

No. 1. Read the following Extract from the Minutes Consultation, Military Department, dated 27th April 1858, No. 1464.

Communicating correspondence respecting the rebels in North Canara, with particular reference to the proposition for the early formation of a Local Corps in that District and to the immediate provision of cover for the Troops at the several posts to be occupied during the monsoon. } (Vide Military Consultation, 27th April 1858, Nos. 183 and 184.)

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, No. 620; dated 12th May 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Magistrate of Canara, who will submit his views on the strength and composition of the Local Corps proposed to be formed for service in his District stating the rate of pay and other arrangements it would be necessary to make.

2. Mr. Fisher will also adopt measures for the immediate provision of cover to the Troops at the several posts which are to be occupied by them during the monsoon.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,  
*Chief Secretary.*

*Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 27th April 1858.*

*Read letter from the Adjutant General of the Army, Ootacamund, 19th April 1858, No. 589; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.*

I have the honor, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, to forward for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, copy of letter from the Officer Commanding Malabar and Canara dated 13th instant, No. 16, submitting correspondence respecting the Rebels in North Canara and giving the names and the strength of the several Out-posts which are to be kept up during the rains in the District—further representing the great want of Medical aid to the Out-posts alluded to.

Lieutenant General Sir P. Grant entirely coincides with Brigadier Fitzgerald, in the views he has expressed and His Excellency begs particular attention to that Officer's recommendation, concurred in by Mr. Fisher, for forming a local Corps for North Canara, : a Corps such as the Malabar Police Corps could not fail, His Excellency thinks, to be most serviceable.

Every exertion will be made to furnish Medical Assistance—Cover for the Native Troops at the several Posts should be provided by Government.

*From the Brigadier Commanding Malabar and Canara, Mangalore, 13th April 1858, No. 16; to the Adjutant General of the Army, Ootacamund.*

*From W. Fisher, Esq., Magistrate of Canara, dated Mullappoor, 3rd April 1858, posted to Cannanore and sent thence to Mangalore.*

I have the honor to transmit copy of document noted in the margin, and to submit the following in connection with and continuation of my Telegram of the 10th instant. After its despatch, intelligence was received that the Rebels in number from 30 to 40 with women and children and one of the brothers sick in a Dooley closely followed by the Sawantwarree locals, had doubled back out of the Warree States across the Goa frontier, this they have probably been forced to do to avoid immediate capture; the Goa frontier offers many hiding places but those who are on their track, know the ground as well as they do—all within our frontier in the Soopa Talook is now strongly occupied by numerous Detachments, where there was not a man on the first outbreak; confidence is being restored and the people are returning to their Villages. Mr. Fisher states that the people themselves are of opinion in which he concurs, that the Rebel's game is up.

2. Mr. Fisher however is of opinion, that to restore entire confidence as well as where necessary to overawe the disaffected as well as to have Troops on the spot after the rains if required, it is necessary that the Troops now in the District should remain during the Monsoon and has applied to Government for sanction as well as for the necessary expenses for building temporary Barracks for the men. The Civil Authorities are the best judges as to the feelings of the people. I can only give an opinion that the withdrawal of the Troops would probably be followed by the assembly of bands of robbers and from the time it takes to collect Troops in that quarter, it appears very desirable that they should be available at once if required immediately after the rains. The proposed posts and strength are as follows.

|                                                                        |   |                  |   |                      |     |                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------|---|----------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| ately after the rains. The proposed posts and strength are as follows. |   |                  |   |                      |     |                           |
| Hulliall Detachment 47th Regt. N. I. about Rank and File               |   |                  |   |                      | 66  | Officer unknown as yet.   |
|                                                                        |   |                  |   |                      | 150 | Commanded by Captain      |
| Jugglepett                                                             | " | 35th             | " | "                    | 100 | Walpole, 16th Regt. N. I. |
| Do.                                                                    | " | 16th             | " | "                    |     | as Senior Officer of the  |
|                                                                        |   |                  |   |                      |     | Madras Force.             |
|                                                                        |   |                  |   |                      | 100 | Commanded by Captain      |
| Diggy                                                                  | " | 35th             | " | "                    |     | Leggett, 35th Regiment.   |
|                                                                        |   |                  |   |                      | 100 | Commanded by Captain      |
| Yellapoor                                                              | " | 35th             | " | from Sircy           |     | Searle, 35th Regiment.    |
| Sircy                                                                  | " | 35th             | " | the remainder of the | 30  | A steady Native Officer.  |
|                                                                        |   |                  |   | old Detachment.      |     |                           |
|                                                                        |   |                  |   |                      | 90  | The Officer of 74th High- |
| Do.                                                                    | " | 74th Highlanders | " | "                    |     | landers as yet unknown.   |

