GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

## MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following paper :—

G.O., Mis. No. 185, Marine, dated 24th June 1895.

*Read*—the following paper :—

From C. E. BERNARD, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Statistics Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Marine Department, dated India Office, London, 31st May 1895, No. R. & S. 934.

With reference to Mr. Secretary Fowler's despatch, No. 2, Revenue, of the 23rd May, I am directed to forward copy of a letter from the Board of Trade and of one from Mr. R. E. Pottinger, father of the young officer whose disappearance has been the subject of enquiry, and I am to enquire whether the particulars furnished throw any fresh light on the case.

From Board of Trade, dated 28th May 1895, and enclosure.

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Enclosures.

From I. B. WALKER, Esq., Board of Trade, Marine Department, to the Under Secretary of State, India Office, dated 7, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., 28th May 1895, No. R. & S. 797.

With reference to your letter of the 20th instant and to previous correspondence relative to the circumstances connected with the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger from the S.S. *Menatchy*, I am directed by the Board of Trade to transmit to you, to be laid before Mr. Secretary Fowler, the enclosed letter from Mr. R. E. Pottinger giving particulars which may be useful for purposes of identification ; and I am to suggest, for Mr. Fowler's consideration, that this communication should be forwarded to the Government of Madras.

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From R. E. POTTINGER, Esq., to I. B. WALKER, Esq., dated 12, Grosvenor Road, Twickenham, Middlesex, 23rd May 1895.

With reference to the communication received this morning from the Board of Trade respecting the loss of my son, Mr. H. S. Pottinger, late 3rd Officer of the B.I.S.N. Company's S.S. *Menatchy*, I beg to forward you some particulars which may prove of some use in tracing him. These particulars are as follows, viz., that I believe he had in his possession certain articles of jewellery, a gold scarf slide with a large pearl set in a claw raised above the surface of the slide, which slide opened with a hinge and was kept closed by means of a spring ; he also had a silver watch and gold chain of 18-carat quality with a seal attached with the following initials engraved thereon, R.E.P. ; and I also believe he had another seal attached to his chain, but of this I am not certain. The following description of his watch may serve for identification—Silver keyless hunting watch and I believe his monogram was engraved on the outside of the case, the watch was purchased of Sir John Bennett of Cheapside, London, on the 10th January 1889, and its number is 342245 ; he had also a sapphire ring which he purchased at Colombo. I have transcribed for your use a copy of the receipt for purchase of the said ring—

"Colombo, 11th September 1891.

"This day I sold one sapphire ring for £2-10-0 to Mr. Frederick Pottinger, and I guarantee the gold and stone to be genuine.

"(Signed) A. M. ISMAIL & Co."

Kindly communicate any information you may receive respecting our terrible loss without delay.

As the above named articles were not sent home with his effects, I presume he wore them when he left his ship.

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*Order*—Mis. No. 185, Marine, dated 24th June 1895.

Communicated to the Inspector-General of Police and the Presidency Port Officer in view to enquiries being made in regard to the missing articles.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

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Read—also the following papers :—

From His Excellency Monsieur CLÈMENT-THOMAS, Governor of the French Settlements in India, to His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated Pondicherry, 4th July 1895, No. 8.

J'ai l'honneur de fournir à votre Excellence, en réponse à sa lettre du 7 Juin dernier, No. 163, les renseignements suivants qui résultent de l'enquête à laquelle j'ai fait procéder, dès la réception de cette communication, sur les faits qui y sont relatés.

Le 6 Février dernier, deux agents de la police anglaise se présentaient au bureau du Commissaire de police central à Pondichéry, demandant l'assistance de nos agents pour rechercher les traces de l'officier du " Minatchy " disparu au mois de Septembre dernier, alors que ce bateau était mouillé en rade de Négapatam. Ces agents étaient porteurs d'un chapeau de marin, trouvé, disaient-ils, au bord de la mer, et qui leur avait été remis par un employé du pier à Pondichéry, M. Feray. Celui-ci, interrogé par le Commissaire de police central, répondit qu'il tenait le chapeau en question d'un macoua qui l'avait trouvé au bord de la mer près de l'embouchure de la rivière d'Ariancoupom. Comme cette coiffure ne portait aucune marque qui pût faire supposer qu'elle appartenait plutôt à un marin qu'à un autre, il l'avait gardé pour le rendre à son propriétaire dans le cas ou celui-ci se ferait connaître. Le macoua qui avait ramassé le chapeau, interrogé également, a confirmé ces déclarations. Pas plus que M. Feray, il ne pouvait d'ailleurs donner aucun renseignement sur le marin disparu.

Un agent de police français fut chargé d'accompagner les agents anglais au village de Kirepaléom, en suivant la plage, et de les aider dans leurs recherches. Mais aucun indice ne fut recueilli, ni sur la présence au large, à un moment donné, d'un Européen dans un canot, ni sur l'échouage d'une embarcation à la côte.

Les jours suivants les recherches furent continuées le long de la côte, toujours avec l'assistance des agents de police français.

C'est alors que des ossements humains furent découverts à l'embouchure de la riviére Maltar, dans la circonscription de Rettychavady (territoire anglais).

Les informations prises sur les lieux par les agents de police anglais et français, notamment dans le village voisin de Ponnitittou (territoire français), établirent que ces ossements étaient ceux d'un indien dont le cadavre était resté abandonné sur la plage, mais avait été reconnu pour être celui d'un indigène à des signes certains : la touffe de cheveux qu'il portait au milieu de la tête, le cordon qui ceignait ses reins et son langoutty.

Les agents de police anglais ne voyant sans doute à ce moment aucun rapport entre cette découverte et le but de leur mission poursuivirent leurs recherches vers le sud, laissant là les ossements.

C'est seulement plus d'un mois après, le 14 Mars, que ces mêmes agents revinrent les chercher. Les investigations aux quelles s'était livré de son côté l'adjudant du poste de Kirmanpacom, dès qu'il avait été informé de la découverte, avaient confirmé



les renseignements qui précédent. Les habitants de Ponnitittou lui ont déclaré n'avoir pas prévenu la police de la présence du cadavre parce qu'il se trouvait sur le territoire anglais, et que dès lors, ils n'avaient pas cru devoir s'en inquiéter.

Les nouvelles informations recueillies sur place au cours de l'enquête que j'ai ordonnée à la réception de la lettre de votre Excellence n'ont fait que confirmer les premières, et ont permis d'établir l'identité du cadavre abandonné à l'embouchure du Maltar, sur le territoire anglais, dans la circonscription de Rettychavady. C'est celui d'un indien du nom d'Appouchetty, fils de Nallintchanechetty, de caste Patnava. Ce pêcheur, qui habitait le village de Poudoucoupom (territoire français), était atteint d'aliénation mentale, de plus il était épileptique et lépreux. Il a disparu il y a environ dix mois. Une dizaine de jours après sa disparition, ses parents ayant été informés de la présence d'un cadavre à l'embouchure de la rivière Maltar, l'une de ses sœurs s'est rendue sur les lieux et a parfaitement reconnu son frère. Mais comme il avait séjourné assez longtemps dans l'eau le corps était devenu presque blanc. Il tombait en putréfaction et elle l'a abandonné après avoir versé quelques larmes. De crainte d'avoir affaire à la justice les parents d'Appouchetty et les habitants de Poudoucoupom, comme ceux de Ponnitittou, se sont abstenus de prévenir la police, d'autant plus, ajoutent-ils, que le cadavre étant sur le territoire anglais, ils ne croyaient pas devoir s'en occuper.

Lorsqu'ils sont venus au mois de Mars chercher les ossements abandonnés sur la plage, les agents de police anglais se sont fait délivrer, paraît-il, par des habitants de Ponnitittou, un certificat constatant que le cadavre d'où provenaient ces ossements était celui d'un blanc. Il resulte de la déclaration de l'un de ceux qui ont signé cette attestation, le nommé Parassamamancavoundin dit Sedouvane, qu'il savait fort bien que le cadavre était celui d'Appouchetty. Il a signé un certificat préparé d'avance, croyant simplement déclarer que le corps était devenu blanc.

Votre Excellence voudra bien reconnaître que, dans ces circonstances, la police française ne saurait être accusée ni de négligence ni de mauvaise volonté. Nos agents ont secondé autant qu'il était en leur pouvoir la police anglaise dans les recherches effectuées pour retrouver les traces du marin disparu, et si ces recherches n'ont pas donné de resultat, ils ne sauraient en être rendus responsables.

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From C. E. BERNARD, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Statistics Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Marine Department, dated India Office, London, 28th June 1895, No. R. and S. 1076.

Referring to my letter of the 31st May last I am directed to forward copy of a further letter from the Board of Trade regarding the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger, 3rd Officer of the Steamship *Menatchy*, and of a letter from his father. Mr. Pottinger is anxious that enquiry should be made into certain circumstances which in his opinion justify a suspicion that his son was the victim of foul play. These papers are forwarded in case the Madras Government see fit to make any further enquiry into the circumstances.

Dated 24th June 1895 and enclosure.

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Enclosures.

From I. B. WALKER, Esq., Board of Trade, Marine Department, to the Under Secretary of State, India Office, dated 7, Whitehall Gardens, London, S. W., 24th June 1895, No. 11030.

I am directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, forwarding a copy of a further report which has been received from the authorities at Madras respecting the circumstances connected with the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger, 3rd Officer of the Steamship *Menatchy*.

The Board of Trade desire me to transmit to you, to be laid before Mr. Secretary Fowler, the enclosed copy of a further letter from Mr. R. E. Pottinger, who appears to have already received a report respecting the proceedings of the Madras Police in regard to the body cast ashore near Pondicherry.

Mr. Pottinger is still desirous that further enquiry should be made in the case and the Board of Trade therefore suggest that his letter should be submitted to the Madras Government for their consideration.

I am at the same time to enquire whether Mr. Fowler sees any objection to the report received from the Inspector of Police at Negapatam being communicated to Mr. Pottinger should he desire to see it.

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From R. E. POTTINGER, Esq., to I. B. WALKER, Esq., dated 12, Grosvenor Road, Twickenham, 19th June 1895.

Since calling upon you respecting my dear son's mysterious disappearance from the *Menatchy* on the 2nd of September 1894, I have re-perused the Police report which I showed you on the day I called upon you and I feel strengthened in the conviction I then had, that my poor son's death was brought about by foul play. My reason for thinking so arises from two suspicious points in the report: first, the finding the remains supposed to be those of my son without the head, and, secondly, the refusal of the French officer at Pondicherry (to whom the boat appears to have been traced) to give any evidence on the subject; if the boat could be produced and the party who had it in possession I think considerable light might be thrown upon the matter, and could it be proved how he came by his end, although the disclosures might be still of a more melancholy nature than we already know, yet it might produce such evidence as would set at rest our present doubts as to the identity of the remains recently found near Pondicherry being those of my son. I must apologise for my importunity in this matter and trust you will endeavour as far as possible to give me satisfaction as far as lies in your power to clear away the mysterious surroundings of this sad case.

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No. 1685, Marine.

Referred to the Inspector-General of Police for report in continuation of endorsement No. 1626, dated 13th July.

Ootacamund,
20th July 1895.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

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From Commander W. POWELL, R.I.M., Presidency Port Officer, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 12th August 1895, No. 1684/218 G.

In reply to G.O. No. 185, Marine, dated 24th June 1895, I have the honour to report that nothing can be traced in regard to the missing articles. I enclose copy of the Negapatam Port Officer's report on the subject.

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Enclosure.

From W. S. CARLYON, Esq., Acting Port Officer, Negapatam, to the Presidency Port Officer, Madras, dated 3rd August 1895, No. 18/474.

With reference to your No. 1684/741 P., dated 3rd July 1895, I have the honour to intimate that no further particulars are to hand up to date regarding the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger from the S.S. *Menatchy*.

I have communicated with the Police, and although they promised enquiry into the matter of the missing jewellery, nothing has come to light.

2. Presuming that Mr. Pottinger was wearing the jewellery when he left the ship, it appears highly improbable that any of it, except perhaps the ring, could be traced as, according to reports already submitted, the last occasion on which he was seen alive he was stark naked except for a topee (which was picked up) and was in all likelihood sitting on the boat which was bottom up.

When the body was first discovered on the shore, it was in an advanced stage of decomposition and quite naked, and later on, when the Police had been informed that a body had been washed up, there only remained a few bones which are buried in the cemetery here under the universal belief that they are the remains of the late Mr. Pottinger.



From M. HAMMICK, Esq., I.C.S., Inspector-General of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 17th September 1895, No. 4952.

With reference to endorsement No. 1626, dated 13th July 1895, on a letter from the French Government, Pondicherry, endorsement No. 1685, dated 20th July 1895, on a letter from the India Office, and G.O. No. 185, Marine, dated 24th June 1895, regarding the loss of Mr. Pottinger of the British India Steamship *Menatchy*, I have the honour to say that I have made inquiries and I submit the report of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Tanjore, and translations of the note-books and statements taken by the constables who made the original enquiry.

2. The report is unsatisfactory, as it must be under the circumstances. The Police of Tanjore give one account of what took place in French territory, and the French Police give another. The French Police cannot be cross-examined, and it is thus impossible to sift the matter in the way that would be possible if all the parties were under our control.

3. The Superintendent selected the best constables he could to depute on the enquiry, and there was no reason to believe that the report they made was a false one. The French Police are naturally anxious to show that they did not neglect their work and the account given by them of the matter must be viewed with suspicion. The statements made regarding the body which was washed up make it improbable that it was the body of the man mentioned by the French Police, and the fact that the Civil Surgeon considered that the bones belonged to a man 5 feet 8 inches in height make it more probable that they were the bones of an European than those of a Native. It is difficult to believe that the story brought back of the European seen in the boat could have been concocted by our Police; it is such an absolutely improbable story that it can hardly have been invented.

4. It is impossible to arrive at any certain conclusion on the matter. Our Police *may*, of course, have made up the whole story which they brought back from Pondicherry, but I hardly think it is likely. On the other hand, the story told by the French Police may be perfectly true, but in the absence of any opportunity of verifying and testing their statements, I do not consider that it can be accepted.

5. As regards search for the missing articles referred to in the Government Order, I referred the order to the Commissioner of Police, Madras, and to the Superintendents of Police, South Arcot and Tanjore. I have heard nothing from them; so I must conclude that nothing has been heard of the articles in question.

6. As regards the unfortunate Mr. Pottinger's idea that his son may have been murdered, it, no doubt, arises from his want of acquaintance with India. It is most improbable that the missing man was murdered either at sea or on land. Had he been washed ashore alive, he would almost certainly have been cared for by the natives who found him, and if by any chance he had met with foul play, it is very difficult to suppose that some trace of his death would not have turned up. I think it must be concluded either that he was drowned at sea and no trace of the occurrence has reached the shore, or, as I am still inclined to think, that we have in the report from Pondicherry some trace probably of his death and the washing ashore of his body.

7. The case is an unsatisfactory one, but our Police have done all that can be done in the matter, and I do not see that anything is likely to be gained by now starting a fresh enquiry.

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Enclosure No. 1.

From C. C. LONGDEN, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of Police, Negapatam, to the Superintendent of Police, Tanjore, dated Védárannivam, 28th July 1895, No. 105.

In returning herewith Head-quarter Register No. 847/95, I have the honour to report that, in accordance with Inspector-General's instructions, I examined on July 23rd the two constables—(1) C. C. 362 Perumal Pillai and (2) C. C. 625 Subrayalu Naidu—who were sent to Pondicherry. They fully bear out their former statements and I attach their special reports and note books which corroborate their version.

With regard to the finding of the hat, the report given by these constables agrees with that furnished by the French authorities.

With regard to the visit to Kiraipalayam, it is clear from the report that this visit took place on 3rd February—three days before they had arrived at Pondicherry—and from the passport it is clear that no French agent accompanied them. Here they obtained some information regarding a boat, which subsequently proved useless.

On 7th February 1895 (not 6th February) they went to Pondicherry and reported themselves at the Police Bureau and at Her British Majesty's Consulate; and the French authorities deputed Constable No. 111 to assist them. On 10th February 1895, in the village of Ponnithittoo, enquiries were made which led to the finding of the remains.

The report shows that the bones alone were found, information was received that the body was white, but some doubt existed as to whether it was that of an European or a Native. When personally examined, the constables assert that there was *fair* hair on the head.

On their second visit, further inquiries elicited the fact that the body was that of an European, and the bones were brought back to Negapatam. Statements in support of this are attached to my previous report. The Negapatam Inspector Mr. Bartels expresses his conviction that the skeleton was not that of a Native. From the size of the bones some opinion might be given by the District Surgeon, and I request orders to exhume the bones and submit them for examination. No suggestion that it was the corpse of any particular native was ever made at the enquiry.

The fact of the finding of the body was repor ed to a French constable by name Narainaswamy Pillai, and two days later to the Kirambakam station-house officer; but no notice was taken of it. Statements in support of this are attached to my previcus report.

When removing the bone from the mouth of the Mallatar river on the second visit, great difficulty was thrown in the way of the constables by the French station-house officer, the village magistrate and the mortuary registrar. A full report of this was made at the time to the British Consul at Pondicherry.

I may add that I especially selected these two constables for this work on account of their steadiness, and as their statements are borne out by their note books and reports and by statements signed by persons on the spot, and from the evident care with which the investigation was conducted, I do not consider that they have made any false reports.

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Enclosure No. 2.

Translation of portion of the note-books relating to the case of the two Tanjore constables deputed to enquire about the boat in which Mr. Pottinger was last seen, &c.

1*st February* 1895.—Received a passport at 4-30 P.M. from the station-house officer of Negapatam with orders to make inquiries along the coast from Pondicherry to Negapatam about the boat, &c., in accordance with the Inspector-General's letter. Left Negapatam at 6-45 P.M., and arrived at Pondicherry at 3-30 P.M. on 2nd February 1895.

2*nd February* 1895.—Made inquiries at the harbour, &c., at Pondicherry, but no information was obtained about the boat being cast ashore. Enquiries were also made in Kuchunadikuppam to the north of Pondicherry with the same result.

3*rd February* 1895.—Left Pondicherry at 6 A.M., we are inquiring about the boat, &c., and shall communicate any information that may be obtained.

On inquiry at Kiraipalayam, one Periyannan of Kuchunadikuppam said that a boat was cast ashore near Parangipettai (Porto Novo) and that it was with somebody there, and that Kiraipalayam harbour supervisor Murugaiya Nattan would be able to give us information on the point. This Murugaiya Nattan said that a boat was cast ashore near Porto Novo, that some one in Pachaiyappa Mudali's chatram had it with him and that Muniya Pillai, an accountant in the shop of a Sait, who is a Rangoon merchant, would be able to give us further information. This Muniya Pillai said that the boat was cast ashore in Annappanpettai near Porto Novo, that one Punugu Pillai in Pachaiyappa Mudali's chatram had sold it in Agaram, a village near Porto Novo, and that one C. Muthuranga Pillai caught hold of it and left it in charge of the station-house officer of Porto Novo. He also gave us a letter to C. Muthuranga Pillai, his elder brother. With this letter in our possession we enquired about the boat, &c., in Kiraipalayam and Periya Virapattanam, but no information was obtained. One Duraiswami Gurukkal, son of Appavaiyan of Sengalanir Appan Kovil of this village (Periya Virapattanam) said that about two and a half or three months previously when he went to Pondicherry, one Subbarayan (son of Krishna Chetty) who was plying a katamaran near the mouth of the river had with him a white hat worn by Europeans and that he knew nothing about the boat having been cast ashore. This man Subbarayan said that some three months previously when he was plying his katamaran near the mouth of the river, a hat used by Europeans was cast ashore by the sea, that Duraiswami Gurukkal told him of it, that he took it and after keeping it with him for ten or fifteen days, he gave it to Kiraipalayam Kachi Appaswami. We took Subbarayan with us to Kiraipalayam to obtain the hat. Kachi Appaswami said that about two and a half or three months previously Subbarayan gave him a hat and wanted a coat to be purchased and that he gave it to a Mr. Feroir.



We took Subbarayan and Kachi Appaswami to Mr. Feroir at Pondicherry.. We asked the gentleman for the hat and he gave it up immediately. We asked him to make a note of it on the passport. He noted that the hat was given him by Kachi Appaswami some two months previously and that he gave it up to us. The hat was given to Her Majesty's Consular Agent. Are we to bring it with us or else what is to be done with it?

*Identification marks of the hat.*—White; a piece of leather stitched all round; it was given a white coating by Mr. Feroir; a tape and nalf an inch of leather are stitched in the inside of the hat.

Reply requested by next post. Some information has been obtained about the boat and inquiries are being made about it. Result will be communicated.

4*th February* 1895.—Inquiries at Periyavirapatnam elicited that a boat was cast ashore at Nadukuppam near Kottaikuppam. Stopping at Pondicherry for the night, as it was too late, we went to Nadukuppam on 5*th February* 1895 and made enquiries. A boat was there, but on seeing it, it was found to have been hollowed out of one piece of wood. Besides, it was a boat used for picking shells. Enquiries were made in Sogam Thandavamkuppam, Kottaikuppam, Vaithikuppam and Kurichikuppam, but no information was obtained about the boat, &c.

6*th February* 1895—Pondicherry.—Obtained orders of the Inspector. On receipt thereof we went to Periyavirapatnam and took statements from Duraiswami Gurukkal and Subbarayan in the presence of French constable No. 5 Banasa, who was with us with the permission of the French authorities. We then searched for Appaswami, but he was not to be found. We stopped there for the night and finding Appaswami in the morning of 7*th February* 1895, we took a statement from him also in the presence of French constable No. 5. We then went to Pondicherry (French constable No. 5 accompanying us) and asked Mr. Feroir for a statement. He said that everything was written on the passport and that he would not make a statement. We then went to Monsieur Faciolle. Commissaire De Central Police, and represented matters. He sent for Mr. Feroir who said that he noted on the passport that two months previously, Appaswami of Kiraipalayam gave him a hat which was said to have been cast ashore by the sea and that he gave it up to the two constables. Monsieur Faciolle then looked at the passport and said that that was enough. We then told the English Consular Agent of the matter and he too said the same after looking at the passport. He also asked us not to ask Mr. Feroir any more for a statement. We left Pondicherry at 5 P.M., with the three statements referred to above, and came to Ariyankuppam. Enquiries were made here about the boat, &c., but no information was obtained. We halted there for the day.

8*th February* 1895.—Leaving Ariyankuppam we made inquiries about the boat, &c., in Chinnavirapatam, Pudukuppam and Thanalaikuppam, but no information was obtained.

9*th February* 1895.—Enquiries were made at English Nallavadu, French Nallavadu, Kirmampakkam and Reddichavadi, but no information was obtained about the boat, &c.

