

1. Number of pages.
2. Page of record.
3. Initials of the recorder.

M.R.O. 1-82,400-22-11-80.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	878	Press Mis.
Dated	20-7-	1867

Not to be folded or roughly handled

[Handwritten signature]

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
20th July 1867.*

7. And yet, I would not seek sanction for any special reward for man-eating leopards, for I should be unable to award it—unable to satisfy myself as to which was, and which was not, a man-eater. In most Districts, a man-eater is well known by wide repute; his beat is known, and the surrounding open plain of ploughed fields prevents his changing it. Here, the cover is thick—nearly every quarter of a mile contains a well wooded ravine—the cultivated valleys even are full of cocoanut, areca-nut, sugarcane, catechu, and shrubs on Kumaki lands, which afford such good shelter that any leopard can change his habitat without being noticed; and, in practice, they generally take up their quarters within a mile of a village till they have cleared it of dogs and such goats and cattle as are not safely housed, when they remove to another village, and follow the same course; and it is by no means in special localities that human beings are carried off, or killed in self-defence. I believe it to be here generally the accident of their finding no other food on the occasion, or being interfered with. For reasons that I could give, a mangy skin too is by no means the sure indication of a man-eater that it is supposed to be—man-eaters are sometimes particularly sleek.

8. My predecessor, Mr. Cadell, seems to have had in view this difficulty of recognition when he enhanced the reward on all leopards generally. His letter on the subject is enclosed.

To Board of Revenue, dated 16th February 1867, No. 23.

9. The accompanying return of leopards and tigers killed in this District will show that Mr. Cadell's enhanced rewards were not without good effects, though, possibly, the increased numbers killed may, in some degree, be owing to the increase in leopards, which I shall explain below.

10. I conceive the most practical way of inducing an increased destruction of these beasts of prey is to hold out the extra encouragement of higher rewards. The present rewards—a tiger, 10 Star pagodas (*i. e.*, Rupees 35); a Cheetah, five Star pagodas (*i. e.* Rupees 17-8-0)—were fixed in 1836, since when the price of the staple grain of this District has risen 228½ per cent., and Rupees 35 and Rupees 17-8-0 are not the liberal rewards they were. Their equivalents would now be Rupees 114-13-0 and Rupees 57-7-0. Moreover, the jungles then provided deer enough to obviate the leopards' present necessity for feeding on the cattle of the cultivator.

11. Considering the gravity of the evil to the cultivator, both in person and property, I venture to hope the Government may be induced to consider the present rewards inadequate, and accord me permission in this District to grant rewards of Rupees 60 and Rupees 40, respectively, for tigers and leopards, and especially for leopards. If other Collectors do not agree with me, I venture to think it is because they are not similarly circumstanced.

12. The successful sportsman feels it a great tax to leave his house and march 50 or more miles with a heavy skin to Head and Divisional Head Quarters for the sake of the reward—it is discouraging. I should, therefore, propose to let all Tahsildars pay it on the spot, and, to preclude a temptation to malpractices, I would

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
20th July 1867.*

leave them no discretion, but order one uniform sum to be paid in every case, leaving the sportsman to take his luck of male or female, large or small, man-eater or not; and I would take means to make it thoroughly well known all over the District that one uniform sum was in every case to be had immediately on application with a head and unmarked skin of a tiger or leopard killed in the District. The Tahsildars would have to support their payments, each month, with the skins as vouchers, which they would be instructed to mark when paying the reward. The status of Tahsildars is very different since 1836; and, thus checked, I think there is very little danger of the money not reaching the right hands. They are trusted to fine Rupees 50, and imprison for a month, and commit for murder, and I think they might similarly be trusted in this matter.

13. I should add that, pending instructions, I have taken upon me to authorize my Tahsildars to pay the present sanctioned rewards on the spot, and that one wealthy man, the one who complained of losing 50 head of cattle, has undertaken to toll off a band of ten or fifteen of his farm laborers to the one duty of tiger and leopard shooting. Mr. Whiteside sent him powder, and I have arranged for his having the temporary loan of 12 muskets. If the reward is enhanced, and these picked men are successful, they may be encouraged to keep to their new pleasant and profitable profession, and their example may, as in other Districts, be followed by men calculated to live by their gun. I think nothing is so well calculated as a high and ready reward to induce the right class of men to take up this occupation. Such men, when successful, are also made welcome visitors by all cultivators. But it is a very precarious existence: there are many blank days and weary nights of watch to one successful shot, and nothing but a high reward will counterbalance the blanks, the difficulties, and, to the Native mind, the dangers too—for he shoots not for sport, but bread.

