MR.O. 1—32,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1962 Press Mis.

142-143

Dated 16.12.1863 ~~19~~ .

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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No. 142. Read the following letter from H. G. SMITH, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Cuddapah; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Fort Saint George, dated Cuddapah, 23rd October 1863, No. 31.

In submitting the enclosed copy of a letter* from Mr. Molony, I have only to add a strong recommendation that the suggestions therein contained should meet with the favorable consideration of His Excellency the Governor, particularly as the gratuity will only be in the shape of a handsome reward (and no constant burden to the State as a pension would be) and considering the services rendered by deceased and his comrades (for nothing tends more to scare these dacoits away than to know that they cannot commit depredations unmolested even when at a distance from a Police station), I do not deem the sum too large.

* Dated 29th September 1863, No. 187.

From F. B. MOLONY, Esq., Joint Magistrate, Cuddapah; to H. G. SMITH, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Cuddapah, dated Balasamudrum, 29th September 1863, No. 187.

I have the honor to bring to your notice the following lamentable instance of the murder of a man in the Kadiri Taluq by robbers when in the act of resisting them.

2. On the 13th instant two men, residents of a hamlet of Vellamuddy in the Kadiri Taluq, separated themselves from a party engaged in clearing jungle land for cultivation with the object of getting a piece of timber for the repair of a plough; they were attacked near a small breached tank by a gang of robbers and robbed of their clothes. The same gang afterwards attacked five men belonging to another party who were also clearing land and robbed them too of their clothes, pressing their necks to the ground in order that they might not be recognized. Subsequently the same robbers attacked the party from whom the two persons first robbed had been detached, and took off their implements. All this occurred in the space of about half a mile, and apparently late in the afternoon. In all ten men were plundered, and it seems probable that the gang consisted of at least thirty robbers. The robbers were followed up at once by five or six of the persons robbed, and these were joined on the way by others till after they had gone somewhat over a mile, the pursuers numbered seventeen persons. A little further on they were joined by another party of eight men coming from a marriage feast in a neighbouring village. The deceased was one of this party. From this point the pursuit became hotter and lasted for a distance of over eight miles through dense bush jungle. The robbers were armed with spears and sticks, but the pursuers were unarmed except deceased, who had a hatchet. When they reached a point in the jungle about half a mile from the scene of the murder, the pursuers seem to have dropped off. It was then getting dark and they say they were tired and did not think it any use going further as there was a long stretch of jungle before them in which the robbers were sure to escape in the dark.

3. About ten or twelve men however continued the pursuit, and the robbers probably seeing how their numbers had diminished turned upon them, killed deceased with sticks, and wounded another man with a spear in the back. The latter has now perfectly recovered.

4. I have myself been over the whole of the ground from the scene of the first robbery to the scene of the murder, and the distance cannot be less than eight miles over a very difficult hilly and rocky country covered with bush jungle. The murder itself took place within the limits of the village of Mootialcheroo. The name of the murdered man was Sadivay Gunganah, and he was a ryot of Balijapalli a hamlet of Reddipalli in the Kadiri Taluq. He leaves a wife and one son about 4 years old. The wife is now again pregnant. Her name is Nagamah, and I would respectfully request a provision for her.

5. The Tahsildar of the Kadiri Taluq has suggested what appears to me a most appropriate method of providing for her.

6. The deceased was in possession of about 4 acres of dry land, and the Tahsildar proposes to dig a Well for his widow to irrigate this land. He computes the cost at 175 Rupees, and the village Reddies agree to construct it for that sum, which I think by no means large as the water in a neighbouring Well is 15 feet from the surface, and the ground rocky. Another 25 Rupees would provide the wheel and bucket.

7. I would respectfully solicit sanction for 200 Rupees to be laid out as above. The expenditure will be once for all, and will be a provision for life for the woman and her family. It would be an act of greater kindness to the woman than any present of money, and would be much more appreciated. I regret to have to report that there is not the smallest clue to the perpetraters of this crime owing to the precautions of the robbers in pressing down the heads of the robbed. No one was recognized, and all trace was lost from the scene of the murder. The pursuit through such a jungle would afford no opportunity of recognition, and all the pursuers state that they cannot say who the robbers were.

The land alluded to is Circar land, No. 61 of the village of Reddipalli, acres 4 of dry land assessed Annas 15, Pice 9 ; the puttah was issued for this land in Fasli 1269, and since then the puttah has been in the name of the deceased.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. G. SMITH,
Acting Magistrate.

No. 143. ORDER THEREON, 16th December 1863, No. 1962.

The Governor in Council sanctions a grant of Rupees (200) two hundred to the widow of the deceased Sadivay Gunganah who was murdered when in the act of pursuing a gang of robbers.

2. The grant will be applied to the construction of a Well in the puttah land held by the widow of the deceased, as suggested by the Joint Magistrate.

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

Exd.. T. McMootry.

Judicial Department.

***PROCEEDINGS** of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.*

Read the following letter from the Ag Magte of Cuddapah.

(Here enter 23d October 1863 No 37)

Order thereon 16th December 1863 No 1962.

The Governor in Council (two hundred) sanctions a grant of Rs 200 to the widow of the deceased Sadivay Gunganah who was murdered when in the act of pursuing a gang of robbers.

2- The grant will be applied to the construction of a well in the puttah land held by the widow of the deceased, as suggested by the Joint Magistrate.

To The Ag. Magte of Cuddapah
" Ag. Dy. Mastr & Accts Genl
" Genl Paymaster
" Insp Genl of Police

Chanter

Judicial 1863. Department.

No. 1962

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated 16th December 1863.

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