10*th February* 1895.—Enquiries were made at Ponnithittoo, but no information was obtained about the boat. It was learnt that two and a half months previously a dead body was cast ashore near the Mallatar. Bones were found there. It was also said that the body was white, and that it was not possible to say whether it was that of a Native or a European. They were also unable to say whether the body was washed ashore by the sea or by the river. Inquiries were made in British territory without result. The station-house officer of Reddichavadi (British territory) said that nothing of the sort was reported to him. We inquired of people who were near that part, who said that it was the burial and burning ground. There is no evidence at all to suppose that the bones were his (Pottinger's) Kirmampakkam Vathiyar (a teacher) said that he went near the body and saw it, and that it was the body of a Native. So it cannot be supposed that the bones were his (Pottinger's).

10*th February* 1895.—Enquiries were made at Narambai, Murthikuppam.

11*th February* 1895.—Enquiries at Uppalanadi, Talangadar, Devanampatnam.

12*th February* 1895.—Sonamkuppam, Singaratope, Cuddalore, were visited and inquiries made with no result. Halted at Cuddalore.

13*th February* 1895.—As the letter given to us was addressed —"C. Muthuranga Pillai of Pachiyappa Mudali Chatram, care of Varadaramanja Dasa Nayudu, Vakil in the Magistrate's Court, Pudupalayam,"
we searched for the Vakil in Rattapillaiyar Covil Street and learnt that he had gone for a case to the Court of the Assistant Collector who was on circuit at Kurinjivadikuppam. We came to Cuddalore; enquiries were then made at Kori, Shottikuppam, Iranarpet, Chitrapet, Thummuvampet, Naickerpet, Nanjalingapet and Periyakuppam, but no information was obtained about the boat, &c. Halted for the night at Periyakuppam.

14*th February* 1895.—Enquiries were made at Pattikuppam, Aiyampet, Nadupet, Reddiyarpet, Annappanpet, Madu Adainthan and Kumarpet, with no result. We then went to Pachaiyappa Mudali chatram to see Muthuranga Pillai, to whom a letter was given us on 3*rd*

*February* 1895 by his brother Munia Pillai. We gave him the letter and asked him what he knew of the matter. He said as follows:—

"Three months previously a boat was cast ashore at Annappanpet. Punugu Pillai of Pachaiyappa Mudali chatram took it and sold it in Agaram, a hamlet of Porto Novo. Muthuranga took hold of it and left it in charge of the station-house officer of Porto Novo."

We asked him to come to Porto Novo. He said that he had to attend the Manjakuppam Magistrate's Court as a witness and that he would come to Porto Novo by the 3 o'clock train the next day. Halted at Pachaiyappa Mudali chatram for the night.

15*th February* 1895.—Enquiries were made at Samiarpet, Chinnasamiarpet, Nunjanpet, Velingapet, Pudukuppam Pudupet, North Chinnanur and South Chinnanur, but no information was obtained about the boat, &c At about 6 o'clock we went to Porto Novo, and found the station-house officer and Muthuranga Pillai in the police station. We took them to Agaram; as Subbarayan who brought the boat was not to be found, we returned to Porto Novo and halted there.

16*th February* 1895.—We went to Agaram with the station-house officer, but were not able to find Subbarayan, though we searched for him till 12 o'clock. We immediately returned to Porto Novo and found him at about 1 o'clock. We took him with us and inspected the boat along with the station-house officer, the village magistrate and Muthuranga Pillai. The boat was hollowed out of one piece of wood, one cubit broad and 12 feet long. It was a fishing boat. They said that it was not one which Europeans would use; we also found that it was so; we returned to Porto Novo and made enquiries at the Sea Customs office and at Patnachery, but no information was obtained.

17*th February* 1895.—Left Porto Novo; we are making enquiries in the other kuppams. Inquiries were made at Ponnithittoo, Killaiyar, Thandavarayan Sholampet, but with no result. Halted for the night at Kodiampalayam.

18*th February* 1895.—Enquiries were made at Kodiampalayam, Koolayar, Toduvakuppam and Tirumalaivasal, but with no result.

19*th February* 1895.—Left Tirumalaivasal. Enquiries were made at Koniampatnam, Moovarkarai, Chavadikuppam, Kadaikadu, Chinnakadikadu, Pudukuppam, Kaveripatnam and Periyavanavari, but no information was obtained about the boat, &c. Halted at Periyavanavari.

20*th February* 1895.—Enquiries were made at Chinnananavari, Chinnankudi, Uppancheripatnam Street, Pudupet, Perumampet. Vellai Kovilpatnam Street, Kuttai Audi Patnam Street, Patta Street of Tharangampadi and Tharangampadi Sea Customs Office, but with no result. Halted at Poraiyar.

21*st February* 1895.—Enquiries were made at Kalingarayanpet (hamlet of Chandrapadi) Kuchukarapatnam Street, East Chandrapadi, Chinnoorpet, Kalikuppam, South Perumampet, Pandagathur, Akkampet, Kosakkudi and Chinnakottucheri, but with no result. Halted at Kilinjimode.

22*nd February* 1895.—Enquiries were made at Karaikkalpattanacheri, Karaikkal, Karukkalarcheri, Thirumalrajanpattanacheri, Kilananjur and Nagurpattanacheri. It was learnt on enquiring of Nallakutti Nattan of Karaikkalpattanacheri that in Purattasi last (October) when the annual festival of Sanjivaraya Perumal covil commenced, Numbyarkuppum Raja convened a meeting of his caste men, inhabitants of villages from Nambyarkuppam, a hamlet of Negapatam to Porto Novo for purposes of arbitration. There was a large crowd. Some of the crowd were talking to one another that somebody (name and village not known) went on the sea in a kattamaran near Kaveripatnam and that he said that when he was going on his kattamaran he saw a boat at 7 or 8 miles distance from the coast filled with water, its sides level with the sea. In this boats was an Englishman who stood up and beckoned to him with his hat, but he got afraid as the gentleman was all red and had no clothes on. He could not speak but kept waving his hat, beating his head and stomack with his hat when he saw the kattamaran man sailing away. Who the kattamaran man was they cannot say. It cannot also be said who were talking about it in the crowd. His daughter Virammal and his nephew Periyananavari Virammal corroborate his statement, except that the latter said that some Kaveripatnam man (name not known) went out on kattamaran for fishing. Enquiries were made in other Kuppams about the boat, &c., with no result. We arrived at Negapatam at 9 P.M. on 22nd February 1895, reported ourselves before the Inspector, gave him the report for the 22nd, the hat and the statements of Subbarayan, Kachi Appaswami and Duraiswami Gurukkal. Hence forward we are attending to our ordinary duties.

13*th March* 1895.—Received orders from the Inspector.

(1) To make further enquiries about the boat and to secure a piece of it at least if it was broken.

(2) To make further enquiries of the dead body of the supposed European and to bring back the bones.

(3) To make a careful search at the place for any handkerchief or boots and to produce the same if found.



(4) To enquire of the Porto Novo Station-house officer and obtain a statement from him.

(5) To enquire of the village magistrate of village near the mouth of the Mallatar and obtain a statement from him.

(6) To question the fishermen of Kaveripatnam and, if necessary, to offer a small reward to any one who will give information about the boat and secure a statement from him.

When we enquired at Ponnithittoo (French territory) on 10th February 1895, we were told that a dead body which was white was washed ashore and that it decayed as nobody interred it. It was also said that the body was cast ashore in British territory at the mouth of the Mallatar. Searching in the place we found bones. We received orders from the Inspector of Police, Negapatam, on 13th March 1895 to make further careful enquiries at the spot.

13*th March* 1895.—Left Negapatam at 3-30 A.M. by rail and arrived at Tiruppáppuliyúr at 11 A.M. on 14th March 1895. Left Tiruppáppuliyúr and arrived at Kirmampakam. We informed the French Station-house officer of the place of the matter and asked him to accompany us to Ponnithittoo, a village within his division, to make enquiries about the bones and other things. He sent French Police Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim, to assist us. We then went to Ponnithittoo with the constable. On enquiry the following statements were made:—

(1) Statement made by Ananda Mudali, son of Venkatachala Mudali of Ponnithittoo, French territory (before Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Negapatam town and French Police Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim).

He stated that about five months previously, on hearing from people that a dead body which was white was washed ashore near the mouth of the Mallatar, that he went to see it, that the dead body was lying on its face; that it was very white and there was nothing on it; that it was as it was born (meaning naked); that the two eyes had been eaten away by fish or something else; that the legs were all right; that the hair on head was thick and cropped; that it was the body of a male aged probably 25 or 28 years; that as the body was very white and as the hair was cropped, it can be said with certainty that it was the dead body of a European; that as the body was within British territory and as he belonged to the French territory, he thought they (British territory people) would inter it; that it was not interred that day and the next day; that he informed Kirumampakkam French Constable Narayanaswami Pillai of it; that four days afterwards he also informed the Station-house officer of Kirumampakkam that the body was not interred and it was eaten away; that the river water and the sea were then mingled together, there being no room between and it was also raining; that the Negapatam Constables now came and asked him about it and he told them as above; that he and others saw the place where the body was found; that the bones secured by the constables were those of that dead body.

(2) Statement made by Virappa Goundan, son of Palani Goundan of Arugamode, near Ponnithittoo (French territory).

He stated that about five months previously, hearing from people that a dead body was washed ashore at the mouth of the Mallatar, he went and saw it; that it was as it was born (naked) and was lying on its face; that the body was that of a male; that it was very white; that the hair on the head was cropped; that the legs and arms were all right; that nobody interred it; that it decayed at the mouth of the river; that it was the body of a person aged probably about 25 or 28 years; that the hair on the head was brown; that the two constables that were come from Negapatam asked him about it; that he told them of the body having been washed ashore; that on seeing the place in the mouth of the river where the dead body was washed ashore, the bones taken charge of by the Police Constables were found, that it was raining at the time and river water and the sea were mingled together; that those were the bones of that dead body, that he knew nothing else and that he heard it read and found that it was correct.

He signed it in the presence of French Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim.

(3) Statement of Parasurama Goundan, son of Thandavaraya Goundan of Ponnithittoo, French territory (made before Negapatam Constables Nos. 362 and 625 and French Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim on 14th March 1895).

He stated that about five months previously a dead body which was white was washed ashore in British territory; that he went swimming to see it; that the sea and the river water were then all one; that he saw the dead body; that the age of the person was probably 25 or 28 years; that three crows were sitting on it; that he drove them away, and saw the body; that it was that of a European; that the hair on the head was cropped; that as the hair on the whole of the head was cropped and as the body was of a whitish rosy colour; he could say with certainty that it was the body of a European; that it was on its face, partly turned to a side; that the corners of the two eyes were eaten away by fish or something else; that the hands and legs were all right; that there was no clothing on the body; that it was the body of a European male; that as it was in British territory, he told nobody of it; that nobody interred it; that it decayed there; that he could say that with certainty; that two constables from Negapatam asked him if the dead body of a European was washed ashore; that he told them as above; that on examining the place where the body was found, the bones taken charge of by

the constables were found; that the constables took possession of the bones enumerated in the mahazar; that the body was there alone; that it decayed there; that those were the bones of that body and that it was also raining then.

(4) Statement of Manikka Goundan, son of Venkatachala Goundan of Ponnithittoo, French Territory (made before Negapatam Constables Nos. 362 and 625 and French Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim, on 14th March 1895).

He stated that about five or five and half months previously, hearing that a dead body was washed ashore, he swam to the place and saw the dead body at the mouth of the Mallatar; that it was white; that the hair on the head was cropped and brown in colour; that there was no clothing on the body; that the body was washed ashore as it was born (naked that is); that as the body was of a whitish rose colour and as the hair was brown and cropped, he could say with certainty that the body was that of a European; that it was certainly the body of a European; that the corners of the eyes were eaten away by fish; that as the body was in British territory, he told nobody of it; that nobody interred it; that the body remained there and decayed; that the two constables asked him about it; that he told them as above; that when the constables and himself with others examined the place, the bones taken charge of by the constables were found; that the sea and river water were then mingled together; that he had signed it in the mahazar for the bones; that he knew nothing else and that he heard it read and found it correct.

He signed it before me, Constable No. 625 and French Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim, on 14th March 1895.

(5) Statement of Murugappa Chetti, son of Valmuni Chetti of Ponnithittoo, French territory.

He stated that about five months previously Parasurama Goundan went across the river and saw something; that he asked him what he observed there; that Parasurama Goundan said that a dead body was cast ashore; that he also said that it was very white; that as there was water between he was not able to go to the place, but he (Murugappa Chetti) saw from the southern bank the body cast ashore near the northern bank; that the body was white; that he returned thereafter; that nobody interred it; that it remained there and decayed; that the two Negapatam constables asked him about it; that he told them as above; that he and others were taken by the constables to the place; that they examined the place; that the bones taken charge of by the constables with the mahazar were found there; that the bones were of that dead body; that it was also raining then; that the sea and the river water were then mingled together; that he had also signed the mahazar and that he heard it read and found it to be correct.

He signed the statement before me (Constable No. 362), Constable No. 625 and French Constable No. 101, Saiyed Ibrahim, on 14th March 1895.

(6) Statement of Virappa Nattan of Ponnithittoo.

He stated that about five or five and half months previously he heard people say that the dead body of a European washed ashore at the mouth of the Mallatar, that he went to see it; that the sea and the river water were then mingled together; that he did not therefore go to the other bank, but saw from the southern bank the body which was on the northern bank; that the body was very white; that as the body was cast ashore in British territory and as he was in French territory, he told nobody of it; that he returned immediately after seeing it; that nobody interred it; that it decayed there; that Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Negapatam enquired him on the subject; that he told them as above; that he and others took the constables to the place; that the bones taken charge of by the constables with the mahazar were found there; that the bones were of that body; that it was raining then; that the sea and the river water were then mingled together and that he had also signed in the mahazar drawn up regarding them.

The said Virappa Nattan signed the statement before us, the two constables and French Constable No. 101, Saiyed Ibrahim.

(7) Statement of Elaya Perumal Padayachi, son of Thandavaraya Padayachi of Aralimode, near Ponnithittoo.

He stated that about five and half months previously he heard that the dead body of a European was cast ashore; that he swam across the mouth of the Mallatar and saw it; that the whole of the body was bloody (or covered with blood); that the body was on its face; that there was nothing on the dead body; that it was as it was born (meaning naked); that the two eyes were eaten by fish; that the hair on the head was red and cropped; that the hands and legs were all right; that it was the body of a man aged probably 25 or 28 years; that he told nobody of it; that the people of the village knew of the body having been cast ashore; that as the hair was cropped and brown in colour, he could say with certainty that it was the body of a European; that as the body was as above, it could not be said that it was that of a Native; that it must have been that of a European; that he could say with certainty that it was the body of a European; that he knew that the body decayed; that Constables Nos. 362 and 625 asked him to show them the place which he did; that the two constables took the bones from there; that he knew nothing else on the subject and that he heard the statement read and found it to be correct.



He signed it before us and French Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim. This was on 15th March 1895.

I, Constable No. 362, asked Constable No. 625 to fetch Duraiswami Reddi, Village Magistrate of Periyakuttupalayam, for having the bones secured with a mahazar (inquest report). The constable went to Periyakattupalayam and called Duraiswami Reddi. He was inside the house and a female came out and asked why he wanted him. The constable intimated to her the purpose of his visit, and she said that Duraiswami Reddi was taking his meals. She went inside and on returning said that Duraiswami Reddi had gone to Marudur the previous night. He brought this news to me at 4-30. Thinking that there may be some deception in the affair, I drew up a mahazar in the presence of—

(1) Kurnam Anantha Mudali.
(2) Virappa Goundan.
(3) Murugappa Chetti.
(4) Virappa Nattan.
(5) Parasurama Goundan.
(6) Manika Goundan.
(7) Aiyavu Padyachi of Gundu Uppalavadi, Cuddalore New Town; and
(8) French Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim. We took charge of the following articles in the presence of the above-named persons—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| (1) | Thigh bones ... ... ... ... | 2 | |
| (2) | Leg bone ... ... .. ... | 1 | |
| (3) | Hip bones ... .. ... ... | 2 | |
| (4) | Ulmal and radic ... ... ... ... | 4 | |
| (5) | Bones of the upper arm and Scapulæ ... | 4 | |
| (6) | Back bone ... ... ... ... | 1 | |
| (7) | Bones called Mullanthandu bones ... | 18 | Probably vertebrae of the back. The Tamil word means sharp pricking bones and hence vertebrae conjectured. |
| (8) | Bones of the neck ... ... ... | 8 | |
| (9) | Ribs ... ... ... ... ... | 14 | |
| (10) | Chest bones ... ... ... ... | 4 | Probably sternuni with its fork and the clanicles are intended. |
| (11) | Broken bone of the buttocks ... ... | 1 | |

Expecting to find some more bones in the place I got Parasurama Goundan, son of Thandavaraya Goundan of Ponnithittoo, to dig the place and, on examining, we found three bones (name not decipherable) and two joint bones of back. These were produced before Ananda Mudali, Manika Goundan, Iyya Pidayachi, Virappa Nattan and French Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim by the said Parasurama Goundan. He was asked to dive into the Mallatar, but nothing was found. We took the bones with us and stopped for the night at Ponnithittoo. The next day (15th March 1895) we started for Periyakattapalaiyam and enquired about the village magistrate who said that he had been to Maruthur to perform some ceremony and that he would not make a statement about the bones or the body being cast ashore. He also said that he would make a statement after inspecting the place. But on coming to Reddichavadi, he declined to come to the place and make a statement. He also refused to sign the passport. Periyakattupalaiyam Aiyan Perumal Goundan's son Chinna Goundan and Elaya Perumal Goundan's son Thandavaraya Goundan of Alamode in Ponnithittoo station limits and Constable No. 757 of Ponnithittoo station will corroborate the above. But from their attitude that day we are not sure that they will speak to this. The matter is, however, known to all of them. Getting the signature of Constable No. 757 in the passport we went to Kirumpakkum and produced the bones before the Station-house officer and asked him to sign the passport. The Station-house officer, Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim, a *Udayan* whose full name is not known, but who can be identified joined together and asked me to give up the note-book and the statement and surrounding me (Constable No. 362) pulled out the papers from under my arms. I said that I had no statement and asked them not to trouble me. They asked me where I left the statements and I replied that I had left them in Reddi Chavadi station. They then asked what the bundle under my arms was and I said it was food. They took away the passport and the food and said they would not return them till they got the papers they asked for. Constable No. 625 and myself went to Reddi Chavadi and stopped there till 6 o'clock and at about 6-30 I sent Constable No. 625 in a jutka to Cuddalore New Town with the bones and statements. I left Reddi Chavadi at about 4-30, went with Constable No. 757 straight to Kirumampakkam police station. Constable No. 101 was then awake and he pulled me by the hand. I then said that I was not a thief, pick-pocket or a known depredator to be treated like that. The Station-house officer inside came out and said "Perumal Pillai I have assisted you very much and you have done things which would bring us into trouble." I replied that I did not do any harm. While we

were talking thus, the birth and death registrar, whose name is not known, but who can be identified, and Constable No. 101 abused me in very bad language. Constable No. 757 of Reddi Chavadi station (British territory) said that the passport and the bundle containing food should not be returned to me till the head constable returned from Cuddalore. To which the Station-house officer said that he would not return them till the Reddi Chavadi head constable comes. Constable No. 757 French Constable Duraisawmi Nayudu asked the Station-house officer to send me to Pondicherry. I said that if necessary I might be sent to Pondicherry. The Station-house officer then told me privately that if I brought the statements they might be torn and fresh ones prepared and he also said that if the statements remained as they were, the Reddi Chavadi Station-house officer, Village Magistrate Duraisawmi Reddi of Pariakattupalaiyam and himself would be brought to trouble. I said that the statements were not with me and that I would fetch them. While talking thus the Station-house officer and Constable No. 101 with others there took my kit bundle and note-book and examined them; not finding the statements there, the Station-house officer said that he would not return my passport and bundle of food unless I brought the statements. I said that I would fetch them to which the Station-house officer replied that unless I brought the statements before 12 o'clock on (16th March 1895) he would report me to his officer. I said that, if so, the matter might be reported. The station-house officer then asked me to bring them somehow. On my replying that I would bring them by 2 o'clock he said that that would not do, and that they should be brought before 12 o'clock. I again said "I will bring them at 1 o'clock. I had my meals on the 14th and I have had none till now. Please return my food." He then said that I could have my food as soon as I brought these statements. I told the Station-house officer that having had no food for three days I was not able to walk the distance and bring the statements. Thereupon he ordered the food to be returned to me. I took the food and after going a little distance returned and told the Station-house officer that I had to go to the Cuddalore Head-quarter office and if they asked me for the passport I would have to report that it was taken away from me. He then threw the passport on the road. I picked it up and asked him to sign it. He then said that he would sign it if I brought the statements. On my asking him again to sign it he said he would not do so. I went to Manjakuppam (Cuddalore) town station and took Constable No. 625 who was there with me and purchased a deal-wood box and a gunny bag and packed the bones. I submitted my report about the bones, &c., with the box of bones and other things sealed by the Station-house officer of Tiruppáppuliyúr. The statements referred to before, the mahazar and the railway receipt for the parcel of bones were sent to the Inspector of Police, Negapatam, along with my report by post of 16th March 1895.

17*th March* 1895.—Left Tiruppáppuliyúr and arrived at Pondicherry by rail at 3-30 P.M., made enquiries at the Sea Customs office, harbour and other places about the boat, &c., but no information was obtained. Enquiries were also made at Kuchunadikuppam to the north of Pondicherry with the same result. We reported to the British Consul about what happened on the 14th, 15th and 16th March 1895. He said "why should you be afraid so long as I am here."? I have reported this to the Negapatam Town Police Inspector from Pondicherry on 18th March 1895.

18*th March* 1895.—Left Pondicherry at 4 P.M., made enquiries in Kiraipalayam and Periyavirapattanam about the boat, &c., but no information was obtained. Stopped for the night at Periyavirapattanam as it was too late.

19*th March* 1895.—Left Periyavirapattanam at 6 A.M., made enquiries at Chinnavirapattanam, Pudukuppam, Nallavadu (English), Nallavadu (French), Narambai and Moorthikuppam, but with no result. Halted for the night at Moorthikuppam.

20*th March* 1895.—Made enquiries in Suba Uppalavadi (also called Murthikuppam), Thalangidai, Devanampatnam, Sothikuppam, Singaratope of Cuddalore, Cuddalore Sea Customs office and other places, but with no result. If any information is obtained, it will be communicated.

21*st March* 1895.—Submitted a report (in writing) to the Inspector of Police, Negapatam town. Left Cuddalore. Made enquiries in Gori, Sothikuppam, Rajapettai, Chittiraipettai, Thamunampettai, Naickerpettai, Nanjanapettai and Periyakuppam about the boat, &c., but no information was obtained. Halted at Periyakuppam.

22*nd March* 1895.—Enquiries were made in Pettai Odai, Nadupettai, Aiyampettai, Maniayappettai, Reddiyarpettai, Annappanpettai and Madu Adiathanpettai, but with no result. Halted at Pachaiyappa Mudaliyar's chattram.

