M.R.O. 1—89,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 326 Press ~~Mis~~

77- 79

Dated 10. 8 — ~~19~~ 88

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

Read the following papers.

No. 77. From A. PURVIS, Esq., Magistrate of Rajahmundry; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Dracharama, 24th February 1858, No. 64.

SIR,

I have the honor to report in continuation of my former letters on the subject that the endeavours which have been made to effect the apprehension of the chiefs who, with their followers, have lately disturbed the peace in the hills on the north west border of this District, have, I regret to say, not been successful. The very difficult and wild nature of the country, and the, till lately, almost certainty of fever as the result of entering it, have been very serious obstacles to success.

2. A number of Peons belonging to the permanent establishment aided by a large number of additional Peons entertained under the authority granted in a letter from the Acting Chief Secretary of the 22nd July and Minutes of Consultation of the 2nd December 1857, have been posted in certain villages between the low country and the hills, and the gangs have hitherto with the assistance of the Detachment of the Golconda Sibbundies under the command of Lieutenant A. Bloomfield been kept pretty well in check, though they have occasionally made attacks on some of the Tannahs, and compelled them to retire for the time. At the end of December a village on the eastern bank of the river was attacked and plundered by them, but during the month of January they were pretty quiet. There was reason to hope that the people of the Koya caste might by negociation be separated from the Reddies and thus the apprehension of the head men of the latter be secured, but the attempts made to this end have as yet failed.

3. The principal man Karkonda Soobbareddy, whose ostensible place of residence is Koratoor a small village on the bank of the river, and who, as Government are aware, was formerly in the habit of levying tolls on the river traffic, has however lately put a stop to the navigation of the Godavery to all who decline to submit to his exactions and has seized persons and property.

4. A few days ago Mr. Bloomfield with his Detachment of Sibbundies made an attempt to get up the river as far as Condamodaloo a village opposite to Koratoor belonging to one Lingareddy formerly a sharer in the fees, but who has taken no part in the present disturbance, but owing to the rebels, for such they may be called, having got into his rear and prevented his supplies reaching him, he was obliged to return without effecting his object. The rebels appeared to be in some force on each side the river and the Detachment was fired at from the banks but providentially none of the party were struck. During Mr. Bloomfield's absence however an attack was made on a small party of Peons left in charge of tents and a pony which were carried off. Some of the former were subsequently recovered by Lieutenant Bloomfield. One Peon was, I regret to say, killed on the spot, and another as well as a servant wounded, but both are doing well.

5. From information which has reached me, the rebels would appear to be in some force and I have received intelligence of their having plundered two small villages in the same vicinity. I do not apprehend that they will attempt to come down into the open country, but the existing state of things cannot be allowed to continue. This is the season when active operations can be carried on among the hills with the least risk of fever, and I have applied to the Major General in Command of the Division for the services of, if necessary, a full Company of Sappers from Dowlaiswarum. They will act as a support to, and in aid of the Detachment of Sibbundies and Police force now employed in the part of the country in question. The District Engineer has been good enough to place the new Steamer at my disposal which will enable me to send a strong party up the river as far as Koratoor and release the property detained. I propose if it can be spared that the Steamer should remain with a strong party on board off Polavarum, a town near the entrance to the gorge, so as to be available at any time. It is only in this manner that the navigation can be kept free. When this has been effected, I propose that different parties shall advance into the hills from different directions and thus I hope effect the apprehension of the principal men.

6. As the apprehension of Karkonda Soobbareddy and Karla Soobbareddy is of great importance, I have requested the Foujdary Udalut to obtain the sanction of Government for increasing the reward already offered for the first named to 2,500 Rs. and the second to 1,000 Rs.

Judicial Department.

No. 32h

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Dated 10th March 1858.

Read the following Papers.

Letter from the Magistrate of Rajahmundry — (Here enter 24th Feby /58 No 64)

Extract from the Proceedings of the Foujdaree Adawlut — (Here enter 4th March /58 No 8)

1. In the first of the papers recorded above the Magistrate of Rajahmundry reports the arrangements made by him for effecting the capture of the Chiefs who, with their followers, have recently disturbed the peace of the hill on the North East border of his district, and in the second, the Court of Foujdaree Adawlut submit with their remarks, an application from that officer for the

increase of the rewards offered for the apprehension of two of these chiefs.

2. The Right Honble the Governor in Council + approves the measures adopted by the Magistrate of Rajahmundry as stated in para 5 of his letter, and desires that he will keep Govt. informed from time to time, of his further proceedings. His Lordship in Council also authorizes the increase of the rewards offered for the apprehension of Narkoondu Soobiereddy and Narla Soobiereddy to Rs 2,500 and Rs 1000 respectively as recommended: Mr Francis should have in matter of this character, applied to Govt. direct, and not through the Court of Foujdaree Adawlut.

+ must expect to learn the satisfactory state of affairs on Rajahmundry Frontier — He

Copy to Magistrate of Rajahmundry
" to Foujdaree Adawlut
" Resident of Hyderabad with papers
" Military Dept. do.
" P. to Dept. do.

Dispd 15th

In Dy. Cons. 12th March.

Judicial 1858 Department

Judl. Letr. Engd. 30th June
No 49 of 1858 - Para 5-

No. 326

Extract Mins. Cons.

Dated 10 March 1858

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C.S. March 29