M.R.O. 1—80,000—15-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 982 Press Mis.

234-35
Dated 10-4-1869 Ro

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Mis

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th April 1869.

No. 234. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department:—

Passing orders on the Administration Report of the Jeypore Territory for 1868. } (Here enter 1st April 1869, No. 511.)

No. 235. ORDER THEREON, 10th April 1869, No. 982.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. WELLESLEY,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings, Judicial Department, No. 511.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Read the following papers:—

No. 1. From J. I. MINCHIN, Esq., Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George in Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Nursipatam, 19th February 1869, No. 44.

Having recently returned from the annual tour in the Agency Hill Tracts, I have the honor to address the Government on the measures which I would recommend for the improvement of our administration of the Jeypore Territory.

2. The first subject to which my attention has been turned during my recent tour, is the state of the communications, which have been opened out since our occupation of the country, within the last six years. For the better comprehension of what has been already effected, and of what remains to be done, it must be remembered that the territory of Jeypore Proper is separated from the Vizagapatam District by a table-land about forty miles broad, ascending from the low country, and again descending into Jeypore by precipitous ghauts, through which the Brinjarries have found a few difficult, and sometimes hardly practicable routes.

3. The chief line of traffic thus used is from Jeypore by Mahadevooputty over the Bijaya Ghaut to Narainpoor debouching at Parvatipoor, which town is connected with the coast by an imperial road. The route from Parvatipoor to Jeypore has been described by Lieutenant Vertue of the Engineers, and will be found in the Selections from the Madras Government Records, Jeypore papers, pp. 133. Nothing has been done to improve this ghaut, and having descended it on foot, I am able to state my opinion that any attempt at its improvement would be hopeless.

4. The ghaut is simply the course of the Chicacole river as it debouches from the hills, which the pathway follows crossing the stream more than fifty times before reaching Narainpoor. I doubt the possibility of constructing a road for wheeled-traffic by this route, solid enough to be safe during the rainy season, when the river is in flood, and, if possible, the expense for such a colossal undertaking would be enormous. The incline is no where steep, and the route is practicable enough for laden bullocks, and is much frequented by Brinjarries as the shortest road to the coast, by which they carry into the interior salt from the southern pans of the Ganjam District.

5. The next route is from Pachipenta straight over the table-land to the town of Jeypore. Here there is a made road from the foot of the ghaut near Pachipenta, across the table-land, and completed with the exception of a short gap as far as Jeypore.

6. The reports of Captain Smith, by whom this road was opened, lead to the impression that it is completed and suitable for bandy-traffic, but in this notion that energetic officer deceived himself. I doubt whether a single empty bandy has yet gone up or down this ghaut. A bandy sent up this year by Mr. Turner, for his own use in Jeypore, was taken to pieces and carried up on coolies' heads. I consider that it would be dangerous for a half-laden bandy to descend the ghaut, and impossible for it to be dragged up by one pair of bullocks.

7. At the same time the road up the ghaut is solidly constructed; the jungle on each side is well cleared; it is a safe bridle-path, a luxurious road for Brinjarry bullocks, but far too steep for wheeled-traffic.

8. After reaching the top of the table-land, the road is an excellent one, and the numerous deep nullahs and rivers which intersect it, and which previously

rendered communication impossible during the rainy season, are crossed on safe wooden-bridges, which have hitherto stood well, and are most creditable to Captain Smith's engineering skill.

9. During this year Mr. Turner has almost completed this road, and has finished the most difficult portion, the descent from the table-land into Jeypore, which I shall call in consequence the Turner Ghaut.

10. This is unquestionably the best three miles of road in the Jeypore Territory, and though the laying out of the levels might, probably, have been improved by a Professional Engineer, I believe that it is quite practicable for wheeled-traffic. The foot of this ghaut is about three miles from the town of Jeypore, to which place the road will be completed in this current official year.

11. The third route connecting Jeypore with the coast is further to the south. The table-land is ascended from Jeypore by the Pettah Ghaut, which was traced by Major Shaw Stewart of the Engineers, and being laid out by a professional man, the levels are, of course, irreproachable. I rode by this road from Jeypore to Nandapoor, and can speak to the easy nature of the incline, the trace of which is, I believe, completed by Galikonda to Kassipooram where it meets the imperial line of road by Vizianagram to Vizagapatam. Nothing, however, has been done for the construction of this road beyond the top of the Pettah Ghaut, and the route is very little used by Brinjarries, who, on account of its shortness, or from custom, make use chiefly of the much more difficult track by the Bijaya Ghaut to Narainpoor.

12. I have no hesitation in stating that the one essential want of the Jeypore Territory, is a practical bandy road to connect it with the rest of the district. The question of active interference in the affairs of this country has been recently settled in the affirmative. Our Criminal law is actively enforced; our Police are pushed into the remotest haunts of its hills and jungles; the valuable lives of our officers are risked in its dangerous climate; but the one thing which, in my opinion, should have preceded every other step has been postponed; and with all our expenditure on this country, without return of any kind, it is still impossible for a cart to pass from our district into Jeypore, and its territory is almost as isolated to all practical purposes, as in the days, not many years gone by, when our avowed policy was to avoid all interference with the country.

13. In the present season, when, owing to the failure of the north-east monsoon, the crops in the south of the district have suffered seriously, and prices throughout the rest of the district have risen considerably, the retail price of rice throughout Jeypore averages 60 lbs. for a Rupee, being one-third the price at Vizagapatam, and one-half of the lowest rate in any other place in the district.

