

(1) Number of pages_____

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(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	996	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	4-4-	1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government P. W. D.
4th April 1871

to to Read the following Endorsement of the Super-
intending Engineer 6th Division dated Camp at
Killoofoorhy 2nd March 1871 no 924:—
From the Executive Engineer in charge of No I
Range, Tanjore, to the Superintending Engineer
6th Division dated 21st February 1871 no 666.

I have the honor to forward for the
information of Government letter no 39
dated the 16th instant, from the Superintendent
of Police, Tanjore reporting the unsuccessful
endeavours of his department in finding any
clue to the robbery of Mr. Owen Doherty's
Cash chest at Tiruvaiyur Bangaloo.

2. With reference to the last paragraph of the
Superintendent's letter, I beg to bring to your
notice that Mr. Doherty had used every
precaution for the safety of the Chest;

the chest was laid at the head of his own bed
and his only two lascar were posted in the
verandah. The extra precaution of shutting
all doors and windows would have necessitated
the Officer leaving the cash entirely at the mercy
of the lascars.

3. The money had just been drawn for the
purpose of making payments which were
to have been made the next morning.

4. With regard to the chain order, I consider that
it refers principally to cheques, in which it
is necessary always to keep a considerable
amount of money, and would in such a
case as the one under consideration have
more likely attracted the attention of robbers.

I may here state, in conclusion, that
almost all payments in this range are made
by the Range officer by means of cheques on
the Government Treasury.

From the Superintendent of Police Tanjore
to the Executive Engineer in Charge of 18th Range
Tanjore dated Tanjore 16th February 1871 No 39

As requested in your communication
No 638 dated 10th instant I have the honor
to inform you that the endeavours made by
the Police to trace the perpetrators of the theft
of Mr. Officer Bohem's cash chest have
not as yet been attended with any
successful results.

2. The day after the occurrence, Mr. Butler,
the Range Inspector of Police, was on the
spot, and early on that morning (the 22nd
ultimo) almost as soon as Mr. Bohem
had discovered that he had been
robbed during the previous night, the
Police were to work following up the
suspicions entertained by Mr. Bohem's
servants against the sweeper
of the Public Bungalow.

This man who lives in a hut in the Bangalow Compound, was said to be absent on the morning of the 22nd and was seen by the Overseer's servant in conversation with several others the previous evening.

On enquiry from a little girl of 6 years of age, daughter of the sweeper, the Police ascertained that the sweeper left his hut at about 9 P. M. in company with one Chowry and one or two other men and did not return till midnight.

This information together with the fact of the bangalow sweeper being a suspected character on the Police register, afforded sufficient grounds to search his and his companions' houses. This was accordingly done, but without any results. At the same time instructions were sent to Tanjore to search the houses of two of the sweeper's relations. This was done but nothing found.

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On the 23rd Idem, I put a Head Constable, who has frequently followed up cases very successfully, specially on this case, with instructions to turn his attention particularly towards Maistry Cooloo who cashed the Cheques ^{for} Mr. Doheiny on the 21st the date on which the theft was committed. This Head Constable returned on the first instant, and reported that he had made every enquiry in the

surrounding villages, to try and get some clue, and especially with reference to Cooloo, but without success.

3. The movements of the bangalow sweeper are still closely watched and also those of his relations, as suspicion rests strongly against them.

4. Another piece of information was received from an old offender who was arrested at Trivaniar three days after Mr. Doheiny's theft was committed.

On a charge of house breaking and theft, ~~namely~~
namely, that, on the night of the 21st, he met
some six or seven men at a toddy shop
who were speaking of a "Successful" loot
they had made in Trinidad. He said
that he would give names and recover
the property if he was let off for his
present offence. I saw this man
in the jail, but he denied all know-
ledge of the matter. I don't think
any reliance can be placed on whatever
he may have communicated to the Police.
5. I would take this opportunity of drawing
attention to the fact that although Mr.
Doherty had a large sum of money
in his possession, part of which was
Government money, no precautionary
measures appear to have been taken
adopted for its safe custody. ^{are made available} ~~are made available~~
Outcheries and Police Stations for the
custody of Department Public Works Chests.

7.
by Police Orders of 1862, and by the rules
issued by the Chief Engineer, extracted into
Police orders, Department Public Works officers
are required to chain and padlock cash
Chests to their bed or Tent Pole. In the
instance in question Mr. Doherty's cash chest
was kept unchained in a room with all
the doors and windows open, nor do his
husbands appear to have been made res-
ponsible in any way, two of whom were sleeping
in the verandah when the box was carried out,
broken open and relieved of its contents,
nothing being known of the occurrence
till next morning.

Forwarded to Government with reference
to their order No 311 dated 18th February 1871

(Signed) R. F. Baker, Captain
R.E.
Superintending Engineer
6th Division

Order thereon 4th April 1871 No 996.

Account, No 9

As it appears from these papers that the investigation of the Police in the matter of the robbery of Mr. Oversee Doheneij's cash chest on the night of the 21st January 1871, has not been successful, the Government authorize the sum of Rs. 274. 5-0, reported to have been stolen, to be written off to Profit and Loss.

2. There are good grounds for supposing that the precautions which the members of the Department are expected to take for the custody of public money are frequently neglected and His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves therefore to intimate that, in all future cases of the robbery of Government money, the officers or subordinates concerned will be held

personally responsible if it be found that they have not taken the advantage of the neighbourhood of a Daluk Lutcherry or Police Station for its custody, or, when this is not practicable, have neglected to secure their Cash Chests by means of a chain attached to their Cots or tent pole or to some not easily moveable object.

(True Extract)

(Signed) Charles A. Orr. Colonel &c.

Secretary to Government.

To The Superintending Engineer

6th Division

Alloth — or — Engineers.

The Controller of Public Works accounts.

Major R.B. Kennedy.

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