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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Jail DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 790 Press
57-52

Dated 8th June 1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 11. Read the following letter from J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Commissioner of Nellore, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Camp Cavelly, 30th May 1859, No. 222.

1. I regret to report that the most grave disturbance on our frontier jungles and have plundered and burned down 3 more small hamlets named Mylapy and Kudiki on the Gundlacum.

2. The circumstances under which the gang have made this fresh demonstration after a period of 2 weeks' tranquillity seem to be these—

3. On or about the 1st instant, it came suddenly to the knowledge of one Lumbadee Chenchi of Lottapilly, a village of Gundlacum, that Bairee and another of the gang were at that time in a house in that village.

4. With the assistance of another villager, Lumbadee Chenchi surrounded the house and managed to capture Bairee, whose companion however effected his escape.

5. Bairee's name had figured prominently in three enterbatteries, and Rupees 100 had been offered by me for his apprehension.

6. No sooner therefore had the news of the capture been communicated to the gang by fugitives from the village than they made immediate reprisals on a contiguous hamlet named Yerrakondapalem, and murdered 4 of the principal inhabitants, of whom one has since died, and burnt part of their houses.

7. About 12 P. M. 2 days after this fresh escape, information was brought by a villager to Lumbadee Chenchi, who then happened to be at Tarlupad, that the gang were then in the jungles of Allagadda Cumbum hamlet on the Nunjai side of the border and not far from Tarlupad.

8. An expedition was immediately planned and undertaken, and on the 10th, Lumbadee Chenchi's party came upon eight of the gang but unfortunately not before they had taken alarm and were completely fled.

9. Lumbadee Chenchi's party gave chase as long as he had a man with him and only abandoned the pursuit when he had lost all trace of them in the forest antagonists.

10. On the 26th, a 2nd expedition was made when the whole of the neighbouring jungle were scoured for 3 consecutive days without success.

11. On the very day (the 26th) Lumbadee Chenchi left for the 2nd expedition, the gang returned to Yerrakondapalem hamlet and after having driven the villagers of Mylapy and Kudiki out of it, encamped in the Lumbady direction.

12. Lumbadee Chenchi's unflagging zeal in the execution of duty thus subjected him to injustice and loss, and I have pleasure in drawing the attention of the Inspector General of the Police Battalion and Levy Establishments to the manner in which he conducted the present undertaking.

13. I have also had great hopes that Lumbadee Chenchi's energetic and persevering exertions would have ensured the early and exhaustive search of the jungles, but the sudden withdrawal of the Police Battalion from Nellore on the 28th ultimo, the day on which the reward of Rupees 100 was immediately paid by me to Lumbadee Chenchi, has now thrown the whole of the jungles open, and I propose proceeding with Lumbadee Chenchi for the present, as he alone is capable of the requisite exertion for the capture of the gang.

14. The Police force has not as far as I can learn left Nellore, and I do not see how it can be spared for the present, as the whole of the Police Battalion is required for the performance of the ordinary duties.

15. Lumbadee Chenchi's movements and those of Bairee to date in regard to have taken notice.

16. The two chiefs of the gang and their men have been declared enemies to the community by proclamation of Government, and I have therefore been compelled to offer nothing to any person but the Rupees 100 reward on the Bairee and Bairee's head for the head of the chief and a reward to the Police of those Rupees.

17. Under these circumstances I have proposed to the Collector and Agent for the Government and have also myself to be responsible for the payment of the rewards and damages sustained on the Nellore and Cuddapah side, and I trust that my proceedings in this matter will be approved by Government.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, from 1st to 10th June 1852.

12. I have not yet received answers from Messrs. Seton, Kastel & Ogilvy, to the reference, but trust they may be able to assist me to the extent specified.

20. Neither telegram nor letters announcing the enrolment of the appointment reached Lieutenant Blundell who arrived here on the morning of the 20th, in obedience to original instructions.

21. Lieutenant Blundell was bringing with him a Jemadar and six Duffadars of the Corps, who should reach Honore about this time.

22. Lieutenant Blundell is now on his way back to Mulnad, but thinking it desirable to have his services to some account, and these being the very description of men we are most in need, I requested him to let them come on here and proposed retaining them with the consent of Government for a time to drill the Recruits we are now raising.

23. Lieutenant Dewar has been requested to employ them immediately in whatever way he may find them most useful.

24. On the Coorg side of the frontier there is much real activity.

25. A number of outposts has been established along the line of frontier and several flying columns are in readiness for offensive purposes.

26. I propose starting for Soopa in a day or two, where I shall take every opportunity of reporting on the posture of matters, as I then find them.

No. 33 ORDER thereon, 8th June 1852, No. 770.

The Government approve the proceedings of the Commissioner as reported in the above letter.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Sir.
Your most obedient Servant
L. Dalton Major
Commissioner

Soopa.
The foil explains the previous Diary of the Commissioner in Soopa
Left on the above date
Left Soopa June 10th

Ent. R. Catalogue