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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	385	Press.
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Dated	20-1-1877	197.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

385 1/2

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

10th January 1877, No. 19.

Grain Riot.

Read the following paper:—

No. 17. *From A. J. STUART, Esq., Acting District Magistrate of Tinnevely, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Tinnevely, 25th December 1876, No. 470.*

With reference to the telegram, dated 21st instant, about the grain-looting at Kalladakurichi, I have the honor to forward copy of a report received from the Joint Magistrate on the subject, and to inform you that the Superintendent of Police went to the spot at once, and quiet and confidence have been quite restored.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. F. SNAITH, Esq., Acting Joint Magistrate of Tinnevely, to the District Magistrate of Tinnevely, dated Shermadevi, 24th December 1876.

I have the honor to report that a grave riot took place in Kalladakurichi, Ambasamudram, on the 17th instant.

2. The riot was of a somewhat extended character and prevailed along bazaars aggregating a mile in length. It appears about 400 or 500 persons took part in it.

3. I understand the merchants drove the people to desperation by refusing to sell any quantity less than a kottah, and for this they demanded 1½ Rupees in excess of the market-rate.

4. There was nothing of a premeditated nature in this affair. While the dispute was going on the merchants closed their shops and made themselves scarce. Then the idea of a riot occurred to the people and they broke open the shops and carried away grain valued at 3,000 Rupees.

5. Of this about one-tenth has been recovered.

6. The Police, the Sub-Magistrate, and the Sheristadar were at once on the spot, and ninety-nine arrests were made.

7. Ninety-nine convictions followed on the 21st instant; of these, forty-six were sentenced to three months' imprisonment and to a fine of 20 Rupees; one man, as being old and infirm, was considered to have been sufficiently punished by his grievous detention in custody. The prisoners, as being under sixteen years of age, were sentenced to be imprisoned for three months, and the remainder, composed partly of women, were sentenced to a fine of 10 Rupees or three days' simple imprisonment.

8. These sentences and the rapidity with which the rioters were seized and convicted seem to have exercised a wholesome terror, and my information warrants me in assuming that there will be no renewal of the riot.

9. It has done good notwithstanding, for the merchants now in their groundless terror are selling 10 Rupees per cottah.

10. The Superintendent of Police informs me that the number of men now stationed there is ample for all emergencies.

11. I think credit is due to the Police and the Sub-Magistrate for the vigor with which this riot was crushed.

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12. As a proof that these convictions have not been without effect, about thirty men against whom summonses have been issued have absconded.

P.S.—I ought to mention that, when information reached me that the riot was likely to be renewed, I communicated with the Superintendent of Police, who himself proceeded to the spot.

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1877, No. 19.

Communicated to the Inspector-General of Police.

Disturbance seems to have been promptly and properly dealt with.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Police.

„ District Magistrate of Tinnevely.

„ Revenue Department.

1 To the Boarding Place on 24 Jan'y
officer of

Dear Sir

Nº 655

Subt. of 1877 *Admiral*

JUDICIAL.

To THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL
 OF POLICE,
 &c., &c., &c.

Dated January 1877

Issued *19*

Recd. *19*

G.O., 4th January 1877, No. 19.

JANUARY.
 Nos. 17-18.

Great Note—Report from the Court Magistrate
 of Finnerly on a given riot at Kilmahonagh
 communicated to the Inspector-General of Police.

Nº 385-

*Committed to the
 Board of Officers
 & 20 Jan'y 77.*