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Dated 28—12—~~19~~ 1863

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 28th December 1863.

No. 238. Read the following letter from Captain C. S. HEARN, Deputy Inspector General of Police; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Chittoor, 22nd December 1863.

In the absence of Mr. Robinson, the Inspector General of Police, who is so far distant from the Presidency, that reports passing through his hands would take weeks in reaching the Government, I have the honor to forward a copy of the report which I have submitted to him regarding the recent outbreak at Bellary.

From Captain C. S. HEARN, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Central Range; to W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Police, dated Chittoor, 22nd December 1863.

A. Superintendent's Report on Cowl Bazar outbreak—5 enclosures.
B. Bruce Pettah do. 1 do.
C. Superintendent's letter applying for Parade and Search Warrants.
D. Memorandum from Military Joint Magistrate to Inspector Schmidt.
E. Superintendent's demi-official letter.

I have the honor to forward papers as per margin, relative to the recent outbreak at Bellary.

2. The facts appear to be as follows:—The plunder was commenced by Sepoys of the 1st Light Cavalry and 30th N. I., between 12 and 1 o'clock on Monday the 30th November. The ill-disposed amongst the towns-people joined them. Two Officers of the 1st Light Cavalry, Captain Dyneley and Lieutenant Law, appear to have been present amongst the mob almost from the commencement of the riot. It would seem that they made no effort to restrain the rioters. On the contrary, Lieutenant Law is said to have encouraged them. Such conduct would seem almost incredible, but the independent testimony of various witnesses who could have no object in making a false accusation, concurs on this point. If the fact is true, Lieutenant Law is chargeable with abetting Dacoity under Section 109, Indian Penal Code. The Police meanwhile, though comparatively weak in numbers, did what they could. They arrested many rioters, some of whom were released by the guard of Native Infantry, to whom they were entrusted for custody; a part of the mob passed the guard-room of the bazar guard on their way to plunder some cloth shops. The men of the guard would seem to have remained passive spectators of the crime. The first Officer who gave any active assistance was Major Steele, the Brigade Major, who arrived about 2 P. M. His presence had an instantaneous effect. Captain Johnstone, the Military Joint Magistrate, came next on the scene. The Major General Commanding the Division with his Staff, followed. Troops then arrived and afforded every assistance. The riot was finally quelled at 3 P. M.; twenty-seven persons, of whom six were Sepoys, remained in custody, and a number of towns-people have since been arrested with property. About 70,000 Rupees worth is said to have been taken in all.

Vide Statements of Inspector Schmidt, Head Constable Mills, and several Merchants.

3. Lieutenant Hicks, the Superintendent of Police, was absent in a distant Taluq at this time. Inspector Schmidt of the Town Police urged an immediate Parade of Troops for the purpose of identifying the rioters. The Major General Commanding declined to accede to this request. Vide Captain Johnstone's Memorandum to Inspector Schmidt.

4. On Wednesday the 2nd December, a strong demonstration was made by a mob, consisting partly of Cavalry and Infantry Sepoys, against Bruce Pettah, the Civil Bazar, situated more than a mile from the Cantonment. On this occasion the Police under the Deputy Magistrate and Inspector Schmidt were prepared. They held the mob in check until Troops arrived, when the crowd at once dispersed. The assistance rendered by the Military authorities was prompt and effective.

5. It is evident therefore that the measures taken after the outbreak on Monday, were not such as to prevent an immediate attempt to commit a similar offence. If any Garrison Order of censure and warning was published, it would seem to have taken no effect. The alleged failure of duty on the part of the Native guards was doubtless inquired into, but the reports

are silent on this point. Lieutenant Hicks returned to Bellary on Saturday the 5th, having ridden in 85 miles from Hurpenhully immediately on receiving the news. After careful investigation he applied for a Parade of Troops for the purpose of identification, and for a general Search Warrant to search the Regimental lines. The Major General granted the former request, but not the latter. The Native Troops were paraded and some few individuals were picked out by the inhabitants of the Cowl Bazar as having been concerned in the plunder. But after the lapse of so many days this mere assertion was not considered sufficient to justify further steps beyond closely watching the parties named.

6. So the matter stands. The facts call for little comme two points.

7. The Regimental Officers' lines are close to the scene of disturbance. The great majority of Officers' live within five minutes walk of the Cowl Bazar. The Major General Commanding, and Captain Johnstone, the Military Joint Magistrate, who were (with the exception of Major Steele, Brigade Major) the first to arrive on the scene, live at a distance of fully two miles from the bazar. The apparent apathy of the general body of Officers would doubtless tend to increase the feeling of insecurity and alarm in the minds of the Native public.

