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Province Connaught

No 671

Dublin 21st May 1856

செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர்
ராதையன் நாயகி
செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக்
கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் 7/2008
செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள் 9/2008
சரிபார்க்கும்
மு. தி. பா. ஏ.
ஆராய்ச்சி உதவி
யாளர்
கையொப்பம்

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 25th May 1858.

No. 44. Read the following letter from G. S. FORBES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, R. D. dated Fort Saint George, 21st April 1858, No. 1400.

SIR,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit, for the information and orders of Government, a letter from the Acting Collector of Malabar, dated March 25th, forwarding a report by the Special Assistant Mr. Thomas, on the subject of late disturbances in the Island of Menakay, and Mr. Robinson also describes the steps he has taken to re-establish the authority of Government on the Island and the course which he thinks should be taken in dealing with the Islanders.

In Cons. 19th April 1858.

2. The main facts of what occurred are already known to Government, and as the affair is of a political character, the Board do not feel called upon in forwarding these letters, to dwell at length on the circumstances which they narrate. Mr. Robinson's careful selection of the establishment which has now been sent to the Island, seems likely to prevent a recurrence of the lawless conduct, which obliged the former Ameen to retire, and it is quite necessary, the Board think, to remunerate persons chosen against their own inclination for an unpleasant duty, more liberally than those in corresponding situations on the mainland.

3. Further report is promised by Mr. Robinson, which will be duly forwarded when it reaches this Office. In the meanwhile the Board request the sanction of Government for paying to Hussan Malikhan and to the two persons maltreated by the mob, the compensation proposed by Mr. Robinson, viz. Rupees 1,000 to the former, and 100 Rupees each to the other sufferers.

No. 45. ORDER THEREON, No. 671; dated 21st May 1858.

1. In their letter above recorded, the Board of Revenue submit for the information and orders of Government a letter from the Acting Collector of Malabar, dated 25th March 1858, forwarding a report by the Special Assistant Mr. E. C. Thomas on the late disturbances in the Island of Minakai; and describing the steps which have been taken to re-establish the authority of Government on the Island, and the course which he thinks should be pursued in dealing with the Islanders, in accordance with para. 10 of Extract Minutes Consultation 18th June 1857, No. 605.

2. The difficulties which occurred in first placing the Establishment on the Island in 1855 were detailed in the Acting Collector's report dated 5th January 1857, as well as the disgraceful scenes of riot and anarchy that followed. The authority of Government ceased shortly after 16th May 1855, and was not re-established until the arrival of Mr. Thomas on 1st February 1858 with an Establishment, consisting of an Ameen and two Accountants, with a Jemadar, 3 Havildars and 21 Peons. Mr. Thomas reports that he and the Establishment were well received, that perfect good feeling prevailed throughout his stay,* and that the intentions of Government were thoroughly understood. The Ameen and his Subordinates have been left in charge of the Island, and farther information of his proceedings, and a report upon the condition of the Island and the fiscal Regulations in force, is promised.

**Until 20th February* 1858.

3. The cost of the establishment carefully selected from Musalmans (not Mapillas) already in the public service, and most of them picked men amounts to Rupees 250. It was necessary to allow a larger rate of emolument than that in force for servants of the corresponding grades serving on the mainland, on account of the unpleasantness and unpopularity of the duty, and the unhealthiness of the Island, as well as the expense of living there. And the Acting Collector recommends that "if they behave well the Ameen and his servants shall be presented with the usual rate of batta on the expiration of their service on the Island."

Collector, para. 4.

Collector, para. 5.

4. The Government are pleased to sanction the retention of the establishment while required, and the proposed donation of batta.

5. One individual, a considerable landed proprietor and trader on the Island, named Hucein Malikan is reported to have shewn steady and unflinching loyalty to Government throughout

the rebellion, and was in consequence persecuted in a manner that has resulted in most serious loss to himself, both of his actual income in the shape of cocoanuts, sugar, &c., from his trees on the Island, (of which he was deprived in consequence of his work people, tree climbers &c., having refused to perform their usual avocations under orders from the rebel headmen,) and also of the possible profits from 2 ships which are despatched annually to Bengal; but which in common with the whole of the trade in the Island were stopped in 1855.

6. The Government consider that the compensation* proposed has been calculated on the narrowest limits, at the mere cost of Husein Malikan's produce on the spot without reference to his great losses from a year's inactivity. And further, it must be remembered that besides this every kind of indignity and insult has been suffered by this man for his singular and uniform loyalty. The Government will therefore be prepared to give due consideration to any more liberal sum that the Collector may see fit to propose. The Acting Collector will be pleased to convey to Husein Malikan the high opinion of his services entertained by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council and sanction is granted for disbursing Rupees (100) one hundred each to two individuals, a man and a woman who suffered the grossest indignities at the hands of the disorderly mob during the riots.

**Rupees* 1,000.

7. Having expressed their opinion of the conduct of the Beebee in paras. 14 and 15 of Extract Minutes Consultation of the 18th June 1857, the Government do not consider it necessary to do more in this place than to observe that the views then recorded are fully borne out by what Mr. Robinson has related in para. 16 of his letter respecting her conduct to Husein Malikan.

8. It only remains to pass orders respecting the retention at Calicut of the Ringleaders in the disturbances. Six of these are now in custody, and four others (now apparently absent on voyages from the Island) are to be sent by the Ameen when they arrive. Mr. Robinson thinks that the people have no doubt been mystified as to their political position by the pretentions of the Beebee of Cannanore to independent sovereignty, and considers "that there is an obvious "good policy under the circumstances in forbearance which is not now likely to be misunderstood."

