M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 20	Press Mis.
87-28	
Dated 7-1-1863	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 37. Read the following letter from W. G. McIVOR, Esq., Superintendent, Government Chinchona Plantations, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 20th December 1862, No. 76 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to enclose Memorandum No. 73, detailing an outrage perpetrated by the Reverend G. U. Pope, the Jail Chaplain of this Station.

2. I was unwilling to presume to ask the Government to decide the merits of the case on assertions made by either party, and as I learned that it was Mr. Pope's opinion, that he not only could convey to me as a Government servant, in the execution of my duty, the most wanton insult and outrage, but that he could also add the further injury of damaging my reputation with the Government, I proceeded to make a deposition of the facts of the case before the Justice of the Peace, with a view to prosecuting under Chapter X, Section 189, and Chapter XXII, Section 504 of the Penal Code, when the evidence adduced on both sides would have enabled the Government to form an impartial opinion of the position of facts.

3. Through Major Wapshare, the enclosed* apology was tendered to me, by Mr. Pope ; and as I have no wish to proceed to extremes with a Clergyman, I have accepted it, so far as my personal feelings are concerned. I consider, however, that it is desirable to place the Government in possession of the facts, which gave rise to this unpleasant matter.

* Enclosure marked C.

4. On Friday the 12th instant, Mr. Pope and his pupils, while passing through the Chinchona Nursery grounds, and within the walled enclosure, the gates of which they forcibly opened, by threatening to assault the man in charge, and so intimidated him that he abandoned his post. In this enclosure a road or pathway was made by me this year, communicating with the Nursery beds, and immediately in the vicinity of where we are now building our new propagating pits. Upon this road was placed to dry a quantity of green bricks, which had been made the day previous; over these soft bricks for a distance of 26 yards (or the entire distance they were placed on the road) between 40 and 50 of Mr. Pope's pupils deliberately walked, destroying between 700 and 1,000 of them. The bricks were so soft that each footstep sunk into them from one to three inches, and thus they must have been walked over with difficulty, and as there was sufficient space by the side of the road, over which Mr. Pope's pupils might have passed without damaging the bricks, tends to establish the destruction of them as wanton and intended; more especially as this was the third occasion on which Mr. Pope's pupils had damaged the green bricks, on or near the same spot.

5. Mr. Pope's letter in reply to my communication of the 13th instant, being withdrawn, I shall not proceed to notice its spirit and tone; but as this communication has been laid before the Government, it requires some attention, as in paragraph 5 it is asserted that the disgusting language used by Mr. Pope's pupils to the men in charge of the Gardens "was confined to one little boy." This necessitates my furnishing the Government with a detail of what took place on that occasion, which happened on a Sunday afternoon some months ago, when our two East Indian Apprentices, together, with a Native gardener, was in charge of the gardens; one of the Apprentices, a young man of 19 years of age, came and begged my interference, as seven of Mr. Pope's eldest boys, together with one of the teachers had (when he and the others in charge of the gardens interfered with them, when pulling fruit and running over the Nursery beds,) threatened a combined assault, and used offensive and disgusting language. I immediately went to Mr. Pope, and informed him of the report which had been brought to me. In the presence of his pupils and our men Mr. Pope asserted that the report was false, and that his boys were "gentlemen's sons," and would not use such language; he then made an attack upon myself, by telling me that I had no business to keep "spies" in the gardens. I told Mr. Pope that what I had a right to do, or not to do in the gardens, was not the matter in dispute, but the correctness, or otherwise of the report, that had been brought to me. I then asked him to bring the accused boys in front of their accusers and we would soon ascertain the position of the facts. This was done, and one of the pupils in the party of the seven accused, admitted for himself and

the others, the correctness of the accusation. This rather confused Mr. Pope, and he reprimanded them by telling them that to use such language "was a disgrace to him" and "to his "school," and also a disgrace to themselves as sons of gentlemen; but he immediately averted to the subject of the "spies" in the gardens, as Mr. Pope was pleased to call the men in charge; and thus in my opinion gave his pupils to understand that he would offer no objection to their using resistance to the so-called "spies" provided it was not of the disgraceful nature in question.

6. Apologizing for troubling the Government with this lengthened communication, which I would not have forwarded had I not learnt that Mr. Pope had already laid the matter before the Chief Secretary, I trust the Government may be pleased to order a copy of Mr. Pope's communication to be furnished to me, as it is on the assurance that his communication contains no defamatory matter that the apology has been accepted.

A.

From W. G. McIVOR, Esq., Superintendent Government Botanical Gardens and Chinchona Plantations, Ootacamund, to the Reverend G. U. POPE, Ootacamund, dated Ootacamund, 13th December 1862, No. 71.

Reverend Sir,

With reference to your threat of yesterday to continue by violence to force your way and that of your pupils, through the Government Gardens and Chinchona Nurseries, which are not open to the public. The wilful destruction you have caused to the Government property under my charge, combined with the entire disrespect you have always shown to the observance of the rules framed by Government, for the protection of the gardens, constrains me for the present, pending a reference to Government, to forbid you and your pupils from entering the Government Gardens; this is the more necessary as you have thought proper to convey to me a threat, and in addition openly to avow that you do not recognize me as having any authority to interfere with what you do in the gardens. Moreover, not only have you invariably violated the rules, by trespassing, or allowing your pupils to trespass over the lawns, and flower beds, but on several occasions have you permitted the most wanton destruction to the garden property; and your pupils when checked in doing this, were with your knowledge, and without punishment by you, allowed to use both threatening and the most insulting and disgusting language to the Government servants in charge of the said property.