14. But the Government may desire to know whence this increase in the beasts of prey in this District. The Natives hasten to impute it to their old enemy, Coomery—the restrictions placed on the Coomery clearings have, they say, afforded more cover; but this, I think, is prejudice. Mr. Cadell has already reported that the restrictions hitherto sought to be placed on Coomery cultivation have been most successfully and generally evaded. Coomery has not diminished, and cannot affect the matter. Moreover, if it did, it would rather affect it the other way, for the underwood that springs up after a Coomery clearing, forms a far denser cover than the more open virgin forest. I am of opinion that the real origin of the increase of leopards and tigers is to be looked for in the extensive clearings for coffee on the tops of the Ghats in Coorg, which are kept open and worked, and the wild animals naturally retreat from them to the jungles below, whence they follow the cattle, &c., to the villages.

15. With reference to the high rewards I have sought, I will venture to argue that it is good economy to be liberal. It will be very much cheaper in the end to have paid twice or thrice as much for the heads of the present tigers, than to go on paying moderate sums for many years for all the many cubs that they and their cubs will keep on rearing from year to year. So far do I urge this argument,

4. The amount of Rupees 2, retrenched out of 7, paid upon the skin of a hyena in September, also under retrenchment, will be refunded.

No. 219.

ORDER THEREON, 20th July 1867, No. 878.

In the above letter, which the Governor in Council has read with much interest, the Acting Collector of South Canara describes the ravages which are annually committed by wild beasts in the District under his charge. The loss of human life during the years 1865-66 and 1866-67 is lamentable, no less than 40 persons having been carried off in the former year, and 33 in the ten months of the present year; while the loss of cattle and domestic animals must have been proportionately great.

2. Mr. Thomas represents that the rewards at present sanctioned are not sufficient to induce the people to undertake the risk and labor of pursuit; that the scale of rewards now in force was sanctioned 30 years ago, when the value of money was undoubtedly greater, relatively, than it is now, and proposes that permission shall be accorded to him to grant rewards of Rupees 60 and 40, respectively, for every tiger or leopard killed. Mr. Thomas would also, as a further inducement to sportsmen, authorize the several Tahsildars throughout the District to grant the above rewards at the Head Quarters of their Taluqs, immediately on application, and on production of the head and unmarked skin of the slain animal, the skins being forwarded to the Collector's Office, each month, by the Tahsildar, as vouchers in support of the payments made.

3. Mr. Thomas would not recommend special increased rewards for the destruction of man-eating tigers or leopards, owing to the facility which the peculiar nature of the country affords for shelter and easy migration from one place to another, and to the difficulty of deciding whether or not any particular tiger or leopard is an habitual man-eater or not.

4. The Government, as an experimental arrangement, approve the proposals made by the Acting Collector, and they trust that the increased rewards, which will be promptly paid for every tiger or leopard killed, without entailing unnecessary trouble on the sportsman, may induce the inhabitants to devote themselves to the extirpation of the wild beasts which at present devastate their fields and homes.

5. Mr. Thomas will report at the expiration of six months the result of the measures now sanctioned.

6. On the receipt of the tiger and leopard skins, the Acting Collector will take care that they are marked in such a manner as to preclude their being again offered for the reward.

7. The Collectors of Districts will forward, in January 1868, a return of the number of persons who have been killed by wild beasts in their respective Districts during the years 1865-66 and 1866-67, and the amount paid in rewards for the destruction of these animals during each of these years.

(True Extract).

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of South Canara.

„ Collector of

„ Revenue Department.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

No. 23

Magistrate's Office,
Mangalore, 2nd July 1867.

From
H. S. Thomas Esq.
Ag. Magistrate of South Canara
To
The Honble R. S. Ellis, C. B.
Ag. Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department
Fort St. George
Sir,

Having just received the orders of Government marginally quoted, I have the honor to submit the required report on the ravages committed in this District by beasts of prey, and the measures which I would suggest for their extirpation.

