearly an hour in the compound of the Missionaries, but as there had been no disturbance and no sign of a disturbance, no crowd collected either inside or outside the compound, your petitioner could not reasonably be expected to keep the force in waiting. But he did what he thought was necessary, he intimated most distinctly to Revd. Mr. Jenkins, that the Police would be found at the Tannah just at hand in case their services should be required. Your petitioner begs to inform your Lordship that he had been sent for frequently during the week by the Missionaries and that on every occasion he went to them with the greatest alacrity, although his services on some of the occasions were not required. He aided them in every way in his power, although he was asked to do what as an Inspector of Police it was not his duty to perform. Your petitioner remained for some time in the Tannah, when he had occasion to return to his own quarters, but during his stay in the Tannah or when leaving it, he saw no disturbance and no sign of disturbance near the compound of the Missionaries. He made up his mind that the fears of Mr. Jenkins on this as on other occasions were perfectly groundless, but even were it otherwise, had Revd. Mr. Jenkins acted on the intimation given him by your petitioner, the riot never could have taken place, because the precautions

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

were quite sufficient to have preserved the public peace. Your petitioner humbly begs to inform your Lordship that he made no unnecessary delay when summoned by Mr. Roberts and Mr. Stevenson, nor is he aware of having manifested any unwillingness to accompany them. He may have asked Mr. Roberts why he was required, and before that gentleman could give an answer, the other came up, Mr. Stevenson was impatient, very naturally so, your petitioner admits, but your petitioner gave him no just cause for complaint, if proof were wanted that your petitioner shewed no reluctance, it is afforded by the fact that he accompanied the gentlemen without uniform or shoes, he went with slippers on his feet and the servants of Colonel Colbeck (no friendly witnesses) have deposed that your petitioner ran after Messrs. Roberts and Stevenson, putting on his coat as he ran. Mr. Roberts himself deposed at the Supreme Court that he was only fifteen minutes away from the time he left the gate of the Mission premises until we all returned there with the peons picked up at the Tannah, and this fact itself your petitioner hopes, will convince your Lordship that he could not have delayed. Your petitioner therefore begs that your Lordship will graciously re-consider his case as the facts upon which he relies are already before the Government.

5. That your Lordships petitioner, would infallibly have been dismissed by Colonel Boulderson, had that gentleman deemed your Lordship's petitioner's conduct blameable on the unexpected unhappy incident which lately took place at Royapettah at the Wesleyan Mission house.

6. That your Lordship's petitioner further most respectfully begs to submit, that in consequence of his dismissal from his late appointment as Inspector of Police, he is thrown helpless with a wife and 5 children on an inimical and friendless world, and therefore most humbly prays your Lordship with that characteristic Christian attribute of benevolence, which has ever distinguished your Lordship's private character and public career, will be graciously pleased on a re-consideration of the facts of the case, and also out of consideration for his large and destitute family, to order his restoration to the public service as Inspector of Police, and for which act of kindness and Christian benevolence, your Lordship's petitioner and family will as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

(Signed) GEORGE STUART.

Madras, 20th September 1858.

No. 55. ORDER THEREON, No. 1462; dated 16th October 1858.

The Government see no reason for altering their decision in the case of Mr. G. Stuart, late Police Inspector. They do not however object to his re-employment as a Constable on a vacancy occurring.

2. The Commissioner of Police will be informed, in reference to para. 15 of Extract Minutes Consultation 26th August last, No. 1182, that Government also permit the re-entertainment of Duffadar Ramoodoo as a Peon when an opportunity occurs for it.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Judicial Department

No. 1679

From Mr. Geo. Stuart.

Late Police Inspector - Madras.

Dated 20th September 1858.

For Orders

Mr Stuart's representations
do not mend his case
We cannot grant his
prayer for restoration, but
think we may allow him to be
re-employed if he can get
a letter from his previous
Commander in good terms
We

I would state that we did
not object to his previous
employment in the force
a

Mr 1462

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
dated 16 October 1858.

Read the following letter
from Mr G. Stuart late Police
Inspector.

(Here enter 20 Sept 1858.)

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Peon when an opportunity
occurs for his services.

JP

Paul & Co. Long 37 1/2
Dated Feb 20 1858
Paris 43

Cms. 11-16
31/8758

As before 19 Oct 12
Judicial 1858 at Paris

Bomb

Extract from 1858

21/10 October 1858.

54 x 55.

c 27 Sep
R 6 Oct
7 Oct R 16 Oct