M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1758	Press ~~Mis.~~
50-57	
Dated 23—12—1859.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, for the month of December 1859.

No. 50. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department, dated 17th December 1859, No. 1679.

Communicating Extract Proceedings on the Home despatch conveying instructions that the ranks of the Police be as far as possible filled by efficient volunteers selected from the native army. (Vide Judicial Proceedings from 11th to 21st December 1859, Nos. 40-41.)

No. 51. ORDER THEREON, 23rd December 1859, No. 1758.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue for information.

(Signed) L. FORBES,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart, Secretary of State for India ; to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council of Fort Saint George, dated India Office, London, 3rd November 1859, No. 26.

Paragraph 1. With reference to former communications, pointing out the urgent necessity for a reduction in the number of Native Troops throughout India to the lowest scale compatible with efficiency, I request you will take into consideration the expediency of drafting selected men of these Levies and Regiments into the Military and Civil Police, and also into the Customs Departments. The long extended Customs line through the Punjab and North West Provinces, whereby the salt of the Punjab and Rajpootana is brought under taxation, might afford facilities for the employment of a good many Native Soldiers. The Civil Officers might be instructed to weed out all inefficient men in employment, and they should be strictly forbidden to fill up any vacancies which may hereafter occur, except in the manner now indicated.

2. The Police of Madras are now under organization ; this opportunity should be taken of filling up its ranks by efficient volunteers, selected from the Native Army, so that the reduction in its ranks may at least proceed *pari passu* with the organization of the Police. In order to render this arrangement popular and effective, the volunteers should as far as practicable, be drafted into Police Corps, in the vicinity of their own homes. It is of primary importance, that every effort be made to reduce the vast armed force which, under different denominations is eating up the resources of the State.

3. In a late Despatch, the Government of India point out the difficulty of reducing the Troops, from an apprehension of the danger which might be caused by letting loose large bodies of trained men in that country, at a time when some 20,000 Convicts are at large. It must be obvious that, the longer men remain in our ranks, the more likely are they to prove dangerous, when the time arrives for their discharge. The less fitted also will they have become for peaceful occupations ; the more accustomed will they be to a Military life and the use of arms. Large numbers of the Native Soldiers, it is understood, have gained much plunder during the last two years ; and these men would much more readily quit the service now, than a year or two hence, when they have spent these gains. And in respect to the number of Convicts still at large, I suggest that the Magistrates of Districts be instructed to call them in by proclamation, promising to all who have not been guilty of murder or any heinous crime since their release, or who come in of their own accord, certain remissions of the unexpired portion of their sentences. Such sentences might, with reference to the character of the crimes for which the Convicts have been convicted, be reduced, a fourth, a third, or even one-half. So long as these men remain loose and unpardoned, they must, in self-defence, be driven to prey on society, and resist the Government.

ORDER THEREON, 17th December 1859, No. 1679.

Resolved that a copy of the above Despatch be communicated to the Inspector General of Police, and the Adjutant General of the Army.

2. The particular attention of the Inspector General is called to the instructions conveyed in paragraph 2 of the Despatch, that the ranks of the Police be as far as possible filled by efficient volunteers selected from the Native Army, and that the volunteers should as far as practicable be drafted into Police Corps in the vicinity of their own homes ; and after he has fully communicated on the subject with the Adjutant General, the Inspector General will report to what extent and in what manner the instructions of the Secretary of State may be carried out so far as the new Madras Police is concerned.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Police.
" Adjutant General of the Army.
" Military Department.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Revenue 1859 Dept
Pro: of Govt 31st Decr

No 2415

Proceedings of the
Madras Govt in the
Judicial Departt

Dated 17th Decr 1859
Recd 21st Decr 1859
No 1679.

Communicating Extract Proceedings on the Home Despatch conveying instructions that the ranks of the Police be as far as possible filled by efficient volunteers selected from the Native army -

No 1758. 23d December
Withdrawn order

No 50 & 51.

No 1758.

Ordered Police com-
municated to the Board
of Revenue for information

Fort St. Geo. 23d Decr
1859.

Copies to the Bd of Rev.
with Pro. J.D. No 1679. Disp. 23 -