A reference to the Death Register kept in my Office, shows that in the Official Year 1865-66 no less than 40 human beings were killed by wild beasts, and that in 1866/67 the number of similar violent deaths promises to be equally high, having in ten months risen to 33.

Deaths by Wild Beasts		1865-66	1866-67
July	—	—	—
August	—	5	1
September	—	2	2
October	—	6	—
November	—	2	3
December	—	1	4
January	—	3	3
February	—	2	7
March	—	7	7
April	—	7	6
May	—	3	—
June	—	2	33
		40	

3. These returns, it will be remembered, show only the deaths known & reported by the Village Authorities, and are rather under the mark than otherwise. If we add a slight margin therefore for a few cases of neglect to report a not unusual accident, and for ignorance of those occurring in the more jungle localities, it will be found that death by tigers is an occurrence that on an average takes place

once a week in this District.

4. But it is doubtful whether this loss of human life is by the people themselves considered more serious than the almost daily depredations on cattle, goats and watch dogs. The great majority of tigers and leopards are, for known reasons, not man-eaters. The great majority therefore must live on wild game or domestic cattle. There are few localities here in which deer are yet to be found. On the cultivator therefore falls the main burden of breeding & breeding herds & flocks to feed these beasts of prey. One man alone complained that he had lost fifty head of cattle by leopards.

5. I should here mention that Tigers are few here comparatively, and that it is by Leopards that this destruction of life & property is wrought. Even since my arrival here, one little child has at dusk been taken away from the street of the village, and one poor woman from the very verandah of her house when asleep at night, & both by leopards.

6. The Government orders sanction the payment of an enhanced reward for man-eating Tigers but not for man-eating Leopards, for I believe it is not generally known that Leopards are capable of being as formidable as in South Canara they are. The largest reward at present sanctioned for the destruction of any Leopard is Rupees 17-8-0.

7. And yet, I would not seek sanction for any special reward for man-eating Leopards for I should be unable to award it, unable to satisfy myself as to which was & which was not a man-eater. On most Districts, a man-eater is well known by wide

29
wide repute - his beat is known and the surrounding open plain of ploughed fields prevents his changing it. Here the cover is thick - nearly every quarter of a mile contains a well wooded ravine - the cultivated valleys even are full of creosote, neem, sugar cane, catechu and shrubs on Kumaon lands, which afford such good shelter that any leopard can change his habitat without being noticed, & in practice, they generally take up their quarters within a mile of a village till they have cleared it of dogs, & such goats & cattle as are not safely housed, when they remove to another village & follow the same course, & it is by no means in special localities that human beings are carried off, or killed in self defence. I believe it to be here generally the accident of their finding no other food on the occasion, or being interfered with. For reasons that I could give, a mangy skin too is by no means the sure indication of a man-eater that it is supposed to be - man-eaters and sometimes particularly sleek.

8. My predecessor, Mr. Cadell, seems to have had in view this difficulty of recognition when he enhanced the reward on all leopards generally. His to Board of Revenue, dated 16th February 1867, at 229. letter on the subject is enclosed.

9. The accompanying return of leopards & tigers killed in this District, will show that Mr. Cadell's enhanced rewards were not without good effects - though possibly, the increased numbers killed may, in some degree, be owing to the increase in leopards which I shall explain below.

10. I conceive the most practical way of inducing an increased destruction of these beasts of

prey, is to hold out the extra encouragement of higher rewards. The present rewards, a Tiger, 10 Star pagodas (i.e. Rs 30) a Cheetah, 5 Star pagodas, i.e. Rs 17.8 were fixed in 1836, since when the price of the staple grain of this District has risen ²²⁸ 1/2 Rupees, and Rs 35 & Rs 17.8 are not the liberal rewards they were. Their equivalents would now be Rs 44.13.8 & Rs 57.7. Moreover, the jungles then provided were enough to obviate the Leopards' present necessity for feeding on the cattle of the cultivator.

11 Considering the gravity of the evil to the cultivator both in person & property, I venture to hope the Government may be induced to consider the present rewards inadequate, and accord me permission in this District to grant rewards of Rs 60 & Rs 20 respectively for Tigers & Leopards, and especially for Leopards. If other Collectors do not agree with me, I venture to think it is because they are not similarly circumstanced.

