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angles to it from the Ganjam coast to Buttelee; and if the track for carts passing through this ghaut to and from Palconda could be improved into a tolerable road, the present traffic would be enormously enhanced. In 1835, after the disturbances, and before the Palconda estate was leased out to the Messrs. Arbuthnot, four and twenty of the neighbouring Mokhasadars contracted with the Collector to clear the jungle on each side of the road; they were to enjoy the clearings free for five years and then to hold the land on a favorable quit-rent. This was done and the ghaut has long ceased to be dangerous either from wild beasts or robbers. The traffic is very great, as with the exception of the coast line, it is the only communication between this and the Ganjam District. But the line is entirely unmade, and a very great development of traffic would attend a very slight outlay for an improved road.

Gunapur of Jeypore. Rajah's debts.—7. At Gunapur I was principally engaged in making arrangements with the registered creditors of the Jeypore Rajah, who mostly reside at this place. After some little negociation, the great majority came forward and assented to eight Annas in the rupee. The claims of twenty-five creditors, amounting to Rupees 21,500-12-9 were thus settled for Rupees 10,750-6-4. Eight creditors with a demand of Rupees 11,622-12-6 held out for better terms, but I saw no reason to accede to them. Many other claims were preferred, but we must draw a line somewhere, and I decided not to concern myself with unregistered claim; it being open to the parties, as well of course to the dissenting registered creditors, to prosecute their demands in any competent Court.

The Soura tribes near Gunapur.—8. At Gunapur I heard great complaints of the thievish habits of the Soura tribes on the Hills dividing Gunapur from Pedda Kimedy. They are not dacoits, but very expert burglars, if the term can be applied to digging a hole in the night through a mud wall. If discovered and hard pressed, they do not hesitate to discharge their arrows, which they do with unerring aim and always with fatal result. Three or four murders have been perpetrated by these people in this way, since the country has been under our management. I arranged with the Superintendent of Police to station a party of the Armed Reserve in the ghaut leading to the Soura country. One or two cases of seizure and conviction will suffice to put a check to the crime.

Aspect of country beyond Gunapur.—9. North of the five Taluqs to which Gunapur gives its name, and which have been managed by this Agency, on account of the lawless state of the country since 1855, the Jeypore territories extend for some fifty miles; but the Rajah, though universally acknowledged as the Suzeram, has not always the direct control. Exclusive of large tracts occupied by independent and semi-independent Khonds, the country is divided between three powerful Chiefs, one at Godairy, another at Bessemcuttack, and the third at Singapore.

The Khond Districts. 1st Sirdarpur.—10. This Agency was in-

Birdarpur.
Godairy.
Bijipur.
Chandrapur.
Rayabiji.
Bissemcuttack.
Durji.

formed by Captain McNeill that there are seven Khond Mootahs in Jeypore, addicted to human sacrifice. They are noted in the margin, and we visited them in the order indicated.

Starting from Gunapur; we made two marches to Sirdarpur. This will be found in No. 107, Trigonometrical Survey Map, lying about twenty miles north-east of Gunapur. For fifteen miles our road lay through a fertile well cultivated valley; after that we had heavy jungle on either side; and found our tents pitched near the village of Sirdarpur, by the side of a most unwholesome looking pool, the only water in the place and common alike therefore to elephants, horses, bullocks and men. All around were lofty hills, covered with dense jungle. We left this village on the second day, after an interview with the neighbouring Khonds, and passed on to Godairy distant some twelve miles north north-west; road bad and jungle heavy all the way. About a mile from Sirdarpur we marked down a very suitable halting place near the village of Komárigudda, where we determined to encamp next year.

2nd Godairy.—11. Godairy is a very different place. It was first visited by Colonel Campbell some twelve years ago, and, being very central as well as tolerably healthy, it was at once selected by him as a permanent station for a portion of his force. He appropriated some three or four acres of ground near the village, which is a large place on the banks of the main

stream of the Bonsadhara river, with supplies of all kinds available; and there he constructed a guard house, a small one-roomed Bungalow for the occasional visits of an Officer, with other conveniences. We left a guard of Sebundy here consisting of 1 Havildar, 2 Naigues, and 12 Privates, which will keep a constant surveillance over the surrounding country. It is an excellent situation. Being within two marches of Gunapur, with an open country between, it can readily be reached from that place which will be the head-quarters of the Armed Reserve in these parts, and is as easily accessible to the Agent or his Assistants from the other side of the ghaut.

Description of Godairy Taluq.—12. The Godairy Chief is a member of the Rajah's family. His father was the brother of the present Rajah's grandfather, who granted this brother two very extensive Taluqs, Godairy and Nowrungapoor, in Jeypore proper, both free of quit-rent. Sri-Chaitan Deo, the present Chief, as the eldest member of the Jeypore family, now living, is treated with universal respect. He is between 50 and 60 years old, possessed of considerable intelligence, and with a character marked with but few of the vices characteristic of his class.

From the information given to me by his Managers, it appears that the Godairy Taluq, comprising the four Muttas of Deppagudda, Navera, Jalanidhi and Burukudu, consists of seventy-six villages; seventy of which are assessed to the revenue, three held free by Brahmins, one dedicated to a Temple, and two in the enjoyment of the Chieftain's relatives. His income from these lands comes to Rupees 5,850 a year in money, besides 21 garces of grain. Over and above these seventy villages, there are as many more of independent Khonds. The villages are rented for three or five years to one of the principal Ryots; and the renter, whoever he is, is always considered the Patro or Maggi (headman) of the village, performing the duties without extra emoluments of any kind. The office is frequently held for generations by the same family, for there is a disposition not to disturb those once in, if it can be avoided. Each village too has its serf or vetty, but in very few cases is there any land attached to the office, which is remunerated by fees in grain by the general community.

The Mohturfa still collected.—13. The morning after my arrival at Godairy, I luckily fell in with some Telugu traders, who have been adventurous enough to establish themselves in these Hills, and obtained a great deal of information from them. They complained bitterly of the continued existence of the Mohturfa tax. 'We understand' they said, "that it has been abolished throughout the Vizagapatam District, and even in the Gunupuran Taluqs of Jeypore, held under attachment by the Sirkar. In short the beams of Sri Koompanee's sun have shone in every place, but not in these highlands." It appears that the privileges of retailing salt, oil, and tobacco by sale are yearly put up to public auction, and the system is extended to such petty articles as beads (which are highly prized by the Khonds and lower classes generally) and metal dishes. There is also a house tax on traders and an annual levy of eight Annas on every pack bullock. The licensed dealer in salt pays as much as Rupees 250 per annum, and the other sums are in proportion. Persons venturing to sell these commodities without a license are fined, and harrassed in a variety of ways familiar to those parts of India, where the sun of 'Sri Koompanee' has never shone.

At once prohibited by Governor's Agent.—14. I immediately wrote to Chaitan Deo, prohibiting the collection of these exactions in future, and I further proclaimed them to be at an end by beat of tom-tom in the bazars of Godairy. We also took measures to establish a weekly fair at that place, to be held in a tope adjacent to the Bungalow and guard houses constructed by the Officers of the Meriah Agency, which will now be occupied by a small party the Armed Reserve of the Vizagapatam Police Force. The practice of holding fairs is universal in the District, but has been discouraged here, by the local Chief, for obvious reasons connected with the illegal measures of finance above described.

From Godairy to 3rd Khond District, Bijipur.—15. The Godairy Muttah contains a considerable Khond population. We devoted three days to interviews with the headmen and others from these villages, and then passed on to Bijipur; north north-east, distant two marches. Soon after leaving Godairy we ascended an inconsiderable ghaut, at the foot of which lay a fine

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 4th May 1863.

No. 22. Read the following letter from D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Acting Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Vizagapatam, 31st March 1863.

Report on Tour. Condition of Hill Zemindaries.—I set out on my tour to the Hill Zemindaries and Jeypore on the 1st December, and returned to Vizagapatam on the 7th March instant: I was accompanied throughout by Major Buck, Superintendent of Police.

The whole of December was devoted to the Hill Zemindaries and I proceed to speak of them first. They are all in a highly prosperous condition. The export trade at Bimlipatam and Calingapatam has probably doubled the land under cultivation in the course of the last thirty years. The whole country to the foot of the ghauts is one sheet of cultivation; not only paddy fields, but considerable gardens of sugar-cane and tobacco. I met with no complaints; the ryots seem on the best terms with the ancient Zemindars. It is only in the south of the District, where one or two estates have fallen into the hands of money lenders and usurers that any thing like a general ill-feeling prevails between the landlord and tenant.