8. Had a parade of the Troops been promptly ordered, the ringleaders of the tumult could scarcely have failed to betray indications of guilt by disordered dress and manner. Identification would then have been feasible. Houses might have been searched with effect. A sufficient degree of exertion on the part of European and Native Officers must inevitably have led to the detection of a great majority of the offenders. But for want of these im measures detection of the Native Soldiers has failed.

9. As for the Police they are forbidden to enter the lines. Some new and more stringent order would seem to have been issued after the outbreak; for Police Constables who had hitherto been residing in the lines with their relatives are now rigidly excluded. The Native mind would of course connect this fact with a desire on the part of the Military authorities to screen the Troops from the consequences of their crime.

10. I have instructed Lieutenant Hicks not to press at this distance of time for a *general* search of the Regimental lines. Such a measure, however well deserved, is practically difficult of execution and therefore likely to be barren of adequate result. But I have urged him to stimulate all ordinary detective efforts to the utmost in spite of obstacles. Some degree of success may still be looked for, but the grand opportunity was lost by inaction on the evening of the riot. It is obvious however that the Native Commissioned and Non-Commissioned ranks could give information if they chose. I have also instructed Lieutenant Hicks to suggest the employment of a European guard in the bazars in case the pre excitement and alarm should continue to prevail. After the events of the 30th November, when the Native guards seem to have failed in their duty, it is important to assure the public of reliable Military aid.

11. It is satisfactory to find that the Military Joint Magistrate, the Deputy Magistrate, and the residents generally concur in praising the conduct of the Police on each occasion of trial. The merits of Inspector Schmidt as an able and energetic Police Officer have more than once been brought to your notice. I trust that the conduct of the five Soldier 74th Highlanders, who so readily took the side of law and order, may be duly rewarded.

12. With reference to the Magistrate's recommendation that the Cavalry should be removed to Bangalore, I observe from a demi-official letter addressed by Lieutenant Hicks to Colonel Temple (and sent to me for perusal) that your support to the proposition is desired. But step would of course be construed by the Native mind as a sign of and from my local knowledge I cannot comprehend why the measure sh essary. The British Force at Bellary is amply sufficient for all purposes, and with the hearty co-operation of the Military authorities any further attempt at lawlessness on the part of the Native Troops can at once be crushed.

(True Copy.)

(Signed)
Dep.

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28th December 1863.

From Lieutenant F. J. HICKS, Superintendent of M. Police, Bellary; to Captain C. S. HEARN, Deputy Inspector General of M. Police, Madras, dated Bellary, 9th December 1863, No. 843.

I have the honor to report that the Cowle Bazar in the Military Cantonment of Bellary was plundered on afternoon of 30th ultimo. Numerous houses were forcibly broken open and entered and property valued at between seventy and eighty thousand Rupees is said to have been plundered. I was absent on a tour of inspection in Hurpenhully Taluq at the time, but on receipt of the news I immediately returned to Bellary where I arrived late on Saturday last, I have ever since been closely engaged in inquiring into the case. From all the evidence I have been able to collect I believe and feel convinced that the plunder was commenced by the sepoys of the 1st Light Cavalry and 30th Regiment N. I., afterwards of course all the "budmashes" of the place very soon joined in and the plunder became general. The plunder commenced between twelve and 1 o'clock P. M., at the shop of one Sham Chetty, and had any of the Officers of the two Regiments above referred to come forward to restrain their men, the disturbance might perhaps at once have been put down by the Police, as it was, the mob was not altogether dispersed until about 3 o'clock P. M. At the first out-break only the Police party allowed for Cowle Bazar was present, but shortly afterwards the Reserve Inspector brought up as many men as he could collect and rendered every assistance, but as a large number of the Police were out on Escort duty bringing in the monthly Treasure remittances sent from Taluqs, only a few men could be sent as a reinforcement to the town Police.

