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M.R.O. 1—5,006—16-10-50.

(1) Number of pages 16

(2) Date of repair 26.8.65

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / ~~B.P. No.~~	127	~~Press~~ / Mis.
Dated	22-5-1872	195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Wellington
30th March 1872

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Sir,

With reference to the Accountant's docket No 139 of the 23d March 1872 forwarding the correspondence on herewith returned I have the honor to state:-

1st With reference to the letter from J.H. Master Esq. Acting Collector of Bellary & the Secretary of the Board of reference dated Camp Adoni Hewin Madgaly Taluq 2d February 1872 No 22 -

In para 1 - Mr Master states that he brings Dustur "my" "incontinent conduct". I object to this expression in his part as the matter was only investigated on one side and no explanation was ever asked from me by him. - The ordinary rules of official correspondence should have guided Mr Master in qualifying his expression by the word "alleged" or an equivalent adjective. -

With regard to para 2. of the same letter. The remarks regarding my complaint against the inspector of Police at Anantapore are open to a similar objection viz that the Inspector's statement has been taken as correct without any reference being made to the Respondent's

Authorities

authorities. I should not have made any report against the Inspector of Police, if I had not on thorough investigation of the matter in the presence of the Adjutant & others, convinced myself that the man was in fault. I have further to state that if I had not taken the steps I did: viz. ordering the Police out of the Regimental Bazaar, in my opinion, there would have been a serious collision between the men of the regt & the camp followers (muckerpanders) and the Police on the other side. My reason for forming this opinion will be found further on.

vide next para.

With regard to para. 4th—
Complaints were made to me of the high price of provisions at Punamari by the regt and I considered that their complaints were just as at the previous stage only some 10 miles distant, fowls were sold at the rate of 1 anna to 1½ annas: while at Punamari the authorized price charged for fowls was from 6 to 8 annas each. The Tahsildar himself told me that he experienced much difficulty

in procuring the necessary supplies having to send great distances for them. But if the Bazaar price ten miles off was from 1 anna to 1½ annas for a fowl, & supposing he had to send all that distance (ten miles) for them, the increased price was quite out of proportion to the difficulty of obtaining them. This difficulty I have every reason to believe did not exist or was much exaggerated. At this station it was reported to me by the Regimental Police that the civil Police and the men of the native Infantry Guard accompanying the regt had, under the pretence of acting as interpreters and applying the married women followers to make their purchases, taken the money which the latter tendered for payment & had given the sellers only a portion of the amount due & then pocketed the difference. This was reported to me by eye witnesses. They even went so far as to prevent the native followers purchasing any articles unless they were employed

as mediums - Having investigated this matter and having come to the conclusion that the facts as stated above were correct I gave orders that the Civil Police and men of the N.I Guard should not be permitted to enter the Regimental Bazaar - The feeling of irritation amongst the innkeepers and other followers as also amongst the men of the regiment was so strong that I consider I prevented a collision by acting as I did.

With regard to para 5:-
I was not aware of any order directing an officer to be detailed to take charge of the supplies: I took over the command of the regiment at Penukonda and should not have considered it my duty when in temporary command of the Regt: for a few days, to have altered any existing arrangements -

With regard to letter No 548 dated 20th December 1871 from the Sub. Collector of Bellary to the acting Collector he says "the orders of Govt have been steadily disobeyed" This is strong language and implies that it was wilfully done.

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had the sub collector or any of the civil authorities applied to me at the time that any order of Govt was being neglected I should have payed immediate attention to the matter & rectified the error - He states "that revenue officers had to call the things to the soldiers" I should be glad to know when & where this happened and also what Revenue Officers were constituted salesmen in the Regimental Bazaar

With regard to para 3 of the sub Collectors letter:-
For the first time with extreme surprise I learn that the men of my regiment are accused of taking articles without paying for them - Had such been the case I am confident that the matter would have been reported to me at once - No report of anything of the kind was ever made to me while I was in command of the Regt: I have already given my reasons for turning the Bluejackets out of the Bazaar

as to

both regard. Para: 4:-

The Tahsildar's statement that he was made to stand among a crowd of Butchers is emphatically false. At Ghooty or at one of the stages near it Complaints were made Due of the price of sheep as fixed in the Tahsildar's list. I sent for a butcher who was with the regiment and told him to make enquiries in the neighbourhood regarding the general price of sheep. I was informed that it was very much below that charged by the Tahsildar in his list. But that the natives were afraid to sell sheep to the regt. for fear of incurring the displeasure & wrath of a functionary held in such awe by the native villagers as the Tahsildar. I directed the Tahsildar to attend the office next at the usual hour to be confronted with this man. This man constituted the crowd of butchers the alleged contiguity of whom insulted the dignity of the Brahmin and on the strength of which the sub Collector of