14. The territory of Jeypore Proper is singularly fertile, and is so well watered that it produces magnificent crops of rice without artificial irrigation. At the same time it has no market for its supplies, and I found, on inquiry during my recent tour, that, in the richer agricultural villages, there was on an average four years' stock of grain on hand. With a bandy road to connect Jeypore with the rest of the district, the possession of such a granary at its back would render scarcity almost impossible in Vizagapatam, while the increased sales of salt would probably at once reimburse the Government for the necessary outlay.

15. With the exception of a few rude agricultural wains on which produce is carried from the fields to the homesteads, wheeled-conveyances are at present unknown throughout Jeypore, and their introduction is impossible until, by the completion of a road on easy gradients, they can be brought up from the low country, when the example being set, their general adoption can be safely counted on. Such a change would effect almost as great a material advance in Jeypore as the construction of a railroad in less backward districts.

16. Having described the three only available routes across the table-land that separates Jeypore from the coast, there is little doubt as to the one which should be selected. The route by the Pettah Ghaut and Kassipoor to the south, is out of the natural line of traffic, and is lengthy and circuitous: the northern line, though the shortest to the coast, has great engineering difficulties, and would be very expensive: the central route from Jeypore, by the Turner Ghaut, and Captain Smith's road to Pachipenta, is all that can be wished, if only the descent from the table-land to the plains be effected by a first-class bandy road, laid out as an incline of one in twenty. There would be no difficulty for a professional man to mark out such a trace, and at an outlay of probably two lacs of Rupees, the one absolute want of the Jeypore Territory could be supplied.

17. I need hardly say that the services of a professional Engineer are essentially necessary for the work. At present no member of the Public Works Department enters Jeypore; with an extent of about 12,000 square miles of territory, I think it is not too much to ask that Jeypore should be made a new range under an Executive Officer of known professional skill and energy. His first work should be the construction of a first-class road to connect Pachipenta with the table-land, and on its completion, he would find ample occupation in the vast range committed to his charge.

18. There are at present two imperial lines of road in this district, connecting the Jeypore Territory with the coast, as fixed in the Order of Government, dated 11th November 1868, No. 2831, classifying imperial and local roads. The first line to the north connects Chicacole with Parvatipoor, and the other to the south connects Vizagapatam by Vizianagram with Kassipoor.

19. Beyond laying out a trace, nothing has been yet done for the construction of the road from the Pettah Ghaut to Kassipuram, and for many years to come one good road will be sufficient to connect the Jeypore Territory with the rest of the District, by the Pachipenta Ghaut. I would beg, therefore, to recommend an alteration in the imperial lines of the district: that the line from Vizianagram to Kassipuram be considered local, and that the lines from Vizianagram to Salur and Pachipenta, and from Parvatipoor to Salur be considered imperial. By this alteration the town of Jeypore would be connected by imperial lines of road with the coast at the north and south of the district.

20. I trust that the Government will not think that I am laying too great stress on the necessity of constructing a road that will afford an easy ascent for bandies into the Jeypore Territories. There is nothing in the country itself to prevent wheeled-traffic, but it has to be introduced entirely from the coast, and owing to the reputation of the country, and the novelty of the proceeding, carts will not go up from the coast unless a road with an easy gradient be opened. The

resources of the Jeypore Territory are at present untouched: it is still owing to the difficulty of access, a *terra incognita* to our merchants on the coast; while, if thrown open to their enterprise, I have no doubt that our exports will be largely increased; as, besides other products, the rice grown in Jeypore is of a very fine description, and I am confident, when known, will be found specially suited for the European market. It is only the ascent from the coast to the intermediate table-land, that offers obstruction to traffic. From the summit of the table-land above Pachipenta, to the town of Jeypore, an excellent road will shortly be completed by Mr. Turner, efficiently bridged along the whole route, and fit for use in all seasons of the year. Let that road be connected with Pachipenta by an easy incline, and Jeypore will be no longer an isolated country unvisited by all but official Englishmen, and untouched by trade.

21. The next question which I beg to submit for the consideration of Government, is the unsuitability of the town of Jeypore, owing to its peculiar unhealthiness, to be the Official Head-quarters of the territory, for which it was naturally selected, as being a large town, and the residence of the Maharajah.

22. The town of Jeypore is separated from Turner's Ghaut, leading to the table-land, by three miles of thick jungle, and except towards the south is surrounded by jungle on all sides. It is very picturesquely situated beside a large tank, and is surrounded by low hills, and groves of Mango trees; but I believe it to be a hot-bed of malaria, and it is known that no stranger can visit it at any season of the year without carrying away the seeds of fever more or less severe. I beg to append Statements* showing the number of Apothecaries and Sub-Magistrates that have been appointed to the station since its occupation, which require no comment to convince the Government of its extraordinary insalubrity. With regard to the Sub-Magistrates, I may say that no decently-qualified person will accept the post, which entails, as a consequence, a broken constitution, and enforced retirement within six months. The health of the superior officers has been better, as they are not tied to the town of Jeypore; but the Government is aware that no European Officer has yet been there, who has not been compelled to leave through fever. Mr. Turner, the Assistant Agent, bears up wonderfully against the climate, but he had to leave once on sick certificate, and was subjected to a most dangerous attack; while the present Superintendent of Police has only just joined the district, the late one, Lieut. Briggs, having succumbed to the climate, and been obliged to go to England.

* A and B.

