

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1328

Press

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160-161

Dated 31.10.1861 ~~10~~

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
31st October 1861.*

No. 160. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Magistrate of Cuddapah; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 21st October 1861, No. 15.

I have the honor to submit a recommendation by the Assistant Superintendent of Cuddapah

	Amount of Reward.
1. Emom Naick. - - - - -	Rs. 50
2. Fackeer Naick. - - - - -	" 50
3. Hoosainah. - - - - -	" 50
4. Kamal Naick. - - - - -	" 50
	200
1 Bangle to No. 1. - - - - -	20
	<u>Rupees 220</u>

Police, for a reward of Rupees 200, and a silver bangle value Rupees 20, to be bestowed on 4 individuals as per margin, who gallantly resisted the attack of 6 times their number of gang robbers, on a merchant's house in their village. One of the robbers was killed on the spot and another severely wounded and captured, half the booty was regained. The wounds inflicted on these defenders of their village showed the desperate nature of the conflict.

The 4 men recommended for reward are the more entitled to it, as their gallantry was displayed not on behalf of themselves, but in defence of a merchant, who had not the courage to defend his own property. The disbursement of the reward which I propose to give in person, in the village, will have an excellent effect both in encouraging resistance, by such a mark of sympathy, and in discouraging future robberies. The effect of such rewards has been shown by the Assistant Superintendent of Police. I need scarcely add that villages occupied by Police Stations are not selected for attack—that consequently, the Police Constabulary in such cases, can hardly be on the spot in time, from the wide extent of country and distances of villages, and that the self-reliance and resistance of villagers has a more marked effect upon the robbers than even the incarceration of some of their numbers in Jail. For a District like Cuddapah, whose Police administration is so arduous, I trust that the assistance of Government may be given by the sanction of the proposed reward.

From W. N. KNYVETT, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of Police, Cuddapah; to A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector and Magistrate of Cuddapah, dated 14th October 1861, No. 94.

I have the honor to submit an account of a gang robbery which occurred a few days since at Dinnapaud in the Rayachoty Taluq, in which the gang met with a most determined resistance on the part of some three or four of the inhabitants, whose names I would wish to bring to your especial notice, with a view to their obtaining some adequate reward for their disinterested and gallant conduct on the occasion in question.

2. On the night of the 6th instant, a gang of robbers numbering about twenty-five, well armed, and carrying lighted torches, attacked the house of one Thirpatti Poolapah a Comati, resident in the Village of Dinnapaud, and having broken open the door proceeded to plunder the house of all its valuables. The Comati appears to have made no resistance whatever, but a family of four Mussalmans who lived near hearing the noise came running to the spot and at once engaged in a desperate struggle with the gang. The example being set, others of the inhabitants came to the rescue, and the result was, that the gang were obliged to retreat carrying off two of their number badly wounded, and leaving behind them one dead, and another seriously injured, at the same time they were obliged to relinquish nearly half of their booty which was dropped by the gang in the struggle, a short distance from the Comati's house. The whole brunt of the affair fell on the four Mussalmans who displayed the greatest courage and who I regret to say have all been more or less wounded and injured.

Their names are as follows:—

1. Emom Naick an old man of about 60 years of age. He is severely wounded on the back of the neck with a sword, has a slight spear wound in front part of the neck, and also, a severe contusion on the left arm.

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2. Fakeer Naik, son to the above, severely wounded with sword on the head.
3. Hoosainah, Emom Naick's son, has a contused wound on the head inflicted by a latthie.
4. Kamal Naick, also a son to Emom Naick, wounded on back and arm by stones and latthies.

To each one of these four, I would beg to recommend a reward of 50 Rupees, and would also suggest that a bangle be given to the old man Emom Naick, whose wounds I am concerned to hear are of a dangerous character.

3. The vast importance of encouraging an active and determined resistance on the part of the Villagers towards gang robbers is so fully recognized by Government that to dwell on it here is superfluous, it is however worthy of mention that since the disbursement of a reward of 50 Rupees to a man who killed a gang robber in the Maddenpalli Taluq, the crime of gang robbery has almost entirely ceased in it, there having only been one subsequently, and that committed by men of another Taluq in a totally opposite direction.

4. From the circumstance of your having visited the scene of this gang robbery in company with myself and from your having personally enquired into the particulars of the case, with which in consequence you are well cognizant, I have the more confidence in submitting my recommendation, which I hope and believe will meet with your entire approval and support.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
Magistrate.

No. 161.

ORDER THEREON, 31st October 1861, No. 1,328.

The Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the payment of a reward of (50) fifty Rupees to each of the four individuals named by the Magistrate, as also the presentation of a silver bangle of the value of (20) twenty Rupees to the first named man, in recognition of their courageous conduct in defending their village against a gang of robbers.

2. A notice of the affair should be inserted in the District Gazette.
3. The Magistrate should have stated whether the Police had succeeded in capturing the robbers, and bringing their guilt home to them.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Inde 1861
Magistrate Department
From the Chief Magistrate of
Cuddapah
To the Chief Secretary to the
Govt. of Madras

Dated 21st October 1861
Recd 24

No. 15 No. 1707

Enclosure 1/One

Submitting a recommendation by the Assistant Superintendent of Cuddapah Police for a reward of Rupees 50 and a silver bangle value Rupees 20 to be bestowed on 4 individuals who gallantly resisted the attack of a gang of robbers on a merchant house in their village -
With an Order.

160-161

Wd
N^o 1328-31th October 1861.

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The Magistrate of
Cuddapah.

Inspector Genl.
of Police.

Civil Paymaster.

Acct. Genl. & other table

J D S

dup. 1 Nov.