The Zemindars themselves.—2. The Zemindars still indulge in much feudal pomp in their retinues, but they no longer shut themselves up in their fortresses. These ancient buildings are either entirely deserted, or converted into commodious substantial modern houses. Some of the Chiefs succeeded to their estates as minors, and were brought down to Vizagapatam to be trained up under the eye of the Governor's Agent. These all speak English, after a fashion, and mention with unfailing gratitude the personal kindness of an Arbuthnot, a Smollett and a Robertson. I wish I could see them solicitous to secure an English education for their sons. I stirred them up to this end, and extracted some promises; Government are aware that there is an excellent Anglo-Vernacular School at Vizagapatam, supported by the Native gentry of the District, with a grant-in-aid from Government and under the management of a Committe of Hindus.

Exceptional case in Panchipenta.—3. The only notable exception to the good condition of the Zemindaries is the Panchipenta estate; which I fear will shortly be brought to the hammer. On succeeding to the estate, now more than 12 years since, the proprietor neglected to resume or to assess with a suitable quit-rent, the numerous villages granted on service tenure by his father; and having thus slept on his rights for a period beyond the statute, he is left without remedy. Moreover Government has recently directed the discontinuance of the transit duty heretofore illegally, but with their implied sanction, collected on traders passing through his country to and from the coast by this Zemindar, and he is reduced to great straits. I assembled his retainers, and pointed out to them that the ruin of their Chief would entail their own, a sale for arrears of tribute of course cancelling all tenancies of this kind created after the permanent settlement; and that it would be for their own benefit to pay [illegible] moderate rent for their lands and so keep the Zemindar afloat. If they [illegible] heed to this advice, the estate will certainly be attached to their immediate ruin; [illegible] a similar fate would befall them should a casualty in the ownership of the Zemindary occur in the ordinary course of nature.

State of the roads.—4. Carts can travel to most leading towns in the Hill Zemindaries; but with very great difficulty. Happily there is an excellent road, with a maintenance allowance of Rupees 100 a mile, from Parvatipur, through Palconda, to Chicacole and Calingapatam. What is wanted is a road to connect Parvatipur with Vizianagrum; from which last mentioned place the road is good to Bimlipatam and Vizagapatam. As we are superseding the Saltpans of Konada and Kuppili by one large one to be constructed at Bimlipatam, it seems important to improve the upper portions of this road which is certainly the main line of the District.

Palconda.—5. After making the tour of the Hill estates, I went to Palconda, which is flourishing in the hands of the lessees, Arbuthnot & Co., and passed through the Sitampéta Ghaut into Parla Kimedy of Ganjam, which from Palconda was my shortest route to Gunapur.

Importance of Sitampéta Ghaut.—6. This is a very important ghaut, connecting Kimedy with Palconda. An excellent road, made at the expense of the Parla Kimedy estate, runs at right

valley perhaps four miles long. After this the road was bad and jungle heavy up to Ponkála, our first stage. From Ponkála to Bijipur it is almost one dense unbroken tree* jungle; my companion, Major Buck, who served many years in Central India, observed that he had seen nothing like it in the Nermal jungles or in the forests of the Nerbudda. But bad as it is, it is not so bad as the ghauts and jungle between Godairy and Rayabiji and between the latter place and Bijipur, if we may trust the account, given by some of our party, who, from one of those mistakes which always occur at the outset of undertakings like this, were taken by the guides straight off from Godairy to *Rayabija* instead of to *Bijipur*.

* 881.

Shyness of Khonds.—16. Bijipur is the centre of a Muttah of nine Khond villages, and is included in the Godairy Taluq belonging to Chaitan Deo. At this and other places on our route, at which the Meriah Agency annually halted for a few days, we found a great difference in the bearing of the Khonds. They seemed glad or at any rate not averse to see us, and readily furnished us with straw, firewood, &c., on payment. Nor was there displayed any timidity in visiting us in large parties at these central places. But if, as occasionally happened, we halted for a few hours at any other place, the village was instantly deserted. Not a human being nor a single head of cattle remained. For the consternation we created, we might have been the advancing column of a hostile force. The same if we came across a party of Khonds in the jungle; they ran off into the forest, like startled deer. This is incidental perhaps to the disposition of savages; but after years of friendly intercourse, it does wear a somewhat disheartening appearance.

Our mode with them.—17. Our mode with the Khonds was this. We invited all comers to our tents, and after inquiring with interest after the state of the crops and the health of their children and cattle, examined them strictly with regard to the practice of Meriah. They all declared with great apparent sincerity that they had utterly abjured and renounced the rite; offering animal sacrifices in its place; and that not a single human being had been immolated for upwards of ten years. We enjoined them to continue true to their pledges, and then distributing a little cloth, tobacco, some strings of beads and a few Rupees, dismissed them to their villages.

Meriah discontinued for many years.—18. I am of opinion that their statement as to the discontinuance of the Meriah, endorsed as it is by the universal testimony of all intelligent men, whom, I have enquired of in these parts, may be safely accepted as true. Colonel Campbell indeed, declared the practice to have ceased amongst the Jeypore Khonds in his report for the season of 1853. He however at the same time strongly advocated the system of yearly visitations by the European Officers of Government, and it would appear from the latest report of the last Special Agent that this periodical supervision is no less necessary now than then. I quote his language in the margin.*

See Precis, page 10.

* "After ten consecutive years of intercourse with all these tribes, it is my confirmed opinion that, if the same degree of surveillance be not kept up, they will without fail revert to human sacrifices, and that no unaided efforts on the part of any subordinates on even of the Rajah will be able to prevent it. Personal influence and local knowledge not only of the tribes but of their language, will alone have any effect on the Khonds."
Captain McNeill, page 20 of Collection and Precis.

We cannot rival the late Agency Officers.—19. Now it cannot of course be expected that the Vizagapatam Agency, with its other manifold duties, can ever hope to rival the Officers of the late Meriah Agency either in the intimacy can afford to the supervision of the Khonds, or in the special acquirements which the of training, directed to one single end, were so well calculated to foster.

Their accomplishments as Linguists.—20. These able, experienced, and truly devoted Officers found time, it is believed, to acquire, in some cases a very thorough, in all, a very sufficient knowledge both of the Uriya and of the Khond dialects. This we can hardly hope to do under the most favorable circumstances, and I own it was with extreme discomfort that I felt obliged to have recourse to interpreters everywhere at my side.

Time to try roads, fairs, &c.—21. If then after years of friendly and immediate intercourse with the Khond races, the Officers of the late Meriah Agency, in taking leave of them, have expressed a firm conviction that these people are not yet weaned from a hankering after this brutal

rite, and are only restrained from its practice by the repeated and systematic visitation of European officials; it occurs to ask whether it would not be as well to try something else concurrently with the maintenance of these annual tours. It might be time now to try what can be done to civilize them by opening roads, clearing the jungle, establishing weekly fairs at all the principal villages in the Taluq and the like. When an entire community are thrown into an ecstacy of happiness, and commence to dance for joy, as these amiable savages did before me, at sight of a string of beads and (rarer still) a few yards of red cloth, articles readily procurable at the commonest Indian bazar, it might be good policy to take means to place such luxuries more universally within their reach, and so work as a lever for their civilization, the 'expulsive force of a new affection.' If a sum of Rupees 2,000 could be placed at my disposal, I would undertake to give a very good account of it by this time next year; so that we should no longer be constrained to go through the jungles in Indian file, as at present.

Necessity of thorough annual visitations.—22-3. I trust the Government will please to give orders that every one of these seven Khond Futtahs of Jeypore be yearly visited by the Governor's Agent or one of his Assistants. It is not more than can be accomplished in a few weeks. We cannot do more perhaps at present than visit the head-quarters of each Muttah, and there invite the Khonds to a conference; but we should not do less than this. Even now many of the Khonds came from considerable distances, and if the Agent visits one or two Futtahs only the Khonds of the remaining Futtahs will certainly not come in; and being left without surveillance, a bad season or a murrain amongst their cattle will induce them once more to propitiate their gods with the blood of human victims.

Bijipur. Nine Khond hamlets.—24. Bijipur is under Chaitan Deo of Godairy. He has a Patro here, an Uriya peon, who superintends the nine Khond villages comprising the Muttah, each village paying a trifling annual tribute to the Patro, who again pays something to Chaitan Deo.