Bellary writes "that he cannot believe that Govt. wish to hunt the pulings or prejudices of any caste, but if they did it would be folly in the extreme"—

To go back to the Tahsildar's statement regarding the high price of provisions & the difficulty of procuring them. It was reported to me (if I remember right by the men who came into camp after the regt. with the sick horses) that on the road near the camp they had bought supplies such as fowls & eggs at a very moderate rate & much below that fixed in the Tahsildar's list— and that the people who were bringing them to camp and that these people were turned back by peons & policeman & not allowed to bring them to camp. This was no doubt with a view to keep up the high official price— with these statements from credible witnesses I considered that the Tahsildar was either ignorant of his business or in collusion with those who were endeavouring to fix unfair prices on the articles

of

supply for the Regt.

With regard to the statement of the Ghooty Tahsildar No. 548 dated 10th Decr. 1841

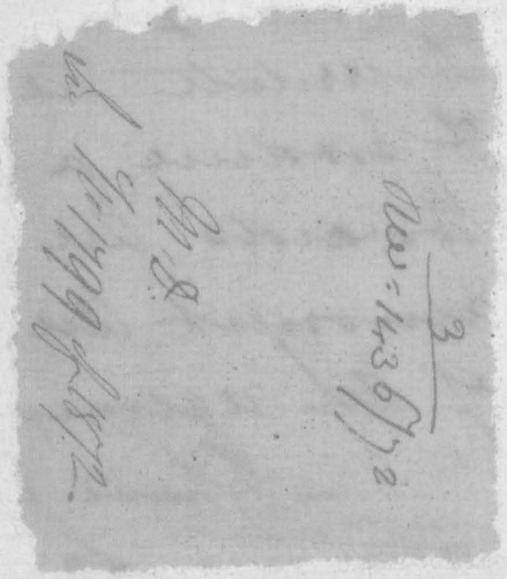
He is incorrect in stating that he brought the fact of there being a disturbance in the bazaar to my notice. He did nothing of the kind - And he is not in a position to know what orders I issued on any subject whatever With regard to the whole statement of the Tahsildar It is decidedly incautious in the Sub Collector forwarding such a statement for the information of Govt. & writing a letter thereon before ascertaining the truth of its contents. The same Tahsildar further states that the Soldiers beat one Seenapah & others employed in selling provisions No report was ever made to me regarding it The fact speaks for itself - Instead of affording the assistance one would would have a right to expect from him

him, the Ghooty Tahsildar's conduct was obstructive throughout and his overbearing & bullying manner towards the Regimental police (complaints of some by them) tended to irritate the men and to produce a very bad feeling towards the civil authorities amongst the men & followers of the regiment

I have the honor to be
Sir
your obedt. Servant
R Wigham Capt.
18th Lancers

To the Officer Commanding
18th Lancers
Secundrabad

Forwarded
Major General
Commanding H.H. Force



Revenue Department.

No. 1436

127/6

1872

om Pro: of Court Mily. Department

Dated 22d April — 1872.

FOR ORDERS.