1 *Tindal Goodalikal.*
2 *Casimy of Kalpeny.*
3 *Tindal Ibrahim Kaloo.*
4 *Gundy Ismail.*
5 *Kalliba Beebee.*
6 *Addoo Kaka.*
7 *Tindal Boodoo.*
8 *Maloomy Avool Moosa.*
9 *Kambar Mahomed.*
10 *Beroo Ibrahim.*

9. Under this explanation the Government will not press for further action against the rioters. But as it is certainly desirable that the Islanders should be taught practically to respect the powers of Government, and made to suffer personal inconvenience on account of their late misconduct, the Government resolve to authorize the detention of the ten individuals named in the margin until further orders, under Section II. Regulation II. of 1819.

10. Mr. Robinson will be good enough to report when he considers it expedient to allow these men to return.

11. The Board will transmit the accompanying warrant at once to the Acting Collector and will also be good enough to communicate to Mr. Thomas the approbation of Government of the manner in which he has done the important work entrusted to him.

WARRANT OF COMMITMENT UNDER REGULATION II. OF 1819.

To the Magistrate of Malabar.

Whereas the Governor in Council for good and sufficient reasons has seen fit to determine that (1) Tindal Goodalikal, (2) Casimy of Kalpeny, (3) Tindal Ibrahim Kaloo, (4) Gundy Ismail, (5) Kaliba Beebee, (6) Addoo Kaka, (7) Tindal Boodoo, (8) Maloomy Avool Moosa, (9) Kambar Mahomed, (10) Beroo Ibrahim, shall be placed under personal restraint at Calicut, you are hereby required and commanded in pursuance of that determination to receive the persons above named into your Custody, and to deal with them in conformity with the orders of the Governor in Council and the provisions of Regulation II. of 1819.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
the 21st of May 1858.

By order of the Governor in Council.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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WARRANT OF COMMITMENT UNDER REGULATION II. OF 1819.

To the Magistrate of Malabar.

Whereas the Governor in Council for good and sufficient reasons has seen fit to determine that (1) Tindal Goodalikal, (2) Casimy of Kalpeny, (3) Tindal Ibrahim Kaloo, (4) Gundy Ismail, (5) Kaliba Beebee, (6) Addoo Kaka, (7) Tindal Boodoo, (8) Maloomy Avool Moosa, (9) Kambar Mahomed, (10) Beroo Ibrahim, shall be placed under personal restraint at Calicut, you are hereby required and commanded in pursuance of that determination to receive the persons above named into your Custody, and to deal with them in conformity with the orders of the Governor in Council and the provisions of Regulation II. of 1819.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
the 21st of May 1858.

By order of the Governor in Council.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Revd. 5th 6/4 of 58.

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M. Robertson submits his
Head opinion & report on the
restoration of the superstructure
of the island of Manikay: be-
longing to the Rajah of Cau-
cauna, and his own views
and suggestions.

He solicits on this
occasion of the revision
of Government is requested, 1st
1st Retention of the mis/leaders
in the late disturbances, at
Calicut for six months, on
the Subsistence Allowance. H

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2nd I conclude that the Govt will accept the Solarium proposed by the Inhabitants for the establishment he has sent to the Island, and will not object to the payment of his Salary on his return.

3rd also I conclude that the Govt will be willing to give the recommendation recommended to Sultan Mahidan.

4-56.

i certainly believe that the Islanders should be practically taught to respect the power of Government, and that those men in particular should be made to suffer personal inconvenience on the score of their late conduct. At the same time they have been subjected to no judicial trial, and no criminal charge has been recorded against them. The matter seems to be not of sufficient importance to warrant a recommendation to Rajah II of Rhio, and yet, at present, the detention of the men in Sleepe

Shenk hardware - which has been adopted is judicious - but it ought to be sanctioned by law.

H

Certainly the present is no time to pass over such flagrant contempt of the authority of Govt. I my only doubt whether some more stringent steps should not be taken to bring the Rebels to their senses

I think also that the Contemplation of Hafsan Mulekha has been calculated on the assurance that the mere exit of his property on that spot, without reference to his character from a given instant! It must be remembered that the calculation by the profits derived from the export of those produce and that all the accessories every kind of indirect dealings have been suffered by this man for his singular conformity to all

11/19 - is the only Rep application I have received

Under it -

Will -

Dept accordingly

WMB Secy

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CALICUT, 16*th March* 1858.

No. 14.

To

W. ROBINSON, Esq.,
Acting Magistrate of Malabar.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that I have, agreeably to instructions, visited the Island of Menakoy and spent three weeks in making a careful inquiry there into the occurrences which led, in January 1856, to the withdrawal of all the Government servants, and into fiscal and other matters concerning the Beebee and the Islands. I beg now to lay before you the result of the magisterial inquiry, leaving other matters for a separate report.

2. I found two of the chief men on the island, but not half of the people (rest being absent in their trading vessels.) I sought every opportunity, publicly and confidentially, of learning what was thought and said on the subject by the different classes of the islanders. I mixed much with them, morning and evening, encouraged the freeest communication from all parties and have drawn up the following narrative, which is admitted in almost every minute particular by the whole population; my only difficulty has been, where a populace was concerned, to single out and get clear evidence against the ringleaders.

3. The connected narrative with remarks will, I trust, clearly show the nature of the occurrences, those concerned, and the amount of blame to be attributed to them respectively.

4. The Ameen, Moideen Cootty,* after missing the island once and spending some time in the Maldives, at length reached Menakoy in March 1855. On landing, he called the islanders together, made known to them the intentions of Government, and his own appointment as Ameen, and was quietly received by the people.

* He died last year.

5. He found two of the Beebee's vessels in the lagoon just prepared to sail, and his order detaining them was obeyed without question or complaint. Finding that one of them contained the Beebee's (now the Government) property, in the shape of cocoanuts, coir, yarn, &c., he examined some of it, took a list of the amount, and, taking possession of the whole in the name of Government, sent the vessel with a port clearance of his own drawing-up to Calicut; the two vessels thus left for the coast in the end of the month of March 1855, and landed the things at Calicut in April.

