

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1381	Press
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Dated	3. 9.	19 1866

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
3rd September 1866.*

No. 37. Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel G. H. SAXTON, in charge of the Ganjam and Orissa Survey, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 28th August 1866, No. 75.

I have the honor to submit, for the information of Government, an extract from my Annual Report, just submitted to the Surveyor General of India, and a Memorandum I have prepared for the Inspector General of Police, to enable him to make provision for the due protection of my Survey Party during the operations of the approaching season, and request that the latter paper may be sent on to that Officer, with any instructions the Government may deem the occasion to require.

2. I beg to take this opportunity of bringing to notice that there is the greatest difficulty in keeping up the strength of this party, owing to the arduous nature of the duties, and the adverse character, in many respects, of the field of survey. I am now unable to fill up an existing vacancy. Three Candidates have severally declined to serve, after being recommended by Captain Edgcome, who, as Principal of the Civil Engineering College, was requested by the Surveyor General of India to assist us in this way. I have just received from that Officer this third instance of the failure of his efforts, coupled with the assurance that the low rate of pay and nature of our field of survey frighten them. I am of opinion that, if each Surveyor is unprovided with a small guard, during the many months he is entirely isolated from civilized life, and in such a country, the terms of his service, already hard, will be made worse.

3. I respectfully request that Government will be pleased to accept this communication, as explaining that I do not claim to be sole arbiter in this matter, in any objectionable sense. On the head of saving to Government, any decrease in the number of Policemen required by me would have to be made up by me, in a great measure, by corresponding increase to my Departmental Native establishment, for which, as in the case with the Police Party, I invariably keep my expenditure well within the limit sanctioned for my Party.

Extract from Annual Report No. 69, dated 17th August 1866, from Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. SAXTON, in charge G. and O. Survey, to the Surveyor General of India.

Paragraph 28. A correspondence, emanating from the Inspector General of Police, Madras, has taken place between the Government of Madras, the Government of India, and yourself. The subject (viz., the supply of Police Guards to this party during field operations, * * *

on being favored by you with a copy of the correspondence, I considered it my duty at once to address the Madras Government * * * I append, for your information, a copy of my letter, and the reply of Government (by which I was favored with five spare copies).

29. With reference to the Government Order, I beg to record that I had no intention of claiming to be sole arbiter on the subject. It was only last year that the matter was before the Government of India, and, after passing through the several authorities—you, as "Head of the Department," the "Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces," the "Inspector General of Police, Central Provinces," and the local District Civil and Police Officers—the Governor General's reference reached me, with a request for explanation. The result of all was that the Governor General was satisfied that my requisition was proper, and

Strength of Police Guard sanctioned by Government of India.

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authorized my being furnished with 80 men and a Chief Constable, and complement of non-Commissioned. So far from my wish being to cumber my proceedings with unnecessary Policemen,

Strength of Police Party taken last season—vide printed paper attached.

the strength and disposal of the party which I took the immediately following season, viz., only 44 men and no Chief Constable, show the con-

trary, and after my arrangements were framed on the sanction of the several authorities enumerated above, and in this special respect with such manifest economy, I felt it my duty to protest against the interference of any other Officer.

30. As Government, on your suggestion, rules that my urgent call for greater strength of Guard shall be complied with, I am in a measure guaranteed against difficulty, but I am far from feeling safe under such arrangement; and under any circumstances, I don't see how I could declare that my work would be positively impeded if I had 40 instead of 50 Policemen, to be scattered over an area of 13,000 square miles, which I am now able to state to have been the extent this season. I purpose furnishing the Inspector General with a Memorandum explaining the necessities of my party, and leaving the responsibility of meeting them entirely with him; but it is my duty to lay before you what I consider may result from any defect in his provision.

31. The most important bearing of this question is on the subject of taking up the Survey of the Saora Gap. This Gap is already encompassed with Trigonometrical points of the coast series and of this Survey, and I don't anticipate any

necessity for going into it myself. I propose sending two experienced plane tablers, with a small Theodolite. I would not, under any circumstances, send only one, and the two Surveyors, I think, should be supported by an Officer of the Police Department, or a Civil Officer with Magisterial powers and authority, as was given from Sumbulpur a few years ago, on a similar occasion. The two Surveyors would be employed for about six weeks on this duty. I consider that a couple of Elephants should be allowed them. Under the difficulty raised by the Police Department, and that about Elephants, as shown in the appended printed correspondence, I am disposed to give up

Difficulty about Elephants.

all intention of taking it up this approaching season. I beg to inform you that no Police or Civil Officer ever moves about, even in the

comparatively facile portions of the Ganjam and Vizagapatam Agencies, without Government Elephants, each office being provided by the Commissariat with an established number. With reference therefore to this and similar instances, where my judgment being ignored, and on the opinion of any other Officer, my requisitions for the safety of my Surveyors not being supplied, the result would be such tracts remaining unsurveyed; for, as stated in my letter to Government of Madras, paragraph 4, "I cannot take upon myself the responsibility of conducting duties, involving the safety of the lives of my Surveyors, and the credit of myself and Party, unless my judgment is supported."

