

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	562	Press
		~~Mis.~~
22-23		
Dated	30. 4. 1918	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 4th May 1858.

No. 22. 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, 9th April 1858, No. 55.

SIR,

Date 17th April 1858. I have the honor to submit the report of the Commandant of the Malabar Police Corps, on the measures recently taken with reference to the employment of the Corps in Canara.

2. As soon as the men learnt that the Government was willing to accord to them permission to volunteer for service, the Corps to a man, and without distinction of caste or race, volunteered. They all showed the most anxious alacrity to join the expedition in the service of the State. Considering the large proportion of Nairs and Moplas in the Corps—races that seldom leave the district—it is most pleasing to record this manifestation of loyal spirit.

3. No stipulation was made by the men whatever, in regard to batta, &c. To be among the selected men, and to get ready with the greatest expedition, was all that was thought of. When I inspected the Corps on their return, after all their disappointments, not a word of discontent passed the lips of any man. They acquiesced cheerfully in the order to return, notwithstanding their previous anticipations.

4. The Commander of the "Thebes" was struck with the orderly, obedient and spirited bearing of the men while on board the transport.

5. Since their services could advantageously be dispensed with, it was right to send them back, but it is well to know that a small body of well-equipped and trained Irregulars are at hand on emergency, and that they are, though enlisted, for local service only, likely to volunteer.

6. I do not recommend the issue of batta, but would wish for a small gratuity, say 500 Rupees to be distributed among them. They are about to hut themselves, and the ready money would be very acceptable, together with the acknowledgment of Government of their good spirit.

Ahmod Koorikel, Mopla.
Ramen Menon, Nair.

7. The Commandant mentions most favorably, Serjeant Major Ryan, and the 2 Subadars.

From Lieut. C. G. BLOMFIELD, Commandant Malabar Police Corps; to W. ROBINSON, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Malabar, Calicut, dated 7th April 1858.

SIR,

I have the honor to report to you, for the information of Government, that on the 31st Ultimo, during your absence on Circuit, I received an intimation from the Special Assistant Magistrate at Calicut, that the services of the Mountain Train, Malabar Police Corps and those of the Corps itself, were likely to be required immediately for employment against the rebels in Canara.

The Mountain Train, completely equipped for service, with 24 Gunners of Her Majesty's 66th Regiment, most promptly and unhesitatingly detailed for that purpose by Capt. Perrin, Commanding Malliappoorum, was placed in readiness to march in little more than an hour after the receipt of the intimation, but of the Police Corps itself there were at the time, deducting those on out-post duty, recruits and sick, little more than 70 men available for service at Head Quarters. The constitution of the Corps, specially and expressly enlisted for local service, had not originally contemplated the possibility of any requisition of the kind, but being anxious to ascertain the spirit of the men, as well as to respond to the call made on us: I instantly sent out messages to the different out-posts, to call for volunteers for distant service, mentioning that I would command them myself (directing the Havildars in command at the same time to retain sufficient men to carry on the necessary duties), and I made the same proposal to the men at Head Quarters. The whole Corps responded to my appeal, and came forward as one man. I 31st Ultimo. was therefore enabled to inform the Brigadier by return of post, that I should be able to bring at least 100 good and trustworthy men with me, should he think fit to call for them. The answer I received (by telegraph from Cannanore to Calicut) on the 1st Instant (April) was that their services, as well as those of the Mountain Train would not be required. I therefore

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 4th May 1858.

cancelled my previous orders, and directed the volunteers from the out-posts to rejoin their Detachments.

Another message was received by me on the 2nd Instant (April) from the Special Assistant Magistrate to the effect that the Police Corps *might*, and another on the 3rd (April) to the effect that it *would* be required after all. On the afternoon of that day (3rd) therefore, I started with the Detachment as per margin, and full equipment for field service, for Calicut, where we arrived at 10 A. M. next morning, having marched 30 miles during the night. We embarked as soon as possible on board the Steamer "Thebes" which was waiting for us in the roads, and arrived at Cannanore the same night. The next morning, (5th,) we received orders from the Brigadier to disembark, as our services would not be required; and on the day following (yesterday 6th,) a Pattamar having been procured for us by the Commissariat, we again embarked and arrived the same (yesterday) evening at this station en route to Malliaporum.