23. I beg to recommend that the town of Jeypore be at once abandoned as the Official Head-quarters of the district, and that the Assistant Agent and Police be moved to a station on the table-land above Turner's Ghaut, on the high road leading from Pachipenta to Jeypore, within an easy morning's ride of the latter town, and in a comparatively healthy climate. As only mud buildings have been constructed for Public Offices in Jeypore, its abandonment will entail no additional expense on the Government, as the erection of proper Public Offices has been sanctioned, and must be carried out as soon as the Public Works Department can afford an officer for the purpose. With regard to the Sub-Magistrate, I would move his station to Kottapad, the most important agricultural village within his Taluq, situated about twenty-five miles to the north-west of the town of Jeypore, and not far from the

Bustar frontier. Kottapad is the centre of the most highly-cultivated portion of the Jeypore country, and the village itself being clear of jungle, on laterite soil, and well-drained, should be as healthy as any place in these localities. Like the stations of the other Sub-Magistrates it would not be free from fever, but a native of the low country might be able to live there for a reasonable period without danger to life, which seems hardly to be the case in the town of Jeypore.

24. With regard to the Assistant Agent and his office, besides the removal of his head-quarters to the comparatively healthy region of the table-land, I beg also to recommend most strongly that the privilege accorded to officers resident in the Hill Tracts of Ganjam, of residing during the rains in the low country, be extended to this officer. Although fever is everywhere, and always prevalent in the Jeypore Territory, there are many portions of it where from October to May the climate can be borne by strong and healthy persons: during the height of the south-west monsoon within a month after the setting in of the rains, even the natives of the place suffer from fever, and few others, Native or European, can stand it. When Mr. Turner arrived in Vizianagram at the close of the rains last year, there was only one servant in his office fit for work. In behalf of the Native Subordinates, as much as on account of the Assistant Agent, I consider that residence at Vizianagram for three months in the year should be permitted.

25. There is nothing in connexion with my own tour that requires special comment. The whole circumstances connected with the removal of the late Dewan Balagi have formed the subject of a separate report. I regret to say that family difficulties at the last moment prevented L. Lakshmaji Pantulu from accepting the vacant post. The Maharajah was then desirous to secure the services of Y. Nursinga Row, the Sub-Magistrate of Gunapoor, but this officer was unwilling to give up Government service. There being no fit person available for the duties, in Jeypore, I have finally sent up one G. Pattabiram to the Rajah's assistance, and trust that after trial he may prove equal to the duties. He is an Ooriyah Brahmin, and besides that language is acquainted with English and Telugu. He was for some years the Head Manager of Messrs. Binny's Establishment in Ganjam District under Mr. Boothby, and bears a high character for efficiency and honesty. He is well-acquainted with the revenue management of a large estate, and is familiar with the customs of Ooriyah Zemindars. I trust, therefore, that he will satisfy the prejudices of the Maharajah, and be an efficient manager of his affairs. I have instructed him to carry on all business in conjunction with the Maharajah or his brother, and to issue no orders, except with the signature of one or other in addition to his own. The Maharajah's brother, Visivambara Deo, is a young man of excellent disposition, over whom Mr. Turner has a very salutary influence. The brothers are on good terms, and the Maharajah agreed that in future his brother should be the Dewan, to be assisted by an efficient man of business, associated with him in authority. I trust that this arrangement may lead to satisfactory results.

26. With regard to the Criminal statistics* of the past year, there was only one important case of crime against property, with which the late Dewan Balagy was unfortunately connected, and which led to his removal as already reported to Government. The conviction of the thieves, former Kavilgars, in the employment

* &c.

of the Rajah, and the removal of the Dewan for endeavouring to tamper with the course of justice, must have had a salutary effect, and tended to strengthen our Criminal Administration. On the whole the country is singularly free from crime. The most prevalent cases are acts of violence committed under the influence of drink, which is unfortunately the universal vice of the people.

27. Although the Abkarry has been nominally in force throughout Jeypore, for the last sixty years, and a small revenue raised by farming it out, the taxation of liquor was unknown, but the farmer of the Abkarry (of late years the Rajah's Dewan) collected illegal cesses from the people under that name. Mr. Turner brought these abuses to light, and, with the sanction of the Board of Revenue, the Abkarry has now been placed under his direct management. The illegal cesses have been abolished, and the regular system of licensing the sale of liquor has been introduced. In a revenue point of view the alteration has already proved a success, and the returns from the Abkarry will be largely increased, as the system is extended throughout Jeypore. I trust, also, that by increasing the cost of liquor, and gradually putting a stop to all private manufacture, which until this year, was universal, the people may be compelled to moderation, and be weaned from that bestial drunkenness which has been hitherto their prevalent vice.

28. With regard to Civil Justice, the Government will remark a great falling off in the suits settled by Punchayets† in Jeypore, amounting in fact to a total break down of the system, as out of the sixty suits instituted, only eighteen were settled. The explanation of this is easy, but unfortunately not satisfactory. Of the large number of cases apparently settled by Punchayets in former years, I fear that few, if any, were really thus settled; but the decisions arrived at were the arbitrary orders of the late Dewan Balagy Row. At all events, Mr. Turner, shortly after my arrival in the district, brought to my notice that the Dewan, under cover of his civil authority as Village Moonsiff, was arrogating to himself the powers of the Agent, and was settling every case brought before him on his own orders. The illegality of these proceedings being evident, I sent explicit instructions to the Dewan, pointing out the limits of the powers vested in him, and the correct course which should be pursued. Under Mr. Turner's supervision the former illegal proceedings were put a stop to, and the few cases that are now decided are really what they profess to be, the decisions of village Punchayets.