This is the only produce of Menakoy brought to account since the sequestration. The Beebee of Cannanore has appropriated everything since, and even the collections made on the island during the few months that the Government authority existed were appropriated after the godowns had been broken up.—W. R.

6. On the 30th of April the people of the island went, as they had hitherto done in the time of the Beebee, to collect the ripe nuts which might be found lying at the foot of the trees of Beebee's cocoanut plantation. It is the custom on these occasions for a large number of youths, who are bound to render the Beebee certain service, to go and collect for themselves the only pay they get, viz., 8 nuts a month, and the Ameen allowed this custom to be continued. In the hands of one of these youths, however, he found 16, instead of 8 nuts, and, immediately stopping him, took away the extra number and dismissed him with a warning not to do so again; the lad shortly returned and flung the nuts with insolent expressions before the Ameen, saying that

since he might not have 16, he did not want any, and being questioned as to the reason of such conduct, implicated several of his companions as having instigated him. The Ameen sent for them, asked what they meant, and, on their using somewhat insolent independent language towards him, fined the whole of them Re. 1 each, which fine, with the nuts they had previously received, was levied from them.

7. It is asserted by the islanders that, though eight nuts is the regular pay of one of these youths, it is an immemorial custom for 16 to be given on the first occasions on which a new comer joins the body of these "Athiry Kuthgul," as they are called; that the youth who on the present occasion took 16 was a new comer and had a right to it; that the Ameen erred through ignorance of this custom; and that the conduct of the youth and his companions, though not defensible, should be viewed leniently on the ground of their believing that injustice was committed.

8. This matter passed over, however, and the Government dues were collected as in the days of the Beebee, and the Ameen's authority was acknowledged and obeyed till the 16th of May, when three of the Beebee's vessels—*Aru*, *Hydross*,* and *Abubekur* *—returned to the island direct from Cannanore.

* The two boats sent to the Coast as mentioned in paragraph 5.

9. The Ameen, learning that, contrary to the usual practice, some cows and goats had been landed without obtaining his leave or informing him, sent for the commanders of the vessels to inquire about it. They said that not they, but their crews, had brought them. The Ameen then sent a peon to fetch the cattle before him, the peon only succeeding in bringing about half of them; three peons were then sent to fetch the remainder and their owners; the peons were set upon by the mob and so severely beaten (though not in any way wounded) that two of them were by friendly hands removed to the cutcherry insensible.

On the Laccadive Islands and Menakoy the strictest local arrangements are required in regard to the introduction of cattle, and very few are admitted, and these under special permission and assurance of proper custody. Permission of the Government officers is always required. The islands are one unbroken cocoanut plantation, and the destruction of plants by stray or carelessly-tended cattle and goats necessitates the vigilance and strictness obtaining. The Ameen was doing his duty.—W. R.

10. The mob, which has been hitherto on the *sea-shore*,† now went to the cutcherry (50 yards inland), and a tumultuous assemblage, in which nearly every male in the island was present, thronged about the door and greeted the Ameen with insulting shouts and yells, saying, "Come down out of that and we will show you, we will not obey the Ameen's orders," &c.

† When the Beebee of Cannanore's officers and dependents were at work with the vessels.

Notes.—(1) The opposite version of this story, as given by those who came to Calicut to present a petition to Mr. Clarke, was to the effect that the Ameen, while walking along the sea-shore, being annoyed at a man continuing to sit and pay him no respect, struck him several times and also directed a peon to beat him; they deny that the peons were beaten, or that the Ameen's blow was returned.

Not probable where the Ameen, &c., had an excitable and dangerous mob to deal with. He was a timid man.—W.R.

(2) Though the truth of this tale was vigorously maintained to the day of my leaving the coast at Cannanore, it was hardly mentioned on the island and only repeated and put forward on their being pressed to say whatever they had in their defence.

(3) The men who came to Calicut professed to be the representatives of the whole population of the island; the circumstances were reported to have taken place at mid-day in the most public position in Menakoy, viz., before the cutcherry, on the sea-shore, where the vessels were anchored and their crews were passing to and fro, yet they wholly failed in establishing any kind of proof, nay, hardly tendered evidence more than one man said he had been struck, but in the only one instance in which a witness professed to have seen another struck, the individual mentioned denied the fact, but said loosely that others had been beaten.

(4) The Cazee and other chief men of the place say they wholly discredit this statement, both from what they have heard and from what they saw of the Ameen's general conduct and character. After listening to every assertion, which my repeated invitations drew out, and making the fullest inquiry, I am of opinion that there is no reason for believing that the Ameen behaved in the way charged against him, or in any way personally provoked the violent assault which took place.

(5) On the other hand, it is, of course, very possible that the peons did not perform their duty in a conciliatory manner; this is, however, pure conjecture.

Sooppey Cooty is the Beebee of Cannanore's accredited agent. He came down and continued with the petitioners the greater part of the time they were at Calicut.—R.W.

(6) Some of those who formed the deputation to Calicut say simply enough that they went there by desire of the Beebee, under the charge of her agent, "Sooppey Cooty," with a petition which she had made out for them and without knowing what grievance they had to complain of.

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11. Some of the boldest—Kandy Ismal*, Avula Moossa Maloomy, Gudalikel*, and Koke Mahomed—attempted to force an entrance, but the Ameen sat in the doorway facing the people with a drawn sword by his side and two peons near him, and some of the more discreet of the islanders—Hussan Taku and Ahmed Hajee—kept back the others.

* At present in Calicut.

12. They summoned one Koke Mahomed (who had been arrested earlier in the day and placed in custody within the cutcherry) to effect his escape, which he did.

13. The Ameen managed to send one of the peons to Hussan Malikan† (one of the chief men of the island) telling him of the state of matters, and requesting him to come immediately and quiet the people. Hussan Malikan on receiving the message called Alli Malikan (another of the chief men) and they came at once to the spot, but, failing to influence the uproarious mob, took up their position in a small mosque in front of, and 20 yards removed from, the door of the cutcherry.

