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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cen. 20.2.1860

G.O. No.	371	Press Mis.
Dated	20.2.	1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
for the month of February 1860.*

No. 83. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 10th February 1860.

Read the following letter from Colonel F. A. REID, Quarter Master General of the Army; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated 4th February 1860, No. 44.

1. I am directed by the Commander-in-Chief to request, you will be so good as to submit the annexed two copies of letters from the Officer Commanding and Superintending Surgeon of the Ceded Districts, on the subject of the contonment of Cuddapah, with following remarks of His Excellency.

2. If a Regiment of the line can be dispensed with at Cuddapah it will, doubtless, be very desirable that it should be withdrawn from so very unhealth a locality. Sir P. Grant has, however, been informed that the population of the district never has been well affected, and that, therefore, it is necessary to maintain troops at this station, of this, His Excellency observes, the Civil Government are no doubt, better informed than he can be.

3. The state of the roads in the Cuddapah district was brought prominently to notice in Colonel A. Cotton's memorandum, appended to the Commander-in-Chief's Minute of 11th March 1858.

From Major General I. C. COFFIN, Commanding Ceded Districts; to Colonel F. A. REID, Quarter Master General of the Army, Fort Saint George, dated 31st January 1860, No. 13.

I have the honor to forward, for submission to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, a report* from the Superintending Surgeon, Ceded Districts, on the sanitary condition of Cuddapah, and his recommendation that it should be abandoned as a military station.

Previous to transmitting this letter, I wished to visit the station, which I have now done, and as regards the unhealthy state of the 3rd Extra Regiment, quite concur with Dr. Eyre.

On the morning I visited the hospital, out of 132 patients, there were 112 fever cases, besides 40 others under observation, one of whom, was dead at 4 o'clock that afternoon—although there was nothing in the man's appearance in the morning indicating serious disease.

In a military point of view, there appears no object in keeping a Regiment at Cuddapah. If required to act upon our frontier, on the line of the Krishna for instance, the want of roads and the nature of the soil must, for many months of each year, render the passage of troops very difficult, if not, impossible. His Excellency will form some idea of the state of the roads, when I mention that on the road from Kurnool to this, the other morning, between Doo-oor and Chintagunta, both places of some importance, the road was so undefined and intersected by water courses or irrigation channels, that though I had two táluq peons with me and a villager professing to be a guide, I and my party were lodged in some pádí fields and had to await daylight, and a guide from Chintagunta to extricate us.

Again even close to this cantonment so little attention has been paid to the lines of communication, that from a point where a small piece of made road coming in from Kurnool joins the Gutti road, there is a space of about 1,200 yards of unmade road, which must be impassable in rainy weather, and is not very creditable to any of the parties concerned.

I have yet to travel from this to Gutti and Bellary, but I am given to understand that it is worse than any thing I have yet travelled over, and from the number of rivers and large streams that intersect it, it would cost a vast sum to make it a passable road for military purposes at all seasons.

So bad is the road between Bellary and Gutti, that when I was encamped at Asperie, en route to Kurnool, I observed some bandies laden with cotton, and on asking where they were going, was informed they were from Bellary going to Gutti en route to Madras, and preferred coming round that way, the direct road from Bellary to Gutti being so bad.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
for the month of February 1860.

The only road open for the movement of a Regiment from this at all seasons of the year, is the one to Vellore via Rachoty and Chittoor.

From E. W. EYRE, Esq., Superintending Surgeon, Ceded Districts; to Major General I. C. COFFIN, Commanding the Division, dated Bellary, 9th January 1860, No. 2.