23*rd March* 1895.—Made enquiries in Kumarapet, Periyasamiyarpet, Chinnasamiyarpet, Kalangirayanpet, Pudukuppam, Pudupet, North Chinnavur, Chinnavur of Porto Novo and Porto Novo, but no information was obtained. In accordance with the orders of the Negapatam Police Inspector, the Station-house officer of Porto Novo was asked to give us a written statement, but he, instead of giving us a written statement, said that he would write it on the passport and wrote something on the passport in English. On examining it it was found to be to the effect that a boat was cast ashore in the Chonanjavadi station limits, that Punugu Pillai had sold it to Subbarayan, that constables Nos. 362 and 625 enquired of it, that the boat was not one to be



used by Europeans and he also thought so, and that he was making enquiries about it. When we took statements we enquired of the Station-house officer of Porto Novo and he said as follows:—

About a month and a half ago a fishing canoe was cast ashore by the sea in Annappanpet; he heard by rumour that Punugu Pillai of Pachaiyappa Mudali chattram sold it for Rs. 10 to fisherman Subbarayan of Agaram (a village in Porto Novo station limits). He went and saw it and found it to be a fishing canoe. He enquired of Subbarayan about it. Subbarayan said that he bought it from Punugu Pillai for Rs. 10. He is enquiring of the truth of it. Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Negapatam town station asked him about it. With the said constables, the Village Magistrate of Porto Novo and C. Muthuranga Pillai of Pachaiyappa Mudali chattram who accompanied the constables, he went to Agaram and showed the canoe seen by him, which was twelve feet long and one cubit broad. It was not one used by Europeans, but one used usually by fishermen. Muthuranga Pillai of Pachaiyappa Mudali chattram had informed him of it one and a half months ago. He did not know how many months it was since the boat was cast ashore in Annappanpet. No other boat appeared to have been cast ashore. It was the canoe seen by him.

He has written to the above effect in the passport. He said he knew nothing else on the subject. He wrote a statement to the above effect, but on being asked to sign it, refused to do so. I have reported about this and our work on 21st, 22nd and 23rd March 1895 to the Police Inspector on 24th March 1895 and submitted the statement. The Station-house officer said that if he got a yadast from the Station-house officer (of Negapatam) he will answer it. In my report to the Negapatam Town Police Inspector, I have mentioned this.

24*th March* 1895.—Left Porto Novo. Made enquiries in Ponnithittoo, Killai and Thandavarayasolampet about the boat, &c., but with no result. Halted for the night at Kodipalayam.

25*th March* 1895.—Made enquiries in Kodiyapalayam and Koolaiyar, but with no result. Halted for the night at Koolaiyar.

26*th March* 1895.—Made enquiries in Kottaimedu, Samanamkadu, Mahendrapulli and Kattur about the boat, &c., but no information was obtained. Halt.

27*th March* 1895.—Made enquiries in Darkast Pudupattanam (hamlet of Pudupattanam), Puliyamthula, Chinnathandavankulam and a hamlet of Pudupattanam about the boat, &c., but no information was obtained. Halt.

28*th March* 1895.—Enquiries were made in Chinnur (attached to Kodiyampalayam), Thirumullaivasal, Pattanamcheri and Thirumullaivasal Sea Customs office, but with no result. We left Thirumullaivasal and are investigating on the way. Any information obtained will be communicated to the Police Inspector.

29*th March* 1895.—Submitted report to the Police Inspector about our work on 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th March 1895 by post from Thirumullaivasal. Enquiries were made in Kilakkarai, Moovarkarai, Koniyampattanam, Chavadikuppam, Kadaikkadu, Ramanuja Naicker, Pattanatheru and Periyakadaikkadu (also called Pettai Pattanatheru), but no information was obtained about the boat, &c.

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Enclosure No. 3.

Statement of Duraiswami Gurukkal, son of Appaswami Aiyar, Archaka of Sengalanir Aiyan Kovil, Virapattanam, Pondicherry, made before Negapatam Constables No. 362, Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 5, Bavasah of Pondicherry.

About two and a half or three months ago on my way from Virapattanam to Pondicherry, I saw a white hat, that is, a hat used by Europeans cast ashore by the sea near the mouth of the river. As being a Brahmin, I should not touch it. I told Virapattanam Subbarayan of it and went away. Subbarayan took it. Ten or fifteen days after that I heard that Subbarayan gave it to Kachi Appaswami of Kiraipalayam near Pondicherry. Sometime afterwards two constables from Negapatam came and asked me about the hat, boat, dress, &c. I told them as above. They sent for Subbarayan and asked him. He told them that he had given it to Kachi Appaswami. Thereupon the constables went away taking Subbarayan with them. I know nothing more.

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Enclosure No. 4.

Statement of Subbaraya Chetti, son of Krishnappa Chetti of Virapattanam, near Pondicherry, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai, No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 5, Bavasah of Pondicherry.

About two and a half or three months ago when I was taking Duraiswami Gurukkal across the mouth of the river in my catamaran, a white hat used by Europeans was found cast ashore. The said Duraiswami Gurukkal asked me to take it. I took it and after keeping it with me for ten or fifteen days, I gave it to Kachi Appaswami of Kiraipalayam. The two constables were enquiring whether a boat, hat and dress were cast ashore. They asked me if I had the hat. I told them I had given it to Kachi Appaswami of Kiraipalayam. I took them to him and

asked him for it. He said that he had given it to Mr. Prai Bava (Mr. Feroir?). Taking Kachi Appaswami with me, I obtained the hat from Mr. Prai Bava and gave it up to the above two constables. That is the hat that I took. I know nothing more. Heard it read and find it correct.

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Enclosure No. 5.

Statement of Appaswami Naicken, son of Chinnamuthu Naiken of Vembai Kiraipalayam, Pondicherry, made before Negapatam Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Constable No. 5, Bavasah of Pondicherry.

About two and a half or three months ago when I was returning from Periyavirapallanam, Subbaraya Chetti, son of Krishna Chetti of the said Virapattanam, was plying his catamaran at the mouth of the river. As soon as he saw me, he brought to me a hat used by Europeans and gave it to me. I asked him how he got it. He replied that it was cast ashore by the sea when he was plying his catamaran at the mouth of the river. I asked him what he wanted me to do with the hat. He said that as it was then cold season, I should purchase a coat in exchange for it. Thereupon I gave it to Mr. Prai Bava (or Feroir?), clerk in the Pondicherry Sea Customs office, for purchasing a coat. The two constables from Negapatam brought Subbarayan to me. The two constables asked me if Subbarayan gave me a hat used by Europeans and if I had it with me. Subbarayan also asked me "where is the hat that I gave you?" I replied that I had given it to Mr. Prai Bava (Feroir?). The two constables took Subbarayan and myself to Pondicherry and wanted the hat to be obtained from Mr. Prai Bava (Feroir?) and given them. I obtained the hat from Mr. Prai Bava and gave it to Subbarayan. Subbarayan gave it up to the two Negapatam constables. This is the hat given to me by Subbarayan. Heard it read and find it correct.

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Enclosure No. 6.

*Translation of Mahazar.*

To Her Majesty's Government.

We, the undersigned individuals, have drawn up the following mahazarnama at 4-30 P.M. on Thursday, the 14th March 1895.

About 5 or 5½ months ago it was learnt from Ananda Mudaliyar (son of Venkatachella Mudaliyar) of Ponnithittoo (French territory) and other persons that a white corpse was washed ashore at the mouth of the Mallatar in English village Madagapattee. They also said that the dead body was not interred by any one; it was decayed at the side of the water. The people were taken to the place where the body was found, and on seeing there the bones of the body were found. The following are details of the bones:—

Leg bones, *i.e.*, thigh bones 2, shin bone 1, bones of buttock 2, bones of fore-arm 4, humeri and scapulæ 4, lumbar portion of the vertebral column 1, vertebrae 18, ribs 14, bones of the neck 2, chest bones 4, a broken bone of buttock. The above bones were found. Negapatam Town Station Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayadu took possession of the bones found in the river.

(Signed) Ananda Mudali.
Mark of Virappa Nattar.
( „ ) Manicka Goundan.
( „ ) T. R. Perumal Pillai (Cons. No. 362).
( „ ) G. Subbarayalu Nayudu (Cons. No. 625).
( „ ) Saiyid Ibrahim (French Cons. No. 101).
( „ ) P. Virappa Goundan.
( „ ) Appavu Padayachi.
Mark of Murugappa Chetti.
( „ ) Parasurama Goundan.
( „ ) Appavu Padayachi (son of Virabhadra Padayachi) of Nanamedu, hamlet of Gundu Uppalavadi, Manjakuppam.

On having the place where the bones were found dug up and examined, three bones called in Tamil பறை எலும்பு and two bones of the back were found and these were produced before the undersigned by Parasurama Goundan, son of Thandavaraya Goundan of Ponnithittoo, who dug up the place. He was also made to dive into the river water close by but nothing was found.

(Signed) Ananda Mudali.
( „ ) Manicka Mudali.
( „ ) Parasurama Goundan.
( „ ) Appavu Padayachi of Gundu Uppalavadi.
Mark of Virappa Chetti.
( „ ) T. R. Perumal Pillai (Cons. No. 362).
( „ ) G. Subbarayalu Nayudu (Cons. No. 625).
( „ ) Saiyid Ibrahim (French Cons. No. 101).



Enclosure No. 7.

Statement of Ananda Mudali, son of Venkatachella Mudali, before constables of Negapatam Town No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim, on 14th March 1895 at Ponnithittoo.

About five months ago I heard from people that a dead body which was white was washed ashore at the mouth of the Mallatar. I went to see it. The body was on its face. When I saw it it was very white. There was nothing on the body. It was as it was born. The two eyes were eaten away by fish or something else. The arms and legs were all right. The hair on the head was cropped. All the hair was cropped. The body was that of a male. Age probably 25 or 28 years. As the body was very white and the hair was cropped, I could say with certainty that it was the body of a European. As the body was in English territory and as I am in French territory, I thought they would inter it. The next day I found it not interred. I told French Police Constable Narayanaswami Pillai of Kirmampakkam station of it. Again after four days I informed the Station-house officer of Kirmampakkam of it. The dead body was not interred and it remained at the mouth of the river and decayed. The sea and the river water were then mingled together. It was also raining then. The two constables that are now come from Negapatam asked us about it. I told them as above. The constables and ourselves went to the place where the body was found. The bones taken charge of by them are those of that body. I know nothing more. Read and found correct.

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Enclosure No. 8.

Statement of Parasurama Goundan, son of Thandavaraya Goundan of Ponnithittoo, French Territory, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim, on 14th March 1895.

About five months ago a dead body which was white was washed ashore in English territory. I swam across the river to see it. The sea and the river water were then mingled together. I saw the dead body. Age probably 25 or 28 years. Three crows were sitting upon it. I drove them and saw the body. It was the dead body of a European. As the hair was cropped all over the head, as the hair was red and as the body was of a whitish rose colour, I say with certainty that it was the body of a European. The body was on its face partly turned to a side. The corners of the two eyes were eaten away by fish or something else. The hands and legs were all right. There was no clothing on the body. The body was that of a European male. As it was in English territory, I told nobody of it. I have told Murugaiya Chetti of this. The body was not interred. It remained there and decayed. It decayed near the edge of the water. I could say with certainty that it was the dead body of a European. The constables now come from Negapatam asked me about it. I told them as above. On examining the place the bones taken charge of by the constables were found. They took charge of the bones with a mahazar. The body was there alone. It decayed. These bones are of that body. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it correct. It was also raining then. Heard it read and found it correct.

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Enclosure No. 9.

Statement of Virappa Nattar, son of Chinnana Nattar, of French Pannithittu, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim, on 14th March 1895.

About five months ago I heard a rumour that a dead body which was white was washed ashore at the mouth of the Mallatar. As it was in another village, I thought I need not go and see it. I saw it from the opposite bank. The dead body was white. The sea and the river water were mingled together. People said that the body was white and that it was that of a European. The two constables from Negapatam enquired me about it. I told them as above. They took me at once to the place where the body was found. The bones secured by the constables were there. There was nothing else there except these bones. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it correct.

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Enclosure No. 10.

Statement of Virappa Goundan, son of Palani Goundan, of Aralimode, Ponnithittoo, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai, No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim, on 14th March 1895.

About five months ago people said that a dead body which was white was cast ashore at the mouth of the Mallatar. I went and saw it. It was as it was born and was on its face. It was

the body of a male. The body was very white. The hair on the head was cropped. The hands and legs were all right. Nobody interred it. It decayed at the mouth of the river. Age probably 25 or 28 years. The hair on the head was brown. The two constables now come from Negapatam asked me about it. I told them as above. When we went and examined the place at the mouth of the river where the body was found, the bones secured by the constables were found there. It was then raining. The sea and the river water were then mingled together. These are the bones of the body so found. I did not inform anybody of this. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it correct.

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Enclosure No. 11.

Statement of Murugappa Chetti, son of Valmuni Chetti, of French Ponnithittoo, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai, No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim, on 14th March 1895.

About five months ago Parasurama Goundan went across the river and saw something. I asked him what he observed. He told me that a dead body was cast ashore and that it was white. As there was water, I was not able to go and I saw it on the northern bank. I saw it from the southern bank. The corpse was white. I came away. Nobody interred it. It decayed there. The two constables from Negapatam asked me about it. I told them as above. I with others took the constables to the spot and the bones secured by the constables were there. These are the bones of that dead body. It was then raining. The sea and the river water were then mingled together. I know nothing more. I have signed the mahazar drawn up regarding the bones. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it correct.

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Enclosure No. 12.

Statement of Manicka Goundan, son of Venkatesa Goundan of Ponnithittoo, made before Negapatam Town Constables Nos. 362 and 625 and French Police Constable No. 101 on 14th March 1895.

About five or five and a half months ago I heard that a white corpse was washed ashore. On that we swam across the mouth of the Mallatar and saw the body. It was white. The hair on the head was cropped. The hair was red. There was no clothing on the body. It was as it was born when it was cast ashore. As the body was of a whitish rose colour and the hair cropped and red, I could say that it was the body of a European. It was the body of a European. The corners of the eyes were eaten away. As the body was in English territory, I told nobody of it. Nobody interred the body. It decayed there. These two constables asked me about it and I told them as above. When we and others went to the place the bones secured by the constables were found there. The sea and the river water were then mingled together. I have signed the mahazar drawn up regarding the bones. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it correct.

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Enclosure No. 13.

Statement of Elaya Perumal Padayachi, son of Thandavaraya Padayachi of Alamode, Ponnithittoo, made before Negapatam Town Constables Nos. 362 and 625 and French Police Constable No. 101.

About five and a half months ago there was a rumour that the corpse of a European was cast ashore. I swam across the mouth of the Mallatar and saw the body. The whole of the body was bloody (or covered with blood?). It was on its face. There was nothing on the corpse. It was as it was born. The two eyes were eaten away by fish. The hair on the head was cropped and red. The hands and legs were all right; age probably 25 or 26 years. I told nobody of this. The people of this village also know of the body having been cast ashore. As the hair on the head was cropped and brown I say positively that it was the body of a European. As the body was as described above it cannot be said that it was that of a Native. It was that body most probably. I can say with certainty that it was the body of a European. Nobody interred it. It decayed and was merely a set of bones. I know it. They asked me to show them the place. I showed them the place. The constables had the place dug up and had the bones with them. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it correct.



Enclosure No. 14.

Statement given by Nagalinga Chetti, son of Mari Chetti of Kotiayapalayam, Shiyáli Taluk, before Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Negapatam Station.

Once about five and a half months ago when I went to fish in Madavamoottoo river I discovered at the mouth of the river some planks of a boat which have been washed ashore. They were each one and a half cubits long and two cubits broad, and their ends were embedded in the sand. There was a white coating visible on them. They were attached, the planks being placed one above the other. I then went away to my house and nobody followed me. I never went to the mouth after this. I heard from men who went to fish in the sea, as well as in the river, that water ceased to flow through the mouth which was blocked up by sand. This absence is owing to my having gone to Viraipattanam ten days after this to be cured of my illness. At the time in question only a small quantity of water was flowing through the mouth of the river. There is now a sand bank at the place where I discovered the planks which were then lying on the spot. I have shown you with their back sides visible. Either they might even now be embedded in the sand (since both their ends were buried in it and the planks themselves were lying with their back side uppermost) or they might have been removed by others, which I know nothing about. Read over to me and found to be correct.

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Enclosure No. 15.

Statement of Virammal, daughter of Nallakutti Nattan of Karaikkal Pattanam Street, made before Negapatam Town Constables Nos. 362 and 625.

In Purattasi (October last?) Nambiyarkuppam Raja (Negapatam) convened a meeting of our castemen living in villages from Porto Novo to Kodiyakarai. On the night of the flag hoisting day of the annual festival in Karaikkalmode Sanjiviraya Perumal temple they assembled and discussed about some matters connected with the building of a house and matam by Nambi Raja. We were then looking at what was going on. Some of the crowd were talking that when a fisherman went on his catamaran he saw at about six or seven miles distance from Kaveripatnam a European standing in a single boat, that the boat was on a level with the sea, that the gentleman was hip deep in water, that he beckoned to the catamaran man with his hat, that the fisherman ran away as the body was all white, that the gentleman was naked, that he therefore got afraid and ran away, and that the gentleman then beat his head and stomach with his hat and also struck at the water with his hat. I do not know who were talking like that. As it was night I could not identify. It appears he was beaten when he returned and narrated the fact. I cannot positively say that the fisherman belongs to Kaveripatnam. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it correct.

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Enclosure No. 16.

Statement of Virammal, daughter of Thoondikara Nattan, Karaikkal Pattanam Street, made before Negapatam Town Constables Nos. 362 and 625.

In Purattasi (October?) last when the annual festival in Sanjiviraya Perumal temple commenced Raja of Nambiyarkuppam (of Negapatam) convened a meeting of our castemen living in villages from Porto Novo to Kodiyakarai for the purpose of settling a dispute. They were discussing on the night of flag hoisting day. I and my paternal uncle's daughter, Virammal, went there to see what was going on. Some in the crowd were talking as follows:—When a fisherman went on a catamaran he saw a European standing in water thigh deep; the boat was full of water on a level with the sea. As soon as he saw the catamaran man the European beckoned to him with his hat; he got afraid and sailed away. Thereupon the European beat his head and stomach with the hat and also struck at the water with the hat. When asked why he considered his life more precious and ran away, the fisherman said that, as his body was white and his hair cropped and brown, he got afraid and ran away. They were talking to the above effect. I do not know the persons who were so talking. As it was dark I say I do not know his name and could not identify him. I am married to a person in Periyavanagari to the south of Kaveripatnam. I did not go to my husband's house as I have not attained maturity. I did not go to Periyavanagari at the time the European is said to have been seen. The people who did thus most probably belong to Kaveripatnam. I say so because there are a large number in that village plying catamarans. I do not know who it was in Kaveripatnam. This was what I heard. I know nothing more. Read over to me and found correct.

Enclosure No. 17.

Statement given by Nallakutti Nattan of Pattanam Street, Karaikkal, before the Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Negapatam Station.

In Purattasi (October ?) last when the flag was hoisted in Modu Sanjiviraya Perumal temple, Karaikkal, all the villagers of our Kuppam from Parangipettai to Kodiyakarai were sent for to settle the dispute of Raja of Nambiyarkuppam attached to Negapatam. We were then assembled to the number of 1,000. It was then night time There was a talk among the persons so assembled that a certain European was seen standing in water up to his waist just opposite Kaveripatnam six or seven miles out in the sea by a man who went out fishing in a catamaran, that he was then standing in a boat filled with water and immersed up to water-level, and that as soon as he saw the fisherman he waved his hat and signalled for help; that then the catamaran man unfurled his sails and sailed away for shore, that as soon as he so sailed away the gentleman was in great distress and was beating his head and stomach and struck the water with his hat. They were also saying that, as the gentleman had no dress and looked very white, the man was afraid and sailed away. I do not know who those persons were who were so talking. I cannot recognise them. I do not know whether the catamaran man belongs to Kaveripatnam or to Vanagari. This is not something that I witnessed. I have merely repeated what I heard As it was dark I could not find out the persons that were so talking. I know nothing more than this. Read over to me and found to be correct.

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Enclosure No. 18.

Statement given by Peramalai Chetti, Pattanam Street, Karaikkal, before Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Negapatam Station.

In the month of Purattasi last at the time when the flag was hoisted in Sanjiviraya Perumal temple all my villagers from Parangipettai to Kodiyakarai were asked to meet to settle the dispute of Raja of Nambiyarkuppam attached to Negapatam. When about a thousand of us were so assembled on the night of the hoisting of the flag, it was talked about that a person while going out for fishing in a catamaran for a distance of six or seven miles just opposite Kaveripatnam discovered a gentleman standing in water up to his waist in a boat filled with water and immersed up to water-level, that when the gentleman saw the catamaran man he waved his hat and signalled for help, on seeing which the catamaran man sailed away out of fear, and that when the gentleman observed him going away with sails unfurled he beat his head and stomach and struck the water several times with his hat. They were also saying that the cause of his so sailing away was that he was afraid on seeing the gentleman who was stark naked and who looked all white. I could not learn who that catamaran man was, to what place he belonged as well as his name. Neither could I find out who those persons were who were so talking since it was then dark. We all assembled only one night and went to our respective villages the next morning. I then went away to cast the net and so I could not learn anything about the matter even in the morning. I know only this much. Read over to me and found to be correct.

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Enclosure No. 19.

Statement given by Kuttiyandi Chetti, Pattanam Street, Karaikkal, before Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Negapatam Station.

In Purattasi last at the time when flag was hoisted in Modu Sanjiviraya Perumal temple, Karaikkal, all my villagers from Parangipettai to Kodiyakarai were asked to meet and settle the dispute of the Raja of Nambiyarkuppam of Negapatam. When they were all collected together on the night of the hoisting of the flag and while they were discussing the question there was a talk that a certain person out on fishing in the sea near Kaveripatnam in a catamaran found a gentleman at a distance of six or seven miles from shore standing in water up to his waist in a boat filled with water and immersed up to water-level, that at that time the gentleman seeing the man in the catamaran waved his hat and signalled for help, that the man being afraid began to sail away, and that when the gentleman observed him sailing away with his sail unfurled he beat his head and stomach and struck the water several times with his hat. They were also saying that, as the gentleman was without dress and looked white, the man was afraid and sailed away. I do not know who those persons were who were thus talking. Up to the present moment I have not heard anything about the matter. I do not know who the person is that went in the catamaran. I do not know whether he belongs to Kaveripatnam or Periyavanagari. In connection with this matter I know neither the persons that were so talking nor him that went in the catamaran. As it was dark I could not observe carefully and find out who those persons were. I know nothing but this. Read over to me and found to be correct.



From M. HAMMICK, Esq., I.C.S., Inspector-General of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 15th October 1895, No. 5248.

I have the honour to forward copy of the first report by Mr. Longden touching the loss of Mr. Pottinger called for in official memorandum, No. 2422, dated 10th October 1895.

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Enclosure.

From C. LONGDEN, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of Police, Negapatam, to the District Superintendent of Police, Tanjore, dated Mannárgudi, 22nd April 1895.

In returning the enclosed papers with regard to the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger, third officer of the S.S. *Menatchy*, I have the honour to state that a full investigation was made by the Negapatam Police and to submit my report thereon.