† Who behaved throughout with loyalty.—W.R.

14. The mob meanwhile went once more to the sea-shore and returned as before to beset the cutcherry door, from whence they forcibly carried off the cattle which the Ameen had had tied there, and tore down a Government proclamation regarding the sequestration of the island, &c.

The Beebee of Cannanore's vessels and agents were there.—W.R.

15. The mob then repaired again to the sea-shore, and after a consultation, in which the commanders of the newly-arrived vessels took the lead, a deputation consisting of the persons mentioned in the margin came to the mosque where the above-mentioned two merchants, with some of their relatives, were sitting, told them that they would not obey the British Government, and asked them definitely "whether they would undertake the government of the people independent of the Circar, till they heard from the Beebee."

Godalikel, Bodalikel, Koke Mohamed, Ibrahim Kali, Kalloo Ahmad, Kamber Hussan, Bairy Mahmod, Kandy Ismal, Kaleababeebee, Adugaka, Iddoo Ismal, Adu Ally Tacru, Amoogathy Hussan Pokur Tacru, and Hussan Tandayel.

16. Hussan Malikan (the eldest of the party) replied that they would not do so unless their interrogators could show them some authority for it. The deputation replied: "Then we are no more one with you; we will have nothing more to do with you."

17. The crowd presently separated to their houses, having spent the greater part of the forenoon in the manner above described.

18. From this day the authority of the Ameen was at an end. When he went out, he was insulted, as were his peons; stones were sometimes flung into his house; a woman of the island named Katha Munjah, who cooked for him, was forbidden to do so any more on pain of the displeasure of the populace, and all parties were forbidden to supply the Government servants with any of the ordinary necessaries of life.

19. On the 3rd of June, Hussan Malikan‡, according to the custom of his creed and the island, prepared a feast for the public on the anniversary of a family ceremony. This is usually a time of general rejoicing and good will, the people flocking to the repast thus annually prepared for them by the wealthier inhabitants, but on this occasion all attendance was interdicted and the feast proved a failure.

‡ Who throughout sided with the Government authorities and is one of the first men of the Island.—W.R.

20. Hussan Malikan was charged by the general voice with having betrayed the island and people to the British Government, and they took this occasion of enjoining that, in future, no communication whatever should be held with him. He is a large owner of cocoanut trees, the produce from which, both in sugar and fibre, he receives through the tree-climbing class.

His losses have been very heavy.—W.R.

From that day for 11 months not a man would tend his trees and he lost the whole of the year's produce, and his private servants, even to the wet nurse that tended his infant grand-daughter, were prevented from attending at his house, though the latter was after a time permitted, through the earnest entreaty of other Malikans (headmen), to return.

NOTE.—When Hussan Malikan's tree-climbers told him they could work for him no more, he asked them the reason. They replied that they had no quarrel themselves with him, but they had got orders from their head men, and when he pressed them to continue their usual avocation, they returned to get leave from their Woopen, Kandy Ismal, who, after consultation with the three commanders of the Beebee's vessels, told them they could not be permitted to return to their duty.

21. A proclamation to this effect and various others were shouted through the inhabited part of the island, as I clearly ascertained, but I was unable to learn who were the individual criers. The influential movers in everything, however, were the commanders of the three Beebee's boats, which had returned from Cannanore.

22. On June 20th, it having been ascertained that Katha Munjah had, in spite of their interdiction, continued to cook food for the Ameen, a crowd of people went to his house and Kalpeny Kasny * entering, dragged her from the room in which the Ameen was sitting into the street. The populace had brought string and charcoal with them, and they forthwith blacked her face and smeared it with various other things; they then tied a rope to her and several took hold of it and dragged her away along the street, others following hooting and tom-toming as they went and shouting that "they were dragging her because she cooked rice for the Ameen, and that, if she ever did so again, they would banish her to a desolate island." They then turned and dragged her back again through the streets till they came to the "Jumna Pally" (chief mosque), where they tied her to a tree, and, after extorting from her a distinct promise never to cook for the Ameen again, let her go.

* Now at Calicut. He undoubtedly was the ruffian who perpetrated the outrage, but the poor female is unwilling to identify him or any other.—W.R.

Everything was laid at the door of the "people," but was soon traceable in every instance to these instigators who had been absent from the island, and could not have any grievance of their own.

23. In this crowd were Kandy Ismal †, Gudalikel, Bodalikel, Ibrahim Kalo † and Kalpeny Kasmy. † Who actually blackened her face and dragged her I could not trace. The crowd is roughly estimated by all to have consisted of 200 or 300 people or more. There is a custom on the island of using a peculiar shout to assemble all the people, and whoever does not obey it is occasionally visited with condign punishment by his neighbours. This shout was used on the above occasion and few of the sailor class seem to have been absent. Some of the Maylacherries may have been, as they profess, away among the trees they tend. Though a large portion of the male population was engaged in the outrage.

† In custody at Calicut.

(1) In this, as in every other instance, there is no attempt to deny that the facts occurred, but it is now put forward as a good and sufficient reason that this woman was thus ill treated for a very different cause, viz., for having disgraced herself and her people by having illicit intercourse with the Ameen.

(2) I made the fullest inquiry regarding this and learnt that, though this mode of punishment had before then been inflicted by the people for the offence of incontinency, still it was a very unusual one even if the charge had been a true one. Such cases in this island are usually examined by the Cazee, and the guilty pair made to sit for 3 days in a place of public resort, exposed to the gaze and the scorn of the people.

(3) The Cazee had enquired into the charge against the female above alluded to, and found that the woman had not had connection with the Ameen; he and the chief men of the island wholly disbelieved the tale against the Ameen and say it was not heard of till long after the violent assault on Katha Munjah had taken place.

