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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Public works* DEPARTMENT.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
20th March 1866.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 407. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department.

Approving of the selection of Woodasaul instead of Puttasinghi as the site for the Police Station, and intimating that orders will be issued in the Public Works Department relative to the provision of funds for jungle clearing in the Saura highlands of the Vizagapatam District. (Here enter 13th February 1866, No. 220.)

No. 408. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department.

Authorizing the Government Agent in Vizagapatam to advance such sums, not exceeding Rupees 5,000, as can be profitably expended on clearing jungle on the Saura hill tracts; observing that these advances will be adjusted hereafter in the Public Works Department, and sanctioning the transfer of Rupees 500 from the grant for Police Buildings in the Kurnool District for the above purpose. (Here enter 13th March 1866, No. 373.)

No. 409. ORDER THEREON, 20th March 1866, No. 894.

ACCOUNT, No. 48.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineers of the 1st and 3rd Divisions, and the Controller of Public

Works Accounts for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,  
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineers, 1st and 3rd Divisions.  
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.  
" Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

*Exd. 21 March*

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,*

*13th February 1866.*

No. 135. Read the following letter from D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Gunapur, 23rd January 1866.

My letter of the 26th December ultimo informed you of the repulse of the Police guard sent to take up the station at Puttasinghi in the Saura Highlands of this District, and I have now the honor to submit a Report of our proceedings subsequently.

2. A rough sketch of the country is enclosed. The space occupied by the Saura Hills is very imperfectly given in the Maps of the Surveyor General of India, [Nos. 107 and 108] the Officers of the Department never having been able to penetrate into these mountains, owing to the lawless character of the people and the impossibility of quieting their suspicions as to the objects of the Survey. Nor was this Agency in a position to assist them, owing to the long enforced policy of non-interference in the affairs of the Jeypore Zemindary—a policy which for all practical purposes was relaxed three years ago only.

3. The country is about 130 square miles in extent. It is divided into two plateaus; the lower plateau containing the Tolana and Wodasaul valleys, and the upper the Puttasinghi valley. Puttasinghi is about six miles north of Callicote and the same distance west of Noagadda, both of the Ganjam District. Tolana is nine miles from Gunapur, and Wodasaul is two miles from Tolana. The lower plateau is reached through a long but inconsiderable Ghaut from the village of Jalteru, and by another from Toramaul; to ascend still further to the upper plateau, you have also a choice of Ghauts, the *Regintollah*, opposite Tolana, and the *Kittingi*, near Wodasaul, both are long and steep, but the latter is the least formidable of the two.

4. On the north the country is bounded partly by the Khond tract of Sirdarpore of Jeypore, and partly by Pedda Kemedi of Ganjam, on the east entirely by Pedda Kemedi, on the south partly by Purla Kemedi, partly by Jeypore, and on the west by Jeypore. Some of the Saura Villages at the head of the Passes leading up from the Ganjam District acknowledge the 'Bissoyes' of Pedda Kemedi and Purla Kemedi, all the rest of the tract, including Puttasinghi, is subordinate to Jeypore; but successive Rajahs of Jeypore have done little else beyond repressing the raids of these Hillmen into the low country.

5. I stated in my first letter that the combination amongst the Sauras appeared a very general one, and that it would be necessary to move up with a very strong force. There are from 70 to 80 villages in the Hills; the population is an armed one (though fortunately they have very few matchlocks), and the climate and country are both greatly against us. It was suggested to me that the two small mountain Howitzers which were sent up to the Vizagapatam Arsenal as far back as 1834-35 at the Honorable Mr. Russell's suggestion [*Vide* his Report] on purpose for Hill work would be found useful, the European Officers with the Police and Inspector Goodeson (late Serjeant Major of Artillery) undertaking to work them. I accordingly asked the General for them, but he declined sending them without at least two Companies of Sepoys as an escort. We did not want the Sepoys, and resolved to push on with Police and country Peons as soon as a sufficient number was collected.

