M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 4

(2) Date of repair 9 - 8 - 44

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 78. Press ~~Mis.~~

54—64.

Dated 23. 1. 1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 54.	From the Collector of South Arcot,	dated 23rd November 1871,	No. 419.
No. 55.	Do. do. North do.	,, 23rd ,, ,,	84.
No. 56.	Do. do. do. do.	,, 27th ,, ,,	86.
No. 57.	Do. do. do. do.	,, 29th ,, ,,	89.
No. 58.	Do. do. do. do.	,, 12th December ,,	A.
No. 59.	Do. Inspector-General of Police.	,, 3rd January 1872,	,, 1.
No. 60.	Telegram from the Secretary of State,	,, 27th November 1871.	
No. 61.	Do. do. Government of India,	,, 27th ,, ,,	
No. 62.	Do. do. do.	,, 21st December ,,	

No. 63. ORDER THEREON, 23rd January 1872, No. 78.

In their Order, dated 18th October last, the Government directed the Magistrate of the North Arcot District and the Inspector-General of Police to arrange for the Tripathi Hill being visited by such European Officers of the Magistracy and Police as they might select, in order to determine the force of the Police to be stationed there.

2. The Government have now received from the Magistrate of the North Arcot District and from the Inspector-General of Police the reports of the Assistant Magistrate, Mr. Sewell, and of the Superintendent of Police, Captain Cox, who, [illegible] guard of police, ascended the Tripathi Hill on the 25th November last, and, after carefully examining the locality, determined upon the site of the Police Station which is in future to be located on the Hill.

3. Mr. Sewell explains that the ascent of the Tripathi Hill which had been originally fixed for the 24th November was postponed by him until the 25th of that month, in order to allow those most interested in preserving the immunity of the sacred Hill from the presence of Europeans and all but caste Natives, to address the Government by telegraph praying for a re-consideration of the Order of Government.

4. The Government having declined to alter a resolution which had been taken after much deliberation and on the grounds which are fully stated in their Order of the 18th October last, Mr. Sewell informed the Temple authorities of the decision of the Government.

5. Both the Mahunt of the Pagoda at Tripathi and the Head Priest of the Vaishnavite sect at once yielded obedience to the orders of the Government, and every facility was afforded to the Assistant Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police in their inspection of the Hill.

6. Mr. Sewell has given a detailed description of the temple and its subsidiary buildings. A large portion of the temple and some large bathing tanks are of fine stone-work. Many of the buildings attached to the temple are stated to be much out of repair. There are a few houses of a superior description belonging to the Rajahs and Zemindars who habitually come with their families as pilgrims to Upper Tripathi. There are also some gardens in which flowers used in the worship at the Pagoda are grown. There seems to be little or no cultivation on the small hill plateau, and most of the necessaries of life are imported from Lower Tripathi.

7. The town which is described as being extremely dirty consists of four main streets enclosing, in a square, the temple buildings, the bathing tanks and gardens. The ordinary dwelling-houses are, for the most part, mean in appearance, and the ordinary resident population is roughly estimated at 450 persons.

8. The Inspector-General agrees with Captain Cox that a Police party of one Head Constable and six Constables will suffice for all purposes of ordinary watch and ward. Special arrangements will, as heretofore, be required on the occurrence of the great annual feasts when the Hill is visited by a very large number of pilgrims. The Magistrate of the District agrees generally with the proposal of the Inspector-General of Police for the maintenance of order on the Tripathi Hill.

9. It has hitherto been the custom for the Temple authorities to keep up patrols for the four passes which form the approaches to the temple. These patrols consist of men of the Yanadi tribe. The Inspector-General does not propose that these men should be suddenly dismissed if the Temple authorities are anxious to retain them and to continue to pay for their services, but this suggestion is made more with reference to the hardship of throwing these men suddenly out of employment than from any value attached to their services as Police patrols. The ordinary Police patrols will, in the opinion of the Inspector-General, suffice for the safety of the ghauts.

10. The Government concur in the views expressed by the Inspector-General of Police, and sanction the establishment of a Police post consisting of one Head Constable and six Constables at Upper Tripathy, as well as the transfer of the number of men required from the District of South Canara, whence they can be spared, to the North Arcot District. A suitable building for a Police Station has been assigned by the Temple authorities for the use of the Police. Under these arrangements no increase of expense will be entailed by bringing the Upper Tripathi Hill under the regular control of the Police.

11. The Magistrate of the District and the Inspector-General of Police will convey to Mr. Sewell and Captain Cox the thanks of His Excellency in Council for the manner in which they carried out the orders of the Government.

12. Mr. Sewell acted rightly in showing great consideration for the feelings of those who were naturally strongly opposed to a measure which, however necessary, was opposed to ancient tradition, and had for its effect to withdraw a much valued privilege from the Tripathi Shrine. The perfect tranquillity with which these orders were executed are no doubt in a great measure due to the tact and discretion shown by the Officers to whom this delicate task was entrusted, but the Government think it right to recognize the good spirit in which the definitive resolutions of Government were received by the Mahunt, the Head Vaishnavite Priest of the Temple, and the population generally, to whom the necessity for such resolutions may not have been distinctly apparent, and who must have regarded them with repugnance.

13. The Magistrate will make it generally known that the Upper Tripathi Hill is to remain, as it has hitherto been, secure from the presence of all but caste Natives, except on those occasions when it may be necessary that the Hill should be visited officially by European Officers of the Magistracy and the Police.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23rd January 1872.

14. These Officers will take special care that on such occasions they are accompanied by none but caste Natives.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Magistrate of North Arcot.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Accountant-General.
" Revenue Department.

Erd. J. Wright.

Revenue Dépt.

Ff. 338.

Govt. of 1872 Madras

JUDICIAL.

To

THE MAGISTRATE OF NORTH ARCOT
&c., &c.

Dated January, 23rd.

Read. " 30th. Encl.

G. O., 23rd January 1872, No. 78.

JANUARY.
Nos. 54—64.

Passing orders on the report of the recent visit to the Tripathi Hill of the Assistant Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police, North Arcot District, and according sanction to the establishment of the Police post on the hill, as suggested by the Inspector-General.

No 196 Issued to the Bd/Rs

31st Jany 1872.

1 Fde 108 and 2 of Ans & Feb 1872