

Statement of 3^d Accused Copoodaway
Pitley in the Salt Pears Murder Case.
made before Mr. Maclellan on 9th July.

On Saturday the 2^d May last, at
about 8.30 P.M. Salt Pears Manicau,
No. 374, ran to the lines and reported
to me that the fishermen had beaten
the pears of the 2^d watch, and that was
the depot from their homes. Then
Pernell No. 453 and I went near
the Salt Fish Store near the band
bridge. There I saw the Magistrate
Police Const. No. 107 and the pears of
the second watch talking together.
I inquired what the matter was and
I was informed that Salt Pears Manicau
- saying No. 113 had been struck by the
fishermen, and that Salt Pears Abbe
Rays (6th Pers. wit.) No. 94, went to the
help of Manicau. I was also told
that the fishermen were Cooper
Veeran and some others, and that they
went in pursuit of Manicau.
On my way back to the Depot I met
the 2^d Accused and Petty Officer Ramasaw
haick No. 159 (14th Pers. wit.) and the
former asked me why I did not catch
him. I replied that he had not left
his office, and that he came from
Vallur only two days ago. Then the
pears of the 2^d watch, 2^d accused No.
Ramasawhaick (14th Pers. wit.),
Pernell, Salt Pears Cooper haick,
No.

No 498, Saltpean Great Mooneamny
to 195, Abbeys Rye (6:00 pm. wit.)
William Cawder (7:00 pm. wit.) and
two other witnesses accompanied me to the
freeworks depot, where Robert
Perr. See the records who also formed
one of our party, separated from us.
Then we all went to the post gate
which we found locked, and called
at to Mooneamny Petty, guarding Petty
Perr, to open the gate. The gate was
not opened and on making inquiries,
the 6:00 pm. wit. told me that some
fishermen had struck Mooneamny
Petty and that he was not able to
move. I then called to the gate peon
and the 7:00 pm. witness came to the gate
and told me that the key of the gate
was at the inspectors quarters. I
asked him to get the key as the
second watch peons had to go in
just then, the fishermen Cooper, Varan
and others came running toward
us with sticks and ropes in their
hands. Upon this, the 6:00 pm. wit.
went after the fishermen to seize
them, and seized one of them. Perr
seized another. The fishermen turned
the peons, struck them and ran away.
Then the peons gave the fishermen chase
and brought back to the gate the
1st and 2nd pm. wits. I advised
the peons to let them go when they
said

Said ^{that} they were not the fishermen
who had beaten the peons, but the
peons would not listen to me, and
brought them into the depot, the gate
having by this time been opened. The
1st witness was among the salt peons
who brought the 1st and 2nd pm. wits.
I also went into the depot, and the
gate was again closed. The watch
peons attempted to strike the 1st
and 2nd pm. wits but I prevented
them. By this time a large crowd
of fishermen and others assembled
outside the gate and threw stones
into the depot. I then sent Perr
Saltpean No 37 to acquaint the Inspector
(9:00 pm. wit.) with what was going on
while I was standing over 50 feet
away from the gate and by the side of
the 1st and 2nd pm. wits. I heard a shot.
I did not take notice of this shot
because I was aware that the gun
was loaded only with blank cartridge,
and because I thought the shot
was fired simply to terrify the crowd
outside. When I heard a second shot,
I ran up to the gate and I saw the
1st witness entering the gate with his
gun shouldered. I then gave the 1st witness
a blow on the back and asked him why
he had fired the gun instead of
reporting the conduct of the crowd
to the Inspector. He said that he had
fired twice, but both times with blank
cartridge. Ever then, I heard the

? Mr. Borden?

Was 9^{te} P.L. W. Boyen?

the Police Officers that the first
accused was drunk. On the
3^d May at 12 noon I was released
on bail - then I went to work
at 4 PM on the 20th. I mentioned
all that had occurred and
all that I have told the Court
to the 9th Pros: wit: and he
told me not to mention any
things that would implicate
the 2^d Acc^d. He then asked me
how many bullets were in
stock on that day (4th) and
I said that there were 25 viz
5 for each of the four ports
and 5 in the Guard room. He
made a note of the fact. -
About 7 or 8 AM on 5th May
I went to the Guard room where
I saw the 17th Pros: wit: (Perera
Raidu). He took a bundle of
bullets and some blank
Cartridges from a desk and
handed them to me saying
that he found them there.
I took them to the 9th witness
who told me to keep them in
same place. Knowing that the
Guard room will be searched
by the Police I threw the bullets
into the Canal just behind
the Guard room at a spot
where I liked. As I had
been

was informed that the 17th
was: whereas had given the
the same information
regarding myself in connection
with these bullets. I pointed
out to the 19th Pros: whereas the
place where I had thrown the
bullets and the 18th Pros: but
picked them up - I have no
business to call.

