

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Indiv DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	566.67	Press
		Mis.
40-42		
Dated	26-4-1918	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 29th April 1859.

No. 40. Read the following letter from J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Joint Magistrate of Canara ; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 10th April 1859, No. 176.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of Government, that on receipt, the day before yesterday, of intelligence, that Bastian's gang had re-appeared in the Woolvi jungles, I at once started for that locality, from which I now write.

2. Since the foray of the 5th Instant already reported, the gang had given no indication, so far as my information went, of their subsequent movements, and the general supposition was, that they had beaten a retreat across the Goa border. On the morning of the 7th however, as the Yellapoor Moonsiff was travelling with a considerable retinue towards Goa, his party were attacked by the gang, who fired into them, wounding a Peon and one of the bearers.

3. Having put the party to flight, these outlaws did not follow up the attack, but betook themselves to the neighbouring forests, where it is supposed they are still lurking.

4. My arrival here is scarcely known yet, nor have I had time to collect intelligence, but in the meantime I am actively engaged organising a "Shetsundy" Corps, which I propose amalgamating with the regular Police and breaking up into parties of 25, to scour the jungle and cut off, if not already effected, the enemy's retreat across the Goa border.

5. To give me as large a disposable force, as can be mustered, for this special service, the ordinary Police have been withdrawn from the Yellapoor Cusba and this place, and Military guards substituted.

6. To complete the cordon, the Soopa Police, augmented by about 50 Shetsundies, will move down from the north and west so as to hem the gang in from that direction and be ready to make a combined movement with my men on any part of the jungle where the enemy may be ascertained to have taken up position.

7. The results of any combination however skilful are in a country such as this very doubtful, but still I am not without hopes of coming across the gang, if, as is generally supposed, they are still located in this neighbourhood.

8. There being no Shetsundy Enams in this District, or other consideration giving a title to gratuitous service of this kind, I have promised the 100 men whom I am now enrolling regular pay at the rate of 5 Rupees per mensem each during such time as they may be employed.

9. The urgent necessity of the case must be my apology for acting in this matter on my own responsibility, and in anticipation of the sanction of Government.

10. On the spot, and personally conducting operations, I shall have a care that I get money's worth in hard-fie service, and will disband them the moment their aid can be safely dispensed with. I have a courteous letter from the Governor General of Goa promising me every assistance in his power, but although I doubt not His Excellency's personal sympathy in the cause of good order, all past experience teaches me to distrust the agency through which he has to work.

11. There is I am ready to acknowledge, a certain delicacy and reticence looked for when officially commenting on the policy of a friendly power.

12. The principle was in fact strained to the utmost, throughout last year's relations with the Goa Government, when specious words and professions were on more occasions than one found to cover rank perfidy and bad faith.

13. If such forbearance however is again to create out of a mere robber inroad, a political crisis such as that we have just passed through, the time has come for plain speaking, and ascertaining what the Goa Government can do and will do for us.

14. As it is, these outlaws have returned to us from their haunts on the other side of the border, well provided with fire-arms and ammunition, a fact which I can only account for by supposing that they are, as is openly rumoured here, secretly aided and encouraged by Deepoo Rana and others even whose complicity has not the same excuse. I have not yet heard what has been done towards introducing into this District the new system of Police, but I need not point to past and present experiences to prove that even if financial considerations forbid the experi-

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 29th April 1859.

ment being made in all its integrity, the measure should at least be brought into early operation in this Talook and along the eastern frontier of the Balaghat division.

15. The semi-military organization of the Belgaum and Dharwar Police places my Division at a very great disadvantage, as the turbulent spirits of both Districts find a natural outlet from the pressure within across the border, where the Police is too feeble to dispute the passage, and the country offers a tempting covert and asylum.

16. With from 400—500 men judiciously distributed through this and the frontier portion of the Division, I feel assured we should have a force sufficient for every purpose detective and preventive and should be independent for the future of all military and other extraneous aid.

P. S.—Since writing the above, a report has reached me, from which I find, that on the 8th a collision took place between the gang and the Police, where two of the former were killed and two of the latter were wounded, one slightly, the other dangerously.

Prior to the skirmish, the village Punsoli, had been partially burned down and a boy murdered.

I am just starting by night march to the scene of the encounter.

No. 41.

ORDER THEREON, No. 566; dated 26th April 1859.

The Government authorize the Shetsundies being paid at the rate of (5) five Rupees a month; and as an encouragement to spirited exertion on their part, they may be informed that those who distinguish themselves in the capture or destruction of the Bund will be permanently employed in the new Constabulary force.

2. It is not considered desirable to maintain a permanent independent organization of a frontier Police. The Constabulary force ought to be so constituted as to put down marauders and protect the well disposed in every part of the Madras Presidency whether in the interior or on the frontier.