*D.

29. I quite agree with the late Agent, Mr. Carmichael, that this simple people are quite unfitted for the introduction of our Civil Courts. They have not yet imbibed a taste for litigation; and Vakeels and the action of the Stamp Law would prove their ruin. I can only trust that the system of village Punchayets, properly carried out, may be gradually developed; and that the simple disputes which arise amongst such a people, may in this way be satisfactorily and cheaply settled. I have invested Viswambara Deo, brother of the Maharajah, with the powers of a Village Moonsiff throughout Jeypore to assemble village Punchayets for the adjudication of Civil Suits under Regulation V. of 1816.

30. The accompanying Statement‡ shows the number of suits settled by the Sub-Magistrates of Gunapoor, Rayagadda, and Naraiuputnum, who are invested with District Moonsiffs' powers. On a representation from several inhabitants of Pachi-

‡E.

penta that they were subjected to inconvenience by having to proceed to Parvatipoor, where the Narainputnum Sub-Magistrate resides, for the settlement of their Civil Suits, at their request, I invested the Sub-Magistrate of Salur with the powers of a District Moonsiff, and placed the Hill Tracts of Pachipenta under his jurisdiction.

31. The accompanying Statement* will show the manner in which the allowance for roads and junglo clearing will be expended before the close of the official year. The number of miles cleared are not yet known, but will be brought under the notice of Government in the report on Public Works, through the Board of Revenue, at the close of the official year. Rupees 3500 each were originally allotted to the Principal and Senior Assistants, but of this sum Rupees 1300 were transferred from the Principal Assistant's allotment to Mr. Turner, as it was doubtful whether the former officer could spend the full amount to good effect. I have already reported on the highly satisfactory road-work executed by Mr. Turner. I am sorry to find from a report just received from him, that he has spent all his funds, and must stop work for the year, as no further sums can be transferred from the allotments of the other officers. If the Government would double the allowance for roads in the Jeypore Territory, raising the sum from Rupees 7000 to Rupees 14,000, I can answer for it being laid out to the best advantage by Mr. Turner.

*F.

Annexed to this report is a Map† of the district, showing the roads already constructed in Jeypore with the existing and suggested imperial lines to connect that territory with the coast.

†G.

32. When my tour through Jeypore was finished, the necessity for my proceeding to the south of the district, rendered it impossible for me to visit Gunapoor this season. In accordance with the orders of Government, dated 19th September 1868, No. 1456, paragraph 8, an amnesty was proclaimed in the Sowrah villages around Puttasinghy to all concerned in the insurrection of 1864. The Head man, Zonti Gomango, has not yet come in, and it may take some little time before he will feel sufficiently secure to avail himself of the proffered pardon. Owing to the delay in procuring the additional Constables from Ganjam, the new posts have not yet been taken up, but arrangements have been made for the purpose by the Inspector General of Police, which met with my concurrence, and Captain Fraser has now gone to Gunapoor to carry them out in conjunction with Mr. Cruickshank, the Acting Senior Assistant Agent, and Lieutenant Sheffield, the Assistant Superintendent of Police.

33. The Hill Tracts of Golconda have been more than once explored by Mr. Jones, the Assistant Superintendent of Police, whose reports have been submitted to Government. Owing to the unfortunate illness of Mr. Hutchins, and necessary departure from the district, on sick certificate, the Jummahbundy of the Principal Division has been delayed, and, with the existing failure of crops in the Government Taluqs, the present Principal Assistant, Mr. Sewell, may be unable to visit those hills this year.

34. I cannot close this report without bringing to prominent notice the services of Mr. Turner, the Assistant Agent. I consider him specially qualified for the work he has to perform. He has no dread of the climate, is a most energetic officer,

constantly moving about the enormous tract of country which constitutes his charge, has an aptitude for roadmaking, and has brought to light and rectified more than one serious abuse. I trust that the Government will accede to my proposal that this officer may reside for three months of the year at Vizianagram, and that he may thus hold his office with less risk to health than is at present the case.

35. I beg that sanction may be granted for the contingent expenses of the tour, amounting to Rupees 484-9-6.

A.

STATEMENT showing the number of Medical Subordinates who have done duty in the Police Hospital, Jeypore.

Rank.	Names.	Date of arrival.	Date of departure.	Cause of departure.
Assistant Apothecary.	J. Lears...	12th January 1862.	21st January 1863.	Fever, pain and distention of stomach
Do. do.	B. C. Brown.....	17th August 1863.	2nd March 1864...	Fever, pain in stomach.
Do. do.	W. A. Harrison.	24th March 1864.	14th October 1864.	Fever and dysentery.
Do. do.	T. Barracliffe...	12th October 1864.	8th March 1865	Fever and distended stomach.
Do. do.	C. A. Leary.....	8th March 1865...	7th August 1865.	Fever and dysentery.
Do. do.	J. D. Jones.....	7th August 1865...	28th August 1865.	
Do. do.	J. D. Jones.....	7th October 1865...	10th March 1866.	Fever and enlarged spleen.
Do. do.	C. Jordon.....	10th March 1866.	6th March 1867.	Do. do.
Do. do.	J. C. Ellis... ...	23rd May 1867.	2nd November ,,	Fever and dysentery.
Do. do.	H. Smith.....	27th November ,,	6th February 1868.	Fever and enlarged spleen.
Second Dresser.	T. Dixon...	13th March 1868.	22nd November ,,	Do. do.
Do. do.	Chinnasawmy.... Amoorthalingum	10th July 1863...	17th August 1863.	Fever and dysentery.
Do. do.	C. Peddanah....	30th May 1864...	21st August 1864.	Do. do.
3rd Class Hospital Assistant.	Venkatasawmy..	23rd February 1863	11th July 1863...	Do. do.
Do. do.	M. Solomon.....	15th October 1864.	14th December 1866	Fever and enlarged spleen.
Do. do.	N. Balasoondaram.....	6th March 1867.		
Do. do.	A. Loosanathen.	27th March 1867.	2nd November 1867	Fever and dysentery.
Do. do.	D. Davarajulu...	2nd November ,,	20th August 1868.	Fever and rheumatism.
Do. do.	M. Iyasawmy Pillay...			
Do. do.	M. Ramanjulu Moodelly... ...			

