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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2610	Press ~~Mis.~~
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 200. From J. H. MASTER, Esq., Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George in Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Vizagapatam, 18th April 1868, No. 235.

I have the honor to report upon the Administration of Jeypore and the Hill Tracts for the year 1867.

2. The reports of Mr. Carmichael, late Agent to the Governor in this district, have been so full for the past few years that very little remains for me to notice, except the general tranquillity of the country.

3. As the orders of Government are explicit, that the Agent is each year to make a tour into the hills, I started for Jeypore at the end of December last, my departure having been delayed to that period by my having been on circuit in portions of the low country during November and December.

4. A good deal of correspondence had passed during the latter part of last year between the Government and the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces on the subject of the repeated abuses of authority on the part of the Bustar Rajah, so after leaving Jeypore, where I had an interview with our own Rajah, I proceeded to the border of the two States, and halted at Borigam. There I found that Jugdulpore, the residence of the Bustar Chief, was only one stage distant, and as personal communication is always far more effective than writing, and the Chief was desirous to see me, I went to his capital, remaining there two days.

5. I should here mention that very fortunately Lieutenant Taylor, District Superintendent of Police, Upper Godavery District, who had been deputed to Bustar to effect the release of certain men, as recorded in the Proceedings of Government, No. 497, dated 21st March, joined me on the border, and it was in his company that my interviews with the Rajah took place.

6. The Rajah received me courteously, and did not appear the idiot he has been said to be. He conversed himself on his affairs, commencing of course with the original grievance of his deprivation of the Taluqs of Kotepad, &c., and ending with the complaint made against him by the Assistant Agent for rescuing men for whom a warrant had been sent. As this case is still under reference, I will not say more in this place. It appears to me, however, that the fact of there having been irregular conduct on the part of our officers, as now asserted by the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, is based on the assumption that the Bustar Chief is a feudatory of the British Government, and that being the case we ought to have proceeded in accordance with the provisions of Act VII. of 1854. Now the Rajah we know for a length of time was entrusted with the powers of a British Magistrate: "subsequently we learnt that the Police had withdrawn from the Bustar territory, and that the entire administration of that province was entrusted to the Rajah himself, with the single proviso that cases of murder or other homicide were to be forwarded by him to the Deputy Commissioner at Sironcha." I quote Mr. Carmichael's words in his report of last year. It was only in September of last year, however, that we learned from the Proceedings of the Madras Government, No. 1416, dated 3rd September 1867, that the Rajah had been constituted a feudatory of the British Government, and that he now "governs his own terri-

7. Accompanying this intimation, however, we were informed that "the engagements between the paramount power and the feudatory in this matter of extradition are not strictly reciprocal. Power has indeed been taken from British Police to follow criminals into the feudatory's territory" (the Chief Commissioner's own words,); and further to explain this matter, the Deputy Commissioner proceeded to write—"Your Police have the power to follow an offender any distance into Bustar territory, apprehend on your warrant, and take the accused before you without there being any necessity for taking him before the Rajah." I do not, therefore, understand how after this the conduct of the Assistant Agent can be called irregular. However, I explained to the Rajah that it was not the wish of the Madras Government that he should have even a fancied cause for complaint, and that no doubt arrangements would now be made by them in concert with the Central Province authorities, whereby all likelihood for such differences arising would be removed.

8. I think the Chief was satisfied that his position as a feudatory of the British Government was understood, and that we were quite ready to show all proper respect to a Chief holding such a position.

Now that we have been favored with the Chief Commissioner's own views on the matter, as contained in paragraph 2 of his letter to the Government, No. 389-27, dated 15th February last, contained in the Proceedings of Government, No. 497, dated 21st March, we must consider the former instructions received from his Deputy superseded. I do not think it likely that such complications will again arise.

9. I quite agree, however, with the opinion expressed by the Deputy Commissioner of the Upper Godavery District, viz., that all communications addressed to the Rajah should be in Hindee, and in the Nagree character. The language at present used by us is Telugu; why this language should have been selected, I cannot think. In drawing a line from the sea, commencing about 18° north latitude, and running through Jeypore to Bustar, it will be found that at the first line of ghauts, near Saloor, the Telugu language ceases and Ooriya commences. The latter again ceases in a remarkable manner as soon as Kotepad is left to the east, when Hindee or the dialect called Chutteesguree commences. The Jeypore Rajah knows very little Telugu. The Bustar Rajah none. The former speaks Ooriya and Hindoostanee fluently, the latter speaks a very little Ooriya, but Hindoostanee well. This arrangement as to the change in the language of our communications, if carried out, would necessitate the entertainment of an extra Clerk. With regard to this matter, and to the re-arrangement of the Assistant Agent's establishment, I shall do myself the honor to address Government shortly. The Assistant Agent, however, should as a rule be conversant with Hindoostanee.

10. In his report of last year, Mr. Carmichael referred to the valuable services of the Assistant Agent, Captain J. M. Smith. I regret to say that he has been obliged to leave his charge temporarily; he has obtained twenty months' sick leave, and Mr. H. G. Turner has been appointed to act in his room. This latter officer has lately joined and taken charge of his office. From the fact of his having held for a short period the appointment of Superintendent of Police in Jeypore, he is not quite without ex[illegible]

11. From Jeypore Proper I proceeded to Rayaghada, where I was joined by Major Grove, Senior Assistant Agent. In company with him I visited the Rajahs of Singapur and Bissemkotah, and met some of the headmen of the Khonds. I was on my way to make a little tour through the Sowrah Hills when I was suddenly summoned to Vizagapatam.

Major Grove, however, marched through them. He states first about the Khonds—"They to a man deny that they ever sacrifice human beings now-a-days. They stated they would be glad to revert to the former practice, but are deterred by fear of the consequences. The old festival and ceremonies are still kept up, but now it is a *goat* that is sacrificed: most of the Khonds seem to think that goat's flesh answers the purpose."

12. Major Grove states that the Khonds are wholly illiterate, and that the Ooriya Patros, who are the hereditary representatives and servants of the Rajah, do not even know the language of the people among whom they dwell. He suggests that they should be informed that the usual annual presents of cloths, distributed by the Agent on his tour, will be withheld till they do acquire a knowledge of it. The suggestion, I think, is one that might be adopted.

13. The Senior Assistant continues—"The headmen of 15 Sowrah villages came in and paid their respects. They are still timid, but feel they have lost their independence: all these men were fighting against us two years ago. A considerable number of these Sowrahs are working as coolies on the road that is under construction from Gunapur to Waddassar." He proceeds to state that no representative came from Puttasinghy, although when they failed to do so last year they promised that they would appear this year. The former headman is, the Government are aware, the notorious "Zonti Gomango," upon whose head a price is still set. "I am satisfied," he states, "that they have no intention of acknowledging us, and that they think by keeping aloof they will be able to preserve their independence. The Police have been ordered *not* to go to Puttasinghy which is a very nest of thieves."

14. He recommends that the path through the jungle to the place be widened, and that the Police be required to visit that village in common with the others. I cannot find any thing to show that any thing more than a verbal order was given by Mr. Carmichael, but I beg to give it as my opinion that our Police should now patrol every portion of the Sowrah Hills, and that there should be no exception.

15. With reference to the subject of Vaccination, to which the people were last year reported to have taken to so kindly, I regret to state that there has been a reaction, and in consequence of some number of persons who had been vaccinated having died, they have discontinued the practice of coming into Gunapur. The Deputy Superintendent of Vaccination, on being re[illegible] cause an inquiry to be made, states that the men who died must have had s[illegible]eir system at the time in the "incubative stage." The number of pe[illegible] the year [illegible]ated by Mr. Lears, the Apothecary accompanying my camp during my to[illegible] nty-two.

16. I am happy to be able to state that a schoo[illegible]ces was a[illegible]opened at Rayaghada; a Master able to teach Ooriya, Telugu, and En[illegible]e year bef[illegible]en appointed by the Educational Department. A school has also bee[illegible]ings, but that information, however, of either of these facts has been [illegible] damaged it. This has [illegible] and [illegible] the road [illegible]ow Department.

17. The only other portions of the Hill tracts deserving of any particular mention are those of Golgondah.

In the month of September of last year Mr. Percy Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Police, made a short excursion into them from Nursapatam, and reported to the Principal Assistant Agent the fact of the existence of many petty acts of oppression, illegal exactions, and lawlessness on the part of Checka Venkanna Dora, the renter of the Ducharty Mootah, consisting of some forty-seven villages. Mr. Jones also sent in a well written report of the condition and aspect of the country through which he traversed. I do not consider it necessary, however, to submit a copy of the document. The Principal Assistant Agent Mr. Bliss immediately started for the Hill Tracts, Mr. Jones accompanying him.

18. He states that by inquiry made, he found that no European Magistrate had been up the Koyur ghaut since 1857, and that at Ducharty and Aditigalla they were the first European visitors. I cannot but think Mr. Bliss has been misinformed. Mr. Carmichael, during his frequent tours in the hills, perhaps never visited *those villages*, but it cannot be supposed that during the last ten years the Principal Assistant Agent has never traversed those portions of the Hill Tracts under his charge, Koyur being only 32 miles from Nursapatam. Unfortunately I am not in a position to say who has been there. Arrangements will now be made whereby a more regular system of visitation will be carried out.

19. In December Mr. Bliss submitted a report of his proceedings. This report contains an interesting description of his tour. I do not feel myself called upon to submit a copy to Government, though that officer wished me to do so.

He convicted Venkanna Dora in one or two cases of illegal oppression, and gave him to understand that his obstructiveness in the progress of civilization must cease.

He blames the Tahsildar of Golgonda for never having visited that part of his charge above the ghauts; this officer has since left the district, but by Mr. Bliss' own showing the Tahsildar's superior officers had not set him a good example in the matter of itineration.

20. He states that the smoothing of the road as far as Ducharty will be carried out from the annual grant for roads.

He expresses his disbelief in the apprehension entertained by the Assistant Superintendent of Police, that Venkanna Dora will try to compensate himself for the indignity he has suffered by being fined, by fomenting a disturbance. I myself have no apprehension whatever in the matter. It would be quite a new thing for a mere renter of a Taluq to get up a rebellion.

21. With regard to the improvement of Civil justice, he recommends that the Tahsildar should [illegible] with jurisdiction in Civil suits under the Agency rules. This will [illegible] done.

He mentions [illegible] faction the zealous aid he received from Mr. Jones through a series [illegible] and tedious inquiries.

22. *Civil Jurisdiction.*—[illegible]y 87 suits were instituted by Punchayets in 1867, against 284 in [illegible]ry will be made as to the reason of this decrease; [illegible]uits are now settled by our Sub-Magistrates with powers

of Moonsiff. Under Clause 1, Rule IX. of the Agency rules, the Sub-Magistrates of Rayaghada and Narrainpatnam have been invested with the powers of a Moonsiff. The Sub-Magistrate of Gunapur possessed powers previously. One hundred and four cases have been adjudicated by them.

Thirty-three cases have been settled before the Assistant Agents.

23. *Criminal Justice.*—Out of 440 persons tried by the six Sub-Magistrates, 336 have been convicted.

The Assistant Agents have tried 146 persons, and convicted 93. The rate of conviction amongst the former is good, but not so favorable amongst the latter.

In the Agency Session Court 37 prisoners were committed for trial against 57 in the previous year, viz.:—

			Result.
Murder	12 cases,	4 prisoners	hanged.
		2 do.	transported for life.
		1 do.	2 years' rigorous imprisonment.
		6 do.	acquitted and discharged.
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder.	4 do.	4 do.	1 to 3 years' rigorous imprisonment. 2 to 2 do. do. 1 acquitted and discharged.
Robbery between sunset and sunrise.	1 do.	2 do.	1 to 7 years' rigorous imprisonment. 1 discharged.
House-breaking by night in order to the commission of theft.	1 do.	1 do.	2 years' rigorous imprisonment and fine.
Abduction	4 do.	13 do.	2 to 3 years and to 18 months do. each. 2 to 1 do. do. 8 to 3 months' do. 1 discharged.
Voluntarily causing grievous hurt.	1 do.	1 do.	2 years' rigorous imprisonment.
Mischief by fire	1 do.	1 do.	18 months' do. do.
Attempt to conceal a woman charged with murder.	1 do.	1 do.	1 year's do. do.
Causing miscarriage	1 do.	1 do.	discharged.
Total	26 cases	37 prisoners.	
Convicted and sentenced		27	
Discharged		10	

24. *Roads and Jungle clearing.*—The grant for the year 1867-68 was Rupees 7000 for roads, and Rupees 10,000 for jungle clearing.

To Jeypore Proper Rupees 10,000 from both sources was allowed.

Captain Smith just before he left reported that the year before he had been at work on the road down the Salur ghaut to the plains, but that the monsoon of 1867 had greatly damaged it. This has [illegible] and the road is now cor-

pletely made from the bottom to the top of the ghaut and for some distance along the level country beyond. The work is substantial and not likely to be affected to to the same extent by another monsoon.