Chandrapur, 4th Khond District.—On leaving Bijipur we went one march, to Chandrapur, lying due north. It is not marked in the Trigonometrical Survey Map, but its situation is just two miles below the large Khond village of Bandari, marked "Bundaree" in the map. In Scott's large map of the Madras Presidency, both Bundaree and the last place we visited, Bijipur, are erroneously placed outside the Jeypore boundary.

Description of Khond village and cultivation.—26. For the first three miles we passed through a level fertile country, with two or three villages here and there. I may here describe the appearance of a Khond village. It consists of two streets, each with a double row of huts. One is occupied by the Khonds, and the other by a class of people equivalent to our southern "Pariahs," called "Paidi," who are weavers by profession; supplying the Khonds for payments in grain with the coarse cloths worn by them. The huts are well built, the walls consisting of posts of timber placed close together and daubed with mud; and the roofs well thatched. In some cases the villages are stockaded, in others surrounded with a slighter protection of wattled bamboos. Within these enclosures, on one side the cattle are folded at night, and on the other, the women and children raise vegetables, chillies, tobacco and other garden produce. Outside, wherever a jungle stream is available rice is grown; otherwise a level piece of forest is burnt, a fire being kindled at the root of every considerable tree and the brushwood cleared by the axe. The fires are not kept up longer than is necessary to destroy the bark of the tree, which is then left to its fate, and cultivation is immediately commenced. In these places we principally saw dholl and the caster oil plant, and occasionally patches of cotton, of which it appears each Khond grows enough for his own household. After the lapse of a few years, when the soil shows symptoms of exhaustion, a fresh site is selected for clearing, and jungle once more covers the first.

Route to Chandrapur.—27. After passing the village of Khillidi, three miles from Bijipur, we came to a ghaut, the ascent of which was the next thing to the perpendicular, and which may be a mile and a quarter in length; at the top we found ourselves on a plateau, which extended for a mile and a half up to the village of Chotragam, when we again went down; but up again once more to perhaps the same level till we came to Chandrapur. From Chotragam to Chandrapur we were crossing an extensive but irregular valley, and within a hundred yards of the latter

place, we crossed a river flowing south. The distance between the two villages may be six or seven miles; it is very heavy jungle the whole way.

Description of Chandrapur.—28. Chandrapur itself is a small Hindu Colony. Some twenty years ago, the Jeypore Rajah sent one of his peons up here, with permission to cultivate free of rent as much ground as he cared to clear, and to take any tribute he could extract from the neighbouring Khonds. The man came up with twenty adherents and their families, and the village is now a very thriving one; but nothing has been got from the Khonds, who continue in all their ancient independence. They acknowledge the Jeypore Rajah and respect his local representative; but they contribute nothing to the fisc, unless it be a few chickens and bunches of plantains at the Dasahara.

Its former lawless state.—29. There are twelve villages here and it was formerly a very troublesome Muttah. They had the audacity to turn out in great force and attack Colonel Campbell's Camp; but twelve years have made a great change. They came in very willingly to see us, when summoned by the Patro for that purpose. The furthest Jeypore village, they told us, lay six Kos (12 miles) beyond Bundaree.

Route to Rayabiji.—30. Leaving *Chandrapur* we marched 10 or 12 miles south-west to Rayabiji; jungle all the way, in great part bamboo. Our road was tolerably level, and we crossed what we supposed to be the same river again, at the foot of the village of Rayabiji.

Description of the 5th Khond District.—31. Rayabiji is an important place as the centre of the most considerable of the Khond Hill tracts of Jeypore. It comprises 106 Khond villages, divided into six Muttahs. There are twelve other villages in the hands of Uriya Patros, one Patro to each Khond Muttah, about one-half of the Khond householders pay their Patros a Rupee each annually, and a putty of grain. The rest pay nothing at all, excepting a trifling offering on the occasion of a change of Patros, which only happens by the occurrence of death. The next of kin then goes to Jeypore, presents his Nuzzer to the Rajah, who gives him a bracelet, a sword, or turban, and formally invests him with the vacant office. On his return to his Muttah, the Khonds go through the ceremony of paying him homage, and each man contributes a buffaloe, a sheep, or a cow, according to his means. The office of Patro is always hereditary; and instances have been known of the Khonds deserting their villages and retiring into the denser forests of Orissa in search of a fresh habitation, when the rule has been departed from. The connection has now subsisted for many generations with good feeling on both sides, and these savages dread a change.

Route to Bissemcuttack.—32. From Rayabiji we proceeded in due course to Bissemcuttack, 30 miles to the west, halting at Donjasurada and Kutragadda. The jungle was lighter, the ghauts not considerable. Between Donjasurada and Kutragadda we crossed the Vansadhavra river three times. Near Bissemcuttack the villages lay pretty closely together; the cultivation appeared to be carried on with great industry, and several fine Mango topes came into view. We were told that we have now left the *Kotiya* or Mountaineer Khonds behind us, and that we were now in the country of the *Déshya* or outer Khonds.

Description of Bissemcuttack, the Ct Khond District.—33. *Bissemcuttack* is the capital of the Tát Rajah, or the Rajah at the head of the Military Force of Jeypore. The family has been here for seven or eight generations, the first comer having had this frontier Taluk granted to him on terms of service by his Chief. The service has now been commuted into a yearly tribute of Rupees 2,500; besides which, when specially called upon to do so, the feudatory is expected to accompany the Sirdar in with a numerous retinue on his travels. The last occasion of his doing so, was during the visit paid by the present Rajah of Jeypore to the Rajah of Vizianagram in 1859. The Tát Rajah then came forward with a rabble of 500 men. By caste he is a Srishti Karnam, a race which in this part of the country is extremely warlike, though in Rajahmundry and even in the lower Taluks of Vizagapatam, they are known only as good accountants and bustling traders. I found him a man of good address, he reads and writes his own language and speaks fluently in Telugu. Two hundred of his peons are salaried and reside in the Fort, a tumble down construction of mud, and its suburbs. The town contains some 400 houses and is supplied with artizans of all kinds. The martial element is very perceptible amongst the towns people. Every third man is one of the Rajah's servants and swaggers

about with a sword. In the centre of the town is a good sized Gymnasium, where these fellows wrestle and box and perform feats of "Khusrut" generally. I hope our higher rates of pay and other privileges will tempt some of them to enter the Police. Finer young men I never saw.

Route to Durgi, 7th Khond District.—34. From Bissemcuttack we marched 15 miles to Durgi. This route is described in Scott's Road Book, No. 91, whose accounts I transcribe. "Road passes through defiles and gorges between detached masses of an irregular chain of Hills. It is a broad beaten bullock tract, but presents considerable difficulty for carts; jungle all the way." I endorse this description. I made particular inquiries and learnt that a cart has never been seen either at Durgi or at Bissemcuttack.

Condition of 6th and 7th Districts generally.—35. In these two Taluqs (Bissemcuttack and Durgi) there are but 18 *Kotiya** Khond villages; they all lie in Bissemcuttack. The population in both Taluqs is chiefly Khond, but there is a very little difference between them and the ryots of the rest of the District. In the highlands, every Khond carries an axe and a bow and arrows; and goes always bareheaded and with little or no clothing on the rest of his body. I don't think I saw three turbans during the whole of my tour and these were presents by the late Meriah Agent. Here in these outer Taluqs, the Khond is dressed very much like other Indian cultivators, and lethal weapons are laid aside for the ordinary ryot's staff. Like other Khonds they are known to have practised Meriah, but the injunction to discontinue the rite was at once obeyed without show of resistance. It appears indeed from the accounts of the late Agency's Officers, and from what was admitted in my own hearing, that the entire population of the country, both Khonds and Hindu colonists, participated more or less directly in offering human sacrifices. The whole country side frequented the scene of the sacrifice as they would a fair or other spectacle. The Hindu Patros or headmen actually presented the sacrificial knife, for which the Priest paid a small fee. In 1851, when the Jeypore country was in a very disturbed state and an encounter imminent between the forces of the Rajah and those of his feudatory, the Tát Zomindar; Colonel Campbell found that the latter had purchased a young boy, who was kept in confinement, ready to be offered up to Manicksoro the God of War, so soon as hostilities actually commenced. All this is changed now, thanks to the efforts and exertions of Colonel Campbell and his successors. In 1854, when there was a Meriah sacrificed at Rayabiji, and the Khonds of Bissemcuttack were furtively sending messages to procure morsels of flesh, to bury in their fields, as a pleasing tribute to "Tari Pennu" the great earth goddess, the Tát Raja sent for them and threatened to shoot down with his peons any person who ventured to leave the country on such an errand; and he showed us with much pride a double barrelled Rifle, which had been presented to him through the Agency Officers, in appreciation of this achievement, and his good conduct on other occasions.

