M.R.O. 1—88,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1362 Press
Mis.

190-191

Dated 24.8.1863 19 .

415

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
24th August 1863.

No. 190. Read the following letter from Captain J. BRADISH, Her Majesty's 105th Regiment, Light Infantry; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Wellington, 13th August 1863.

I have the honor to lay the following circumstances before you, with a view to their being submitted to His Excellency the Governor in Council, (should you see fit to do so) in order that inquiry may be instituted, as to where and by whom the robbery of my box, and of similar cases, took place.

On the 21st July 1863, Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co. of Madras, delivered a case, containing apparel from England, addressed to me, to the Indian Carrying Company's Agent at Madras, for transmission to me, paying in advance for its transit, and taking the Agent's receipt for the same. This case was delivered to me, on the evening of the 28th July, and on opening it, I found that the bottom of the deal, or outer case, had been taken off, and the tin, or inner case, cut and ripped open sufficiently to admit of a person's hand being inserted; and on examining the contents, I found that a lady's cloth mantle had been abstracted. I may here mention that the opening made in the tin, was quite sufficient to allow of the mantle being taken out; as I afterwards took out the remainder of the contents (which were of much greater size than the mantle) through it.

The next day, I called on Messrs. Wilson & Co., Ootacamund, the Agents of the Indian Carrying Company, and stated as above to them; they then told me that they had received many similar complaints, but could do nothing in the matter; but that one of the Managers of the Company would be up next day, and to apply to him. I then wrote to Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co., stating what had occurred, and asking them if they knew in what condition the case had left 'Madras,' and if it had been opened at the Custom House; their reply was "that the box was not opened at the Custom House," enclosed a Certificate from the Collector of Sea Customs, and stated that a clear receipt was granted by the Carrying Company.

This case had recently arrived overland, and had been cleared, and delivered to the Indian Carrying Company, by Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co.

On applying to the Manager a day or two after I had spoken to Messrs. Wilson & Co., he stated that the robbery must have taken place before the case was handed over to their custody.

I have been advised to address you on the subject, as I have heard of many other persons who have lost property in a similar manner, and the opinion here is that it is highly desirable that inquiry should be made as to where the plundering takes place.

Among the sufferers I may mention Lieutenant Colonel White, Her Majesty's 17th Lancers; Lieutenant and Adjutant Jennings, 15th Regiment Native Infantry; Messrs. Oakes & Co., Agents at Ootacamund; and Mr. Etienne of Ootacamund.

No. 191. ORDER THEREON, 24th August 1863, No. 1,362.

The foregoing letter will be communicated to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway, through the Acting Consulting Engineer; and Mr. Elwin will be requested to report for the information of Government what precautions have been taken on the Madras Railway for the security of goods.

2. Copies will also be furnished to the Inspector General of Mofussil Police and to the Commissioner of Police at Madras, in order that they may take such steps as they may deem necessary for the detection and prevention of the organized system of theft which appears to obtain somewhere on the road between Madras and Ootacamund.

3. The case now reported by Captain Bradish is the first that has been brought to the notice of Government, but it is understood that for some months past, thefts of a similar character have been of frequent occurrence.

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

Exd. T. McMootry.

Public Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following letter from Captain
J. Bradick, Asst Adjt Genl Light Infantry
Brigade dated 15th August 1863.

Order thereon 24th August 1863. No 1362

The foregoing letter
will be communicated
to the Agent and Manager
of the Madras Railway
through the Retg Engineer
Engineer; and Mr Elwin
will be requested to report
for the information of
Government what pre-
cautions have been taken
on the Madras Railway
for the security of goods.

2. Copies will also be
furnished to the Inspector
General of Hospital
Police and to the Com-
missioner of Police
at

at Madras, in order
that they may take
such steps as they may
deem necessary for the
detection and prevention
of the organized system
of theft which appears
to obtain somewhere
on the road between
Madras & Ootacamund

3. The case now reported
by Captain Bradick
is the first that has
been brought to the
notice of Government,
but it is understood
that for some months
past thefts of a
similar character
have been of frequent
occurrence.

The Ag. D.I.G. Railways
Inspector General of Police
Commissioner of Police
Captain J. Bradick. W.M.S.
105 Regt N.I.

dated 24

Lett. fr. Supt.

Pro: Conf

Judicial 1863 Sept.

No 1362

Proceedings of Govt.

D/ 24 Augt/63.

190 & 191