M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1664 Press ~~Mis.~~

56-57

Dated 22 11 ~~19~~ 1956

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

No. 56. Read the following letter from C. WHITTINGHAM, Esq., Magistrate of North Arcot; to W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Chittoor, 15th November 1858, No. 66.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit for the information of Government, copy of a letter dated 13th Instant, from the Joint Magistrate of this district, reporting the recent tragical occurrence at Vellore.

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From A. W. SULLIVAN, Esq., Joint Magistrate of North Arcot; to C. WHITTINGHAM, Esq., Magistrate of North Arcot, dated Vellore, 13th November 1858, No. 327.

SIR,

It is my painful duty to communicate to you, for the information of Government, the following tragical occurrences of the past night.

2. Feeling that many very exaggerated rumours might get about upon an event, already sufficiently tragical in itself, I wrote a semi-official to the Secretary to Government, which I forwarded in charge of a deloyet, by the early train this morning, in which I gave just the bare outline of the occurrences as they had been verbally reported to me at 2. A. M. this morning, and I have but little to add now, the more so, as all the occurrences took place in Military limits, and with the exception of my Jailor, the parties concerned are Military men, in which Department, no doubt, a detailed report will be forwarded to Government, by the Brigadier Commanding.

3. It would appear that about ½ past ten o'clock last night, the 12th Instant, a Mussulman Sepoy of the 18th Regiment N. I., on sentry near the Flag-staff and overlooking the hollow bastion in which the Jail is situated in the Fort, suddenly and without any apparent cause, fired his musket off twice at or in the direction of the Flag-staff and then ran down the ramp from his post to the front of the Jail, where he was challenged by the sentry on duty at the entrance, that the European Jailor, Mr. Stafford, an out Chelsea pensioner, came out from his quarters to see what the firing was about, when the Sepoy shot him dead, he then made away for the Main-guard, situated near Brigadier Logan's quarters, calling out to the sentry there that he wanted to shoot the Brigadier, he then made off for the inner gate of the Fort which he managed to pass before the sentry could stop him, he had to pass two other gates without guards, and then the outer gate where there is a guard which he also contrived to pass without being stopped by the sentry on duty, he then appears to have made away either across the Parade-ground or by a back road to the Commissariat and Superintendent of Police's office, where there was also a guard of his Regiment on duty, by whom however he does not appear to have been seen in time.

4. The Superintendent of Military Police, Captain Hart, of the 39th Regiment N. I., having been informed of the firing, had left his residence stating, that he was going to the Fort to enquire into the cause, en route he had to pass his office and drove in to get some peons, not finding them in the front of the office, he was driving round to the back where the peons' guard-room is situated, when the same miscreant suddenly turned up and after making use of abusive language first to the driver and then to the unfortunate officer, deliberately shot the latter dead; he then started off for a sort of Mussulman-shrine on the Parade ground where he began to sing out "Deen" "Deen," he was there surrounded by a Jemadar and party of the 18th Regiment N. I., and as he refused to surrender, was fired into and fell wounded, he is now secured in the Main-guard.

5. These atrocious acts appear to have been committed under the influence of bhang, the effects of which appeared to be still on the man when I visited him this morning.

6. Military Inquests have, I understand, been ordered on the bodies of his unfortunate victims and doubtless searching enquiry will be made in that department into all the circumstances of these truly dreadful occurrences.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. WHITTINGHAM,

*Magistrate.*

*Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 23rd November 1858.*

No. 57. ORDER THEREON, No. 1664; dated 22nd November 1858.

To be recorded.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
*Acting Secretary to Govt.*

Exd. F. Cartledge.

he managed to pass before the Sentry could stop him, he had to pass two other gates without guards, and there the outer gate where there is a guard which he also contrived to pass without being stopped by the Sentry on duty, he then appears to have made away either across the Parade ground or by a back Road to the Commissariat and Superintendent of Police's office, where there was also a guard of his Regiment on duty, by whom however he does not appear to have been seen in time.

4 The Superintendent of Military Police Captain Hart of the 39th Regiment N.I. having been informed of the Jemadar having left his residence stating that he was going to the Fort to enquire into the cause, & en route he had to pass his office and drove in to get some peons, not finding them in the front of the office, he was driving Round to the back where the peons guard Room is situated, when the same miscreant suddenly turned up and after making use of abusive language first to the driver and then to the unfortunate officer

officer deliberately shot the latter dead; he then started off for a sort of Musulman Shrine on the Parade ground where he began to sing out "Deen" "Deen" he was there surrounded by a Jamadar and part of the 18th Regiment N.I. and as he refused to surrender was fired into and fell wounded, he is now secured in the Main Guard.

5 These atrocious acts appear to have been committed under the influence of Bhang the effects of which appeared to be still on the Man when I visited him this Morning.

6 Military inquests have understand been ordered on the bodies of his unfortunate Victims & doubtless searching enquiry will be made in that Department into all the circumstances of these truly dreadful occurrences.

I have &c.

(Signed) A. W. Sullivan
Joint Magistrate

True

Judicial 1858. Dept.
From A. W. Sullivan Esq. Joint Magistrate of Fort Govt.
To The Secretary to Govt. of Fort St. George

Dated 15th Novr. 1858.
R.D. 17
No. of Letter 66.
Enclosures.
No. 2056
Submitted for the information of Govt. Copy of a letter from the Joint Magte. dated 13th Instant reporting the recent tragical occurrence at Vellore.

W. W. No. 1664
Value Recorded
22nd Nov. 58

Judl. Ltr. to Engd. 15th February No. 7 of 1859 Para 4.

C 18 Nos.
R 20 "

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