M.R.O. 1—89,000—16-10-23.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 346 Press / Mis.

5-6

Dated 13 — 3 — 1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 5. Read the following letter from J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Joint Magistrate of Canara; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated Camp Tinay Chowky, 2nd March 1858, No. 125.

SIR,

You will already be in receipt of my Telegram informing Government, that I have made requisition on Hurryhur for a 100 rank and file under command of 2 or 3 officers. Since despatching this message, Captain Schneider, Special Political Agent and Mr. Souter, Superintendent Belgaum Police, have visited my Camp and after a reconnoissance of the surrounding country and careful computation of the force required to occupy in sufficient strength the out-posts on this side of the frontier, have expressed it as their opinion that no force short of 310 men will suffice to meet the wants of this part of my division. I have therefore the honor to inform Government that on their advice, and with the full concurrence of Captain Walpole, Commanding Officer here, I have decided to apply to Bellary for an additional reinforcement of 180 men with the usual complement of European Officers, and have this day telegraphed to Brigadier Macleod to this effect, as authorised by message* from the Military Secretary.

* Dated 24th February 1858.

The whole numerical strength of the force thus assembled within my limits will be about 310 rank and file, commanded by 6 or 7 European Officers.

On the Belgaum side of the border the force already assembled is 800 strong, besides Irregulars. I have hitherto restricted my demands for Military aid to the very narrowest compass not knowing exactly how far I might count on assistance from the Belgaum Camp, and the services of the Detachment of Dharwar Police now with me, under command of Lieutenant Thomas. As the Government will gather from correspondence* herewith enclosed, I am already threatened with the withdrawal of the latter body, and the Belgaum frontier arrangements will, under recent local dispositions, absorb the available force on that side of the border. Under this explanation, the Government will perceive that circumstances have already arisen to disturb original calculations, and to indicate the necessity of arrangements on a larger scale than I had at an earlier stage believed to be wanted. The villages in this neighbourhood are nearly wholly deserted, and the general insecurity is such that neither letters nor supplies can pass unless accompanied by armed escorts. Yesterday the Mail bags and some private supplies were waylaid and taken possession of by the enemy, who murdered the peon in charge and the 2 runners. From this date our tappal will be conveyed viâ the Head Quarters of the Belgaum Field Force for greater security and economy of men, of whom we have none to spare, as our patrol and escort requirements are very heavy.

* Copy of a letter to the Magistrate of Dharwar, No. 124.

Alive to the peculiar difficulties of this kind of warfare in which we are now engaged, the Bombay authorities have, Government will observe, made large provision for the wants of their districts, and my object in here laying stress on this point is to shew that in these reiterated demands for Military aid, I have not lost sight of economy nor exaggerated the evils to be encountered.

From J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Joint Magistrate of Canara; to T. OGILVY, Esq., Magistrate of Dharwar, dated Camp Tinay Chowky, 2nd March 1858, No. 124.

SIR,

I was favored by Lieutenant Thomas with the perusal of a letter addressed by you to him on the subject of the withdrawal of the force under his command, so kindly placed by you at my disposal for temporary employment on this frontier service, you will be able to gather from yesterday's correspondence, transcript of which has been already forwarded to you, the present position of matters in this neighbourhood. Disappointed in the numerical strength of the Detachment despatched from our coast stations, I have been compelled as you will find, to call for further aid from Hurryhur, and it is now question whether the Military force required for service within this division should not be still further augmented by troops from Bellary, the nearest station to the scene of operations to which I can now look for assistance in this emergency.