32. With regard to the general question of my detail Surveyors having guards, the importance is not so great, and I could not declare, as required by Government, that, in any particular instance, work would be impeded; but

General question of my Surveyor having guards.

there are necessities bearing upon this point which must be considered, or I unhesitatingly declare that the work will be impeded in every instance, and, in meeting these, I question whether, under a different plan, fewer, or as few, Policemen can be made sufficient. Every detached party must be provided with funds throughout the season, and you are aware that I have, every year, on my own receipt and responsibility, taken up very large advances, under special sanction of Government. My arrangements on this head have been made with due recognition of the difficulty and risk of sending money to my numerous Surveyors for long distances in such country. Each year, every detached surveyor is paid in advance for himself up to end of January; he is also furnished with sufficient funds to pay his public establishment, and to cover his heavy contingent expenses, until late in the season, when I move into the same ground they occupy, and can replenish their

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funds. When each detached party has a small guard this arrangement is safe, but would not otherwise be so, nor fair to the Surveyor; and therefore my Memorandum for the Police Department will point out the necessity of provision for escorting funds from the nearest Treasury to my camp, and thence again in distribution to each detached Party. If the Inspector General has that knowledge from others, or his own experience, which I possess, he will find that more men will be employed on this escort duty than I have required, and the moral support, in my opinion so essential, as stated in the same paragraph 4 of my letter, will be entirely lost; and, further, a grievous evil, which the Police officers may or may not be cognisant of, will be increased, viz., the extortion, &c., so frequently practised by Government servants whilst moving through such unfrequented districts, and which will throw discredit mutually upon both Police and Survey Departments. In my arrangements, such loose parties are as infrequent as possible. Putting aside the risk of loss altogether of sums of money during such transit, it will at times happen (I write from ample knowledge and personal experience) that delays and other accidents will occur, and I need not enlarge upon the consequences of many kinds which would happen if my Surveyors, for a few days only, were out of funds.

33. I desire to be relieved from the necessity of making any such declaration as that called for in the Order of the Madras Government, and at the same time from the responsibilities I have hitherto been willing to bear, the nature of which is, or may be, changed as above shown. I never apply for assistance I do not consider requisite in the interests of the Government service, as well as on other considerations, and feel most unwilling to leave such a question for unpleasant discussion each year with the Police Department. If the Government cannot trust to my judgment up to a given maximum strength, either as fixed last year by the Government of India, or of lesser number, which my last year's requisition shows I am willing to take as sufficient when really so, and as I am approaching the Coast and less uncivilized districts will ordinarily be so in future, I think it would be far preferable for me to be allowed to equip myself with armed escort, a plan which I believe meets your own views. If allowed to purchase 12 or 15 small carbines for a few of the men, it would be sufficient. I think I could raise 50 men for less money than the Police cost; and, with the exception of a few, the Policemen furnished to me have been raw recruits, and men of a description very unlikely to induce me to wish for more than are needed. Further, I, as well as your own office and Government, should be relieved from what has been of annual occurrence, viz., a correspondence to adjust matters with the Police Department, a trouble which this discussion seems to continue as endless.

(True Extract).

(Signed) G. H. SAXTON, Lieut.-Colonel,
In charge G. and O. Survey.

No. 74.

Memorandum for the Inspector General of Police, on the provision necessary from his Department for the protection of the G. and O. Survey party and its belongings, during the season 1866-67.

The party will take the field from Vizianagram about the 10th December, and return to the Coast in all April and May following. The strength of the party is at present—

Lieutenant Colonel Saxton, in charge.
Lieutenant Downing, Military Assistant.
D. Atkinson, Civil Assistant.
R. W. Chew, Senior Sub-Assistant.
J. Harper, do. do.
F. Adams, Sub-Assistant.
J. A. May, do.
T. E. Claudius, do.
One Sub-Assistantship vacant, but expected to be filled up.
Hidiatoolah, Native Surveyor.
Three Native Surveyorships, vacant, will probably not be filled up.