12 The successful sportsman feels it a great tax to leave his house & march 50 or more miles with a heavy skin to head & Divisional head quarters for the sake of the reward - it is discouraging. I should therefore propose to let all Tahsildars pay it on the spot, and to preclude a temptation to malpractices, I would leave them no discretion, but order one uniform sum to be paid in every case, leaving the Sportsman to take his luck of male or female, large or small, man-eater or not, and I would take means to make it thoroughly well known all over the District that one uniform sum was in every case to be had, immediately on application with

311
with a head & unmarked skin of a Tiger or Leopard killed in the District. The Tahsildars would have to support their payments, each month, with the skins as vouchers which they would be instructed to mark when paying the reward. The status of Tahsildars is very different since 1836, and thus checked I think there is very little danger of the money not reaching the right hands. They are trusted to give Rs 50 and imprison for a month & commit for murder, & I think they might similarly be trusted in this matter.

13 I should add that pending instructions, I have taken upon me to authorize my Tahsildars to pay the present sanctioned rewards on the spot. & that one wealthy man, the one who complained of losing 50 head of cattle, has undertaken to tell off a band of ten or fifteen of his farm-laborers to the one duty of tiger & leopard shooting. Mr. White sent him powder, & I have arranged for his having the temporary loan of 12 muskets. If the reward is enhanced, and these picked men are successful, they may be encouraged to keep to their new pleasant and profitable profession, & their example may as in other Districts, be followed by men calculated to live by their gun. I think nothing is so well calculated as a high & ready reward to induce the right class of men to take up this occupation. Such men, when successful, are also made welcome visitors by all cultivators. But it is a very precarious existence; there are many blank days and weary nights of watch to one successful shot, and nothing but a high reward will counterbalance the

blanks, the difficulties, & to the native mind, the dangers too, for he shoots not for sport, but bread.

14. But the Government may desire to know whence this increase in the beasts of prey in this District. The natives hasten to impute it to their old enemy, Coonery. The restrictions placed on the Coonery clearings have, they say, afforded more cover. But this, I think, is prejudice. Mr. Cadell has already reported that the restrictions hitherto sought to be placed on Kumbury cultivation, have been most successfully & generally avoided. Kumbury has not diminished, & cannot affect the matter. Moreover, if it did, it would rather affect it the other way, for the underwood that springs up after a Kumbury clearing, forms a far denser cover than the more open virgin forest. I am of opinion that the real origin of the increase of Leopards & Tigers is to be looked for in the extensive clearings for Coffee on the tops of the Ghats in Coorg, which are kept open & worked, and the wild animals naturally retreat from them to the jungles below, whence they follow the cattle, &c., to the Villages.

15 With reference to the high rewards I have sought, I will venture to argue that it is good economy to be liberal. It will be very much cheaper in the end to have paid twice or thrice as much for the heads of the present tigers, than to go on paying moderate sums for many years for all the many cubs that they & their cubs will keep on rearing from year to year. So far do I urge this argument, that I think it would be good economy to enhance the reward in those Districts also in which there are few tigers, for then there would be some chance of their being thoroughly exterminated, and

and the evil and the expenditure for ever brought to an end. It was done in England with the wolves when the country was densely wooded & not so well armed as India now is. I venture to think it a stain on our administration that at this date the beasts of prey should still contest the field with us, & no man dare lead his flocks out at night, except in those Districts & localities where we have completed the work of extermination. (I specially refer to such beautiful grazing grounds as the Nilagiris, & the Palanies, ^{and the Mookk} where man can claim the mastery for himself and his herds only by surveillance, only by daylight; whereas in Australia the cattle, sheep & horses are unhoused by day and night for months. The expense of secure housing is itself a very serious difficulty in the way of the grazier.)

(I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
W^m Mearns.
Esq. Magistrate.)

No. 28.

15
Collector's Office,
(Mangalore, 15th Feb 1867.)

From W. M. Cadell Esq.
Collector of South Canara.

To The Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir
The Board have disallowed from
my Contingent Bills, the sum shown in the
margin, in the grant of
rewards over the sanctioned
maximum scale for kil-
ling 6 cheetas in Sept.
and October, and the
Accountant General has
consequently called on me
to refund the amount of
Rs. 35. I beg however to
lay before the Board
the circumstances
under which these rewards

were given with the view of procuring
their special sanction upon the same.

