M.R.O. 1—29,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 424	Press ~~Mis.~~
108-109	
Dated 14. 3. 1882.	~~#~~ .

108-109

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
14th March 1862.

No. 108. Read the following letter from G. THORNHILL, Esq., Collector of Kistna District; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 3rd March 1862, No. 5.

I have the honor to bring to your notice, in order that you may lay the case before Government, the very unprotected state of the frontier line, between the Hyderabad country and this District. There is no Military post between Kurnool and the Godavery, a distance of between 300 and 400 miles, and no body of men, except the armed Reserve of the Police, to check the advance of any marauding bands who may be disposed to plunder any of the more wealthy towns near the fontier.

2. In 1858, both the Kistna and Kurnool Districts were invaded by bands of Rohillas in such numbers as to set at defiance any but a regular armed Force.

3. The frontier of this District alone extends over a distance of 200 miles, about one half of that distance is bounded by the River Kistna which is only fordable at certain places even in the dry season; and affords a certain amount of protection from inroads, the other half is quite unprotected.

4. Against the attacks of ordinary robbers the Police will be, I doubt not, ample protection, but Civil Police are not, I submit, to be expected to resist the attack of bodies of 400 and 500 armed men.

5. After the plunder of Juggiapett in 1857, the Masulipatam Sibbandi Corps was raised to prevent the recurrence of such an event. The Head Quarters were fixed at Juggiapett and the European Commandant, a Commissioned Officer, was always at his post. By this means the confidence of the towns people was to a certain extent restored, but panics were still constantly arising, and the report of Rohillas in the neighbourhood was still sufficient to send large numbers of the population flying from the town.

6. On the introduction of the new Police into this District, the Sibbandy Corps was at once absorbed, and a portion of it retained as armed Reserve for the protection of Juggiapett and the frontier.

7. The size of the District and its requirements in a Police point of view, will not admit of either of the Commissioned Officers of the force making Juggiapett his Head Quarters, and the Command of this Reserve must therefore devolve on an Inspector.

8. As an aggravation of the difficulty, I must add that we have no means of obtaining accurate information of the assembling of these bands of marauders. The officials in the Nizam's country are either uninformed themselves, or unwilling to impart their information to the officials within the frontier, and the rumours conveyed by private individuals are so vague and untrustworthy as to be worse than useless.

9. Under these circumstances, I would submit for the consideration of Government, whether it would not be for the interest of the State that a permanent Military post should be established on the frontier at or near Juggiapett.

10. The armed Reserve of the Police might then be posted at different places along the frontier of 200 miles, and afford a real protection to the country, and the presence of a Military force at Juggiapett would put an end to the possibility of the recurrence of the plunder in 1857, when the Government Treasury was robbed and private property estimated at upwards of a lac of Rupees either carried off or destroyed, and the lives of five Sepoys and some others sacrificed.

11. I do not write under the pressure of any immediate need or apprehension; but in the unsettled state of the Hyderabad country, it seems to me a matter of the first necessity so to secure the frontier as to give to the inhabitants of our Provinces entire confidence against plunder.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
14th March 1862.

No. 109. ORDER THEREON, 14th March 1862, No. 424.
Referred to the Military Department and to the Inspector General of Police.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

No. 424 – 14th March 1862

Referred to the Milyl. Dept. & to the Inspector Genl. of Police.

J.P.

The Milty. Dept.
" Inspector Genl. of Police. } Despd. 14th