\* The above posts for the Native Troops command all the roads and are well in connection forming a chain from E. to W. with Yellapoor and Sircy as reserves. The presence of the High-

landers at Sircy is considered to exercise a great moral influence and Mr. Fisher has agreed to give them ample accommodation by giving up the Talook Cutcherry. The great drawback I see at present to the above is the paucity of Medical Subordinates, considering the nature of the duty and climate (though I believe those parts are healthy on the rains fairly setting in) it will be absolutely necessary that each Detachment should have a Medical Attendant with 2 to spare in case of accidents. A party of the 16th Regiment N. I., of 40 men who were at Nugree in North Canara have 17 men with fever, a little rest will probably restore them. I have already applied to the Officer Commanding Bellary Division for the services of an Assistant Surgeon for the Company 74th Highlanders to be stationed at Sircy, who probably can be easily spared on the other two Companies returning to Bellary.

3. At present, exclusive of H. M.'s 74th Highlanders and including Apothecary Callaghan only now enroute to join these are, so far as I have received Returns only 2 Apothecaries (one of them sick by name White) and 1 Dresser with the Field Force. Total 3. Whereas for the above posts, I consider there ought to be at least 6 Medical Subordinates, being 2 spare in case of sickness and they cannot be replaced during the rains with an ample supply of Medicine, particularly Quinine.

I have to request you will kindly move His Excellency to take such steps as he may deem fit, for the immediate despatch of the number required. I may mention that \* Assistant Apothecary\* Phillips is in charge of a Company of the 3rd Regiment L. I. at Pootoor—he might be replaced by a Dresser; there are none available that I know of here or in Malabar and if otherwise they are a great distance off.

4. As there appears now no probability of any operations to the North calling for my presence and as except on emergency my being there at such a distance and out of the way from the Southern post of the Provinces, the most important portion of my Command causes much inconvenience if not injury to the Public Service; I propose with His Excellency's permission remaining here for some time when if nothing particular occurs, I shall return to my Head Quarters at Cannanore about the latter end of the month. The rains on this Coast set in about the middle of May.

5. In conclusion, I would beg to mention that it would appear very desirable that a permanent post of regular Troops should be established at Jugglepett as a central Commanding post at the head of the Ghants, through which a great traffic may be expected Mr. Fisher states, and keeping open the communication by Hullyall to Dharwar. Jugglepett has always been occupied in force during former disturbances in that part of the Country. Mr. Fisher also concurs with me that the formation of a purely local Corps from among the inhabitants of North Canara under European Officers would be most desirable, supported if necessary by regular Troops, they are from their knowledge of the Country by far the most effective Troops in putting down disturbances like the present.

*From the Magistrate of Canara, Mallapoor, 3rd April 1858; to the Brigadier Commanding Malabar and Canara.*

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th March on the subject of the despatch of Troops from Cannanore and Mangalore on my requisition of the 25th ultimo.

2. I trust that my express of the 1st instant may be in Major Hodson's hands in time, to prevent the embarkation of Troops from Mangalore, though I fear it could not possibly reach you before the "Thebes" sailed from Cannanore. Being anxious not to lose a moment which might put it out of Major Hodson's power to prevent the Troops being sent further than Mangalore, I did not keep the express in order to address you, but Major Hodson will no doubt as requested, have put you in possession of the intelligence on which my countermand was founded.

3. A small party of the 16th M. N. I., whom I had recalled from Yellapore (now occupied by 2 Companies of Her Majesty's 74th Highlanders) having arrived on the evening of the 31st ultimo, I proceeded during the night of the 1st in company with Lieutenant Taylor and Mr. Williams of H. C. S. V. Ponnah to meet Mr. Robinson in the neighbourhood of Aushi. At day light yesterday morning we fell in with Messrs. Robinson and Binny with Captain Leggatt and Ensign Reid and a Detachment of the 35th N. I., with which they had proceeded to this neighbourhood.

4. After a careful consideration of our present position and the arrangements necessary for the peace and security of the Country during the Monsoon, I recommended through the Chief Secretary to Government, that 1 Company of Her Majesty's 74th Highlanders should be sent to Sircy and all the Native Troops now in the Upper Country of North Canara should be retained for the posts noted in the margin, 2 of the 3 Companies of Highlanders being sent into Dharwar or such other quarter as the Government may determine.

5. It was necessary to propose these arrangements at once as the Native Troops must be huddled and something done probably at Sircy also, for the accommodation of the Highlanders, or in consequence of their occupying (as I propose) certain public buildings now in use.