A road is now under construction from the top of the ghaut towards Jeypore, and all the streams, which in the rainy season cause great delay to the post, will be crossed with strong wooden bridges. Some of these are already finished.

To the tracts under the Senior Assistant Agent was assigned a sum of Rupees 2450. With this the following were completed :—

		Rs.
Constructing road and clearing jungle from Parvatipur to Rayaghada and Singapur.....	45 out of 70 miles.	485
Constructing road and clearing jungle from Parvatipur to Narrainpatnam.....	30 do.	295
Do. from Kurupam to Gunapur	38 do.	420
Do. from Gunapur to Godairy.....	21½ do.	300
Do. from do. to Waddassar.....	12½ do.	805
Do. from Palcondah to beyond Sithampet	8½ do.	85
	Total..	2,450

He reports that these roads are but rough tracks fairly passable by laden carts, but the importance of them is great, and the merchants have already taken advantage of them to penetrate into valleys and plateaux, the produce of which has hitherto been brought down by coolies or bullocks. The cost of carriage too is reduced one-half.

The traffic in timber along the line from Kurupam to Gunapur is great. The road to Waddassar opens out the Sowrah Hills, and makes all further attempts to resist us so far almost an impossibility. He says—"The Rayaghada plateau is now fairly opened out to carts which take up salt to that town, where it is stored against the arrival of the Brinjaries from Chatteesgurh." * * "One of the probable results of making this road (from Rayaghada to Singapur) will be that the Brinjaries, whose bullocks formerly picked their way in single file from stone to stone along a narrow path winding in and out of the jungle, will after next season be able to make two trips a year if they wish."

By the Principal Assistant Agent has been spent a sum of Rupees 1130 only. More was assigned, but frequent changes of officers have been the cause of so little being accomplished. The re-clearing of 245 miles, and the opening out of 6 miles of new tracks, have been effected.

25. The contingent expenses of the tour amounted to Rupees 344-9-2, for which sanction is requested.

No. 201. From J. I. MANCHIN, Esq., Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George in Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Vizagapatam, 16th May 1868, No. 286.

As requested in your telegram of the 11th instant, I have the honor to forward copies of the [illegible] Messrs. Bliss and Jones, and paragraphs 17 and 19 of my predecessor's letter, No. 235, of the 18th ultimo.

From H. W. BLISS, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Agent, to the Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George in Vizagapatam ; dated Waltair, 21st December 1867, No. 119.

You are already aware that in the month of September I proceeded on a tour in the south-western portion of the Golgonda Taluq, including the Mootahs of Antada, Koyur and Ducherty, which are in the non-regulation part of the District. I had hoped to have revisited Koyur and Ducherty in the course of the tour I was proposing to make in February next, and consequently deferred submitting any report on those Mootahs until I should be in a position to lay before you an account of the present state of the whole of the Gudem Hills. Recent orders, however, for my removal from the district, have rendered it impossible for me to carry out my intentions as to my February tour. I have the honor, therefore, to report now on as much of the Hill Tracts as I have visited.

2. It had not been my intention to visit the hills at so unseasonable a time of year as the month of September. In the beginning of that month, however, I received a demi-official communication from Mr. Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Police, who had gone out to Krishnadevipetta, &c., to arrange for some alterations in the posting of the Hill Police, and who had been at once beset by a crowd of complainants, many of whom, most probably, had never before seen a European. His letter disclosed the existence of such serious irregularities, that it was plain that I could no longer entirely defer my proposed tour, at all events as far as that side of the hills was concerned.

3. It will be the more apparent that, in spite of the danger to health and the difficulty of moving in the hills during the rains, delay would have been unwise, if I commence by stating that none of the villages in that direction to the west of Nursipatam have been visited by any European Magistrate since the time of Mr. Longley, and that the Tahsildar of the Golgonda Taluq only once since then has found his way, even so far as Krishnadevipetta, six miles from the Koyur ghaut, and at the limit of his ordinary jurisdiction. Of the country beyond Krishnadevipetta hardly anything was known at the time of my visit, for no Native Sub-Magistrate nor European of any kind—except Mr. Jones, myself, and one Police Inspector, five years ago—have, so far as I can ascertain, ever gone up the Koyur ghaut since the troops went that way up to Gudem in 1857. Beyond the ghaut the road to Gudem turns off from that which we took towards Koyur village itself, where I was informed by the Dhora no European had been seen from the time Mr. Mason went there after the Fittoory in 1841-42 until now ; at Ducherty and Addatigala, Mr. Jones and myself were the first European visitors. As might have been expected this neglect has given opportunity for a long series of oppressions, if not worse, on the part of the village and other authorities, who have hitherto reigned supreme, and have done what they pleased without molestation.

4. On the 10th September, I marched from Nursipatam to Golgonda. The road to this village has been under construction for several years and is about half completed. Mr. Supervisor Laskey is proceeding with the work, which I had hoped to have seen finished by the end of the financial year. The necessary funds have been granted, and Mr. Laskey has been doing his best : but labor is very scarce along the line, and at times none has been procurable in consequence of the prevalence of fever. I fear, therefore, that it will be impossible to expend the balance of the estimate by the end of March. The forest on both sides of the road has been much injured by reckless clearing for cultivation, which has perhaps only been maintained for a year or two. In many places consequently there are large patches of waste ground, dotted over with the stumps of trees which have been cut down, burnt, and wasted. Very few fine trees are now standing, but I hope for an improvement under the present system of conser[illegible]cy.

5. Golgonda, where I remained until the morning of the 12th, is a scattered village of about 500 inhabitants. It was rented out in Fusly 1273 to one Raghamudi Ramanna, an inhabitant of Sarabhupolapatnam, for five years, on a progressively increasing cowl, which in this year (the last of the five) amounts to Rupees 3500. Raghamudi Ramanna, the renter, came to see me ; he seems a very good sort of old man, and I heard no complaints against him. He expresses himself willing to take on the village for a further term of years, and I think would give an increas[illegible]

damaged two reports

ed rent. Though personally averse as a rule to the renting out of villages in this manner, I had some thoughts of recommending that he be allowed to tender. He has considerably increased the area of land under cultivation during his tenure, and would be likely to continue to do so to a greater extent than would be the case, perhaps, if the village were under the direct management of Government, as he is ready to undergo some expense with this object. The advisability of renewing his lease will be for Mr. Webster's consideration.

6. This village of Golgonda was formerly a very flourishing town, and the residence of the Rajahs of that name. All traces of its former importance have, however, now disappeared. The only thing I particularly noticed about it was, that it is more infested with cheetahs than any place I ever before was in. I think it would be as well to increase the reward for killing them. As it is now, they take away out of this village alone a sheep or two almost every night of the year. There are great difficulties arising from the superstition of the hill people to be encountered in the destruction of wild beasts, which abound throughout the Gudem Hills and the adjacent plains. The people unfortunately believe that the vengeance of the gods will alight on whomsoever kills a tiger, and they will tell you, with the utmost seriousness, that every one who does so comes out in stripes at once all over his body. I remember one man who brought me two skins for the reward, telling me that he had been very ill ever since he killed the animals whose skins he produced, though in his particular case the stripes had not appeared.

7. On the 12th I went on to Krishnadevipetta, a Government village, distant 7 miles. The road is in some places very good, in others so bad, that it is only with the utmost difficulty that a cart can be got along. An estimate for its improvement is in preparation. Sufficient funds to make it a very good cart road for the dry weather are available from the amount (Rupees 2500) granted this year for hill roads in the division.

8. Shortly after I reached Krishnadevipetta, beyond which I had not intended to go, Mr. Jones came in from Koyur. The report he then made to me of the state of things above the ghauts determined me to go there myself, as soon as I should have disposed of the numerous complaints against the village officials of Krishnadevipetta and the neighbourhood which had in the first instance been preferred to him. As I expected complaints multiplied as soon as the people around came to know of my arrival, and on the whole, from the 12th to the 28th, when I left the hill tracts to return to Nursipatam, no less than 33 of one kind or another reached me, into which I made more or less inquiry. There were many others brought me, in which I saw at the first glance I could not interfere, and which I consequently did not reduce to writing. These do not appear in my records as they were made verbally. Many of the complaints into which I did inquire were such as I had no power to adjudicate on, but they showed a state of lawlessness and oppression that I should not have imagined possible, had I not come and seen for myself, and which could not have been had the Sub-Magistrate ever shown the smallest energy or sense of duty. Many of the cases brought me turned out to be such as should have been filed in a Civil Court, though I need hardly say that there is not the smallest chance of any ryot from those wild hills ever finding his way down to Rayavaram or Vizagapatam to file a plaint in the District Moonsiff's or Agent's Court, as the case may be. I considered, however, that in all such cases as affected the Government servants there, I was justified in making inquiries though I had not the power to pronounce any decision. It was manifestly improper that Government servants should be allowed to contract debts as they were doing among the Ryots of their villages, payment of which, they well knew, would never be enforced (both because of the absence of any competent Court, and because the people never dared to complain) and which they not improbably never intended to make. I should have punished such Government servants as had taken advantage of their position to oppress the people in this way, under my general powers, had I not been able to convict criminally several of the worst offenders on other charges. The Sub-Magistrate has since left the district, or I should have requested you either to dismiss him or at least remove him to some less extensive and important charge. I do not think I can mark too strongly of the slothfulness and negligence of a man who, though six years Tahsild[illegible] never once went up the ghauts into Gudem, a tract of nearly

[illegible]

2000 square miles under his charge, and but once in four years found his way even to Krishnadevipetta, an important village, and the head quarters of the Hill Police, only 17 miles from Nursipatam, his own place of residence. One has only to look at the man, to perceive his physical unfitness for the post he held. He is an unwieldy man, heavy in person as in mind, and quite unable to ride, an accomplishment I consider a *sine qua non* in a Tahsildar even in the plains, and far more important in the hills than in the low country. He was quite useless to me in the prosecution of the inquiries I held during my tour, and I am not without suspicion that he did all he could in certain cases to prevent the appearance of the truth. The district is well rid of him.

9. On the 19th, we moved from Krishnadevipetta to Koyur, 15 miles. The road is well described in Mr. Jones' very interesting letter, No. 4, dated 17th September 1867, a copy of which, I have the honor to enclose. Mr. Jones is, however, mistaken in speaking of sal trees in these forests. The trees he took to be sal, are, I believe, "thella maddi" trees. The wood of these is very strong and useful, but not of the same value as sal. It would be impossible to work these jungles without elephants. The *jilugu* trees he mentions are the wild sago palm, which I am informed is common enough in all the hills hereabouts. Mr. Jones has so well described the country that I have not thought it necessary to do so myself.

10. At Koyur I was visited by Mottadum Rajanna, the Mootahdar or Dhora of the place, and by Chekka Venkanna Dhora, the Mootahdar of Ducherty, whose conduct and character are represented (very fairly too so far as I can judge) in Mr. Jones' letter above mentioned.

11. The former of these Dhoras is a quiet and respectable old man, speaking about the worst Telugu I ever heard. He has four sons, two legitimate, and two illegitimate. The elder of the legitimate sons seems a very bright and intelligent young man. I received every assistance, in the way of supplies, &c., from Moottadam Rajanna, against whom there was not a single complaint. He seems, I am glad to say, to deserve as he enjoys the confidence of his people. This old man has suffered for his faithful adherence to Government. In Chinna Bhupati's Fittoory, he did all he could to assist Government, and in return the hill people came down from Gudem in force, plundered his village and took away his son, whom they sacrificed to the goddess in Gudem. Rajanna Dhora was then absent with the troops. I cannot think that Government are aware that he never received any reward for service which cost him so much.

12. Chekka Venkanna Dhora is a man of very different character. Before making up my mind to come up the ghaut, I had sent for him to Krishnadevipetta, as I wished to impress on him the necessityof his paying more respect, and affording more aid to the superior Officers of Police, hitherto the only European representatives of Government, that have visited these hills than he had done. He came accordingly to Krishnadevipetta, which place he reached on the 17th, but he never troubled himself to come to my tent either that or the following day. I sent him a message, therefore, that I wished to see him at Koyur, and this second summons he condescended to obey. I then warned him that Government would not permit one of their renters to obstruct Police Officers who were carrying out orders in his Mootah, informed him that there were complaints against him, and desired him to present himself again at Ducherty.

13. In the evening of this day two cheetahs came into camp and killed four sheep that we were taking with us from the plains for our own food. This was most unfortunate, for there is not a single sheep and but few fowls in the hills, and it was only with the greatest difficulty (Chekka Venkanna not in any way assisting me) that we could manage to get sufficient food to eat during the remainder of our stay. How our people would have done had we not taken up rice for them, I cannot think. None was to be purchased in either Koyur or Ducherty, though they are considerable villages for those parts. We had to supply not only our own servants but my Peons, the Police of the escort I took with me, and the servants in attendance on the elephants.