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6. Two parties were formed; one to move up from this side, the other from

VIZAGAPATAM.  
Governor's Agent.  
Senior Assistant, (Captain H. L. Grove.)  
Superintendent of Police, (Captain Gailraith.)  
Assistant Superintendent (Lieutenant C. S. Gordon.)  
240 Constables and 150 Paiks.  
GANJAM.  
Principal Assistant (Mr. Leman.)  
Deputy Inspector General of Police (Captain Bowen.)  
Assistant Superintendent (Lieutenant Wilton.)  
Assistant Superintendent (Lieutenant Heming.)  
155 Constables and 60 Paiks.

the Ganjam side; Officers and Force as per margin. We arranged to enter the two plateaus on the same day, the Vizagapatam party the lower plateau by Jalteru, the Ganjam party the upper plateau by Callicote. This was effected on the 13th instant, and would have taken place earlier but that the Inspector General of Police at one time ap-

peared to think that the expedition should be postponed "till next year," the Khond insurrection in Ganjam being likely to employ the whole strength of the Police for some months to come; but this suggestion was ultimately removed by the improved aspect of events in that quarter.

7. In marching up the Ghaut, between Jalteru and Tolana, we found that the Sauras had done a good deal in obstructing the Pass by felling trees right and left; and about the middle of the Ghaut we came upon a formidable stone breast-work, behind which, had they chosen to stand, they might have inflicted considerable loss upon us with very little disadvantage to themselves. They, however, fled at our approach, and after an hour's delay in clearing away these obstructions, we resumed the march to Wodasaul which we found totally deserted: here we encamped.

8. The next day (14th) some low country Sauras belonging to our camp were sent round to the least compromised villages in the neighbourhood to bring in the Gomangos or Headmen. Very little was effected by this intervention, and an indication of the general hostility was afforded to us by an attack which was made that afternoon on a party of our people who had gone to draw water at a stream by the village of Kittingi. A portion of the Force was sent out, who chased the Sauras over the Hill, and as the village gave shelter to the evening's skirmishers, I ordered it to be burnt.

9. The 15th and 16th were occupied in attacking the village of Bodamasinghi, (with its numerous *Pootoos*, or Hill retreats), a place of very great extent where the people are deeply implicated not only in the attack on Captain Galbraith's party, but in all the robberies, arsons and thefts that are committed in the adjacent plains. The entrance to the village is through a narrow jungly defile, and here, for the only time during the expedition, a stand was made. It was, however, for a moment only, they discharged one flight of arrows and then scampered up the mountains; we destroyed the village and the *Pootoos* one after another.

10. On the 17th and 18th we operated in the Tolana valley, and on the 19th moved up through the Hegintollah Ghaut to join the Ganjam party (whose force we had already augmented by a transfer of 50 Vizagapatam Constables) at Puttasinghi, or rather the site of Puttasinghi; for the village has not been re-built since Captain Stuart burnt it in November 1864—the new houses being scattered in twos and threes on the side of the Hill. We did not find that there was any work calling for a junction of our Forces. Like us, the Ganjam party had chastised the

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boldest of their assailants, and was now at ease in quiet occupation of the entire plateau.

11. I was very much struck with the advantages of the site at Wodasaul over Puttasinghi. The former is a fine open valley; while the latter is almost everywhere commanded by the neighbouring Hills, where a few savages might take up their position and harass the encampment all night. Nor is this all, whether from the situation or the water the place has proved itself a very unhealthy one. In the Vizagapatam Force we had not a man ill; while at Puttasinghi we found 25 men in Hospital, all the Officers more or less indisposed, and Mr. Leman obliged to be sent down sick. When therefore we returned on the 20th to Wodasaul [whither we proceeded by the Kittingi Ghaut, in order to see as much of the country as possible], I begged the Deputy Inspector General to accompany me and give me his opinion as to the propriety of changing the site of the Police Barrack. He entirely agrees with me; and on our arrival here yesterday, I despatched a telegram through Chicacole to your address, soliciting the sanction of Government to the proposal. The Officers, on whose recommendation Mr. Robinson selected Puttasinghi, visited, it will be remembered, that place only. Had they seen Wodasaul, they would, I have no doubt, agree with us in preferring it.

