

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Jurial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1350	Press ~~Mis~~
Dated 20-8-1867	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
20th August 1867.

No. 218. Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Police, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Kotagherry, 29th July 1867, No. 1352.

Statistics.

I have the honor to submit the Statement of Dacoities and Robberies for the year 1866.

2. The year was everywhere marked by the prevalence of distress amongst poor and laboring classes—distress which in Bellary, Ganjam, and some other localities amounted to sheer destitution. An increase of crime has occurred as a natural consequence.

3. Under ordinary dacoity, a serious accession of crime took place in the out-turn of the year for the whole Presidency, as compared with the preceding year, viz., 1025 offences in 1866, against 571 in 1865. In 1865, a sudden and remarkable decrease occurred. The average of three years immediately preceding the one under review was 840 cases. The amount of property lost was Rupees 1,50,601, or an average of Rupees 146 in each case, against Rupees 1,05,320 lost in 1865, when the average loss by each offence was Rupees 184.

4. In the majority of Districts there was some increase of ordinary dacoity. Any serious increase was local, and occurred only in the most distressed Districts. In Ganjam, 12 cases were reported, against 5 in 1865. In Bellary there were 355 dacoities, against 104 in 1865, an increase which accounts for more than one-half of the whole increase of the year.—174 offences were committed in houses, 181 in fields and on thoroughfares; but the total loss, Rupees 31,277, or 88 Rupees by each offence, shows that the bulk of the offences were not of a serious nature. In Kurnool, there were 57 cases, against 29 in 1865, of which two only were in houses. In South Arcot, there were 90 cases, against 28 in 1865, of which 30 were in houses, and 60 in fields, &c.; the total loss, Rs. 8739, or 97 Rupees in each case, indicating the unimportant character of many of these offences. In Madura, 34 dacoities were reported, with a loss of 3751 Rupees, against 14 in 1865, with a loss of Rupees 11,506. In Salem, there were 100 cases, against 48 in 1865, and in Coimbatore 54, with a loss of 4760 only, against 17 in 1865. On the other hand, there was an important decrease in the number of dacoities in Godavery, Kistna, Nellore, Malabar, Canara, and Trichinopoly.

5. The following classified statement shows the character of these offences.—379, or little more than one-third (36.9 per cent.) were committed in houses, and the rest were in fields (371), and on highways and thoroughfares (275).

	Offences.			Persons.				Property.			Proportion of convictions to offences.
	Reported.	Detected.	Per cent.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Per cent.	Lost.	Recovered.	Per cent.	
In Houses, &c....	379	104	27.1	12,239	2,400	875	36.4	1,05,663	8,840	8.3	230.8
" Fields....	371	89	24.0	4,932	1,138	452	39.7	19,857	3,082	15.5	121.8
" Highways and Thoroughfares.	275	48	17.4	3,769	650	153	23.5	25,081	2,560	10.2	55.6
Total...	1,025	241	23.5	20,940	4,188	1,480	35.3	1,50,601	14,482	9.6	144.3

6. The slow but steady improvement in *detection* of dacoity which had marked recent years was not maintained throughout the Presidency. The percentage of cases brought to justice declined from 27.6 per cent. in 1865 to 23.5 per cent. in 1866. However, it is still well in advance of all previous years. Bellary, with its heavy list of dacoity, detected only 13.8 per cent. Cuddapah, with 67 offences, detected 14.9 per cent. The most serious falling off, as compared with the previous year, occurred in Ganjam (from 40 per cent. to 16.6 per cent. in 1866); Vizagapatam (26.6 per cent. to 6.6 per cent.); North Arcot (40 per cent. to 14 per cent.); one or two other Districts fell off somewhat, but still maintained a fair average. On the other hand, improved detection is shown in Godavery (where the percentage of detection rose from 17 per cent. to 33.3); in Kurnool (11.1 per cent. to 35.2); in Madras (17 to 35); and Tinnevely (30 per cent. to 60).

