M.R.O. 1—88,060—16-10-29.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1175 Press Mis:-

81-83

Dated 12 5— 1988

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***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,*
*12th September* 1860.

Read the following papers:—

No. 81. To His Excellency the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George,
&c., &c., &c.

The humble Petition of PARAPOORATHOO RAMEN MANAVEN, a Subadar of the Malabar Police Corps, stationed at Malapooram.

Most respectfully Sheweth,

That your Excellency's humble Petitioner addressed many petitions to your Excellency in Council, on the 10th April and 23rd March, stating that he was unjustly suspended from his office in the said Corps on the 15th October 1859, and that *he* is now residing in Madras almost destitute of his daily necessaries, while his *family* suffers the same privations at home: but to his utter regret, no answer or order whatever has as yet been granted to the Petitioner.

As his pay was the only means of support for himself and family, and he is of a respectable family that was dependent upon the Government alone for their maintenance, and as it is now upwards of 6 months since he came to Madras which is more than 500 miles from his nativity, your Excellency's poor Petitioner most humbly craves your Excellency will be graciously pleased to inquire into the Petitioner's case and afford him redress and thereby enable him to pass his livelihood honorably as he had been wont to do.

For which act of benevolence and philanthrophy the Petitioner will always pray to the Supreme Disposer of all events, for your Excellency's health, wealth and prosperity.

*24th May* 1860. രാമൻമേനവൻ

No. 1585 of 1860.
Referred to the Magistrate of Malabar for his remarks.
By Order.
(Signed) L. FORBES,
*Dy. Secy. to Govt.*

Fort Saint George,
*4th July* 1860.

No. 82. From Lieutenant C. G. BLOMFIELD, Commandant Malabar Police Corps, to L. FORBES, Esq., Deputy Secretary to Government, Madras, dated Mallapuram, 2nd May 1860, No. 50.

I. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 29th ultimo, of two copies of a petition, purporting to have been addressed to Government on the 10th February last, by a suspended Subadar of the Malabar Police Corps, named Ramen Manaven, complaining of having been unjustly dismissed, and praying to be re-instated.

II. If this man had had any reasonable cause of complaint at the time of his suspension, his natural course would have been to have laid it before the Magistrate of Malabar, the Commandant's immediate superior, who resides at Calicut, not far from Mallapuram, and to whom the report of the suspension was made at the time. Why go to Madras, and why suffer three months to elapse before sending in a petition at all?

III. The fact is, that the man absconded to evade justice, and that, were he to meet his deserts, he would be now in the Calicut Jail. He has given me constant trouble ever since I joined the Corps, as neglect of duty, intemperance, and latterly so much in debt that he did not know where to turn; and it was only by my constant presence and assistance that he escaped being arrested. It was this fact of insolvency, which, I believe, drove him to the commission of the crime with which he is charged, (on the evidence of both Nairs and Moplahs, his confederates) of having invited others to rob houses in the vicinity of the station, and of the truth of which there is not a shadow of doubt.

IV. When the matter first came under my notice, I felt it my duty to suspend him, although I gave him every opportunity of refuting the charges, and even allowed him to take copies of the evidence (which fact he has ignored in his petition,) and to be at large, until, when matters began to look very black against him, and I had no resource but to arrest him, he was found to have disappeared. The so-called petition, endorsed with my hand-writing, was not a petition, but a defence, against the charges made against him, and was all he had to offer.

V. The fact of his holding a Commission as an Officer, (although not subject to the Articles of War) together with his previous good character as Menaven for many years, and a certain reputation for courage, made me anxious to befriend him as far as possible—but I submit to Government, that when serious charges of such a nature sustained by evidence, are brought against an Officer, the best I could do, for the credit of the Corps which I command, was to suspend him until he could clear himself.

VI. The insinuations against my private character, which this petition is made the means of conveying to the ear of Government, are mean, cowardly and false. I have thought it right, however, to forward one of the petitions with my reply, and the documentary evidence against the Subadar, to Mr. Robinson, and the other to Mr. Grant, the Magistrate of Malabar, who will no doubt submit his opinion to Government on the merits of the case and the evidence recorded, and the propriety or otherwise of the man's dismissal from Government employ.

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From P. GRANT, Esq., Magistrate of Malabar, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Calicut, 21st July 1860, No. 50.

**Herewith returned with the appended remarks from Lieutenant Blomfield.*

I have received the Petition* addressed to Government by Rama Menon, a dismissed Subadar of the late Malabar Police Corps, and the remarks made on the same by Lieutenant Blomfield in his capacity of Commandant of that Corps.

2. It may be premised that, in cases happening between the men of the Corps, in view to the due maintenance of the internal economy and discipline of that body, the Commandant and Adjutant were invested by Government, under Act IV of 1847, with the powers of Joint Magistrate. Under those provisions, the case of the Subadar was tried by the Commandant and Adjutant, the former Officer deemed it expedient to suspend the Subadar during the examination, until he cleared himself of the charges, and it seems that he disappeared from the stage, and was not heard of until the Petition addressed by him to Government was received by Lieutenant Blomfield.

3. No complaint was ever preferred to me by the Subadar, nor was any Petition received from him, and a perusal of the evidence recorded before the Commandant and Adjutant against him is sufficient to account for his non-appearance, exclusive of the fact that the Civil Authorities also were on his track in connection with the same case of burglary.

4. It was a mistake in the first instance not to commit the Subadar at once to the Criminal Court, but when a man of his position is arraigned on such a serious charge as house breaking, some excuse may be pleaded for the delay.

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No. 83. ORDER THEREON, 12th September 1860, No. 1,175.

Petitioner will be informed that the Government have received reports from the Commandant and the Magistrate, detailing the circumstances of the case, and that they decline to interfere in his behalf.

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

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Order thereon 12 September 1860. No 1175.

Read the following paper

Petition from P. Rama Menon
a Subadar of the Malabar Police Corps (H. E. 24 May 1860. No
From the Collector of Malabar — 21 July — No
Order. Thereon. — 12 Sept 1860 No

It is to be informed that the Govt have received reports from the Commandant & the Magte, detailing the circumstances of the case, and that they decline to interfere in his behalf —

J. P. K. F.

To Parapanattoo Ramen Menon
Subadar
late Police of Malabar.

Dispd 17th

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No. 83. ORDER THEREON, 12th September 1860, No

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(Signe

Exd. F. Cartledge.