I have nothing further to remark, except to express my regret deeply and strongly participated in by all under my command, that we had no opportunity afforded us of encountering the enemies of the State. I am certain the men would have done good service on account of the excellent spirit they have evinced, in a campaign for which their organization, training and equipment has eminently adapted them to distinguish themselves.

No reluctance whatever was expressed by them at leaving their own homes and country, for which I believe there is no precedent with the inhabitants of the inland country, and embarking on board ship, and no stipulations of any kind were attempted to be made by them regarding increase of pay, batta, pension, or anything that would interfere with their prompt movements. All their desire was that they should be under their own officers, and be brought as soon as possible into contact with the enemy. The most cheerful alacrity has been throughout evinced by all, and the only regret expressed has been at the order to return.

I would strongly recommend for favorable notice the individuals mentioned in the margin, by whose praiseworthy zeal and activity and individual incessant exertions, the labours of the single European Commissioned Officer have been rendered easy, a most excellent example has been set, and the difficulties of the march, embarkation and return surmounted, hitherto without a single misadventure.

No. 23.

ORDER THEREON, No. 562; dated 30th April 1858.

1. The Governor in Council learns with much gratification from the above letter, the ready and willing manner in which the Malabar Police Corps proceeded to North Canara on a requisition for their services from that place; and desires the Magistrate to convey to the members of that Corps, the acknowledgment of Government of the laudable spirit displayed by them on this occasion.

2. In reference to the suggestion that Government should present the men with Rupees 500 in aid of the cost of Hut building contained in para. 6 of the Magistrate's letter, it appears to the Governor in Council bad policy to reward men when they do nothing more than evince alacrity for the public service; and besides, a donation of so small a sum as that proposed by Mr. Robinson, Rupees 500, when distributed among the 120 men of the Corps would have a paltry effect. In consideration, however, of the Corps being organized for employment in Malabar only, a distribution of batta* will be proper, as in the case of the several Sibbundy Corps in the Northern Circars, when on service beyond the District frontiers. In the present instance the Government will give a month's batta to every man who joined the expedition.

*Rate of Batta.
Jemadar, per diem As... 4
Havildar, " " " 3
Naigues, " " " 2
Privates, " " " 1

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Malabar
I think the Magistrate's recommendation should be complied with. The people of that tract are, I know, a very lawless lot of men.
Malabar
The Magistrate's suggestion appears to me to be injudicious. It is bad policy to reward men for reward when they have done nothing more than evince alacrity for the public service. I have no objection to the suggestion.

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a sum as Rs 500 among
120 men or have but a
paltry effect.

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the signature & the

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& not to amount to an
actual confiscation of
them - Well.

Malabar

How soon we have
been taken by the
They should receive the
acknowledgment of
in their good spirit -

Well.

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Judicial Department.

N^o. 562

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Dated 30 April, 1858.

Read the following Letter from the
Acting Magistrate of Malabar.
(Here enter 9th April 1858 No 55.)

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Copy to Superintendent of Prison

* Rate of Bacteria.

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Naigues 389

Private

Copies to the Maj of Malabar } Dispt 3.
" Asst General
" Civil Auditor

D.F.L. 28/4/58.

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the cost of that building

men with Rs 500 in aid of
the cost of hut building

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question contained in para 6 of the

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B.F.L. 18/11/5-8

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employment in Malabar

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Baba - Malabar Police

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not go in circulation
again -

again -

25

Ne-Perputch 20/4

Judicial Letter to Eng.
7th Sept. 1858
P. 43.

Council

By Dy. Secy. 4th May
Judicial 1858 Department

No. 562

Extract Mins. Cons.

Dated 30th April 1858 -

Sept. 7/2 - 14.20 of 1860.

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17. Apr.
1858