14. On the 20th we went on to Ducherty about 16 miles. The first part of the road is pretty easy, but about 4 miles from Ducherty there is the very steepest [illegible] I have ever seen. The descent on the Ducherty side must be on a gradient of about one in three, I should think, and it was only with the greatest difficulty and much [illegible] elephants could be got down with the

tents. This evening a cheetah came over the wattled bamboo fence, about eight or nine feet high, surrounding the Police station, snatched one of Mr. Jones' dogs out of the verandah which was full of men and escaped almost without being seen. I mention this merely to show the daring of wild beasts when left quite unmolested. Another night Mr. Jones and I sat up for a cheetah which returned three or four times to a goat that was picketed for him, though each time fired at. He escaped in the end, for the night was so dark that one could not see one's hand in front of one; and the same sort of thing happened once or twice more. Cheetahs (or perhaps I should say panthers) are masters of the situation in the hills.

15. On the 21st, 22nd and 23rd, I remained at Ducherty engaged in inquiry into various complaints, the majority of which were against Chekka Venkanna or his underlings. The Calendars I have submitted to you will have informed you of their upshot.

16. On the 24th we had intended to go on together to Addatigala, 11½ miles, to be present at the fair there. On the afternoon of the 23rd, however, a complaint of selling two girls to slavery (which on subsequent inquiry was not proved) was brought me. I wished to see the fair at Addatigala, so requested Mr. Jones to proceed to the spot where the girls were said to be detained and make inquiry, while I made the trip we had previously agreed on.

17. On that day, therefore, Mr. Jones made a march of 13 miles out to, and the same distance back from, a place called Simhadripaliem, within the boundaries of the Rumpa country, and not far from a Police station at a place called Kotah, which is, I believe, marked in some maps. He found the girls and all the witnesses, &c., wanted for inquiry into the case, and had returned to Ducherty by the time I got back again in the evening from Addatigala.

18. The fair at Addatigala was not so numerously attended as I had expected. The reason assigned for this was, that at that time of the year no great amount of country products, such as tamarinds, myrobolans, &c., is available for barter against the cloths and other low country merchandize which the dealers bring up with them from Yalaishwaram in the Peddapur Taluq of the Godavery District. I found, however, that it was quite true that Chekka Venkanna's oppressions had caused material injury to the fair. The Choultry of which Mr. Jones speaks is a thatched building, originally of a more substantial character than most of the houses thereabouts, but now almost in ruins. The merchants informed me that they formerly used to use this building as their head quarters for a day or two at a time, and that they used to make tours from thence into the surrounding villages, returning to the Choultry to sleep. It was also of great service to them as enabling them to put their goods under cover during rain, which they are now unable to do. They had prepared to repair it some time ago, but were prohibited by Chekka Venkanna, and were afraid to go on with the work. They informed me that they were still ready to rebuild it (for it is now past repair) if they could be secured from interruption. On this point, however, a man named Jaratha Swami, a relation of the original builder, came forward and offered to rebuild the Choultry himself, if I would give him an order to cut bamboos, &c., free of tax. As there are no means of collecting any forest revenue in Addatigala, so that, if I had not given leave, the bamboos would probably have been taken without it, I thought I had better accede to his request. The estimated amount which he will have to spend is Rupees 50. The merchants and others of the higher castes will thereby be provided with shelter, but their servants and the majority of their customers will still be exposed to the wind and weather. I would, therefore, request that Government may be pleased to supplement Jaratha Swámi's liberality by the grant of an equivalent sum, viz., Rupees 50. This will suffice to erect another building for the shelter of the inferior castes who frequent the fair, and will materially promote its usefulness. If the money cannot be granted separately, the amount can be saved from this year's grant for roads.

19. I returned from Addatigala to Ducherty the same evening. The road is very fair and could be made practicable for cart traffic in the dry weather at no great expense. As it is, bandies can come from Yalaishwaram to Addatigala with but little difficulty and the smoothing of the road as far as Ducherty would be a great benefit to the country. I, therefore, directed the Tahsildar to frame [illegible] never once went, which I hope to have been able to effect from the annual grant[illegible]

20. All along the way in this day's march, as well as in my previous marches in the hills, I was much struck by the great quantity of land now waste, but which had evidently been under cultivation at no very distant time. This decrease of cultivation appears to be due to several causes, some local and some general. One of the most prominent is cholera, the ravages of which last year appear, from inquiries I have made, to have been most severe in the Ducherty Mootah. Whole villages are represented to me as deserted temporarily by all, and permanently by some of their inhabitants, who fled from fear of the disease. Another cause has doubtless been the extreme lateness of the rains this year in the Ducherty Mootah. The hills seem to have enjoyed but a scanty share of the south-west monsoon this year, though in the plains of the Golgonda Taluq, the fall of rain in the months of June and September was regular and abundant almost beyond precedent. I am inclined, however, to think that the very considerable permanent decrease of cultivation which has taken place in these hills must be attributed to a cause which I believe to have operated, and to be even now in operation in many parts of the country. I remember once coming on a tract of country, now over-grown with jungle and likely to remain so for many years to come, which must evidently once have been inhabited by a people, at least as far advanced in civilization as the majority of the present inhabitants of the plains. Every hill was crowned with a once substantial, but now ruined stone fort, and every fort was connected with its more immediate neighbours by an excellent cause-way formed of large stones fitted together with considerable skill and forming an admirable road for bullock traffic. Beneath the forts were large tracts of ground, once cleared and divided into fields by strong stone walls, fragments of which still remain to attest their former state. Now there are but a few petty hamlets in what must once have been, to judge from the amount of land formerly under cultivation, a well peopled country. I have always attributed this depopulation of the wilder parts of the country to the main fact that, while before the British occupation of the country, the jungles were refuges from the oppressions of the Rajahs, the plains are now the more secure as being, and having for years been, the home of progress and order. It is my opinion that much of the decrease of population, which undoubtedly has taken place in Gudem, may be attributed to this cause. Unquestionably there is little security for property, whatever there may be for life, even now in those hills, and it is only natural that people should prefer to live in the plains where they have a reasonable certainty of enjoying the fruits of their labor in peace.

21. After my visit to Addatigala, I returned to the plains by slow marches. Complaints were still coming in with great frequency, and I have no doubt that, if I had remained another month in the hills, I should have had my hands full of work for the whole time. It was, however, quite impossible. The food we had taken up had run out, and the season was every day becoming more and more unhealthy, and my people had already suffered very severely from fever. Indeed, out of the 50 odd natives that composed my party, not a dozen, up to the date of my leaving the hills, escaped an attack of fever, in some instances of great severity, and of the few that did escape then, all but three were taken ill, as is often the case immediately after reaching the plains. Mr. Jones and myself did not suffer at the time, but both got fever within a fortnight—in my case, very slightly, and in his not very severely. Much of this sickness might, no doubt, have been avoided, had I only had a medical subordinate of some kind with me. As it was, the treatment of the sick fell on us, who neither possessed the requisite skill, nor could spare the time, and on our small private stores of medicine, which were quite insufficient for so large a following. The consequence of course was, that our sick people suffered more than they should have done. To this day, my office is crippled by the frequent recurrence of fevers caught in the hills.

22. It now remains for me to state briefly the conclusions at which I have arrived as to the present condition of this part of the Gudem Hills, and the measures I would venture to recommend for its better government in the future.

23. In the first place I may say, that from all I heard and saw, I entertain no doubt whatever that Mr. Jones' description of the exactions and oppressions of, [illegible]st evilly disposed man, Chekka Venkanna, Mootahdar of Ducherty, [illegible] phants could [illegible]m for question, that

up to the time of my visit, he was the virtual king of the country. There was, it is true, a small party (one Deputy Head Constable and six Constables) of Police at Ducherty, which has now been greatly strengthened; but no one thought anything of the Police, and it was clearly proved in one case that came before me, that so far from assisting them in their arduous duties in that wild country Chekka Venkanna had threatened one man with his vengeance, because he had dared to enter the service of Government as a Village Police watcher without his permission. He is believed to have done this more than once. In another case, in which also I convicted him, it was proved that he had issued instructions that a certain pariah hawker should not be allowed to ride a pony about the hills, and should be beaten if he dared to do so. And in another case he himself admitted to me, that when his cattle died off in the drought two or three years ago, he had got a *present* of a certain animal wherewith to replenish his stock. We all know the meaning of *presents* given in such places, and under such circumstances. I was told, and do not doubt, that at that particular time he made a levy of a *present* from his tenants all round. In the one instance which came before me, no* question, he forcibly seized the animal and appropriated it against the owner's will and without his consent. Even now, I am informed by Mr. Jones, who was out at Krishnadevipetta last month, he is recommencing his old tactics. Trusting no doubt that such a *rara avis* as a Magistrate will never again take the trouble to come to Ducherty, he has ordered all the persons who complained against him to me either to leave his country or to get up some false case against Inspector Kannaya, who has been most active in bringing his oppressions to light; and if some one does not go up there again very soon, no doubt he will compel them to do one or the other. Mr. Jones adds that, from information he has received, he is not without apprehension that Chekka Venkanna meditates compensating himself for the indignity he has suffered by conviction and fine at my hands, by getting up a Fittoory. I do not fear this however. He is wise enough to know that the end of anything of that sort would be that we should proceed from fining to hanging him, and besides, I believe he is too much hated to be followed by the people; and one man no more makes a Fittoory than one swallow a summer. I have requested Mr. Jones to keep my successor informed of all he may hear. For myself, I do not believe he will do anything more than grumble at Government and oppress his dependants again while he can, especially since, while confirming my conviction in the case in which he appealed to you, you have reduced the amount of fine I had imposed on him. This will be an inducement to him not to commit himself further.

* Sic in original.

24. In the second place, little as is known of Criminal, less is known of Civil justice in the hills. My visit has, I hope, taught them that they may occasionally obtain redress from a Magistrate, but I could do nothing to help them in such cases as in the plains would from the subject of Civil suits. It is manifestly out of the question to expect that, for any such pecuniary injury as it is possible for the poor inhabitants of the hills to experience, a man will be found to come down and prosecute his claims, with all the paraphernalia of plaint and answer, motions and injunctions, stamps and Vakils, in the Court of the Agent at Vizagapatam. The consequence is, that the hill people have not now and for generations cannot have the enjoyment of Civil justice. They will remain, that is, in a state of semi-barbarism.

25. The remedies I would respectfully venture to propose for the existing want of the means of obtaining justice in the Gudem Hills are briefly as under—

I.—If the Agent cannot himself spare the time, the Principal Assistant Agent should every year make a two months' tour in the hill country within his division.

II.—When on a tour in the hills, the Principal Assistant Agent should be empowered to take cognizance of all Civil cases that might be brought him without reference from the Agent, as is now required to the manifest prevention of justice; and no appeal should in such cases lie from the decision of the Principal Assistant where the property in dispute might be of less value than, say, Rupees 100 or 50.

III.—The Golgonda Taluq Magistrate, who has charge of the hills, should be required to visit them not less than twice a year, on each occasion not less than one month

above the ghauts. During the continuance of these tours, the Sub-Magistrate should be authorized to exercise the powers of a District Moonsiff, as do other Sub-Magistrates in the Hill Tracts of this District.

IV.—If it should be found impossible to spare the Taluq Magistrate for so long a time as two months every year from his revenue work in the plains, a temporary Sub-Magistrate with a couple of Goomastahs might be appointed. In either case, it would be absolutely necessary to grant liberal rates of batta to the Sub-Magistrate who might go up and to his subordinates. They would be put to more extra expense for food than they could be expected to meet without extra allowances. I would also strongly recommend that all the country below the ghauts, and to the west of the river Boderu between Golgonda and Krishnadevipetta, should again be put under the Agent. It is for all practical purposes a part of the hills.

26. Had I been able to visit the hills again, I should have been more able to express a decided opinion as to the advisability of ousting Chekka Venkanna from his position as renter of Ducherty. Certainly I do not consider that a man of his character should be permitted any further opportunity of making exactions and committing oppressions, but it will perhaps be better to wait awhile and see whether he takes warning by the punishments already inflicted on him. It may be mere gossip that he is going on in the same way now as before. If, however, he again should render himself liable to a criminal conviction, I should not hesitate, if I were here, to recommend the cancelling of his lease.

27. In conclusion, I trust I may be permitted to mention the zealous aid I received from Mr. Jones through a series of difficult and tedious inquiries. I would also especially notice the conduct of Pentakota Kannaya, Police Inspector of the Gudem Division, as worthy of approval. This Officer has already been very favorably noticed by Mr. Carmichael (*vide* his Memorandum, No. 96, dated 30th April 1867), and I think he deserves promotion. He is active, willing, and I believe thoroughly honest. Many of the abuses which have come to my notice in the hills have been brought to light only by his energy and intimate acquaintance with the people.

From P. M. JONES, Esq., Assistant Superintendent of Police, Nursipatam, to the Acting Principal Assistant Magistrate, Vizagapatam District; dated Krishnadevipetta, 17th September 1867, No. 4.

Having been on a tour of inspection to Krishnadevipetta, and above the ghauts into the Gudem country as far as Addatigala, in the Ducherty Mootah, I consider it my duty to bring to your notice the state of things existing in those parts.

