M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 698 Press / ~~Mis.~~

22.23

Dated 1-5- 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, for the month of May 1860.

No. 22. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 19th April 1860, No. 1,479.

Considering it desirable that a further report of the Palkonda Hills should be obtained whenever an opportunity offers. } (Vide Military Proceedings from 11th to 21st April 1860, No. 282 to 284.)

No. 23. ORDER THEREON, 1st May 1860, No. 698.

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

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

From the Quarter Master General of the Army, Fort Saint George, 4th February 1860, *No.* 44; *to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.*

I am directed by the Commander-in-Chief to request, you will be so good as to submit, the annexed copies of two letters from the Officer Commanding and Superintending Surgeon of the Ceded Districts on the subject of the Cantonment of Cuddapah with following remarks of His Excellency.

2. If a Regiment of the Line can be dispensed with at Cuddapah it will, doubtless, be very desirable that it should be withdrawn from so very unhealthy a locality. Sir P. Grant has, however, been informed that the population of the District never has been well effected, and that therefore, it is necessary to maintain Troops, at this Station, of this, His Excellency observes, the Civil Government are, no doubt, better informed than he can be.

3. The state of the roads in the Cuddapah District was brought prominently to notice in Colonel A. Cotton's Memorandum appended to the Commander-in-Chief's Minute of 11th March 1858.

Referred for consideration in the Revenue Department, regarding the withdrawal of the Troops; and to the D. P. W. with reference to the state of the roads.

10*th February* 1860.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10*th March* 1860, *No.* 1240.

Read the following letter:—

From the Acting Collector of Cuddapah, 5th March 1860, *No.* 24; *to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George.*

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the Proceedings* of Government, Revenue Department, in which the unhealthiness of Cuddapah as a station for Troops is commented on, and I am desired to express my views as to whether it may be abandoned as such with safety.

*20*th February* 1860, *No.* 269.

2. My stay here has been so short, that I should hesitate to give a decided opinion in the Mr. Cochrane's reports on the disturbances caused by Narasimha Reddi, in 1846, in both of which the general loyalty of the people of the District is prominently adverted to. Though these gentlemen differ on many points as regards the causes proximate and remote of this rebellion, they are quite in accord in one; viz. that the outbreak was exceptional in its character, not joined in, or even sympathized with, by the inhabitants generally, and that they were then and had been for long undoubtedly loyal and well affected to Government as a body. My own experience, so far as it goes, leads me to concur entirely in this opinion. The causes adverted to by Mr. Inglis as those which originated the outbreak no longer exist. The rules of the Inám Commission have been extensively promulgated throughout the District, and as their working has been favorably viewed by the Inámdars of all classes in Masulipatam; so I have no doubt it will be by them here, when the operations of the Commission commence, attachment of, or indeed, interference of any sort with Ináms has entirely ceased here, pending the Commissioner's arrival.

3. Employment for the laboring population, at high rates of pay, is now to be had to the full extent of their ability to avail themselves of it, in consequence of the commencement of the works on the north-west line of Railway. The Department Public Works also aid materially in the same good cause: and when the Irrigation and Canal Company are in the field, as they soon will be, the competition of these three rivals cannot fail to raise labor rates and prices generally still higher than they are now. There could not be a better guarantee for the loyalty and good behaviour of the population than such a state of things as this, for it gives them a direct interest in maintaining the peace of the country. The ryots are generally well to do; their attachment to Government is, therefore, also secured by the strongest, if not the most tu[illegible] that of self-interest. Of the Mahomedans who do not engage much in agricul- [illegible] offensive set of people [illegible] petty crimes of all sorts. I have never seen one with the same population where there was so little work for the Magistrate; and I may say the same for the whole District, taking into account *only* those crimes which are punishable by the Magistracy, whether under their ordinary or enhanced powers. I am, therefore, of opinion, that so soon as an efficient Police is organised and in active operation, the presence of a Military force here may safely and entirely be dispensed with.

4. Though it be rather a digression, I beg leave here to remark on a spot not far from Cuddapah where in all probability, a Sanitarium might be found. I allude to a range of hills distant about 15 miles, and known as the Pálkonda or Yerramalla Hills. Captain Stewart when Acting [illegible] to 69° [illegible]

Arachy.

with the Sub-Collector, Mr. Molony, and the Native Surgeon stationed here, in July last, which may be considered a particularly favorable time for the development of fever, were it prevalent there; for the south-west monsoon had fairly set in, and rain fell heavily while we were encamped on the top. We remained there three days; and none of ourselves or our servants suffered in the least, though the latter were very badly sheltered, sleeping in bechobas with nothing, but a little straw between them and the damp ground. To save space, I forward a copy of the Native Surgeon's report on our visit to these hills. I think it would be well worth the while of Government, so long as Troops are stationed here, to try the experiment of establishing a Convalescent Depôt there. It might be done at small expense, as materials for the erection of temporary Barracks are at hand on the spot in abundance; and, I believe, that to secure plenty of good-water, it would only be requisite to sink one or two wells. The best locality for the Barracks is about seven miles distant from Goovulcheevu, which is on the high road to Chittur. From this village to where the actual ascent commences, a distance of about four miles, a Timber track has already been made by the District Engineer, and the actual ascent is at that spot short and by no means difficult in its present state. It might be much improved at a moderate outlay.

5. It is worthy of remark that, according to the statements of the older inhabitants of Cuddapah the unhealthiness of the station, which has visibly increased during the last 10 years, was almost unknown 20 years ago. This is universally asserted, and I have myself heard it from one or two perfectly reliable sources.

Extract from the Quarterly Report of Native Surgeon M. Aiyaswami for the months of July, August and September 1859.