Attached to Vaccine Department, and did duty with the Police Hospital on emergency during the absence of Apothecary C. Jordon until the arrival of 3rd Class Hospital Assistant A. Loosanathen.

(True Copy).

(Signed) M. RAMANJULU,
2nd Class Hospital Assistant in Medical charge.

(Signed) H. G. TURNER,
Assistant Agent.

(True Copy).

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN,
Agent to the Governor.

B.

STATEMENT showing the number of Sub-Magistrates appointed to the Jeypore Taluq from the year 1863.

No.	Name.	Nature of appointment.	Period of service.	Cause of departure.
1	Sunnam Survasalingam.	Confirmed.	One month.	Went on sick leave with fever, but returned to his office.
2	Tippavajjula Subbarow.	Acting.	Seven months.	Relieved.
3	G. Latchmiah...	Do.	Three do.	Removed by order of Agent.
4	S. Praharaz.....	Do.	Two do.	Went on private leave.
5	B. Venkataraz....	Do.	Two do.	Sent to prison.
6	S. Praharaz.....	Confirmed.	Five do.	Went on sick leave with fever and rheumatism.
7	A. Bramhajee Row.....	Do.	Six do.	Went away on sick leave.
8	Ramiah Pantulu...	Acting.	Two and a half or three months	Relieved.
9	S. Venkat Row...	Do.	Six months.	Do.
10	S. Praharaz.....	Do.	Ten do.	Went away on sick leave, and his leave being objected to resigned his appointment from sickness.
11	T. Chalamaiya.....	Confirmed.	.....	Transferred to Mahadeviputti.
12	G. Sooryanarayana Row.	Do.	Eleven months.....	Committed to the Agent's Court for trial for having committed a criminal offence.
13	C. Ramarow...	Acting.	One month.	Delivered charge to Head Goomastah.
14	D. Narsimhulu...	Do.	Three months.	Relieved.
15	K. Ramaswemy...	Confirmed.	.....	Transferred to Golgondah Taluq as Shumastadar.
16	D. Narsimhulu...	Acting.	One month.	
17	G. Apparow.....	Confirmed.	Two months.	Went away on sick leave; removed after three months' absence.
18	T. Sooba Row...	Do.		

NURSAPATAM,
19th February 1869.

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN,
Agent to the Governor.

C.

RETURN of Prisoners committed for trial in the Agency Session Court during the year 1868.

Offence and Section of the Penal Code.	Number of cases.	Number of prisoners.	Sentenced to death.	Transportation for life.	Rigorous imprisonment.	Simple imprisonment.	Fine.	Total number of prisoners convicted.	Number of prisoners acquitted and discharged.	Remarks.
Murder, Section 302..... ...	13	17	3	7	*1	...	...	11	6	* Sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment.
Culpable homicide not amounting to murder, Section 304, I. P. C.	6	6	...	...	5	...	...	5	1	Of these five, three were sentenced to 3 years', one to 2 years', and one to 1 year's imprisonment.
Attempt to commit murder, Section 307.	2	2	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	Sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment.
Being public servant and committing criminal breach of trust in respect of property entrusted to his charge, Section 409.	4	4	...	...	3	...	...	3	1	Of these one was sentenced to 4 years', one to 3 years', and one to 3 months' imprisonment.
Mischief by fire, Section 436.	2	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	Sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment.
Adultery, Section 497.	2	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	Do. to 9 months' do.
Abduction, Section 366... ...	2	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	Do. to 6 months' do.
Extortion, Section 388... ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Voluntarily causing grievous hurt, Section 326.	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	Do. to 1 year's do.
Theft in a building, Section 380.	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	Do. to 3 years' do.
House-breaking by night, Section 457.	1	3	...	...	3	...	...	3	...	Do. to 5 years' do.
Voluntarily causing hurt, Section 323.	1	5	...	...	...	1	1	2	3	One to 1 month's imprisonment, and one to to 5 Rupees fine.
Total...	36	46	3	7	18	2	1	31	15	

NOTE.—The number of persons tried by the Assistant Agents were 142, of which 71 were convicted, and 71 acquitted.

Out of the 520 persons tried by the six Sub-Magistrates, 361 were convicted and 165 acquitted.

NURSAPATAM,
19th *February* 1869.

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN,
Agent to the Governor.

D.

STATEMENT of Suits filed and disposed of by Village Punchayets in 1868.