1. I arrived at Krishnadevipetta on the 1st instant, and left on the 7th for Koyur at the head of the ghaut. On my arrival at Krishnadevipetta many complaints were made to me about the tyrannous and illegal conduct of Hanumanta Tammaya, the Moonsiff of Chidikada, and Maddiconda Bapiraz, Curnum of Krishnadevipetta. From what was said to me, it appears these men have been in the habit of oppressing the ryots by extorting or forcibly seizing grain, &c., turning them out of their maniems, and in various other ways abusing the authority entrusted to them—they have turned village servants out of their posts and appointed others—and finally that this sort of thing had been going on for years. It further appeared that no European Magistrate had visited these parts for at least four years, and that the Tahsildar, during the six years he has been in charge of the Golgonda Taluq, which includes the Gudem country, has spent one day at Krishnadevipetta, but not even a single day above the ghauts. The consequences of this supineness are the complaints now made to me; for, if the place had ever had the light of a Magistrate's countenance thrown on it, the people would have come forward with their grievances. As it was, however, they said, they were afraid to go to Nursapatam to complain, and even if they did, they would be obstructed by the Brahmins in the Cutcherry, and would not obtain a hearing.

I have already sent you the notes of the complaints I made at the time, and you have, I believe, taken action on them. The Moonsiff, Hanumanta Tammaya, is spoken of as the Malik Rajah, or Hakeem of the country. I would especially draw your attention to the fact of the Tahsildar having been only once in six years at Krishnadevipetta; in fact, the greater number of the people knew there was a Magistrate at Nursipatam only by report.

2. On the 7th instant, I proceeded up the ghaut to Koyur, 14 miles. The first five miles was easy ground, with two small villages, Yerranagudupakulu, of about 10 houses, one and a half miles from Krishnadevipetta, and the other Koppukondapakulu, of 10 houses, about four miles from Krishnadevipetta. About one mile from Koppukondapakulu, the real ascent of the ghaut begins and very stiff and stony it is for about 1½ hours. On the other side, there is a short but steep descent, and then the road is tolerably level as far as Koyur. It is, however, overgrown with high grass—in some places over one's head—which should be cut, as it affords excellent cover for tigers, &c. The principal vegetation on the ghaut is sal and bamboo; though there are some fine sal trees, yet, generally speaking, they are not of large size. On the level ground on the Koyur side of the ghaut, I noticed a very singular tree called in Telugu the "Jillugachettu" and in Hindustanee the "Madikijhar." It is like a dissipated cocoanut, but much larger, with the ends of the leaves cut off and pointing up. It yields large quantities of toddy in January, and is said not to flourish in the plains, and I have never before seen it. About two miles from the Koyur foot of the ghaut is the deserted village of Sollapa. It is very nicely situated and had a mango and tamarind garden. It was given by Mr. Mason as a maniem to Sanyassi Dhora, as a reward for supplying three companies of sepoys for three days at his own expense. He died, and his son Patura Bhimanna Dhora lived there till his wife was taken away by a tiger, while drawing water from a stream near the village. After this occurrence he left the place and went to Koyur where he now resides. There are two small streams with, however, plenty of water, to be crossed before arriving at Koyur, which I did about 11-30 A. M, having been 5¾ hours on the road. At Koyur I saw the Dhora, Mottadum Rajanna Dhora, of about 68 years of age. He is a chatty old fellow, and has never taken part in any Fittoory. The village where the Police are stationed is not Koyur proper, but is called Busarapalem, and contains about 50 houses. Koyur is about one-fourth of a mile to the north. No supplies are to be procured here except fowls and milk; every thing is brought up from the Krishnadevipetta fair which is held every Monday. There are 27 villages in the Koyur Muttah, but all small, only 4 containing 20 houses and upwards; the average number being 3. The Dhora told me he paid Rupees 400 to the Circar.

3. I halted at Koyur the 8th instant, and inquired into several cases of complaints against the Police of collecting supplies, such as fowls, tamarinds, &c. I fancy a great deal of this sort of thing goes on, and will, of course, do my best to put a stop to it. Most of the complaints I found to be true, but I am not inclined* to be hard on the Police, when I take into consideration the total absence of supervision and instruction and the wild and ignorant state they are living in. About the serious complaints I have sent in a separate report to you.

* I quite agree with Mr. Jones, if we were to be "down" on them, the end would be that we should never get a man to go above the ghauts. It is difficult enough as it is.
(Signed) H. W. BLISS.

4. On the 9th instant, at 5-30 A. M., I started for Ducherty, distant 16 miles, in a direction a little west of south. There was no difficulty in the road till a little beyond Potulur, about twelve miles, where I halted for breakfast. I passed the small villages of Nimalapalem (one house) about two miles from Koyur, Ravallu (20 houses) 4 miles, Dakodo (20 houses) 7 miles, Potulur (5 houses) 11 miles. There is a little, very little, paddy cultivation near Dakodu, and a little dry cultivation near the other villages. Sal, tamarind and bamboo, are the principal trees, and near Potulur are a good number of jilluga trees. A mile beyond Potulur, there is a very steep ghaut though short, with a very steep and long descent on the other side into the Ducherty valley. It took me 50 minutes crossing. On the side of the ghaut is Chodavarum, a village of 30 houses, about 2 miles from Ducherty. Paddy is cultivated in the valley to the west. A very stony road leads to Ducherty, a village of about 50 houses, and where there is both wet and dry cultivation. No supplies to be procured here except fowls and milk, and these with no difficulty. No complaints against the Police here. I had a conversation with the man whose house had been looted of Rupees 10,000 by Chekka Venkanna Dhora, (the Dhora of this Muttah) under the [illegible] circumstances.

5. The man's father had been manager for Venkanna Dhora's father, and had amassed a large amount of property, whether by fair means or foul I do not pretend to say. However, when Chekka Venkanna Dhora came into enjoyment of the Mootah, he sent to this man (the father had died) and said that, as his father had made his fortune by managing the Mootah, he must pay up. This Puthakunta Veeranna refused to do. On this the Dhora sent a dozen of men one night to his house, and they broke into it, tied him and his wife to posts, and by sprinkling them with boiling oil, made them point out where every thing was hidden. They took every thing he possessed away including 600 head of cattle. The case was reported, the Dhora arrested, and the property recovered. Before the trial came on, however, the other Dhoras and Mootahdars got hold of the complainant and said that if he made a complaint against a Dhora, it would reflect on the whole body, and that if he would consent not to press the charge they would give him 400 Rupees and 200 bullocks. This he agreed to, as he said he wanted to live a quiet life. When the case came on for trial before the Governor's Agent, the complainant stated the property before the Court was not his, and that his property was in his house, the case was in consequence dismissed. On the complainant's return to his village he asked for his 400 Rupees and 200 bullocks, but he was laughed at, and from that day to this he has been obliged to live by cooly labour. He now possesses one cow.

6. There being a large fair held every Tuesday at Addatigala, a village about 11 miles from here, to which come traders from Godavery District, Rampa, &c., I proceeded there on the 10th, intending to return in the evening. The road was rough for some way going south along the banks of the Buddygudda, a stream with, at that time, very little water in it; I twice crossed its sandy bed. I passed a deserted village from which the people had emigrated to the Godavery District, having been so harassed by the exactions of the Dhora, that they could stand it no longer. The houses were in ruins, and the cleared and cultivated ground fast returning to jungle. I am informed there are at least two other villages from which the inhabitants have fled for the same reason. I passed no village within a mile of Bhimavaram (where Chekka Venkanna Dhora lives) and but little cultivation, and the ground that was cultivated was simply cleared jungle with the stumps of trees, 2 or 3 feet high, still standing thickly. But after passing Bhimavaram is the village of Nimalapalem with a little dry cultivation, and from thence there are no villages till I arrived at Addatigala, a village of 20 houses. There is some wet cultivation between Bhimavaram and Addatigala and a moderately sized stream to cross.

7. The fair began about 11 A. M., and continued till stopped by the rain about 1 P. M. There were traders with cloths from Yelaishwaram, sugar, salt, pepper, vegetables, tobacco manufactured and leaf dried, sea fish, rice, grain, &c., and half a dozen bullocks from Malkunghiri. People come from all parts of the Gudem country and from Rampa to this fair, for it is the only one held in all Gudem. It is true there is another held at Nayrapilly beyond Darakonda, but it is a very small and poor one and badly attended. This fair used to last two days, and was attended by great numbers of people in Venkanna Dhora's father's time. Then there was a large Chavidy in which the traders had their shops and put their goods under cover. This Chavidy fell into disrepair, and the merchants began to repair it, but Chekka Venkanna Dhora forbade them, as he said he would not allow any one to build in his country. While he thus prevents the traders from repairing the Chavidy, he will not do so himself; the consequence is, the fair is decreasing in importance every year, as merchants and traders having no place for shelter move homewards in a couple of hours. Before leaving Addatigala I wrote to the Dhora requesting him to get the Chavidy repaired, and pointing out how much the people and country would be benefited by the fair lasting two days as it did before and would do again, if the Chavidy was repaired. A similar instance of his obstructiveness is as follows:—There is no good water in the village, and this want was much felt by the people attending the fair. A rich Sowcar* of Dhora Konda got tank-diggers from Yelaishwaram, and began to sink a well close to the spot where the fair is held. Chekka Venkanna Dhora [illegible] made his proceeding with the work, and the work was abandoned. Thus a most useful and beneficial work was prevented. It is needless to expatiate on the stupid

* Gorela Pennadu.
The people told me the same, and I have no doubt it is true.
(Signed) H. W. BLISS.

and savage pride which thus not only sets itself against all works of improvement in the country, but is slowly but surely putting an end to the little trade still carried on by means of this fair.

8. I went through the fair and spoke to the people, and while there the following complaints were made to me. Gorela Guntadu, a merchant, complained that, about 3 months ago, the Dhora had given orders to have him knocked off his pony and beaten if he dared ride one. He used to go about on a pony selling goods. Madam Chemadu complained that on the death of his father all the property he possessed was seized by the Addatigala Moonsiff, the Nimmalapollem Moonsiff, one of the Dhora's peons, and the Addatigala Bariky—5 of his cattle were, at the moment of making the complaint, in the possession of the Moonsiff Ramala Yengeligadu; and Mandi Singadu complained, or rather stated, that, in consequence of what the Dhora had said to them, they were afraid to accept the post of Bariky, which they had agreed to do about six weeks ago. This sort of thing must be put down, as we cannot allow men willing to take service under the Sirkar to be intimidated; otherwise we shall not get a single man for the Hill Police. I also heard a certain man wished to contract a marriage, but he was informed by the Dhora he could not do so till he had paid Rupees 20; not being able to pay, he is still unmarried.

I inquired into this case. I have no doubt that the complaint was true, but the evidence was not such as would have stood the scrutiny of the Court of Appeal. I did not therefore convict.

(Signed) H. W. BLISS.

This proved to be the case. The Moonsiff accounted for their possession by saying that he held them by Chekka Venkanna's order until some decision should be come to as to a dispute as to their ownership. Very improbable this, but as it happened, impossible to disprove.

(Signed) H. W. BLISS.

9. About 1-30 P. M., the rain descended in torrents and the fair dispersed (there being no Chavidy or place for shelter). I took shelter in the Kallaly's* shop till the rain abated, about 2 P. M., and then started back for Ducherty. The stream I had passed dry shod in the morning was now a furious foaming torrent, 20·30 feet wide and 4·10 feet deep. The strength of the stream may be imagined when I state the Inspector was knocked over and my horse-keeper not only knocked over, but carried about 200 yards down the stream, where he luckily caught the branch of a tree. My big topee, however, was lost—a very serious loss to me. I got back to Ducherty about 6 P. M., and there found a note from you stating you would be at Krishnadevipetta on the 12th instant, therefore I determined to join you there, though I had intended proceeding from Koyur to Gudem, and thence *via* Lummasinghi to Nursipatam.

* Toddy-shop.

10. I would have mentioned that the Ducherty Mootah contains 47 villages, averaging 25 houses, and is one of the richest in the Gudem country.

No. 202. From D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George in Ganjam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Chetterpore, 1st May 1868, No. 24.

I beg to report on the administration of the Hill Tracts of Ganjam for the year 1867, and to submit such remarks and suggestions as have occurred to me during a tolerably extensive tour in that quarter, from which I have recently returned.

2. In his Report last year, the late Agent was able to assure the Government that the Khonds, even of the wildest recesses, had definitely acknowledged our supremacy, declaring, among other things, "that the day of the Sirkar had come." There certainly has been no sign of further disaffection; and I believe that Mr. Forbes' expectations of future tranquillity will be fully justified by the event. Nevertheless, it is not to be denied that a regular government has yet something of novelty to which ages of independence render these wild tribes reluctant to conform. Like the Highlanders and Isles-men of Scotland, when visited by Dr. Johnson a century

since, "the ancient spirit that appealed only to the sword is yet among them." An instance of this was afforded on the 23rd of May, a week after my predecessor had resigned office into my hands, when two of the Goomsoor tribes, disdaining recourse to our Cutcherries, met in battle array and fought from morning to night, to decide a long standing dispute regarding a piece of land. The particulars are in many respects remarkable, as will be seen from the subjoined extract from the calendar of the trial held before my Court on 43 of the ring-leaders:—

"These prisoners are committed by the Junior Assistant as the persons most "notably implicated in a grand tribal fight that occurred on the 23rd ultimo "between the Khonds of the Kumarikupa and Botangia *Mootahs* in the Goomsoor "hills.