* Mountain.

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Page 9 of Collection and Precis.

Number of Villages, &c., in Bissemcuttack.—36. I proceed to give some account of the number of villages, &c., in the Bissemcuttack and Durgi Taluqs.

Bissemcuttack.—The country is divided into eight Muttahs comprising 149 villages, as noted in the margin. With but few exceptions, the village communities are entirely Khond; but, as already stated, there are but 18 *Kotiya* Khond villages, and these all lie in the Ambodala Muttah. All these villages pay a certain mámúl sum of money to their respective Patros who are invariably renters under the Zemindar. Besides this, each village contributes a sheep, and each householder a Rupee at the Dasahara to the the Rajah direct. At the head of each Muttah is a Patro responsible for the whole. He has lands conditioned for feudal service; and is expected to pay his respects to the Zemindar once a year with his peons when he presents a Nuzzer, and gets a cloth in return.

1. Kanakaladi...	24	Villages.
2. Jigada.....	24	,,
3. Sogata.....	8	,,
4. Kojiri.....	6	,,
5. Ambodalu.....	33	,,
6. Bhougoda.....	32	,,
7. Jogadalapur..	16	,,
8. Kutagoda....	10	,,

The Jamabandi of the Taluq is set down at 6,500 Rupees, but it must be a great deal more. The Zemindar has also considerable private demesne and numerous gardens.

The produce of the Taluq includes paddy, turmeric, oil seeds of all kinds, tobacco and sugar-cane. The last is grown in twelve villages only by a race of thrifty Uriya cultivators, called 'Máli.' The jaggery, together with grains and oil seeds, is sent as far as Parvatipur and even Bobbili to the south, or rather Komaties and Uriya Brahmins come from thence and export it on pack bullocks. In the same way tobacco is exported to the Nagpore country. A great deal of business is done by barter. The Nagporeans bring iron, and the southerners cloths and salt. A measure of salt will here fetch 5 measures of produce. There is no lac here, as I was led to expect, and no dammer. For the latter, the Brinjaries are said occasionally to penetrate to the less remote villages of the highland Khond tracts. I shall take means to establish a weekly fair at this place.

Number of villages, &c., in Durgi.—37. DURGI.—This has a small Muttah of thirty-six villages—twenty-six of these Khond. The country contains no *Kotiya* Khonds, however, and in other respects the remarks made on the Bissemcuttack Taluq are applicable to this. It is presided over by an Uriya Rajput, the hereditary Patro; he pays Rupees 600 to the Jeypore Rajah and acknowledges to Rupees 400 (over and above the produce of some lands in his own cultivation) as his net income. The villages being so few in number, he looks after them all himself, each village making up the customary sum without the intervention of a renter.

Route to Rayagadda valley.—38. From Durgi I moved my camp across the ghauts to the west and entered the Rayagadda valley, the second or (including the Khond tract) the third natural division of the Jeypore territory.

Our first stage was Paikipodo, 18 miles. It is not in the Trigonometrical Survey Map, but is situated about 5 miles north-west of 'Bhaminy.' The plateaus between the chains of hills are well cultivated and we noted numerous flourishing villages. There is one very heavy ghaut at the entrance of Bhaminy. From Bhaminy we made one march, another 18 miles, to Singapore, which will be found in the map in the same latitude with Bissemcuttack. But between these two places there is hardly any direct communication, on account of a tremendous ghaut in the Neemgherry Hills, which you must ascend from Bissemcuttack.

Singapore. Illegal levy of transit duty.—39. Going from Paikipodo to Singapore, we had occasion to cross the Nagávali river three or four times, the banks of which are very precipitous. But after this, with the exception of a troublesome defile before you get to Shikarpoy, our road lay through a very level and open country. Singapore itself is surrounded on three sides by river, and is entirely shut out from view by a dense jungle of Bamboo. North of the town there is a fair encamping ground. We stayed here two days. It is the residence of a Zemindar, a relative of the Jeypore Rajah. He pays no quit-rent and has been hitherto almost supreme in his own Taluq. Some Brinjarries I met down at Parvatipur told me that this petty chieftain still levied a transit duty on traders, and handed me in proof thereof a cadjan leaf receipt granted to them a month or two before, setting forth that they had paid the instalment payable on going down to the Coast. I of course at once wrote to the Zemindar prohibiting this levy, and I determined to visit him in the course of my tour. He pleaded ignorance of the order of Government in the matter, which it seems was not furnished to him by the Rajah of Jeypore. He is a young man of 18 years of age only. He will not repeat the offence, and I am of opinion that his excuse may be accepted; but this is only one instance out of many; how necessary it is for the European Officers of Government to make regular visitations into every part of their charge.

Other illegal cesses throughout Jeypore country.—40. I may here mention another matter of the same kind. It appears that every Zemindar in the country, following the example of the Jeypore Rajah, sells licenses permitting the holders to assume the sacred thread common to the upper classes; to use the sectarial marks smeared by Hindus on their foreheads; to wear bracelets of the precious metals; and even to use an umbrella, provided always that it is of calico; for, I must do them the justice to say that there is no extra charge where the article is of Palmyra leaf only. If it were only that parties think themselves honored by being a Rajah's umbrella man and the like, this, however absurd and irrational, would be no ground of complaint; the gist of

which of course is that no person declining to pay down his fee is allowed to avail himself of any of these privileges.

I have sent a circular letter to each potentate, explaining the privileges of the subject in these matters, and notifying that their people are not to be harassed in future in respect thereof.

Condition of Singapore.—41. To return to the Singapore Zemindary.

Here, as in the Bissemcuttack valley, the great bulk of the population is Khond, but still further removed from barbarism. There are 105 Khond villages, six of Malis, and seven of other Uriyas, besides there are eight villages held free by Brahmins and 33 Mokhasas charged with furnishing 200 peons. The Zemindar's income is given at Rupees 5,000 and odd. The revenue system is much the same as in Bissemcuttack.

Great Brinjarry trade. Cart road proposed.—42. Meeriah practices are never known to have provided amongst the Singapore Khonds. This is admitted by the Officers of the late Special Agency. Indeed, the aspect of this valley is in all respects of a highly promising character. It is the favorite route of Brinjarries from Nagpore, owing to the open level character of the country. A cart road might be made at very little expense, connecting Singapore, through Rayagadda, with Parvatipur the great mart at the foot of the ghauts, which divide this portion of Jeypore from the older Taluks of the Vizagapatam District. A fair bullock track has now been made by the Department Public Works from Parvatipur to Rayagadda, but it is not practicable for carts. The merchants of Rayagadda invited us to proceed a couple of miles down the road and judge for ourselves. We did so, and found that while there was serious impediment to wheeled traffic on the north of the river, the ascent and descent on the south of it make it absolutely impossible for carts to go either up or down. Were matters improved there and at one or two other nullahs and defiles further up, bandies might travel with ease from Parvatipur to the extreme frontier of Singapore.

Rayagadda.—43. Rayagadda is 30 miles from Singapore; we made it in two marches, halting at Lakshmipuram. Here too the population is almost entirely Khond, and a more industrious people it would be impossible to meet with. The Taluq is one of the five attached by Government in 1855. The place itself is a thriving town, being the emporium of the local trade. Five generations ago it was the Capital of the Jeypore Rajah, Biswanath Deo, who built an enormous Fort here, the ruins of which are still visible, and where they point out the site of the self immolation of his one hundred and sixteen wives, who ascended the funeral pyre on the occurrence of his death. The Government are aware that the practice of 'Sati' only lately ceased in Jeypore. The old Rajah was entirely ignorant of the prohibitory law passed by Lord William Bentinck; but ready at once to meet the Agent's views, he ordered its discontinuance by beat of tom-tom, observing only that "as this is a hilly country and the people are rather savage, the rules will take effect but slowly." The last use to which the Fort of Rayagadda has been put was the imprisonment of the late Rajah by the present one, then heir apparent, in the disturbances of 1849; an account of which, and of the old man's release by Major Haly with a party of Sibbandies, will be found in my Precis of Jeypore papers annexed.