7. Under the head of Dacoity is included torch-light gang-robbery—the

GANG-ROBBERY.									
	Cases.			Persons.			Property.		
	Reported.	Detected.	Per cent.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Per cent.	Lost.	Recovered.	Per cent.
1866...	147	41	29.9	1,130	337	29.8	66,930	5,410	8
1865...	98	11	41.9	875	264	30.1	71,288	8,660	12.1
1864...	153	10	26.1	802	217	27	84,675	1,283	1.5
1863...	263	...	...	1,379	280	20.3	30,017	1,032	3.4
Average.	171	...	...	1,019	254	24.9	61,993	3,661	5.9

most serious crime with which the Police has to deal. There was an increase of gang-robbery in Bellary during the year under review, which raised the total number of cases for the Presidency to 147, against 98 in 1865. But this number fell considerably short of the average of three years (171 cases). There was no increase in the amount of property robbed, which shows that, while the offences were more numerous,

they were less serious, and committed against property of a less valuable description. The increase was local, and was almost entirely confined to the District of Bellary, where 66 cases occurred, against 10 in 1865—a difference which more than accounts for the increase in the entire Presidency. In every other District, this offence of gang-robbery was held thoroughly in check. In several Districts where the offence had hitherto been rife—Kistna, Cuddapah, North Arcot, and Tanjore—there was a still further decrease of this heinous crime, as compared with previous years. Want of success in detection in Bellary lowered the general average detection of cases from 41.9 per cent., with a proportion of convictions to offences of 269.4 to every 100 offences in 1865, to 29.9 per cent., with a proportion of 229.2 convictions to every 100 offences. Notwithstanding the distress which prevailed in every part of the country, not a single gang of reckless men set the law at defiance; even in Bellary, the violent crime of the year was committed by the starving laboring classes, and not by professional dacoits.

8. Under the head Robberies, there was an increase of 21.5 per cent., as compared with the preceding year, viz., 1124 offences reported, against 925 in 1865 and 1273 in 1864. The increase of robbery was also local, and confined to the more distressed Districts. Ganjam had 42 cases, against 22 in 1865; and Vizagapatam 24, against 11. Bellary had 225, against 117 in 1865—an increase which accounts for more than half the whole increase in the Presidency, but of these 10 only were committed in houses. In North Arcot, there were 148 against 86 in

1865 (the total local loss being Rupees 2015); of these, five robberies only were committed in houses, 81 in fields, and the rest on thoroughfares. There was an increase in Salem (121 against 95); South Arcot (87 against 55); Madura (49 against 29). In the other Districts, either the increase was unimportant, or a decrease of robbery occurred, as in Godavery, Nellore, Kurnool, Malabar, and Trichinopoly.

9. The following classification shows the circumstances under which all robberies occurred. Fourteen (14.4) per cent. only were committed in houses and villages—which is by far the more serious offence; and there was a decrease of 8.4 per cent. in these robberies in dwellings, as compared with the previous year. The increase of the year took place under the other two heads of robbery of grain heaps and cattle-pens (475), and of passengers (487). Food was the object of a larger portion of this crime under all heads:—

	Cases.			Persons.			Property.			Proportion of convictions to 100 offences.
	Reported.	Detected.	Per cent.	Arrested.	Convicted.	Per cent.	Lost.	Recovered.	Per cent.	
In Towns and Villages	162	42	26	192	74	38.5	9,506	4,014	42.2	45.6
„ Fields.....	475	107	22.5	417	198	47.5	7,058	1,356	19.2	41.6
„ Thoroughfares. ...	487	128	26.2	418	228	54.5	13,924	1,863	13.3	46.8
Total...	1,124	277	24.6	1,027	500	48.6	30,488	7,233	23.7	44.4

Detection of robberies advanced from 19.4 per cent. in 1865, and 15.1 as the average of three years, to 24.6 per cent. in the year under review. Detection of robbery was best in the Western Range (37.2 per cent.), worst in the Southern Range (18.1 per cent.); and the Police was successful in dealing with grave crimes of robbery in houses and on highways (26.2 per cent). Improved detection led to large increase of convictions.—500 robbers were punished, and the proportion of convictions to offences rose to 44.4 to every 100 offences, against 35.2 in 1865, and 27.3, as the average of three years.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
20th August 1867.

STATEMENT of Dacoities, classified according to the circumstances of each case, for the year 1866.