"The first witness is one of the two Hill Sub-Magistrates; he was long "employed in the late "Meriah Agency," and is perfectly familiar with the Khond "language and Khond usages. He was passing through these *Mootahs* on 6th May, "a fortnight before the fight, and hearing there was a strong ill-feeling between "the two tribes regarding the right of possession in a certain field, he visited the "spot and took *Muchilkas* or bonds from the head men of either tribe, viz., 1st, 2nd, "and 3rd prisoners on the one side, and 9th and 10th prisoners on the other, wherein "these men promised to abstain from all breach of the peace, and to refer the dispute "to the Sub-Magistrate or the Junior Assistant.

"However on the 22nd May, when he visited the neighbouring Police station of "Udayagiri once more, he received information that a serious outbreak was imminent. "The next morning he was early on the spot and found the Khonds on both sides "making deliberate preparations for immediate battle. The hostile parties occupied "the slopes of the hills in a small valley which separated them. Arrayed in the "national war dress, and armed to the teeth, they defied each other to mortal combat. "The Sub-Magistrate had 8 Constables with him, a volunteer from the Department "Public Works, and the Mahout who drove his elephant. He supposes there may "have been 2000 on each side; the women of the tribe handed about refreshments, "and even little children, too young to join in the fray, were busy piling up stones "for the slingers in convenient places along the lines. All he could do, commands, "threats, entreaty, expostulation, nothing availed; they "would do him and his "myrmidons no harm, but fight they must, and would!" Presently the engagement "commenced with showers of stones from the slingers, the two forces drawing nearer "and nearer each moment; when within a sufficient distance, the slingers dropped "their slings and flung with the hand. Nearer still and the "Braves" on either side "stepped out and engaged each other with battle axe and sword. Four men were "cut down by the Kumarikupa side, and as each fell, a crowd of the enemy rushed "in and hacked him in pieces, or at least dipped their weapons in his blood. The "Botangia men now retreated, followed up by their assailants, who, calling to "their women to bring torches, applied the fire to the Botangia huts. In a few "minutes six villages were consumed, and next morning six more were discovered "in ashes."

These tribal conflicts are preceded by solemn sacrifices to Loha Pennoo, the god of war, and are continued for several days, the challenge to renew the strife being conveyed by a piece of bloody [illegible] by one party

or the other. But in this case Messrs. Goodrich and Pickance were too quick for them. They were on the spot, apprehending the leaders on each side before they had time to re-organise their forces.

Out of this panel of 43, all but 6 were convicted; 13 were transported for life; 22 were sentenced to imprisonment for ten years, and the rest to seven years' imprisonment. A greater outrage, committed as it was in open defiance of the law, can hardly be conceived; and I felt it my duty to impress the entire Khond community with a due sense of the enormity of the crime.

Apart from actual combatants, 24 "Molikoes" or headmen were committed by the Assistant Agent as abettors. Khonds from each of their villages were present at the fight, and it was assumed that this could not have happened had the Molikoes used their patriarchal authority to prevent it. These men were acquitted; the truth appearing to be that if the Molikoe is *primus* he is *primus interpares*, and however readily his clansmen might follow him in matters agreeable to their own feeling, and it is by no means clear that his exhortation would be equally powerful when he is found opposing and withstanding them therein.

3. Besides these two cases, there were committed to the Agent's Court 29 others. Out of 79 prisoners comprised in the 29 cases, 54 were convicted. Of these, 41 prisoners were concerned in offences against property; they came chiefly from the *Sowrahs*, who hold the Purla Kimedy and Pedda Kimedy hills. The poorer members of this community frequently eke out a living by robbing travellers at the foot of the ghauts. Amongst *Khonds*, on the other hand, a conviction for a disgraceful offence is hardly known, a charge of robbery or theft almost always resolves itself into some claim of right.

In offences against the person, there were 15 convictions; 3 of murder, (including 1 case where the prisoner was ordered to be imprisoned as a lunatic,) 8 of manslaughter; and 4 of "hurt," where four rascally Ooriya Paicks tortured an old Sowrah female, with a view of extorting money from her.

The remaining conviction, to complete the tale of 57, was in a case connected with the late insurrection. The prisoner was committed to the late Agent in January 1867, and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

The operations of the Lower Courts during the year have been as under :—

	Trial.	Convicted.
Assistant Agent's Courts (Mr. Goodrich's in nearly all the cases).....	214	125 persons.
Sub-Magistrate's Courts.....	152	73 „

4. The Order of Government, 20th March 1866, No. 403, directed that the Assistant Agent should live in the Khond country for six or eight months of the year. This has been done; that officer and the Assistant Superintendent of Police go up to Baliguda in November and return to Russelcondah in May. Nothing was said of what was expected in this way of the two Native Sub-Magistrates, but I find that they and their establishments ascend and descend with the Assistant Agent. Meanwhile, the Native Police remain there all the year round.

An excellent pucka house, with an iron roofing, has now been built for the two English Officers, and no good reason any longer exists why they should leave the unhealthy [illegible] men of Good[illegible] Vizagapatam Officers do not leave Jeypore,

and it is due to Messrs. Goodrich and Pickance to state that both gentlemen are quite willing to have their permanent head quarters at Baliguda. Any other arrangement appears to me to be fatal to good government. It is neither safe nor politic to leave Native Police to themselves in these hills for the greater part of the year. They acquire domineering habits, and discipline is broken. There has been too much of this want of supervision already; and unhappily since our connection with the country, there has been occasion to use such severe measures of repression—so many raids, such wholesale destruction of rebellious villages, shooting down* the insurgents, carrying off of cattle and the like—that our Ooriya Constables are apt to regard the Khonds as so much dirt under their feet. Their pay has been raised, they get batta to cover their extra expenses while on duty in the hills; but all, I fear, to very little purpose. Having the game pretty much in their own hands for six months in the year, we are not to wonder if they resort to malpractices for which oriental Policemen are unfortunately notorious. For instance, the abominable "Nirruck" system formerly prevailing in the Hills, under which the people were compelled to provide the Sibbendy and Constabulary with rice at unremunerative prices, was formally declared to be abolished at the close of the last insurrection; but it still exists in some quarters. No less a personage than the Hindu Chief, or Tat Rajah as he calls himself, of Gaddapur, complained to me that he was forced by the Police to sell at the old rates. The Deputy Inspector General of Police and the District Superintendent were both present at this interview, and I believe they are equally impressed with myself as to the expediency of that direct, continuous, uninterrupted control of the Force, which present arrangements render impossible.†

5. Again, as to the present plan of centralising the Police. There are no less than 250 men quartered at Baliguda, and four strong posts are maintained at other places, Udayagiri (Goomsoor Maliahs), Daringabadi (Sooradah Maliahs), Tummariband, and Bamanigam (Chinna Kimedy Maliahs). The rest of the country is unoccupied. I am aware that this system commended itself to the late Agent, who proposed to "continue it till it appeared safe to assimilate it more closely with ordinary Police management." If two English Officers are in the hills all the year round, to whom the Khonds may at once appeal for protection and amends, I affirm that it will be safe to adopt *at once* the system in force everywhere else, not only in civilized localities, but in the Jeypore and other hills of the Vizagapatam Agency. I could give numerous cases where a failure of justice has occurred, owing to the disappearance of evidence which the Police could have secured in any other part of the Presidency, and it cannot be doubted that there are numerous other cases of which we receive no information whatever. There is no difference of opinion on this point amongst the district officers, and it is proposed to establish twelve or fourn of fact as instead of four; at the same time reducing the Force at Baliguda from 250 to 150. The 100

* Notably at Kuripuja, the village which was surrounded and attacked [illegible] villages, pa[illegible] the 1st January 1866, (moonlight). The Constables continued shooting down the Khonds long after [illegible] (including [illegible] sounded the bugle for "cease firing." The tale of the dead was 210, mostly women and children. [illegible] country d[illegible]dah, as at present, is

† If the proposal to fix the Assistant Agent's head quarters at Baliguda is approved, I would suggest that Russelcondah be declared the station of the [illegible] Magistrat[illegible] He is now at Berhampore, 38 miles only from Chatterpore, the head quarters of the Agent. To the lands [illegible]gan Officer at Berhampore perhaps [illegible] Junior Assistant would suffice[illegible] head

men thus procured are very much required at stations in the low country, especially in the villages near the ghauts. For myself, I think that the Baliguda Force might be still further reduced by 50 men; but it has been urged that the safer course is to wait for another year or so. All these arrangements are, of course, contingent on the sanction of Government, declaring Baliguda the permanent head quarters of the Assistant Agent and the Assistant Superintendent of Police.

6. There are two Sub-Magistrates now in the hills, one at Baliguda, the other at Tummaribund. As the Assistant Agent lives at Baliguda, it is proposed to remove the Sub-Magistrate from that station to Bamanigam in the south. There being but two Sub-Magistrates sanctioned, and the Chinna Kimedy Maliah requiring them both, it comes to pass that the extensive country comprised in the Goomsoor Maliah is left without any local judicatory. It is a fine, open, undulating, well cultivated tract, and the Khonds who inhabit it, though a high spirited, independent race, by their constant intercourse with the lowlanders, to whose markets they resort to sell their produce, are comparatively civilized. The village schools, established by Major Macdonald, are very fairly attended by Khond pupils; a knowledge of Ooriya is not uncommon amongst the population, and in the northern parts, several Ooriya villages are interspersed. Altogether there are 911 Khond villages, and 37 Ooriya ones. Taking 15 houses as an average for each village, and 5 as the number of each household, this gives a population of upwards of 70,000. I submit that a country like this is entitled to a resident Magistrate, and I would beg that sanction may be awarded to the following scale:—

	Rs.
1 Sub-Magistrate, at	150
2 Goomastahs, at 25	50
1 Dufterbund, at 8	8
2 Peons, at 7	14
1 Sweeper, at 5	5
Total	227

7. The two present Maliah Sub-Magistrates are allowed but one Goomastah each, no Dufterbund, and no Sweeper, while their Peons receive only six Rupees each; a sum insufficient for their proper sustenance in the hills. I beg to propose that their establishments be remodelled as under—

Present Scale.	Rs.	Proposed Scale.	Rs.
Sub-Magistrate	150	Sub-Magistrate	150
1 Goomastah	25	2 Goomastahs, at 25	50
2 Peons, at 6	12	1 Dufterbund	8
[illegible] done;	—	2 Peons, at 7	14
[illegible]a in Novembtal	187	1 Sweeper, at 5	5
[illegible]expected in t	2		
For two [illegible]ir establish[illegible]ates	374	Total	227
[illegible]ative Polic			2
[illegible] pucka h[illegible]		For two Sub-Magistrates	454

8. I am aware, and Government has already incurred, and is daily incurring, a large outlay [illegible]-men of Scotland, which [illegible] quarter in which they [illegible] hitherto

abstained from raising a revenue. But I trust that the question of *taxation*, on which the late Agent in his letter of the 24th April, last year, stated he was awaiting the views of Government with anxiety, may shortly be decided in the affirmative. I have discussed the subject with all the officials, past and present, who are acquainted with the country, with the Patros and other leading men in the hills, and I am confident that there would be no difficulty whatever about it.

The proclamation of Major Macpherson, quoted to Government by Mr. Forbes, is utterly *unknown* in the country in which it is supposed to have been promulgated; not to say that it was clearly intended to apply to the times of the Meriah Agency alone, respecting the aim and object of which certain factious and ignorant people were raising suspicion and clamour.

9. The Maliahs of the Ganjam District are these—

1. Purla Kimedy Maliahs.
2. Pedda Kimedy.
3. Bodogadah.
4. Cuttingiah.
5. Korada.
6. Sooradah.
7. Goomsoor.
8. Chinna Kimedy.

10. The "Purla Kimedy" Maliahs are held both *de facto* and *de jure* by the Zemindar of that name; being attached to his estate in the accounts of the Permanent settlement.

11. On the other hand, the next four on the list, the "Pedda Kimedy," "Bodogadah," "Cuttingiah," and "Korada" Maliahs, are held by the Zemindars or Chiefs so designated *de facto* only. There is no mention of any of these Maliahs, in the public accounts; it is probable that the Zemindars while accepted, perhaps, as arbitrators and revered as powerful allies, had no direct control over the Sowrahs and Khonds of the hills in these days; they have probably acquired their present position within the last half century of peace and order. No longer suffered to wage war with one another, each engaged his clansmen in the work of consolidating his power and influence amongst the neighbouring highlanders. In this they have succeeded, and though the Government have no intention of renouncing their claim to a revenue from the land, it would appear from the correspondence which has passed, though without eliciting any final orders on two only of the foregoing Maliahs, whose circumstances have as yet been brought under their notice, that they have no intention, on the other hand, of ejecting the present landlords altogether. Whatever is decided, they are at all events to be the middlemen.

