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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1844 — Press / Mis.

410-44

Dated 30-8-1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th August 1862.

No. 410. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department, dated 25th August 1862, No. 1,383 :—

Furnishing Revenue Department with copy of letter from Magistrate of the Godavery District reporting on the state of affairs in the Rumpa country. (Vide Judicial Proceedings, 25th August 1862, Nos. 256, 257.)

No. 411. ORDER THEREON, 30th August 1862, No. 1,844.

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

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from A. PURVIS, Esq., Magistrate of the Godavery District; to the Honorable T. PYCROFT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Rajahmundry, 15th August 1862, No. 308.

I have the honor with reference to my Telegram of yesterday's date, to submit a report on the state of affairs in the Rumpa country.

2. The Government are aware that the tract of country, under reference, is situated on a part of the Northern Frontier of this District. It is very thinly populated, wild, and mountainous, and the climate, during most part of the year, unhealthy. It formed part of the old Kottapille Taluk which, under the new territorial arrangement of the District, was included under Rajahmundry, with a Sub-Magistrate, however, resident not far from the Rumpa border.

3. The country is ostensibly in charge of a Munsufdar Ram Bhupaty. He pays no revenue to Government, but the conditions of his holding the country are that he should keep the peace in it, and prevent the inhabitants of it committing depredations on the low country. A former holder of the country died in 1838, when the country was nominally taken under the management of the Court of Wards. When the present Munsufdar attained his majority the subject was brought under the consideration of Government and they directed the restoration of the country under the conditions on which it had previously been held.

4. Ram Bhupaty has, however, never, I believe I may say, been able to exercise any real authority over several of the Muttadars, and disputes and complaints by the Munsufdar against several of the Muttadars of non-payment of his demands and general resistance to his authority, have been frequent. Attempts have been, from time to time, made to settle matters amicably but with but little success. The Munsufdar is a son of a concubine of the former Munsufdar, and has not, as it was hoped when put in possession he might be, been successful in securing the respect of the Muttadars. He has unfortunately long had as his chief adviser a man to whom the Muttadars generally are very inimical, and whom they accuse of getting up false charges against them. The Munsufdar has never resided in the country since it was made over to him.

N. B.—The country is sub divided into a number of Muttas.

5. Some little time ago two murders were committed in the Rumpa country. The relatives of those murdered laid their complaint before the Sub-Magistrate and warrants were, in due course, issued for their apprehension. The Constables charged with them were prevented entering the country to execute them. Shortly afterwards a body of the Rumpa people headed, it is believed, by some of the Muttadars most inimical to the Munsufdar, plundered a village belonging to another Muttadar in the Rumpa country and a few days afterwards the same party attacked and plundered one of the 6 villages in the plains which are held by the Munsufdar.

6. It then became necessary to vindicate the law and endeavour to effect the apprehension of the parties charged with the murders, and the principals in the plundering of the villages above named. It was useless to apply to the Munsufdar. He has clearly no authority whatever over the people of the country or even means of furnishing aid, I therefore requested the Superintendent of Police to execute the warrants.

7. His attempt, with the armed reserve, to enter the country, was resisted by armed men and his parties fired on. He succeeded, however, in penetrating the country and in recovering some of the cattle stolen from the villages already named, but was not able to effect the apprehension of any of the offenders. The want of knowledge of the country and the very difficult nature of it present almost insurmountable obstacles to the seizure of the offenders by the Police. The Superintendent of Police states it to be his opinion that a part of the country may be said to be in arms against the State, but I believe it is the Munsufdar and not the Government that the people are opposed to. As mentioned in my telegram none of the Police suffered any injury.

8. As it does not appear to me that any object will be attained by further attempts to effect the apprehension of the offenders by proceeding into the country, I have requested the Superintendent to dispose the force at his disposal in such a manner as best to guard the low country from further depredations, of which however he does not consider there is much risk, and I hope to-morrow to be able to enter into further details as to the position of the Munsufdar and as to the best course to be followed in reference to the state of affairs reported.

9. The Superintendent of Police recommends that rewards should be offered for the apprehension of the principal offenders, and I agree with him in thinking that such an offer might have a good effect, and I therefore request the authority of Government to offer rewards as follows :—

Bundapille Pundu Dora...	.. ...	Rupees 500
Korla Rajareddi...	... ...	„ 300
Vaducur Mullureddi...	... ...	„ 300
Punda Chellegadu...	... ...	„ 200
Punda Pundadu...	... ...	„ 200
Carum Pandu Dora...	... ...	„ 300
Nellur Gungareddi...	... ...	„ 200
Punda Butchegadu...	.. ...	„ 200

ORDER THEREON, 25th August 1862, No. 1,383.

The Governor in Council authorizes the Magistrate of the Godavery District to offer rewards amounting altogether to (Rupees 2,200) two thousand two hundred Rupees, for the capture of the eight offenders named in the last paragraph of his letter.

2. A copy of Mr. Purvis' letter will be furnished to the Revenue Department.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Magistrate of the Godavery District.
„ Civil Paymaster.
„ Accountant General.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Inspector General of Police.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Revenue 1862 Volt
Proc: of Govt for August
№ 2422

Proceedings of the
Madras Govt. on
the Jud. Dept. Affairs.

Dated 25th Augt.
Received 26th 1862.

№ 1383.

Pro. Madras Govt in the Judicial
Deptt. dd 19th Sept 62. & № 2697 in Pro.
Pro. Judl. Dept dd 6th Oct 63
& № 2416

Furnishing Rev.
Deptt with copy of letter
from Magistrate of the
Godavery District
reporting on the State
of affairs in the
Rumpa Country.

№ 1844 - 30 Augt

With an order

№ 10 & 11.

№ 1846

Ordered to be communica-
ted to the Board of Revenue for
information.

To St George
30 Augt 62

14 Encls
Board of Revenue
with Pro. Judl. Dept. Dis. 30 Aug