

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	983	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	18/6	~~10~~ 1867

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
18th June 1867.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 170. From G. VANS AGNEW, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Trichinopoly, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Trichinopoly, 27th May 1867, No. 29.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, under date the 15th instant, No. 801, wherein I am directed to submit my views on a proposition contained in a letter from the Quarter Master General, for the withdrawal of the European Infantry Detachment at present quartered at Trichinopoly.

2. Observing that the Magistrates of Tanjore and Madura have not been consulted, it is not clear to me whether the opinion sought for is intended to be limited only to the requirements of this individual District in ordinary times like the present, or to embrace the possibility of a future state of war or revolt in the Southern Districts.

3. Looking only to the preservation of the peace of this town and District in ordinary times, when nothing more serious is to be apprehended than, perhaps, an occasional grain riot, I may safely say that a Detachment of European Infantry is no more required here than is the Battery of Artillery, or than are the two Native Infantry Regiments. A Reserve Force of two hundred Police would, in my opinion, be ample means wherewith to maintain order.

4. But if it be required of me to take into consideration the other contingency to which I have adverted, then I have no hesitation in stating that, in my opinion, the proposition is one which ought not to be sanctioned by the Government. If Trichinopoly is to continue the Head Quarters of an efficient Military Force, if Artillery is to form part of that Force, the question would rather seem to be, not whether the single Company, forming the present Detachment of European Infantry, should be withdrawn, but whether a Wing at least should not be maintained. It cannot surely be intended, in the teeth of past experience, to leave Artillery unprotected by European Infantry.

No. 171. From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Magistrate of Tinnevely, to the Chief Secretary to Government Fort Saint George; dated Tinnevely, 27th May 1867, No. 181.

In reply to Government Proceedings, No. 801, dated 15th May 1867, I have the honor to inform you that, in my opinion, the single Native Infantry Regiment now at Palamcottah should not be withdrawn, until Palamcottah is in communication with Trichinopoly by rail or tramway.

2. The population here are more turbulent and manly than in other Districts of the south, and a large proportion of the Maravers, who, under the leadership of the Poligars, gave us so much trouble 50 years ago, are still in an unsettled state. Only a few have cultivation, and the rest live by plunder and the extortion of fees as Kavalgars. We are just now trying to break up this *kaval* system, and hope to destroy it utterly at the settlement. The Police are too few already for the thorough performance of their ordinary work, and in this isolated post we require some Force to fall back on. No Force could reach us from Trichinopoly under eight or ten days, as the so called trunk road through the District is in a most wretched state—so bad, indeed, that carts cannot move on some parts of it in wet weather, and the line

throughout is quite unfit for anything like rapid travelling. It is proposed to lay out a large sum on this road at once, but the repairs will occupy two years.

3. From its natural position, Tinnevely is unapproachable from the eastward by sea, except round Ceylon, by any but vessels of the lightest draught, as the navigation of the Paumben Channel is very intricate, and the depth of water at high tide is under two fathoms; and we are cut off from communication by sea with Calicut during the south-west monsoon.

4. Under these circumstances, I think it would be very impolitic to withdraw the Military Force from this District.

No. 172. From D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Magistrate of Ganjam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Chatterpore, 28th May 1867, No. 93.

Referring to the G. O. marginally noted, I beg to point out that, from the recent Judicial Department, No. 801, 15th May 1867.

date of my appointment to Ganjam, my opinion on the proposal to withdraw the Regiment from Berhampore would not be entitled to much weight. Mr. Forbes, the late Magistrate, who was here for an unusually lengthened period, has probably reached Madras by this time.

2. As I was for many years Magistrate of the Vizagapatam District, I may be permitted to state that I see no objection to the withdrawal of the Regiment quartered at Waltair.

Referred to Mr. Forbes, for his opinion on the proposition to withdraw the Native Regiment from Berhampore.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,

7th June 1867.

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

No. 173. From T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Magistrate of Kurnool, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Peapully, 28th May 1867, No. 38.