*Disappearance of Mr. Pottinger.*—On the morning of the 2nd September 1894 Mr. Edwards, clerk of the S.S. *Lindula*, and Mr. Pottinger had breakfast together on the *Menatchy*. After breakfast they went out for sail with the permission, though somewhat against the wishes of the Captain. They had tiffin on the *Lindula* and returned to the *Menatchy* about 3·30 P.M. According to Mr. Edwards they had one lascar boy in the boat. According to the Captain they had two lascars while sailing. They then had tea on the *Menatchy* and about 4·30 P.M. Mr. Pottinger went out for a second sail alone. At about 5-30 P.M. he was seen some distance from the ship and it was ascertained that he had taken no lascars with him. This was against the Captain's strict orders. He should have taken efficient men with him to pull the boat in case of need. There were four oars in the boat. No more was heard of him that night and no steps were taken to recall him.

*Subsequent efforts to trace him.*—Next day as he was missing the Captain communicated the fact to the British Indian Agents at Negapatam and to the Port officer at that place. Native fishermen were sent along the coast and telegrams despatched to Karikkal, Neidavasal, Porto Novo, Cuddalore, Pondicherry and Madras. The *Menatchy* started six hours earlier than usual and a look-out was kept from the mast head and double watches put on, but nothing more was seen. On the 4th men were again sent to Karikkal and a telegram sent to Tranquebar and up to the 9th September, on which day the *Menatchy* left for Burma, the Captain was in communication with the Port authorities along the coast, but no trace of the unfortunate officer was obtained.

*Report of the disappearance to the Inspector-General.*—Mr. Pottinger's father then wrote to the Inspector-General and the matter was referred to the police of this district. Constables Nos. 362 and 625 were sent up the coast on 31st January 1895 and again in March to make full inquiries. Their proceedings were reported to the Negapatam Inspector by special daily report.

*Enquiries conducted by Constables Nos.* 362 *and* 625 *from* 31*st January* 1895 *to* 23*rd February* 1895 *and again in March.*—From the state of the wind and tide at that time and the fact that Mr. Pottinger's boat was seen going in a north-eastern direction by the officers of the ship and the fact that some Nagore fishermen saw a steamer's boat sailing in a north-eastern direction, it was thought best to commence the inquiry at Pondicherry and work down the coast.

*Report of a boat having been cast up.*—At Pondicherry no clue was obtained, but at Keerapolliam, south of Pondicherry, it was ascertained from Kuppan Periannan that a boat had been cast up at Parangipettai and that some one had broken it up. One Murgia Nadan corroborated this and stated that Munia Pillai of the firm of Rangoon Sait and Co. knew about it. This man on inquiry stated that a boat had been cast up at Amappanpettai and had been sold at Agaram near Parangipettai. At Agaram they were informed by Muthu Renga Pillai that the Parangipettai (French) Station House officer had taken charge of the boat. In March the constables were again sent up to follow up this clue, but the Parangipetta Station House officer refused to give a statement; and no further clue could be obtained to the boat, though a reward was offered. However, there seems no reason to doubt that a boat was cast up. It is hardly likely that such a story would be invented.

*Finding of a pith hat.*—On continuing the inquiry, it was ascertained at Veerapatnam that one Doraisawmy Gurukkal of Sennanoor Ammancovil saw a white hat washed ashore near Mogatoodwarai. This was in September. Subbaroyan of this village took it and gave it to Kachy Appasawmy of Keerapolliam who exchanged it with M. Pere. Bava for an old coat. The hat was a white pith one, with a drill covering, with two eyelet holes in the crown for ventilation; it has been sent to the British Indian Agents at Calcutta for identification.

*Finding of some bones, presumably those of Mr. Pottinger.*—On 10th February 1895 the constables inquired *at Ponnithittoo*, a village between English and French territory, and ascertained that the body of an European had been cast up near the mouth of the Mallatar river. They proceeded to the spot, found the bones of a human being and buried them. The people of the village

stated that the body was much decomposed; the fact of the body being found was reported to French constable Naraiyanasawmy Pillai, but no notice was taken of it. The constables were then instructed to bring back the bones; they held an inquest at the spot. Ananda Mudaly of Ponnithittoo stated that he saw the corpse; it was that of an European, male, aged about 25 or 28. It lay between the English and French territory, the eyelids were eaten by fishes; he informed French constable Naraiyanasawmy Pillai, but no notice was taken of it. This statement is supported by Veerappa Goundan, Thandavaroya Goundan, Veelamani Chetty, Chinna Nadan, Venkatachella Goundan and Thandavaroya Padyachi. The inquest was held on 14th March 1895. The remains were brought to Negapatam where they were examined by the Civil Surgeon who certified that they were those of a middle-aged made, height about 5 feet 8 inches. They were then handed over to the British Indian Agents and buried in the Negapatam cemetery.

*Story of the European seen in the boat.*—On 22nd February 1895 one Nallakuttee Nadan informed the constables that he had heard in October 1894 that a fisherman of his caste had seen a boat filled with water, its sides level with the sea; in this boat was an Englishman who stood up and beckoned to him, but he got afraid as the "gentleman" was all red and had no clothes on; he could not speak, but kept waving his hat and beating his chest and stomach with his hand. His daughter and cousin both named Virammal corroborate this. The name of the *fisherman* could not be ascertained, though a reward was offered. This story seems so extraordinary that it can hardly be concocted. This is all the evidence that can be gathered from points:—(1) the story of the boat; (2) the finding of the hat; (3) the finding of the remains; (4) the story of the man in the boat. From the fact that *Parangipettai*, *Veerapatnam*, *Ponnithittoo* and *Cauveripatnam* where the man was said to have been seen in the boat are close together, it is very possible that the boat may have drifted there and capsized.

The Negapatam Inspector went on board the *Menatchi* and ascertained that Mr. Pottinger nearly always wore a straw hat covered with white drill, with a black ribbon, so that the hat is not likely to have been his. Mr. Pottinger was said to have been mixed up with some family at Rangoon, who were much distressed at his loss and employed native fortune-tellers to ascertain what had become of him.

The story of the finding of the body of an European seems credible, and it can hardly be supposed that it was any other than the unfortunate Mr. Pottinger; the fact of the boat having been cast up is also credible and I can see no reason to suppose that the villagers would have invented it. From the fact of these two occurrences having happened so close together, I can only suppose that off the coast, at this spot, the boat capsized and Mr. Pottinger was drowned. How he got there having four oars and a sail in the boat (the sea was quite smooth at that time) and being a strong able-bodied man, I cannot explain. The conduct of the Captain seems highly reprehensible and somewhat strange in allowing one of his officers to go off alone in a boat and remain away so long, though the ship was to sail on the next day.

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Order—No. 360, Marine, dated 3rd December 1895.

The papers will be forwarded to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India. The Governor of the French Settlements in India will also be addressed.

2. It is observed from the previous correspondence* that the hat which was picked up on the coast at the mouth of the Mallatar river, was forwarded to the Head office in Calcutta of the B.I.S.N. Company's agents in view to its possible identification. No communication has however been received as to whether it has been recognized by any of the officers of the S.S. *Menatchy* or not. The Presidency Port Officer will be requested to report further on this point.

* Mr. Bartels' letter, dated 31st March 1895, with G.O. No. 122, Marine, dated 29th April 1895.
Mr. Carlyon's letters Nos. 18/142 and 18/143, dated 16th March 1895, with G.O. No. 162, Marine, dated 7th June 1895.

3. From the description (printed above) given by the witness Nagalinga Chetty of the planks he saw, it would seem that the boat said to have been washed ashore near the mouth of the Mallatar river was "clinker built" and therefore, apparently, a ship's boat. This is a point which appears to have been overlooked. Nor does any careful search seem to have been made by digging up the sand at the spot where the remains of this boat were alleged to have been seen. The Inspector-General of Police



will be requested to issue orders that the mouth of the river Mallatar be watched and examined when open, in case any of the planks of the boat may still have remained there.

(True Extract.)

Under Secy. to Government.

To the Inspector-General of Police.
" Presidency Port Officer.
" Political Department, with draft letter to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.
Spare Copies

Govt. of {1895} Madras.

MARINE.

*Dated December, 3rd.*

*Recd.* *Encl.*

**G.O. No. 360, 3rd Dec. 1895.**

**DECEMBER.**

**Mr. F. Pottinger, 3rd Officer of the S.S. "Menatchy"**

Orders directing that the papers regarding the disappearance of — on the Negapatam Roads be forwarded to the Secretary of State.



## MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Letter—to

The Right Honourable the SECRETARY of STATE for INDIA.

My Lord,

In continuation of our letter No. 4, Marine, dated 5th July 1895, to your Lordship's predecessor and with reference to your letter, No. R. & S. 1076 of the 28th June last, we have the honour to forward, for your information, copies of communications * from the Presidency Port Officer, the Governor of the French Settlements in India and the Inspector-General of Police.

* Letter from the Presidency Port Officer, No. 1684/218 G., dated 12th August 1895, with one enclosure.
Letter from the Governor of the French Settlements in India, No. 8, dated 4th July 1895.
Letter from the Inspector-General of Police, Madras, No. 4952, dated 17th September 1895, with nineteen enclosures.
Letter from the Inspector-General of Police, Madras, No. 5248, dated 15th October 1895, with one enclosure printed in G.O. No. 360, Marine, dated 3rd December 1895.

2. A perusal of the evidence accompanying the Inspector-General's letters leaves, we think, no doubt that the body discovered at the mouth of the Mallatar river was that of an European and shows that there is not the slightest reason to believe that there was any foul play, and that the statement of Mr. Pottinger (senior) that the body was originally found without a head is incorrect.

3. In paragraph 2 of Mr. Fowler's despatch No. 2, Revenue, dated 23rd May 1895, further information is awaited in regard to "the extraordinary negligence of the Police in having left a human body on the shore for nearly four months after they had learned that it had been cast ashore." In reference to this statement we would invite attention to the report of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Negapatam, dated 22nd April 1895, from which it appears that the first † formal intimation the Madras Police received of the matter was through a letter from Mr. Pottinger (senior) to the Inspector-General of Police and that two constables were at once sent up the coast (on the 31st January last) to make enquiries; that on the 10th of February they heard, at the village of Ponnithittoo, that the body of an European had been cast ashore near the mouth of the Mallatar river. They proceeded to the spot, found only the bones of a human being and at once buried such of them as could be found. The people of the village stated that the fact of the body having been found was reported to a

† *Vide* paragraph 4 of letter from the Inspector-General of Police, No. 3657, dated 24th May 1895, forwarded to the Under Secretary of State for India, with letter No. 162, Marine, dated 7th June 1895, stating that an earlier informal search had proved unsuccessful.

French constable, but that no notice was taken of the matter. The two constables were subsequently instructed to convey the bones to Negapatam; they accordingly returned to the spot, exhumed and sent them in to Negapatam where they were interred.

4. The account of the finding and identification of the body, which is given in the letter of the Governor of the French Settlements, dated 4th July last, appears to us to be open to very considerable doubt. In fact, we venture to think that the statement that the bones were those of an Indian, whose corpse was abandoned on the shore, was a pure fabrication on the part of the French Police in view to explaining their neglect to take steps on the report made to them that the body of an European was lying on the beach. We have thought it desirable, however, to confine the reply to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements to a mere acknowledgment of his letter with thanks for the information afforded by him.

5. Considering the peculiar circumstances of the case and the time that has elapsed since the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger, we are of opinion that further enquiry would be of no avail. The hat has already been forwarded to the agents of the S.S. *Menatchy* in view to possible identification; and orders have issued that the mouth of the Mallatar should be watched and examined in case any of the planks of the boat, the remains of which were alleged to have been seen there, become uncovered by the washing away of the sand owing to the opening of the mouth of the river. Beyond this it does not seem possible that anything can be done.

6. Any further particulars received by us will be duly communicated to your Lordship.

We have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servants,

(Signed) WENLOCK.
( „ ) H. W. BLISS.
( „ ) J. GROSE.

Fort St. George,
3rd December 1895.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

GOVT. OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

*MARINE* (1895) *DEPARTMENT.*

**LETTER to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India.**

**Dated 3rd December,**

**No. 8 of 1895.**

FORWARDING, with remarks, certain papers regarding the disappearance of Mr. F. Pottinger, 3rd Officer of the S.S. *Menatchy*, on the Negapatam Roads.

CURRENT No. 525

GOUVERNEMENT
DES
ÉTABLISSEMENTS FRANÇAIS DANS L'INDE

CABINET
DU
GOUVERNEUR

N° 8

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
LIBERTÉ. — ÉGALITÉ. — FRATERNITÉ

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE MADRAS. 3-AUG.95

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE MADRAS. 15 JUL 95

Pondichéry, le 4 Juillet 1895

M. CLÉMENT-THOMAS,
*Gouverneur des Établissements français dans l'Inde,*
à Son Excellence le
Très Honorable Lord Wenlock,
Gouverneur de la Présidence de
Madras,
Fort-Saint-George.

C S dept
1-7-95

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE NEGAPATAM & TANJORE 1-AUG.95

Urgent

Votre Excellence,

J'ai l'honneur de fournir à Votre Excellence, en réponse à sa lettre du 7 Juin dernier, N° 163, les renseignements suivants qui résultent de l'enquête à laquelle j'ai fait procéder, dès la réception de cette communication, sur les faits qui y sont relatés.

Le 6 Février dernier, deux agents de la police anglaise se présentaient au bureau du Commissaire de police central à Pondichéry, demandant l'assistance de nos agents pour rechercher les traces de l'officier du "Minatchy" disparu au mois

au mois de Septembre dernier, alors que ce bateau était mouillé en rade de négapatam. Ces agents étaient porteurs d'un chapeau de marin, trouvé, disaient-ils, au bord de la mer et qui leur avait été remis par un employé du pier à Pondichéry, Mr. Teray. Celui-ci interrogé par le Commissaire de police Central répondit qu'il tenait le chapeau en question d'un macoua qui l'avait trouvé au bord de la mer, près de l'embouchure de la rivière d'ariancoupom. Comme cette coiffure ne portait aucune marque qui put faire supposer qu'elle appartenait plutôt à un marin qu'à un autre, il l'avait gardé pour le rendre à son propriétaire dans le cas où celui-ci se ferait connaître. Le macoua qui avait ramassé le chapeau, interrogé également, a confirmé ces déclarations Pas plus que Mr. Teray, il ne pouvait d'ailleurs donner aucun renseignement sur le marin disparu

Un agent de police français fut chargé d'accompagner les agents anglais au village de Kirepalcom, en suivant la plage, et de les aider dans leurs recherches. Mais aucun indice ne fut recueilli, ni sur la présence au large, à un

a un moment donné, d'un Européen dans un canot, ni sur l'échouage d'une embarcation à la côte.

Les jours suivants les recherches furent continuées le long de la côte, toujours avec l'assistance des agents de police français.

C'est alors que des ossements humains furent découverts à l'embouchure de la rivière Maltar, dans la circonscription de Rettycharady (territoire anglais).

Les informations prises sur les lieux par les agents de police anglais et français notamment dans le village voisin de Pomitittou (territoire français) établirent que ces ossements étaient ceux d'un indien dont le cadavre était resté abandonné sur la plage, mais avait été reconnu pour être celui d'un indigène à des signes certains: la touffe de cheveux qu'il portait au milieu de la tête, le cordon qui ceignait ses reins et son langoutty.

Les agents de police anglais ne voyant sans doute à ce moment aucun rapport entre cette découverte et le but de leur mission poursuivirent leurs recherches vers le Sud laissant là les ossements.

C'est seulement plus d'un mois

après

après, le 14 mars, que ces mêmes agents revinrent les chercher. Les investigations auxquelles s'était livré de son côté l'adjudant du poste de Kirmanipa com, dès qu'il avait été informé de la découverte, avaient confirmé les renseignements qui précèdent. Les habitants de Pomitittou lui ont déclaré n'avoir pas prévenu la police de la présence du cadavre parce qu'il se trouvait sur le territoire anglais et que dès lors, ils n'avaient pas cru devoir s'en inquiéter.

Les nouvelles informations recueillies sur place au cours de l'enquête que j'ai ordonnée à la réception de la lettre de Votre Excellence n'ont fait que confirmer les premières et ont permis d'établir l'identité du cadavre abandonné à l'embouchure du Maltar, sur le territoire anglais, dans la circonscription de Rottychavady. C'est celui d'un indien du nom d'appouchetty, fils de nallintchanechetty, de caste Patnava. Ce pêcheur, qui habitait le village de Poudoucoupom (territoire français) était atteint d'aliénation mentale, de plus il était épileptique et lépreux. Il a disparu il y a environ dix mois. Une dizaine de jours après sa disparition, ses parents ayant



ayant été informés de la présence d'un cadavre à l'embouchure de la rivière Maltar, l'une de ses sœurs s'est rendue sur les lieux et a parfaitement reconnu son frère. Mais comme il avait séjourné assez longtemps dans l'eau le corps était devenu presque blanc. Il tombait en putréfaction et elle l'a abandonné après avoir versé quelques larmes. De crainte d'avoir affaire à la Justice les parents d'appouchetty et les habitants de Poudoucoupom, comme ceux de Pomitittou, se sont abstenus de prévenir la police, d'autant plus, ajoutent-ils, que le cadavre étant sur le territoire anglais, ils ne croyaient pas devoir s'en occuper.

Lorsqu'ils sont venus au mois de Mars chercher les ossements abandonnés sur la plage, les agents de police anglais se sont fait délivrer, paraît-il, par des habitants de Pomitittou, un certificat constatant que le cadavre d'où provenaient ces ossements était celui d'un blanc. Il résulte de la déclaration de l'un de ceux qui ont signé cette attestation, le nommé Parassamancavoundin dit Sedouvane, qu'il savait fort bien

bien que le cadavre était celui d'Appouchetty. Il a signé un certificat préparé d'avance, croyant simplement déclarer que le corps était devenu blanc.

Votre Excellence voudra bien reconnaître que, dans ces circonstances, la police française ne saurait être accusée ni de négligence, ni de mauvaise volonté. Nos agents ont secondé autant qu'il était en leur pouvoir la police anglaise dans les recherches effectuées pour retrouver les traces du marin disparu, et si ces recherches n'ont pas donné de résultat, ils ne sauraient en être rendus responsables.

Veuillez agréer l'assurance de la haute considération avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être, de Votre Excellence, le très-obéissant serviteur.

Lemmerchamp

9

*It is requested that in any further communication on this subject the under-mentioned letter and number may be quoted, and the reply addressed to—*

*The Under Secretary of State for India,*
*India Office,*
*Whitehall,*
*S.W.*

R. & S. 1076.

CURRENT No. 534

*India Office,*
*Whitehall,*
*London, S.W.*
28 June 1895.

Sir,

Referring to my letter of the 31st May last I am directed to forward copy of a further letter from the Board of Trade regarding the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger 3rd officer of the Steamship "Meanatchy", and of a letter from his father. Mr. Pottinger is anxious that enquiry should be made into certain circumstances which in his opinion justify a suspicion that his son was the victim of foul play. These papers are forwarded in case the Madras Government see fit to make any further enquiry into the circumstances.

Dated 24th June 1895 and enclosure.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

C. E. Bernard

*Secretary*
*Revenue & Statistics Dept:*

The Secretary to Government,
Marine ~~Revenue~~ Department,
Madras.

Y 26774. 4 rms.—12/94. I. 2354.

Marine Dept

CURRENT NO. 334

Marine Dept

From the India office
London

No 1078

Dated 28-6-95

Read 16/7/95
Answered 17-7-95
encls 2.

Subject

Forwarding Certain papers relative to the disappearance of Mr Pottinger.

For P.S.

Sir The French Govt's letter has been Sent to S.P. Tanjore for report. Please vide Repr extract slip enclosed.
For copy to forward to S.P. Tanjore.
P.S. 23/7.
"Lie over"
Letter we hear from Supt Tanjore about to enquiry there needs the matter
24/7/95

Mar C No. 525 of 95 abstract.
Desp no 4 d 5-7-95.
fo 185 d 24-6-95 encs
162-6307-6-95
122 d 29-4-95

13 P

Endt No. 1685

Referred to the Inspr: General of Police for report - in continuation of Endt: No. 1626 dt 13th July.

Chief Secretary

P.S.B.
18.7.95.

Do Tacamund
20 "July 1895"

TO BE RETURNED WITH REPLY.

11 S.P

No. 11030.

Board of Trade,
(Marine Department)
7 Whitehall Gardens,
London, S.W.
24th June 1895.

Print

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, forwarding a copy of a further Report which has been received from the Authorities at Madras respecting the circumstances connected with the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger 3rd officer of the steamship "Meanatchy".

The Board of Trade desire me to transmit to you, to be laid before Mr. Secretary Fowler, the enclosed copy of a further letter from Mr. R. E. Pottinger , who appears to have already received a Report respecting the proceedings of the Madras Police in regard to the body cast ashore near Pondicherry.

Mr. Pottinger is still desirous that further enquiry should be made in the case and the Board of Trade therefore suggest that his letter should be submitted to the Madras Government for their consideration.

I am at the same time, to enquire whether Mr. Fowler sees any objection to the Report received from the Inspector of Police at Negapatam being communicated to Mr. Pottinger should he desire to see it.

I have &c.,

(Sd) Ingram B. Waller.

The Under Secretary of State,
India Office.

1895
Mar. Jud.
Lincoln. No. 1
To
C. S. 534

12 S.P

(Copy) M. 11023.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE
22 JUL 95
MADRAS.

12 Grosvenor Road,
Twickenham,
June 19th 1895.

Ingram B. Walker Esq.

Dear Sir,

Since calling upon you respecting my dear Son's mysterious disappearance from the "Meanatchy" on the 2nd of September 1894, I have re-perused the Police report which I showed you on the day I called upon you and I feel strengthened in the conviction I then had, that my poor son's death was brought about by foul play, my reason for thinking so arises from two suspicious points in the report; first the finding the remains supposed to be those of my son without the head and secondly the refusal of the French Officer at Pondicherry (to whom the Boat appears to have been traced) to give any evidence on the subject; if the Boat could be produced and the party who had it in possession I think considerable light might be thrown upon the matter and could it be proved how he came by his end, altho' the disclosures might be still of a more melancholy nature than we already know, yet it might produce such evidence as would set at rest our present doubts as to the identity of the remains recently found near Pondicherry being those of my Son. I must apologise for my importunity in this matter and trust you will endeavour as far as possible to give me satisfaction as far as lies in your power to clear away the mysterious surroundings of this sad case.

Head was found - see evidence as to the hair being fair & cropped.

I am &c.,

(Sd) Richard E. Pottinger.

CURRENT No. 642
140

Heading. No. 1684 / 218 G.

PRESIDENCY PORT OFFICE,

*Madras, 12th August* 1895.

