

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	806	Press ~~Mis.~~
195-196		
Dated	28-6-	1860

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
28th June 1860.

No. 195. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Officiating Magistrate of Cuddapah, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 11th June 1860, No. 14.

With reference to the introduction of the new Police into this District, and to the projected abandonment of Cuddapah as a Military station, I have the honor to request to be informed, if it is the intention of Government to retain a detachment of a Native Regiment from Kurnool at Cuddapah, or, if it is to be left entirely to the protection of the new Police Force. As in the latter case, I have some observations* to offer on the subject of the late Acting Magistrate's letter to Government, on the withdrawal of the Military Force from Cuddapah.

* *Enclosed.*

Memorandum on the late Acting Magistrate's letter to Government.

Mr. Fraser, in his letter to Government of 5th March 1860, adverts to a former insurrection in the District, headed by one Narasingha reddy, which, though creating a considerable disturbance in the Northern part of the District, was confined to the Cattubady retainers of that person, and he considers that a recurrence of such a state of things is far from likely.

That employment exists for the labouring classes owing to the various public works in progress, which is a guarantee for the peaceableness of the population.

That the Mahomedan race, who do not much engage in agriculture, and who form about half the population of the town of Cuddapah, are a singularly, orderly and inoffensive race of people, that the town of Cuddapah is free from petty crimes of all sorts. That therefore, so soon as a Mofassal Police Force is established, the presence of the Military here may be safely and entirely dispensed with.

On receiving so satisfactory an assurance from the then Magistrate, the removal of the Regiment from Cuddapah, which was also reported as an unhealthy station, follows as a natural consequence.

I have a few remarks to make on the tenor of the above letter, which Government may perhaps be inclined to take into consideration. I am disposed to think, after a service of nine years in this District, that the efficiency of a untried Police Force will somewhat depend on there being the Military in the back ground. Cuddapah is in close correspondence with Hyderabad. The population are half Mussulman, their religion has not changed since—scarcely a generation back, the Joint Magistrate was murdered in the public street—the Mahomedans are apparently a placid, and generally, a well conducted race—petty crimes form no index to their character, which is of a sterner sort, their patriotism cannot be ours.

No Indian Police can rival that small body which, with the co-operation of the people, admirably preserves the peace of Great Britain—that co-operation is wanting here. There is a large and important Jail in Cuddapah containing often desperate characters. Although this District is covered by Kurnool, a band of Rohillas penetrated to Rudrar, sacked the town and returned unmolested to the Nizam's country. Although the disturbance created by Narasingha reddy was confined to the Northern part of the District, gang robberies at that time were trebled. I speak from recollection of the records. Although I do not anticipate any disturbance to the public peace, I consider it real economy to prevent the chance of a breach of it. The town of Cuddapah, surrounded by hills, affording an easy retreat to robbers, used frequently to be plundered and sometimes in open day. On the appointment of a Military guard to the town, these crimes were put a stop to.

I would beg to advocate, on the above grounds, that a detachment of 2 Companies, free of any Police duty, should still be maintained at Cuddapah, and when there has been some real trial of the actual efficiency of the new Police, I shall no longer urge their retention.

CUDDAPAH, MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE,
ON CIRCUIT, MUDDENPULLY,
11th June 1860.

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
Officiating Magistrate.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
28th June 1860.

No. 196.

ORDER THEREON, 28th June 1860, No. 806.

Resolved that a copy of the above letter and of its enclosure be furnished to the Inspector General of Police, and that he and the Acting Magistrate of Cuddapah be informed, that the Regiment now at Cuddapah is not to be wholly withdrawn from that station, until the new Police for the District have been duly organized and are fit to take its place—the relief being carried out under arrangements concerted between the Magistrate and the Inspector General.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Order thereon 28 June 1860. No. 806—
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Mag of Cuddapah
Inspector Genl Police
Military Dept. 7
26 Copies L.E. & Q. 806

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11th June 1868. I am most obedient Serv
J. Pyckett Esq
Chief Secretary to Government
T. St. George
Meddaker
Offg. Magis
Ed. M.
S.C.