With reference to Government Order, No. 801, Judicial Department, dated 15th May 1867, regarding the removal of the Regiment from Kurnool, I have the honor to inform you that I do not think such a step desirable.

2. Kurnool is the only station on the borders of the Nizam's Territory, and between it and Samulcottah to the north-east, in the Godavery District, and Bellary to the west, not a single Regiment is stationed.

3. In a strategical point of view, I do not think there could be a place on the frontier where the location of a Regiment is more strictly necessary.

4. The town itself is filled with a very large Mahomedan population, which, though at present quiet, might not be so if the Regiment were removed.

5. This District has at times been subject to attacks of Rohillahs, who have committed great havoc, and who have been kept at check by the Regiment and the Rissalah—now reduced and called the Mounted Police. It is in contemplation to do away with this mounted Force. If it and the Regiment are removed, it is difficult to tell what might be the consequence in case of any outbreak in the Nizam's dominions.

6. In the Kistna District at Juggiapetta, as a protection from Rohillas, a very large armed Reserve Force of Police is entertained, and in that District such facilities for sudden attacks do not exist as here, where, in the Nullamala Hills, safe protection is afforded to bands of marauders. In this District no such Force exists.

7. If the Regiment were removed, it would be necessary to have a strong Police Reserve Force entertained here, which would add greatly to the expenses of Government.

8. I would, therefore, strongly recommend that the Regiment may not be removed, and the District left in a hopeless and helpless state, in the hands of any wild marauders who might attack it.

9. It may be argued that Bellary will, in case of need, afford assistance, but it must be remembered that Bellary, by the nearest route, is about 120 miles away from Kurnool, and by the time that intimation of the necessity for Troops reached Bellary and the Troops arrived at Kurnool, an attack may have successfully been accomplished, and the marauders have returned again over the border with safety.

10. I look on the removal of the Regiment as likely to be attended with great danger, and trust the Government will support me in my views.

No. 174. From H. G. SMITH, Esq., Magistrate of Cuddapah, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madanapully, 29th May 1867, No. 22.

With reference to Government Order as per margin, I have the honor to inform you that I have not the slightest need of a Regiment at Cuddapah, as the rail is now open, and I have the greatest

Dated 15th May 1867, No. 801.

confidence in the Police Force for all local purposes.

No. 175. From W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Kotagherry, 4th June 1867, No. 941.

General Department.

With reference to G. O., 15th May 1867, No. 801, I beg to submit the following remarks:

2. The Regiment at Berhampore might safely be withdrawn. There is nothing in that District which calls for military occupation. The Khonds and Sowrahs are, as experience has shown, well within the control of Police.

3. I do not quite understand why it is proposed to withdraw the Native Regiment from Waltair, unless, which I should for some reasons prefer, it is intended to make Vizianagram a station with two Regiments, and remove thither the Head Quarters of the Northern Division. Unless this is the case, I would not recommend the removal of the Regiment at Waltair. Two Native Regiments are required in the Northern Division.

4. But I should recommend that the Regiment at Samulcottah be withdrawn. I consider the retention of a Regiment at that station quite unnecessary. While at Masulipatam, the Regiment recently removed to Samulcottah was in a position on the road to Hyderabad, and at the port where military supplies for the Force at that station are landed; it was further in a central position on the coast line. But

at Samulcottah it is placed in an out-of-the-way position, and in a part of the country where the presence of Military is least required. For the District of Godavery, the Force at Waltair or Vizianagram, or at both, amply suffices.

5. I consider that the Regiment might safely be withdrawn from Cuddapah. Indeed, when the Police was first organized, there was, if I recollect aright, no Regiment there; but it was shortly restored to that station. Cuddapah can now be readily supported from Madras or Bangalore, and within two years will be readily accessible from the Head Quarters of the Division, Bellary.

6. The circumstances of the Tinnevely District in no way call for the Military occupation of Palamcottah, or any post within it. The people are well to do and contented, and singularly amenable to law and order. Further, the District is accessible from the garrison stations of both coasts, by steamer, through Tuticorin.