Pending on 1st January 1868.....	87
Instituted during the year.....	60
Total...	147
Decided on merits.....	10
Dismissed for default.....	3
Adjusted or withdrawn	5
Otherwise disposed of.....	0
Total...	18
Pending on 1st January 1869...	129

NURSAPATAM,
19th *February* 1869.

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN,
Agent to the Governor.

E.

STATEMENT of Suits filed and disposed of in the year 1868.

Courts.	Pending on 1st January 1868.	Instituted in the year.	Received by transfer.	Total.	Decided.	Referred to Subordinate Courts.	Total.	Pending on 1st January 1869.	Remarks.
Agent to the Governor...	...	6	...	6	...	6	6	...	The former of the two last named Courts was opened in April, and the latter in December 1868, under Clause 1, Rule IX of the Agency Rules.
Principal Assistant Agent.....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	
Senior Assistant Agent...	9	...	4	13	6	...	6	7	
Assistant Agent.....	...	2	...	2	2	...	2	...	
District Moonsiff of Gunapore.....	2	18	...	20	17	...	17	3	
Do. of Narayanapatam...	15	32	...	47	38	...	38	9	
Do. of Rayagada.....	24	105	...	129	103	...	103	26	
Do. of Golgondah.....	...	4	1	5	5	...	5	...	
Do. of Saloor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

NURSAPATAM,
19th *February* 1869.

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN,
Agent to the Governor.

F.

Jeypore Road Account.

Name of Work.	Allotment. Rs.	A.	P.	Expenditure up to the end of December 1868. Rs.	A.	P.	Balance. Rs.	A.	P.
Assistant Agent.									
Pettah Ghaut.....	7,000	0	0	7,000	0	0	.....	.....	.....
Jungle clearing.....	4,300	0	0	1,142	5	4	3,157	10	8
	11,300	0	0	8,142	5	4	3,157	10	8
Senior Assistant.									
Jungle clearing.....	3,500	0	0	428	11	4	3,071	1	8
Principal Assistant.									
Jungle clearing.....	2,200	0	0	957	13	8	1,242	2	4

Allotment for 1868-69.	rs.
Jungle clearing.....	10,000
Pettah Ghaut.....	7,000
Total...	17,000

NUDDAPATAM,
19th *February* 1869.

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN,
Agent to the Governor.

No. 2. From Major W. S. DREVER, Acting Inspector General of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 3rd March 1869, No. 1262.

General.

I have the honor to submit, for the favorable consideration of Government, a proposal from the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Northern Range, for the removal of the present head-quarters of the district of Jeypore, from Jeypore to Koraput, as explained by Captain Robertson in his original letter, as well as in the copy of his demi-official, which accompany this. I also append an extract from his diary. I believe the Agent has likewise recommended the transfer.

2. I append marginally the names of Police Officers who have held the appointment of Superintendent of Police of Jeypore since December 1864. They have all suffered dreadfully from fever, and have been compelled at frequent intervals to proceed to the plains to recruit their health. During the past year for several months there was no Police Officer available to replace Mr. Turner, and the accounts and office have in consequence got into the greatest confusion. In fact it is now plainly manifest that Jeypore is too feverish a locality for Europeans to live in, and that a more salubrious site for a station must be looked for. The first object must be to secure the health of the officers, for without that we cannot retain our hold of the country. As a matter of policy it would, moreover, appear advantageous to keep the Agent and the Police at a little distance. They are now regarded by the Zemindar as close spies, and as they are merely required to be in reserve, matters would grow into order equally surely under their less direct influence a little further removed.

Mr. Jones.....	8 months.
Major Knocker.....	2 years.
Mr. Turner.....	10 months.
Lieutenant Briggs.....	1 year.
" Blaxland recently appointed.	

3. In the strategical advantages of the proposed site, I fully concur with Captain Robertson. From his letters, the Government will learn the existing state of the Police buildings now at Jeypore. Rupees 1762 appear to have been spent on their construction.

4. It would be much more economical in the end to erect a better class of structure at first. No doubt the difficulties of doing so are great; but, as the place is exceptionally unhealthy, special executive agency might be provided for the works of the new station if approved of by Government. They should not again be left to unskilled hands. Mr. Robinson has expressed his entire concurrence in these views, and is of opinion that the Agency and the Police should be removed together from Jeypore.

From Captain W. ROBERTSON, Acting Deputy Inspector General of Police, Northern Range, to the Acting Inspector General of Police, Madras; dated Jeypore, 6th February 1869, No. 17.

I have the honor to bring to your notice that in a recent order the Government have sanctioned the erection of houses for an Apothecary and Dresser at this station, at an expense of upwards of Rupees 7000, and have ordered the works to be commenced at an early date.

2. Subsequent to the preparation of these estimates, it was proposed to change the station from Jeypore to some more healthy site in the neighbouring tract of country above the line of ghauts, separating the plain round Jeypore from the Mahadeoputty taluq and Hill Panchipenta.

3. Jeypore town is situated about a mile distant from the foot of these hills, which are covered with dense jungle. With the exception of a small area under paddy cultivation, the surrounding country is covered with jungle, or in the immediate neighbourhood of the Police office and lines with large mango topes which entirely prevent any circulation of air. Behind is a strip of paddy and in front a large jheel or tank, the margin of which is in the rains a swamp covered with high grass.

4. The climate is said to be most trying in the rains, and in the hot weather. Every officer Native or European has suffered severely, and so many have been obliged to leave the country, that it has been scarcely possible to carry on the work at head-quarters. The force has been left for months without supervision, and in consequence grave irregularities have taken place.