24. The next public occurrence was when Moossa Maloomee was treated in much the same way on September 11th. This man, who was pilot or mate in a vessel belonging to Hussan Malikan (who throughout behaved loyally), was thought by the people to have dared to disobey their orders and communicate with Hussan Malikan that some of the Government wood had been stolen.

25. The mob was, as on a previous occasion, collected by the well-known cry, and, proclaiming aloud that "they were going to drag Moossa Maloommy for having given

information to the Ameen," they took him from his house, smeared his face over with human ordure, tied carrion round his neck, and dragged him about through the streets for a time, and then let him go.

26. The chief men present at this occurrence were Kandy Ismal*, Gudalikel*, Bodalikel, Ibrahim Kalo*, Kalpeny Kasonee* and Awal Moossa Maloommy.

* In custody at Calicut. Orders have been issued for the arrest of the other two on their arrival in the island.

27. During all this time Hussan Malikan hardly left the walled court in which his house stands, and was visited only by the Cazee occasionally, the other Malikans, and the Ameen; the latter making light of petty insults that met him on the way.

28. The monsoon being now over, it was proclaimed through the island that all should go to the Beebee; the *Aru*, *Hydross* and *Abubekur* (Beebee's own vessels) were prepared for the trip, and after leaving strict orders that no one was to be allowed to leave the island till their return, about 300 men set sail about the 26th September.

29. The Ameen, who found it impossible either to get his orders obeyed or his reports conveyed to the coast, determined, if possible, to leave the island, and with this view induced Hussan Malikan, though with many doubts and fears, to place a small vessel of his at his disposal to convey him, the peons and some of the Malikans to the coast.

30. Various preparations had to be made ere the vessel was ready for sea, and when on the 3rd October the mast was being put in, the Ameen's intention of going became clear; at the moment nearly the whole of the remaining male population happened to be out in other boats at some distance from the island fishing, and Kaleeba Beebee† and Adugaka†, the Mukries of two chief mosques in Menakoy, sent a small boat out with an express message from the "Musskullies" (*i.e.*, these Mukries and one or two influential men among the people) to the effect that "the Government people were just starting," and that the fishermen must hurry in forthwith to prevent them."

† In custody at Calicut.

31. The people obeyed, and on their reaching the shore they were met by Adugaka, who told them (whether because the tide was fallen too low to require active measures or from a twinge of fear for after-consequences, or why, I cannot ascertain) "they need do nothing then," and that day passed off quietly.

32. On the next day (October 4th), when the preparation had been completed, and the Ameen and others were just about to embark, about 150 or 200 men of the Maylacherry (Toddy-drawer) caste, suddenly putting off in boats, boarded the vessel while she lay at anchor, forced the Malikans‡ to jump overboard and swim ashore, felled the main mast, and smashed various parts of the boat with their axes, detaching the mast from the vessel; they dragged it away and endeavoured to plant it upright in triumph on the shore, but it fell and was dug up long after from the sand, wholly useless; the vessel was so injured by the concussion of the falling mast and the other injuries done, that it shortly filled and sank; the supplies that had been placed on board for the voyage were, of course, never recovered.

‡ Now aiding the Ameen.

33. The inhabited part of the island is divided into two parts each, for purposes of local arrangement, being under a head man of their own selecting, and both of these subordinate to a superior head nominated by the people and approved by the Beebee.

The attack was determined and well organized. — W. R.

34. This Moppan of the Maylacherries, Kandy Ismal, was one of those who went to Cannanore, but he left instructions which the other two headmen acted upon, and on the morning of this October 4th, each in his own part of the island issued his orders

to the people not to go far to their work among the trees, &c., but to be ready for the intended boarding; the launching of the boats of the Southern Division was to be the signal for those in the Northern; it was obeyed, and the Southern party reaching the vessel first, Camber Mahommed* and Berroo Ibrahim* felled the mast.

* Both absent from the island during my stay there, but I have given orders for their apprehension and despatch to the coast whenever they return to Menakoy.

35. After a time the people raised the vessel again.

36. Nearly the whole of the sailors of the island being absent at Cannanore, the merchants could not take their usual trip to Bengal, for there were not crews to man the vessels. Ally Malikan, however, thought with a small one to go to the Maldives, where the people have many transactions; the populace, however, objected, and he could only persuade them to let him go to the coast and ascertain how matters were progressing. He secretly received a report from the Ameen, and, setting sail on November 14th, brought to the Magistrate the first intimation of the lawless scenes that had taken place in Menakoy and the helpless position of the Ameen.

37. Shortly afterwards, the Beebee, who had resolutely refused to give any assistance whatever in the way of aiding the Government orders or expediting our servants to Menakoy, now permitted a peon to take over in her vessel an order for the withdrawal of the Ameen, and he and the peons accordingly returned to Calicut in January 1856.

The Beebee of Cannanore has since exercised for upwards of 3 years entire control.—W.R.

Summary.

38. Though the facts and names abovementioned have been established beyond a doubt (by the concurrent testimony given before me of the chief men of the island, the Government servants and many of the common people, including some of those who came to Calicut to complain), yet where to lay the whole blame of this series of lawless acts is not so readily to be determined, and though, from the spirit of the Government orders, the lapse of time, and the present demeanour of the people, there is manifestly no occasion for visiting them *en masse* for acts which they committed in that way, and I therefore endeavoured chiefly to ascertain who were the movers and ringleaders, yet it is clear that, whatever the objects and mode of proceeding of those who incited the people, the latter have, as a body, taken a bold and active part in rebellion against Government, and must be considered as no unwilling instruments in the hands of others. The populace, as in more civilized regions, enjoyed the power they were instigated to take, and for a time mob rule nominally prevailed, though in reality they were but instruments of the designing; thoughtless and careless for the future, they committed whatever violence was suggested to them, and have only quietly submitted when confronted with a force they feared, and reminded of a power they must, from their trading habits, have very well understood.