2. The Cantonment Joint Magistrate and residents in Cowle Bazar speak most favorably of the Police and testify to the tact and temper they displayed and strenuous exertions they made to suppress the riot. Considering the great odds against them, they did well in apprehending, during the time the riot lasted, one trooper of 1st Light Cavalry, five sepoys of 30th Regiment N. I., two Regimental Camp followers, and 20 townsmen. The Inspector Mr. Schmidt seems to think (and many others agree with him) that a great number of persons arrested managed to escape either from the guard or en route as they were being taken there. The lock-up at the Station house is very small and only capable of containing a few prisoners, this accounts for the Police invoking the assistance of the Sepoy Guard and entrusting prisoners to their custody. I enclose statements* taken from different parties, eye witnesses to, and present at the disturbance. Copies of these I have sent to the Major General Commanding Bellary, the statements regarding Lieutenant Law seem incredible, but as I have been informed that a petition has been forwarded to Government complaining of that Officer's conduct, I think it is but fair that he should be at once informed as to what is stated against him, so that he may be able to give any explanation that may be considered necessary.

* Five Statements, also copy of one petition.

3. It will be noted that the first Officer who arrived to give assistance was Major Steele (the Brigade Major), afterwards followed by Captain Johnstone (the Cantonment Joint Magistrate), and subsequently by the Major General and his staff, the two latter live at some distance (about two miles) from the Cowle Bazar, and it is a singular fact that until their arrival, no Officer of either the Native Cavalry or Infantry Regiments came forward to give any assistance, although I believe the majority of their houses are situated in the immediate vicinity of the Cowle Bazar.

4. Shortly after the Major General came to the Cowle Bazar, troops arrived and gave every assistance, and order was very soon restored.

5. The Police have since arrested a great number of persons with plundered property in their possession, all of whom, together with those previously arrested, are now being tried by the Cantonment Joint Magistrate. The value of property already recovered I think amounts to between four and five thousand Rupees, and further recoveries are still being made.

6. The rioters did not use any very great violence, a few of the Police and townspeople got some severe blows, but not sufficient to endanger either life or limb.

7. Mr. Schmidt reports that five soldiers of H. M.'s 74th Highlanders rendered him very great assistance, one of them in endeavouring to extinguish a fire that broke out during the confusion had his ammunition boots destroyed for which I hope he will obtain compensation. A small reward to all five might perhaps stimulate soldiers to assist the Police on any future occasion.

European Head Constable Mills states, that about 1 o'clock P. M. on 30th ultimo, as he was seated in his house, he heard a great noise and shouting in the bazar, and immediately proceeded to see what was the matter. On approaching the Koony Thannah, he saw a large concourse of people, sepoys and townsmen, who had been breaking into shops and plundering property. On his (Mills) approach the crowd dispersed and retired towards the Native Lines he (Mills) then placed three sepoys of the bazar guard as sentries at the head of the road and close to the Koony Thannah house, and requested them to prevent any one from forcing their way into the bazar. Shortly after this, large numbers of persons came from the direction of the Cavalry and Infantry Lines shouting and brandishing sticks and advancing in a most threatening manner, on which he (Mills) as he had only seven or eight Police Constables with him retired towards the Station house trying to rouse up the townspeople to come forward to the assistance of the Police. Before reaching the Station house, he (Mills) again turned round and seeing Lieutenant Law riding towards him, accompanied by two of his men, he went up to that Officer and after saluting him said, Sir, this is terrible work going on, I would like to see it put a stop to, to this Lieutenant Law replied "the devil skewer them" or "pity them," "let them go on" or "they are going on" or words to that effect, and giving him (Mills) the idea that Lieutenant Law rather encouraged, and, at any rate, showed no great desire to put down the rioters. After this Lieutenant Law went away. Shortly after this Inspector Schmidt came up and he (Mills) reported to the Inspector what Lieutenant Law had said.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. J. HICKS, Lieutenant,
Superintendent of Police.

Deputy Constable Naganah, No. 708, states, that about 1 o'clock P. M. on 30th ultimo, as I was seated in the Station house, a shout came from the bazar that the place was being plundered. I immediately proceeded with Deputy Constable Futteh Homed and saw a crowd of sepoys and townsmen attacking the shop of Buktawar Mull, Shroff. I immediately apprehended one man as he was coming out of the house, and Futteh Homed apprehended another (a Sepoy of 30th Regiment). We brought both of these to the Station house and placed them in lock-up. After this we again proceeded to the scene of plunder with the other Constables who had collected, and on the way saw the Adjutant of 1st Cavalry with two of his men riding down the bazar. Futteh Homed told European Head Constable Mills that he had better speak to the gentleman; Mills did so, but did not receive any assistance from the gentleman. Deputy Constable Futteh Homed corroborates the above.