6. The Rebel Chiefs have left this part of the Country for the time being and I hope permanently, for it is hardly likely that with Hanamanth Sawunt in a dying state and encumbered with their women and children the other brothers can contemplate a return, with such an active pursuit at their heels as Captain Schmider. It is very evident that their departure being known in the gangs ranging through the South of the Talook all doubled back, and have left the Country between Soopah and Aushi comparatively open. The retreat of the Insurgent Chiefs towards their own Country and the exercise by Mr. Robinson of the powers he holds under the Commission granted to him, seem to me to have at once had the most beneficial effect and I am in great hopes that we need be in no further anxiety as regards the peace of the District, if the Troops now in the Soopah Talook are well placed as circumstances may require, until the Monsoon commences, and then occupy the posts named above. Captain Taylor, your Brigade Major is I believe well acquainted with the Country we have to protect and with these positions.

7. It is understood, I must observe, that the Bombay Troops will hold the posts they now occupy in the Finny direction, thus securing the narrow slip of Country to the North of that Village; and the occupation of the other posts I have named will provide for the defence of the whole Country and its frontiers and give us the Command of the principal through the Talook.

8. For the accommodation of one Company of Highlanders at Sircy, I propose to give up the Talook Cutcherry, taking the present place of Arms for their use also as an \*Hospital both buildings are well known to Captain Taylor and the sites are excellent—by this plan a great amount of accommodation will be secured at a trifling cost, and further arrangements for a party of the present Native Detachment will be easy; for I propose only to retain a sufficient number of men for the necessary guards and to hold Yellapore with the rest of the Troops now at Sircy.

9. The moral effect of Europeans at this important post will be great and their presence will place at my disposal the present Sircy Detachment as well as the Native Troops now in Soopah.

10. With reference to para. 3 of your letter under acknowledgment, I fear that I cannot give any reply that will be satisfactory. I believe the strength of the Insurgents have been computed by those best able to judge, at from 200 to 500. These being composed of the family retainers and followers of the Sawunt and numerous adherents from this District Goa and perhaps the Bombay Country also.

11. It is impossible generally, I believe to distinguish them from the ruffians, who always collect together wherever there is a chance of plunder, but a party of them attacked one of our posts in a way that led the Native Officer defending it to suppose that there were Sepoys among them; the word of Command was given in English. Their tactics have been admirable. They have managed to cut off all the Tappals, and to keep the Country in such a state of terror, that all the Villages were deserted, and it was impossible to obtain information. Even here before my arrival, the better classes had removed their families to the Coast or into the Goa territory, and the poorer lived almost in the Jungle about their houses. For a week, I was unable to ascertain correctly what was going on within ten or twelve miles of Mallapoor. Traffic had ceased, and until yesterday I believe no Bullocks had descended the Aushi Ghaut for some weeks.

12. Confidence is now I hope being rapidly restored, and although our posts must be kept up and the whole Country overawed or protected, as circumstances may require, I trust that we shall be spared a further visit from any of the Sawunt family, and that if some Member of it

should escape the pursuing force, the exercise of sympathy will be far too dangerous to make it probable that he will meet with any supporters here.

13. In conclusion, I beg to state that I will take immediate steps to provide for landing the Troops Camp Equipage &c. &c. at Sedasheghur, in case my express of the 1st instant may not have reached Mangalore in time to prevent the despatch of the "Thebes."

This however I can hardly think possible.

Communicated to Judicial Department with particular reference to the proposition for the early formation of a local Corps in North Canara and to the immediate provision of cover for the Troops at the several posts to be occupied during the Monsoon.

(True Extract and Copies.)

*W. B. Smith*

Secretary to Government.

To the Adjutant General.

„ Quarter Master General.

„ Director General, Medical Department.

„ Judicial Department.

„ Military Auditor General.

„ Accountant General.

„ Civil Auditor.

„ *Sanitary General.*

*With 3 spare Copies Recd. 30th April 71*

N. 620

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 1858

Read the following Sub. Min.  
Cons. Military Dept.

(Here enter 2<sup>nd</sup> Min. 158-160 1464)

Ordered to be communicated  
to the Magistrate of Canara, who  
will submit his views on the  
strength and composition of the  
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rangements it would be  
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2. Mr Fisher will also  
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mediate provision of cover  
to the troops at the several  
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by them  
during the Monsoon.

*[Signature]*

Copy to Magistrate of Canara with M.C.  
" Military Dept. in the M.C.

Dispt. 15

C1374/1858

Sub. 8 Cons. 18 May.

1858 Sept

1858 Sept

1858 Sept

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1858 Sept

Communications are  
reported regarding the  
state in North Canara and  
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24/11/58  
12/11/58

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