

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 737

79-82

Press

~~Mis.~~

Dated

27-5-19/85

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
from 18th to 27th May 1859.

Read the following papers.

No. 79. From W. ROBINSON, Esq., Chief Commissioner of Mofussil Police; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 9th May 1859, No. 18.

With reference to Mr. Fisher's report dated 14th April, on the subject of the frontier Police of Canara, I have the honor to observe that the Government ruled under date the 26th Ultimo, in Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 566, Judicial Department, that "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."

2. The Constabulary to be constituted under the Act may be trained and instructed to perform any requisite duty, from the service of a summons to the Executive of those duties belonging to a body of Light Irregulars, according to the circumstance in which they are to be placed. Duty in some degree of the latter character is required of the portion of the Police in two of the Talooks of North Canara, and with this view a part of its general Police, must be reorganized without delay.

3. But instead of constituting a mere frontier semi-military cordon, as proposed by Mr. Fisher, I would at once re-constitute the entire Police of 4 Northern Talooks and put it on a Constabulary footing. This will be more effective, give greater confidence and be the cheaper in the long run.

4. The Joint Magistrate is already engaged in re-organizing his Police under the sanction of the Government and I have his organization in view while I write.

* 1 Serjeant @. ... 14 0 0 5. It were better and more convenient
1 Do. @... 10 8 0 to retain the accepted constitution of the force
13 Privates @ 7-6 & 5½ Rs. respectively. formed into Sections as per margin:

* With horse allowance @ 6 Rs. per mensem.

The proportion of Non-Commissioned Officers is good and a couple of well-paid mounted Inspectors would be quite sufficient to handle 6 or 8 such Sections, located over the country.

6. The disposition of the force must be left to the judgment of the Local Officers for the present, keeping in view the general principles that every part of the country is to be kept under daily and close observation and that the Constabulary is to maintain the most intimate relation with the Village Police, and further, that constant communication is to be kept up throughout the country. Patroles of two and two will probably be found the best at first.

7. The force required in North Canara cannot be estimated by me without close local examination. The force now present in the adjoining District of Dharwar, where the Police administration is admitted to be in a condition that does not, at all events, tempt or challenge the ill disposed into lawlessness is given in the following statement.

Area square miles.	Population.	Force in 1858.			Ratio of Force.	
		Disciplined and armed.	Undisciplined Police	Total.	To area.	To population.
6254	7,54,385	697	200	897	1 to 6.9 square mile.	1 to 841
Add Horse Police				50		
Total... 949						

8. The ratio is higher than I think would be required even in North Canara. But it is worthy of notice that the Police force of the Dharwar District has been much more than doubled* and vastly increased in efficiency since 1855, to keep pace with the sadly patent requirements of the country; while on our side

of the frontier, the Police has remained stationery and utterly unorganized amidst circumstances claiming equally vigorous measures.

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9. The internal state of North Canara during the last two years makes the employment of 25 horse on the frontier an almost indispensable provision towards restoring confidence and tranquillity. At Head Quarters it would be desirable for a couple of years to keep a reserve of three Sections or so to meet emergencies with men in high practice in the use of their arms.

10. The character of weapon to be supplied to the Constabulary has already been decided upon. It will thoroughly answer all useful purposes in Canara. I would venture to remark generally that the Rifle, as recommended by Mr. Fisher, is not a suitable weapon for Constabulary. The use of this fine but delicate weapon is learnt very slowly and skill cannot be maintained without constant practice at Head Quarters under European Officers. After a couple months of detachment duty, scarcely a man of any Section would be a really good shot. This is the constant experience of the Rifle armed Malabar Police Corps. Very little serves to put a Rifle out of order and if not in the highest order, this delicate piece is less useful than a much coarser and smooth bored weapon.

11. I would no more think of the Coorg knife for the Canara Constabulary than of the Malabar knife for the Malabar Police.

12. I am informed by the Joint Magistrate that a very good local material for a fair proportion of the required force will be obtained on the spot without recourse to Coorg or to the expedient suggested in para. 12 of Mr. Fisher's letter.

13. With reference to Mr. Fisher's wish that the Officer in Command be entrusted with the powers of a Magistrate, I am satisfied that it will be desirable as a general rule to make the Officer Commanding the Constabulary in each District, a Magistrate within his range, and should His Excellency the Governor-in-Council resolve to appoint an Officer to Canara, I would consider that these powers were indispensable, but the utmost jealousy must be observed in limiting the exercise of those powers to Executive Police duty, or the out-door mind so essential to a Constabulary Officer will be lost in office details and judicial investigations. He cannot assist the Joint Magistrate in the manner contemplated by Mr. Fisher, though the powers in question would enable him to act within his own proper functions with great promptness and vigor.

P. S.—Since the above was written, Mr. Robinson's detailed propositions, have been received.

No. 80. From W. ROBINSON, Esq., Chief Commissioner of Mofussil Police; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 9th May 1859, No. 19.

1. I have the honor to submit the proposals of the Joint Magistrate of Canara for the re-organization of the Police in the District of North Canara on the Dharwar and Goa frontier and within the Talooks of Soopa and Peishkary of Hallyal.