From

*Commander W. Powell R. I. M.*

PRESIDENCY PORT OFFICER,

*Madras,*

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

MARINE DEPARTMENT,

*Fort Saint George.*

SIR,

*Permit*

*In reply to G. O. Marine No 185, dated 24th June 1895, I have the honor to report that nothing can be traced in regard to the missing articles. I enclose copy of the Negapatam Port Officer's report on the subject.*

*I have the honor to be*
*Sir,*
*Your Most Obedient Servant*
*Wallen Powell*
*Commander R. I. M.*
*Presidency Port Officer.*

*Mr*

5
Mar Dept.
Enclos. No. 2
to
G. O. No. 554.

No 18
474

Post Office, Negapatam
3d August 1895.

From W. S. Carlyon Esqre,
Acting Post Officer.

To The Presidency Post Officer,
Madras.

15 S.P

Sir, With reference to your No 1684 P. dated 3d July 1895, I have the honor to intimate that no further particulars are to hand up to date regarding the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger from the S. S. "Meanatchy"

I have communicated with the Police, and although they promised enquiry into the matter of the missing jewellery nothing has come to light.

2. Presuming that Mr. Pottinger was wearing the jewellery when he left the ship it appears highly improbable that any of it, except perhaps the ring, could be traced as, according to reports already submitted, the last occasion on which he was seen alive he was stark naked except for a topee (which was picked up) and was in all likelyhood sitting on the boat which was bottom up.

When the body was first discovered on the shore, it was in an advanced stage of decomposition and quite naked, and later on, when the Police had been informed that a body had been washed up there only remained a few bones which are buried in the Cemetery here under the universal belief that they

they are the remains of the late Mr. Pottinger.

I have &c.

(Sd.) W. S. Carlyon

Acting Port Officer.

True Copy

Walter Bevele

Commander R. I. M.

Presidency Port Officer.

1895
Mar. Dept.
Enclos. No. 1
C. No. 642.

CURRENT No. 642

Marine (1895) Department.

From

The Presidency Port Officer,

*Madras,*

To

The Chief Secy. to Government,

Marine Department,

*Fort St. George.*

No. 1684 / 218 G

Dated 12 } August 1895.
Received 14 }
Rep'd 16
Encls

No.

No.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT
14 AUG 95
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE

*Subject.*

Informing that nothing can be traced in regard to the missing articles of late Mr Pottinger.

Await reply from G.S. & P. 213 1618

Returned with G.O.

CURRENT No. 741

No. O. 42.

Department.

No. 4952

Chief Office of the Inspector-General of Police,

~~Madras,~~ 17th September 1895.

From

M. HAMMICK, Esq., I.C.S.,

Inspector-General of Police,

*Madras,*

178

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Ootacamund.

Original

Sir,

Enclosures.
Twenty one (21)

With reference to Endorsement No. 1626, dated 13th July 1895, on a letter from the French Government Pondicherry, Endorsement No. 1685, dated 20th July 1895, on a letter from the India office and G.O. dated 24th June 1895, No. 185, Marine, regarding the loss of Mr Pottinger of the British India Steam ship "Meanatchy", I have the honor to say that I have made enquiries and I submit the report of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Tanjore and translations of the note books and statements taken by the Constables who made the original enquiry.

2. The report is unsatisfactory as it must be under the circumstances. The Police of Tanjore give one account of what took place in French territory and the French Police give another. The French Police

cannot

cannot be cross examined and it is thus im-
possible to sift the matter in the way that
would be possible if all the parties were
under one control.

3. The Superintendent selected the best as
constables he could to depute on the enquiry
and there was no reason to believe that the
report they made was a false one. The French
Police are naturally anxious to show that
they did not neglect their work and the
account given by them of the matter must
be viewed with suspicion. The statements
made regarding the body, which was washed
up, make it improbable that it was the
body of the man mentioned by the French
Police and the fact that the Civil Surgeon
considered that the bones belonged to a
man, 5.8 in height, make it more probable
that they were the bones of an European than
those of a native. It is difficult to believe
that the story brought back of the European seen
in the boat could have been concealed
by our Police; it is such an absolutely
improbable story that it can hardly have
been invented.

4. It is impossible to arrive at any certain
conclusion on the matter. Our Police may,
of course, have made up the whole story
which they brought back from Pondicherry -
but I hardly think it is likely. On the other
hand



hand the story told by the French Police
may be perfectly true, but in the absence
of any opportunity of verifying and testing
their statements, I do not consider that it
can be accepted.

5. As regards search for the missing
articles referred to in the G.O. I referred the
order to the Commissioner of Police, Madras,
and to the Superintendents of Police South
Arcot and Tanjore. I have heard nothing
from them; so, I must conclude that nothing
has been heard of the articles in question.

6. As regards the unfortunate Mr.
Pottinger's idea that his son may have
been murdered, it no doubt arises
from his want of acquaintance with
India. It is most improbable that the
missing man was murdered either at
sea or on land. Had he been washed
ashore alive, he would almost certainly
have been cared for by the natives who
found him, and if by any chance, he had
met with foul play, it is very difficult
to suppose that some trace of his death
would not have turned up. I think it
must be concluded either that he was
drowned at sea and no trace of the occurrence
has reached the shore, or, as I am still
inclined to think, that we have in the

report

report from Pondicherry some trace probably of his death and the washing ashore of his body.

7. The case is an unsatisfactory one, but our Police have done all that can be done in the matter and I do not see that anything is likely to be gained by now starting a fresh enquiry.

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

M Sammuelli
Inspector General of Police.

Ed.

19

Mar/ BRENG. No. 741

Jud'l (189 ) DEPARTMENT.

Mar. Dept

FROM

M. HAMMICK, Esq., I.C.S.,

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE,

*Madras,*

To THE Chief Secretary to Government. Ootacamund

CHIEF SECRETARIAT GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS 19 SEP 1895

No. 4952

Dated 17th September 1895.

Received 19

Repd 23

Encls. 19 to 55 & up.

SUBJECT.

Submitting report with reference to G.O. No. 186, dated 24 June 1895, Marine, regarding the loss of Mr. Pottinger of the British India Steam Ship "Meanatchy" and his articles.

Enclosure No. 1

To letter No. 4952 3.17.9.25

From Inspector-General of Police.

Sub Division Police Office.

Negapatam.

Camp - Vadavanium. 28th July 1895.

20 S.P.

No. 105.

From

C. C. Longden Esq.

Assistant Superintendent of Police

Negapatam.

Print

To

The Superintendent of Police,

Tanjore.

Sir,

In returning herewith Head Quarters Register No. 847/95, I have the honor to report that in accordance with D.S.P.'s instructions I examined on July 23rd the two Constables:- 1st C.C. 362 Perumal Pillai and 2nd C.C. 625 Subrayalu Naidoo - who were sent to Pondicherie They fully bear out their former statements and I attach their special reports and note books which corroborate their version.

With regard to the finding of the Inquest that the reports given by these Constables agree with that furnished by the French authorities

With regard to the visit to Keeranellyam it is clear, from the reports, that this visit took place on 3rd February, 3 days before they

they had arrived at Pondicheri, and from the passports it is clear that no French Agent accompanied them. Here they obtained some information, regarding a boat, which subsequently proved useless. para 4 letter part 1 of letter no 122 mar

On 7th February 1895 (not 6th February) they went to Pondicheri and reported themselves at the Police Bureau and at H. B. M. Consulate; and the French authorities deputed Constable No 111 to assist them. On 10th February 1895, in the village of Ponnanthittoo, enquiries were made which led to the finding of the remains.

The report shews that the bones alone were found; information was received that the body was white, but some doubt existed as to whether it was that of an European or a native. When personally examined the Constables assert that there was fair hair on the head.

On this second visit, further enquiries elicited the fact that the body was that of an European, and the bones were brought back to Negapatam: Statements in support of this are attached to my previous report. The Negapatam Inspector, Mr Barlels, expresses his conviction that the skeleton was not that of a native. From the size of the bones, some opinion might be given by the District Surgeon and I request orders to exhume the bones,

and



and submit them for examination. No suggestion that it was the corpse of any particular native was ever made at the enquiry.

The fact of the finding of the body was reported to a French Constable by name Narainaswamy Pillai, and 2 days later, to the Kirambakam S. H. O; but no notice was taken of it. Statements in support of this are attached to my previous report.

See para 16 of the letter no 122 mar

When removing the bones from the mouth of the Mattar river on the second visit, great difficulty was thrown in the way of the Constables by the French S. H. O, the Village Magistrate, and the Mortuary Registrar. A full report of this was made at the time to the British Consul at Pondicheri.

I may add that I especially selected these 2 Constables for this work on account of their steadiness, and as their statements are borne out by their note books and reports and by statements signed by persons on the spot, and from the evident care with which the investigation was conducted, I do not consider that they have made any false report.

I have &c
(Sd) Cyril Longden
Asst Supdt of Police.

(True Copy)
H. Clarr.
Ag Asst Insp Genl of Police

EAS

To letter No. 4752 dt 7-2-95

From Inspector-General of Police, S.P.

Translation of portions of the Kottakkal Books relating to the Case of the two Tanjore Constables, deputed to enquire about the boat in which Mr. Pottinger was last seen &c.

Print all these and complete

1-2-95. Received a passport at 4-30 P.M. from the Station House Officer of Tegapatam with orders to make enquiries along the Coast from Pondicherry to Negapatam about the boat &c. in accordance with the Inspector General's letter. Left Negapatam at 6-45 P.M. and arrived at Pondicherry at 3-30 P.M. on 2-2-95.

2-2-95. Made enquiries at the Harbour &c. at Pondicherry, but no information was obtained about the boat being cast ashore. Enquiries were also made in Kuchuvadi Kuppam to the North of Pondicherry, with the same result.

3-2-95. Left Pondicherry at 6 A.M., we are enquiring about the boat &c. and shall communicate any information that may be obtained.

OK

On enquiry at Kitaipalayam one Periyannan of Kuchunadi Kuppam said that a boat was cast ashore near Parangipettai (Porto Novo) and that it was with somebody there and that Kitaipalayam Harbour Supervisor Muthugaiya Rattan would be able to give us information on the point - This Muthugaiya Rattan said that a boat was cast ashore near Porto Novo, that some one in Pachaiyappa Mudalis Chattram had it with him and that Muniya Pillai, an accountant in the shop of a Sait who is a Rangoon merchant would be able to give us further information - This Muniya Pillai said that the boat was cast ashore in Amapkanpettai near Porto Novo that one Munuga Pillai in Pachaiyappa Mudalis Chattram had sold it in Tegaram a village near Porto Novo, and that one C. Muthukanga Pillai caught hold of it and left it in Charge of the Station House Officer of Porto Novo - He also gave us a letter to C. Muthukanga Pillai his elder brother - With this letter in our possession We enquired about the boat &c.

in

23 S.P.

in Kitaipalayam and Periya Pirapattanam but no information was obtained - One Duraiswami Gurukkal son of Appavayan of Sengalanit Appan Kovil of this Village (Periya Pirapattanam) said that about 2 1/2 or 3 months previously when he went to Pondicherry one Subbarayan (son of Krishna Chetty) who was plying a Kattamaran near the mouth of the River had with him a white hat worn by Europeans and that he knew nothing about the boat having been cast ashore - This man Subbarayan said that some 3 months previously when he was plying his Kattamaran near the mouth of the River a hat used by Europeans was cast ashore by the Sea, that Duraiswami Gurukkal told him of it, that he took it and after keeping it with him for 10 or 15 days he gave it to Kitaipalayam Kachi Appaswami - He took Subbarayan with us to Kitaipalayam to obtain the hat - Kachi Appaswami said that about 2 1/2 or 3 months previously Subbarayan gave him a hat and wanted a Coat to be purchased

and

and that he gave it to a Mr. Detoit - He took Subbarayan and Kachi Appalsami to Mr. Detoit at Pondicherry - He asked the gentleman for the hat and he gave it up immediately - He asked him to make a note of it on the passport - He noted that the hat was given him by Kachi Appalsami some 2 months previously and that he gave it up to us - The hat was given to Her Majesty's Consular Agent - Are we to bring it with us or else what is to be done with it ?

Identification marks of the hat.

White; a piece of leather stitched all round; it was given a white coating by Mr. Detoit; a take and half an inch of leather are stitched in the inside of the hat -

Reply requested by reach post - Some information has been obtained about the boat and enquiries are being made about it - Result will be communicated -

4-2-95. Enquiries at Periyanivapatanam elicited



elicited that a boat was cast ashore at Kadukuppam near Kattai Kuppam - Stopping at Pondicherry for the night as it was too late we went to Kadukuppam on 5-2-95 and made enquiries - A boat was there but on seeing it, it was found to have been hollowed out of one piece of wood - Besides it was a boat used for picking shells. Enquiries were made in Logam Thandavanamkuppam, Kottaikuppam, Vaithikuppam and Kutichikuppam but no information was obtained about the boat &c -

6-2-95. Pondicherry: obtained orders of the Inspector - On receipt thereof we went to Periya-Veerapatnam and took Statements from Duraiswami Gurukkal and Subbarayan in the presence of French Constable, No. 5 Banada who was with us with the permission of the French Authorities - We then searched for Appaswami but he was not to be found. We stopped there for the night and finding Appaswami in the morning of 7-2-95, we took a Statement from him also in the presence of French Constable No. 5. We then went

ment to Pondicherry (French Constable No. 5 accompanying us) and asked Mr. Fetot for a Statement. He said that everything was written on the passport and that he would not make a Statement. Then went to Monsieur Faciolle, Commissaire de Central Police and represented matters. He sent for Mr. Fetot who said that he noted on the passport that 2 months prev. friendly, Appalsami of Kilaipalayam gave him a hat which was said to have been cast ashore by the sea and that he gave it up to the two Constables. Monsieur Faciolle then looked at the passport and said that that was enough. We then told the English Consular Agent of the matter and he too said the same after looking at the passport. He also asked us not to ask Mr. Fetot any more for a Statement. We left Pondicherry at 5 P.M. with the three Statements referred to above, and came to Aliyan Kuppam. Enquiries were made here about the boat &c. but no information was obtained. We halted there for the day.

Leaving

25 SP

8-2-95. Leaving Aliyankuppam we made enquiries about the boat &c. in Chinna Virapatnam, Pudukuppam and Thanalaikuppam, but no information was obtained.

9-2-95. Enquiries were made at English Kallavadu, French Kallavadu, Kirumampakkam and Reddichavadi, but no information was obtained about the boat &c.

10-2-95. Enquiries were made at Pannithittu, but no information was obtained about the boat. It was learnt that 2½ months previously a dead body was cast ashore near the Maltar. Bones were found there. It was also said that the body was white, and that it was not possible to say whether it was that of a Native or a European. They were also unable to say whether the body was washed ashore by the sea or by the River. Enquiries were made in British Territory without result. The Station House officer of Reddichavadi (British Territory) said that nothing of the sort was reported to him. We enquired of people

people who were near that part, who said that it was the burial and burning ground. There is no evidence at all to suppose that the bones were his (Pottinger's). Kumampakkam Pathiyar (a teacher) said that he went near the body and saw it and that it was the body of a Native. So it cannot be supposed that the bones were his (Pottinger's).

10-2-95. Enquiries were made at Nalamkai Murthikuppam-

11-2-95. Enquiries at Uppalamadi Talangadai, Devanampatnam-

12-2-95. Lonamkuppam, Lingadatope, Cuddalore were visited and enquiries made with no result; halted at Cuddalore-

13-2-95. As the letter given to us was addressed

"C. Muthuranga Pillai of
Pachaiyappa Mudali Chattram
C/o Pakadaramanja Rada Nayudu
Vakil in the Magistrate's Court
Pudupalayam-"

We searched for the Vakil in Kattapillaiyar Coil Street and learnt that he had gone

gone for a Cale to the Court of the Assistant Collector who was on Circuit at Kurinjimadi & Kuppam- We came to Cuddalore; enquiries were then made at Kori, Chottikuppam Manapet, Chittapet, Thummunampet, Naickerpet Ranjalingapet and Periyakuppam, but no information was obtained about the boat We halted for the night at Periyakuppam-

14-2-95. Enquiries were made at Pallai & Kuppam, Aiyampet, Madupet, Reddiyarpet Annappanpet, Madumalainthan and Kumarpet with no result. We then went to Pachaiyappa Mudali Chattram to see Muthuranga Pillai to whom a letter was given us on 3rd February 1895 by his brother Munia Pillai- We gave him the letter and asked him what he knew of the matter- He said as follows:-

Three months previously a boat was cast ashore at Annappanpet- Pungu Pillai of Pachaiyappa Mudali Chattram took it and sold it in Agaram a hamlet of Porto Novo.
Muthuranga took hold of it and left it in Charge of the Station House officer of Porto Novo-

We

We asked him to come to Porto Novo - He said that he had to attend the Manjakuppam Magistrate's Court as a witness and that he would come to Porto Novo by the 3 O'clock train the next day - Halted at Pachaiyappa Mudali Chattram for the night -

15-2-95. Enquiries were made at Lamiat-pet, Chinna Lamiatpet, Punjanpet, Veliyanpet, Pudukuppam, Pudupet, North Chinnanut and South Chinnanut, but no information was obtained about the boat &c. At about 6 O'Clock, we went to Porto Novo, and found the Station House Officer and Muthukanga Pillai in the Police Station - We took them to Agatam: as Subbarayan who bought the boat was not to be found we returned to Porto Novo and halted there -

16-2-95. We went to Agatam with the Station House Officer, but were not able to find Subbarayan though we searched for him till 12 O'clock - We immediately returned to Porto Novo and found him at about 1 O'clock. We took him with us and inspected the boat along with the Station House officer, the Village Magistrate and Muthukanga Pillai. The boat was hollowed out of one piece of wood, one cubit broad and 12 feet long. It was a fishing boat - They said that it was not one which Europeans would use; we also found that it was so; we returned to Porto Novo and made enquiries at the Sea Customs office and at Patnachery; but no information was obtained -

17-2-95. Left Porto Novo; we are making enquiries in the other Kuppams - Enquiries were made at Ponnanthittu, Killaiyar, Thandavarayan-Kholampet but with no result - Halted for the night at Kodiampalayam -

18-2-95. Enquiries were made at Kodiam-balayam, Koilayar, Todnnakuppam and Tirumalaivadal but with no result -

19-2-95. Left Tirumalaivadal - Enquiries were made at Koniampatnam, Moonarkarai Chanadikuppam, Kadaikadu, Chinnakadaikadu, Pudukuppam, Kaveripatnam and Periya-Nanavari; but no information was obtained about the boat &c. Halted at Periyanavari -

20-2-95. Enquiries were made at

at Chinnanavari, Chinnankudi, Uppanchi
patnam Street, Pudupet, Perumanpet,
Pillai Koil Patnam Street, Kuttai kudi Patnam
Street, Patta Street of Tharangampadi and
Tharangampadi Sea Customs Office, but with
no result - Talked at Porayar.

21-2-95. Enquiries were made at
Kalingarayanpet (Hamlet of Chandrapadi)
Kuchukavapatnam Street, East Chandrapadi,
Chinnoorcheri, Kalikuppam, South Perumanpet,
Pandagathur, Akkanpet, Kalakkudi and
Chinnakottucheri, but with no result -
Talked at Kilinjimode.

+ 22-2-95. Enquiries were made at Karaikkal
Pattanacheri, Karaikkal, Karukkalacheri,
Thirumalrajanpattanacheri, Kilamanjur and
Ragurpattanacheri - It was learnt on enquiring
of Kallakutti Kattan of Karaikkalpattanacheri
that in Purattasi last (October) when the
annual festival of Sanjivaraya Perumal
Coil commenced, Nambyar Kuppam Raja
convened a meeting of his caste men, —
inhabitants of Villages from Nambyar Kuppam
a



a hamlet of Nagapatam to Porto Novo —
for purposes of arbitration - There was a large
crowd - Some of the crowd were talking to one
another that somebody (Name and Village not
known) went on the sea in a Kattamaran near
Kaveripatnam and that he said that when
he was going on his Kattamaran he saw a
boat at 7 or 8 miles distance from the coast
filled with water, its sides level with the
sea - In this boat was an Englishman who
stood up and beckoned to him with his hat,
but he got afraid as the gentleman was all
red and had no clothes on - He could not
speak but kept waving his hat, beating
his head and stomach with his hat when
he saw the Kattamaran man sailing away - Who
the Kattamaran man was they cannot say -
It cannot also be said who were talking about
it in the crowd - His daughter Vidammal
and his nephew Periyanayanavari Vidammal
corroborate his Statement, except that
the latter said that some Kaveri Patnam
man (Name not known) went out on Kattamaran
for fishing - Enquiries were made in other
Kuppams about the boat &c. with no result —

&c

We arrived at Negapatam at 9 P. M. on
22-2-95. reported ourselves before the Inspector,
gave him the report for the 22nd, the hat
and the Statements of Subbarayan, Kachi
Akkalwami and Duraiswami Gurukkal -
Thereafter we are attending to our ordinary
duties -

13-3-95. Received orders from the Inspector

(1) To make further enquiries about the boat
and to secure a piece of it at least
if it was broken -

(2). To make further enquiries of the dead
body of the supposed European and to
send back the bones.

(3) To make a careful search at the
place for any hand-key Chest or
books and to produce the same if found.

(4). To enquire of the Port to. Kovo Station
House officer and obtain a Statement
from him -

(5). To enquire of the Village Magistrate
of the Village near the mouth of the
Aalar and obtain a Statement from
him.

(6). To question the fishermen of Karaik
-patnam and if necessary to offer
a

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a small reward to any one who will give
information about the boat and secure a
Statement from him -

When we enquired at Pannithettu (French
Territory) on 10th February 1895, we were told that
a dead body which was white was washed
ashore and that it decayed as nobody
interred it. It was also said that the body
was cast ashore in British Territory at the mouth
of the Aalar - Searching in the place we
found bones - We received orders from the
Inspector of Police, Negapatam, on 13th March
1895, to make further careful enquiries at
the spot -

13-3-95. Left Negapatam at 3-30 A. M.
by rail and arrived at Tiruppapuliyur
at 11 A. M. on 14-3-95. Left Tiruppapuliyur
and arrived at Karaikkampakam - We informed the
French Station House officer of the place of the
matter and asked him to accompany us to
Pannithettu, a Village within his Division
to make enquiries about the bones and other
things - He sent French Police Constable,
No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim to assist us - We then
went

ment to Pannithettu with the Constable.
On enquiry the following Statements were made:—

(1). Statement made by Ananda Mudali (son of Venkachala Mudali) of Pannithettu French Territory (before Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Negapatam Town and French Police Constable No. 101, Sayid Ibrahim).

He stated that about five months previously on hearing from people that a dead body which was white was washed ashore near the mouth of the Arattai, that he went to see it, that the dead body was lying on its face; that it was very white and there was nothing on it; that it was as it was born (meaning naked); that the two eyes had been taken away by fish or something else; that the legs were all right; that the hair on head was thick and cropped; that it was the body of a male aged probably 25 or 28 years; that as the body was very white and as the hair was cropped, it can be said with certainty that it was the dead body of a European; that as the body was within British Territory and as he belonged to the French Territory, he thought they (British Territory people) would inter it; that it was not interred that day and the next day; that he informed Kirumampakkam French Constable Narayanaswami Pillai of it; that four days afterwards he also informed the Station House Officer of Kirumampakkam; that the body was not interred and it was taken away; that the river water and the sea were then mingled together, there being no room between and it was also raining; that the Negapatam Constables now came and asked him about it and he told them as above; that he and others saw the place where the body was found; that the bones secured by the Constables were those of that dead body.