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Lieutenant-Colonel Saxton will be employed, up to latter end of February, about the course of the Godavery river, all through the Vizagapatam and lower Godavery Districts, and a considerable distance into the upper Godavery District of Central Provinces. His camp will then proceed northwards through Tsumkom and Bustar, into the country about Latitude $19^{\circ} 30'$, being the northern portion of the Bustar and Jeypore Territory, where all the rest of the party will be employed, each Surveyor having a detached Camp limited to 4 or 500 square miles. The total area to be surveyed in detail by these detached parties will be about 3500 square miles. The total area over which the triangulating and detail duties will extend, will be from 10 to 13,000 square miles.

Lieutenant-Colonel Saxton will require for his own Camp sufficient men to furnish a constant sentry over the Government money and other property in his charge. More than this, one sentry, has never been employed by him, when on duty miles from Camp (which occurred for 18 consecutive days last season, and frequently so happens). Lieutenant-Colonel Saxton has never required any guard to accompany him personally; but, as he exercises Magisterial powers in the Madras and Central Provinces, and his operations extend over such a vast area, he requires the means of carrying into effect any Summons and Warrants he may find it necessary to issue, and he requires men for escort duty occasionally, when sending a prisoner to the nearest Jail, under a sentence of his Court. Occasional duties require him to communicate with members of his own party, and with local Native and other authorities, for which one or two Policemen are the most appropriate, as money or other property would probably be given in charge.

If each detached Surveyor is not furnished with three or four men as a guard, we cannot be responsible for the Government property with him, and though we cannot declare that without the moral and physical support of a guard any particular Surveyor would be impeded in his work, I think it very probable that untoward difficulties will ensue, and I think in case of robberies the Surveyors would be entitled to compensation. If each Surveyor, again, has not a guard, I cannot make the hitherto usual advances of money, which have each year been sanctioned on my responsibility. The expenditure of my party during the field season is about 5000 Rupees per month; a considerable reduction upon this would be made on account of family arrangements, as no Surveyor of this party (for reasons, chiefly the difficulties of the country, some of which are those which, in my opinion, necessitate the protection of guards) can attempt to take his family to the field; but after such reduction, a large sum would have to be escorted from some Treasury to my camp on the Godavery, and then in distribution, over such great distances, and through such tracts of country, to the many detached camps. I beg that it may be borne in mind that those escorts will have to proceed by routes which, in great measure, they must ascertain for themselves, and which are a totally different thing from what they are accustomed to, under their own Department duties, which are confined almost entirely to a few known routes, and thus the period during which such monthly parties of Police will be so employed will most certainly extend far beyond what is likely to be expected. The Police Department will also have to make arrangements for the payment of their own men, which has hitherto fallen upon the Surveyors to do under my arrangements.

It is requested that the earliest possible intimation may be given to this Department as to the provision, in every point of view, which the Inspector General of Police may think proper for the coming season, in order that the arrangements for taking the field may be carried out without delay or other hindrance, which would be detrimental to Government service.

Having alluded to robberies, I may mention an occurrence last season, to show that, though the people of the Jeypore jungly tracts are simple, and may be thought unlikely to injure us in that way, the supposition is not altogether well founded. The Jeypore and other countries traversed by this party afford almost nothing in the way of Commissariat supplies for Europeans, and so every Surveyor has to take the field with provisions for the whole season. My Military Assistant lost one of his bullocks, laden with hermetically sealed provisions. The bullock was recovered, but without the load, which was not found till after several days, and then several of the tin cases had been pierced to ascertain what the contents were. It cannot be thought that unprotected property which such people could get hold of would be safe if of any value to

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them, and when found not of value would be destroyed, like the above tins, before being restored. The lawlessness of the Jeypore people, again, was instanced the previous season under our eyes. The body of a man with severed head, and another fearfully wounded man whose wound was attended to by my Apothecary, were witnessed at a village where I was encamped, and no conviction was effected in this instance of affray and murder in the open day, and which occurred where a large fair was being held.—The relief of men, insufficient from sickness and other causes, to be provided for.

(Signed) G. H. SAXTON, Lieut.-Colonel,
OOTACAMUND,
28th August 1866.
In charge G. and O. Survey.

No. 38. ORDER THEREON, 3rd September 1866, No. 1381.
Communicated to the Inspector General of Police, for early notice.
(True Extract).

Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector General of Police.

Exd. J. H. Barnes.

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Entered 3 Sept 1886 No 1381
Communicated to the Inspector
General of Police for early
notice.

by
Chief Secretary

For St. George
1st September
1886

To the Inspector General of Police despatch
"Lieut. Col. G. H. Macdonald" despatch 57