People.

39. In their representation to Government, these matters have been spoken of as purely popular and they professed to have had general and personal grievances, and it will, of course, be put forward that this was a spontaneous popular movement; but as the flimsy stories put forward have been shown to be wholly untrue, and no other motives for this continued systematic opposition to Government has been mentioned, this is, of course, untenable.

40. While the people were left to their own devices in the absence of their subsequent leaders, there were no such scenes of resistance to authority and violent assaults, all was quiet till the arrival of three of the Beebee's vessels from Cannanore; the next day the commanders of these vessels headed the people, and the Government authority in Menakoy was at an end.

41. Though the Beebee's name does not appear clearly as directing all that occurred, it is impossible, from all that was said and done, the character of the chief movers, the coincidence of time and the

Beebee.

previous conduct of the Beebee, to avoid a very strong inference that it was pretty plainly intimated to the commanders of her vessels, and through them to the people of Menakoy, that some such things as actually occurred would be very pleasing to her; it is difficult to find any other explanation for the way in which the commanders of her own vessels (poor men, but little raised above their sailors) have over-ridden at once the time-honored influence of the largest land and shipping owners in the island and had put an end, the day after they arrived, to the authority which the rest of the island had respected for two months, and which these very men had themselves implicitly obeyed on the day the Ameen landed on the island.

As Hussan Malikan and Ally Malikan.

42. It is worthy of remark also that the Beebee signified her disapproval of Hussan Malikan's conduct by refusing the annual small present which he sent her according to custom. She sent some of the islanders to Calicut with a pretended grievance, which was none of theirs. She pretended to treat it as true (through her son), when she was well aware of the falsehood of their stories up to the very eve of my departure for the islands. She had all along refused to assist the Government in communicating with the island, and the moment the Government servants were removed, she profited by the circumstance to regain possession of the island and receive all her usual collections.

43. Those who thus came direct from the Beebee's palace and brought in the new order of things associated with themselves Kandy Ismal, the Moppan of the Maylacherries, Awal Moossa Malmy, mate of the Beebee's Aru ody, and Kaleebabeebee and Adugaka, the most influential Mukries in the island, and with little disguise directed the violent proceedings that subsequently occurred.

Ringleaders.

44. All the seven abovenamed individuals joined in the request to the Malikans to govern independent of the Circar, and in the tumultuous assemblage which on that day defied the authority of the Ameen, the four first at least were concerned in the ill-usage of the woman who cooked for the Ameen, and of the man who gave information to the Government office. It was they who interdicted all communication with Hussan Malikan for his leaning towards Government, and who, on taking the people with them to Cannanore, left the stringent order which prevented the escape of the Ameen; their instructions and the active co-operation of the two Mukries brought about the sinking of the vessel prepared for the embarkation of the Government servants.

45. It appearing to me that there could be no assurance of a continuance of quiet while men who had shewed themselves so bold as the above were at large among their countrymen, I placed such as I could find of them under restraint, and telling their relatives and friends that their detention would in all probability depend upon the conduct of the islanders, I have brought them to Calicut. In whatever way Government may think proper to treat them, I would strongly urge that they be not allowed to leave Calicut till it is known that the arrival of the boats from their voyages to Bengal, or elsewhere, has not resulted in any breach of the peace.

46. My own opinion is that a detention of less than 6 months will not have the desired effect on themselves and their countrymen; less will not impress on them the certainty that Government are in earnest and would notice severely a recurrence of such conduct.

47. While I was on the island, no single order was disobeyed by the people; they have professed themselves very penitent for the past, and perfectly willing to submit to the Government in everything and under the Ameen and peons now left there. I trust the Government authority has been thoroughly re-established after the lapse of nearly three years from the last occasion on which it was recognized there.

48. I cannot close this report without calling your attention markedly to the loyal conduct of Hussan Malikan.

Hussan Malikan's claims.

49. It was he that in the first instance gave the Ameen information without which he could never have commenced his duties as Revenue Collector; he from the first counselled his neighbours to submit to a power which he knew was irresistible, and steadily refused to have any connection with them in their resistance to it; though all the other members of the Malikan families seem to have had the discretion to keep aloof from all outward complicity with the mob, they rather floated with the tide than otherwise and managed to keep on good terms with all parties, the most wealthy of them, Ally Malikan, accepting the office of Beebee's Agent and collecting and sending all her usual revenue to her immediately that the Ameen left, though he knew very well that these had been appropriated to Government; but Hussan Malikan's uncompromising words and conduct caused him to be markedly singled out for the displeasure of Beebee and people.

50. From his loyalty to Government, he suffered large losses and was put to great inconveniences; the latter cannot now be helped, but, believing that Government would by no means permit the former to remain unrepaired, I annex a memorandum which he drew up at my suggestion, and all the particulars of which, I am satisfied from the most careful inquiry, are correct; from this and my memorandum attached, it will appear that an absence from his home of 4 months and a loss of about Rs. 1,000 w the consequence of his firm adherence to the Government party.

51. During my inquiry I have found his services invaluable, and though Ally Malikan and all others gave me their most perfect submission and much assistance, yet I frequently had to remark how his singularly-careful truthfulness dragged to light things which were only half told me by others.

52. Possessed of remarkable and natural shrewdness, his frequent visits to Calcutta and many other British ports have given him a great regard for English power and justice, and showed him from the first the absurdity of the course the Beebee's partizans were pursuing, and the great advantage of being frank and straightforward with a Government, which he knew it was useless to resist.

53. If ever Government thought it advisable to appoint a native of Menakoy as its representative there (temporarily or otherwise), I should have no hesitation in recommending this man, though probably he would prefer to decline the honor and go trading to Bengal.

54. You will not be surprised to hear that some of those who have now quietly and fully submitted to Government are not a little anxious at the thought of what may happen to them whenever the island may be returned to the Beebee.