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Route westward to Jeypore.—44. From Rayagadda we moved across the western ghauts to Jeypore proper; and in this place it will be convenient to sum up the opinions I have formed and the arrangements I would propose in regard to the administration of the extensive country, I have, up to this point in my narrative, travelled over.

General description of country visited.—45. This moiety of the Jeypore Rajah is certainly 4,000 square miles in extent.

On the north it is bounded by the Nagpore tributary State of Kalahandy or Kharonde, and by a portion of Ganjam; on the south by the Hill Zemindaries of Vizagapatam with Parla Kimedy; on the east, by Chinna Kimedy; and on the west partly by Jeypore proper and partly by Kalahandy.

The country is entirely surrounded by chains of ghauts, and is divided into three extensive valleys, which I may call the Godairy, the Bissemcuttack and the Rayagadda respectively.

The five fertile Taluqs to the south, viz., Gunapur, Kailasakota, Rayagadda, Alamanda and Narayanapatnam are very little wilder than the remoter Hill Zemindaries of Vizagapatam; and different factions that formerly distracted Jeypore always made them their first prey. Possession of these tracts was possession of the sinews of war. Accordingly, when the Government at last stept in to check these disorders in 1855, their first act was to assume the direct management of the five Districts, which have been held ever since in trust for the Rajah of Jeypore, and entirely, both in Revenue and Police administration, at his expense.

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Proposal to retransfer the attached Taluqs.—46. With the introduction of the new Police, it has always been in contemplation to restore these Taluqs to the Rajah, and I recommend that this be now done. The presence of a Government Ameen, with a party of Sibbundies and a large force of peons has kept the country perfectly quiet. I wish my inquiries led me to believe that the Revenue Administration of the country has been a blessing to the people; but such is not the case. For the eight long years during which successive Governor's Agents at Vizagapatam have been entrusted with the supervision of these Taluqs, not one has set his foot in them, nor has any subordinate European Officer been required to visit them. The entire management has been left in the hands one man, a Native Ameen, formerly a head of Police in the Vizagapatam District. Very little has been allowed, and that little spent, without any check on the outlay, for irrigation repairs, or in roads; no reductions have been made in an assessment which may well be presumed to have been heavy enough before, but each year it has been raised, at the fiat of the Ameen, two, three and four Annas in the Rupee, according to the prospects of the season. Deputations of the ryots, mostly Khonds struggling into civilization, complained bitterly to me of all this. Meanwhile the Ameen has grown enormously rich, and all his myrmidons also. He has invested chiefly in Inam lands in the Chicacole Taluqs, and I find that he has purchased 100 garces at least.

Vizagapatam Agency, negligence of.—47. How different all this might have been, had the European Officers of Government honestly given a portion of their attention to this interesting and important charge. I contrast the backwardness of the Gunapur Taluqs with what has been done by the Ganjam officials for the incapacitated proprietor of the adjoining Parla Kimedy estate, and I blush for my predecessors at Vizagapatam.

The great Chiefs very helpful.—48. North of these five Taluqs, to the left lies the Singapore Zemindary, to the centre that of Bissemcuttack, and to the right, the Godairi Zemindary with the Khond tracts beyond. I have received every assistance from these Zemindars, and I doubt not that they will give their support to the new order of things. They have been entirely independent up to this time, for they formed no part of the Gunapur Ameen's charge. If treated with consideration and respect they will be found the Agent's best allies. In a country so wild, I congratulate myself that we have these influential Chiefs between ourselves and the people. If there were no Zemindars of this mark, men who can at once call into the field several hundreds of armed followers, and help us, as occasion requires, to coerce or negociate with the wilder denizens of the mountain and the jungle, the Police force allowed for this District would require to be raised fourfold, and still prove inefficient for its purposes.

Khond tract only doubtful one.—49. The only doubtful part of the country is, of course, the Khond tracts. The Khonds, and next to Khonds, the independent Soura tribes of Jeypore, all lie alongside of Parla Kimedy and Chinna Kimedy of Ganjam. The boundaries march together. It seems that the very complete arrangements originally proposed by Mr. Robinson and the Governor's Agent, Ganjam, have not been fully carried out in regard to Chinna Kimedy. The District is given by Mr. Robinson as comprising 2,200 miles of wild and jungly country, and it is always emphatically spoken of by the Madras Agency Officers as "the very pulse of Khond feeling." Under these circumstances it is clearly all the more incumbent upon us at Vizagapatam to make our side of the border as secure as possible.

Allocation of Police.—50. I have already said that I make no account whatever, as of *bonâfide* Khond tracts, either of Bissemcuttack or Durgi. Deducting these two, five Muttahs still remain, viz,, Godairy, Sirdarpur, Bijipur, Chandrapur (or Bundaree) and Rayabiji.

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All of these, as well of course as the rest of the country, but these above all, should be yearly visited by the Agent or one of his Assistants, in company with one of the European Officers of Police; and at the first and last of these five places, guards of Sibbundis should be stationed: at Godairy, all the year round, and at Rayabiji in the cold months. This comprises every thing that the late Agency recommended, and it will I hope be sufficient to watch the inner Khonds, and if necessary to enforce abstinence from Meriah Sacrifices.

Bungalow required at Rayabiji.—51. At Godairy we left a guard, and to Rayabiji one will shortly be pushed forward. At this latter place it would be very desirable to have a rough Bungalow for the Agent or Officer of Police, in case his presence should be suddenly required there, such as has been sanctioned for numerous places in Ganjam. A well need not be dug, as there is a river close by.

Comforts for the sick in Camp.—52. This is all the additional outlay I propose. Two Sepoys' tents should be allowed for the guard accompanying the Governor's Agent on these tours; and six Hospital doolies for the conveyance of the sick. The Apothecary in charge should further be allowed to indent for a small quantity of wine. The convalescent rallied wonderfully under the stimulus of a few occasional glasses of Portwine; but it was not from the Government stores. I feel sure that it will not be begrudged to fever-striken men serving in this perilous climate, any more than it is to Sepoys serving in the field.

Contingent expenses of Tour.—53. The contingent expenses of the tour amounted to Rupees 237-9. The Khond headmen, the rescued Meriahs, "Government children" as they gratefully call themselves, the country peons who accompanied us from one Muttah to another, all expected trifling presents, and it will be desirable occasionally to give a silver bracelet or anklet to the Uriya Patros presiding over each Muttah. Such was the practice of the late Agency, and we must not go backward, especially at the outset.

Annual grant for clearing roads. Further remaks on Police. Necessity of Village Watchmen.—54. But what is principally required is a small annual grant for clearing the jungle and opening up roads. I have adverted to this in paragraph 21 *supra*. Rupees 2,000 will not I hope be considered an immoderate yearly outlay for the present. The people of the country would contract for the work with the Agency Officers direct, as proposed by Mr. Robinson for the Ganjam Maliahs. This is all I have to say of the Khonds. For the occupation of the rest of the country, I have arranged with the Superintendent of Police as follows:—

The head-quarters of the Armed Reserve are to be at Gunapur, with posts every ten or twelve miles up the road to Bissemcuttack. Corresponding posts from Singapore all down the Rayagadda road, and on the road leading from Parvatipur through Alamandah and Narayanapatam. This will keep open these lines of road. But a Constabulary is nothing without a subsidiary force of Village Police, and this outlay must be met at once. Every village has its vettyman, but he is the servant of the community only and is paid as they please with grain. These people are of the 'Paidi' class already described, and from them we must select our Village Police. The division contains 1,370 villages, and if we allow one to every five, and give each man two Rupees a month, the sum monthly—Rupees 548. This expense is absolutely necessary for efficiency of administration.

Two roads very desirable.—55. If the Bissemcuttack and Rayagadda routes could be made into decent roads for cart traffic, so as to connect the first with Buttelee of Ganjam, and the other with Parvatipur in our own District, from both of which places there are excellent roads to the Coast, these Districts would soon be as flourishing as any part of Vizagapatam. Both roads are important; the Rayagadda is the more frequented by Brinjarries than the other. But the expense of its construction would be so trifling that I hope that the other road would receive simultaneous sanction. Bissemcuttack being so close to the *inner* Khonds, a road would be every thing for the civilization of these people. Both roads unite at Joonagoodda the capital of Kalahindy, and the route is then one to Raipore, the capital of the Chutteesgurh Division of Nagpore.

These works would naturally come under the Department of Public Works.

