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Recd. *Encl.*

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READ—also the following paper:—

From H. W. CARNDUFF, Esq., Officiating Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, the 24th June 1895, No. 1154.

With reference to your letter, Judicial No. 1183, dated the 1st June 1895, I am directed to state that it is not likely that the Habitual Offenders' Bill will be proceeded with until the revision of the Code of Criminal Procedure is undertaken.

ORDER—dated 22nd August 1895, No. 1753, Judicial.

As there is no immediate likelihood of the Habitual Offenders' Bill passing into law, the Government deems it desirable to make enquiries with a view to ascertaining whether the criminal tribes in the southern districts of the Presidency constitute such an outrage upon society as to call for the introduction of special legislation for their repression.

2. Information will accordingly be called for on the following points from the Inspector-General of Police:—

(*a*) the number of cattle thefts committed during the last three years in each of the magisterial sub-divisions in the four southern districts by (1) Kallars, Maravars and Agambadiars and (2) by other classes, with a calculation showing the prevalence of these crimes in proportion to the numbers of the respective classes;

(*b*) the amount of dacoity in proportion to the population committed in the four southern districts during a series of years as compared with the rest of the Presidency;

(*c*) whether the custom of paying blackmail, in the shape of the employment of kavalgars, or of paying *Tuppukuli* or clue-hire, in cases in which thefts have been actually committed, still continues to exist in Madura, Tinnevelly, Trichinopoly and Tanjore, and, if so, to what extent;

(*d*) whether the police still follow the practice of employing kudi-kavalgars who are the private servants of the villagers, in order to aid them in the detection of crime.

3. The Government also desires to be placed in possession of reliable and recent information as to the character and usual pursuits of the Kallars, Maravars and Agambadiars; and a general report relating to this subject, and treating particularly of the advisability of taking special measures to deal with these tribes, will now be

called for from the Board of Revenue and the following officers, who will be requested to favour Government with what, in their opinion, would be the best means of weaning these hereditary criminals from their predatory habits :—

The Inspector-General of Police.
" " of Prisons.
" Commissioner of Police.
" Hon'ble Mr. E. Gibson.
Mr. T. Weir.
" J. A. Davies.
" F. A. Nicholson.
" G. S. Forbes.
" J. H. A. Tremenheere.
" H. H. O'Farrell.
Mr. T. M. Horsfall.
" J. W. F. Dumergue.
" J. Twigg.
" J. Andrew.
" R. D. Broadfoot.
" E. C. Rawson.
" B. Macleod.
" M. D. Bell.
" R. B. Clegg.

The Inspector-General of Police will call for similar reports from those of his officers who are best acquainted with the southern districts.

4. The Hon'ble the Judges of the High Court will also be requested to favour Government with their advice regarding the matter.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Hon'ble the Judges of the High Court, with C.L.
" Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
" above addressees.

Exd. A. Raitt.