With your own frontier line to protect, and so near the disturbed regions, your anxiety to have Lieutenant Thomas and his men present and ready for service within the limits of their own Zillah, is natural and intelligible enough, and I am fully prepared to reiterate with my best thanks

the force required

my appreciation of the valuable service you have rendered me and the cause in general, by so promptly and disinterestedly placing at my disposal a body of men so useful in operations of the description of those now being conducted in this neighbourhood. As yet no menacing demonstration has as far as I am informed, been made on your frontier, nor considering the more open features of the country and the distance to which such a movement would withdraw him from his familiar haunts and strongholds along my frontier mountain range, is it probable that the enemy would move so far inland. Be this however as it may, our present position here while providing in some measure for local protection, holds the enemy at check in the south and eastern directions and thus far meets the requirements and necessities of your own case. The withdrawal of the Dharwar Police Force at this stage in our operations, would not only leave me helpless, but would in the opinion of the officers here assembled and my own, imperil the ultimate success of an enterprise, in the welfare of which we have all unfortunately too near an interest. I may add also that the moral effect of such a movement on our post would have a peculiarly sinister influence on our future plans inasmuch as it would tend to repress an already awakening confidence among the people at large, and be to the enemy a tacit but encouraging acknowledgment of our own weakness. You will learn from Lieutenant Thomas that the want of intercommunication between yourself and our camp alluded to in your letter under comment, has not arisen from any omission on Lieutenant Thomas' part in giving you full particulars of our operations heretofore, as that officer sent you an epitome of these some time ago, and was obliging enough to allow me to make transcript of his letter for the information of my more immediate superiors. Lieutenant Thomas will probably take up the tale of operations from the point at which he last left off, and I shall not therefore attempt a narration of events which he will be able to give in a more succinct and lucid manner than I have at all time for.

The object of the present letter confines itself in fact to an urgent request that you will permit me to have the benefit of Lieutenant Thomas' valuable experience and aid until the actual necessity of re-call arises or until I am in a better position to grapple with the difficulties and responsibilities of my present position.

P. S.—Captain Schneider and Mr. Souter are in camp and in consultation with them and the officers here assembled, I have come to conclusion that it would be wholly unsafe to withdraw Lieutenant Thomas or any of his men from this part of the country until my reinforcements arrive, and you will find by a letter now under preparation, that in addition to my yesterday's requisition on Hurryhur, I have telegraphed to Bellary for further reinforcements of 180 rank and file.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. D. ROBINSON,
Joint Magistrate.

No. 6.

ORDER THEREON, No. 346; dated 13th March 1858.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

A Copy of
35 Pa.
Records
under Office
Seal.

No 125.

Joint Magts Catchery
Camp Timmy Chum Ky 2d
2d March 1858.

From

J. D. Robinson Esqre
Joint Magte & Comme

To

J. Pycroft Esqre
Chief Secy to Govt.
Madras

Sir

You will already be in receipt of my Telegram informing Govt that I have made requisition on Hurryhur for a 100 Rank & file and 20 Cavalry 2 or 3 officers Sniee despatching this Despatch Capte Schneider Special Political Agent and Mr Souter Supt Belgaum Police have visited my Camp, and after a reconnoissance of the surrounding Country and careful computation of the force required to occupy in

in sufficient strength the
outposts on this side
the frontier line expected
it as their opinion that
no force short of 310
men with supplies to meet
the wants of that part of
my division, I have therefore
the honor to inform Government
that on their advice and
with the full concurrence
of Captain Walpole Cmdg
Officer line I have decided
to apply to Bellary for
an additional Reinforcement
of 180 men with the usual
complement of European
officers, and have this
day Telegraphed to Bangalore
Macleod to this effect as
authorized by Despatch
from the Military Secretary

The whole movement
strength of the force thus
assembled within my limits
will be about 360 rank
and file commanded by
four European officers.

on

In Dy Mono: 19th March
Judicial 1858 Depart.

From the Joint Magistrate
of Canara
No 125.

Dy 2?
Q. 9th March

No 44 Encl.

Details the amount
of Military aid applied
for and required by him
to quell the disturbances
on his frontier

3 X

Judl Letr to Engr 30th June
No 9 of 1858 - Paras - 283

546.

D. 92.346
Recorded
13/4/58

c 9 March
1858

d/24 7 May 1858.