2. His estimate is as follows:

Area in square miles.	Population.	Proposed Force.		Ratio of Force.	
		No. of men.	Cost amount.	To area.	To population.
1,200	48,000	350	23,394	1 to 3.42	1 to 137

3. He proposes to divide the country into 7 ranges, each containing an average of 200 square miles.* Each Section will have 3 or 4 out-stations. The force proposed for each Section is 50 men, who will furnish the out-posts with sufficient guards according to circumstances.

4. As stated in my letter of this day's date, I consider that it will be better to place the entire Police of Soopa, Soonda, Yellapoor and Bilighi Talooks (beginning with the former) on a Constabulary footing. Were this done, I do not think that so strong a force as that proposed will be required along the frontier.

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	Area.	Pop.
* Soopah and Yellapoor..	1,713	77,394
Soondah..	795	74,145
Bilighi..	236	30,649
Total..	2,744	1,82,188

5. The area and population of these 4 Talooks are shewn in the marginal statement,* and I find that the Police Peons (exclusive of Revenue Peons present in each Talook) number as many as 336 at a cost of Rupees 19,936 per annum. Were the existing force placed on a Constabulary footing, this number would give a ratio of one man to 8.1 square miles, and to 545 of the population. It might not in the long run be necessary to add more than 200 to 250 men to complete the Constabulary establishment of the 4 Talooks, and I hope that Mr. Robinson's first levies may safely be kept within the lesser number for the immediate requirement of the frontier. He has however to deal with a disturbed frontier and I would strongly recommend that he be allowed 25 horse which might be raised in Mysore on the shortest notice.

If the Government approve of the above suggestions, I will place myself in communication with Mr. Robinson and have them carried out.

No. 81. MINUTE by the HONORABLE the PRESIDENT, dated 12th May 1859.

The reorganisation of the Police of the four Northern Talugs of Canara on a Constabulary footing is in accordance with our former orders.

The new levies should be kept within 200 footmen in addition to the Police Peons already employed.

The necessity for raising Horse Police must be shown before they can be sanctioned, and this expensive description of force should be confined to the smallest possible number.

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.

No. 82. ORDER THEREON, 27th May 1859, No. 737.

1. In the above letters, the Commissioner reviews the schemes proposed for the re-organization of the Police force on the Goa frontier.

2. The Magistrate and Joint Magistrate confine themselves to the simple question of the best means of providing for the protection of Soopah Talook and the Hullial Peshgáry which adjoin the frontier. They suggest the establishment of a series of connected posts at intervals of 10 or 12 miles to form a sort of semi-military cordon along the whole frontier.

3. In lieu of this, the Commissioner proposes to place the entire Police force of the 4 Northern Talooks on a Constabulary footing. He considers that, in this way, a smaller force will suffice for the protection of the frontier and that with the Police Peons on the present establishment, 336 in number, the new levies may safely be kept within 200 men. The Government agree with the Commissioner in thinking that this is the preferable arrangement, both as regards economy and also as giving greater confidence and better promise of quietude for the future.

4. The new Recruits will be drilled and disciplined in the manner best calculated to fit them for their duties as a frontier guard, for although they will have no separate organization distinct from the Local Police constituted under the Act, circumstances will at times require of them peculiar service resembling that of Light Irregulars rather than of Police. They will however be available for the usual Civil duties connected with the Executive. The retention of a portion at Head Quarters for a time will be of advantage.

5. In addition to the 200, whose entertainment is sanctioned above, the Commissioner strongly recommends as an all but essential means of ensuring tranquillity that a body of 25 horse be raised for employment on the frontier. The Government are desirous that this expensive description of force should be confined within the narrowest possible limits, and before sanctioning this part of the Commissioner's scheme, they require further information as to the necessity that exists for the employment of these mounted Policemen and more particularly whether in a country so hilly and jungly as North Canara, they could act with effect.

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6. To confer on the Officer appointed to the Constabulary the power of a Magistrate would be inconsistent with the principle of the new Constabulary force, and the Governor in Council could not accede to such an arrangement except under circumstances of a peculiar and emergent nature, which would justify a limited and temporary departure from the division of labour between the Magisterial and Police authorities which forms the basis of the system.

7. The Commissioner will, as he proposes, place himself in communication with the Joint Magistrate of Canara, for the purpose of carrying out the arrangements above authorized.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Jud. Dept.

Read a letter from } Here enter No. 780.
The Chief Commis- } dated 9th May '59.
of Mysore Police }

Read a letter from } Here enter No. 781.
do } dated 9th May '59.
Order thereon dated 27th May 1859 No. 737.

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To the Chief Commr of
 Malapal Police } Dispt 27th M.S.
 " Magistrate of Canara }
 " Joint Magt of }
 " Account Genl } Dispt 28th
 " Civil Auditor }
 " Military Dept - } dispt 15/6

15/6

Judicial Letter to England dated
21st June 1857

29th April 1857

Two of 1857
Judicial 1857

21st 737

Proceeding of
L. Thompson

Dated 27 May 1857.

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