1. I have the honor to state that, in letter of 11th January 1858, No. 5, (copy of which was furnished to the Officer Commanding the Division), I made a special report to the Director, General, Medical Department, of the health state of the 30th Regiment N. I. at Cuddapah. I therein brought to notice the extent of fever in the corps, such as to render it unfit for field service. I remarked, that fever prevailed not only in the town but over the districts, so that no benefit might be expected to result from moving the Regiment out of cantonments. I also observed that every endeavour of an intelligent medical officer to discover the cause had failed. The 30th shortly after left Cuddapah for Bellary, where, for some time, the effects of the climate they had quitted were shown in the many relapses admitted to hospital. The 3rd Extra Regiment relieved the 30th and has equally suffered from fever. I found on my late inspection upwards of 100 cases in hospital. From 1856 to 1859, the two corps had a percentage of fever to strength of 61.82. The disease, thought it unfit for duty and must impair the general health, happily is not destructive of life, the small proportion of 0.25 died from it. In the corresponding years, the native corps at Bellary had but 16.30 of fever to strength. Referring to past years, I find that from 1829 to 1841, the proportion of fever in the Regiments at Cuddapah was as high as 31.75, twice as great as at Bellary, yet little more than half what it has been during the last four years. But, (as one of the difficulties that beset the causes of fever), the 37th Granadiers in 1854 and 1855 had only 15 per cent., about the same as Bellary.

2. Cuddapah has long been noted for its unhealthiness; its jail is one of the most sickly in the Presidency. Causes have been assigned, such as decaying vegetation exposed to a fervid sun, the proximity of the hills, &c., I have so often failed to discover any direct relation between fever and its supposed causes, that I had rather confess my inability to trace them in the present instance, than speculate on mere conjectures. The predisposing causes may, and have been removed, but the existing cause of fever is too often beyond our reach. There is the greater difficulty here, that the disease is not located, but is epidemic and endemic over all the Cuddapah district.

3. The deduction I desire in this communication to make is, that Cuddapah is very detrimental to the health of a corps; and the recommendation founded on it, that if military arrangements and civil requirements permitted, it should be abandoned as a station.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) E. J. LAWDER, Major,
Asst. Qr. Master Genl. of the Army.

Referred for consideration in the Revenue Department regarding the withdrawal of the troops; and to the Department of Public Works with the reference to the state of the roads.

(Signed) R. HAMILTON, Lieut.-Colonel,
Actg. Dy. Secretary to Government.

No. 81.

ORDER THEREON, 29th February 1860, No. 371.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer for early report on the bad state of the roads in Cuddapah.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Dy. Secretary to Government.

Military Department
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following letter
Quarter Master Genl. Office

No. 44

From The Quarter Master General
of the Army.
To The Secretary to Government
Military Department.

Sir

1. I am directed by the Commander-in-Chief to request, you will be so good as to submit, the annexed two copies of letters from the Officer Commanding and Superintending Surgeon of the Ceded Districts on the subject of the Cantonment of Cuddapah with following remarks of His Excellency.

2. If a Regiment of the line can be dispensed with at Cuddapah it will, doubtless, be very desirable that it should be withdrawn from so very unhealthy a locality. Sir P. Grant has, however, been informed that the population of the District never has been well affected, and that therefore it

it is necessary to maintain Troops at this Sta-
-tion, of this, His Excellency observes, the Civil
Government are no doubt, better informed
than he can be.

3. The state of the Roads in the Cud-
-dalah District was brought prominently to
notice in Col. A. Cotton's Memorandum ap-
-pended to the Commander-in-Chief's Minute
of 11th March 1858.

Fort St. George } I have &c
4th February 1860 } (Signed) F. A. Reid.
L. M. G.
No. 13.

To The Quarter Master General
of the Army.
Fort St. George
Sir

I have the honor to forward for sub-
-mission to His Excellency the Commander
-in-Chief a report from the Superintending
Surgeon Ceded District on the sanitary con-
-dition of Cuddalah and his recommenda-
-tion that it should be abandoned as a Military
Station.

Prison to transmitting this letter
I

Approved
Lt. Surgeon
Office Bellary
9th January 1860.

5²
I wished to visit the station, which I have now
done, and as regards the unhealthy state of the
3rd Extra Regiment, quite concur with Dr. Byre.

On the morning I visited the Hospital
out of 132 Patients, there were 112 Fever cases
besides 40 others under observation, one of
whom, was dead at 4 o'clock that afternoon
although there was nothing in the man's
appearance ^{in the morning} indicating serious disease.

On a military point of view there
appears no object in keeping a Regiment
at Cuddalah; If required to act upon our
Frontier, on the line of the Krishna for in-
-stance, the want of roads and the nature
of the soil must for many months of each
year render the passage of Troops very dif-
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from Hennool to this, the other morning be-
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Wisham

Chintagunta

two talook-pans with me and a villager pro-
-fessing to be a guide. I and my party were lodged
in some Paddy Fields and had to await day-
light, and a guide from Ghintagorritah, to ex-
-tricate us.