5. Mr. Minchin, the Agent to the Governor, is, I understand, about to recommend to Government that the station be moved to Koraput, about twelve miles from Jeypore above the Ghauts, and within two hours' ride of Jeypore.

6. I visited Koraput with the Superintendent a few days ago. It is situated in the midst of a large tract of undulating table-land five or six miles from the top of the line of ghauts, and the country is almost entirely free from jungle for several miles. Almost every available spot is cultivated, and I have no doubt that supplies would be obtained quite as easily as in Jeypore.

7. Water is abundant from springs and small streams which run through almost every little valley.

8. The site selected is, I believe, about 800 or 900 feet above the level of Jeypore and the surrounding country. The soil is light and rather stony.

9. Materials for building could be obtained from the ghauts which are covered with trees well suited for the purpose, and I have little doubt that artizans who are most averse to living in Jeypore, could be induced to come up during the building season, as they could with ease return to the plains about forty miles distant by an excellent made road.

10. As regards the expense which would be incurred by Government if the change is made, I believe that it would not amount to any large sum.

11. The Police buildings at Jeypore erected by Government are named in the margin.

Police Office.
Police Hospital.
Cutcherry and Station.
2 Huts.

12. Of those the office, a tiled building with brick walls, is already in an almost ruinous condition. The walls are cracked, the large beams having sagged so much under the weight of the tiled roof that the side walls are forced outwards.

13. The rafters made of junglewood appear far too small for the purpose required, and, having been apparently put in while green, all crumbling away from damp and decay. The building is now in such a state that we propose removing the tiles, a large portion of which have fallen off, and replacing them by a temporary thatched roof till the question of the removal of the station is decided.

14. The building itself is far too small for a District Office. There is scarcely room for the Clerks, and no suitable accommodation for arms, stores, stationery or clothing, which are huddled into a small closet in the veranda, when large quantities have been destroyed by damp and white-ants.

15. The Hospital is a thatched building with unburnt brick walls. It appears to me too low in the roof, and is badly ventilated. I should say it is quite unsuited for the purpose.

16. The station is held in the Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherry. It is merely a makeshift, and there is no proper place for the Police. The lock-ups are dark and dirty looking, and I have no doubt will have to be rebuilt.

17. The lines erected by Major Knocker have never been properly finished. They are at present thatched with grass, a temporary roof over walls of unburnt bricks. They are badly situated, but may be made habitable.

18. There is no Magazine for the large quantity of ammunition stored here, and one must be built.

19. In fact the buildings now in use are scarcely worthy of the name of office, &c.; the expense of making them thoroughly habitable will, I feel assured, amount very nearly to the cost of new ones.

20. I have not been able to ascertain accurately the cost of these buildings. The money was expended without any regular vouchers being obtained, and in consequence the sums advanced are not yet adjusted. I believe it to have been about Rupees 1400. The Hospital might be adapted for a Police Station-house; but I do not think it will be possible to do much with the office.

21. Under these circumstances I beg most earnestly to recommend that the proposal to move the head-quarters of the Police to the neighbourhood of Koraput should be carried out as soon as possible. So long as the office remains at Jeypore, I believe that it will always be in a disorganised state, and that it will be impossible to induce either officers or men to remain for a lengthened period.

My dear Major Drever,

I am writing officially to day about the proposed site for a new station on the high land near this. I have personally examined the ground near the small village of Koraput, and think that it is in every respect likely to prove a healthy site. It is an undulating table-land upwards of 2000 feet above the sea level. To the east scarcely a tree is to be seen, and the country is cultivated even to the hill tops in a way I have never seen elsewhere. This also runs to the south for 20 miles at least. West there is no jungle worth speaking of till we reach the ghauts just below which lies Jeypore, and to the north, though there is more jungle, it is mixed with a good deal of cultivated land. It should from all appearances be not only healthy but pleasant to live in. It is near the new made road leading by a very fair made ghaut to the plains about 35 miles off, and can be easily traversed in all directions by the Police.

2. Jeypore itself is a miserable place situated close below the line of densely-wooded ghaut on a plain covered for many miles with heavy jungle broken up here and there by strips of paddy of which there is a small patch of a square mile or so near the town. This jungly plain becomes a swamp in the rains. The jungle comes right up to the houses. The lines and offices are surrounded by dense mango topes preventing all circulation of air, and beyond that is the usual mass of jungle and stretch of paddy. I have never seen a worse site. A much better one might have been got close to the Agent's house. It is impossible that men from the plains or Europeans can be healthy. Though this is an exceptionally healthy season, we were prevented from going on with work to day by the sickness of almost all the office hands. The place has such a bad reputation that no Officer in the Northern Division will come up unless compelled to do so. Neither the Assistant Agents nor Superintendents of Police ever stay a day longer than they are absolutely obliged to do, and the consequence is that work is carried on anyhow, and the only wonder is that it has been possible to keep matters going at all. As it is, the district has been twice without a Superintendent for months together, to say nothing of their frequent absences from severe illness. Koraput would I belive not only prove a healthy site, but I believe it would be a favorite station: from it we could operate in ease of need with great ease against any point, while at Jeypore the ghauts might be closed behind us, all supplies cut off, and as the lines and offices are placed in the worst possible position for defence, we might be placed in a very serious predicament, for nothing can be got from the country, and the force in Jeypore is a mere handful in a country in which every man has arms.