(2). Statement made by Krishna Goundan (son of Palani Goundan) of Arugamode near Pannithettu (French Territory):—

He stated that about 5 months previously hearing from people that a dead body was washed ashore at the mouth of the Arattai he went and saw it; that it was as it was born (naked) and was lying on its face; that

that the body was that of a male; that it was very white; that the hair on the head was Cropped; that the legs and arms were all right; that nobody interred it; that it decayed at the mouth of the river; that it was the body of a person aged probably about 25 or 28 years; that the hair on the head was brown; that the two Constables that were Come from Negapatam asked him about it; that he told them of the body having been washed ashore; that on seeing the place in the mouth of the river where the dead body was washed ashore, the bones taken charge of by the Police Constables were found, that it was raining at the time and river water and the sea were mingled together; that those were the bones of that dead body, that he knew nothing else and that he heard it read and found that it was Correct.

He signed it in the presence of French Constable No. 101, Sayed Ibrahim.

Statement

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(3). Statement of Paradarama Goundan, son of Thandavaraya Goundan of Pannithittu (French Territory) (made before Negapatam Constables Nos. 362 and 625 and French Constable, No. 101, Sayed Ibrahim - on 14th March 1895).

He stated that about five months previously a dead body which was white was washed ashore in British Territory; that he went Swimming to see it; that the sea and the river waters were then all one; that he saw the dead body; that the age of the person was probably 25 or 28 years; that three Crows were sitting on it; that he drove them away, and saw the body; that it was that of a European; that the hair on the head was Cropped; that as the hair on the whole of the head was cropped and as the body was of a whitish ruddy Colour, he could say with certainty that it was the body of a European; that it was on its face, partly turned to a side; that the Corners of the two eyes were taken away by fish or something else; that the hands and legs were all right; that there was no Clothing on the body; that it was

the

the body of a European male; that as it was in British Territory, he told nobody of it; that nobody interred it; that it decayed there; that he could say with certainty; that 2 Constables from Negapatam asked him if the dead body of a European was washed ashore; that he told them as above; that on examining the place where the body was found, the bones taken Charge of by the Constables were found; that two Constables took possession of the bones enumerated in the Mahazar; that the body was there alone; that it decayed there; that those were the bones of that body and that it was also rainy then-

(6). Statement of Manikka Goundan, Son of Venkatachala Goundan, of Pannithittu, French Territory, (made before Negapatam Constables No. 362 and 625 and French Constable No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim on 14th March 1895)-

He stated that about 5 or 5½ months previously hearing that a dead body was washed ashore, he went to the place and saw the dead body at the mouth of the Arasalar; that it was white; that the hair on the head was cropped and brown in Colour; that there was no clothing on the body; that the body was washed ashore as it was there (naked that is); that as the body was of a whitish pale Colour and as the hair was brown and cropped he could say with certainty that the body was that of a European; that it was certainly the body of a European; that the corners of the eyes were taken away by fish; that as the body was in British Territory, he told nobody of it; that nobody interred it; that the body remained there and decayed; that the two Constables asked him about it; that he told them as above; that when the Constables and himself with others examined the place the bones taken charge of by the Constables were found; that the sea and river water were then mingled together; that he had signed it in the Mahazar for the bones; that he knew nothing else and that he heard it read and found it correct-

He signed it before me, Constable No. 625 and French Constable, No. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim on 14-3-95.

Statement

(5). Statement of Arumugappa Chetti, Son of Valmuni Chetti of Pannithittu, French Territory-

He stated that about 5 months ~~previously~~ a Pariahs Roundan went across the river and saw something; that he asked him what he observed there; that Pariahs Roundan said that a dead body was cast ashore; that he also said that it was very white; that as there was water between he was not able to go to the place but he (Arumugappa Chetti) saw from the Southern bank the body cast ashore near the Northern bank; that the body was white; that he returned thereafter; that nobody interred it; that it remained there and decayed; that the two Regapatam Constables asked him about it; that he told them as above; that he and others were taken by the Constables to the place; that they examined the place; that the bones taken charge of by the Constables with the Arahzar were found there; that the bones were of that dead body; that it was also raining then; that the sea and the river waters were then mingled together; that he had also signed the Arahzar and that he heard it read and found it to be correct-

He signed the Statement before me (Constable No. 362) Constable No. 625 and French Constable No. 101, Sayed Ibrahim on 14th March 1895-

(6) Statement of Virappa Rattan of Pannithittu

He stated that about 5 or 5½ months ~~previously~~ previously he heard people say that the dead body of a European was washed ashore at the mouth of the Arahzar, that he went to see it; that the sea and the river waters were then mingled together; that he did not therefore go to the other bank, but saw from the Southern bank the body which was on the Northern bank; that the body was very white; that as the body was cast ashore in British Territory and as he was in French Territory he told nobody of it; that he returned immediately after seeing it; that nobody interred it; that it decayed there; that Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Regapatam enquired them on the subject; that he told them as above; that he and others took the Constables to the

the

the place; that the bones taken charge of by the Constables with the Mahazar were found there; that the bones were of that body; that it was raining then; that the sea and the river water were then mingled together and that he had also signed in the Mahazar drawn up regarding them.

The said Virappa Rattan signed the Statement before us the two Constables and French Constable Rs. 101, Saiyid Ibrahim.

(7). Statement of Elaya Perumal Padayachi son of Thandavaraya Padayachi, of Aralimode, near Pannithittu.

He stated that about 5½ months previously he heard that the dead body of a European was cast ashore; that he swam across the mouth of the Malkar and saw it; that the whole of the body was bloody (or covered with blood); that the body was on its face; that there was nothing on the dead body; that it was as it was born (meaning naked); that the two eyes were eaten by fish; that the hair on the head was red and cropped; that the hands and legs were all right; that it was the body of a man aged probably 25 or 28 years; that he told nobody of it; that the people of the Village knew of the body having been cast ashore; that as the hair was cropped and brown in Colour he could say with Certainty that it was the body of a European; that as the body was as above it could not be said that it was that of a Native; that it must have been that of a European; that he could say with Certainty that it was the body of a European; that he knew that the body decayed; that Constables Nos. 362 and 625 asked him to shew them the place which he did; that the two Constables took the bones from there; that he knew nothing else on the subject and that he heard the Statement read and found it to be correct.

He signed it before us and French Constable Rs. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim. This was on 15-3-95.

I Constable No. 362 asked Constable No. 625 to fetch Duraiswami Reddi — Village Magistrate of Periyakattupalayam for having the bones secured with a — Mahazar (Inquest Report). The Constable went to Periyakattupalayam and called... Duraiswami Reddi. He was inside the — house and a female came out and asked why he wanted him. The Constable intimated to her the purpose of his visit, and she said that Duraiswami Reddi was taking his meals. She went inside and on returning said that Duraiswami Reddi had gone to Marudur the previous night. He brought this news to me at 4-30. Thinking that there may be some deception in the affair, I drew up a Mahazar in the presence of :-

(1) Kuttan Anantha Mudali (2) Virappa Goundan (3) Murugappa Chetti (4) Virappa Nattan (5) Paraswarna Goundan (6) Manika Goundan (7) Aiyanu Padayachi of Gundu Uppalavadi Cuddalore Rao Town and (8) French Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim. He took charge of the following articles in the presence of

of the above named persons -

35 S.P

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (1) Thigh bones | 2 | |
| (2) Leg bone | 1 | |
| (3) Hip bones | 2 | |
| (4) Ulnar & radii | 4 | |
| (5) Bones of the upper arm & Scapulae | 4 | |
| (6) Back bone | 1 | |
| (7) Bones called — Mullaithandu bones | 18 | Probably Vertebrae of the back - The Tamil word means Thorn-pricking bones and hence Vertebrae conjectured. |
| (8) Bones of the neck | 8 | |
| (9) Ribs | 14 | |
| (10) Chest bones | 4 | Probably Sternum with its ~~Fork~~ and two Clavicles also intended. |
| (11) Broken bone of the buttocks | 1 | |

Expecting to find some more bones in the place I got Paraswarna Goundan son of Thandavaraya Goundan of Pannithittu, to dig the place — and on examining we found three bones — (name not decipherable) and two joint bones of back - These were produced before Ananda Mudali, Manika Goundan, Aiyya Pidayachi, Virappa Nattan and French Constable No. 101 Saiyid

Saiyid Ibrahim by the said Pattakarana Goundan
He was asked to dive into the Mattar but
nothing was found. He took the bones with
us and stopped for the night at Pannithittu.
The next day (15th March 1895) we started for
Periyakattupalayam and enquired about the
Village Magistrate who said that he had
been to Kattuthur to perform some Ceremony
and that he would not make a Statement
about the bones or the body being cast ashore-
He also said that he would make a Statement
after inspecting the place - But on coming to
Reddichavadi he declined to come to the
place and make a Statement. He also refused
to sign the paddport. Periyakattupalayam
Aiyan Perumal Goundan's Son Chinna Goundan
and Elaya Perumal Goundan's Son Thandavaraya
Goundan of Alamode in Pannithittu Station
limits and Constable No. 757 of Pannithittu
Station will corroborate the above - But from
their attitude that day we are not sure that
they will speak to this. The matter is
however known to all of them - Getting the
signature of Constable No. 757 in the Paddport
we went to Kirumam Pakkam and produced the

3½ S.P

the bones before the Station House Officer and
asked him to sign the Paddport - The Station
House Officer, Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim,
a Udayan whole full name is not known
but who can be identified joined together
and asked me to give up the Note book
and the Statement and surrounding me (Constable
No. 362) pulled out the papers from under my
arms. I said that I had no Statement
and asked them not to trouble me - They
asked me where I left the Statements and I
replied that I had left them in Reddi
Chavadi Station - They then asked what the
bundle under my arms was and I said it
was food - They took away the Paddport
and the food and said they would not return
them till they got the papers they asked
for - Constable No. 625 and myself went
to Reddichavadi and stopped there till
6 A' Clock and at about 6.30 I sent Constable
No. 625 in a jutka to Cuddalore New Town
with the bones and Statements - I left
Reddi Chavadi at about 4-30, went with
Constable 757 Straight to Kirumam Pakkam
Police

Police Station - Constable No. 101 made them
awake and he pulled me by the hand - I then
said that I was not a thief, pick-pocket
or a Known Depredator to be treated like that.
The Station House officer inside came out and
said "Perumal Pillai, I have assisted you
very much and you have done things which
would bring us into trouble". I replied
that I did not do any harm - While we
were talking thus, the birth and death
register whose name is not known but who
can be identified, and Constable No. 101
abused me in very bad language - Constable
No. 707 of Reddi Chavadi Station (British Territory)
said that the passport and the bundle
containing food should not be returned to
me till the Head Constable returned from
Cuddalore - To which the Station House officer
said that he would not return them
till the Reddi Chavadi Head Constable comes -
Constable No. 707, French Constable Duraiswami
Chayadu asked the Station House officer to
send me to Pondicherry - I said that if
necessary I might be sent to Pondicherry

The Station House officer then told me privately
that if I brought the Statements they might
be torn and fresh ones prepared and he
also said that if the Statements remained
as they were, the Reddi Chavadi Station House
officer, Village Magistrate Duraiswami Reddiar
Pariakattupalayam and himself would be
brought to trouble - I said that the State-
ments were not with me and that I would
fetch them - While talking thus the Station
House officer and Constable, No. 101 with others
there took my Kit bundle and note book
and examined them; not finding the State-
ments there, the Station House officer
said that he would not return my pass-
port and bundle of food unless I brought
the Statements. I said that I would fetch
them to which the Station House officer replied
that unless I brought the Statements before
12 O'Clock on (16th March 1895) he would report
me to his officer - I said that if so the
matter might be reported. The Station House
officer then asked me to bring them somehow

On

On my replying that I would bring them by 2 O' Clock he said that that would not do, and that they should be brought before 12 O' Clock - I again said "I will bring them at 1 O'clock - I had my meals on the 14" and I have had none till now - Please return my food" - He then said that I could have my food as soon as I brought the Statements - I told the Station House officer that having had no food for three days I was not able to walk the distance and bring the Statements. Thereupon he ordered the food to be returned to me - I took the food and after going a little distance returned and told the Station House officer that I had to go to the Cuddalore Head Quarter office and if they asked me for the passport, I would have to report that it had been taken away from me - He then threw the passport on the road - I picked it up and asked him to sign it - He then said that he would sign it if I brought the Statements - On my asking him again to sign it he said he would not do so -

I went to Manjakuppam (Cuddalore) Town Station and took Constable No. 625 who was there with me and purchased a deal wood box and a gunny bag and packed the bones - I submitted my report about the bones &c. with the list of bones and other things sealed by the Station House officer of Thirupapuliyur. The Statements referred to before, the Mahazar and the Railway receipt for the parcel of bones were sent to the Inspector of Police Negapatam along with my report by Post of 16th March 1895 -

17-3-95. Left Thirupapuliyur and arrived at Pondicherry by rail at 3-30 P.M. Made enquiries at the Sea Customs office, Harbour and other places about the boat &c. but no information was obtained - Enquiries were also made at Kuchinadi Kuppam to the North of Pondicherry with the same result. Proceeded to the British Consul about what happened on the 14th, 15th and 16th March 1895. He said "Why should you be afraid so long as I am here?" I have reported

reported this to the Negapatam Town Police Inspector from Pondicherry on 18th March 1895.

18-3-95. Left Pondicherry at 4 P.M. Made enquiries in Kirraipalayam and Periyanita-pattanam about the boat etc. but no information was obtained. Stopped for the night at Periyanitapattanam as it was too late.

19-3-95. Left Periyanitapattanam at 6 A.M. Made enquiries at Chinnanitapattanam, Pudukuppam, Nallavadu (English), Nallavadu (French), Karaikkai and Koothikuppam, but with no result. Halted for the night at Koothikuppam.

20-3-95. Made enquiries in Suba Uppalavadi (also called Koothikuppam), Thalangudai, Devanampatnam, Sothikuppam, Singaratope of Cuddalore, Cuddalore Sea Customs office and other places but with no result. If any information is obtained, it will be communicated.

21-3-95. Submitted a report (in writing) to the Inspector of Police, Negapatam Town. Left Cuddalore. Made enquiries in Gori, Sothikuppam, Rajapettai, Chittiraipettai, Thamunampettai, Karaikkapettai, Ranjanapettai and Periyakuppam about the boat etc. but no information was obtained. Halted at Periyakuppam.

39 S&P

22-3-95. Enquiries were made in Pettai Odai, Kadupettai, Anjanpettai, Maniappapettai, Reddiyarpettai, Annapanpettai and Madu Adiathanpettai, but with no result. Halted at Pachaiyappah Mudaliyar's Chattram.

23-3-95. Made enquiries in Kumarapet, Periyalamiyarpet, Chinnalamiyarpet, Kalangi-Rayanpet, Pudukuppam, Pudupet, North Chinnamut, Chinnamut & Porto Novo, but no information was obtained. In accordance with the orders of the Negapatam Police Inspector, the Station House Officer of Porto Novo was asked to give us a written Statement, but he, instead of giving us a written Statement, said that he would write on the passport and wrote something on the passport in English. On examining it, it was found to be to the effect that a boat was cast ashore in the Chonanjanadi Station limits, that Punnyu Pillai had sold

sold it to Subbarayan, that Constables Nos. 362 and 625 enquired of it, that the boat was not one to be used by Europeans and he also thought so, and that he was making enquiries about it - When we took Statements we enquired of the Station House Officer of Porto Novo and he said as follows:- About a month and a half ago a fishing Canoe was cast ashore by the sea in Annappanpet; he heard by rumour that Munuga Pillai of Pachaiyappa Mudali Chattram sold it for Rs. 10 to fisherman Subbarayan of Agaram (a Village in Porto Novo Station limits). He went and saw it and found it to be a fishing Canoe. He enquired of Subbarayan about it - Subbarayan said that he bought it from Munuga Pillai for Rs. 10. He is enquiring of the truth of it - Constables Nos. 362 and 625 of Negapatam Town Station asked him about it - With the said Constables, the Village Magistrate of Porto Novo and C. Muthukanga Pillai of Pachaiyappa Mudali Chattram who accompanied

40 SP

accompanied the Constables, he went to Agaram and showed the Canoe seen by him, which was 12 feet long and one cubit broad. It was not one used by Europeans but one used usually by fishermen - Muthukanga Pillai of Pachaiyappa Mudali Chattram had informed him of it 1½ months ago - He did not know how many months it was since the boat was cast ashore in Annappanpet - No other boat appeared to have been cast ashore - It was the Canoe seen by him.

He has written to the above effect in the Pass report. He said he knew nothing else on the subject. He wrote a Statement to the above effect but on being asked to sign it refused to do so - I have reported about this and our work on 21", 22" and 23" March 1895 to the Police Inspector on 24" March 1895 and submitted the Statement - The Station House Officer said that if he got a Yadast from the Station House Officer (of Negapatam) he will answer it - In my report to the Negapatam Town Police Inspector I have mentioned this -

24-3-95. Left Porto Novo - Made enquiries

enquiries in Pommanthittu, Killai and Thandavarayadolampet about the boat etc. but with no result. Halted for the night at Kodiyalayam.

25-3-95. Made enquiries in Kodiyalayam and Koolayar, but with no result. Halted for the night at Koolayar.

26-3-95. Made enquiries in Kottaimedu, Lamanamkadu, Mahendrapalli and Kattur about the boat etc. but no information was obtained. Halt.

27-3-95. Made enquiries in Nadukadu Pudupattanam (hamlet of Pudupattanam) Puliyamthula, Chinnathandavankulam and a hamlet of Pudupattanam about the boat etc. but no information was obtained. Halt.

28-3-95. Enquiries were made in a Chinnur (attached to Kodiyampalayam) Thirumullaivasal, Pattanamcheri and Thirumullaivasal Sea Customs Office, but with no result. We left Thirumullaivasal and are investigating on the way. Any information obtained will be communicated to the Police Inspector.

Submitted

418-P

29-3-95. Submitted report to the Police Inspector about our work on 25", 26", 27" and 28" March 1895 by post from Thirumullai vasal. Enquiries were made in Kilakkarai, Mooraikadai, Koniyampattanam, Chavadikuppam, Kadaikkadu, Ramanuja Naicker Pattanathiru and Periyakadaikkadu (also called Pettai Pattanathiru) but no information was obtained about the boat etc.

Enclosure No. 3 425.8

To letter No. 4952 dt 7.9.95

From Inspector-General of Police.

Statement of Duraiswami Gurukkal Son of Appaswami Aiyar, Archaka of Sengalamit Aiyan Kovil, Virapattanam, Pondicherry made before Negapatam Constables No 362 Perumal Pillai and No 625 (Subbarayalu Naidu) and French Police Constable No 5 Bavasah of Pondicherry.

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About 2½ or 3 months ago on my way from Virapattanam to Pondicherry, I saw a white hat, that is a hat used by Europeans cast ashore by the sea near the mouth of the river. As being a brahmin I should not touch it. I told Virapattanam Subbarayan of it and went away. Subbarayan took it. Ten or fifteen days after that I heard that Subbarayan gave it to Kachi Appaswami of Kiraipalayam near Pondicherry. Sometime afterwards two Constables from Negapatam came and asked me about the hat, boat, dress &c. I told them as above. They sent for Subbarayan and asked him. He told them that he had given it to Kachi Appaswami. Thereupon the Constables went away taking Subbarayan with them. I know nothing more. _____

1st/ A. Duraiswami Gurukkal

6. 2. 95. 1st/ Bava Sah, Pondicherry Police Station Constable No. 5.

1st/ T. K. Perumal Pillai No. 362

Enclosure No. 4
To letter No. 4952 & 17.9.95
From Inspector-General of Police.

2

Statement of Subbaraya Chetti, Son of Krishnappa Chetti of Viapattanam near Pondicherry, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai No. 625 (Subbarayalu Nayudu) and French Police Constable No. 5 Bava Sah of Pondicherry.——

About 2½ or 3 months ago when I was taking Duraiswami Gurukkal across the mouth of the river in my Catamaram a white hat used by Europeans was found cast ashore. The said Duraiswami Gurukkal asked me to take it. I took it and after keeping it with me for 10 or 15 days I gave it to Kachi Appaswami of Kiraipalayam. The two Constables were enquiring whether a boat, hat and dress were cast ashore. They asked me if I had the hat. I told them I had given it to Kachi Appaswami of Kiraipalayam. I took them to him and asked him for it. He said that he had given it to Mr. Prai Bava (Mr. Favot?) Taking Kachi Appaswami with me I obtained the hat from Mr. Prai Bava and gave it up to the above two Constables. That is the hat that I took. I know nothing more. Heard it read and find it correct.——

6.2.95.

Mark of Subbaraya Chetti
(Here is another name not decipherable)
1st/ Bava Sah, Constable No. 5 of Pondicherry
1st/ S. R. Perumal Pillai Constable No. 362 Station

Enclosure No. 5

To letter No. 4952 3.17.9.95

From Inspector-General of Police.

458

Statement of Appaswami Naicken, Son of Chinnamuttu Naicken, of Vembai Kiraipalayam, Pondicherry, made before Negapatam Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu & Nayudu and French Constable No. 5 Bava Sahi of Pondicherry.

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About 2½ or 3 months ago when I was returning from Penjavirapattanam, Subbaraya Chetti Son of Krishna Chetti of the said Virapattanam was plying his Catamaram at the mouth of the river. As soon as he saw me he brought to me a hat used by Europeans and gave it to me. I asked him how he got it. He replied that it was cast ashore by the Sea when he was plying his Catamaram at the mouth of the river. I asked him what he wanted me to do with the hat. He said that as it was then Cold Season I should purchase a Coat in exchange for it. Thereupon I gave it to Mr. Prai Bava (or Feroir?), Clerk in the Pondicherry Sea Customs Office, for purchasing a Coat. The two Constables from Negapatam brought Subbarayan to me. The two Constables asked me if Subbarayan gave me a hat used by Europeans and if I had it with me. Subbarayan also asked me "where is the hat that I gave you?" I replied that I had given it to Mr. Prai Bava (Feroir?)

The

The two Constables took Subbarayan and myself to Pondicherry and wanted the hat to be obtained from Mr. Prai Bava (Feroir?) and given them. I obtained the hat from Mr. Prai Bava and gave it to Subbarayan. Subbarayan gave it up to the two Negapatam Constables. This is the hat given to me by Subbarayan. Heard it read and find it correct.

Witness.

1st/ A. Munyaiyan Boat Overseer
Pondicherry Harbour.

Mark of Appaswami Naicken
1st/ Bava Sah Pondicherry Station.
Constable No. 5.

1st/ T. R. Perumal Mayuder
Constable No. 362.

7. 2. 95

Enclosure No. 0
To letter No. 4952 9.17.9.95
From Inspector-General of Police.