BELLARY,
7th December 1863.

(Signed) F. J. HICKS, Lieutenant,
Superintendent of Police.

Inspector Schmidt states, on 30th ultimo, at about 1 o'clock as I was returning Police Office to my house, a Constable came and reported to me that the Cowle Bazar was being plundered. On receiving this report I immediately rode down to Cowle Bazar and on the road near the Mochey's Line I met Lieutenant Law riding with one or two of his men; as I passed, Lieutenant Law called out "you are too late."

When I arrived at the Police Station house, Head Constable Mills told me that he had asked the Quarter Master for assistance, and that that Officer had replied "devil a bit, let them go on." I thought Mills meant Captain Dyneley, who just then approached, and I accordingly went up to that Officer and I said, I hear Sir that you are encouraging these people. Captain Dyneley said no. I then told him that Mills had told me so—on which Mills said no not this Officer but the one that rode by just now, meaning Lieutenant Law. I immediately apologized for the mistake I had made, and I think I asked Captain Dyneley to assist me and then proceeded to the place

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where the plunder was going on. Two Infantry Officers were with Captain Dyneley, but I do not know their names.

I endeavoured to drive the rioters and apprehended several and sent to the Native Infantry Guard. At one Shroff's house I succeeded in closing the door and shutting in about fifteen or twenty sepoys and townsmen who had entered bent on plunder, and requested the Military Sentry to remain at the door with charged bayonets and prevent any one from coming out. I then went to the next house and succeeded in driving off the people plundering there and arresting a few of them, and when I turned round I found the Military Sentry had left his post and allowed the whole of the people I had shut in to escape. I do not know this Sentry's name, but I could point him out. After this the Police twice succeeded in driving the rioters back beyond the Koony Thannah, and at last they divided into two parties, one party going to the market and the other round by the back streets. I (with some Constables) followed the party to the market place and drove them off as they were plundering three rice shops and arrested a few of them, one an Infantry sepoy. The rioters then rushed further into the bazar *and passing the Native Infantry Guard room* proceeded to plunder the Cloth Merchants' shop; and when the Police were endeavouring to drive them off, Major Steele rode up and on seeing him the crowd dispersed and fled in the direction of the sepoys' Lines. Major Steele rode after them, and I followed afterwards. We returned to see if any more plundering was going on, when Major Steele told me that he had arrested one man, a sepoy, himself and given him over to a Constable. After this Captain Johnstone arrived and the crowd were gradually dispersed. After this the Major General and Staff arrived and parties of Cavalry and European and Native Infantry under command of their Officers. On examining the number of prisoners arrested, I found eight sepoys and Camp followers in the guard and 20 townsmen. A great many more prisoners than this were arrested and must have either escaped from the Sepoy Guard or en route as they were being taken there. Several of the Constables under me state they could recognize the parties who so escaped amongst the sepoys. I think it must have been about 2 o'clock when Major Steele arrived. Until his arrival no Officer gave any assistance. Five private Soldiers, Her Majesty's 74th Highlanders, gave me very great assistance in dispersing the crowd and exerted themselves most manfully.

I requested Captain Johnstone to ask the General to allow the sepoys to be paraded in undress, in order that townspeople and Police might pick out the men concerned; but Captain Johnstone informed me that the General objected to allow this. The Police are not allowed to enter the Sepoy Lines, and have therefore no means of detecting or arresting the sepoys concerned in this outrage.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. J. HICKS, Lieutenant,
Superintendent of Police.

BELLARY,
7th December 1863.

To

LIEUTENANT F. J. HICKS,
Superintendent of Police, Bellary.

The humble Memorial of the undersigned individuals residing in the Cowle Bazar, Bellary.

HONORED SIR,

We respectfully beg to bring to your honor's notice, that on the 30th November 1863, certain Native Officers, Havildars, Naigues and Troopers, Horse-keepers, Grass-cutters of the 1st Light Cavalry, as well as sepoys of the 30th Regiment, N. I., and many others accompanied by Adjutant Law, the Subadar of the day (who mounted as Native Officer on that day) and the Regiment Major Havildar of Cavalry who, notwithstanding the Police authority used their best to prevent the entrance of these parties into the bazar, came before our houses and by the precaution and doings of the said gentlemen, &c., the whole of the others broke the gates, doors and verandahs of our houses, entered inside and plundered the whole of our property, viz., jewels of gold and silver, brass and copper pots, ready money, clothes, ghee, oil, grain, jaggery and other sundry articles, as well as Bonds, Vouchers and accounts, &c., &c., as per list attached; the plunder commenced from ½ past 12 o'clock, and continued till 3½ P. M.