The depredations caused by tigers
and cheetas, have of late been somewhat
serious in the District, and even the town
of Mangalore itself is not free from their
incursions. In the month of June 1865, it was
reported that during the previous 12 months
no less than 16 human beings had been car-
ried off in the Udipi and Cundapur Taluqs,
and in the rest of the District the loss of
life by this cause only was gradually on
the increase. In addition to this, the
loss of

1865-66 Jan/67 Rs. 17 Rs. 20
26 April - - - 115-116
28 July/65 - 11 Rs. 30
14 June/64 - 125-127

(10)
Recd Dec 1867 (14/12)
From The Dy. Magistrate
of South Canara
The Dy. Magistrate to Govt
Public Department
Madras
Dated 27th July 1867
(18/7/67)

Enclosure No. 1
28/10/67

Submitting, with reference to
the orders of Government under
which, his report on the number
submitted in the District by
Board of prey, and suggesting
certain measures for their
extirpation.

W. M. Cadell

1865-66
1911
218.

losses by the villagers of their cattle, goats & pigs
were in some localities very considerable.
As a stimulus to the people to track out and
destroy these obnoxious animals, I took ad-
vantage of G. O. dated 2^d February 1865, No 184,
which gives authority to Magistrates to offer
as high a reward as Rs 100 for man-eating
animals, and issued a notification allowing
a reward of 30 Rs in the two above taluqs for
a cheela, and 35 in the vicinity of Mangalore.
In pursuance of this Notification, the excess
now retrenched was disbursed with reference
to the dangerous character of the animals killed,
and the depredations committed by them. These
orders, I may observe, have had a very bene-
ficial effect, and a large number of animals
have been since destroyed by the people in proof
of this. I may mention that Lieut Thompson
of the Artillery, has since the date of the above,
killed 5 cheelas or Panthers in the very vicinity
of this place.

Under these circumstances, I beg to request
that the Board will be pleased to pass the
small amount of Rs 35, now under retrenchment.

The amount of Rs 2, retrenched
out of it, paid upon the skin of a Hyena
in September, also under retrenchment, will
be refunded.

I have &c
Signed M. M. Cadell.
Collector.
(True Copy)

M. Thum
Ag. Magistrate

X 21

Read the following letter fr.
the Magistrate of South Canara.
Here enters 2nd July 1867 N^o 23.

which the Governor in
Council has read with
much interest,

NON

Thank you for the
 letter from the
 "Ladies of the
 Regiment" -
 I would be very glad
 to hear of you
 and all of you.

of 10:00" July 16/24

Endliche

[illegible]

lop of cattle and domestic animals must have been proportionately ^{great} large.

2 Mr. Thomas represents that the rewards at present sanctioned are not sufficient to induce the people to undertake the risk and labour of pursuit; that the scale of rewards now in force was sanctioned 30 years ago when the value of money was ~~undoubtedly~~ ^{undoubtedly} greater, relatively, than it is now, and proposes that permission shall be accorded to him to grant rewards of Rs 60 and 40 respectively, for every Tiger, or Leopard killed: Mr. Thomas would also, as a further inducement to sportsmen, authorize the several Tahsildars throughout the District

To the Magistrate
The Magistrate's Office,
Collector

28
to grant the above rewards at the head quarters of their Taluqa, immediately on application, and on production of the ^h and unmarked skin of the slain animal, the skins being forwarded, each month by the Tahsildar, as vouchers in support of the payments made

3. Mr. Thomas would not recommend special increased rewards for the destruction of man-eaters, ^{being or leopard} owing to the facility which the peculiar nature of the country affords for shelter and easy migration from one place to another and to the difficulty of deciding whether or not ^{any particular animal} ~~each and every~~ ^{is a leopard} is an habitual man-eater or not.

5. Mr. Thomas will report at the expiration of six months the result of the measures now sanctioned.

7B

To the Collectors of Canara }
To all Collectors — }
Revenue Department }
27/1

the year 1865/66

8886/67 - and the
amount paid in
wards for the dressing
then animals
~~of wild birds~~ the
of the year

14.

1867. Department.

No. 274

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

J. J. Dick / 840.

Dated. 27 July 1889.

282-41-188-129-184-183-
 188-227-240-254-275-
 329-341-352-365-375-
 396-396-404-414-491-
 505-560-