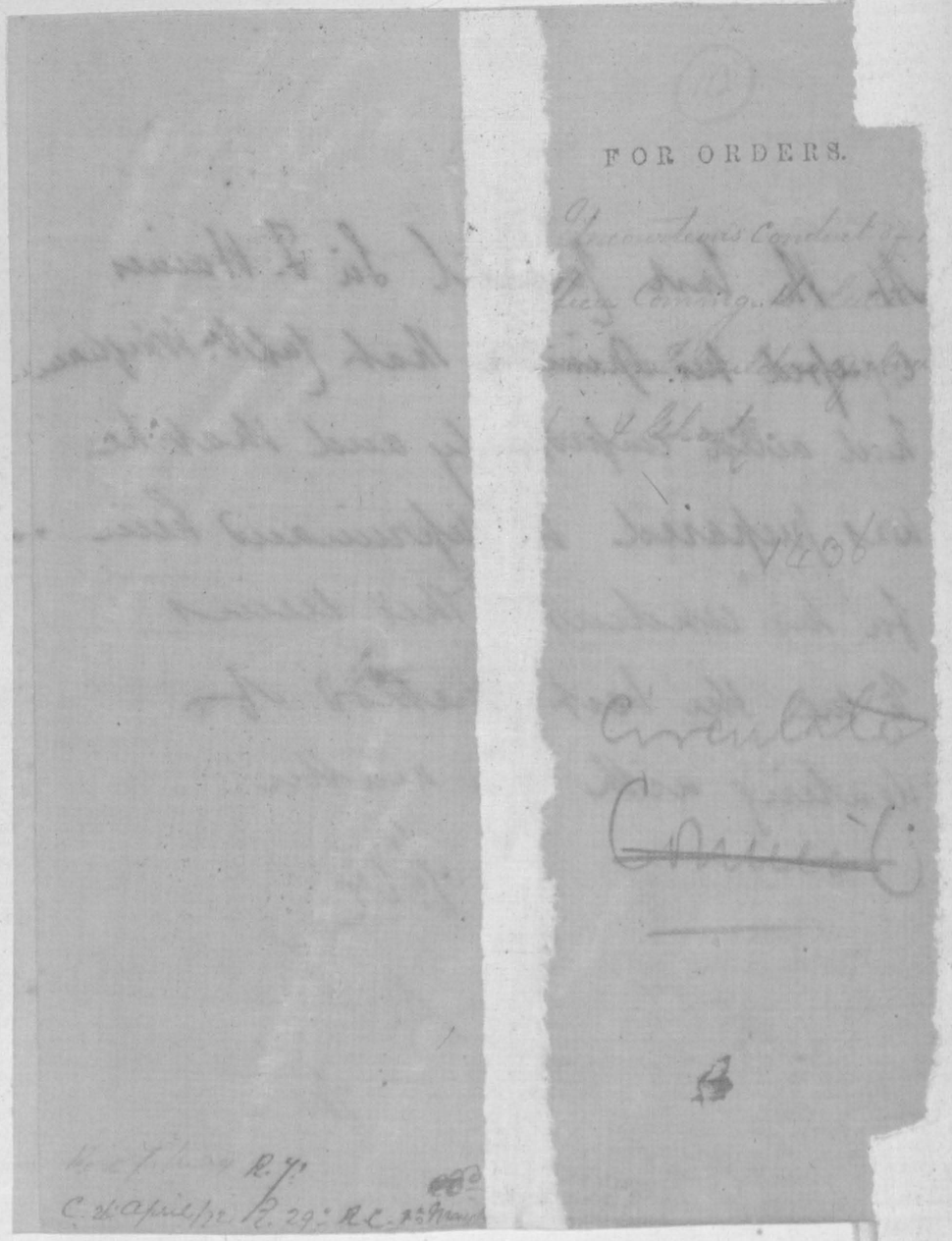
Capt W. Lewis may thank
but are thereby directed
he is desired to attend at his office
Court and there hold an
enquiry into his conduct
Lieut Drinkwater and report
to Headquarters Gds. the Court

Letter directs the matter
in Council. But if we
leave it at this we stay
as we have taken our
stand in a very unduly
-influential position

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127/7

At the last Council Sir J. Haines
expressed his opinion that Capt. Wakeham
had acted imprudently and that he
was prepared to reprimand him
for his conduct. This seems
to me the best method of
dealing with the matter.



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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Military Department,
22nd April 1872.

Read the following papers:—

No. 372. Proceedings of Madras Govt., Revenue Department.

Uncourteous conduct of the Officer Commanding 16th Lancers, towards Tahsildars of Anantapur and Ghooty.—Commander-in-Chief requested, through the Military Department, to call on Captain Whigham for explanation on the complaints made against him.

Here enter 5th March 1872, No. 392.

Referred to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.
8th March 1872.

No. 373. From the Adjutant General, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Fort Saint George, 17th April 1872, No. 253.

Adverting to your reference order dated 8th ultimo, with two enclosures previously returned, as requested, I have the honor, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, to transmit for the information of Government, letter dated 30th idem from Captain Whigham, 16th Lancers, explanatory of the circumstances brought to notice in the correspondence above alluded to.

2. Sir Frederick Haines observes that Captain Whigham shows himself unacquainted with the correct mode of conducting official correspondence, and ignorant of the proper courtesy required in the treatment of native officials.

No. 374. ORDER THEREON, 22nd April 1872, No. 1335.

The Adjutant General's letter communicated to the Revenue Department.

(True Extract.)

Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department, with three original enclosures. 15 spare copies

Exd. J. E. Cashart.

Revenue Dept.
No. 1436.

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

MILITARY.

To

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Dated April, 22nd.

Recd. " 23rd Encl.

G. O., 22nd April 1872, No. 1385.

APRIL.

Nos. 372–374.

Communicating a letter from the Adjutant-General, forwarding an explanation from Captain Whigham regarding his uncourteous conduct towards the Tahsildars of Anantapur and Gooty.

No. 127. 22nd May 1872

22nd May 1872