12. To pass to the "Sooradah" and "Goomsoor" Maliahs, 6th and 7th on the list:—these Maliahs stood in the relationship just described to the Chief of Goomsoor, when that Zemindary was declared forfeited for rebellion in 1836. In these two Maliahs, therefore, we have a clear field, and in point of fact a revenue is already derived from the "Sooradah hills." The 3116 Khond ryots of this tract, which comprises 155 villages, pay between them 3268 Rupees (including a separate tax on toddy-drawers), the rates ranging from 12 Annas to 1½ Rupee, according to capacity, which was ascertained by (the late) Dervish Alli, the Sub-Magistrate, with the assistance of Khond Assessors; no formal measurement of the lands being attempted, in deference to local prejudices on that head.

G. O., 26th May 1865, No. 753.

This assessment, it is true, followed on the heels of a local insurrection, and was imposed partly as a kind of annual amercement; but it is not regarded by the Khonds of Sooradah in that light: on the contrary, they now emphatically describe themselves as the "Sirkar's children." I was more warmly welcomed here than at any other place; the chiefs actually brought out their women to visit me, an honor which, during six years' acquaintance with these interesting tribes, never happened to me before.

13. Last on the list come the Chinna Kimedy Maliahs.

The Government have already been informed that the claims of the Zemindar of Chinna Kimedy are of an extremely unsatisfactory nature; that he has never possessed the *directum imperium*; and that, if he has ever been recognized as the Suzerain, it has been to a very partial and limited extent, and that such title as he has he is very willing to renounce if some slender concession be made in his favor. His case is entirely distinct from that of the four Chiefs who immediately precede him in the list. His claim appears to possess very little weight of itself; while his character as a hard, cruel, grasping landlord, having no bowels in the matters of distraint or exaction, even in the height of a famine, is notorious throughout the district, and certainly entitles him to no very tender consideration of his pretences in a tract of country so exceptional as the Chinna Kimedy Maliah.

This Maliah contains 69 Ooriya villages, and 677 Khond ones. There is a great extent of jungle, and the country is far more sparsely occupied than Goomsoor. If taxation is sanctioned, I look to deriving an average of 1 Rupee per ryot in Goomsoor, and half that in Chinna Kimedy, the table would stand as follows:—

Name of Maliah.	Number of villages.	Average number.	Average assessment.	Total assessment.
Goomsoor...	948	15	1 Rupee.	14,220
Chinna Kimedy ...	746	10	½ Do.	3,730

It would also be proper to lease out the right of distilling and selling arrack in Goomsoor. There is a great number of Hindoo distillers deriving a very brisk trade, without fee or license of any kind, from the Revenue authorities. It has been estimated that such a lease would fetch at least three or four thousand Rupees a year. In Chinna Kimedy these people have as yet got no footing, but it might be proper to charge a small fee to the toddy-drawers both in Chinna Kimedy and in Goomsoor. Drunkenness is the cause of four-fifths of the crime in the hills. In Chinna Kimedy the assessment would be levied through the Ooriya Patros, who would receive a commission of 12 per cent., foregoing at the same time various petty fines and heriots, which they claim from the Khonds according to the custom in each manor. In Goomsoor, as in Sooradah, the Sub Magistrate would collect it.

14. *Roads to and in the Hills.*—To explain my remarks on this head, I beg to forward copy* of Map No. 107, Great Trigonometrical Survey. The vermillion lines are works under the Department Public Works. Some years since, after the outbreak at the close of 1863, among the infanticidal tribes of the Sooradah Maliah, it was pro-

* Private property. To be kindly returned.

nounced highly expedient to have a good road laid out from Aska, through the villages of Sooradah, Pipalapanka, and Gajilabadi, which last lies at the foot of the ghaut to Daringabadi, the central place in the Sooradah Maliah. A special officer, Captain Magnay, was selected for the duty; but he soon fell sick of fever, and the line is in the state indicated in the map, viz., *made* to a distance of 10 or 15 miles from Aska, traced to Pipalapanka, and beyond that *nil*. It is earnestly requested that orders may be issued for the early completion of this work,* as also for the line, long since undertaken by the Department Public Works, from Russelcondah through the Goomsoor Maliah to the Bengal frontier (road of Cuttack); and that the Government of Bengal may be moved to take up the line and continue it from that point, which was a part of the original scheme.

* Since writing this, I observe a grant in the Budget for this road.

15. The ghaut by which this road (Russelcondah to Boad frontier) is taken into the hills is called "Kalingia." Laden carts have occasionally gone up with Government stores for our Hill establishments; but the gradient is severe for the cattle, and the trade of the country is still conveyed up and down on bullocks, or by porters.

16. The purple lines marked in the Goomsoor and Chinna Kimedy Maliahs are roads (300 miles in extent, which have been repaired or newly opened out by Mr. Goodrich. Where the road is unfinished, the purple is laid on in patches. The red pencil line at the extreme north-east corner of the Chinna Kimedy Maliah marks off the slice of country ceded to the Central Provinces, under the Orders of Government, No. 904, of 4th June last, Political Department.

17. The sum sanctioned last official year for Hill roads was 19,000 Rupees, with an additional allotment of Rupees 2000 for the Puttingiah ghaut, which leads from Raikola of the Goomsoor Maliah to Birkut, a place at the foot of the hills, lying about 10 miles north-west of Russelcondah. This line will shorten the distance between Russelcondah and Baliguda by five miles, making it 57 miles in all; and the ghaut will be an easier gradient than the Kalingia ghaut.

A further sum of 6000 Rupees was sanctioned for a bridge over a wide and deep stream at Mahasinghi, 5 miles south-east of Baliguda; for this a design was obligingly furnished by Mr. Harris, Assistant Engineer.

18. When I left the Hills all these works were being rapidly pushed on by Mr. Goodrich. At first, after the late insurrection, the Khonds held aloof from us, and it was found necessary to procure laborers, both skilled and unskilled, from the plains. Now, however, under the confidence inspired by Mr. Goodrich's personal supervision, they are gradually coming forward for such employment as they are fitted for, knowing that it will no longer be possible for Patro or Policeman to over-task and under-pay them.

19. For the completion of the Baliguda (Agency) buildings 8000 Rupees was sanctioned. They are now quite tenantable, but a small sum may still, perhaps, be required to give the last few finishing touches.

20. The Budget of the current official year gives Rupees 3000 as a maintenance allowance for existing roads, and Rupees 2000 for extensions, for which the map shows there is ample room. All the Maliahs are shown in this map, except

that of Purla Kimedy. It lies to the south of Pedda Kimedy, and is consequently to be looked for in the continuation sheet No. 108 ; but never having been surveyed, the space it occupies is left blank in that sheet. It is a very extensive and important tract, and the Purla Kimedy estate being under their management, I shall endeavour to procure the sanction of the Court of Wards to opening up some of the ghauts, which I found almost impassable by pack bullocks.

21. In his Report last year, the late Agent made a proposal for a small *Vaccination* establishment, which was referred by Government to the Head of the Medical Department, with what result I am unable to say. Certainly no Vaccinators have been specially allotted, but a flying visit was paid during the late cold season by the party of Vaccinators who form the staff of the Deputy Superintendent of the Northern or Godavery Range. They went up with uncon. cealed dislike of the duty, the " propensity to ascend," which has been recently noticed as characteristic of certain public servants in connection with the Neilgherry plateau, being by no means observable amongst Native officials in respect of the Ganjam and Vizagapatam Maliahs ; and when they got there, Mr. Goodrich reports, " they stayed less than a month and did not travel at all. They came up " to Baliguda, made all sorts of excuses for staying there, then went down again by " Purnaghur. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon in charge never came near the hills." Despairing of such means as these, Mr. Goodrich proposes that his office Peons, and those of the Sub-Magistrates, should be taught vaccination, receiving the pay of two of the Vaccination establishment amongst them in addition to their proper salary. In this way he thinks the country might be well gone through, and much good effected. I should prefer two or three regular Vaccinators, and I earnestly trust that something may be done for us under the recent remodelling of the establishment. The hills are overrun with Ooriya Inoculators from the neighbouring province of Cuttack ; and the mortality in some *Mootahs* has been so fearful that the Inoculators, who receive half their fee down and half on the next visitation, have been afraid to show themselves again as yet, knowing that they would probably be stoned to death by the infuriated community as sorcerers.

22. I now come to the great *Salt* question, raised by the late Agent in last year's Report. Mr. Forbes mentioned that, in order to give a stimulus to local traffic in this commodity amongst the Khonds, he had ordered up a garee of salt, to be sold retail at the cost price, *plus* the carriage and a commission of 5 per cent. for the merchant undertaking its sale at a fixed price.

The quantity actually sent up was 2 garee ; it was carted from the sea-shore to Russelcondah, then carried up on bullocks to Baliguda, and there sold at a price one-third dearer than that prevailing in the plains. No merchant came forward to stand behind the counter for us ; from first to last the whole affair was managed, every penny-worth was sold by Government servants ; and, as they served for nothing, the profit realized on the outlay was 20 per cent., a sum which, in my humble opinion, presents a very inadequate return for the time lost to the Government and the public by the employment of Tahsildars, Sub-Magistrates, and their establishments upon a business so alien to their proper duties. So far from imparting a " stimulus" to local traffic, the interference of Government has *protanto* swamped it ; nor can I discover the grounds on which any other result was for one moment anticipated.

23. But the second part of the scheme is the establishment by Government of an extensive wholesale Salt Depot at a place called Purnaghur, in the Goomsoor hills, about 25 miles north of Russelcondah. This proposal having been referred to the Board of Revenue for their opinion, the Board observe that " the question of inland " Depots has been fully considered and negatived on previous occasions, and that " they are opposed to any departure from that decision." They suggest, however, an outlay of 10,000 or 15,000 Rupees in the erection of a market, as the nucleus of a trading town, at Purnaghur, the stalls in which might be rented after the first year ; and I have been directed to report on this point after consulting the leading Brinjaries and the leading local merchants, in doing which I was to be careful to point out to them " the advantages " that have resulted from the establishment of a similar trading entrepot at Parva- " tipur of the Vizagapatam district."

Board's Proceedings, No. 4724, 26th July 1867, with Docket of Chief Secretary, 9th August.

24. In reply, I beg to state that while the Brinjaries say they will be very glad to get their salt at Purnaghur, the merchants answer " make us a good cart road into the hills first of all, and then very likely we shall resort there with salt for sale."

It is stated by Mr. Forbes, and assumed by the Board of Revenue, that the Kalingia ghaut, which must needs be traversed to get to Purnaghur, is already practicable for carts. This is not my experience of it. On the contrary, I affirm that the incline is altogether too steep to be available under ordinary circumstances for cart traffic. It is true that we have sent up some few carts with Government stores up this ghaut, but they were accompanied by working parties from the different villages on the line, who turned out at our bidding to help us. We may do this with eight or nine carts in the course of the year, but hardly with eight or nine hundred ; and after all it is a species of assistance on which nobody could count but a Government official, armed with a Purwana from the neighbouring Tahsildar.

25. When Mr. Forbes talks of Brinjaries universally driving their pack bullocks to the coast, owing to there being no disposition on the part of merchants to meet them at any point with salt, between the Central Provinces and the coast, I stand amazed at the statement. He is pourtraying a condition of things which certainly existed some years ago, but which at present is daily passing away from us. The Salt Deputy Collector, who is now entering upon his ninth year of service in that department in this district, assures me it is quite remarkable how the number of Brinjaries resorting to the pans has year by year decreased. There are at least half a dozen places at the foot of the Ganjam hills, which, being now connected by good roads with the coast, are rapidly growing up into little " Parvatipurs ;" while with respect to that great entrepot itself (of which I may speak with some knowledge) the system of buying Brinjarry produce with salt has completely superseded money bargains. In years when trade is flourishing, as much as *three lakhs of maunds* of salt is purchased on account of Parvatipur merchants at the Nowpada pans, and stored up at Parvatipur against the Brinjary season. The Brinjary has no occasion whatever to proceed to the coast ; and not only Parvatipur, the same system prevails at Rayagadda, Gunapur, Godairy ; all places in the Vizagapatam district, further than Parvatipur from the coast, but of late years rendered accessible to carts therefrom. In short, I would lay it down as an axiom that wherever carts *can* go

from the coast to the interior thither carts *will* go, and going will convey salt. We have no Pickfords or Chaplins here; every petty farmer has his cart, and at the seasons of the year when agricultural labours are suspended, he is only too glad to be employed with his cart; for two or three months he will go anywhere for a job, nor are the merchants less eager to engage his services. I am not, of course, to be understood to mean that by making the "Kalingia" a good ghaut for carts, we shall *immediately* see a miniature Parvatipur at Purnaghur or any other place in the Goomsoor hills. The country has a bad name for climate, and the inhabitants are mistrusted by the lowlanders as savage and truculent tribes; while as for carting up their salt to entrepots in the regions beyond, where the country is not always directly administered by British Officers, I apprehend that our merchants will refrain from doing so, long after the pacification of the Ganjam Maliahs is completed, and Purnaghur has attained commercial splendor and renown, results which are not, in my opinion, in any degree dependent on the expenditure of 15,000 Rupees of public money on the proposed market and stalls.