Chiefly in vernacular.

55. I append the papers (in number) on which the particulars of this report are chiefly founded.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. G. THOMAS,
Special Assistant Collector.

Postscript.

ABSTRACT of the claim of Kodakamookotha Hussan Malikan.

That in consequence of his having aided the Government Ameen, Moideen Cootty, he lost the entire products in nuts and sugar of the trees which are his property in Menakoy. He states that the crop amounted to at least 3,000 nuts a month, and that four adubas (large cocoanut shell) of sugar a day, or 120 a month, were yielded by trees cut for the juice. That the most of the vessel which he had prepared for the Ameen's departure was cut down and the vessel otherwise injured by the riotous islanders—a loss which he estimates at Rs. 50 or 60. That he was unable to send two vessels to Bengal as usual, and therefore lost all his commercial profits of that year. That he was detained during seven months in Menakoy, and he was then sent for to the coast by the Government office, where he was kept from his home for four months. That he lost all the profits he might have derived from the fishing of his three mass boats during his absence. He requests that these losses may be made good to him.

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Memorandum.

Cocoanuts sell in the Island of Menakoy at the rate of 50 per rupee, and sugar at the rate of 7 adubas for Re. 1. Though Hussan Malikan was a prisoner 7 months and absent for Government purposes four more, and after for this several months though stress of weather in consequence of the above detention, yet it seems from a former deposition of his that his son returned from Cannanore before himself and with the consent of the Beebee of Cannanore recommenced collecting the produce of Hussan Malikan's trees. As this was about four months after Hussan Malikan left Menakoy, it is probable therefore that the period during which there was a dead loss of all the products of his estate did not exceed as stated 11 months.

The loss through the non-use of the mass boats it is hard to define; these boats are sometimes worked at a loss and sometimes very profitably, the loss of the profits of two voyages to Bengal was shared in by all the other merchants of the island. The trade of Menakoy was completely stopped for one year by the occurrences now reported upon.

The truth of the above statement is attested by the Cazee of Menakoy (who held altogether aloof during the recent disturbances), by Ally Malikan, the chief merchant present on the island, and by the Government gumasta, who was on the island during the whole of the rebellion. I estimate the loss as follows:—

Cocoanuts. Months.	RS.
3,000 × 11 = 33,000, which at 50 per rupee	660
Adubas. 120 × 11 = 1,320, which at 7 per rupee	188 4/7
Injury to the vessel	50
Total ..	898 4/7

Thus, even omitting altogether the profits of the trading voyages and mass fishery, I believe Rs. 1,000 will hardly cover the pecuniary losses (to say nothing of the indignities) which Hussan Malikan has suffered for his loyalty to Government.

(Signed) E. C. G. THOMAS,
Special Assistant Magistrate.

Exd. A. Raitt.

No. 1400.

From

G. S. FORBES, Esq.,
Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

To

H. FORBES, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to Government, B. D.

SIR,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit, for the information and orders of Government, a
n Con. 19th April 1858. letter from the Acting Collector of Malabar, dated March 25th, forwarding a report by the Special Assistant Mr. Thomas, on the subject of late disturbances in the Island of Menakay, and Mr. Robinson also describes the steps he has taken to re-establish the authority of Government on the island, and the course which he thinks should be taken in dealing with the islanders.

2. The main facts of what occurred are already known to Government, and as the affair is of a political character, the Board do not feel called upon in forwarding these letters, to dwell at length on the circumstances which they narrate. Mr. Robinson's careful selection of the establishment which has now been sent to the Island, seems likely to prevent a recurrence of the lawless conduct, which obliged the former Ameen to retire, and it is quite necessary, the Board think, to remunerate persons chosen against their own inclination for an unpleasant duty, more liberally than those in corresponding situations on the mainland.

3. Further report is promised by Mr. Robinson, which will be duly forwarded when it reaches this Office. In the meanwhile the Board request the sanction of Government for paying to Hussan Malikhan and to the two persons maltreated by the mob, the compensation proposed by Mr. Robinson, viz. Rupees 1,000 to the former, and 100 Rupees each to the other sufferers.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Fort Saint George,
21*st April* 1858.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

G. S. Forbes

R D

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N 671.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 21st May 1858.

Read letter from the Secretary
to the Board of Revenue dated
21 April 1858 No 1400.

1. In their letter above recorded, the Board of Revenue submit for the information and orders of Govt a letter from the A. Collector of Malabar, dated March 25 1858, forwarding a report by the Special Asst to the C.C. Remarks on the late disturbances in the Island of Minikai, and describing the steps which have been taken to re-establish the authority of Government in the Island, and the course which he thinks should be pursued in dealing with the Islanders: in accordance with Para 10 of C. to C. 18 June 1857 No 605

2. The difficulties which occurred in

first placing the Establishment on
the Island in 1855 were detailed in
the G. Collector's dept dated 5 Jan
1857, as well as the disgraceful
scenes of ~~rebellion~~ riot and anarchy
that followed: The authority
of Govt ceased shortly after 16 May
1855, and was not re-established
until the arrival of Mr. Thomas
on 1st Feb. 1858 with an Establish-
ment, consisting of an Ameen
and two accountants, with a
Jemadar, 3 Havildars, and 21
Peons. Mr Thomas reports
that he and the Establishment
were well received, that perfect
good feeling prevailed throughout
his stay, and that the intentions
of Government were thoroughly under-
stood. The Ameen & his subor-
dinates have been left in charge
of the Island, and further infor-
mation of his proceedings, and
report upon the condition of
the Island and the fiscal regu-
lations in force, is promised.

until 20 Feb. 1858

3. The cost of the Establishment

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Corr. p 4 / carefully selected from Musalmans
/ 1st Rapillas / already in the
public Service, and most of them
picked men / amounts to Rs 250

" p 5. It was necessary to allow a larger
rate of emolument than that
in force for servants of the corres-
ponding grades serving on the
mainland, on account of
the unpleasantness and un-
popularity of the duty, and the
unhealthiness of the Island,
as well as the expense of living
there. And the Ag. Collector
recommends that "if they behave
well the Ameen and his servants
shall be presented with the usual
rate of batta on the expiration of
their service on the Island.