12. Meanwhile, we have left Lieutenants Wilton and Heming with 140 men at Puttasinghi, and Lieutenant Gordon with 100 men at Wodasaul, 50 Paiks will be furnished to Lieutenant Gordon, and then the Puttasinghi party may be withdrawn, and when the Barrack is built, it is hoped a guard of 50 men will suffice. The Ganjam Force have strong posts at Noagadda and Callicote, and if more than one strong post in the Saura Highlands is desired, some suitable place might be found at the head of one or other of the Ganjam Passes; but I do not myself see the necessity of more than one post. The station at Jalteru will of course be maintained, and I propose to have one at Toramaul to keep the Bodamasinghi people in check.

13. Once established in a central point in the country, with posts at the bottom of all the Passes, our Police, I believe, will have very little trouble. The Gomangos will see that the game is up, coerced on all sides their influence will die out, they will plough and trade in peace, and the community will follow their example. I could wish the Government had been pleased to approve my suggestion that contemporaneously with the execution of the five Sauras last year at Jalteru, a proclamation should be issued declaring a general amnesty in regard to the late Inspector's murder; those executions, be it remembered, following the transportation for life of nine other ringleaders, and a very wide devastation of property by Captain Stuart's column in the direction of Puttasinghi, Borayi, and other villages implicated (to say nothing of the very rash and improper conduct of the Inspector in making the arrest which provoked the original outbreak). Zonti Gomango and other leaders in the attack on the Inspector's party would then, very probably, have kept quiet; whereas as it is they have felt it incumbent on them (as they valued their own safety) to resist the establishment of the Police by every means in their power. I could wish also that the Police under Captain Stuart and Lieutenant Porteous had not spoiled the Sauras of their cattle. Mr. Robinson informed the Government that it was "a few head only," he of course thought so, but he is wrong, it was several hundred head. An auction was held at Kimedy, and though the Police themselves were the chief purchasers, the price fetched came to Rupees 1400. This

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sum when divided between the Constables could not have given each man more than a few Rupees, but the effect of the transaction has been very disastrous. The Sauras are not like the Mulsars and Chenchos, wild men of the woods living on berries and fruit, and earning a precarious subsistence by bartering the produce of the jungle. Savages in many respects they certainly are, but they are at the same time most patient and laborious husbandmen. Their country is a perfect granary; when the Police drove off their cattle, they had no notion of letting their fields lie fallow, and by consequence retaliated by carrying off the cattle of their lowland neighbours.

14. Of the European Officers who were with the force, it were superfluous to write; but having witnessed the conduct of the Native Police during the present expedition, I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to their uniform alacrity and steadiness, and to the cheerfulness with which they have put up with exposure and privation. The Paiks also have showed themselves very useful on all occasions. I took 50 from Gunapur, and 50 each were supplied by the Zamindars of Kurupam and Merangi. The Bobbili Zamindar, the Salur Zamindar and others contributed the loan of their elephants. To all these Chiefs I beg to be allowed to render the acknowledgments of Government. There will be a charge for batta to Paiks for some time longer. I request the Accountant General may be instructed to pass such items under this head, as I may certify to be absolutely necessary.

15. In conclusion, if any money can be spared for jungle clearing, it can be most usefully employed. The annual allowance for Jeypore roads has been fixed at Rupees 10,000; but only half that sum has been received this year, and it is all expended.

No. 136. ORDER THEREON, 13th February 1866, No. 220.

The Governor in Council is glad to learn that the Agent has been able to vindicate the authority of Government in the Saura Hill Tracts, with the aid of the Police of his own and the neighbouring District, and without calling in a Military Force. The Government notice with satisfaction the good conduct of the Police on the occasion.

2. Under the circumstances stated by Mr. Carmichael, the Governor in Council approves of the selection of Wodasaul, instead of Puttasinghi, as the site for the Police Station which was to have been established at the latter place.

3. The Agent is authorized to convey the acknowledgments of Government to the Zamindars of Kurupam, Merangi, Bobbili, and Salur, for the aid rendered by them on the occasion of his expedition into the Saura Tracts, by lending Paiks and elephants. The Accountant General will pass such charges for batta to the Paiks in question as the Agent may certify to be necessary.

4. Orders will be issued in the Public Works Department on the suggestion made in the last paragraph of Mr. Carmichael's letter.

(True Extract).

*H. J. Carmichael*  
Chief Secretary.

To the Agent in Vizagapatam.

