

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>824</i>	Press
		~~Mis.~~
	<i>188-189</i>	
Dated	<i>26.6.1881</i>	<i>12</i>

*7/7*Not to be folded or roughly handled*1/1/1881*

No. 188. Read the following letter from W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 15th June 1861, No. 834.

The Madras Times of the 14th instant dwells, in an article on the Police, very circumstantially on what would, had it had any foundation whatever in fact, have been a very frightful crime viz., on the murder of a Woman and of a Head Constable by the Police themselves.

2. I beg to inform Government that the thing is a mere hoax.

3. The accompanying demi-official letter from the late Superintendent of South Arcot, where the rumour arose, shows that both he and the Magistrates endeavoured to trace it.

4. I need scarcely add that so frightful a crime had it occurred in any District must have reached the ears of the Magistrate of Police in some substantial form.

P. S.—I would venture to suggest that this letter be placed on the Editors' table that the public mind may be disabused.

No. 189. ORDER THEREON, 26th June 1861, No. 824.

The Government are satisfied that the statement referred to by the Inspector General of Police is quite unfounded, but they do not think it necessary to carry the matter further.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

My dear Mr. Robinson

My dear Mr. Robinson

The entire story of the murder
is a pure or rather impure
& malicious falsehood. It origi-
nated (I believe) in the South
West District. The report was cir-
culated in the collection of letters
meant that a tragedy such as
related in the Times was directed at
our nation of Kama-puram.

Vadachellam. Mr. Foster was
then Acting Collector during the
absence of Mr. Wood on leave. Some
of my people came & reported to me
what was being said. The A. S. M.
sent off immediately to call for reports
from the Taluk Magistrate. I was
prepared to start and sent off post
to warn the Inspector. I considered it
most unlikely that any thing of the
kind could have occurred without
a report being received in my office.
The Taluk Magistrate and Police Inspector
were both within a few miles of the place
where the murder was said to have been

committed. Marked up the station
reports and then went over to the
Magistrate with the reports received
up to date from the stations in that
taung including one from the 182
Constable said to have been murdered.
Regular reports came in daily and in
mention of any such occurrence was made
nor did the Magistrate even receive any
official report of such a crime from any
of his subordinates. Immediately after
in answer to inquiry the Magistrate
received a report from the Taluk Mag-
istrate and I from the Inspector stating
that the whole thing was a fabrication.
Afterwards they said the matter took
place on the road to Chinmalt at Pon-
atom. I produced reports from the sup-
posed murdered man then long after the

alleged date of the crime. Then it
was asserted to have taken place
near Pondicherry. That also proved
false. Went to Pondicherry one
Saturday evening & found the view
there prevalent that it certainly
was hung on Monday morning.
Then the report said the deed was
done in Tanjore. Again Baliswami
to know if it is true that is to happen
in my district. Tried hard to trace
origin of the report and the fact was
that it certainly took place in the
Palamangudi of North Arcot.
Just before leaving Madras I
heard Mr. Beauchamp & the others

stating the story as having taken
place in Siddappah.

It is most extraordinary and almost
unique in its way the Bengal Chur
patia. But the wonderful
thing is the conciliatory of the story
which contrary to custom has been
joined or lost much in its transmission.
I will come down to the office
and speak personally about it.

It is most extraordinary. I believe
the tale originated in S. Arcot and
if that is the district alluded to

I can contradict the tale
phatically. It is a mischievous
fabrication & I cannot conceive
what the author's motive can
have been.

Yours truly
Wm. Lloyd Garrison

15/11/61

Madras 15th June / 61
1861 (Dep'tt)

Enclosure (2)

In a letter
from W Robinson
Esqre Inspr Genl
of the Police dated
15th June 1861 to
834-

Furnishing ex-
planation regard-
ing a murder-
case published
to have occurred
in South Arcot
No 991

MD

Order thereon 26 June 1861. No 224 (4)
The Government are satisfied
that the statement referred to by
the Inspector General of Police
is quite unfounded - but they
do not think it necessary to
carry the matter further

W
Inspector General of Police dated 26th

27th June 1861
Madras