M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 387 Press ~~Mis.~~

31-32

Dated 23-3-~~19~~ 1932

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 31. Read the following letter from W. ROBINSON, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Malabar; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Fort St. George, dated Calicut, 15th March 1858, No. 44.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the information of Government the accompanying explana-
Dated 13th Instant, No. 48. tion of the Acting Joint Magistrate, in regard to the petition forwarded to Government, with my letter dated 13th Instant.

2. The assault case has itself been committed for trial before the Sub Court, where I doubt not that it will be disposed of with that expedition, which will tend to allay the strong excitement now prevailing in the country.

3. Mr. Smith's explanation as to his proceedings on the 2nd day is not so full as were to be desired, and I doubt greatly whether the matter will be allowed to rest here. The grossly illegal act that was committed by the people, in the excitement of the moment will no doubt be punished. But the offence was a misdemeanor and the circumstances did not make it necessary to call out a posse of Railway officials, &c., &c., to rescue a man subjected to "illegal imprisonment;" nor can they I fear justify the admitted act of entering a temple and the houses of several influential persons, such as the Koulpara Nair (a recipient of Malikanah,) Karacat Mamboodripaad &c., in search of persons for whose appearance probably summonses only could legally have been issued.

4. Mr. Smith has not responded to my offer to go out and join him. I shall therefore await the orders of Government on the subject, unless I find that the excitement continues unabated.

From H. G. SMITH, Esq., Acting Joint Magistrate; to W. ROBINSON, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Malabar, dated Shoratoor, 13th March 1858, No. 48.

SIR,

* Containing an enclosed Petition. In acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated* 11th of March 1858, I have the honor to inform you that although the Petition is here and there partly true, the greater part is most grossly exaggerated and therefore requires but little explanation.

The first part relates more to what took place in the assault on the Railway Engineers, the more of which I hear the more unprovoked does it appear, for, the road by which they were passing at the time is allowed even by the prisoners I have committed to the Court, to be a public one by which people of all *castes* may go, although of course they may not enter the Kovil, and this they did not.

The second part relates to what took place the next day which is also nearly all false.

All I did was in having sufficient reason to suspect that the whole of the villagers were more or less concerned in the affray to proceed to the Nair's house, where the Thier was confined, to rescue him from the mal-treatment he was undergoing, and in doing so, two men who would not quietly submit certainly received a slight tap on the head. I then proceeded to a few houses and to the Kovil to see if any one was there who could be identified, but only caught six more, four of whom have been released, there being no evidence against them, and the other two have been committed to the Court, one being next to Numboori the chief ring-leader.

I observe that of those whose names are attached to the Petition sent with your letter, two of them Shangoo Nair and Ramaan Nair, are greatly implicated, I request therefore that you will apprehend them and forward them to me at Wanniacollum viâ Tertalla, as I have Warrants issued for their apprehension.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. ROBINSON,
Acting Magistrate.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 23rd March 1858.

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, No. 387; dated 23rd March 1858.

Mr. Robinson is referred to the orders of Government under date the 22nd Instant, No. 381.

He will report the result of the proceedings before the Sub Court.

The Government leave it to him to proceed to the locality or not as in his discretion he deems most expedient.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Rxd. T. Cartledge.

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No. 387

H/ Mr Robinson is referred to the orders
of Govt under date the 22nd Instant No. 381.
now in his Indorsement
He will report the result
of the proceedings before the Sub
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The Govt leave it to him to
proceed to the locality or not
as in his discretion he deems most
expedient

Fort St George
23rd March 1858

T. Pycroft
Chief Secy

Copy of Indorsement
Dept. 23rd