Sr. Corporal William H. May

(Comptroller) J. M. Marshall

True copy.

of the 17th Pros: whereas had given the
the same information
regarding myself in connection
with these bullets. I pointed
out to the 19th Pros: whereas the
place where I had thrown the
bullets and the 18th Pros: but
picked them up - I have no
business to call.

Sr. Corporal William H. May
(Comptroller) J. M. Marshall
True copy.

I saw that there were 25
5 of each of the four
and 5 in the ground room. The
was a number of the four
the 17th Pros: whereas had given the
the same information
regarding myself in connection
with these bullets. I pointed
out to the 19th Pros: whereas the
place where I had thrown the
bullets and the 18th Pros: but
picked them up - I have no
business to call.

Madras 10th July 1891

13 JUL 91

My dear Rice

Salt Cotaw Murder Case

Yesterday the four accused,

1. Durmaji Row. Salt Peon
2. Appadorai Pillai. Petty Officer
3. Kuppuewami Pillai. Seemadar
4. Kuppe Chetti - Peon.

were committed for trial on charges of Murder. Abetment of Murder Grievous Hurt. Abetment of Grievous Hurt.

2. Nos. 1 and 2 reserved their defence
- No. 3. Made a Statement which seriously compromises Salt. Insp. Borque but which has been suppressed by the newspapers. I enclose a copy of this Statement.
- No. 4. Made a Statement merely professing ignorance of what occurred. If the 3rd prisoner had made any such Statement against the Police we would have had it published full with probably an instructive article in large type comments thereon. The "Mail" I know they full reports but throughout and eliminated everything I should like

to the Salt officials of rank.
The post. Solicitor refused to go
into any matter affecting those
Officials or allow it to be referred
to in the evidence though to my
mind the suppression of evidence
tending to clear up the question of
where the bullets came from was
a very material point.

3. I am still more firmly of opinion
that there is no evidence that the
Sewadar (No 3) abetted either the
murder or grievous hurt. He no
doubt was what in English law
is known as an accessory after
the fact and caused the dis-
appearance of evidence.

4. You may remember I had some
correspondence with Mr. Trevelyan, the
S. J. Court, Salt Dept., regarding a
Sewadar / Lutchmiah / who was on
leave and whose evidence was
necessary and whom I examined.

5. Although this man belongs to another
Circle and is on leave on Medical
Certificate an order was at once
issued by Mr. Trevelyan cancelling his
leave and directing him to report
himself to the S. J. Court, Central
Circle / Trevelyan / at Chhapra. As the
man was not in Madras, and when
he was so was attending the Magistrate
Court, the interview with his brother,

Commissioner has not come off
yet. He is to go there again today.
6. The order cancelling the leave
was sent through the Sewadar
immediate Superior in the Mello
District and so there was some
delay in its reaching the witness
who meantime had been before
the Magistrate and given his deposition.
The leave is cancelled in accordance
with orders received from the S. J.
Court, Central Circle. I suppose
this is the reply to my request that
the man might not suffer owing
to his having given evidence when
called upon. However the man
seems intelligent and not one
likely to submit to an injustice
quietly. He protests against the
leave granted him on a Medical
Certificate being thus summarily
cancelled but at the present stage
I decline to offer any opinion or
advice or interfere between him
and his departmental Superior.
So long as he duly attends as he
is bound to give his evidence.
They may say they acted to ensure the
man's presence when required, but as
we got him without their assistance
they might trust our ability to keep him
in hand, and in any case might
have communicated the steps they
proposed if they really were in aid
of justice.
We will now await the further orders
of the Case at the trial in the High
Court.

Humble M^y J. Price C^t
Chief Secy.

DO.

From

Colonel P. Weldon

C. I. E.

By 10.
By 13 7. 91

On Enclosure

Att. Col. Weldon

Order

Recorded with reference to
Confid. DO. No. 111. 27. 9. VII. 91
[From Order]

20/7.

Confid No. 308

From Comm. of the

Dated 10. 7.

1891.

FOR ORDERS.

Submitted for perusal.

13 July

Col. Weldon when writing this
had apparently not received Mr.
Pine's L.O. of the 9th. He however
evidently sees that it will not do
to interfere as regards the Dep't
until the case is over. This letter
may be recorded with the others.

11/13 July.

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The Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. J.
The Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. J.

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(From order)

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In Cont. of file, Madras C. J. ~~4/7/77~~
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Salt-Gotaur Murder Case.

Recording letter from Commr.

of Police regarding progress

of the _____