Districts.	Dacoities or Robberies by five persons and above.										Total.														
	In Houses or Villages.					In Fields or Jungles.					On Highways and thoroughfares.					Total.									
	Property		Persons			Number of Offences.	Number of Cases detected.	Property		Persons			Number of Offences.	Number of Cases detected.	Property		Persons								
	Lost.	Recovered.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.			Lost.	Recovered.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.			Lost.	Recovered.	Concerned.	Arrested.	Convicted.						
Ganjam.....	9	2,830	151	100	91	81	2	7	120	29	12	12	1	26	54	...	5	5	12	2,853	151	117	96	31	
Vizagapatam.....	2	147	68	23	23	5	9	...	410	154	50	36	4	...	...	...	48	...	15	321	97	132	75	5	
Jeypore.....	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Godavery.....	3	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Kistna.....	3	3,761	60	3,053	76	68	6	1	116	4	51	28	7	12	162	...	16	...	9	598	154	91	57	11	
Nellore.....	5	7,893	826	103	58	55	3	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bellary.....	174	20,314	2,166	4,883	757	173	66	9	2,745	1,238	1,039	135	42	3,424	303	1,779	1,292	226	385	4,633	7,214	1,118	257	...	
Kurnool.....	2	145	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,869	689	958	177	92	1,314	76	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cuddapah.....	10	1,179	22	155	74	4	43	14	4,054	546	504	124	30	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
North Arcot.....	16	6,798	269	1,317	144	52	28	3	459	14	245	34	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Madras.....	11	7,844	297	242	147	61	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Salem.....	25	6,368	256	446	203	94	63	18	2,435	249	668	247	62	1,068	12	3,759	380	367	51	9,896	663	1,559	229	73	
Coimbatore.....	15	3,904	784	291	140	78	29	19	2,609	77	320	121	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
South Malabar.....	13	8,009	257	107	88	14	4	2	2,950	183	439	31	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
North Malabar.....	2	573	144	19	16	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
South Canara.....	1	385	66	45	45	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
South Arcot.....	30	7,236	422	307	200	114	32	6	385	13	260	50	41	1,118	10	101	40	12	30	8,739	455	608	330	167	
Tanjore.....	24	11,946	2,674	369	160	59	7	4	418	11	93	24	14	1,268	28	121	43	11	44	21,112	2,613	588	241	84	
Trichinopoly.....	16	9,635	201	342	83	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Madurai.....	12	1,259	72	282	44	7	9	1	501	35	136	38	13	1,991	256	158	46	10	34	10,381	203	468	128	27	
Tinnevely.....	6	3,853	45	95	51	6	1	...	20	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total.....	379	104,663	8,840	12,330	3,400	875	371	89	19,857	3,042	14,932	1,138	452	276,481	2,560	3,769	650	153	1,025	241	150,601	14,482	20,940	4,158	1,480

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
20th August 1867.

STATEMENT of Robberies, classified according to the circumstances of each case, for the year 1866.

Districts.	In Houses or Villages.										In Fields or Jungles.										On Highways and Bye-paths.										Total.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
	Property			Persons.			Number of Offences (attempts included).	Number of abortive attempts (included in Col. 9).	Number of cases detected.	Property			Persons			Number of Offences (attempts included).	Number of abortive attempts (included in Col. 17).	Number of cases detected.	Property			Persons			Number of Offences (attempts included).	Number of abortive attempts (included in Col. 25).	Number of cases detected.	Property			Persons																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
20th August 1867.

STATEMENT of torch-light gang-robberies committed and attempted during the year ending 31st December 1866.

Districts.	Number of cases.	Number of persons concerned.	Number of persons arrested.	Number of persons convicted.	Number of persons imprisoned.	Number of persons transported.	Property lost.	Property recovered.	Cases detected.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Ganjam ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vizagapatam ...	...	...	No Returns	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jeypore ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Godavery ...	1	30	3	...	...	...	572	...	1
Kistna ...	2	53	29	13	4	9	57,624	808	12
Nellore ...	66	2,182	470	99	38	61	13,277	984	...
Bellary ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Kurnool ...	10	155	74	4	1	3	1,179	22	5
Cuddapah ...	15	317	144	52	44	8	5,654	269	1
North Arcot ...	5	110	22	2	...	2	2,989	12	2
Madras ...	9	104	40	22	18	4	3,564	58	7
South Arcot ...	8	167	100	50	28	22	17,896	2,554	3
Tanjore ...	6	170	54	18	18	...	5,963	84	...
Trichinopoly ...	1	20	3	...	...	...	522	3	2
Madura ...	2	62	18	4	4	...	1,427	20	1
Tinnevely ...	8	132	65	10	...	10	3,127	96	2
Salem ...	4	73	34	21	...	21	831	270	5
Coimbatore ...	9	82	31	*17	15	1	1,920	164	...
South Malabar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
North Malabar ...	1	45	43	25	25	...	385	66	...
South Canara...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	147	3,702	1,130	337	195	141	66,930	5,410	44

* 1 Person was sentenced to death.

