

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1004	Press
	247-249	~~Mis.~~
Dated	25-6-1863	

9/7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers:—

No. 247. From G. S. FORBES, Esq., Agent to Governor in Ganjam; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated Chatterpoor, 18th May 1863, No. 26.

Para. 1. Captain Tennant, the Deputy Inspector General of Police, who is in temporary charge of the district in the absence of the Superintendent, has informed me that he is about to carry out the reduction of the Armed Reserve employed in the Khond Sowrah Maliahs to the extent set down in a printed Memorandum by the Inspector General, entitled "Reduction of the Ganjam Police," lowering the strength of the body by about 80 men out of 460.

2. I supposed this intention to have been modified, and that no more than 40 men would be struck off. As this is not the case, however, and as I am convinced that the force as first organized was barely adequate to the objects for which it was intended, a point on which I have had better opportunities of forming an opinion than the Inspector General of Police, as that Officer will I think admit, I consider it my duty to lay before the Government the grounds on which I consider the reduction to be a lamentable mistake, and to point out that in the Memorandum in question the Inspector General of Police has advanced statements so different from what is really the case, as to show that he wrote under very erroneous impressions as to the experience and occurrences of the past year.

3. The Memorandum commences with the assertion that the strength of the Armed Reserve was fixed under an exaggerated idea of the hardship and danger of service in the Maliahs, and goes on to state that Goomsur and the Maliahs have been occupied by the Hill Police, and that there is no part of the country more peaceable.

4. There is some confusion however in this statement, for Goomsur Proper was never intended to be occupied by the Armed Reserve or Hill Constabulary, but by the ordinary Police Constables. Yet even Goomsur below Ghauts has not been fully thus occupied, and there are no out-posts at all in the most unhealthy portions of the Taluq.

5. The duties of the Hill Constabulary extend over a space of 3,300 square miles of Hill and Forest, including the Sowrah Maliahs of Purla Kimedy and Pedda Kimedy, and the Khond Maliahs of Chinna Kimedy, Boddagudda, Sooradah, Koorda, and Goomsur. Of these, no attempt has been made to occupy the first, the predatory Sowrahs, these are watched by a Detachment of about 90 men from the main body with their head-quarters at the town of Purla Kimedy and out-posts at a few stations along the lines of high road. The Sowrahs find them ample work, and we shall probably be unable to coerce these Hill robbers effectually without adding to the number and strength of our out-posts. We have not a single man in the Pedda Kimedy, Boddagudda and Sooradah Maliahs.

6. I had arranged with the District Superintendent for an out-post in such a position as to command these tribes, but the reduction may probably render this impossible.

7. In the Chinna Kimedy Maliah, which is of great extent, we have had two out-posts of 25 men each, one out-post of equal strength in the Goomsur Maliah, and a strong party of 75 men in the Korada Maliah at Deegee. There is also an out-post below Ghauts at the town of Sooradah. It is necessary to provide a full relief for the Hill out-posts, and to have a certain margin for the men who are thrown off duty with fever after service in the Hills.

8. Unless it is to be considered that these four out-posts constitute an occupation of the country (in a very large portion of which we have not yet posted a man), the Inspector General is premature in stating that it is occupied. He is also over-sanguine in saying that it is as peaceable as any other part of the country. On the contrary, fights between different tribes are frequently occurring or threatening.

9. I must also add that the sickness of all the Officers who have been on service in the Khond and Sowrah Maliahs, of our servants, and of numbers of the men prove that when the Inspector General spoke of the exaggerated idea of danger from the climate, under which he

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says the original establishment was framed, he could not have been aware of the true state of the case. Captains D'Arcy and Stuart are now at Madras, both suffering from the effects of jungle fever. Lieutenant Lys, the Assistant Superintendent, has been dangerously ill with it, both the Sub-Magistrates are still subject to it, and both the Inspectors (Bond and Macaulay.) I myself have not escaped, and as I have said many privates and servants may be added to the list.

