M.L.O. 1—80,000—18-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 88 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 27-1-1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Political Department

No 58

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation dated 27th January 1857 -

Read the following letter

No 18

From

Cecil Beadon Esquire

Secretary to the Government of Bombay

To

J. Pycroft Esquire

Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George

Dated the 7th January 1857

Home Department &c.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 169 dated the 9th June 1856 relative to the state of affairs in the Zemindary of Jeypore and recommending what the Government should undertake in order to terminate the existing state of anarchy and crime in that Zemindary

2 In reply I am desired to forward the accompanying Extract of Paras 9 to 14 of Home Despatch in the Revenue Department No 12 of 1856, dated the 17th September from the Honble the Court of Directors received subsequent to your letter

under

under acknowledgment, and to remark that although it will probably be necessary at no distant period to interfere in the affairs of that Zemindary, and to suppress the crimes and abuses which the Rajah professes himself to be unable to cope with, the Governor General in Council considers it inexpedient to engage in an undertaking which might require the support of a Military force at a time when troops cannot be spared for that purpose.

Fort William
the 7th January
1857

I have &c
Signed / Cecil Beadon
Secy to the Govt of India

Extract from a Despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors to the Government of India in the Revenue Department dated the 17th September 1856 No 12.

9 The Zemindary of Jeypoor appears to be in a thoroughly disorganized condition and the Zemindar nearly imbecile - In the 43d Para of his Report Captain McVicar observes "In the low country of Jeypoor I regret most unfeignedly to relate that human sacrifices prevail in almost

almost every District, Here as in Buster, we have to deal with exclusively civilized and educated men and not with semi-barbarous tribes as in the Hill Tracts of Orissa - The former are not in my opinion deserving of the same consideration as the latter and some sharper and severer measures should be adopted than we have ever yet employed amongst the wild tribes of the mountains -

10 Captain Owen was deputed by Mr Smollett, the Agent in Vizagapatam, to enquire into the condition of the Country. The evidence collected by Captain Owen tended to disprove the present existence of human sacrifices in Jeypoor, although there seems to be little doubt that the practice prevailed extensively a few years since - Nevertheless with the view of putting an end to the anarchy in which this Hill Zemindary was plunged, Mr Smollett following the line of Policy already advocated by Captain McVicar recommended that Government should assume the direct management of the Estate - The consent of the Rajah had been previously solicited to the measure but it was declined, the Zemindar promising

to

to conduct the affairs of his territory, and family according to the views of the Agent. The Government of Madras, however, concurred in the propriety of assuming the Management of the Country and measures were accordingly taken with the view of carrying into effect the suggestion of Mr Smollett.

11 In your letter to the Government of Madras of the 18th July 1855, you express the opinion that the evidence was all against the supposition that the practice of human sacrifice by Kindoos existed in Jeypoor, that the practice of Suttee had not until recently been prohibited and that the result of that prohibition should be awaited before adopting any further measures.

12 While admitting that the state of anarchy which prevailed in Jeypoor was a good reason for assuming the management of the Country, you are of opinion that the step is serious, being likely to involve Government in a protracted jungle war and being one which could not be retraced.

13 You therefore directed that no steps for assuming the management of the Country should be taken for the present acting on these instructions the Madras Government recalled their orders.

14 We trust however that no unnecessary delay will be allowed to take place in adopting such measures as may be necessary to suppress human sacrifice and infanticide and to restore order in the District.

(True Extract)

Signed) Cecil Beadon
Secy to the Government of India

Order Ordered that copy of the foregoing letter and its enclosure and of the letter to which it is a reply be furnished to the Agent in Vizagapatam for his information.

(True extract and Copies)

Signed) T. Pycroft
Chief Secretary

To
The Agent to the Governor of
Fort St George in Vizagapatam

(True Copies)

Chilwell Beadle
Agent to the Govt

To The Chief Secretary to Govt
Fort St George
with reference to the Dy Secy's
Memo of the 20th Sept 1858.

26-27

1857
Political Department
From Pc 27th January
The Agent to
the Govr
To the Chief Secy to
Govt
Fort St George

Copy of the
letter from the
Govt of Indian
dated 7th & the
order of Govt thereon
dated 27th January
called for by
the Dy Secy. to Govt
in his memo of
the 25th Septr 1858

No 18

From
Cecil Beadon Esqr
Secy to the Govt of India

To
T. Pycroft Esqr
Chief Secretary to the Govt of
Fort St George
Dated the 7th January 1857

Home Deptt

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 169 dated the 9th June 1856 relative to the state of affairs in the Zemindarry of Jeypore and recommending that the Government should interfere in order to terminate the existing state of anarchy and crime in that Zemindarry.

2 In reply I am desired to forward the accompanying Extract (Paras: 9 to 14) from a Dispatch, in the Revenue Department, No 12 of 1856, dated the 17th September from the Hon'ble the Court of Directors received subsequent to your letter under acknowledgment, and to remark that although it will probably be necessary at no distant period to interfere in the affairs of that Zemindarry, and to suppress the crimes and abuses which the Rajah professes himself to be unable to cope with, the Governor General in Council considers it

there seems to be little doubt that the practice prevailed extensively a few years since. Nevertheless with the view of putting an end to the anarchy in which this Hill Zemindary was plunged, Mr Smollett following the line of policy already advocated by Captain McVicar recommended that Government should assume the direct management of the Estate. The consent of the Rajah had been previously solicited to the measure, but it was declined, the Zemindar promising to conduct the affairs of his territory, and family according to the views of the Agent. The Government of Madras, however concurred in the propriety of assuming the management of the country, and measures were accordingly taken with the view of carrying into effect the suggestion of Mr Smollett.

11. In your letter to the Government of Madras of the 18th July 1855, You express the opinion that the evidence was all against the supposition that the practice of human sacrifice by Hindoos existed in Jeypoor, that the practice of Suttee had not until recently been prohibited

and

and that the result of that prohibition should be awaited before adopting any further measures.

12. While admitting that the state of anarchy which prevailed in Jeypoor was a good reason for assuming the management of the Country, you are of opinion that the step is serious, being likely to involve Government in a protracted jungle war and being one which could not be retraced

13. You therefore directed that no steps for assuming the management of the Country should be taken for the present. Acting on these instructions the Madras Government recalled their orders.

14. We trust however that no unnecessary delay will be allowed to take place in adopting such measures as may be necessary to suppress human sacrifice and infanticide and to restore order in the district

(True Extract)

Cecil Beadon

Secy to the Govt of India

Ex. C.R.S.

Pl. C - 10th June/56 - No. 9 & 10

In to Engd - 7 April
No. 5 of 1857.

Paper 11 @ 15

In Com 27 - January
Political 1857 Departt

From the Secretary to the
Govt. of India No. 18.

Dated 7th
Recd 19th Jany 1857

1 Encl.

No. 64

Forwards, with reference to the representation of this Govt. of the state of anarchy and crime existing in the Jeypoor Zemindary, Extract from a Despatch from the Hon. Court and, for reasons stated considers it inexpedient at present to interfere in the matter.

With an Order

Gs 88

Ordered that copy of the foregoing letter and its enclosure, and of the letter to which it is a reply, be furnished to the Agent in Vizagapatam for his information.

For C. St. George,
27th January 1857

Copy to the Agent in Vizagapatam with copies of the letters referred to.

Despd. 27

19-10-09

26 - 27

c 20 Jany
p 22