

Judicial 1874
(193-) Department.

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 2024

DATED 2-11-1874

Confidential.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Reporting in a letter from a
newspaper correspondent in
Malabar - Recorded.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

"Confidential"

No. $\frac{X}{2}$

Malabar Magistrate Court
on Circuit

Madgannay 19: Oct 1874

From

A. Macgregor Esq.
Magistrate of Malabar

To,

The Honble D. J. Carmichael
Ag. Chief Secy. to Govt.
Botacamund.

Sir,

I have the honor to
report, as directed in G.O. dated
20: August 1874 No. 927, on a letter
from a newspaper correspondent.

Complaints.

Discontinuance of the
practice of issuing permits
for the removal of cattle
purchased.

Abraham has twice
had to give up Bullocks,
as he purchased, to
parties alleging themselves
owners.

2. There is no provision of law
under which a rule can be en-
forced obliging permits to be
taken for the transport of
cattle. If there were, it would
not protect purchasers of stolen
cattle, nor is it desirable that
they should be protected.

3. If the cattle in the
case alluded to were not
stolen, and the purchaser

"Lithology"

chose to fine them up and leave the country, rather than face a false accusation, it only proves that he was a weak-minded individual.

4. I understood that in the particular case alluded to, the cattle are said by the Assistant Superintendent of Police to have been purchased for a small sum from a known depredator.

It seems unnecessary to discuss the general question as to whether a law should be introduced to regulate the transport of cattle. The trade in this District is much diffused and such a law would open the door to endless oppression.

The writer appears to me to have failed to appreciate the reason why illegal restrictions are no longer enforced. It is not because

Discontinuance of the practice of demanding security for good behaviour from bad characters and abolition of the village patrolling system.

the Government has been transferred from the Company to the Crown but because there is more knowledge, more lawyers and more risk therefore of suits for damages.

7. Security is still demanded in certain cases, but perhaps not so much as used to be the case.

8. The practice is, I believe, deprecated by many good Police officers. The system of the Police is to register "known depredators" and insist on the force the individual members of, knowing their names and watching their movements.

9. There never could have been a village patrol in Malabar as there are no villages and no village servants available for the work. The population is scattered all over the rural districts and

there are no places therefore corresponding to the limited areas adjoining east coast villages, where a party joining the rounds might have a reasonable chance of surprising persons of bad character lurking about. In old days it was customary to shut up every night all the bad characters for six months of the year, letting them go in the morning. This was no doubt an advantage to the honest section of the population, but not being countenanced by the Penal and Procedure Codes, ^{the practice} it has fallen into disuse.

10. In August there was a perceptible increase in crime in the Ponani Division which led to correspondence between the Deputy Magistrate and the Police.

The

cannot remember many days on which 4000 cases of theft have not been announced. A Nair had his eye put out by some thieves who were stealing his paddy. Only 2 per cent of cases are reported to Government officers.

The former considers that an additional Inspector is required. This appears to be a question for the Inspector General. As regards the non-report of cases, clearly this is a matter in which the public are their own enemies. So long as the great majority are without public spirit and will do nothing for the general good which costs them money or trouble, this must continue to be one of the main difficulties with which officials have to contend. The case of the Nair is ascertained to be true, but he admits that he gave no information to the Police. He says he went to the station and found none there, and did not go again.

11. There is therefore, on the whole, probably a good deal of truth in the statements

of the petition but probably
also a great deal of exagger-
ation.

12. The Deputy Magistrate
in charge of the Ponani
Taluk is an officer of great
energy and experience, and
thoroughly anxious to do
whatever he can to put
down crime, and the Asst.
Superintendent is a very active
and painstaking officer.

13. I don't see what more
Government can do. If people
choose to omit to report thefts,
they are playing into the
hands of the thieves.

14. Our native Police are not
perfect but they are I think as
honest as we can expect a body
to be that has to be recruited
from a community so terribly
deficient in truth, courage &
honesty as that of Southern
India.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servant,

A. M. A. M.

1874
 From
 The Magistrate
 of Malabar
 to
 The District
 Government
 No. 2691
 Dated 19th Oct. 1874
 Recd. 26th — 1874
 A. 1/2

Reporting on a letter

from a newspaper

concerning, as

directed in G. O. 20th

August 1874 A. 927.

forwarded

No. 2691. *Ind* DEPARTMENT,
 From The Magistrate of Malabar.

Dated 19th Oct. 1874.

FOR ORDERS.

in Colombo

The writer alludes to old protection(?)
 customs. & q. when I had been in
 Malabar every bullock for along the road after
 purchase there had to be covered by a Rown
 net. If this were wanted, it was seized
 or paid toll to the Police. The Rownah had
 the paid for a given was fixed. The custom
 was done away with 20 years ago. It can
 not be revived. The writer evidently does
 not purchase cattle.

Para 9. Mr. Macgregor is wrong.
 Along all the roads were put up water
 huts where a certain number of the
 poor of the amolom were obliged to
 wait all night. The practice was
 most oppressive & the water was

* took to the board
 of the Amolom

After look & high way rolling
right. The whole thing was swept away
when the Police was started. The prisoner
cannot be revived

The Police report is satisfactory

27/60

W

30/60

Received

2024

Oct 2 November 1874 to 2024

Order Herein

These Papers will
be recorded. $\frac{24}{10/4}$

C27/10.230/10