

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 455

Press

~~Mis.~~

55-56

Dated

9-6-1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 9th April 1858.

No. 55. Read the following letter from C. J. SHUBRICK, Esq., Magistrate of Chingleput; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Sydapet, 29th March 1858.

SIR,

Para. 1. Referring to Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 373 of the 22nd Instant, I have the honor to report that the fact of the robbery in the house of Ponnappa Moodely, in Sydapet, as represented in the petition of the Inhabitants to the Right Honorable the Governor, is substantially true; and that there seems every prospect of its being brought home to certain parties; some of whom are in custody, and others at large, owing to the discovery of part of the stolen property in Madras, and in a village called Poolyoor.

2. Present appearances go to shew that the robbery was planned and perpetrated by some released Convicts from the Guindy Jail, who before their release, had been working near the house on the road leading to Ponnamallee in company with some prisoners who had been lately sent up to the Criminal Court, and released by the Principal Sudr Ameen in a case of gang robbery at Manundoor near Conjeveram, besides other parties who brought up the gang to 100 or more armed with fire arms.

3. At the time of the robbery, the Head of Police was in the town; but had only one Peon with him, all his other Peons being absent on various duties, some as far as North Arcot where they have succeeded in recovering the property, and apprehending the parties concerned in a gang robbery at Coyembadoo now under trial before the Session Court, and it was not possible for him therefore to do much at the time. He was however on the spot as soon as information of the robbery was brought to him, and succeeded after a time in inducing some 20 of the village people to go with him in pursuit, who distinctly saw the gang, but from their numbers and fire arms were afraid to close with them. Subsequently, the gang, scattered, and some of them appear to have been picked up; if not, the principal parties, at least some of their accomplices, on one of whom a cloth belonging to the prosecutor was found. The information of the robbery having been committed by released Convicts was obtained from a Convict now in Guindy Jail. Some of these Convicts belong to Combaconum, and others to Chittoor and Wallajapett. They are being pursued.

4. In para. 2, the petitioners say that robberies have been of periodical occurrence in Sydapett. It is difficult to know what is meant by "periodical occurrence" in such a matter as robberies; but during the 3 years and a quarter I have been in Sydapet, the present is the first gang robbery. Some years before, a gang robbery was committed in the house of the same Ponnappa Moodely, who besides weaving, is a pawn-broker, and receives valuable jewels in pledge.

5. With regard to the protection of Sydapet, considering that what was formerly a village, has grown into a town, and become the Hoozoor station of the District, I am of opinion that a separate Town Police should be allowed for its protection, and that it should consist of a Cutwall, and 10 Peons, the former on a monthly salary of Rupees 14 and the latter at Rupees 6.

No. 56.

ORDER THEREON, No. 455; dated 9th April 1858.

The Magistrate of Chingleput is requested to state the population of, and number of houses in Sydapett now and in 1850.

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

C. No. 7-8 2
23-3-58

N. 455

MB
WM

The Magistrate of Chingleput is
requested to state the population of
and number of houses in Hyderabad
now and in 1850.

AG

Fort St George, 2
9 April, 1858-3

To the Magistrate of Chingleput - Disptd 12⁺