7. I think that the concentration of Native Troops, and their separation from the townsmen of small country towns, a matter of much importance on other grounds than those of discipline. The presence of Military in a station calls out a spirit of partizanship amongst the townsmen, especially the Mahomedans, and forms cliques of earnest sympathizers, and ready aiders and advisers, amongst non-military classes, in places where such conditions are not necessitated by the wants of the country. I consider the segregation of the military classes from the people very desirable.

8. I do not attribute any immediate danger to the existence of what in Europe would be called "clubs" amongst the Mussulmans of every Regiment in the Service, under the semi-religious, semi-political dress of a Wahabee sect. The formation of these societies in the Native Army may be the result of organization or not; but there can be no doubt they exist in more or less strength in every Regiment. The spread of this teaching is confined in a great measure to the Native Army, and military personages, so far as Mahomedan society in up-country places is concerned. But in these little outlying quiet military stations, contact with the Military has in general led to Mahomedan merchants and tradesmen adopting the Wahabee teaching likewise, and they frequently are the more zealous, and, perhaps, dangerous, because beyond control. Little effectual supervision or control can be, or is, exercised at small stations over even military persons in this respect.

9. I still earnestly deprecate the withdrawal of the small Detachment of European Infantry at Trichinopoly, even when the rail is completed. At this large arsenal and station, where Artillery must still be kept, the presence of a small Detachment of European Infantry seems indispensable for security; and Trichinopoly is the only station in Southern India where a sufficient number of Badmashes would be found to complicate any disaffection or disturbance. Trichinopoly would become the rendezvous of all the Europeans of Tanjore and the neighbouring Districts, were disturbances to occur; and the presence of even a handful of Europeans would serve to give confidence.

10. With reference to the inconvenience of keeping up the European Detachment at Trichinopoly from the Regiment at Cannanore, might this not be more conveniently done from Madras or Bangalore?

11. I do not think that there is any early prospect of relieving the Regiment at Kurnool with safety.

No. 176. From G. S. FORBES, Esq., late Collector of Ganjam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 8th June 1867.

I am of opinion that the presence of a Regiment at Berhampore is not essential to the preservation of order and the support of law in the District of Ganjam; nor do I think that, in the event of disturbances in the Hill Tracts, advantage is to be expected from the proximity of a Native Regiment.

2. During a residence of about nine years in the District, I remember no instance in which popular disturbances, of a character to call for the aid of Troops, have occurred or even threatened.

No. 177. ORDER THEREON, 18th June 1867, No. 983

The Governor in Council directs that the foregoing letters be communicated to the Military Department.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Military Department.

Edw. J. H. Burns.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter;

from the Magistrate of Trichinopoly Here enter 27th May/67 No. 29

" " Timmvelly " 27 " No. 181

" " Ganjam " 28 " No. 93

" " Hurnool " 28 " No. 38

" " Cuddalore " 29 " No. 22

Inspector Genl. of Police " 4 June " No. 941

Maj. S. Forbes " 8th " No. 1

Order thereon 18 June 1867 No. 983.

The Governor in Council directs that the foregoing letters be communicated to the Military Department.

2 The Government have no objection to the withdrawal of the Native Regiment from Bichampoor & Waltan

Wallair provided that not
less than two Native
Regiments are retained
in the Northern Division
exclusive of that now
stationed at Samuleottah.

The withdrawal of the
Regiment from Cuddapah
and Palamcottah also
seems unobjectionable.

In the opinion of
His Excellency in Council
the Native Regiment at
Trivirool and Detachment
of Infantry at Trichinopoly
should be retained per-
manently.

To the Muz. Department, Secy,

Muz. Secy, Vizagapatnam
Cuddapah, Trivirool, & Trichinopoly
Trichinopoly, & Trichinopoly

1876

Recd 20 July

Medical 1867. Department.

No. 983

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Of 1867/68.

Dated 18 June 1867.

List

*Let me
know
soon*

1867