4. The post are pleased to sanction
the retention of the Establishment
while required, and the proposed
donation of Batta.

5. One individual, a considerable
landed proprietor and trader
on the Island, named Hussein
Malikan is reported to have shewn

steady and unflinching loyalty
of Government throughout the rebellion
and was in consequence perse-
cuted in a manner that has
evinced in most decisive proof of
himself both of his actual
income in the shape of Cocoanuts
sugar &c from his trees on the
Island of which he was deprived
in consequence of his whole people
the climbers &c having refused to
perform their usual avocations under
orders from the rebel headmen, and
also of the possible profits from 2
ships which are despatched annually
to Bengal; but which in common
with the whole of the trade in the
Island were stopped in 1835.

6. The Govt consider that the compen-
sation proposed has been calculated
on the narrowest limits, at the
three could of Hussein Malikandhoo-
duce on the spot without reference
to his great loss from a years inac-
tivity. And further it must be
remembered that besides this every
kind of indignity and insult
has been suffered by their means for

Rupees 1000.

* The Government will there-
fore be prepared to give
due consideration to any
more liberal sum that
the Collector may see fit
to propose.

his singular and uniform loy-
alty. * ~~But it does with the~~
~~Local Agent to intimate any~~
~~proposal for a larger award~~
The Ag. Collector will be pleased
to convey to Hussein Malikan
the high opinion of his services
entertained by the A.G. the
Gov in C. and sanction is
granted for distributing ~~Three~~
~~thousand Rupees (3000)~~
~~among~~ ~~thousand, of which~~ Rupees
1000/ one hundred each to two individ-
uals, a man and a woman
who suffered the severest indig-
nities at the hands of the
disorderly rebels during the revolt.

7. Having ~~received~~ perused their opinion of
the conduct of the Beebee in Para
14 and 15 of Collr of the 15 June
1837, the Govt do not consider
it necessary to do more in this
place than to observe
that the views then recor-
ded are fully borne out by what
Mr Robinson has stated in Para
16 of his letter respecting her con-

and

8. It only remains to pass orders respecting the retention at Calicut of the ringleaders in the disturbances. Six of these are now in Custody, and four others (now apparently absent on voyages from the Island) are to be kept by the Ameen when they arrive. Mr Robinson thinks that the people have no doubt been mystified as to their political position by the pretensions of the Beebee of Cannanore to independent Sovereignty, and consider "that there is an obvious "policy under the circumstances "in forbearance which is not "now likely to be misunderstood"

9. Under this Explanation the Govt will not press for further action against the Sisters. But as it is certainly desirable that the islanders should be taught practically to respect

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the powers of Govt, and made to suffer personal inconvenience on account of their late misconduct, the Govt retains the detention of the ten individuals named in the margin until further orders, under Sec. II Reg. II of 1819.

Mr Robinson will be good enough to report when he considers it expedient to allow them to return

11 The Board will transmit the accompanying Warrant at once to the Ag. Collector and will also be good enough to communicate to

12. ~~The Board~~

W.A.
May 3.

1. Tudal Soodalikal
2 Cassimy of Kalpeny
3 Tudal Ibrahim Kaloo
4 Sundy Ismail.
5 Kalliba Beebee
6 Addoo Kaka
7 Tudal Soodoo
8 Maloomy Avool Moosa
9 Kamba Mahomed
10 Bevoo Ibrahim

10

X to enjoin Thomas the assistance of Government of the manner in which he has done the important work entrusted to him.

WBB 5th

2 Copies to Bombay with warrant for Actg Collr
1 — Asst Collr
1 — Civil Auditor

13X

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Warrant of Commitment under
Reg II of 1819

To the Magistrate of Malabar.

Whereas the J. in C. for good and sufficient
reasons has seen fit to determine that
(1 Tindal Soodalikal, (2 Cassimy of Kalpeny
(3 Tindal Ibrahim Kaloo, (4 Tindy Ismail
(5 Kallika Beebee (6 Addoo Kaka (7 Tindal
Koodoo, (8 Malloomy Hood Moosa, (9
Kaumbai Mahomed, (10 Beero Ibrahim
shall be placed under personal restraint
at Calicut, you are hereby required and
commanded in pursuance of that
determination to receive the persons
above named into your custody, &
deal with them in conformity
with the orders of the J. in C. and
the provisions of Reg II of 1819.

Fort St George
the 1st of May 1838

By order of the J. in C.
W. B.
Sec to Govt

Copy sent to G. L. I. E.
d/ 15th Octr 1858. No 44

Para 11

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Revenue 1858 Department

Dft to Cons. 25th May

No 671

Extract Mins. of Cons.

Dated 21st May 1858

Cand. 2d Feby /58 No 65 & 66.
" 29th Octr /57 " 27 & 28.
" 23d June " " 14 & 15

Ex: from the Pro: of the Bd of Rev: dated 16 June 1858 C No 961 in Cons: 6 July

Extract from do do 9/20 Dec 58
C No 1972 in Cons 18 Jany /59

From the Secty to the Bd of Rev
9/22d June 1859 C No 1167 in Cons
8 July 909.

From do 9/22d Octr /59 C No 1796
in Cons.

From do 9/8th Octr /60 C No 2287

Authorizing the delivery in Malabar of the two individuals concerned in the disturbances in the Island of Miniakoi under section 11 Regulation II of 1819, and directing the Board to transmit the warrant accompanying at once to the Acting Collector of Malabar.

No 1414 / 45.

5 Jany 61