Translation of Mahazar.

To Her Majesty's Government. 45 S.8

We, the undersigned individuals, have drawn up the following Mahazarnama at 4.30 P.M. on Thursday, the 14th March 1895.

About 5 or 5½ months ago, it was learnt from Ananda Mudaliyar (Son of Venkatachella Mudaliyar) of Pannithittu (French Territory) and other persons that a white Corpse was washed ashore at the mouth of the Maltar in English village Madagapattee. They also said that the dead body was not interred by any one; it was decayed at the side of the water. The people were taken to the place where the body was found, and on seeing there the bones of the body were found. The following are details of the bones:-

Leg bones (i.e) thigh bones 2: Shin bone 1. bones of buttock 2: bones of fore-Arm 4: Humeri and Scapulæ 4: Lumbar portion of the Vertebral Column 1: Vertebræ 18: ribs 14: bones of the neck 2: Chest bones? 4: a broken bone of buttock. The above bones were found. Negapatam Town Station Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu

Subbarayalu Nayudu took possession of the bones found in the river. ———

1st/ Ananda Mudali
Mark of Virappa Nattar
1st/ Manicka Goundan
1st/ T.R. Perumal Pillai (Cons. No. 362)
1st/ G. Subbarayalu Nayudu (Cons. No. 625)
1st/ Saiyid Ibrahim (French Cons. No. 101)
1st/ P. Virappa Goundan
1st/ Appavu Padayachi
Mark of Murugappa Chetti
1st/ Parasurama Goundan
1st/ Appavu Padayachi (Son of Virabhadra Padayachi) of Naraimedu, hamlet of Gundu Uppalavadi, Manjakuppam.

On having the place where the bones were found dug up and examined, three bones called in Tamil ~~[illegible]~~ and two bones of the back were found and these were produced before the undersigned by Parasurama Goundan, Son of Thandavaraya Goundan of Pannithittu who dug up the place. He was also made to dive into the river water close by but nothing was found ———

1st/ Ananda Mudali
1st/ Manicka Mudali
1st/ Parasurama Goundan
1st/ Appavu Padayachi of Gundu Uppalavadi
Mark of Virappa Chetti
1st/ T.R. Perumal Pillai (Cons. No. 362)
1st/ G. Subbarayalu Nayudu (Cons. No. 625)
1st/ Saiyid Ibrahim (French Cons. No. 101).

To letter No. 4952 dt 17.9.95

From Inspector-General of Police,

4658

Statement of Ananda Mudali, Son of Venkatachella Mudali before Constables of Negapatam Town No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim. ———

About 5 months ago I heard from people that a dead body which was white was washed ashore at the mouth of the Mattar. I went to see it. The body was on its face. When I saw it it was very white. There was nothing on the body. It was as it was born. The two eyes were eaten away by a fish or something else. The arms and legs were all right. The hair on the head was cropped. All the hair was cropped. The body was that of a male. Age probably 25 or 28 years. As the body was very white and the hair was cropped, I could say with certainty that it was the body of a European. As the body was in English Territory and as I am in French Territory I thought they would inter it. The next day I found it not interred. I told French Police Constable Narayanaswami Pillai of Kirumampakkam Station of it. Again after 4 days I informed the Station House Officer of Kirumampakkam of it. The dead body was not interred and it remained at the mouth of the river and decayed. The Sea and the river waters were

then

then mingled together. It was also raining then. The two Constables that are now come from Negapatam asked us about it. I told them as above. The Constables and ourselves went to the place where the body was found. The bones taken charge of by them are those of that body. I know nothing more. Read and found Correct.

14.3.95
Pannithittu

1st/ Ananda Mudali
1st/ T. R. Perumal Pillai (Cons. No. 362)
1st/ G. Subbarayalu Nayudu (Cons. No. 625)
1st/ Saiyid Ibrahim, (Cons. No. 101)

To letter No. 4952 dt 17.9.95
From Inspector-General of Police.

47 S.P

Statement of Saravarama Goundan Son of Thandavaraya Goundan, of Pannithittu, French Territory, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim.

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About 5 months ago a dead body which was white was washed ashore in English Territory. I swam across the river to see it. The Sea and the river water were then mingled together. I saw the dead body. Age probably 25 or 28 years. Three Crows were sitting upon it. I drove them and saw the body. It was the dead body of a European. As the hair was Crop[ped] all over the head, as the hair was red, and as the body was of a whitish rose Colour I say with Certainty that it was the body of a European. The body was on its face partly turned to a Side. The Corners of the two eyes were taken away by fish or Something else. The hands and legs were all right. There was no Clothing on the body. The body was that of a European male. As it was in English Territory I told nobody of it. I have told Murugaiya Chetti of this. The body was not interred It remained there and decayed. It decayed near the

edge

edge of the water. I could say with Certainty that it was the dead body of a European. The Constables now Come from Negapatam asked me about it. I told them as above. On examining the place the bones taken Charge of by the Constables were found. They took Charge of the bones with a Mahazar. The body was there alone. It decayed. These bones are of that body. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it Correct. It was also praining then. Heard it read and found it Correct. ———

1st/ Parasurama Goundan
1st/ J. R. Perumal Pillai No. 362
1st/ G. Subbarayalu Naiyudu No. 625
14.3.95 1st/ Saiyid Ibrahim No. 101

Enclosure No. 9
To letter No. 4952 Dt. 7.9.95
From Inspector-General of Police.

485.0

Statement of Virappa Nattar, Son of Chinnana Nattar, of French Pannithittu, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai and No. 625 Subbarayalu Naiyudu and French Police Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim. ———

About 5 months ago I heard a rumour that a dead body which was white was washed ashore at the mouth of the Nattar. As it was in another village I thought I need not go and See it. I Saw it from the opposite bank. The dead body was white. The Sea and the river waters were mingled togethes. People said that the body was white and that it was that of a European. The two Constables from Negapatam enquired me about it. I told them as above. They took me at once to the place where the body was found. The bones Secured by the Constables were there. There was nothing else there except these bones. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it Correct. ———

Mark of Virappa Nattar
14.3.95. Pannithittu
1st/ J. R. Perumal Pillai, Cons. No. 362
1st/ G. Subbarayalu Naiyudu No. 625
1st/ Saiyid Ibrahim No. 101

Enclosure No. 10

To letter No. 4952 dt 17.9.98

From Inspector-General of Police.

49 S.P

Statement of Virappa Goundan, son of Palani Goundan, of Avalimode, Pannittittu, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai, No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim.

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About 5 months ago people said that a dead body which was white was cast ashore at the mouth of the Malias. I went and saw it. It was as it was born and was on its face. It was the body of a male. The body was very white. The hair on the head was cropped. The hands and legs were all right. Nobody inkerred it. It decayed at the mouth of the River. Age probably 25 or 28 years. The hair on the head was brown. The two Constables now Come from Negapatam asked me about it. I told them as above. When we went and examined the place at the mouth of the river where the body was found the bones Secured by the Constables were found there. It was then raining. The Sea and the river water were then mingled together. These are the bones of the body so found. I did not inform anybody of this. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it Correct.——

1st P. Virappa Goundan
1st J. R. Perumal Pillai No. 362
1st G. Subbarayalu Nayudu No. 625
1st Saiyid Ibrahim No. 101

14.3.95.

Enclosure No. 11

To letter No. 4952 dt. 17.9.95

From Inspector-General of Police.

5050

Statement of Murugappa Chetti son of Valumni Chetti of French Pamithitte, made before Negapatam Town Constables No. 362 Perumal Pillai, No. 625 Subbarayalu Nayudu and French Police Constable No. 101 Saiyid Ibrahim.

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About 5 months ago Parasurama Goundan went across the river and saw Something. I asked him what he observed. He told me that a dead body was cast ashore and that it was white. As there was water I was not able to go and I saw it on the northern bank. I Saw it from the Southern bank. The Corpse was white. I came away. Nobody interred it. It decayed there. The two Constables from Negapatam asked me about it. I told them as above. I with others took the Constables to the Spot and the bones Secured by the Constables were there. These are the bones of that dead body. It was then raining the Sea and the river water were then mingled together. I know nothing more. I have Signed the Mahazar drawn up Regarding the bones. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it Correct.——

Mark of Murugappa Chetti.

14.3.95

1st J. R. Perumal Pillai No. 362
1st G. Subbarayalu Nayudu No. 626
1st Saiyid Ibrahim No. 101

Enclosure No. 12

To letter No. 4952/317-2-95

From Inspector-General of Police.

51 S:P

Statement of Manicka Goundan, Son of Venkatesa Goundan, of Pannittittu, made before Negapatam Town Constables No 362, and 625 and French Polie Constable No. 101.

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About 5 or 5½ months ago I heard that a white Corpse was washed ashore: On that we Swam across the mouth of the Mattar and saw the body. It was white. The hair on the head was cropped. The hair was red. There was no clothing on the body. It was as it was born when it was cast ashore. As the body was of a whitish rose Colour and the hair cropped and red I could say that it was the body of a European. It was the body of a European. The Corners of the eyes were eaten away. As the body was in English Territory I told nobody of it. No body inferred the body. It decayed there. These two Constables asked me about it and I told them as above. When we and others went to the place the bones Secured by the Constables were found there. The Sea and the river water were then mingled together. I have Signed the Mahazar drawn up regarding the bones. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it Correct.

14.3.95

1st Manicka Goundan
2nd J. R. Perumal Pillai No 362
3rd G. Subbarayalu Mayudu No 625
4th Saiyid Ibrahim No. 101

Enclosure No. 13

To letter No. 4952 & 17.9.95

From Inspector-General of Police.

52 S.P

Statement of Elaya Perumal Padayachi, son of Thandavaroya Padayachi, of Alamode, Pamittittu, made before Negapatam Town Constables Nos 362 and 625 and French Police Constable No. 101.

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About 5½ months ago there was a rumour that the Corpse of a European was cast ashore. I Swam across the mouth of the Maltar and saw the body. The whole of the body was bloody — (or Covered with blood?) It was on its face. There was nothing on the Corpse. It was as it was born. The two eyes were eaten away by — fish. The hair on the head was cropped and red. The hands and legs were all right. Age probably 25 or 26 years. I told nobody of this The people of this village also know of the body having been cast ashore. As the hair on the head was cropped and brown I say positively that it was the body of a European. As the body was as described above it cannot be said that it was that of a native. It was that body most probably. I can say with certainty that it was the body of a European. Nobody interred it. It decayed and was merely a — Set of bones. I know it. They asked me to Show them the place. I Showed them the place. The Constables had the place dug up and had

had the bones with them. I know nothing more. Heard it read and found it Correct.

15.3.95

1st/ Elaya Perumal
1st/ S. R. Perumal Pillai No 362
1st/ G. Subbarayalu Nayudu No 625
1st/ Saiyid Ibrahim No 101

Enclosure No 14
To letter No. 4952 317.9.95
From Inspector-General of Police.

5388

Statement given by Nagaliiga Chetty, Son of Mari Chetti of Kotiayapalayam, Shyaly Taluk, before Constables Nos 362 and 625 of Negapatam Station. _____

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Once, about 5½ months ago, when I went to fish in Madava mottoo river, I discovered at the mouth of the river some planks of a boat which have been washed ashore. They were each 1½ Cubits long and 2 Cubits broad and their ends were embedded in the Sand. There was a white Coating visible on them. They were attached, the planks being placed one above the other. I then went away to my house and nobody followed me. I never went to the mouth after this. I heard from men who went to fish in the Sea as well as in the river that water Ceased to flow through the mouth which was blocked up by Sand. This absence is owing to my having gone to Veraipattanam ten days after this to be Cured of my illness. At the time in question only a Small quantity of water was flowing through the mouth of the river. There is now a Sand Bank at the place where I discovered the planks which were then lying on the spot I have shown you with their back Sides

Sides visible. Either they might even now be embedded in the Sand ( Since both their ends were buried in it and the planks themselves were lying with their back Side uppermost) or they might have been removed by others which I know nothing about. Read over to me and found to be Correct.

28. 3. 95. 3
Chinnut. 3

Mark of Nagaluiga Chetti

1st/ G. Subbarayalu Naynder No. 625

1st/ J. R. Perumal Pillai No. 362.

Enclosure No. 15

To letter No. 4952 3 17.9.95

From Inspector-General of Police.

545 S.P

Statement of Virammal, daughter of Nallathutti Nattan of Karaikkal Pattanam Street, made before Nagapatam Town Constables Nos. 362 and 625.

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In Purattasi (October last?) Nambiyarmuppanar Raja (Nagapatam) Convened a meeting of our Castemen living in villages from Porto Novo to Kodiyakarai. On the night of the flag hoisting day of the Annual festival in Karaikkalmode Sanjiviraya Perumal Temple they assembled and discussed about some matters Connected with the building of a house and Mataam by Nambi Raja. We were then looking at what was going on. Some of the Crowd were talking that when a fisherman went on his Catamaram he saw at about 6 or 7 miles distance from Kaverippattanam a European Standing in a Single boat, that the boat was on a level with the Sea, that the gentlemanas thigh deep in water, that he beckoned to the Catamaram man with his hat, that the fisherman ran away as the body was all white, that the gentleman was nacked, that he therefore got afraid and ran away and that the gentleman then beat his head and Stomach with his hat and also Struck at the water with his hat. I do not know who were talking like that. As it was night

I

I could not identify. It appears he was beaten when he returned and narrated the fact. I cannot possitively say that the fisherman belongs to Kavenipatnam I know nothing more. Heard it read and find it correct.

Mark of Viramma

2. 11. 95. 1st/ J. R. Perumal Pillai No. 362
1st/ G. Subbarayalu Nayudu No. 625

Enclosure No. 16
To letter No. 4952 dt. 17. 9. 95
From Inspector-General of Police.

575

Statement of Viramma, daughter of Thondi-kara Nattan, Karaikkal Pattanam Street, made before Negapatam Town Constables Nos. 362 & 625.

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In Purattasi (October?) last when the Annual festival in Sanjiviraya Perumal Temple, Commenced Raja of Tanjore (of Negapatam) Convened a meeting of our castemen living in villages from Porto Novo to Kodiyakarai for the purpose of Settling a dispute. They were discussing on the night of flag hoisting day. I and my paternal uncle's daughter Viramma went there to see what was going on. Some in the Crowd were talking as follows:- When a fisherman went on a Catamaram he saw a European Standing in water thigh deep; the boat was full of water on a level with the Sea. As Soon as he saw the Catamaram man the European beckoned to him with his hat; he got afraid and Sailed away. Thereupon the European beat his head and Stomach with the hat and also Struck at the water with the hat. When asked why he Considered his life more precious and ran away the fisherman Said that as his body was white and his hair Cropped and brown he got afraid and

and pass away. They were talking to the above effect. I do not know the persons who were so talking. As it was dark I say I do not know his name and could not identify him. I am married to a person in Periyavanagari to the South of Kavaripatnam. I did not go to my husband's house as I have not attained maturity. I did not go to Periyavanagari at the time the European is said to have been seen. The people who did thus most probably belong to Kavaripatnam. I say so because there are a large number in that village plying Catamarams. I do not know who it was in Kavaripatnam. This was what I heard. I know nothing more. Read over to me and found Correct. _____

Mark of Viranmal
1st/ T. R. Pennual Pillai No 362
1st/ G. Subbarayalu Naynde No 625

2.4.95

Enclosure No. 17
To letter No. 1952 dt 17.9.95
From Inspector-General of Police

56 S.P

Statement given by Nallakutti Nattan of Pattanam Street Karaikkal, before the Constables Nos 362 and 625 of Negapatam Station. _____

In Purattasi (October?) last when the flag was hoisted in Moder Sanjiviraya Perumal Temple, Karaikkal, all the villagers of our Kuppam from Parangipettai to Nodiyakari were sent for to settle the dispute of Raja of Nambiyar Kuppam attached to Negapatam. We were then assembled in the number of 1000. It was then night time. There was a talk among the persons so assembled that a certain European was seen standing in water upto his waist just opposite Kaveripatnam 6 or 7 miles out in the Sea by a man who went out fishing in a Catamaram, that he was then standing in a boat filled with water and immersed upto his waist level and that as soon as he saw the fisherman he waved his hat and signalled for help; that then the Catamaram man unfurled his sails and sailed away for shore, that as soon as he so sailed away the gentleman was in great distress and was beating his head and stomach and struck the water with his hat. They were also saying that as the gentleman had no dress and looked very

white

while, the man was afraid and sailed away. I do not know who those persons were, who were so talking. I cannot recognise them. I do not know whether the Catamaran man belongs to Kaveripatnam or to Vanagari. This is not something that I witnessed. I have merely repeated what I heard. As it was dark, I could not find out the persons that were so talking. I know nothing more than this. Read over to me and found to be Correct.

Mark of Nallakutti Nattan
1st/ T. R. Perumal Pillai No 362
1st/ G. Subbarayalu Nayudu No 625

5
Jun
3
741

Enclosure No. 18
To letter No. 4952 dt 17.9.25
From Inspector-General of Police.
5738

Statement given by Peramdai Chetti, Pattanam Street, Karaikkal before Constables Nos 362 and 625 of Negapatam Station. ———

In the month of Purattasi last at the time when the flag was hoisted in Sanjiviraya & Perumal Temple, all my villagers from Parangi-pettai to Kodiyakarai were asked to meet to settle the dispute of Raja of Tanbiyarkuppam attached to Negapatam. When about a thousand of us were so assembled on the night of the hoisting of the flag, it was talked about that a person while going out for fishing in a Catamaram for a distance of 6 or 7 miles just opposite Kavenipatnam, discovered a gentleman standing in water upto his waist in a boat filled with water and immersed upto water level, that when the gentleman saw the Catamaram man he waved his hat and signalled for help on seeing which the Catamaram man sailed away out of fear and that when the gentleman observed him going away with sails unfurled he beat his head and stomach and struck the water several times with his hat. They were also saying that the cause of his so sailing away was that he was afraid on seeing the gentleman who was stark naked and who

looked

looked all while. I could not learn who that Catamaram man was, to what place he belonged as well as his name. Neither could I find out who those persons were, who were so talking since it was then dark. We all assembled only once night and went to our respective villages the next morning. I then went away to cast the net and so I could not learn anything about the matter even in the morning. I know only this much. Read over to me and found to be Correct.

Mark of Sramalai Chetti

1st/ J. R. Krumal Pillai No.362

2.4.95. 1st/ G. Subbarayalu Nayudu No.625.

Enclosure No. 19

To letter No. 4952 dt 7.9.95

From Inspector-General of Police.

58 S.P.

Statement given by Kuttiyandi Chetti & Pattanam Street, Karaikkal, before Constables Nos 362 and 625 of Negapatam Station. ———

On Puratasi last at the time when flag was hoisted in Moda Sanjiviraya Perumal Temple, Karaikkal all my villagers from Parangipettai to Kodiyakari were asked to meet and settle the dispute of the Raja of Nambiyar Kuppam of Negapatam. When they were all Collected together on the night of the hoisting of the flag and while they were discussing the question there was a talk that a certain person out on fishing in the Sea near Kaveripatnam in a Catamaram found a gentleman at a distance of 6 or 7 miles from Shore Standing in water up to his waist in a boat filled with water and immersed up to waist level that at that time the gentleman Seeing the man in the Catamaram waved his hat and Signalled for help, that the man being afraid began to Sail away and that when the gentleman observed him Sailing away with his Sail unfurled he beat his head and Stomach and Struck the water Several times with his hat. They were also Saying that as the gentleman was without dress

and

and looked while the man was afraid and sailed away. I do not know who those persons were, who were thus talking. Up to the present moment I have not heard anything about the matter. I do not know who the person is that went in the Catamaram I do not know whether he belongs to Kaverippattnam or Periyavanagari. In Connection with this matter I know neither the persons that were so talking nor him that went in the Catamaram. As it was dark I Could not observe Carefully and find out who those persons were. I know nothing but this. Read over to me and found to be Correct.

Mark of Kuttiyandi Chetti

2.4.95. 1st/ T. R. Perumal Pillai No 362

1st/ G. Subbarayalu Nayudu No 625.

No. 0-48.

CURRENT No 824

DEPARTMENT.

No. 5248

CHIEF OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE,

MADRAS, 15 October 1895.

FROM

M. HAMMICK, ESQ., I.C.S.,

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE,

*Madras,*

To

THE Chief Secretary
to Government,
Fort St George.

SIR,

*Enclosures.*

(one) I have the honor to forward copy of the first report by Mr Longden touching the loss of Mr Pottinger called for in official Memorandum No 2422 dated 10th October 1895.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
your most obedt Servt.

H. Cam
Ag. Asst. Inspr Genl of Police
For Inspr Genl of Police.

CURRENT No. 824

Judl. (1895) DEPARTMENT.

FROM

M. HAMMICK, Esq., I.C.S.,

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE,

*Madras,*

To

THE Chief Secretary to Government Fort St. George.

No. 95 dy 2-4-95
No. 122 dy 29-4-95
" 162-3 " 7-6-95
" 4 dy 5-7-95

No. 5248

Dated 15 } October 1895.
Received 16 }

Rgd 18 —B—

16 OCT. 95

SUBJECT.

Forwards copy of Mr. Longden's first report touching the loss of Mr. Pottinger.

G.O. No. 73 Mar. Dy 8.2.96

Enclosure No.

To letter No. 5248 dy 15.10.95.

From Inspector-General of Police.

Camp Mannargudi 22-4-95

60 S.P.

From

The Assistant Superintendent of Police Negapatam.

To

The District Superintendent of Police, Tanjore.

Sir,

Disappearance of Mr Pottinger.

In returning the enclosed papers with regard to the disappearance of Mr Pottinger, 3rd officer of the S.S. Meenatchy, I have the honor to state that a full investigation was made by the Negapatam Police and to submit my report thereon.

On the morning of the 2nd September 1894, Mr Edwards, clerk of the S.S. Lindula and Mr Pottinger had breakfast together on the Meenatchy. After breakfast they went out for a sail with the permission, though somewhat against,

against the wishes of the Captain. They had tiffin on the Lindula and returned to the Meenatchy about 3.30 P.M. According to Mr Edwardes they had one lascar boy in the boat. According to the Captain they had 2 lascars while sailing. They then had tea on the Meenatchy and about 4.30 P.M. Mr Pottinger went out for a second sail alone. At about 5.30 P.M. he was seen some distance from the ship and it was ascertained that he had taken no lascars with him. This was against the Captain's strict orders He should have taken efficient men with him to pull the boat in case of need. There were four oars in the boat. No more was heard of him that night, and no steps were taken to recall him.

Next day as he was missing the Captain communicated the

Subsequent efforts to trace him.

the fact to the B.I. agents at Negapatam, and to the Port officer at that place. Native fishermen were sent along the coast and telegrams despatched to Karikal, Veidavasal, Portonovo, Cuddalore, Pondicherry and Madras. The Meenatchy started 6 hours earlier than usual and a look-out was kept from the mast head and double watches put on but nothing more was seen. On the 4th men were again sent to Karikal and a telegram sent to Tranquebar and up to the 9th September on which day the Meenatchy left for Burmah, the Captain was in communication with the Port authorities along the coast, but no trace of the unfortunate officer was obtained.