We pray your honor will in consequence be so kind towards your humble Memorialists (who are entirely ruined) to take this our poor case into consideration, to investigate to the matter thoroughly, and favor us with justice that we may re-possess the property plundered as above said. We are ready to give sufficient proof that the plunder took place by the doings of the three gentlemen.

For which act of favor we shall be much thankful to your honor.

BELLARY, *7th December* 1863. (Signed) By several Residents of Cowle Bazar.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. J. HICKS, Lieutenant,
Superintendent of Police.

	RS.	A.	P
Marwady Bunnay Chund Jowary Mul Sowcar, D. Battery Royal H. A. In jewels of gold, silver, ready cash, copper and brass pots, &c... .. ... 15,000 In Bonds, vouchers, &c... 6000	21,000	0	0
Marwady Jawar Mul. In jewels of gold, silver, brass and copper pots and ready money...	2000	0	0
Marwady Southmul. In ready cash and jewels of gold and silver, brass and copper and iron, &c... ...	500	0	0
Marwady Joargge. Ready money, gold and silver and cloths...	1500	0	0
Marwady Capooroo Chund. In cash, gold and silver, brass and copper pots...	150	0	0
Marwady Huzzary Mull. In cash, gold and silver jewels, brass and copper pots...	500	0	0
Marwady Beer Ban. Ready money, gold and silver jewels...	250	0	0
Marwady Bahadoor Sate. In cash, gold and silver jewels, brass and copper pots, grain, &c...	3000	0	0
Marwady Buthavaramul. Ready money, gold and silver jewels, copper and brass pots and iron... ...	6000	0	0
Bal Moocund. In cash, gold and silver jewels, copper and brass pots, &c...	7000	0	0
Marwady Juggunoved. Gold and silver jewels, brass and copper pots, bonds and vouchers, &c... ...	5000	0	0
Nowlgee. In cash, gold and silver jewels	700	0	0
Marwady Kissin. In cash, gold and silver jewels...	300	0	0
Chimmatta Venkutswamy. In cash, gold and silver jewels, paddy and sundry articles, bonds and accounts...	4000	0	0
Baker Ramaswamy. In cash, gold and silver jewels, brass and copper pots, &c...	300	0	0
Chumakoorty Soobiah. In cash, gold and silver jewels, copper and brass pots and cloths, &c... ...	2000	0	0
Collahsawmy. In cash, gold and silver jewels, copper and brass pots, grain and sundry articles...	900	0	0
Bolly Condiah. As above...	1000	0	0
Esuff Saib. Grain and cash...	980	0	0
Mundallah Ellapah. In cash, gold and silver jewels, brass and copper pots, grain and sundry articles...	700	0	0
Coomaraswamy. Gold and silver jewels, grain, paddy, bonds and in cash...	800	0	0
Hanoomiah. Grain, cash and bonds, &c...	822	0	0
Goodibundy Venkataswamy Reddy. Money, grain, bonds, &c...	550	0	0
Tengootore Venkataswamy Reddy. Money, grain and sundry articles...	800	0	0
Condoor Pariah. In cash, gold and silver jewels, bonds, grain and sundry articles... ...	2500	0	0
Boopollum Thippiah. Grain...	300	0	0
Madah Verunah. Grain and sundry articles...	500	0	0
Doyakum Soobiah. In cash, gold and silver jewels and sundry articles...	1000	0	0
Ruggoo Boye. Grain...	1200	0	0
Runganaiakum. Rice and ready money...	200	0	0
T. Goonidapa. Sundry articles, in cash, brass and copper pots, &c...	352	0	0
T. Balliah. Sundry articles...	50	0	0
Cossim Chetty Chennapah. In cash, gold and silver jewels, brass and copper pots, grain and sundry articles...	1500	0	0
Mootyalla Chennapah. In cash, grain and sundry articles...	300	0	0
Total Rupees...	68,654	0	0

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Sham Chetty, grain merchant states, the plunder commenced at my shop—it was commenced by the sepoys of Cavalry and Infantry.

