M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 994 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 25. 11- 1885

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 1st December 1857.

No. 1. Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 10th November 1857, No. 3963.

Read the following letter from the Quarter Master General of the Army; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated 9th November 1857, No. 500.

SIR,

In forwarding, for the information of Government, copy of a letter from Captain Hodson, Commanding Detachments of 7th and 9th Regiments N. I. in the Masulipatam District, I am directed by the Commander-in-Chief to request you will be so good as to draw the attention of Government to the consequences of employing Sepoys in the jungles of the Northern Division during the unhealthy season, as fully shewn in this communication. His Excellency remarks that nothing short of the most urgent necessity should induce the Civil Officers of Districts, to send Sepoys on this description of duty except at a time when the jungles can be traversed with impunity.

(Signed) F. A. REID,

Quarter Master General.

From Captain B. HODSON, Commanding Detachments 7th and 9th Regiments N. I.; to the Quarter Mr. General of the Army, Fort Saint George, dated Ellore, 31st October 1857.

SIR,

I have the honor to report for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief that I arrived here yesterday with the Detachment under my Command in the most deplorable condition from jungle fever. I have not more than 12 men for duty, and they far from well. I regret to say a man of the 9th Regiment died yesterday from this malady, and there are many more in a very precarious state, under the abovenamed circumstances, I consider I should not be justified in proceeding to Masulipatam. I reported my views to the Officer Commanding Ellore and he has directed me to halt till further orders.

The Officer Commanding Ellore has rendered me every assistance in his power, has placed his spacious Hospital at my disposal, given every man of his Detachment off duty, as orderlies for the sick, who are as helpless as infants, and directed large quantities of Conjee water to be made for them, who would have died for want of nourishment.

The Subdivision detached to Bootiagooden under the Subadar of 9th Regiment N. I. has suffered most, it only joined me yesterday evening at this place, the men having been brought up

in Bandies and quite incapable of taking care of themselves, and this I attribute to the want of Medical Aid. I applied to the Collector for a Dresser the moment I received the order to send out the Detachment, and did not carry out the order for 5 d[illegible] in the hope he would be sent, and had I known the Collector was going to play me false, would not have sent it at all, the Dresser was not sent by Mr. Purvis, till I reported that my Dresser was quite incapable from a severe attack of Jungle fever of administering to the wants of his Patients.

In a former letter I omitted to mention that Mr. Morris, who accompanied the Sappers into the Hills, returned to his Station between the 14th and 20th Instant, as soon as I returned to Kurnapooram I applied to Mr. Purvis, that one of his Assistants might be sent to join my Camp, as I did not know the object of the expedition: he replied when active measures are taking place one would join me, he also informed me he had some picked Peons who he hoped would be able to catch the leader of the rebels, at the same time directing me not to take active measures myself, but to remain in the vicinity of the Hills.

(Signed) B. HODSON, Captain,

Comg. Dets. 7th & 9th Regts. N. I.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. T. MONEY,

Ag. D. A. Qr. Mr. General of the Army.

Communicated to the Political Department.

(Signed) C. A. BROWNE, Colonel,

Secretary to Government.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, No. 994; dated 25th November 1857.

Resolved that copy of the above letter and the accompanying correspondence be communicated to the Magistrate of Rajahmundry and that he be called on for explanation as to the failure to send out the Dresser to Captain Hodson's Detachment, as also why he permitted the Troops to be left in the Jungles at an unhealthy season without any Civil Officer to direct their movements.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

List

No. 994

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For 68th George, 25th November 1857.

Magistrate of Rajahmundry

Disptd. 25th Instr. Dept.

JP

Entered in Dist 1/12/57

Pol. Ltr. to Govt. 13th July
No. 13 of 1858 Para 6
Rplied to 27th October
No 1 of 158

In Dy to Govt. 1st Dec. 57
Political. 1857. 1 Sept. 3

Extract Minutes Consultation in the military department. — 3963.

2/10
R/16 Nov. 1857

No. 1102.

Communicating copy of a letter from the Dr Mr Genl. Enclosing one from Capt. Hodson Com. Detachments of 1st Regt N. I in the Masulipatam District representing the deplorable condition of the men under his charge from jungle fever, and drawing the attention of Govt to the consequences of employing Sepoys in the jungles of the Northern Division.

Wilkaagon

C. 19th N.
R 24.