B.

From Reverend G. U. POPE, to W. G. McIVOR, Esq., dated Ootacamund Grammar School, December 13th 1862.

Sir,

1. I have no wish to enter any parts of the gardens which are not open to public.

2. In regard to the accusation you bring against me and my pupils I shall content myself with telling you that it is *totally false*.

3. You allow your temper to betray you into the use of what you must know and feel to be altogether unwarrantable language.

4. A few sun-burnt bricks, for ten times the value of which I would gladly have paid, were you say injured.

5. The "disgusting language" you speak of was confined to one little boy, whom I severely reproved in your presence.

6. The only case of trespass I ever knew, or as I believe ever occurred, I reported to you.

7. This my letter with your most impertinent and untrue communication I shall forward to Government for their information.

P. S.—As your letter is offensive I shall decline to receive any further communications from you.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 7th January 1863.

C.

From Reverend G. U. POPE, to J. McIVOR, Esq., Superintendent, Public Gardens, dated December 20th 1862.

Sir,

I beg to withdraw my letter to you of the 13th instant; and also to retract and express my regret that I should have used any expressions verbally towards you which you may have considered offensive and in any way wounding to your feelings.

D.

From W. G. McIVOR, Esq., to Reverend G. U. POPE, dated 20th December 1862.

Sir,

I beg to say that in my letter to you of 13th instant, I did not mean to assert that you had actually aided and abetted your boys in doing mischief in the Government Gardens, but that in my opinion sufficient control and sufficient severe measures had not been exercised by you for its prevention.

(True Copies.)

(Signed.) W. G. McIVOR,

Superintendent Government Chinchona Plantations.

Memorandum of W. G. McIVOR, Esq., Superintendent, Government Chinchona Plantations, dated Ootacamund, 19th December 1862, No. 73.

1. On Friday evening the 13th instant I went to Mr. Wilson's on business. While there the Reverend G. U. Pope, rode up, after the usual salutations, I observed that I intended to write to him but as I had met him, it would save the trouble. Your boys this morning walked over and destroyed a number of green bricks we were making in the garden, and as they have done this once or twice before, I hope you will put a stop to them doing so again. He replied don't you think the bricks were too much in the road, and perhaps the boys did not know they were soft. I observed that he was immediately behind the boys and must have seen the damage they were doing, and pointed out that the road was not a public one. Mr. Pope asserted that it was "a public road." I observed it could not be so, as I had only recently made it myself, he replied in a most insulting tone, "You are very presuming as you have been to others," the road is a public road. I have known it to be such ever since I came to the Hills." I observed since this is your opinion to prevent further damage I must stop the road altogether. He exclaimed "who are you! I recognize you as having no authority, and shall force a passage." I informed him that I addressed him in my public capacity and warned him against doing so. He observed I speak to you as one of the public, and shall force a passage if you dare to stop it.

2. I again warned him not to attempt to come over the road again as I would take means to prevent him doing so. He then made some remarks on the difficulty of legislating on such subjects, and again threatening to force a passage, rode away.

No. 38. Order thereon, 7th January 1863, No. 20.

The Reverend G. U. Pope having requested that his letter might be suppressed, the Government cannot give Mr. McIvor a copy of it or take any notice of its contents.

(Signed.) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

Revenue Department

No. 20.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
under date the 7th January 1863.

Read the following
letter from the Superin-
tendent Civil Establishments
Queencamund.

Submitting for the
information of Govt. par-
ticulars of an outrage
perpetrated by the Revd
G. U. Pope, the Civil Chap-
lain of Ootacamund;
enclosing to the same
effect a petition
addressed to the Govt.
by the Revd. Mr. Pope
and requesting the
Govt. to take the subject
into consideration.

(Mem. entd. 20th October
1862 No 1)

Mr. Revd. Mr. Pope
G. U. Pope having ex-
pressed that his letter
granted that his letter
might be withdrawn
the Govt. consent gran-
ted & Mr. Pope accordingly
on 8th Nov. 1862 wrote
contents

Revenue
Dept.
1862 Dept.
Pros. of Govt. for December 1863.
No 3532
From
The Superintendent
Civil Establishments
Ootacamund.

To
The Secretary to Government
of Madras

Dated 20th
Rec'd 23rd December 1862

No 76.

With Two Enclosures

S. C. No 20. 7th Jany.

Submits for the
information of Govern-
ment particulars of
an outrage perpetrated
by the Revd G. U. Pope,
the Civil Chaplain of
Ootacamund.

Mem. 1862

letter to Mr. Pope withdrawn by Mr. Pope's request. Govt. 8th Nov. 1862

Orders requested. The Revd Mr. Pope has requested his letter to be "withdrawn" & by order in Council it was "lodged". This letter reached this morning while I was upon the Case which I think may well be left as it is.

23/12

No 37

Read Dec. 26 & 5 Jan. 63.