Marwady Bunnay Chand states, I saw the sepoys of Cavalry and Infantry commence to plunder the shop of Sham Chetty; afterwards they commenced to plunder my shop, when Adjutant Law rode up and encouraged the men by calling out "Lootoo" "Lootoo," "Maro," "Maro." After this my shop was regularly gutted and about 21,000 Rupees worth of property plundered.

Shroff Jorgy, Shroff Bunnay Chand, Merchant Venketsamy, Shroff Jowar Mull, state that just after the disturbance commenced, Lieutenant Law with a Native Officer and another trooper passed through the bazar all on horse back. Shroff Bunnay Chand, Shroff Jowar Mull and Samy Chetty, and rice seller Peppiah state they heard Lieutenant Law call out to the sepoys "Lootoo" "Lootoo," "Maro" "Maro" and then and there the sepoys caught hold of Shroff Bunnay Chand and beat him and took off his jewels.

BELLARY, *8th December* 1863. (Signed) F. J. HICKS, Lieutenant,
Superintendent of Police.

From Lieutenant F. J. HICKS, Superintendent of M. Police, Bellary; to Captain C. S. HEARN, Deputy Inspector General of Madras Police, Vellore, dated Bellary, 12th December 1863, No. 861.

With reference to plunder of the Cowle Bazar on Monday 30th ultimo, I have the honor to report that since my return to Bellary, I have learnt that on the following Wednesday (2nd December 1863,) large numbers of Cavalry and Infantry sepoys accompanied by Camp followers, and numerous townspeople, assembled in the vicinity of the tank bund adjoining Bruce Pettah, and from their threatening and defiant manner and being armed with clubs and sticks it was greatly feared that they intended to plunder Bruce Pettah.

2. The Police Inspector Mr. Schmidt with all the available Police force were speedily at their posts and did their best to prevent the crowd from entering the town and force them to disperse. The Deputy Magistrate Mr. Blake seeing that the body of Police available were not

equal to cope with the number of rioters who had assembled, and that large numbers of them were actually forcing their way into the town, rode off with great promptitude and obtained Military assistance, requesting the Police Inspector to use his best endeavours to preserve the peace until his return. This was only done with the greatest difficulty, notwithstanding that the Sub-Magistrate of Bellary, Mr. Firth, brought up a reinforcement of the Police serving in the Taluq and rendered great assistance.

3. In the meantime Military aid approaching the mob began to disperse but not until 25 sepoys and 11 townsmen had been seized by the Police and party of Cavalry under Captain Parsons.

4. The Major General and his Staff also came to Bruce Pettah and gave every aid required by the Deputy Magistrate. A small Cavalry picket and a Jemadar's party of 30th Regiment N. I., have since mounted guard in the town and are to remain until no longer required by the Magistrate. The sepoys apprehended were at once handed over to the Military authorities, and the 11 townsmen are now under trial before Head Assistant Magistrate.

5. The Deputy Magistrate Mr. Blake acted with great promptitude and decision; and if he had not acted with such energy in applying for instant Military aid, I think a very serious disturbance might have taken place. I beg to forward copy of the Deputy Magistrate's letter to the District Magistrate in which he speaks most favorably of the conduct of the Police on this occasion.

6. Great alarm is still felt in Bruce Pettah and not without some reason, as to the outside public, it seems such a daring thing for the sepoys to threaten another attack so recently after the plunder in the Cowle Bazar and as if they were held in no restraint. A general and very foolish idea also prevails in the Native mind throughout the District, that the plunder was actually ordered by the Military authorities.

7. I regret that at this time I was absent on a tour of inspection in a distant part of the District, but immediately on hearing of the plunder of the Cowle Bazar I rode in from Hurpenhully, a distance of 86 miles, and have ever since been closely engaged in hunting up the case.

8. I at once requested the Major General to have both the Regiments of 1st Light Cavalry and 30th Regiment N. I. paraded, in order that the Police and merchants might point out the sepoys concerned in the plunder of Cowle Bazar. The Major General, however, while expressing his desire to render me every aid and assistance in his power, did not seem to think this course advisable* or necessary at any rate until I had further investigated the case.

* See also copy of letter from Military Joint Magistrate to Police Inspector Schmidt.

