

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 314

Press

~~Mis.~~

61-62

Dated

8-8-1968

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Henry

I am directed to express His

Grace's desire that such measures as is
thought proper to be in the above communication may,
where practicable, be strictly pursued.

Wm. B. Smith Esq.
New York
23rd January 1858

Yours truly
Wm. B. Smith

John M. Smith Esq.

Wm. B. Smith
Secretary General
of the Army

7

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 12th March 1858.

No. 61. Read the following letter from Lieut. Colonel W. G. WOODS, Adjutant General of the Army; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Bangalore, 23rd February 1858, No. 177.

SIR,

I have the honor, by order of the Commander in Chief, to forward for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council copy of a letter from Major A. B. Kerr, Commanding No. 1 Native Infantry Recruiting Depot, dated the 9th Instant, No. 42, with a Memorandum from the Officer Commanding Southern Division, relative to a serious evil which is prevailing all over Southern India tending in no ordinary degree to injure the Recruiting for the Army.

I am directed to express His Excellency's hope that such misconduct as is brought to notice in the above communication may, when proved, be severely punished.

From Major A. B. KERR, Commanding 1st Recruiting Depot; to the Adjutant General of the Army, Head Quarters Bangalore, dated Madras, 9th February 1858, No. 42.

SIR,

I have the honor to request you will be so good as to bring to the notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief a serious evil which I find prevailing over the whole of Southern India, and which tends in no ordinary degree to injure the Recruiting; indeed, almost to put a stop to it; I allude to a report put forth by designing and disaffected people (many of them I regret to say in the employment of Government) that we are enlisting men into the Army, with the intention of sending them up to the seat of war to have their throats cut; this absurd rumour, is firmly believed by the foolish people, and the consequence is, that the exertions made by the Recruiting parties under my command are of little avail, and that those who are inclined to enlist, are in many instances prevented doing so from hearing this report.

I have hitherto abstained from bringing this to the notice of His Excellency, hoping that the rumour would die out, and that the Natives would see the folly of it; but I regret to say that it is continuing to act most injuriously upon the Recruiting and that I have this day been obliged to send to the Magistrate here a complaint against a Peon charged with this offence.

3. The 1st Clause of Act XIV of 1857, has reference, I observe, to *Soldiers* alone, but not to men thinking of enlisting; and therefore I presume, persons endeavouring to seduce *them* from their allegiance are not amenable to its provisions; the Peon in question if found guilty will be punished doubtless, but not to the extent he deserves for so serious a crime; and therefore it is, that I bring the subject under the Commander-in-Chief's consideration.

No. 90.

*Head Quarters Southern Division,
Trichinopoly, 11th February 1857.*

(Signed) R. BUDD, Major General,
Commanding Southern Division

Similar rumours were current at this station also some short time ago and impeded, it was thought, the Recruiting for the 2nd Extra Battalion which is now however doing well. No doubt the Civil Authorities will severely punish such misconduct whenever it may be proved against parties.

(Signed) R. BUDD, M. G.

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) W. G. WOODS, Lieut. Colonel,
Adjutant General of the Army.

Referred to the Judicial Department.

Fort St. George, }
26th February 1858. }

(Signed) C. A. BROWNE, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 12th March 1858.

No. 62.

ORDER THEREON, No. 314; dated 8th March 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Magistrate of Madura, who will report what notice has been taken of the conduct of the Peon referred to in para. 2. of Major Kerr's letter to the Adjutant General.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

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Magistrate of Madura, who will report
what notice has been taken of the
conduct of the peon referred to in
para. 2. of Major Kerr's letter to the
Adjutant General.

*For George
8 March 1858 - 3.*

Copy to Magistrate of Madura - Signed 11/12