3. On the 10th of July I accompanied Mr. J. Fraser, the Acting Collector, to inspect a hill called "Yerramalla," the foot of which is about 17 miles in a straight line due East from Cuddapah. It forms part of a range called the "Palcondah Hills." The climate on its summit was reported in January last, by the late District Engineer, Captain Stewart, to be very cool and bracing and well calculated to form a place of resort for the European residents of this place during the hot seasons. I am informed, that it has never been occupied as a Sanitarium by any of the European residents, at any time, though its existence was not quite unknown to many.

We arrived at the foot of the hill on the 10th July and commenced ascending it on the following morning at 6 A. M. and reached the summit, from its south-eastern side, at 11 A. M. The ascent was rather difficult and circuitous. After ascending about three miles, we crossed a lower range, and ascending more, came to a large table-land, and traversing this about a mile we entered a by-path, which led through a dense jungle and at the end we saw another large platform, placed between hills. Here we encamped for the day. The tent was pitched in [illegible] feet above the town of Cuddapah. The hills in the neighbourhood, particularly those on the Eastern side, were considerably higher. The ground, at the place of our encampment, is level and cultivated to a small extent.

5. During our ascent, we observed no springs, or streams of running water, nor could I discover any on any part of the plateau which I visited, although I looked carefully for them. At the place of our encampment, we obtained our supply of water, from a large well, which was recently constructed by an enterprising Raiyat of Vonghemullah for an Indigo Manufactory. The water was abundant, clear, soft and sweet. I believe there is sufficient water in it all the year round.

6. The hill appears to be composed of limestone and granite, which are well covered with a rich soil, and well suited for culture. Iron ores have been found on the hills in large quantities.

7. For the time we were on the hill, the Thermometer ranged thus: at 6 A. M. 66°; at 12 A. M. 73°; at 5 P. M. 69°; At Cuddapah on the same date, the range of the Thermometer was as follows:—At 10 A. M. 92°; at 4 P. M. 88° at sunset 88°.

The climate was bracing and agreeable, the mornings and evenings being cool and pleasant. We wandered nearly the whole day in the jungle, and did not feel particularly fatigued, or oppressed by the heat.

8. On the morning of the third day, we set out to descend the hill, by a different path on its north-western aspect. After crossing several large table lands, most of them under cultivation, we arrived at the path about at 10 A. M. Here the hill slopes gradually down to the valley beneath, called the "Kaukón." The descent was effected with the greatest ease, the passage, though a cow-path, being quite practicable for horses and palanqueens. A road may be easily and cheaply [illegible] 1000 [illegible] would command an extensive view. The soil is rich and I have no doubt, that all vegetable products would thrive exceedingly well. The sides of the valley are clothed to a considerable height, with luxurient wood. Teak, Rosewood, Redwood, Blackwood, are the principal woods seen.

9. Several small streams of running water are on the north-west side of the slope; I am unable to learn whether they run in the dry season or not.

10. On the top of some peaks and ridges, groups of houses, not exceeding six or seven in number, were seen, they were inhabited by a wild tribe named Yánádís. They subsist chiefly by the products of the jungle, such as bulbous roots, fruits, nuts, honey, &c., some hunt wild [illegible] the men and wo[illegible]

disagreeable. The males are said to be remarkable for strength and agility. Nothing, I am old, would induce them to cultivate the land, but they are marvelously dexterous in extracting noney even from the most dangerously precipitious rocks. The raiyats, who come from below, o cultivate the platforms, generally engage them to watch their fields, against the depredations f wild animals.

11. The people are not subject to climate or any particular kind of disease, and suffer but eldom from fever; I examined the spleen of several of them, they were all healthy. They appear to have enjoyed a perfect immunity from Cholera.

12. Each man has two or three wives; the children are healthy and vigorous. I am unable o state the average number of the families.

13. These are the people, I believe who have existed for centuries without either the power, r wish, to make the first step in civilization.

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1. Resolved that the above letter be submitted to Government, with reference to their Order, dated 20th ultimo, Revenue Department, No. 269.

Cons. 21st February 1860, *No.* 819.

2. The Board concur with the Acting Collector that the Regiment now at Cuddapah may withdrawn as soon as the new Police is organised.

3. The Sanitarium suggested by Mr. Fraser would be of great value to the European idents of the station, whose number, however, will be greatly reduced when the Regiment removed.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Secretary.*

ORDER THEREON, 11th April 1860, No. 554.

Ordered to be communicated to the Inspector General of Police with reference to the Order ed 20th February 1860, No. 269. Mr. Robinson will be requested to report when he will be e to commence the organization of the new Police in the Cuddapah District.

(True Extract.)

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

ORDER, No. 1479, 19*th April* 1860.

1. Communicated to the Commander-in-Chief.

2. With reference to the Despatch [illegible] Council considers it desirable that a further report of the Palkonda Hills should be obtained whenever an opportunity offers.

ndia, 24th January 1859, *No.* 1429,—*with copy of Military letter No.* 73, 15*th December* 1858.

(True Extract.)

Dy. Secretary to Government.

the Quarter Master General,
, Revenue Department. With 10 spare Copies.

W. D'Arachy.

20th. Feby. 1860 Nos. 116-117

Revenue 1860 Depart
Pro: of Govt 10th May
No. 886

Proceedings of the Govt in the Military Department

Dated 19th April 1860
Recd. 28th

Considering it desirable that a further report of the Pallkonda Hills should be obtained whenever an opportunity offers

Nos. 22 & 23.

Pro: of the Do 1st June
& No. 1484 intro.

No. 698.

Ordered to be
municated to the Board of
for information and guid

Fort St. Geo.
1st. May 1860.

Copies to the Board of Rev
with Pro: dated 1st May

No. 698. 1st June
Ordered