

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	691	Press
	21-22	~~Mis.~~
Dated	27-8-1955	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 1st June 1858.

No. 21. Read the following letter from W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Civil Service ; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 26th May 1858.

SIR,

Under the orders of Government I have been proceeding with the enquiry into the conduct of certain Officers connected with the Police Commissioner's office, and with the Royapettah Magistrate's Court.

In the course of it, the Deputy Commissioner Ramachendra Row desired that Sheik Hussein formerly Jemadar of Police, and at present Inspector of a Police Division should be examined as an evidence in his defence, he having been present, when the examination of one witness (Gooroovadoo the barber) took place in the Police, from whom it was stated before the Magistrate it had in the Police been attempted to extort a false statement.

Colonel Colbeck objected to this man being examined as a witness for the defence, he being implicated in the charge so far as based on the deposition before him of Gooroovadoo, and Ramachendra Row then presented to me the accompanying protest, which I have the honor to submit for the orders of Government.

I have not considered it right to stop the enquiry without the orders of Government, as Colonel Colbeck and Mahomed Esoof strongly objected to any delay, and the latter addressed to me immediately the letter which I beg also to forward for the consideration of Government, and beg that I may be early informed of their wishes.

I shall continue the enquiry until I am ordered to stop it, or have carried it to such an extent, as I consider necessary under the original orders.

P. S.—I need scarcely perhaps say that I in any case shall myself take the several Police Officers' statements of what occurred at the examination of the witness in question. They evidently however cannot legally be examined as witnesses for the defence one of another.

(Signed) W. H.

From MAHOMED ESOOF ; to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., dated 26th May 1858.

SIR,

The Deputy Commissioner of Police Ramachendra Row, I have the honor to state has dragged me forward staining my character by charges abhorrent to me, and which charges I am prepared most fully and triumphantly to refute if the present enquiry is proceeded with. Indeed I feel convinced so far as the enquiry has gone, I have already done so, this I trust is evident to you.

My accuser evidently now sees the mistake he has made and the disgraceful failure awaiting him, therefore he requests this enquiry may stop and another tribunal be referred to.

Sir, can you permit this? I respectfully submit that it would be an act of cruelty and injustice after I have opened the *whole* line of my *defence* to his penetrating eye to shift the enquiry to any other authority.

If my accuser pauses now, I look to you and to a protecting and generous Government for an acquittal for myself which he virtually puts in by his own proceeding.

PROTEST BY RAMACHENDRA ROW

As I am not allowed to refute the accusations brought against me, by going into a full examination of those witnesses I am able to produce, they being Police Officers, only because it is considered they are implicated in the same charges brought against me, and as I must decline going into my defence in detail, I appeal to Mr. Hudleston for protection. I beg him to refer this case as it now stands to the Law Officers of Government through the usual channel for opinion and disposal.

I am desirous of being placed in a position to enter on my defence in a lawful and to me satisfactory manner, the present is not so.

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 1st June 1858.

I have honor, situation, position in life, and all that a man holds dear at stake, and this I trust Mr. Hudleston and the Government will take into consideration.

26th May 1858.

(Signed) T. RAMACHENDRA ROW,
Deputy Commissioner of Police.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON.

No. 22.

ORDER THEREON, No. 691; dated 27th May 1858.

Resolved that Mr. Hudleston be requested to inform Ramachendra Row that he is not now on his trial, and that the present inquiry is only preliminary, with a view to ascertain whether there are grounds for further proceedings. If any such should be taken against him, he will then have ample opportunity for making his defence and for cross examining the witnesses to such extent as he may deem fit. Meanwhile it will be open to him to give any explanation which he may think proper to offer, of his conduct in the matter now under investigation.

2. Mr. Hudleston will as intimated in the postscript to his letter take from Sheik Hoossein and from the other Police Officers statements of what occurred on the occasion referred to. Any questions which Ramachendra Row may wish to ask of Sheik Hoossein or of the others he will communicate to Mr. Hudleston, who will use his discretion as to whether they should be put or not.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

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Memo.

I have had some conversation with Mr. Hudleston on this subject. I would be too long to repeat all that he has told me. He recommends that Ramachendra Row be informed that he is not now on his trial - that the inquiry is merely preliminary - having to ascertain whether there are grounds for further proceedings - that if any should be taken against him he will then have ample scope for making his defence & for cross examining the witnesses as much as he thinks fit. Meanwhile

he is at liberty to give any explanation
of his conduct in the matter under
investigation which he may think
proper
fit -

Mr H. would also as noted in his
P.S. letter from Sheikh Hossain - as
from the other Police Officers - a state-
ment of what occurred on the
occasion in question - and he would
then allow Ram Chandra to ^{ask} put
questions to Sheikh Hossain there with
himself and would use his discretion whether
the proposed questions should be put
or not - He thinks that is the present

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saying it is not desirable to allow
Ram Chandra to put questions except under
this check - & from what he has told
me I agree with him -

As for Mr Colburn's note to me
he ought to know well enough that
he cannot act upon it - He might
be told to write officially & explain
himself and put forward then decide
on what was to be done -

27/5/57

I quite approve.

At My Sonnet

See why let Colbeck the interfere in the
matter at all. There is no enquiry into
his conduct sent merely into those of his
interpreter & of the Dep't. Supt. of Police

Why is Mr Colbeck present -
I was in Mr P. Mason

Vill

No 691.

Extracts from: of Cons. of 27 May 1858.

Read the following letter from

From Mr Huddleston 26 May 1858

A
M

M. d.

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ton be requested to inform
Ran Chandra Low
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and for cross exami-
ning his witnesses, &

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such extent as he
may deem fit. I mean
- write it will be
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any explanation which
he may think proper
to offer, of his conduct
in the matter now under
- the investigation -

2 Mr Huddleston will
as intimated in the
postscript to his letter
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occurred on the occa-
- sion referred to - being
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Hoossein or of the other

he will communicate
to Mr Huddleston who
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as to whether they
should be put on
not

Mr Huddleston Disps 27th

JPS

817th May 1853 44-43-50.
825th May 44-16-59-59-59.
44-33-54.

Obd 12 9th 44-13-7-10-00
4/2 of 1853. 44-14.

In 24 June 1853 done
Judicial 1853 44-14-15

No 691

Extract Mins of Court

4/27th May

Fr C. 2nd June 1853 44-35-56.