Another Sub-Magistrate required.—56. Finally I must ask the Government for a second Sub-Magistrate, whom I would station at Rayagadda. Gunapur is an important town, and it is very well situated for all that side of the country. But no single station, place it where you will, will suffice for this enormous division of the District, a division which it has taken me exactly six weeks to inspect; though I have never halted more than two or three days at one place, and have constantly marched eighteen miles a day for three days consecutively in order to pass with expedition from one important place to another. I shall add no more, for I have written to very little purpose if the magnitude and importance of the charge are not felt by Government to justify the cost of a second Sub-Magistrate. Both Sub-Magistrates should be invested with the power of a 1st Class Sub-Magistrate; or every case not trivial will have to be sent out of the division to be tried by an European Officer with full powers; a great hardship on the prosecutor, witnesses and Constabulary. I find that there is little or no traffic between this and Jeypore proper, and that Parvatipur on the Vizagapatam frontier is the place to which every body resorts. I intend therefore that that place shall be the head-quarters of the Senior Assistant; and the Superintendent of Police, entirely concurring with me in my view of the importance of the town, is about to move the head-quarters of his first European Assistant to it. I must here ask sanction for a road between Parvatipur and Gunapur. At present it is very bad indeed, quite impassable for carts, and the general route is down by Palcouda, through the ghauts into the Ganjam District, and so up the Parla Kimedy road, which goes to the Ganjam frontier, Buttelee, five miles from Gunapur.

The Junior Assistant and the second European Assistant of Police will have quite enough on their hands in Jeypore proper, which is estimated to contain 5,000 square miles of country, and from constant border frays and other causes, is by no means the settled country which this division of Jeypore appears, on the whole, to be.

Route to Jagannadapur, whence to Naurangpur of Jeypore.—57. To resume my route. From Rayagadda we made seven stages* to Jagannadpur of Jeypore, accomplishing the entire distance in four days. From the third to the fifth stage the country between the ridges of ghaut is open and well cultivated, but with this exception our journey here lay through as wild and difficult a country as any we have passed through. On leaving Jagannadpur we crossed the Indravatty not far from its source; yet rafts were found necessary, for even here it is a deep stream with steep banks. A little to the north of the town there is a tolerable ford.

* Guma.
Kunilla Kota.
Sunkamda.
Tikkeri.
Dumagudum.
Atopadra.
Jagannadpur.

We halted two days at Naurangpur, the residence of the Zemindar Chaitan Deo, who, as already mentioned, holds this estate and that of Godairy in the Khond tract.

Naurangpur Estate.—58. The Naurangpur estate consists of 124 villages, besides six held on favorable tenure by Brahmins and others. The Jamabundi for the whole according to the accounts furnished me, is Rupees 4,089 in money, and Rupees 3,113 in grain.

The system of management is nearly the same as that at Godairy. Here the people begin to change from Khonds to a class called Porazas. 'Meriáh' has never been known.

Route to Kotapad.—59. From Naurangpur, we made two marches to Kotapad. I may say of this plateau, thirty miles long and perhaps twenty broad, extending from Jagannadpur to to Kotapad, that it is as fine a country as one would desire to see. It is one mass of paddy fields; the cultivation is not fed from tanks, but is dependent on the rains. Near the Indravatty wells are sunk for the cultivation of sugar-cane. We noticed also fine fields of wheat and of Bengal gram.

Report on the Kotapad dispute between Jeypore and Bustar.—60. Kotapad is the chief village in the five Taluqs of that name, which have been so long in dispute between Jeypore and Bustar.

Immediately on receiving through your office the order of the Supreme Government, approving the suggestion, I had the honor to make, that the affray between the Jeyporeans and Bustar might be settled with advantage by this Agency, I instructed Lieutenant

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Smith, Assistant Agent at Jeypore to proceed himself to Kotapad, to issue proclamations to the Bustar people to come forward with their complaints, and to commit the accused to my Court on my arrival at Kotapad, if a *primâ facie* case against them were made out. Lieutenant Smith was twelve days at Kotapad, but nobody came forward. Bustar is now taken up by the Police of the Central Provinces, and there is a small force at Tarapur under an intelligent East Indian Inspector (Stewart) who assisted Lieutenant Smith in circulating his notification. Every facility was thus afforded to persons desirous of redress; and their silence now leads to the belief either that no lives were lost on the occasion of this border fray, or that the parties have compromised the matter in the interim. With the possession of those lands secured by the Governor General's decision to Jeypore, and a Police Force established on both sides of the border, I anticipate hearing no more of these feuds, the more so that death has removed from the scene the leader of the faction against the Jeyporeans, Dalganjari Singh Lal, a very turbulent character, the uncle and Dewan of the Bustar Rajah. There is a mud Fort at Kotapad of considerable extent; and great part of the town lies within it. I have arranged with the Jeypore Rajah gradually to reduce the numbers of the peons he maintains at his frontier post, and he appeared quite willing to do so in the present position of affairs.

Route to Jeypore the Capital.—61. From Kotapad it is two marches to Jeypore through a country nearly all swamp and jungle. The villages are few and far between, and the appearance of the ryots extremely squalid. This is the case generally with such portions of the country as are managed from Jeypore direct, and is to be attributed to the unhappy factions which so long disturbed the Rajah.

Interview with Rajah. Three principal topics discussed. Necessity of Village Police.—62. At Jeypore I stayed a week and had frequent interviews with the Rajah. He is about 30 years old. I found him by no means the boor he had been represented to be; on the contrary he is superior both in manners and intellect to what might be expected of one with his limited opportunities to cultivate the one or the other. His Dewan is a very sensible man; but his efforts at reform are very generally frustrated by the machinations of a crowd of parasites hanging about the Chief. These men I advised the Rajah to discharge, and to attend to his own affairs, with the assistance of the Dewan alone.

Besides this and other advice, too obvious for detailed report, the conversation turned on three principal points.

I. I insisted that he should lessen the number of his armed retainers. He seemed glad to be ordered to do so, and promised early compliance. Many of these men are paid in land, and in their case it is desirable that the full rent should be gradually required of them; the condition of service being of course dispensed with.

II. I spoke to him about his step-brother Madya Yuva Ráz. The history of this ill-conditioned young man will be found in my Precis. He lives at Gunapur and draws from his brother through this Agency a monthly allowance of 500 Rupees. He has always been pressing for land in lieu of money. I sounded the Rajah on this point, but found him extremely unwilling to concede it. It appears to be entirely a matter for the Rajah's consideration. Very few Zemindars care to alienate any portion of their lands; and it would be extremely harsh to press Jeypore (with large existing alienations and with an income under a lac and a quarter) to do so in favor of a relative who never ceases to intrigue against him; and who in less settled times attempted to accomplish his ends at the point of the sword.

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III. I alluded to the alleged existence of the 'Meriah rite' in the more civilized portions of his Zemindary. It has been repeatedly stated by the Officers of the late Meriah Agency that influential Hindus of Jeypore secretly practice this rite, and that there is even reason to believe that the present Rajah, when he installed himself at his father's decease in 1860-61, sacrificed a young girl of thirteen years of age at the shrine of the goddess Dúrgá in the town of Joypore. Further, these Officers asserted that the Rajah and his Chiefs retain in their service great numbers of professional robbers, called Khongárs, whom they employ within the Jeypore country and in the plains, on expeditions of rapine and bloodshed.

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In mentioning these astounding allegations to the Rajah, I added that I was willing to believe that the Meriah Agent had been grossly misinformed; it being hardly credible in the present day that persons of rank would put life and honor in jeopardy by engaging in such atrocious crimes. The charges of course have always been stoutly denied, and while bowing to the superior experience of Captain McNeill in these outlying portions of the Vizagapatam District, I must say that the results of such inquiries as I have been able to make do not support those statements. At all events with our Police in the country under the command of an European Officer, and with the presence of my junior Assistant, we may be confident that speedy detection will follow the commission of all heinous offences for the future. Village Police, I regret to state, there is none. Jeypore proper contains, I have ascertained, 1,300 villages. Sanction for 260 village Talaries,* one Talari for every 5 villages, is absolutely necessary. It would be introduced by degrees, as the Assistant Superintendent of Police and Lieutenant Smith might have opportunities to visit the several localities.

* At 2 Rupees a month.