10. The Government of Madras as well as the Home and the Supreme Governments have equally expressed a deep interest in the success of the attempts now being made to eradicate the stain of human sacrifices and female infanticide from the country, and to put a stop to the bloody tribal feuds of the Khonds and the predatory incursions of the Sowahs; we have made, I hope and believe, a fair commencement, but it is little more than a year since the present scheme was begun, and it is too early to expect that these objects are accomplished. No ground whatever has been adduced to show that the means first provided were more than sufficient for the end, and I must repeat that I am convinced they were barely adequate, and that this reduction will cripple our operations and render success less certain.

11. I have been so unfortunate as to incur the censure of Government for the steps I first resorted to in the hope of preventing the reduction, but I cannot think it my duty to see the success of a hopeful experiment jeopardized without another effort to procure at least a re-consideration of the matter.

P. S.—I understand that the instructions of the Supreme Government directed the reduction of the Police Budget within the original Estimate. That Estimate was, I believe, framed and passed long prior to the abolition of the Meriah Agency, and the adoption of different arrangements which involved a saving of about 70,000 Rupees. If I am correct on these points, the present Hill establishment would naturally be treated as a legitimate supplement to the original Estimate.

The Inspector General has assured me that he strongly urged the inexpediency of reductions in his Budget, but when I see the terms in which his Memorandum alludes to this particular branch of the service, I cannot wonder that its reduction should be permitted.

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Agent to Governor.

Referred to the Inspector General of Police for his remarks, which should be submitted with as little delay as possible.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
28th May 1863.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 248. From W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 12th June 1863, No. 1,455.

General Department.

With reference to the letter of the Agent to Governor in Ganjam marginally noted, I have

From the Agent to Governor in Ganjam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated 18th May 1863, No. 23.

the honor to inform you that the reductions have all been carried out, as directed by Government by the Superintendent. Captain Tennant is merely introducing more system.

2. The District is now being worked on the Budget Estimate passed by Government for 1863-64, and not unsuccessfully so far.

3. I naturally differ with Mr. Forbes in opinion with diffidence and deference; but I am not unacquainted with the requirements of the District. I have visited it twice, and spent some time in it. I accompanied the Agent on his tour in the Gumsur Highlands (Malayah) in 1862, and there had an opportunity of observing the offences of the Khonds (tribal feuds) which we have to deal with. I need scarcely add that I have received a great deal of very valuable information from Mr. Forbes, Captain McNeil, and the Officers of my own Department. I watch with

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anxious interest the progress of matters, and receive a minute and daily record of every matter of importance that occurs. I therefore venture to claim the reasonable confidence of the Government and its Agents at Ganjam, when I venture on an assurance of our ability to meet sufficiently the requirements of the country, arduous and searching though they be, with the reduced establishment.

4. Retrenchment is most unpleasant. My letter noted marginally shows how earnestly I sought to stave it off. But after the Government had fixed the limit of expenditure I have sought to accept the position cheerfully, and to

No. 2,124, dated 18th September 1862.

advance the object. It is a tentative one. The country cannot of course be so fully occupied and worked with a reduced establishment, but the establishment on the reduced strength will, I hope, meet the more pressing requirements; if not, the Government may be assured that I shall join the Agent in seeking further aid. In the meantime, I have instructed my Officers to meet Mr. Forbes' wishes to the best of their powers with the force at their disposal.

5. The marginal Statement shows that the Vizagapatam District, with more than double the area of Ganjam and containing 3rd more population, has only 4th more Constables. These Districts are pretty equal in the general conditions; and Jeypore is a more serious task than the Ganjam Malayah.

6. With reference to paragraphs 4 and 5 of the letter under reply, I beg to state that the Gumsur Taluq below the Ghaut is occupied, though with reduced strength, throughout; so far as originally contemplated. I should not advise an increase of the number of posts. Mr. Forbes does not state that this Taluq is insufficiently held, and I can assure Government, as stated in my paper, that there is little to fear.

7. An advanced post has been occupied in the Sourah Malayah at Callicote under Mr. Forbes' instruction. It will, I think, act as a check on Sourah highway men that will gradually become more effectual. The recent occupation of the Gunapuram and Gadairi Taluqs of the Jeypore Zamindari, in the rear of the Sourah Hills, will greatly strengthen the hands of the Agent of Ganjam, and support his Parda Kimey Police.

8. It was not intended, when the estimates were framed, to occupy Pedda Kimey Hills (Malayah), nor does Mr. Forbes state what posts we should now take up. I deprecate the occupation.