3. The Office and Hospital are miserable affairs. The former is of brick with junglewood roof. It is already going to pieces and must, under any circumstances, be rebuilt. The Hospital is of unburnt brick and mud not even plastered with a thatched roof. It would make a moderately good station. Now houses for Apothecary and Dresser are to be built at an expense of Rs. 7000, and I trust they may be erected above ghaut. Mr. Minchin has, I believe, already written to Government on the subject. He is strongly in favor of the move, and I am sure any one who has ever seen the spot must agree with him. There is no political advantage in retaining the station here, for neither Assistant Agent nor Superintendent ever stay in Jeypore when they can get away.

4. When the matter comes before you I trust that you will have no objection to the change: I believe it to be a question of very great importance. I shall report fully on many other matters as soon as I see more of the country.

I remain, &c,
(Signed) W. ROBERTSON.

Jeypore,
8th February 1869.

Extract from the Diary of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Northern Range.

Marched up to Koraput by the new Ghaut about 12 miles. Koraput is the proposed site for the new station. Jeypore has been found so unhealthy that it is now unanimously agreed that it ought to cease to be the head-quartors.

2. Koraput is situated on the highest part of the table-land in the midst of a perfectly cleared tract of undulating country perfectly free from jungle as far as the eye can reach (say 20 miles). To east and south-west there is no heavy jungle nearer than the Ghaut some four or five miles on. To the north most of the country is cleared. It is a charming spot commanding a most extensive view, water in abundance, soil light or rather stony but cultivated every inch. I never saw a place that promised better, and I believe it will answer expectation if Government allow the change to be made. It is about 1000 feet above Jeypore. The latter is in the rains a swamp with dense jungle everywhere and fever in abundance, as any one could affirm from seeing it, while the latter gives every promise of being as healthy a spot as any in the low country.

3. Now that the Ghaut is made it is not more than a two hours' ride from Jeypore. Among other advantages it has that of being in an excellent position. In the event of a row a few men could hold it, while at Jeypore the Ghauts might be closed behind us and the officers, treasury, &c., are in as bad a position as could well be found for defence, and can scarcely be improved.

4. After having a good look at Koraput, the view from which is very fair, we returned to Jeypore. The difference of temperature is about 10 degrees.

(True Extract).

(Signed) W. S. DREVER,
Ag. Inspector General of Police.

No. 3. Order thereon, 1st April 1869, No. 511.

In the foregoing letter from the Agent in Vizagapatam, an account is submitted of that Officer's late tour in the Hill tracts together with suggestions of the measures Mr. Minchin would recommend for the improvement of the administration of the Jeypore territory. Mr. Minchin's proposals are the construction of a first class road to connect that territory with the rest of the district, the removal of the head-quarters of the Assistant Agent and Police from Jeypore to Koraput station on the table-land above Turner's Ghaut, the transfer of the Sub-Magistrate's office to Kottapad, and the doubling of the present road allowance of Rupees 7000. His Excellency in Council now proceeds to the consideration of the second and third of these suggestions. The first and last will be referred to the Public Works Department.

2. Regarding the unhealthiness of the town of Jeypore, the present head-quarters of the territory, there can be no room for doubt. The fact that every Officer Native or European, who has ever been stationed there, has suffered severely from fever, and that so many have been obliged to leave, that it has at times been hardly possible to carry on current duties, is conclusive as to the insalubrious character of the place, which has been described by competent authorities as a hot-bed of malaria.

3. Mr. Minchin recommends that the head-quarter station be removed to Koraput, a village twelve miles distant, described by Captain Robertson, the Deputy Inspector General, as situated in the midst of a large tract of undulating table-land, at an elevation of 800 or 900 feet above the Jeypore level. The soil of Koraput is said to be laterite, and the water supply to be good: building materials are abundant, and no difficulty, it appears, is apprehended in obtaining labor. The Government have no hesitation in acceding to this arrangement. They also resolve to comply with the Agent's suggestion that the privilege accorded to officers resident in the Hill tracts of Ganjam, of residing during the rains in the low country, be extended to the Assistant Agent and his office. Three months will be considered the maximum term of such residence. The station of the Sub-Magistrate will be removed to Kottapad. It is observed that all the present offices at Jeypore are merely structures of mud.

4. The general state of the country visited by Mr. Minchin is satisfactory, but there appears to be nothing in connexion with his tour, which requires special comment. The necessity for proceeding to the south of his district, it is observed, rendered it impossible for him to visit Gunapoor. The services of Mr. Turner deserve the recognition of Government. Mr. Minchin will inform that officer that His Excellency in Council has observed with pleasure the ability and zeal displayed by him in the administration of the extensive and important tract of country committed to his charge.

5. The sanction requested by Mr. Minchin in the last paragraph of his report is granted.

(True Extract).

R. Ellis

Chief Secretary.

To the Agent to the Governor of Fort Saint George in Vizagapatam.
" Inspector General of Police.
" Accountant General.
" Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.

Rd. 952.
Comm. to the Revenue Board.

Rd. J. Wright.

Revenue Dept.
No. 1082.

Extract from Public Consultations.

JUDICIAL.

To

THE AGENT AND GOVERNOR IN
FORT ST. GEORGE IN VIZAGAPATAM.
&c., &c., &c.

Dated April, 1st.

Recd. 7th do

G. O., 1st April 1869, No. 511.

APRIL.
Nos. 1-3.

Passing orders on the Administration Report of the Jeypore Territory for 1868.

No 962. N Appl

With Order