9. I accordingly pursued my inquiries, and as the Police are not able to pursue inquiries in the Regimental Lines in the same manner as in the town, I became more and more convinced that the sepoys were escaping justice by not being paraded, and accordingly wrote the accompanying letter for the information of the Major General, after which the Regiments were paraded at my request, and a few sepoys pointed out as being concerned, but this is so long after the occurrence, I have not arrested them, and shall not do so without obtaining further corroborating evidence. My request for a warrant to search the Lines has not been granted, but I have been told that on producing reasonable evidence against individual sepoys, search Warrants will immediately be granted to search their houses. As the Police have no facility for pursuing inquiries in the Lines, I fear it will be difficult to obtain such reasonable evidence, no effort however will be spared to do so. Although I think that when disciplined men residing in the same Lines band together and openly commit a most daring crime, it would be not stretching any of the powers given by Law if their houses were searched from right to left without any distinction.

From B. A. BLAKE, Esq., Deputy Magistrate; to the Acting Magistrate of Bellary, dated Bellary, 3rd December 1863, No. 401.

I have the honor to report that a mob of about 300 persons from the Cavalry and Native Infantry Lines and Cowle Bazar assembled yesterday at about 12 o'clock on the bund of the tank here, apparently for the purpose of plundering Bruce Pettah, but was dispersed by speedy measures being adopted, without allowing time or opportunity for a disturbance taking place; and I am happy to state that it was effected without resort to arms or violence of any kind.

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2. Immediately on receiving a report of the gathering, I addressed a hasty note to Captain Abdy, the Assistant Adjutant General (as had been previously arranged shortly after the plunder in Cowle Bazar, when the Major General Commanding Ceded Districts informed me that I would obtain Military Assistance should it be needed), intimating that the town was in danger, and requesting that a Military party may be sent there without further loss of time, and I proceeded immediately to the town and saw at once that unless immediate measures were adopted, there was no chance of averting a dreadful disturbance, which I apprehended would be inevitable otherwise, as I was aware that the merchants and their men were prepared with arms, to resist an attack.

3. As the strength of the Police available then was insignificant compared with the large mob already collected on the bund, I considered that the best that could be done, under circumstances, would be to seize every sepoy and trooper (who, I understood were the ringleaders) who may be found in undress in the town, for they had already begun to enter it by twos and threes, as was done, I believe, just before the plunder in the Cowle Bazar; and accordingly issued orders to the Police to that effect.

4. The measure proved to be an excellent one, for no sooner were a few sepoys seized, than a large party of them who had already entered the town made a rush through lanes, and joined the mob on the tank bund; when finding that the Military had not yet come, I left the Police in the street below which served to keep the mob off, and I hastened to the Cantonment and brought down a party of Cavalry before any mischief could be done; the mob dispersed at sight of the Military party, and the Civil Pettahs have thus escaped an attack of plunderers.

5. Besides the persons who were arrested in the town, others were seized with the assistance of the Cavalry under the command of Captain Parsons and Lieutenant Arbuthnot when running away; some on the road leading to Cowle Bazar from Bruce Pettah, others in the bed of the tank, and some close to the fort and Cowle Bazar.

6. I have made over the sepoys and troopers to their Commanding Officers, and the rest who, I believe, are relatives of sepoys and others, as also some of the bad characters of the Cowle Bazar, I have retained in custody pending your instructions.

7. I am of opinion that they should all be released with a suitable warning, as no doubt some of them are innocent creatures who were seized when escaping through fright from the Pettah, where they may have gone to purchase grain; others were taken up when walking quietly through the streets; and it would be impossible now to discover where and under what circumstances each was seized, and this is the more desirable I think when it is considered that no resistance whatever was offered by any of them.

8. I have taken opportunity to bring to notice of the Major General personally the exceedingly prompt manner in which Captain Dyneley of the 1st Light Cavalry complied with my call on him for Military aid, as well as the active co-operation I have experienced from both Captain Parsons and Lieutenant Arbuthnot in the expeditious manner in which they brought up detachments of Cavalry to the scene of the threatened disturbance, and in causing the seizure of those escaping.

9. The Major General immediately on receipt of my intimation issued orders which brought up guards speedily to the Pettah, where he personally issued orders for their disposal, and he has also given orders that no trooper or sepoy is to enter the Civil Pettahs without obtaining a Passport for the same, which I consider the best preventive of a disturbance in this time of scarcity of grain.

10. The conduct of the Police on the occasion was indeed praiseworthy, the Constables exerted themselves with courage and activity, and I cannot speak in too flattering terms of the energy and good sense evinced by Mr. Schmidt, Inspector of Police, in the management of his men yesterday.