„ Accountant General.

„ Public Works Department.

„ Inspector General of Police.

Exd. R. H. Lee.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,  
13th March 1866.*

Read the following papers:—  
No. 96.

No. 47.  
MEMORANDUM.

With reference to paragraph 4 of the Proceedings of Government in the Judicial Department, No. 220, dated 13th February 1866, the undersigned has the honor to inform the Chief Secretary that there is no source from which funds can at present be diverted by this Department to meet the cost of clearing jungle on the Saura Hill Tracts; but should money be available later in the year, a grant for the purpose will be made.

(Signed) C. A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,  
Secretary to Government, P. W. D.  
FORT SAINT GEORGE,  
23th February 1866.  
To the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George.

Referred to the Inspector General of Police for report whether any money can be made available for the purposes in question from the Police Budget.  
(Signed) J. GROSE,  
Under Secretary.

No. 97. From the Inspector General of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 7th March 1866, No. 379.  
General Department.

With reference to endorsement on Colonel Orr's Memorandum No. 47, of the 23th February 1866, I have the honor to state that Rupees 500 may be transferred from the grant for Police buildings in the Kurnool District for clearing jungle in the Saura Hill Tracts.

No. 98. ORDER THEREON, 13th March 1866, No. 373.

The Governor in Council authorizes the Agent to advance from his Treasury such sums not exceeding Rupees (5,000) five thousand as can be profitably expended on jungle clearings in Jeypore during the remainder of the current official year. The advance will be adjusted hereafter in the Department of Public Works—the sum of Rupees 500, referred to in Mr. Robinson's letter of the 7th instant, being transferred from the grant for Police buildings in the Kurnool District.

(True Extract).

To the Agent in Vizagapatam.  
" Department of Public Works.  
" Inspector General of Police.  
" Accountant General.

Exd. R. H. Lee.

*Chief Secretary.*

*7th March 1866 No. 760*

*P. W. Department  
Proc. of Govt. for March*

*Proc. of the Madras Govt.  
in the Judl. Dept.*

*Of 13th February 1866  
Recd 19th February 1866*

*No. 220*

*Approving of  
the selection of Wooda  
-hau instead of Putta  
-singhi as the site for the  
Police Station, intimating  
that order will be  
issued in the P. W. Dept.  
relative to the provision  
of funds for jungle  
clearing in the Saura  
Highlands of the  
Vizagapatam Dist.  
No. 894 - 20th March 1866*

*No. 407.*

*Recd 21 March*

*10/3/66*

P. 28/1866 Dept.  
Pro: of Govt. for March  
1866

Secy of the Madras Govt.  
in the Judicial Dept.

Of 13<sup>th</sup> } March 1866  
Dec 15<sup>th</sup> }

No 373

Authorizing the  
Agent in Vizagapa-  
tam to advance such  
sums, not exceeding Rs.  
500, as can be profit-  
ably expended in  
clearing jungle on the  
Saura Hill Tracts; desir-  
ing that the advances  
will be adjusted here-  
after in the P.N.D. and  
sanctioning the trans-  
fer of Rs. 500 from the  
grant for Police building  
in the Churnool Dist. for  
the above purpose -  
No. 891-20<sup>th</sup> March 1866.

No 408

Proceedings of the

Madras Government.  
Under date the 20<sup>th</sup> March 1866  
Read the following

Pro: Madras Govt. in the  
Judicial Dept.

N. D. 13 Feb 1866 No. 220

N. D. 13<sup>th</sup> March 1866 No. 373.

Communicated to the  
Superintending Engineer of the  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Divisions and  
the Controller of Public Works  
Accounts for information  
and guidance -

By the Secy. Engineer

- Controller of P. Accounts  
- Accountant General

W. B.

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> March

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R. W. 1888 Dept  
Pro. of Govt for March

No. 894  
Pro. of the Major Genl  
of 20 March 1888

Pro. Judd Dept, is-  
suing certain instructions  
for the provision of funds  
for jungle clearing in the  
Saura Niglaunt of the Pija-  
gapatam District, Com-  
municated to the Supg.  
Engineers of the 1st & 2d  
Divisions, and to the  
Controller of P. W. Works.

A 407 @ 409.