26. The contingent expenses of my late tour amounted to Rupees 529-1 2, for which sum I beg to request sanction.

Copy sent to the Acting Inspector General of Police, for such remarks as he may wish to offer on paragraphs 4 and 5. An early reply is requested.

Copy sent also to the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, for such remarks as he may wish to make on paragraph 21. An early reply is requested.

FORT SAINT GEORGE, (Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

No. 203. From the Acting Inspector General of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 6th June 1868, No. 2532-1023.

With reference to paragraphs 4 and 5 of the report of the Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George upon the Hill Tracts of Ganjam, I have the honor to submit my remarks, as directed, upon the points therein mooted, viz.:—

Letter No. 24, dated 1st May 1868.

1*st.*—The permanent residence of the Assistant Superintendent of Police in the Khond country through the year, and

2*nd.*—The establishment of twelve or fourteen smaller Police stations throughout that country, instead of massing the Police in four strong posts (exclusive of Baliguda) as at present.

2. With reference to Mr. Carmichael's remark, that Lieutenant Pickance is quite willing to have his permanent head quarters at Baliguda, I fear he must have misunderstood that officer's views on the subject; for since the Agent's report was written, Lieutenant Pickance has expressed his wish that the present arrangement, viz., transfer of head quarters to Russelcondah during the rainy season, (from the middle of June to the end of October,) should continue. Lieutenant Pickance urges that even with head quarters at Baliguda it would be impossible to travel in the Maliahs during the rains, owing to sickness amongst servants and camp followers, and that a temporary change to Russelcondah recruits health and energy, whereas an idle life at Baliguda during the rains has a most injurious effect. These considerations have some force.

3. I quite agree with Mr. Carmichael that permanent residence in the Maliahs would be the true principle, were there no counterbalancing disadvantages; but these should be carefully weighed. On looking for Mr. Robinson's views in this matter, (which have been quoted,) I find them thus expressed—"I agree with the Agent that *almost* permanent residence within the hills must be expected of the Assistant Superintendent in charge of that range. His head quarters must, during the *greater part of the year*, be in the Maliahs;" and again, "*almost* constant residence on the hills is indispensable, and must be insisted on." I gather from these words that Mr. Robinson doubted if absolutely unbroken residence was practicable. Had he believed it to be so, I am sure he would have recommended it without any qualification.

G. O. 403 of 20th March 1866. { Letter No. 205, 24th Jan. 1866, para. 112. Do. No. 333, 28th Feb. 1866, para. 16.

4. The health and well-being of the officers who perform these trying duties for Government is the first and permanent consideration on all grounds. The personal influence of European officers, experienced in the country and acquainted with the people, is the very main-spring of the work of civilization. Change of supervision must necessarily weaken this influence, and the possible advantage to be gained by a few months residence in the rains would be dearly purchased by loss of officers, while the interregnum that would probably ensue in filling their place would entail a far greater relaxation of discipline and control than the mere temporary transfer of the directing power to Russelcondah. Jeypore is quoted as an example of permanent residence, but we do not yet know how long officers can manage to live there under this condition. Since 1863, when Jeypore was first taken up, there have been no less than five different officers in charge, to the very serious detriment of satisfactory progress.

5. I think that Mr. Carmichael rather over-estimates the evil results of a temporary transfer of head quarters to Russelcondah. I doubt if this influenced the attempt of a Deputy Constable to re-establish the dearly cherished "Nirruck," which I believe was an isolated instance of misconduct. Police stations anywhere can only be visited at intervals. The knowledge that, when the inevitable visit of inspection takes place, the events of the past few months will be thoroughly inquired into, and an opportunity given to all people to prefer their complaints, must be relied on to keep the Police straight. A thorough inspection of the Hill stations before the rains, and again immediately after the rains, should suffice to prevent any great degree of demoralization.

6. Although, therefore, I admit the principle advanced by Mr. Carmichael, yet I consider that the balance of disadvantage would lie in absolutely enforcing unbroken residence at Baliguda under its peculiar and trying conditions. Some compromise must, I think, be accepted; I would not, therefore, recommend that the existing arrangement in this matter should be changed at present. Should events prove that permanent residence is essential to good order, it must then be maintained at all costs and at all hazards.

7. Next, as to the second question of distributing the Police in more numerous but smaller posts. Mr. Carmichael considers this second question to be contingent on the first, but for reasons already advanced I do not see that this follows. If the new posts were carefully established in the [illegible] visited before the rains, and revisited after the rains, I do not think their good working would be

much affected by this question of residence. All the local officers seem in favor of the proposed redistribution, and I gathered from Mr. Robinson before he left that he too was in favor of it, though, in the absence of the expected reports, he could give no decided opinion. In itself, therefore, there can be no objection to this step in advance. The exact number of posts to be so taken up can be determined. Twelve or fourteen would probably be too many at present. Each Police party should consist of not less than fifteen men.

8. But the question of taxation, alluded to in paragraph 8 of the Agent's letter, bears strongly on the question of redistributing the Police Force, and whatever may be decided about taxation, I would at least advise that the two measures should not be *simultaneous;* for although no disturbance is likely to ensue, yet looking to the comparatively recent date of similar occurrences, and to the uncertain temper of this rude people, it would be unwise not to consider the *possibility* of such result; and in the event of a disturbance, a few strong posts well manned and commanded would be obviously a better basis of operations than twelve or fourteen small scattered posts liable to be attacked in detail and to be cut off from supplies. The Kotiah country is now quite unoccupied by Police, while the people there are the most lawless and the most likely to rise. If the Kotiah country is to be taxed, I would advise the *previous* establishment of one or two strong posts in the heart of that country as a preventive measure.

9. The above are mere considerations of strategy, but on other grounds also it would seem inexpedient to introduce the two measures simultaneously. Taxation is not usually liked by anybody, and the extended distribution of the Police is in itself an experiment, which will not, perhaps, altogether commend itself to the wishes of the people. Thus they will suddenly encounter two causes of irritation instead of one. Moreover, they will indubitably connect the one with the other. Apart from all question of a rising, the fact that taxation came in with the Police would probably render the Police unpopular, and greatly retard satisfactory working in this new country.

10. If on the other hand (the Police Force remaining in *statu quo*) taxation should happily create a warm affection for Government, as described by Mr. Carmichael in paragraph 12 of his report, then the influence of this feeling would greatly smooth the way to the subsequent extension of the Police on a satisfactory footing. Taxation may, perhaps, prove acceptable as tending to confirm security of tenure and to protect the land-holding Khonds against vexatious interference on the part of the Ooriya Patros; but it might be well first to be assured on this point.

11. Another course would be to distribute the Police as proposed, and to defer taxation until strength and efficiency of working under the new arrangement should be completely tested and established, and thus, perhaps, the minds of the Khonds might be prepared for further progress in the shape of taxation.

12. I think, therefore, that the question of redistribution must depend upon that of taxation, and that if taxation is likely to be soon imposed it would be wise to await the effect of that measure before altering and weakening the repressive organization of the Police Force. The question of reducing the strength of the Baliguda party to 150 men may, doubtless, be left to the discretion of the local authorities. Should symptoms of disturbance appear, Baliguda could be quickly reinforced; but if the Kotiah country is to be taxed, I would retain the full present strength until the result of the measure is known.

13. To sum up, the recommendations I would wish to submit are these—

1*st.*—That the Assistant Superintendent should not be compelled to remain at Baliguda during the whole year for the present.

2*nd.*—That should taxation be imposed, the present distribution of the Force should be retained, until sufficient time has elapsed to show the temper of the people under the new burden.

3*rd.*—That should taxation be indefinitely postponed, the proposed redistribution of the Police into smaller parties should be carried out.

No. 204. From the Superintendent General of Vaccination, Madras Presidency, to the Secretary to Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 11th July 1868, No. 1173.

With reference to docket, No. 1977, of the 2nd June 1868, forwarding Proceedings of Government on the letter* from the Agent to the Governor in Ganjam, with Under Secretary's endorsement, I beg to state that from a communication received from the Deputy Superintendent of Vaccine, Godavery Circle, it would appear the Superintendent spent 34 days in the Hill Tracts of Orissa, visited 114 villages, and operated on 552 subjects, and during the same period he traversed 560 miles of ground; but finding much objection to the acceptance of vaccination in the parts visited, he left the Hill Tracts for other places.

* Paragraph 21.

2. Considering that the Superintendent had three extensive districts under his charge, he could not well have been out for a longer period without neglecting other portions of his circle.

3. The augmentation of the Vaccine Department having been sanctioned, I mean to nominate, as soon as the necessary arrangements are effected, six Vaccinators to work on the Hill Tracts of Orissa; and as there will be a Superintendent for the district of Ganjam, he will be in a position to inspect their work, and I have every reason to hope that this arrangement will prove satisfactory.

No. 239.

MEMORANDUM.

Forwarded to the Chief Secretary to Government, with reference to the Under Secretary's docket of the 1st ultimo.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
16*th July* 1868.

(Signed) W. MACKENZIE, M. D.,
Inspr. Genl., Indian Medl. Dept.

No. 205. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th January 1868, No. 39.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 6th December 1867, No. 1990, Judicial Department.

Abstract.—Communicating paragraph 3 of the Despatch from the Secretary of State for India, desiring to know the result of the reference made to the Board on the subject of establishing a Salt Depôt at Poorneah.

The Board observe that their views on the subject of paragraph 3 of the Secretary of State's Despatch, dated 24th October 1867, No. 17, were communicated to Government in the Revenue Department, in Proceedings of 26th July 1867, No. 4794.

(A true Extract).

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Secretary.

No. 206. From D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George in Ganjam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Kimedy, 15th January 1868, No. 6.

In reply to the Under Secretary's docket, No. 9, of 7th January, instant, I have the honor to state that, as already mentioned in my letter, No. 79, of 21st August last, I should wish to defer my remarks on the "Poornaghur" Salt Depôt project, till I have been right through the hills.

No. 207. ORDER THEREON, 19th September 1868, No. 1456.

Vizagapatam.

The first portion of the Vizagapatam Agent's report above recorded relates to a visit paid by him, beyond his own jurisdiction, to the Bastar Rajah, and contains the Agent's remarks upon the violent conduct of that feudatory in rescuing persons arrested by the Police and in imprisoning the Police Constables. As the papers connected with this matter have been separately disposed of, no further orders are required upon the questions raised in paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of the Government Agent's report.

2. The Government notice, however, with satisfaction that there is reason to modify the decidedly unfavorable opinion expressed by the late Agent as regards the Bustar Rajah's intelligence and deportment.

3. The Government approve of the suggestion contained in paragraph 9 that all communications addressed to the Rajah should be in Hindee and in the Nagree character. The Assistant Agent should be encouraged to acquire a knowledge of Hindoostance, and in future appointments of Assistants to the Agency a preference will be given to gentlemen who have passed in that language.

4. It is satisfactory to learn from this report that there has been an entire discontinuance of human sacrifice by the Khonds, who have substituted a sacrificial offering of animals.

5. With reference to paragraph 12 of the Agent's report the Government are of opinion that time must be given to develope the educational improvement of the Khonds, and they do not consider it desirable to discontinue the usual annual distribution, by the Agent when on his tour, of cloths to the Ooriya Patros who may not be conversant with the Khond language.

6. The Government entirely concur in the recommendation that the Police should patrol every portion of the Sowrah hills, not excepting Puttasinghy.

7. It appears that the headmen of 15 Sowrah villages came and paid their respects to the Senior Assistant Agent when on his tour in that tract, and it is a favorable sign that the men from these villages, who were resisting the authority of Government two years ago, are willingly engaged in the work of road-making.

8. The headman of Puttasinghy is "Zonti Gomango," upon whose head a price was set in 1864. The insurrection of that year was punished with sufficient severity by the execution of five and the transportation of nine of the Sowrahs, and under the favorable report of the existing condition of these hills, the Government authorize the Government Agent to proclaim an amnesty to all those who were concerned in the insurrection of 1864.

9. Concurrently with this act of grace, the Government Agent will take the necessary steps for making the jungle in the neighbourhood of Puttasinghy accessible, and he will, in consultation with the Superintendent of Police, arrange for the establishment of two Police posts near that village, and for the complete Police patrol of the Sowrah hills.

10. The Inspector General of Police will probably be able to make a sufficient reduction in the Police Force at Baliguda, under the Ganjam Agency, to meet the requirements of the new Police post in the Sowrah country, as well as of the new distribution required in the Hill Tracts of Ganjam.