Report of the disappearance to the Inspector-General.

Mr Pottinger's father then wrote to the Inspector-General and the matter was referred to the Police of this

this District Constables No 362 and 625 were sent up the Coast on 31-1-95 and again in March to make full enquiries. Their proceedings were reported to the Negapatam Inspector by Special daily report.

Enquiries conducted by Constables 362 and 625 from 31-1-95 to 23-2-95 and again in March.

From the state of the wind and tide at that time and the fact that Mr Pottinger's boat was seen going in a North-Eastern direction by the officers of the ship and the fact that some Nagore fisher-men saw a steamer's boat sailing in a North-Eastern direction it was thought best to commence the enquiry at Pondicherry and work down the Coast.

Report of a boat having been cast up.

At Pondicherry no clue was obtained but at Keerapolliam, south of Pondicherry it was ascertained

ascertained from Kuppan Periannan, that a boat had been cast up at Parangipettah and that some one had broken it up. One Murgia Nadan Corroborated this and stated that Munia Pillai of the firm of Rangoon Sait and Co knew about it. This man on enquiry stated that a boat had been cast up at Anappan-pettai and had been sold at Agaram near Parangipettai. At Agaram they were informed by Muthu Renga Pillai that that the Parangipetta (French) S. H. O had taken charge of the boat. On March the Constables were again sent up to follow up this clue but the Parangipetta S. HO. refused to give a statement; and no further clue could be obtained to the boat, though

though a reward was offered.
However, there seems no
reason to doubt that
a boat was cast up.
It is hardly likely that
such a story would be
invented.

Con continuing the enquiry, Finding of a pith hat.
it was ascertained at
Veerapatnam that one Dorai-
Sawmy Gurukkal of Senganoor
Ammancovil, saw a white
hat washed ashore near
Mogatoodwarai. This was
in September. Subbaroyan
of this village took it
and gave it to Kachy
Appasawmy of Kerapolliam
who exchanged it with
M. Pere. Bava for an old coat
The hat was a white
pith one, with a drill
covering, with two eyelet
holes in the crown for
ventilation: it has been
sent to the B. I Agents at
Calcutta for identification +

Con 10. 2. 95 the Constables Finding of some bones, presumably
enquired those of M. Pottinger.

enquired at Pannithittoo
a village between English
and French territory and
ascertained that the body
of an European had been
cast up near the mouth
of the Malatar river:
They proceeded to the spot,
found the bones of a human
being and buried them
The people of the village
stated that the body
was much decomposed:
the fact of the body being
found was reported to
French Constable Narainya-
Sawmy Pillai but no notice
was taken of it. The
Constables were then instructed
to bring back the bones:
they held an inquest at
the spot: Ananda. Mudaly
of Pannithittoo stated
that he saw the Corpse;
it was that of an European
Male, aged about 25 or 28.
It lay between the English
and French territory,
the eyelids were eaten
by

by fishes: he informed French Constable Naraina. Swami Pillai but no notice was taken of it. This statement is supported by Veerappa Goundan — Thandavaroya Goundan Veelamani chetty, Chinna Nadan, Venkatachella Goundan, and Thandavaroya Padyachee. The inquest was held on 14-3-95. The remains were brought to Negapatam where they were examined by the Civil Surgeon who certified that they were those of a middle aged male, height about 5 feet 8 inches. They were then handed over to the B.I. Agents and buried in the Negapatam Cemetery.

Story of the European seen in the boat.

On 22-2-95 one Nalla Kutter Nadan informed the Constables that he had heard in October 1894 that a fisherman of his caste had seen a boat filled with water, its sides level with the sea: in this boat was an Englishman, who stood up and beckoned to him, but he got afraid as the "gentleman" was all red and had no clothes on: he could not speak but kept waving his hat and beating his chest and stomach with his hand. His daughter and cousin both named Veer-ammal corroborate this. The name of the fisherman could not be ascertained though a reward was offered. This story seems so extra-ordinary that it can hardly be concocted. This is all the evidence that can be gathered from points:- (1) the story of the boat: (2) the finding of the hat: (3) the finding of the remains: (4) the

Story

story of the man in the boat. From the fact that Paran-gipettah, Veerapatnam, Pannithittoo, and Cauneri-=patnam where the man was said to have been seen in the boat are close together, it is very possible that the boat may have drifted there and capsized.

The Negapatam Inspector went on board the Meenatchy and ascertained that Mr Pottinger nearly always wore a straw hat covered with white drill with a black ribbon so that the hat is not likely to have been his. Mr Pottinger was said to have been mixed up with some family at Rangoon, who were much distressed at his loss and employed native fortune-tellers to ascertain what had become of him.

The story of the finding of

of the body of an European seems credible, and it can hardly be supposed that it was any other than the unfortunate Mr Pottinger: the fact of the boat having been cast up is also credible and I can see no reason to suppose that the villagers would have invented it. From the fact of these two occurrences having happened so close together, I can only suppose that off the Coast, at this spot, the boat capsized and Mr Pottinger was drowned. How he got there having four oars and a sail in the boat (the sea was quite smooth at that time) and being a strong able-bodied man, I cannot explain. The conduct of the Captain seems highly reprehensible

and.

and somewhat strange
in allowing one of his
officers to go off alone
in a boat and remain
away so long though
the ship was to sail
on the next day.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your most obedient servant.
(Sd) Cyril Longden.
Asstt Supt of Police,
Negapatam.

(True copy)

Tanjore, Dt Police Office
27th April 1895
(Sd) A. P. Agar
Superintendent of Police.

(True copy)

1895
Marine Dept.
Encl. 1
C. No. 824

H. Carr
Ag: Asstt Inspr-Genl of Police

Marine Ct. 525.

For Perusal

## Translation.

In reply to your Excellency's letter dated 7th June last. No. 163, I have the honor to furnish the following information, which is the result of the enquiry I have set on foot on the facts therein related, since the receipt of that communication.

On the 6 February last, two agents of the British police presented themselves at the office of the commissioner of central police Pondicherry, soliciting the assistance of our agents for investigating the traces of the officer of the "Mecanicky", who had disappeared in the mists of September last, when that vessel was lying (at anchor) in the roadstead at Negapatam.

These agents brought a hat of the Marine (dept); found, they said, on the seashore, which had been sent to them by an employé of the police at Pondicherry, Mr Feraz. This man, questioned by the Commissioner of Central Police, replied that he had received the hat in question from a Maccoa, who had found it on the seashore, near the mouth of the Ariangoppam river. As the headress bore no mark, which could lead to the supposition that it belonged to a marine officer, he had preferred to return it to its owner, in case

he would present himself. The Machua
who had picked up the hat, likewise questioned
has confirmed these declarations, [illegible] was able
No one than Mr. Ferar, [illegible] Pirion
any information regarding the unfortunate officer who
has disappeared.

An agent of the French Police was
charged with accompanying the British agents
to the village of Kirapalyam, along the coast,
and helping them in their investigations. But
no indication was traced, either of the presence
in the offing at a given moment of a European
in a boat, or of a stranding of a boat on the shore.

The following days, the searches were
continued along the coast, always with the help
of the agents of the French police.

It was then that (the remains of)
human bones were discovered at the mouth
of the river Mallar, within the confines of
Rettychavady (British territory).

Enquiries made on the spot by
the agents of the British & French Police,
particularly in the village neighbouring
village of Pondichéry (French territory)
established (the fact) that the bones
were those of an Indian, whose corpse
had remained abandoned on the shore,
but had been recognised by that of a
native by certain definite signs: (viz)

see
descriptions

the tuft of hair which he bore on the
centre of the head, the string encircling
his loins, and his tanguty.

The agents of the British police, finding
doubtless at this moment no connection
between this discovery and the object of
their mission pursued their investigations
towards the south, leaving the bones there.
It was only more than a month afterwards,
the 14th March, that the same agents came
back in search of them. The investigations
formed the station officer of Kirmampakam
had on his part undertaken, ever since he
was informed of the discovery. The inhabi-
tants above mentioned accounts - The inhabi
of Pondichéry declared to him that
they did not warn the police of the presence
of the corpse, because it was found on
British territory, and that from that time
they did not believe that they were bound
to trouble themselves about it.

The first information collected
on the spot in the course of the enquiry
which I ordered, on receipt of the letter
from your Excellency, both much confirmed
the first, and has served to establish
the identity of the corpse, abandoned at the
mouth of the Mallar, in British territory
within the limits of Rettychavady - It is
that of an Indian, named Appachetty, an

of Nallatanechetty, of the Patnava caste.
This fisherman, who lived in the village of
Padukuppam (French territory) was attacked
with ~~mental aberration~~ madness; he was nervous, an
epileptic & a leper. He disappeared about
6 months ago. Twelve days after his disap-
pearance, his relatives having been informed of the
presence of a corpse at the mouth of the Malat-
rivers, one of his sisters went to the spot
and ~~thought~~ recognised her brother perfectly.
But as he had remained rather long in the
water, the body had become almost white.
It was fast putrefying, and she abandoned
it after shedding a few tears. Through fear
of having to appear before the courts of justice,
the relatives of Appuchetty and the inhabitants
of Pudukuppam, as well as those of Pannitottu,
abstained from informing the police;
nor so, they add, because the corpse being
in British territory, they did not think they
should interfere in the matter.

When they came in the month of
March to search for the bones abandoned
on the shore, the agents of the British
police obtained, it would appear, from the
inhabitants of Pannitottu, a certificate
attesting that the corpse, from which proceeded
these bones, was that of a white. It is clear
from the declaration of one of those who have
signed this certificate — named Parassamamen pmd
called Leduma

that he knew very well that the corpse
was that of Appuchetty. He signed
the certificate, which had already been prepared
meaning simply to state that the ~~corpse~~ body
had become white.

Your Excellency will be good enough
to acknowledge that, in these circumstances,
the French police cannot be accused
either of negligence or of ~~bad~~ ill will.
Our agents have searched, as far as it
was in their power, the British police, in
the investigations made to recover
traces of the marine Appoo, who had disappeared,
and of these investigations have not been
fruitful they cannot be held responsible for it.

Be pleased to accept &c

A.B.
11/7/95.

A Letter
~~Petition~~ from the Governor of
Pondicherry

DATED 4 July 1895.

---

TRANSFERRED to the Chief Secretary to Government for disposal.

(By Order.)

Private Secretary.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
Ootacamund
8th July 1895.

CURRENT No. 525

Marine

(189 ) DEPARTMENT.

CURRENT No. of 189

E

2nd No. 1626

From C.F. MacCarthie Esqr. I.C.S.
THE PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE
RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR,

To
THE CHIEF SECRETARY
TO GOVERNMENT,
DEPARTMENT.

Referred to the Inspector General of Police for very early report.
Hedmistrice
Chief Secretary

FDB
13/7/95.

C.S. received 13th July 1895

RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE 15 JUL 95 MADRAS

Dated 8th
Received 8th } July 1895.
Regd 9th

RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT 9 JUL 1895 GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

ENCLOSURE.

TO BE RETURNED WITH REPLY.

*Subject.*

TRANSFERS a ~~petition~~ Letter from the Governor of Pondicherry.

Dft Issued

E

Marine Current 741

Ref. No. 2422
10-10-95

It is observed that in Enclosure No 1 forwarded with the I.G. of P's letter No 4952 of the 17th ultimo Mr. Longden speaks of a previous report submitted by him. His has not been received. The I.G.P. is requested to Submit a copy of it at an early date.

C.W.
5.10.95

FDB.
for C.S.
5/10/95

Dft Issued

* Letter No 1054 dt 28th July '95 from the Asst Supt of Police, Negapatam.

I.G. Police - Despatched 10/10.

Mr. Pottinger

No A

* on C. 741

* Copy since obtained and put up.

Note for H.E. the Governor

With reference to H.E's note of the 29th Sept.r it is submitted that no previous *report by Mr. Longden is to be found in the papers forwarded by the Inspector General of Police. That report was apparently retained by him. But Mr. Stammick in his letter in G.Os. Nos 162-63 Mar. d/ 7-6-95 refers to it, and indeed that letter is mainly based on it. Please see para 4 of the letter.

G.O. No 122 Mar. d/29-4-95 however contains a report from the Divisional Inspector of Police, Mr. Bartels, which tallies with Mr. Longden's letter.

Mr. Bartels letter states that Ananda Mudali reported the casting up of a corpse to the French Police Constable Naraina-swami Pillai but says nothing about the S.H.O. Kirambakam This was in the middle of September 1894.

In their notes the Tanjore Constables say that on the 14th March '95 they informed the S.H.O. Kirambakam of the matter and that he sent

the French Police Constable Saiyid Ibrahim (No 101) to assist them.

Mr. Hammick in his letter (in G.O.s 162-63 Mar 4/6.95) says "the spot where the bones was found was just between English and French territories. The place is at the mouth of the river Malattar and probably when the body was first found the place was difficult of access, as the N.E. monsoon is heavy there and the country often flooded". This is corroborated by all the witnesses.

Again Mr. Carlyon in his letter dated 20th March 95 asserts, on the Evidence of Mr. Bartelo, that a body was washed ashore close to Pondicherry 8 days after Mr. Poltinger was missed. "It came ashore on what is described as neutral territory". The matter being reported to the French Police Officer, he referred it to the Officer on the English side who replied that he had nothing to do with it. It is questionable therefore whether the French authorities alone were to blame. If they were it is impossible to prove it. In the answer to the Fr. Governor nothing, it is submitted, need be said of the alleged supineness on the part of the French Police.

18/151

× with G.Os Nos 162-63 Mar 4/6.95.

No 13. 1.15

Mr Pottinger

(8)

Council

H.E. The Governor

Marine Department.

[G. 25.] 600—7-5-95.

C. No. 741.

From the I.G. of Police.

FOR ORDERS.

I do not see that any further enquiry will be of much avail. The hat might be sent to the officers of the Maratchy for identification, and the mouth of the river might be watched when it is open, in case of any of the planks of the boat being washed ashore. Nothing further can be done - & we sh^d to inform the Sec^y. of State.
The evidence sh^d be sent to him, with the remark that a perusal of it will disprove Mr. Pottinger seniors statement that the body was found without a head originally and that there is no reason to believe that there had been any foul play.

as regards the answer to the French Governor, I think we might tell him that further enquiry has revealed the fact that a corpse has been discovered wh. from the evidence recorded was undoubtedly that of a European. It also appears from the evidence of Ananda Mudali (living in French territory) that he reported the fact of the body of a European lying on the shore to the French Constable Narain (Swami

It is subd: that no good wd: result from continuing the enquiry. There is no reason to doubt the Constables' report, and the depositions they obtained may be taken to prove that the body was that of an European & presumably Mr Pottinger. The depositions are strangely alike in circumstance particularly the "mingling of the waters".

It is subd: that the papers may be forwarded to the S. of S. with an expression of opinion that there is no reason to suppose that further Enquiries wd: Elucidate matters.

The story of Appuchettis apparently rests on the statement of one sister. If true, there shd: be plenty of corroborative evidence available.

It really seems that the French police were supine & hoped all traces of the remains wd disappear before Enquiries were made.

Orders are requested as to the reply to be sent to the French Govt of the Settlements.

JDB 25.9.25

If the story produced by our Police is false it is certainly a well concocted one. No attempt seems to have been made to ascertain whether the hats picked up could be identified by any of the Officers of the "Emmatchi" nor does any search appear to have been made by digging up the sand for the pieces of boat which the fisherman Nagen Singa chiefly says that he saw at the mouth of the river. It is worthy that the man describes the position of the bits of planks which he saw to have been what is known as "clinker built" which is that in which the planks of a steel boat are almost always placed.

Pillai - and four days afterwards to the French S.H.O. at Karampakam - and that it is to be regretted that they did not communicate this report to the British police. At least this is what Mr. Longden says - but I cannot find his previous report. This should be verified -

FOR ORDERS.

Mr. Pottinger

for Mr. Carthon says that the French Constables did report it to the British -

If they did, we cannot make anything of the French police alleged inefficiency - & must leave out this latter part.

I have no doubt in my own mind that the bones found are those of Mr. Pottinger.

P.S. the Governor

and that he met his death by drowning - & not by foul play.

W
29 Sep

[G 2]
600—23-7-95.

DEPARTMENT.

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

The Police could hardly have thought of this detail.

There has point appear to be the only one regarding which any further Enquiry might be made. It is shown that the hat found at the mouth of the river was Mr Pottingers and if the remains of an English boat are found there is the presumption that the story told which is told in the papers now sent up is true will be considerably strengthened. What makes one rather suspicious about it is the dismantling of the Statements but it must be remembered that they were taken down by ordinary Constables.

JR 26/9/25

Mr. P. Ranger

Mem 741

FOR ORDERS.

H.E. the Governor

A

No. 360 Marine dated 3 December 1895

Marine DEPARTMENT.

[G. 24.]
200—5-10-95.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 24th June 1895, No. 185

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Current No. 525 of 1895, dated 8/7, from the Private Secy. to H.E. the Govr.

" " 554 " 1895, " 28/6, " " Rt. India office

" " 642 " 1895, " 12/8, " " P. P. C.

" " 741 " 1895, " 17/9, " " I. G. of Police

" " 824 " 1895, " 15/10, " " ——— do. ———

66 P.

ORDER.

A

W
16 Nov

? Solah

The papers will be forwarded to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India. The Governor of the French Settlements in India will also be addressed.

2. It is observed from the previous correspondence that the Solar hat which was picked up on the coast at the mouth of the Mallatar river was forwarded to the Head Office in Calcutta of the B.I.S.N. Co's. Agents in view to its possible identification. No communication has however been received as to whether it has been recognized by any of the officers of the S.S. Meenatchy or not. The Presidency Port Officer will be requested to report further on this point.

3. From the description given by the witness Nagalinga Chetty of the planks he saw it would seem that the boat said to have been washed ashore near the mouth of the Mallatar river

× Mr. Bartel's letter d/ 31-3-95 with G.O.No.122, Marine, d/ 29-4-95.

Mr. Carlyon's letters Nos. 18/142 and 18/143, d/ 16-3-95, with G.O.No. 162, Marine, d/ 7-6-95.

× printed above

was "clinker built" and therefore apparently a ship's boat, This is a point which appears to have been overlooked. Nor does any careful search seem to have been made by digging up the sand at the spot where the remains of this boat were alleged to have been seen. The Inspector General of Police will be requested to issue orders that the mouth of the river Mallatar be watched and examined when open, in case any of the planks of the boat may still have remained there.

(from orders)

13/11/95

67 P.

To
The I. G. of Police.

,, P. P. O.
" Political Dept. with draft letter to the Govr. of the French Settlements in India.

L E T T E R
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To

The Rt. Hon. the Secretary of State
for India.

My Lord,

In continuation of our letter No. 4 Marine, d/ 5-7-95 to your Lordship's predecessor and with reference to your letter No.R.&S. 1076, of the 28th June last, we have the honour to forward for your information copies of communications from the Presidency Port Officer, the Governor of the French Settlements in India and the Inspector General of Police.

W
16 Nov

† Letter from the P.P.O. No.1684/218 G, d/ 12-8-95, with 1 enclosure.
Letter from the Governor of the French Settlements in India, No.8,d/4-7-95.
Letter from the I.G. of Police,Madras No.4952,d/ 17-9-95, with 19 enclos.
Letter from the I.G.of Police,Madras, No.5248,d/ 15-10-95,with 1 enclosure

printed in G.O. No: d/ -95

68 P.

× vide para. 4 of letter from the I.G.of Police,No.3657,d/ 24-5-95 forwarded to the Under Secy. of State for India with letter No. 162 Marine, d/ 7-6-95 stating that an earlier informal search had proved unsuccessful.

2. A perusal of the evidence accompanying the Inspector General's letters leaves, we think, no doubt that the body discovered at the mouth of the Mallatar river was that of an European and shows that there is not the slightest reason to believe that there was any foul play, and that the statement of Mr. Pottinger Senior that the body was originally found without a head is incorrect.

3. In para. 2 of the Memorandum. Mr Fowler's despatch No. 2 Revenue, d/23rd May 1895, further information is awaited in regard to "the extraordinary negligence of the Police in having left a human body on the shore for nearly four months after they had learned that it had been cast ashore". In reference to this statement we would invite attention to the report of the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Negapatam,d/ 22nd April 1895 from which it appears that the × first formal intimation the Madras Police received of the matter was through a letter from Mr. Pottinger Senior, to the Inspector General of Police and that two constables were at once sent up the coast(on the 31st Jan. last) to make enquiries; that on the 10th of February they heard at the village of Ponnithittoo that the body of an European had been cast ashore near the mouth of the Mallatar river. They proceeded to the spot, found only the bones of a human being and at once buried such of them as could be found. The

people of the village stated that the fact of the body having been found was reported to a French constable but that no notice was taken of the matter. The two constables were subsequently instructed to convey the bones to Negapatam. They accordingly returned to the spot, and exhumed ~~the bones~~ and sent them in to Negapatam where they were interred.

4. The account of the finding and identification of the body which is given in the letter of the Governor of the French Settlements, dated 4th July last, appears to us to be open to very considerable doubt. In fact we venture to think that the statement that the bones were those of an Indian, whose corpse was abandoned on the shore was a pure fabrication on the part of the French Police in view to explaining their neglect to take steps on the report made to them that the body of an European was lying on the beach. We have thought it desirable however to confine the reply to H.E. the Governor of the French Settlements to a mere acknowledgement of his letter with thanks for the information afforded by him.

5. Considering the peculiar circumstances of the case and the time that has elapsed since the disappearance of Mr. Pottinger, we are of opinion that further enquiry would be of no avail. The hat has already been forwarded to the Agents of the S.S. Meenatchy in view to possible identification; and orders have issued that the mouth of the Mallatar ~~when open, as it shortly will be,~~ [redacted]

~~Note. The spelling in the Boath Arcot Manual.~~

should be watched and examined in case ~~that~~ any of the planks of the boat, the remains of which were alleged to have been seen there, become uncovered by the wash ing away of the sand. Beyond this it does not seem possible that anything can be done.

6. Any further particulars received by us will be duly communicated to your Lordship.

We have &c.

L E T T E R

To
H. E. the Governor of the French Settlements in India, Pondicherry

Your Excellency,

In acknowledging your Excellency's letter No. 8, dated 4th July 1895, I beg to offer your Excellency the thanks of my Govt. for the information you have so kindly afforded.

Be pleased &c.

No 6 / Mr Pottinger

Govt. of 1895 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Marine

Dated

Read

Govt. 3/12/ 1895 No. 360

Mr. L. Pottinger, 3d Officer of the S.S. "Meenatchy."

Orders directing that the papers regarding the disappearance of — in the Negapatam Roads be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

—

Forwarding certain documents and papers regarding the disappearance of Mr. L. Pottinger 3d Officer of the S.S. "Meenatchy" in the Negapatam Roads.

—

Asking for the Report of the Inquiry held by the Court of Inquiry appointed for the purpose.

1/12/95

No 360 a/3 Dec 9.