Madras Record office.

Government of Madras

Revenue Department.

G. O. No. 508

Dated. 12th April 1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

No. 63. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department, dated 4th April 1859, No. 1285.

Observing that under the arrangement proposed by Mr. Forbes for the Sebundy corps taking the duties at Russelcondah, there will be no objection to the continued occupation of Berhampore by a Regiment of N. I. as heretofore, and requiring him to inform from what date he will be prepared to dispense with the services of the Regiment now at Russelcondah.

(Vide Military Consultation 5th April 1859, Nos. 60-61.)

No. 64. ORDER THEREON, No. 508 ; dated 12th April 1859.

Ordered to be communicated to the Collector of Ganjam, for early reply through the Board of Revenue.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

No. 1285.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 4th April 1859.

Read Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, in the Revenue Department, under date the 15th March 1859, *No.* 328.

From the Collector of Ganjam, Berhampore, 28th February 1859, *No.* 28 ; *to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George.*

Para. 1. I have lately received through the Board of Revenue an Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 25th January 1859, No. 327, communicating to the Board an Extract from a letter addressed to Government by the Quarter Master General of the Army ; in which it is stated that Government approve the withdrawal of the Regiment from Berhampore to the Divisional Head Quarters.

2. I conceive it to be my duty to state, that if a Regiment is not maintained at Berhampore, it will be absolutely necessary for the security of the district to station one elsewhere in this neighbourhood.

3. The grounds on which I state this opinion, are not of a kind likely to have come under the notice of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, or of the General Commanding the Division, and I much regret that the former found it inconvenient or inexpedient to extend his tour to this district. Had such an occasion afforded me the opportunity of communicating with His Excellency, I should have explained to him the peculiar circumstances to which I now think it right to request the attention of the Government.

4. The Zemindary estates which form so large a portion of this district, maintain a body of armed peons numbering in all some thousands. These men hold lands on feudal tenure under the Zemindars, and are charged with the security of their estates from incursions either by neighbouring Zemindars or the independent hill tribes which surround this district to the North and West.

5. These men are not always entirely under the control of their chiefs, but their conduct is not generally turbulent except in cases of disputes regarding boundaries and water courses, and they are no doubt restrained and kept in order by the consciousness that superior force is at hand if necessary to coerce them.

6. To withdraw the Troops from this part of the country however would alter the position of these samustanum peons very much, and cause great apprehension among merchants and householders who still remember the state of disorganization and anarchy which prevailed in this very talook (Moherry) before its annexation.

7. The withdrawal of regular Troops from Russelcondah is perhaps of less importance, as irregular Troops are on the spot, and the removal of the Regiment would not leave the station unprotected.

8. If however the Supreme Government are disposed to make trial of a different system in their attempts to put an end to Meriah sacrifices among the Khond tribes within our limits, the two Companies of Sebundies at present attached to the Meriah Agency, if transferred to the small body already maintained at Russelcondah under Command of a Military Assistant, Captain Smith, would render that force sufficiently strong for the security of the province of Goomsur without other aid, while the establishment of one or two additional Police Stations on the borders of the Khond country, supported by detached parties of Sebundies, would operate with probably as much success as the present system of annual tours on the hill tribes.

9. I have to apologize for the introduction of this subject, but the importance of avoiding additional expenditure has led me to point out an arrangement which would leave a Regiment at the disposal of Government without risking the security of Goomsur, which from its position and antecedents it is particularly important should remain tranquil.

10. I should have deferred addressing the Government until called upon to express my views, were it not that references occupy so long a time at this distance from Madras, and that new arrangements are understood to be at this moment occupying the attention of Government.

Ordered to be referred to the Military Department, with reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation in that Department, dated 25th January 1859, No. 327.

(A true Extract.)
(Signed) W. C. SIM.
Ag. Dy. Secretary to Government.

The Governor in Council observes, that under the arrangement proposed by Mr. Forbes, for the Sebundy Corps taking the duties at Russelcondah, there will be no objection to the continued occupation of Berhampore by a Regiment of Native Infantry as heretofore.

2 Mr. Forbes will cause Government to be informed, from what date he will be prepared to dispense with the services of the Regiment now at Russelcondah, with a view to the necessary communication being made to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

(True Extract and Copy.)

H. Marshall Lt Col
Sg. Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department. With 20 spare Copies
„ Quarter Master General.

Exd. J. E. Cashart.

Cons 15th March 1859 N° 724
73

Revenue 1859 Dept.
Cons 12th April.

N° 618.

Extract from the
Mins. of Cont. in the
Military Department.

Dated 4th April 1859.
Rec'd 9th
Extract from Bd of Revenue 13th
May 1859 N° 866 in Cons.

Observing that under
the arrangement proposed
by Mr. Fowles for the Sebundy
Corps taking the duties at
Rungeelcondah there will be
no objection to the continued
occupation of Berhampore
by a Regt. of N. I. as hereto for
& requiring him to inform from
what date he will be prepared
to dispense with the services
of the Regt. now at Rungeel-
-condah.
N° 508. 12th April 1859.
With an Order

N° 508.

Ordered to be
communicated to the Col-
lector of Gunjam, for early
reply, through the Br. of Rev.

Fort St. Geo.
12 April 1859.

N° 63 & 64.

1 Copy To
The Collector of Gunjam Dr. 13th
3 Copies to the Board of Revenue with G.M.C. N° 1285
Dispr. 13th
with Dr.