Again even close to this Cantonment
so little attention has been paid to the lines of
communication - that from a point where a
small piece of made road coming in from
Hennool joins the Gorty road - there is a space
of about 1200 yards of unmade road which
must be impassable in rainy weather and
is not very creditable to any of the parties
concerned.

I have yet to travel from this to Ghorty
and Bellary, but I am given to understand
that it is worse than anything I have yet
travelled over, and from the number of rivers
and large streams that intersect it it would
cost a vast sum to make it a passable
road for military purposes at all seasons.

So bad is the road between Bellary
and Ghorty, that when I was encamped
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from Bellary going to Ghorty enroute to Madras,
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-rect road from Bellary to Ghorty being so bad.

The only road open for the movement
of a Regiment from this at all seasons of
the year, is the one to Koller via Pachoty and
Chittoor.

I have &c.
Head Quarters
Ceded Districts
Camp Cuddapah
31st January 1858
Signed J. C. (Officer
Major General
Commanding Ceded Districts

No. 2
Superintending Surgeon Office.
Bellary 9th January 1858.

From
The Superintending Surgeon
Ceded Districts.

To
The Major General
Commanding the Division

Sir

I have the honor to state that
in letter of 14th January 1858 No. 5 (copy of
which was furnished to the Officer Command-
-ing the Division) I made a special report
to

to the Director General Medical Department
of the health state of the 30th Regiment N.I. at
Cuddapah. I therein brought to notice the ex-
tent of Fever in the Corps, such as to render it
unfit for field service. I remarked, that Fever
prevailed not only in the town but over the
District, so that no benefit might be expected
to result from moving the Regiment out of
Cantonments. I also observed that every en-
deavour of an intelligent Medical Officer
to discover the cause had failed. This¹ shortly
after left Cuddapah for Bellary, where, for
some time, the effects of the climate they had
quitted were shown in the many relapses ad-
mitted to Hospital. The 3rd Extra Regiment
relieved the 30th and has equally suffered from
fever. I found on my late inspection upwards
of 100 cases in hospital. From 1856 to 1859 the
two corps had a per centage of fever to strength
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is not destructive of life, the small propor-
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I find that from 1829 to 1841 the proportion of fever in
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half what it has been during the last 4 years. But,
(as one of the difficulties that beset the causes of
fever) the 37th Grenadiers in 1854 and 1858 had
only 15 per cent, about the same as Bellary.
2. Cuddapah has long been noted for
its unhealthiness; its soil is one of the most
sickly in the Presidency. Causes have been
assigned, such as decaying vegetation ex-
posed to a fervid sun, the proximity of the
hills &c. I have so often failed to discover any
any direct relation between fever and its
supposed causes, that I had rather confess
my inability to trace them in the present
instance, than speculate on mere conjectures.
The predisposing causes may, and have been
removed, but the exciting cause of fever is
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greater difficulty here, that the disease is
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The

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I have &c.
(Signed) E. W. Eyre.

Surf. Surgeon (Dist^{to})
(True copies)

(Signed) E. J. Lawder. Major.
Asst. Dir. Genl. of the Army.

Order thereon 10th February 1860.

Referred for consideration in the Revenue Department regarding the withdrawal of the Troops; and to the Department of Public Works with reference to the state of the roads.

(Signed) R. Hamilton Esq.
Asst. Dir. Genl. to Govt.

To
The Public Works Department.

N. P. Brown

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8. of Good 20. February.
72. 1406.

Proceedings of the
Board of Directors in the
Mutual Defense of

Printed 104 }
Revised 114 } July 1860



Deferring for con-
sideration the com-
pounds regarding
the state of the
roads in Macapa.

Miss Do. 21st Dec 1881

From the Chief Clerk.

30 found / No. 24. 16 4 1/2 in
No. 11. July 1. 1508.
No. 371. 20. 1567.

With enclosures

37 P⁴ 371.
continued to the same

unconnected to the best
Engineers for early reputation
who have staked up the road
in Pennsylvania.

Hearts

Charles W. Smith
 204. Grady St.

10 Copies. Chief Engineer Carl No. 2000

1083 1/2.