11. It is a matter of regret, but not of surprise, that the success of vaccination among the Sowrahs should be subject to the fluctuation noticed in paragraph 15 of the Agent's report. The Agent will do his utmost to cause the benefits of vaccination to be thoroughly explained to the Sowrahs. In this semi-barbarous tract of country, as in similar places elsewhere in India, the ultimate success of vaccination will depend upon the facilities afforded to the hill tribes for being vaccinated, and on the vaccination agency being carefully selected. The particular attention of the Superintendent General of Vaccination will be specially directed to paragraph 15 of the Agent's report.

12. The Government learn with satisfaction that a school, with a competent master, has been opened at Rayaghada. It is, however, observed that no intimation was made, by the Educational Department of the establishment of this school to the Government Agent. The Government consider this omission on the part of the Educational Department very unsatisfactory, and desire that the Director of Public Instruction will submit an explanation of the circumstances under which the Government Agent was left without any information regarding this school.

13. The Government have read with much interest the reports submitted by Mr. Bliss, late Principal Assistant Agent, and Mr. Percy Jones, Assistant Superintendent of Police, on the Golgonda portion of the Hill Tracts. These reports should have accompanied the Agent's report, both as containing in detail much valuable information and as giving evidence of the capacity and energy of the young officers who submitted them.

14. The visits paid by the Acting Principal [illegible] so. [illegible] is publi[illegible]nd the Assistant Superintendent of Police brought to light serious acts [illegible]dence on the[illegible]nd oppression committed by Checka Venkanna Dora, the renter of the [illegible] state. [illegible]ah, and clearly establish the necessity for a more regular visitatio[illegible]le to accept t[illegible] by European officers. [illegible]ould remain [illegible]

15. Mr. Bliss in his report has made the followin[illegible], dated 20th [illegible]dations:—

(1).—That, if the Agent cannot himself spare t[illegible]incipal Assistant Agent should every year make a two-months' tour [illegible]reful cons[illegible] country in his division. [illegible]ned in p[illegible]

(2).—That, when on this tour, the Principal Assistant Agent should take cognizance of all civil cases brought to him, without reference to the Agent, and that, when the value of property litigated is below 100 Rupees, the decision should be final.

(3).—That the Golgonda Taluq Magistrate should visit the hills twice a year at least, each time remaining for one month; that during these visits he should exercise the powers of a District Moonsiff, as do other Magistrates in the Hill Tracts.

(4).—If this cannot be done, that a temporary Sub-Magistrate with two Goomastahs be appointed. Mr. Bliss further recommends that all the country below the ghauts and to the west of the river Boderu, between Golgonda and Krishnadevipetta, should again be put under the Agent as being for all practical purposes a part of the hills.

16. The Government request the Agent to report upon the recommendations made by Mr. Bliss, and with reference to the latter part of that officer's fourth suggestion to state whether the country described has been actually withdrawn from the Agency limits, and in the case of his concurring with Mr. Bliss' views, to submit a draft of a notification restoring this tract to the jurisdiction of the Agent.

17. The returns of the administration of Civil and Criminal justice are satisfactory, there having been no increase of crime of a serious nature, during the year.

18. It appears from the report that the grant for 1867-68 was Rupees 7,000 for roads and 10,000 for jungle-clearing. It is observed that, although the Salur ghaut road was injured by the monsoons of 1867, it has been repaired, and that the road is now completely made from the bottom to the top of the ghaut, and for some distance along the level country beyond, and that a road is under construction towards Jeypore with strong wooden bridges across the streams. Rupees 2,450 have been expended in roads and jungle-clearing by the Senior Assistant Agent. The effect of opening rough tracts, which are, however, passable by laden carts, has been to reduce the cost of carriage by one-half.

The amount of the grant remaining unexpended should have been clearly stated by the Agent, upon whom the Government desire to impress the importance of actively promoting, to the extent of the funds placed at his disposal, the road-making and jungle-clearing in the Hill Tracts under his charge.

19. The contingent expenses of the Agent's tour, Rupees 344-9-2, are sanctioned.

20. In the annual given above recorded the Government Agent, Mr. Carmichael, confirms the late Agent Mr. Forbes' anticipations that the Khonds, even of the wildest parts of the Maliahs, thoroughly acknowledge the [illegible] of the British rule; but he has still to chronicle their habits of tribal [illegible] portion of which occurred between the Khonds of Kumarikupa and Botangia, in [illegible] hills, in May 1867. The quarrel arose out of a dispute regarding a [illegible]. In spite of the efforts of the Sub-Magistrate, who, with a few Police, the men [illegible] to prevent the fight, the Khonds assembled and fought. Four men were killed and twelve villages were burnt. Thirteen of those

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concerned in this affair have been transported for life; twenty-two were sentenced to imprisonment.

21. The criminal cases for the year, other than this case, committed to the Agent's Court, were 29, but of these only 15 were grave offences. The remaining 14 cases, in which 41 prisoners were concerned, were offences against property committed by Sowrahs.

22. The return given of the operation of the lower Courts does not state the nature of the crimes, but it would appear that 214 persons, of whom 125 were convicted, were brought to trial before the Assistant Agent's Court (Mr. Goodrich in almost all cases); 152 persons were brought to trial before the Sub-Magistrate's Courts, of whom 73 persons were convicted.

23. In Mr. Forbes' report of last year, besides 14 cases of heinous crime, the number of "petty" crimes is reported at 60. This increase in the number of cases does not necessarily imply an actual increase of crime in the country, but may be owing to the more efficient detective action of the Police.

24. Mr. Carmichael reports that, in accordance with the Order of Government, dated 20th March 1866, No. 403, the Assistant Agent and the Assistant Superintendent of Police have resided in Baliguda from November till May, when they returned to Russelcondah. This has also been done by the Native Magistrates, the Native Police Constables remaining on the hills all the year round.

25. Mr. Carmichael, now that a good dwelling house has been provided for the European officers, strongly advocates their remaining at Baliguda during the monsoon, as is done in Jeypore by the officers of the Vizagapatam Agency. He points out how important the presence of these officers is in maintaining the discipline of the Police and preventing the Khonds being oppressed, and he gives as an instance of the evil of the Police being left to themselves the existence or rather the revival of the "Nirruck" system, by which the people are compelled to provide the Constables with rice at unremunerative prices.

26. The Government entirely appreciate the importance attached by the Agent to the constant presence of European officers in these hills, both to control the action of the Police and to give continuous protection to the Khonds against the petty oppression of the Ooriyas; but, unfortunately, the climate of these hills is, during a portion of the year, most hostile to Europeans, and the Government cannot, with due regard to the health of their officers, insist on their remaining at the head quarters at Baliguda during the rainy season. They have had recently before them the instance of a valuable and most zealous public officer, Mr. Goodrich, whose health has been completely broken by his residence on these hills, and who has been obliged to leave India in a very precarious state.

27. Under these circumstances they are unable to accept the recommendation made by the Agent, that the European officers should remain all the year round on the hills, and the Order of Government, No. 403, dated 20th March 1866, will remain undisturbed.

28. The Government have had under their careful consideration the proposals regarding the distribution of the Police contained in paragraph 5 of the

Agent's report and the report of the Acting Inspector General of Police, contained in the letter above recorded on this subject. They concur with the Agent that the force at Baliguda will admit of reduction, but they are not prepared to diminish to as great an extent as is proposed by the Agent the actual numerical strength of the Police stationed on these hills.

29. While the Government are willing to reduce the large force at Baliguda, they are of opinion that the number of Police posts on these hills should not exceed nine, inclusive of Baliguda. Maintaining the existing posts therefore at Baliguda, Udayagiri, Daringabadi, Tummariband, and Bamanigam, they consider that new Police posts of sufficient strength should be established at Belgur, Lankaghur, and two other places in the Kotaya Maliahs to be selected by the Agent in consultation with the Superintendent of Police.

30. The reduction made in the Police at present employed in the Khond hills of Ganjam, after making due provision for the posts being of sufficient strength, will enable the Inspector General of Police to provide for the two Police posts in the neighbourhood of the Sowrah village of Puttasinghy, to which his attention has been called in paragraph 9 of the present order.

31. The Government approve of Mr. Carmichael's proposal to move one of the present Sub-Magistrates who is at Baliguda, the head quarters of the Assistant Agent, to Bamanigam, and they also consider that Mr. Carmichael has satisfactorily shown the necessity of locating a third Sub-Magistrate with a suitable establishment, at a total cost of Rupees 227 per mensem, in the Goomsoor Maliahs, which, with a population of 70,000, are at present without a resident Magistrate.

32. The proposal to increase the establishment of the existing Sub-Magistrate's offices from Rupees 187 to Rupees 227 by the addition of a Goomastah and Sweeper, and by slightly increasing the pay of the Peons, is also approved, and will be carried into effect. The increase of charge will be entered in the monthly Statement of fresh charges submitted to the Government of India.

33. Paragraphs 8 to 13 of the report under review are devoted to the question of the taxation of the Maliahs, which is advocated by Mr. Carmichael.

34. Apart from considerations of policy, which, in the opinion of Government, render it desirable to adjourn this question, there is a serious impediment to the immediate adoption of the course proposed by the Government Agent in the Proclamation which was issued by the Supreme Government in 1846, which appears to have been overlooked when the taxation of these Maliahs was proposed by the late Agent, and to have been subsequently discovered by him. This Proclamation is to the effect that the "Government do not intend, *either now or hereafter*, to impose taxes or servile labour on the hill races of the tracts in question, or to increase the tribute at present paid by the Rajahs in them, or to abrogate or injuriously change the hereditary authority and privileges of these Rajahs and Bissyes, Mullickos Podres (Patros) or any other hill chiefs."

35. Mr. Carmichael is probably correct in supposing that this Proclamation was issued in order to facilitate the operations of the Meriah Agency, which was regarded with great suspicion and hostility, and was not intended in perpetuity to bar the

right of the State to levy such a moderate assessment as would assimilate these tracts to other parts of the empire; but the fact remains that this Proclamation, issued under the authority of the Supreme Government, has not been cancelled, and the sanction of the Government of India is necessary before the tract of country to which the Proclamation applied can be legally brought under taxation.

The Goomsoor Maliah may, it is true, be regarded as exceptional, inasmuch as the British Government has, by the annexation of Goomsoor, succeeded to the rights held by the Rajah in the Goomsoor Maliahs.

Sooradah and Chinna Kimedy also, by the resistance recently offered to the authority of the Government, may be held to have forfeited the immunity bestowed by the Proclamation.

But the Government are more influenced by the consideration that the introduction of taxation, however moderately assessed, among an ignorant and poor race, such as the Khonds, would probably be attended with evils out of all proportion to the gain to be derived from the proposed revenue. They, therefore, resolve to postpone this question until the period, not, it may be hoped, very distant, when these wild tribes shall have become civilized by the presence and care of the European officers living on these hills, and by the benefits which they derive from the protection to life and property afforded by a Police thoroughly controlled by the establishment of Courts of justice easily accessible to all, and by the increased facilities for communication with the low country created by the roads already made and under construction. To these influences and to the spread of education, the Government may fairly look, as the surest means of bringing the Khonds into those conditions of tranquillity and material prosperity which will render moderate taxation both justifiable and devoid of danger. Under this resolution the tax levied on the Khonds of Sooradah will be discontinued, and it will not be necessary to collect the outstanding arrears.

36. Good progress has, it is observed, been made in road-making during the year under report, and it is very satisfactory to the Government to learn that, owing to the confidence inspired by Mr. Goodrich's personal supervision, the Khonds are coming forward to be employed on these works.

37. The account given by the Agent of the working of the Vaccination Department during the past year is most unsatisfactory. It appears, however, that since the date of Mr. Carmichael's report, special arrangements have been made to ensure a complete visitation of the Khond hills by a competent staff of Vaccinators.

38. The Agent is opposed to the proposal made by his predecessor, Mr. Forbes, for the establishment of a Salt Depôt at Poornaghur in the Goomsoor hills.

The Board did not recommend to Government the adoption of Mr. Forbes' proposal, but suggested the construction of a market, at an outlay of 10,000 or 15,000 Rupees, as the nucleus of a trading town at Poornaghur. Mr. Carmichael considers that neither of these projects are necessary, and that the development of trade will be best promoted by the construction of good roads, and that these will be freely used by the merchants without any special encouragement, such as was contemplated by the late Agent. The Government concur in this view, and do not consider it necessary to give effect to the Poornaghur market project.

39. The expenses of the Agent's tour, amounting to Rupees 529-1-2, are sanctioned.

(True Extract).

Under ~~Chief~~ Secretary.

To the Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George in Vizagapatam.
" Do. do. do. in Ganjam,
with map returned.
" Inspector General of Police.
" Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Public Works Department.
" Revenue Department.
" Accountant General.

Ead. J. Tulloch.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th October, 1868.

No. 188. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department :—

Reviewing the Reports on the Administration of the Hill Tracts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam, for the year 1867. } (Here enter 19th September, 1868, No. 1,456.)

No. 189. ORDER THEREON, 10th October, 1868, No. 2,610.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Original

Govt. of {1868} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

Dated October, 10th.

Recd. *Encl.*

G. O., 10th October 1868, No. 2,610.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 188-189.

Hill Tracts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam.—Order reviewing the Administration Reports for the year 1867, recorded.