

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political **DEPARTMENT.**

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Fort Saint George, Political Consultation 22nd September 1857.

No. 49. From A. PURVIS, Esq., Collector and Magistrate of Rajahmundry ; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 7th September 1857, No. 13.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the purpose of being laid before the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, an Address from a number of the Native Public Servants and other inhabitants of Cocanada, and the adjoining town of Juggernaikpoorum, expressive of their loyalty, their warm attachment to the British Government, and of the horror with which they look upon the proceedings of the Mutineers of the Bengal Army.

(Signed) A. PURVIS,
Collector and Magistrate.

To the Collector and Magistrate of Rajahmundry.

MOST HONORED SIR,

We, the undersigned Hindoo and Mahomedan Inhabitants of Cocanada and Juggernaikpoorum, Towns belonging to the said District, beg respectfully to present this our humble Address to your honor, with a request that it may be submitted to His Lordship the Governor in Council of Fort Saint George.

At an eventful period like the present, when, with deep regret and no little consternation, we happen so frequently to peruse the various accounts of the rebellious and treacherous behaviour of the Sepoys of the Bengal Army, and of their inhuman, wanton and indiscriminate massacre of a great number of their Officers and of many innocent and helpless European women and children, (acts which are deserving of punishment in both worlds,) we deem it our bounden duty to give to the British Government, the assurance of our unfeigned, cordial, and loyal feelings towards it. In order to effect this object, though a single sentence that "we wholly concur in the views already expressed by the memorialists of Madras" might have been thought sufficient, still, impelled by our sense of loyalty and gratitude, we take the liberty of entering here into some details expressive of the sentiments entertained by us respecting the present crisis, and we therefore beg to be excused for a slight digression.

Prior to the establishment of the British power in India; the rulers of this country, (from all the accounts transmitted to us by our ancestors, who had been witnesses of the events they related,) had shewn themselves incapable of exercising the responsible duties of Government, by neglecting to discover with prudence, judgment, and perseverance, all the important and latent causes that tend to promote the welfare of their subjects; to mete out justice with a mind free from prejudice and partiality;—to extend protection to the innocent and needy; to bring to punishment the wicked and evil doers in conformity with the mandates of God; to respect the religious scruples and peculiarities of the different classes; to enact wise ordinances for the suppression of vice and crime;—to secure peace to the land;—and to encourage the cultivation of the Arts and Sciences;—a state of things; which contributed in a considerable degree to the suffering of our countrymen at the time. When we contemplate then the lamentable condition of our ancestors; and compare the past with our own times, what a pleasing task we find falling to our lot, to record and testify with the highest commendation and admiration, the unparalleled and resplendent judgment with which the British Government is executing its high and sacred functions; all its efforts being ever directed, with the most merciful intentions, to the amelioration of the condition of its subjects. We do, therefore, invariably feel grateful for the manifold blessings; which, in perfect security, we are enjoying under the rule of the British in India.

We are firmly of opinion, that if the exposition of our above views be regarded by Government, as an earnest of our loyal feelings, it can at once infer the force of our remark, when we declare that the overthrow of the British power in India will be the greatest calamity that could befall the natives of this vast empire. With this conviction in our minds, it shall be our duty to

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endeavour, to the best of our abilities, to repress any groundless or mischievous rumours that may gain currency regarding the present rebellious movement, and to allay all unnecessary alarm from the minds of the populace.

In conclusion, our unanimous and fervent supplication to the Almighty, always is and shall be, that the abovementioned miscreants and assassins be brought to speedy destruction and well merited punishment; and that tranquillity and confidence be restored throughout the vast territories of India; and that the British Power may be preserved from such rebellious visitations for the future; such is the earnest and united prayers of its native Subjects.

COCANADA,
30th August 1857.

No. 50. ORDER THEREON, No. 803; dated 21st September 1857.

The Government direct the publication of this Address in the Fort Saint George Gazette. They are much gratified at the appreciation of the British Rule in India evinced by the Memorialists and with the loyalty of their expressions generally.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

No. 803.

Mr Fort St George,
21st September, 1857. }
J. A. Wilson

To the Col^l & Mag of Rajahmundry, Dist^{ct} 21st.
To the English Gazette Press - with an Encl^d (Prof^l 22nd).
J. A. Wilson