

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 676

Press

~~Mis~~

36-37

Dated

16-5-1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled

698/12/1848

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
from 11th to 17th May 1859.*

No. 36. Read the following letter from J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Commissioner of North Canara; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Camp Bunawassi, 7th May 1859, No. 225.

1. I have the honor to report for the information of Government, that Lieutenant Drever, having closed his accounts in the Department of Public Works, will, in obedience to recent instructions, proceed to-day to the Soopa Districts, to conduct, in concert with the Belgaum and Portuguese authorities, operations for the suppression of disturbances in those parts.

2. I have had several interviews with Lieutenant Drever, during which the present posture of matters and plan of future operations have been fully discussed.

3. Every report tends to confirm my belief that the gang have made good their retreat across the Goa border and are once more in their old haunts in the Sattri Mahal country.

4. If this be the case, Tinnie will become the most convenient point from which to watch the further movements of the gang, and being itself a Military Station and within easy call of the Belgaum and Portuguese out-posts, the facilities for making a combined and well-matured attack from all sides on their strong-hold wherever that may be, are very considerable.

This I have explained to Lieutenant Drever, who will accordingly make the frontier arrangements his first consideration.

5. The monsoon is now at hand and among the first things to be seen to, is the location of Police guards at all the points now occupied as Military out-posts.

This will have Lieutenant Drever's immediate attention, and I have suggested that if possible the arrangements be completed in time to admit of the men of the 51st Regiment Native Infantry returning to their respective Head Quarters at Jugglebett and Tinnie, about the middle of the month.

6. A Shetsundy levy, to be thoroughly useful, should only be employed within the range of country with which it is acquainted; should therefore the frontier become the scene of operations, it may become necessary to pay up and disband the greater part of the levy raised and employed in the central portion of the Talook, replacing them with men from the border hamlets.

This may be done without the smallest breach of good faith, as the men perfectly understand that they are only entertained from day to day as their service is required, and will in fact, now that the cultivating season is at hand, be only too glad to take their discharge and return to their homes and ordinary pursuits.

This is a matter on which Lieutenant Drever may exercise his own discretion and the only limit placed on him is that the Shetsundy element in the Police force about to be organized by him do not exceed the strength, 100, sanctioned by Government.

7. The gang if still within the British frontier continue quite inactive, nor has any thing been heard of them since the 18th of last month. I note the circumstance with satisfaction as it clearly indicates that the measures taken have been successful, so far as the protection of the country is concerned, and that these bandits are disheartened at the reception they have met-with from their fellow villagers on this side of the frontier.

8. My proposition regarding the Soopah Police is now before the Chief Commissioner, who will doubtless bring it under the consideration of Government at an early date.

It is necessarily most imperfect, as it halts half way between the old and new systems.

9. The presence on the spot of a Superintendent, who is likewise a Military man, brings with it many reforms incompatible with the old system, and yet as I read the resolutions of Government the partial application of the new system to isolated tracts is not considered advisable.

Until these doubts and incongruities have been removed, Lieutenant Drever's mission cannot be turned to full account, and I therefore venture to express my hope that Government will favor me at an early date with their specific instructions on all points connected with the constitution and management of the Police force they may be pleased to sanction for employment in the disturbed localities.

No. 37.

ORDER THEREON, 16th May 1859, No. 676.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

25 of 1859

Camp Dunawasi ^{F-2} 7th May
1859.

From

J. D. Robinson Esqre
Commissioner of North Canara

To

J. Pycroft Esqre
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George

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I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

L. C. M.
Commissioner

For of 4000 14 May
June 2 1839 Depts

From

J. W. Robinson & Co

Comd. R. of
Charles Lawrence

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