3. A further remonstrance will be addressed to the Governor General of Goa, founded on the additional facts reported in Mr. Robinson's letter. His Excellency will be informed that the destruction of the lives and property of Her Majesty's subjects by Brigands issuing from, and protected in, the territory of Goa cannot be tolerated, and that the Government of Goa will be held responsible for all the losses so occasioned.

4. Mr. Robinson will be so good as to number the paragraphs in his letters.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 42. To His Excellency General Viscount de TORRES NOVAS, Governor General of the Portugues Settlement in India, &c., &c., &c., dated Fort Saint George, 26th April 1859, No. 567.

MOST EXCELLENT AND ILLUSTRIOUS SIR,

Since I had the honor of addressing your Excellency under date the 12th Instant, I have received a further letter from Mr. Robinson the Joint Magistrate of Canara, reporting more outrages committed by the gang of marauders under Sidi Bastian.

2. From this I learn that, on the morning of the 7th Instant, as the Yellapoor Moonsiff was travelling with a considerable retinue towards Goa, his party were attacked by the gang, who fired into them, wounding a Peon and one of the bearers.

3. On the next day the 8th Instant, the village of Punsoli was partially burnt down, and a boy was murdered.

4. Mr. Robinson writes—"These outlaws have returned to us from their haunts on the other side of the border, well provided with fire-arms and ammunition, a fact which I can only account for, by supposing that they are, as is openly rumoured here, secretly aided and encouraged by Deepoo Rana and others."

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 29th April 1859.

5. It is impossible that this Government can continue to submit to the destruction of the lives and property of Her Majesty's subjects by Brigands issuing from the Goa frontier and returning thither for protection after they have perpetrated these outrages.

6. The Madras Government calls upon your Excellency to take effectual steps to co-operate with Mr. Robinson in bringing this gang to speedy and exemplary justice, for which purpose it is indispensably necessary that he should be able to follow them up to their places of refuge in the Goa territory.

7. I depend upon receiving from your Excellency a satisfactory earnest of your intention to prevent the Goa Territory from being made the cause of further serious annoyance to that portion of Her Majesty's dominions which is under my Government.

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.

Ed. F. Carledge.

Con to London via

M. 567.

S.D.

General Vicar of Torres Novas
His Excellency, the Governor General of the
Portuguese Indian Settlements in India

Most Excellent Illustrissimo Sir,

Since I had the honor of
addressing your Excellency
under date the 12th inst,
I have received a few.

- the letter from Mr. Robin-
son the Joint Magistrate
of Canara, reporting
more outrages commit-
-ted by the Gang of
murderers under Sidi
Kastan -

2. From this I learn
that, on the morning
of the 7th inst, as the
Yellapora Mooniff
was travelling with a
considerable retinue

low and Go, his party
was attacked by the
Gang, who fired into
them, wounding a person
and one of the horses.

3. On the next day the
village of Puntol
was partially burnt
down, and a boy was
murdered -

4. Mr Robinson writes
" These outlaws have been
" - turned to us from
" their haunts on the other
" side of the border, well
" provided with fire arms,
" and ammunition, &
" fuel which I can only
" account for, by supposing
" that they are in open
" communication, sent
" - by aid & encouraged
" by Deepoo Rana & others"
5. Mr Robinson when he
was in the district

5 It is impossible
that this Government
can continue to
submit to the
destruction of the
lives and property
of Her Majesty's
Subjects by Brigands
springing from the
border frontier and
returning
thither for protection
after they have
perpetrated these
outrages.

6 The Madras
Government calls
upon you
to take ~~the~~
effectual steps
to cooperate with
Mr Robinson in
crushing this Gang

engaged in organizing
a Thetianah Corps, with
whom, and with the
Police Station at
Puntol, is a long
distance, and to
send the police to
the side of the
border, he has also to
provide for cutting off
the whole of the
communication for border
6. Mr Robinson however
expressed that the whole
of the communication
and had been organi-
zing men to do
doubtful - and
recalling that I
had been in the
country to put a stop
to the present state
of things - and
the fact is that
cannot but be

~~after being taken for
protection after the
perpetration of the
crimes.~~

I depend
upon receiving ~~it~~
from you
excellency or
satisfactory earnest
of your intention
~~to have it done~~
~~in the most~~
to prevent

G. Mordaunt
- Stirling - I have been
- to you & others.
- early
to & your cooperation
all the members for
the suppression of
the slave trade. I
have also a book at
my disposal.

Copy to Mr Robinson. 1877

with good effect by
your Excellency
during the past
year, the British
may receive pleasure
- in the knowledge
for country, in the
- spirit of the gang, &
to follow them up to
their place of refuge
wherever that may
be.

be.