CHIEF OFFICE OF THE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE,
MADRAS, 15th July 1867.

(Signed) W. ROBINSON,
Inspector-General of Police.

No. 219. ORDER THEREON, 20th August 1867, No. 1350.

The results disclosed by the statistics embodied in the foregoing report, although showing an increase of crime, cannot, under the peculiar circumstances of the year under report, be considered as reflecting on the Police administration of the Presidency. Consequent on the distress prevalent during the past year, there was a marked increase of offences against property, the increase being proportionally greater in the Districts which suffered most severely from famine. These offences were, however, not generally of a serious nature; and in several Districts there was a marked decrease in dacoities.

2. There was a slight decline in the percentage of dacoities detected, as compared with the previous year, but an advance in the detection of robberies. Cases

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
20th August 1867.

of gang-robbery were more numerous, especially in the Bellary District, but were of a less serious nature than in former years, and were committed, not by professional dacoits, but by the starving laboring classes.
(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Police.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
20th August 1867.

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STATEMENT of torch-light gang-robberies committed and attempted during the year ending 31st December 1866.

Districts.	Number of cases.	Number of persons concerned.	Number of persons arrested.	Number of persons convicted.	Number of persons imprisoned.	Number of persons transported.	Property lost.	Property recovered.	Cases detected.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Ganjam ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vizagapatam ...	...	...	No Returns.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jeypore ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	572	...	...
Godavery ...	1	30	3	...	...	...	...	...	1
Kistna ...	2	53	29	13	4	9	7,624	808	...
Nellore ...	66	2,182	470	99	38	61	13,277	984	12
Bellary ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kurnool ...	10	155	74	4	1	3	1,179	22	2
Cuddapah ...	15	317	144	52	44	8	5,654	269	5
North Arcot ...	5	110	22	2	...	2	2,989	12	1
Madras ...	9	104	40	22	16	4	3,564	58	2
South Arcot ...	8	167	100	50	28	22	17,896	2,554	7
Tanjore ...	6	170	54	18	18	...	5,963	84	3
Trichinopoly ...	1	20	3	...	...	...	522	3	...
Madura ...	2	62	18	4	4	...	1,427	20	2
Tinnevely ...	8	132	65	10	...	10	3,127	96	1
Salem ...	4	73	34	21	...	21	831	270	2
Coimbatore ...	9	82	31	*17	15	1	1,920	164	5
South Malabar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
North Malabar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Canara...	1	45	43	25	25	...	335	66	1
Total...	147	3,702	1,130	337	195	141	66,930	5,410	44

* 1 Person was sentenced to death.

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The results disclosed by the statistics embodied in the foregoing report, although showing an increase of crime, cannot, under the peculiar circumstances of the year under report, be considered as reflecting on the Police administration of the Presidency. Consequent on the distress prevalent during the past year, there was a marked increase of offences against property, the increase being proportionally greater in the Districts which suffered most severely from famine. These offences were, however, not generally of a serious nature; and in several Districts there was a marked decrease in dacoities.

2. There was a slight decline in the percentage of dacoities detected, as compared with the previous year, but an advance in the detection of robberies. Cases

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20th August 1867.

7

of gang-robbery were more numerous, especially in the Bellary District, but were of a less serious nature than in former years, and were committed, not by professional dacoits, but by the starving laboring classes.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Police.

Erd. J. H. Burns.

Several Districts there were

6
Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter
from the Inspector General of
Police.

(Received 29 July 1857. N. 1352)

Order thereon N. 1350 of 20 Aug. 1857.

although showing an
increase of crime, cannot
make the judicial business
cases of the year
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as reflecting on the Police
administration of the
Presidency.

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The results disclosed
by the statistics embodied in
the foregoing report, cannot
~~be considered~~ unsatisfactory.
Consequent on the distress
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of offences ^{against} relating to property,
the increase being proportion-
ally greater in the Districts
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from famine. These offences
were, however, not generally
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several Districts there was

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2 There was a slight decline in the percentage of dacoities detected as compared with the previous year, but an advance in the detection of robberies. Cases of gang robbery were more numerous, especially in the Bellary District but were of a less serious nature than in former years and were committed not by professional dacoits, but by the starving labouring classes.

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To the Inspector General of Police
Mysore