9. In Chiana Kimey Hills (Malayah) Bomanigam is occupied, and the Jeypore Police hold Rabajee in its rear. These dispositions seem to command the country to a reasonable extent.

10. I do not find Buddagudda put as a station requiring Constables in the first allocation Prospectus drawn out in communication with Mr. Forbes. However, the local Officers will probably be able to meet his views, and have been directed accordingly.

11. There are men at Sumada and at Dogee in the Hills (Malayah), about seven miles in advance of Coradah. Coradah therefore lies thoroughly under command between these two bodies of Police.

12. With reference to paragraph 6, Mr. Forbes does not name the post he wishes to occupy. The local Officers will be instructed to meet his wishes, or show why it cannot be done. The strength of the posts at present held may be gradually reduced to allow of extended occupation. They are now stronger than perhaps absolutely necessary.

13. With regard to the disorders that threaten these Hill tracts, I do not gather that the Agent at all anticipates revival of human sacrifice. I venture to assure the Government fully on this point. There is a very strong Police post (Degu) observing the infanticidal tribes of the Surada Hills (Malayah). With the tribal feuds of the past, the Agent has dealt so vigorously and promptly, whenever they threatened, that he has made the law respected and felt. He has been supported by his Police in a manner that never left the issue doubtful. So that, without asserting that such out-breaks will not recur, I think I may assure Government that they are checked, and that the Hill Malayah Police as it now is will give a good account of any such violation of the law.

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14. What Mr. Forbes says of the sickness contingent on Hill service is, I am sorry to add, but too true. His own exertions in the Hills this year laid him low, and all the Officers and men who have been so employed have suffered, as he points out, very severely. If, after a year's practical trial, it is found that we cannot do the work, as I yet hope we may even on the reduced strength, we must seek for the requisite aid by further departmental adjustment or increased Budget Estimate.

No. 219.

ORDER THEREON, 25th June 1863, No. 1,004.

The Inspector General's letter will be communicated to the Agent.

2. The Governor in Council has every confidence in Mr. Robinson's judgment; and feels assured that, should it prove to be necessary, he will apply for an addition to the Police Force in the Malayas. In the meantime, the Government do not wish the arrangements made by the Inspector General, which appear to have been well considered, to be disturbed.

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

Judicial Department.

N^o: 1277.

From

The Inspector General of M. Police

Dated 12th June 1863.

For Orders.

The reduction it seems, has been made under the order of Govt already passed - We must then - you will see the effect, trusting the Agent & Inspector find to apply at once for more men if in practice it should prove absolutely necessary.

My impression is that the difficulty of keeping ^{such} them with tribes - or

at last preventing them in road
into a low country, has been over-
-estimated and that a few hundred
to 5000 people simply death will
be a long way in covering them -
Until lately they have been under
the impression that they were
unassailable, but on recent
occasions they have found out
their mistake.

Clearing out roads through
them I suppose is also a nec-
-essary of most importance.

19 June -

I am disposed to accept
the opinion of the Inspector
Genl of the Office in prefer-
ence to that of Mr. Forbes.
I have every confidence
in Mr. Robinson's judgment
and am certain that
should it prove to be nec-
essary he will apply
for some additional force
in the mean time his
arrangements seem to
have been well considered
and do not wish to
see them disturbed by
the aspect of the responsi-
-bility rests mainly
on Mr. Robinson and
his arrangements should
not be interfered with
lightly, or indeed at all
unless in case of some
special disturbance.

W

Judicial Department
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following letters from the
From the Agent at Singapore 18th May 1863 - 26
Inspector General of Madras Police
(Here enter 12th June 1863. No 1453)
Order thereon 25th June 1863. No 1004

The Inspector General's
letter will be communicated
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well

MM

Wm

JP

well considered, to be
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W.P.

Police Force
in the Kingdom of Mysore

Pro. June
Judicial 1863 Departt
N^o 1004

Proceedings of Govt

Feb 15 55. 2312.
1800
2255
Dated 25 June 1863.

Passing orders regard-
ing the contemplated
redaction in the Bill
Constatulary.

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To The Inspector General of Madras
Police
The Agent to the Governor of
Madras in England. } dup 26