

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	936	Press Mis.
Dated	21-4-	1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st April 1866.*

No. 322. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Military Department:—

Communicating papers furnishing the required
information on the alleged assault by the
Sepoys of the 11th Regiment upon the Tahsil-
dar of Berhampore. } (Here enter 17th April 1866, No. 1,359.)

No. 323. ORDER THEREON, 21st April 1866, No. 936.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

From the Assistant Adjutant General, Fort Saint George, 11th April 1866, No. 222 ;
to the Secretary to Government, Military Department.

Adverting to Proceedings of Government No. 740, dated 24th February 1866,

No. 458, dated 20th February 1866.
Paragraph 3. The Government wish to know, if any notice was taken of the conduct of the Sepoys, if proof of their participation in the assault on the Tahsildar was obtained.

communicating to this Department the Order of Government in the Revenue Department as per margin, I have the honor, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, to submit, for the information of Government, letter No. 53, dated 16th

March 1866, from the Commandant, 11th Regiment Native Infantry, stating that there was no proof of the Sepoys of that Regiment having participated in the assault upon the Tahsildar of Berhampore, as reported in the 3rd paragraph of letter No. 88, dated 27th January 1866, from the Collector of Ganjam.

From the Commandant, 11th Regiment Native Infantry, Berhampore, 16th March 1866, No. 53 ;
to the Brigade Major Northern District, Waltair.

With reference to paragraph 4 of the Order of Government No. 458, dated 20th February 1866, forwarded with your memorandum No. 99 of 10th instant, I have the honor to state as follows :—

1. For several days in the beginning of November of last year, all the grain merchants in Berhampore closed their shops and entirely stopped the sale of rice ; I reported the circumstance officially to the Collector of the District, and requested that he would do what lay in his power to better matters, as the Sepoys of the 11th Regiment had begun to complain that no rice whatever was procurable in the bazaar ; he replied that he had no control over the market, but had directed the Assistant Collector at Berhampore to render all the aid that was possible ; about the 7th November, information was received from the Civil authorities, that if the Sepoys would go to the Tahsildar's he would procure some rice for them ; a number of men accordingly went to the Tahsildar's house, in a quiet and orderly manner, with money in their hands to pay for the rice which they were led to expect that he would issue ; the Tahsildar sent word to them to wait, and after waiting some time and seeing that no rice was forth coming, the men, with a very few exceptions, withdrew and returned to the lines—this was corroborated by the Police Constables ; the crowd which was promiscuously composed of towns-people and outside villagers then became clamorous, and the Tahsildar is said to have been assaulted.

2. With reference to the last part of paragraph 3 of the Collector's letter No. 88 of 27th January 1866, I have the honor to bring to notice, that whilst the disturbance was going on, the Assistant Collector applied to me to place some Sepoys at his disposal, for the protection of the grain merchants, and to prevent the disturbance becoming more serious, as it was feared that the towns-people and outside villagers, who were parading the town in a large body, would loot the bazaar. I immediately placed a sub-division under the Command of a Subadar at his disposal, and they remained in the town until quietness was restored.

3. Mr. Thornhill, the Collector, and Captain Stuart, Superintendent of Police, afterwards waited upon me and requested, that I would give every assistance in enabling them to detect the man or men whom it was alleged had struck the Tahsildar.

4. A roll call was accordingly ordered, Captain Stuart, Mr. Stuart, Assistant Collector, the Tahsildar and Peons, some Constables and bazaar men attended the parade and walked down the ranks of each Company ; the Tahsildar said he could not identify the man who struck him, but three men were picked out who were said to have been concerned in the assault on the Tahsildar.

5. On the following morning these men were ordered up before Captain Stuart and the Tahsildar at the Adjutant's quarters ; the men stated their readiness to prove an alibi, and afterwards satisfactorily did so ; Captain Stuart appeared to be satisfied with their statement, and told the Adjutant that, if necessary, he would summon them hereafter ; the case was thus left in the hands of the Civil authorities, by whom no more notice was taken of it, and I have since been informed that it was dropped for want of evidence.

6. I beg to add, that I took every precaution to prevent the men in future being in any way whatever concerned in an occurrence of such a nature, and although since then, rice has been at times scarcely procurable and of an inferior quality, and at all times at famine price, no occasion whatever has been given for complaint against any Sepoy of the 11th Regiment.

No. 215.

Transferred to Adjutant General, with reference to his docket No. 1051, dated Fort Saint George, 5th March 1866.

HEAD QUARTERS, NORTHERN DISTRICT,
WALTAIR, 19th March 1866.

(Signed) R. N. FAUNCE, Brigadier Genl.,
Comg. Northern District.

ORDER, No. 1359, 17th April 1866.

Ordered that the foregoing papers be communicated to the Revenue Department, with reference to paragraph 4 of the Order in that Department No. 458, dated 20th February 1866.

(True Extract.)

To the Revenue Department.
Adjutant General.

Alumination
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Recorded J. D. S.

Rep 1866 Dep't
No of Govt for April

No 1120.

Proceedings of the
General Court in
the Military Affs

Dated 19th 3rd 4th
Review 19th 1866

No 1359.

1st
1st

Communications
papers furnishing the re-
quired information on the
alleged account by the
deputy of the 11th Regiment
upon the decision of
Rebunfare.

No 936.

RECORDED.

No 322-323.

20th-21st-1866