Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 2nd March 1858.

No. 31. Read the following letter from J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Joint Magistrate of Canara; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated Savercape, 18th February 1858, No. 89.

SIR,

I had the honor to notify in my letter of the 16th Instant, the arrival in Camp of 50 of the Dharwar Police on the night of the 15th. These men having had a double march, I thought it right to halt at Jugglebett during the following day, and let them rest and make their arrangements. Early on the morning of the 17th, I left Jugglebett with these and some of my own Police, numbering in all some 70 men, and marched to Savercape, 2 miles east of Tinay and 16 from Jugglebett. When selecting my ground for the night's halt, a messenger arrived from Kooveshy, 7 miles due south from this, with a report that a party of the insurgents, some 60 strong, had visited that locality, and burnt down the Chowky, carrying prisoners with them several of the Kolecars and minor servants of the establishment. My messenger likewise informed me that a party of the insurgents were at that moment in my close vicinity and that he could point out to me their then point of rendezvous. I immediately collected some 30 of the most reliable of my men, and went in person in quest of them. The country around is very close, so that after scouring about in the jungle until sun-set, we had to return to Camp without having come across any of them. The Chowky having been burnt at 6 in the morning, I am disposed to think that my informant was incorrect in stating that the insurgents were in my near vicinity, at that late hour of the afternoon, and believe that a subsequent report is nearer the truth, which states that the insurgents on completing their work of incendiarism, divided into 2 parties and returned by jungle paths east and west of this to their stronghold of Darsengooda. I may note as a circumstance shewing the animus of these men that the wife of one of the Kolecars on offering her jewels as a ransom for her husband then in the insurgents' custody, not only effected her object, but had her trinkets returned to her by these people. This tends to prove what I have all along stated, that the object of this demonstration is not plunder, but lies deeper and has its origin in the political state of the surrounding country. When this foray on Kooveshy was projected, the insurgents, I believe, were not aware that it was my intention so soon to be in the immediate neighbourhood, so that I am now in hopes that my presence here may keep them in check until the arrival of the troops from Sedasheghur. I have given this spot the preference to Tenay, because more central both as respects my own and Belgaum operations, and because there is a supply of water and some open encamping ground. Mr. Seton Karr writing to me on the 15th merely says that he was collecting his resources and proposes following up the enemy wherever he went.

I have yet answers to receive to letters addressed to the Belgaum Camp, and may therefore hope to get fresh information of the movements from that quarter.

I have just become aware that I have committed a breach of rule in putting troops under requisition without addressing the Officer Commanding the Division on the subject, but as Head Quarters are so far off and the emergency was so immediate, I am in hopes that what has already been done in the way of keeping the Civil and Military authorities apprised of my position, may be allowed by Government to stand as a set-off against this oversight on my part.

I remain where I am for the day to watch the progress of matters and to collect further intelligence respecting the intentions and resources of the enemy, as well as those of the Field Force employed against them on the other side of the border.

To attempt any offensive measures with my present means and appliances would be highly inexpedient, and all I can hope for is that my presence here may tend to restore confidence among the people, and hold the enemy in check until the arrival of the Detachment from Sedasheghur some 4 or 5 days hence.

P. S.—I may mention that on the first outbreak at Tinay, the Kooveshy Chowky station was strengthened by the addition of some extra Police men, to how little purpose is now shewn. The allocation in fact of small detached guards at our several out-posts is in the present state of matters unadvisable as the additional fire arms them provided are a strong inducement to attack and becoming the easy booty of the assailants, will only strengthen their hands against us at the final struggle.

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, No. 264; dated 27th February 1858.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. E. Cartledge.

Judicial. 1858. Sept.
In Ans: 2nd March
from the Joint Magistrate
Nanaimo. — 89.
&
2nd February 58
89 — 24 — "

Judl Lr. to Engr 30th June
No 97 1858 - Encl. 2 Sks

No 350

Requests further information
regarding the state
of the disputed District.

314 32

C 24 Tb
R 25 W

No 264
Recorded
27/2/58.

M.R.O. 1—33,0f 0—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 264	Press ~~Mis~~
31-32	
Dated 27-2-~~19~~ 48. P	

Not to be folded or roughly handled