The Petta Ghaut. Description of Jeypore road.—63. When I was at Jeypore, the Order of Government in the Public Works Department, Military, recalling the Company of Sappers was received there. This Company had just relieved another Company which had been working for some time on the Petta ghaut near Jeypore, and while engaged in that duty had suffered very severely from fever. And I have since my return to this place accidentally seen the order referred to, which besides re-calling the Sappers directs a letter to be written to the Supreme Government, "with a request that they will desire the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces to complete the Jeypore road by cooly labor as proposed by Colonel Birdwood." Order of Government Public Works Department, Military, 28th January 1863, No. 245.

64. As, I have been over every inch of this road, I trust I may be allowed to say something on the subject; and to show cause for a reconsideration of the order, so far as regards the proposed communication to the authorities at Nagpore.

When it was determined that this Agency should take up the administration of Jeypore, it became necessary to improve one or other of the lines of ghaut more commonly used by wayfarers and Brinjarries travelling to and from that country to the coast. The Madgole and Parvatipur lines (descriptions of which will be found from the pen of Lieutenant Vertue of the Engineers in the appendix to my Precis) were rejected in favor of a new line by Galikonda, which was then in great favor as a proposed sanitarium.

The line was to run north from Vizagapatam through Srunguvárapukota and Kasipuram to Kottur, where you ascend a very long and troublesome ghaut to Rayavalsa, which is 3,000 feet above the level of the sea.

From Rayavalsa to the head of the Pettah ghaut, which is about 16 miles south of Jeypore, there are one or two difficult defiles, but for the most part the road lies through an undulating plain with a slight descent; at Pettah you descend 1,000 feet and reach a perfectly plain country.

I say that from Rayavalsa to the top of the Pettah ghaut no actual difficulties supervene. But instead of following this line, it was determined to carry the road right over Galikonda, which is an isolated range towering over Rayavalsa to the west.

This line from Kasipuram over Galikonda to the head of the Pettah ghaut, was first traced by the old Sibbandi Force under Lieutenants Dobree and Gordon, and then improved by the Sappers under Lieutenant Irvine, who further constructed the trace down the Pettah ghaut, so far as it is finished, which is about two-thirds.

Finally Major Stewart, R. E., traced out an entirely new line, avoiding Galikonda. The excellent trace down the Pettah ghaut was also made by this Officer; and the Rajah of Vizianagrum giving 50,000 Rupees for the work, Government sanctioned a similar sum, and this money is now being spent on the line through the District Engineer.

A Special European Officer required for the road.—64. The sickness of the Sappers is to be deplored, but I have no reason to doubt (having now seen the whole country) that the people of the District would come forward in sufficient gangs for the work, if an Officer could be specially detailed to the duty; to see that they are regularly paid and properly treated in every respect. But the work does require that an European Officer should be at its head. Great tact, kindness, and judgment are required in the management of these hill men; and a stout heart not to quail before the real dangers and difficulties of the undertaking.

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At all events with my Assistant at Jeypore, with all the resources of the country available to our hands, and with all that has been done hitherto by Madras Officers before us, I feel that it would be a lasting disgrace to the administration of the Vizagapatam Agency, and which I humbly suggest it has not deserved, if the Commissioner at Nagpore is now to be called in as the "*deus ex machinâ*," and be required, as proposed by Colonel Birdwood, to complete the Jeypore road.

Pity to take it out of the hands of Vizagapatam Officials.—65. If it is proposed to transfer the Jeypore country to the Central Provinces, that of course alters the state of the case; but while the Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George at Vizagapatam is entrusted with its administration, I submit that he and the District Engineer of the District are the proper persons to carry out this work. I am not aware that the Chief Commissioner has any facilities which we do not possess. It is certainly our territory, and *his* nearest Officer resides at Seroncha on the upper Godavery. Two Madras Officers are actually posted at this moment, and were so when Colonel Birdwood wrote, at Jeypore. Madras Engineers have traced the whole line, and in two or three seasons. Madras Officers if permitted to finish what they have so well begun, will have brought the work to a close.

Route from Jeypore home.—66. But it is time I brought this long report to a conclusion. The country between Pettah and Galikonda I have described as one great undulating plain. There are numerous villages, and considerable cultivation is carried on, which cannot fail to receive a great stimulus from the opening up of this new road. The third Sub-Magistrate allowed for Jeypore I have stationed for the present at Araku, a march to the south of Ourarah. A line of Police posts will run the whole way from Jeypore.

General success of tour.—67. I have been very fortunate in this tour. We have had but little sickness in the camp, and no deaths. The season for travelling (January and February) was no doubt in our favor, and by taking a select few only, I was able to travel with very little trouble to the people of the country. The Agency Elephants were invaluable, and we found it necessary to borrow two more (of course paying their charges) from the Jeypore Rajah. They are for many purposes the only suitable carriage in such hills as we have visited.

No fears for future of Jeypore.—68. I have no fears for the future of Jeypore. Some embarrassments in the earlier administration we must of course be prepared to expect. They form our penalty for the crass neglect of well nigh four score years, during which that Province has been left entirely to itself. But I see nothing in the aspect of of the Rajah, his Chiefs or his people, which leads me to expect that the task before us is one of any extraordinary difficulty.

A Precis and Collection of Jeypore papers submitted.—69. I have not thought it necessary to go into the history of our connection with Jeypore in this report. I have printed a Precis I prepared for my own use, detailing all that is of interest on that subject. It will be seen how entirely we avoided all intercourse with the District from the first day it came under our rule to the general anarchy of 1855. This policy, strange to say, was deliberately adopted, and had the approval of the highest authority. When reviewing the narrative of the Jeypore disturbances of 1849-50, the Honorable Court of Directors positively prohibited marching into a country "cursed with so pestilential a climate." "We never had" it was remarked "exercised Police control in the Zomindary" and it would be sufficient if we held our own "repelling all incursions into the low country; sentiments which were repeated in very similar language by a Governor General of India five years later.

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No. 23. ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1863, No. 683.

In the foregoing letter the Acting Agent at Vizagapatam has furnished a very full and interesting report on his recent tour in the Hill Zemindaries of his District, including that of Jeypore. In the latter Zemindary, the greater part of which has hitherto been little influenced by British administration, the Police has now been introduced, and one of the Agent's European Assistants with two Sub-Magistrates have been stationed in it. Mr. Carmichael's recent visit has enabled him to suggest several measures well calculated to facilitate the success of the arrangements which have been made for maintaining peace and order and preventing a recurrence to the barbarous practices prevalent in former years, but which were suppressed by the late Meriah Agency and appear to have been discontinued for some time past.

2. The Governor in Council will notice Mr. Carmichael's recommendations *seriatim* and pass his orders separately on each.

1st. As to roads. He recommends—

(*a.*)—That a good road be made to connect Parvatipur, an important town below the ghauts, and which is proposed to be the head-quarters of the Senior Assistant Agent and of a European Assistant Superintendent of Police, with Vizianagram. From the latter place there is a good road to Bimlipatam and Vizagapatam, and the road now proposed will complete the communication between the head-quarters of the District and Parvatipur. The Governor in Council approves of the suggestion, which will be carried out by the Department of Public Works, if possible, from the Reserve Fund of the current year.

(*b.*)—The completion of the road by the Petta ghaut through Jeypore, on which a Company of Sappers was recently employed. Mr. Carmichael deprecates the completion of this road being handed over to the Nagpore authorities, as directed in the Proceedings of Government, Department Public Works, 28th January 1863, No. 245. He is satisfied that if a European Officer could be specially detailed to superintend the work, the people of the District would come forward in sufficient gangs to carry it out. There is much force in Mr. Carmichael's remarks on this point, and the Governor in Council directs that the subject shall be re-considered in the Department of Public Works.

(*c.*)—The improvement of the existing Cart track from and through the Sitampeta ghaut to Palcondah.

(*d.*)—The conversion into good roads adapted for Cart traffic, of the bullock tracks from Bissemcuttack to Buttelee in Ganjam, and from Parvatipur to Rayagudda and Gunapur. The construction of these three roads, and, apparently, of that from the Sitampeta ghaut to Palcondah Mr. Carmichael proposes to entrust to the Department of Public Works. The Superintending Engineer will be instructed to prepare estimates of their cost in communication with the Acting Agent at an early date.

(*e.*)—An annual grant of Rupees 2,000 for clearing the jungle and opening up roads in the interior of the country. This work Mr. Carmichael proposes should be entrusted to the Agency Officers, who will get it done on contract by the people of the country. The amount will be placed at Mr. Carmichael's disposal from the Public Works Reserve Fund for the current official year.