11. In conclusion I beg to state that from the presence of the Military Guards in the Pettah, there appears to be no fear of a disturbance now, and it is hoped that in a few days we shall be able to dispense with the guards, as there will be no reason to apprehend any distur-

bance from the merchants having voluntarily made a nirruck for selling grain, which considering the rates at which they had been selling for the last fortnight or so, is pretty reasonable.

(True copy from a copy.)

(Signed) F. J. HICKS, Lieutenant,
Superintendent of Police.

From Lieutenant F. J. HICKS, Superintendent of Madras Police, Bellary; to Captain G. N. JOHNSTONE, Cantonment Joint Magistrate of Bellary, dated Bellary, 9th December 1863, No. 840.

With reference to the plunder of the Cowle Bazar on afternoon of 30th ultimo, I have the honor to forward you (for information of the Major General) copies of statements taken from different parties who were eye witnesses to and present at the disturbance. The statements regarding Lieutenant Law seem incredible, but I think in justice to that Officer I am right in forwarding them as I hear that the merchants of Cowle Bazar have petitioned Government complaining of his conduct, and it is but fair that he should know what is stated against him and have an opportunity of giving any explanation that may be considered necessary.

2. After very close inquiry I cannot help coming to the conclusion that the plunder was commenced by the sepoys of both Cavalry and Infantry; but as the Police are not permitted to enter the Sepoy Lines they have not been able to hunt up and arrest the parties residing within the Lines, who are supposed to have been concerned in the disturbance.

3. Several inhabitants of the Cowle Bazar and also some of the Police state confidently that they could recognize the sepoys concerned, I therefore request the Major General may be requested to re-consider his decision and even now allow the Native Cavalry and Infantry Regiments to be paraded in undress, in order that some opportunity may be given to the witnesses (whom I can produce) to point out the sepoys concerned.

4. I also request that a Warrant may be granted to me to search the Lines of both Cavalry and Infantry Regiments in garrison if possible in the presence of a European Officer of each Regiment. I have received information from several sources that a considerable amount of the plundered property is concealed within the Sepoy Lines, and I consider that justice is very likely to be defeated unless I am authorized to make a strict search according to law. Should a search Warrant be granted, I request that no previous information may be given to the Regimental authorities until I state myself prepared to commence the search.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. J. HICKS, Lieutenant,
Superintendent of Police.

MR. SCHMIDT,

I spoke to the General and he says he wishes any of the Bazarmen who are prepared to point out Cavalry men who were implicated in the riot of yesterday, should come before me and make a deposition. I requested the General to allow the Regiment to be paraded so that the offending parties might be identified, but he did not deem such course advisable. I shall be obliged by your conveying this information to the Bazarmen and intimate to them that I am prepared to take their statements and to forward the same to be disposed of as the Officer Commanding the Station may think fit. If the names of the Cavalry who were implicated can be stated, so much the better.

1*st December* 1863.

(Signed) G. N. JOHNSTONE, Captain,
Military Joint Magistrate.

I have sent a summons to Major Steele to appear at Court to-morrow at 11 o'clock, at which hour please be present with all the item of evidence that can be brought forward against the sepoys who are prisoners. If there are any parties besides the Police who require to be summoned, please let me have their names.

(Signed) G. N. JOHNSTONE.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. J. HICKS, Lieutenant,
Superintendent of Police.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
28th December 1863.

No. 239. ORDER THEREON, 28th December 1863, No. 2024A.

A copy of Captain Hearn's report to the Inspector General of Police will be furnished to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, in order that His Excellency may institute such inquiries as he may deem proper, with reference to the statements therein made affecting Lieutenant Law and other Officers of the Native Regiments serving at Bellary on the occasion of the outbreak referred to.

2. The attention of His Excellency will be drawn to the omission to parade the men of the Native Regiments on the evening of the outbreak.

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

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Order thereon No 2024 A. January 1853

A Copy of Captain Hearn's report
to the Inspector General of Police will
be furnished to His Excellency the
Commander in Chief, in order that
His Excellency may institute such
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with reference to the statements
therein made affecting Lieut. Law
and other Officers of the Native
Regiments serving at Bellary on
the occasion of the outbreak referred
to.

The attention of His Excellency will
be drawn to the Mission to parade the
men of the [redacted] on the Evening
of the outbreak.

To the Adjt. Genl. of the Army
The Inspr. Genl. of Police
Military Secretary

despatch