M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-23.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 406 Press ~~Mis.~~

27-28

Dated 28 - 3 - ~~11~~ 28

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

406

No. 27. Read the following letter from WM. FISHER, Esq., Magistrate of Canara; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated Mangalore, 19th March 1858.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the information of Government, copies of letters which I have this-day addressed to the Brigadier Commanding Malabar and Canara, and to Major Hodson, Commanding Mangalore; and I trust that the step I have taken will meet with their approval when explained by the following circumstances. A note from Mr. Pochin, and some reports from Native Officials, received this-day, name several places below the Ghauts, in the Soopah and Ancolah Talooks, into which the rebels are said to have penetrated; and I now feel that my presence in the north is necessary, as the Officers there, Mr. Robinson excepted, know but little of the country, and all communication with the Joint Magistrate is for the present cut off.

The tactics of the insurgents secure their temporary security, and at the same time spread terror over a great breadth of country. On the spot, I shall be able to judge how far it will be necessary to draw Troops from the south; and my object in applying to the Brigadier, is to quiet all apprehension here, and make the Native Troops available, should I be obliged to call for their services.

It is of course to be hoped that a portion of the field force is already in pursuit of those bodies of rebels, who are reported to have burned our frontier Custom Houses, and then to have descended the Ghauts; but I cannot be certain that this is the case: and my object will be to hold all wandering gangs in check as far as possible, and to communicate with Mr. Robinson, in order to the speedy pursuit of those marauders, by a portion of the field force.

My present movements will not altogether prevent my carrying on the current duties of the District; and if my presence is not required, I can retrace my steps with facility and despatch.

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From W. FISHER, Esq., Magistrate of Canara; to the Brigadier Commanding Malabar and Canara, Cannanore, dated Mangalore, 19th March 1858.

SIR,

Having just received information dated 17th, from the Additional Joint Magistrate, that parties of the rebels have descended the Ghauts on both banks of the Black river, and that a portion of the Sadashigur Detachment has proceeded to join Capt. Walpole, viâ Ankolah and Yellapoor, the direct route viâ Nushy, being in the hands of the insurgents, I have called on Major Hodson for a small Detachment to accompany Lieut. Miller to Sadashigur.

I proceed thither myself this evening, on board the H. C. S. V. *Pownah*, Capt. Taylor, I. N. This vessel and her armed boats will be of great service at that station and in the river above it, and with the Detachment at Sadashigur strengthened, I shall have no fears for that post. At the same time, I think it highly advisable that a Company of Europeans or such force as you may direct, should be sent to this place. The moral effect of their presence here would be great, and I may be obliged to call on Major Hodson for even further aid than is at present demanded.

The insurgents have broken up into parties, and spread themselves through the northern jungles, and by this means avoid attack and cause great alarm far and wide.

I have a large amount of Treasure here, and the weakness of the Regiment in garrison is of course well known to you. If therefore you can send up sufficient Europeans to render the Native Troops available, if necessary, for operations further to the northward, I shall be in a far better position to act with effect against the bands of rebels, who are now lurking in the jungle along and below the Ghauts north of Yellapoor.

I may add that Major Hodson agrees with me in thinking this application necessary under existing circumstances.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th Instant.

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P. S.—I have directed the Head Assistant Magistrate to detain the party of Sepoys from Sadashigur at Yellapoor, or send them back to their post, if not required.

*Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 30th March 1858.*

From W. FISHER, Esq., Magistrate of Canara; to Major C. W. HODSON, Commanding Mangalore, dated 19th March 1858.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for your information copy of a letter addressed by me to the Brigadier Commanding Malabar and Canara, and to make formal application for such a party of your men as you can spare, in order to replace the portion of the Sadashigur Detachment which has marched to join the field force in Soopah.

This party of men will not, in my opinion, be able to proceed beyond Yellapoor, and I do not think it advisable that they should do so, even if the road is sufficiently open to enable so small a body to reach Captain Walpole's Camp.

I have therefore sent off an express directing them to remain at Yellapoor, or, if not required by the Head Assistant Magistrate there, to rejoin their post at Sadashigur.

The men you are able to detail on this service will, as you are aware, be able to proceed to-night on board the H. C. S. V. *Pownah*, Capt. Taylor, I. N., and will be sent down the Coast again as soon as circumstances enable me to dispense with their services.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) WM. FISHER,
*Magistrate.*

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No. 28. ORDER THEREON, No. 406; dated 26th March 1858.

The Government approve the proceedings of the Magistrate of Canara as reported in the above letter.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
*Acting Secretary to Govt.*

Rxd. F. Cartledge.

No. 406.

The Govt approve the proceedings of the Magistrate of Canara as reported in the above letter.

Fort St George 26 March 1858.

Copy to the Genl Dept Dispt 26/ " 27/

The Govt in the 2nd instance have communicated from Canara if necessary by telegraph

I think it would be well if a company of Europeans 68th kept were posted at Karwar

Mobile to Engl No. 9 30-6-58 Para 243 Govt Replies to 27-10-58 No 1

have descended the shoals; but I cannot be certain that this is the case: and my object will be to hold all travelling parties as much as possible, and to communicate with Mr Robertson, in order to the speedy pursuit of these marauders, by a portion of the Indian force.

My present intention is not altogether prevent my discharging in the current duties of the Department; and if my presence is not required, I can return my steps, with facility, and dispatch. I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most Obd. Servt.

Wm Simpson

Magistrate