3. In paragraph 56 of his report, the Agent recommends the appointment of an additional Sub-Magistrate of the 1st class for the Gunapuram Talook, to be stationed at Rayagudda. At present there is a Sub-Magistrate at Gunapur, the distance of which place from Rayagudda is not stated; but from the tenor of Mr. Carmichael's remarks as to the great extent of the present Sub-Magistrate's range, the Government infer that he has satisfied himself of the necessity of the proposed apointment, which is accordingly sanctioned at a cost of Rupees 145 per mensem. The charge will be included in Mr. Pelly's revised scheme of establishments.

4. The Agent recommends (paragraph 46) that the Revenue administration of these Taluks shall now be restored to the Rajah of Jeypore. They were taken under the management of the Officers of the Agency in 1855, in consequence of the unsettled state of the country and the incapacity of the late Rajah. They are very fertile, and, as Mr. Carmichael observes, "the different factions that formerly distracted Jeypore always made them their first prey." Since they have been taken under the management of Government, the country has been perfectly quiet; and now that the regular Police has been introduced, Mr. Carmichael is of opinion that the Revenue administration may be safely restored to the Zemindar. The Governor in Council resolves to sanction the measure.

5. The Agent's recommendation (paragraph 54) that a grant of Rupees 548 per mensem, should be made for the payment of the Village Police, will be referred for the opinion of the Inspector General. The Governor in Council apprehends that the reductions lately ordered in the Police Budget will preclude this measure, however desirable, being carried out at present.

6. The erection of a rough Bungalow at Rayabiji for the use of the Officers of the Agency and Police, is sanctioned. The Agent will submit an estimate of the cost, and will state whether he proposes that the work shall be done under his own orders or by the Department of Public Works.

7. Orders will be issued in the Military Department for placing two Sepoys' tents and six Hospital doolies at the disposal of the Agent on the occasion of his annual tour in Jeypore, and the Apothecary in charge of the Agent's Camp will be authorized to indent for a small quantity of Port Wine.

8. The contingent charges incurred in the late tour amounting to Rupees 237-9 are sanctioned. Mr. Carmichael will state what funds will be requisite for the establishment of weekly fare in the principal villages of the Khond Moottahs.

9. The result of the enquiry which has been instituted into the affray between the Kotupad and Bustar people, will be communicated to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.

10. The Governor in Council entirely approves of the suggestion that the Agent shall in future make an annual tour in Jeypore, and that either he, or one of his European Assistants shall visit each one of the seven Khond Moottahs. It is much to be regretted that so little should have been done hitherto for these tracts and especially for the Gunapuram Talooks, which have been under the direct management of Government for the last eight years; but for much that has been left undone the Officers of the Agency can hardly be held responsible, seeing that up to a very recent date, the policy of non-interference in the affair of Jeypore has been repeatedly insisted on both by the Home Authorities and by the Government of India. A different policy will henceforth be observed; and, with an organized Police, improved communications and frequent supervision from the European Officers, both of the Police and of the Agency, the Governor in Council sees every reason to hope that order and civilization will gradually replace the anarchy and barbarism which have hitherto been the prevailing characteristics of these wild tracts.

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

Judicial 1863 Dpt.

No. 683.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Dated 4th May 1863.

Jud. Dept.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Agent to the Governor Vizagapatam

(Here insert 31st March 1863)

Order thereon 4th May 1863 No 683

[illegible] the report and it has received my
most careful attention. I regret
I am very much pleased with
that I cannot express my
I have broken through a
practice which I entirely
would have retained
this rich & fertile district
in a state of barbarity
for years, & literally bon
this judgment and direction
shown by him throughout
his recent trip. I think
he well deserves
his recommendation
even that which I should
made myself commend
upon and has my
it is evident that his
civilization of this country
will depend
Cuddapah &

the Deputy Agent at Vizagapatam has furnished a very full and interesting Report on his present tour in the Hill Zemindaries of this District, which, with the Report of the Agent on the Collector in Ganjam, which has also been published, will be found to throw much light on the present condition of the Hill Zemindaries, which are now under the management of the British Administration, and on the influence exercised over them by the Native Chiefs & Zemindars

with the Acting Agent
at an Early date.

(E) An annual grant of
Rupees 2,000 for clearing
the jungle and opening up
roads in the interior of the
Country. This work Mr
Carmichael proposes should
be entrusted to the Agency
Officers, who will get it
done on Contract by the
people of the Country. The
amount will be placed at
Mr Carmichael's disposal
from the Public Works
Reserve fund for the ensuing
official year.

In para. 56 of h
Report the Agent recom

[illegible]

[illegible] Class for the
Gunagooram Block, to
be stationed at Rayagada.
At present there is a Sub
Magistrate

Recommendations Mr Latham
and pass his Order separately
on each.—

1st As to Roads. We recom-
mend,

(a) That a good road be made
to Concert Parnahjur, an
important town below the
Ghauts, and which is proposed
to be the Head quarters of the
Senior Assistant, Agent and
of a European Assistant
Superintendent of Police,
with Vizianagram. From
Cutler place there is a good
road to Bimlipatam and
Vizianagram, and the road
proposed will complete
Communication between
Head quarters of the District
& Parnahjur. We perceive
Council approves of this
Section, which will be
carried out by the Depart.
of Public works, if
Practicable; from the

Magistrate at Gunapur, the
distance of which place from
Rajahmundry is not stated;
but from the tenor of Mr.
Carmichael's remarks as
to the great Extent of the
present Sub Magistrate's duty
the Government infer that he
has satisfied himself of the
necessity of the proposed
Appointment, which is
accordingly sanctioned at
a Cost of Rs 149 per Annum.
The charge will be included
in Mr Pelly's revised scheme
of Establishments.

4. We next recommend
that the Revenue Adminis-
tration of these Islands
shall now be restored to the
Rajah of Vizianagram. They were
taken under the Manage-
ment of the Officers of the
Agency in 1835 in consequence
of

[illegible] the unsettled state of the Country and the necessity of the late Night Marches are very forcible, and [illegible] Sir Edward Carmichael observes, that the frequent Incursions [illegible] formerly disturbed [illegible] always made them their first prey. Since they have been taken under the Management of Government the County has been perfectly quiet, and from that the Regular Police has been introduced, Sir Edward Carmichael is of opinion that the Revenue Administration may be safely [illegible] Measure.

The Hon'ble Member [illegible] Clarke that a Court of Police [illegible]

per Mensem should be made for the payment of the Village Police, will be referred for the Opinion of the Inspector General. The Governor in Council apprehends that the reductions lately ordered in the Police Budget will preclude this measure, however desirable, being carried out at present.

The Erection of a range of Bungalows at Kaperdigha for the use of the Officers of the Nursery and Police, is sanctioned. The Agent will submit an Estimate of the Cost, and will state whether he proposes that the work shall be done

Lepcha Huts and six hospital doolies at the disposal of the Agent on the occasion of his annual tour in Sykkim. And the Apothecary in charge of the Agent's Camp will be authorized to indent for a small quantity of Port Wine.

4 The Contingent charges incurred in the late tour amounting to Rupees, 237-9 are sanctioned. Mr. Carmichael will state what funds will be requisite for the Establishment of Weekly Fairs in the principal villages of the Khond Mookas.

† See result of the enquiry which has been instituted by direction of the Government of India in the Secret Department of the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces

for one of his European Officers to visit each one of the seven Khond Mookas. It is much to be regretted that so little should have been done hitherto for these tracts and especially for the Gunjam Talooks, which have been under the direct management of Government for the last eight years; but for much that has been left undone the Officers of the Agency can hardly be held responsible, seeing that up to a very recent date, the policy of non-interference in the affairs of Sykkim has been repeat-

and parts an organized
police, enforced Communi-
=cations and frequent Inspec-
tion from the European
Officers, both of the Police
and of the Army, the
Germans in Council see,
every reason to hope that
Order and civil Justice will
gradually replace the
anarchy and barbarism
which have hitherto been
the prevailing Characteristics
of these wild tracts—

G. K.

[illegible]
[illegible] Regulations
[illegible]
[illegible] of War
W. K.
[illegible] Department
[illegible]
[illegible] Central Provinces
[illegible] Medical Corps

dispd 6

Pro. Nay

Political 1863. Department.

No. 683

4.5.1863

Just Letters to Engd
No. 31
27/10/63

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT,

Dated 4 [illegible] 63

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