

बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार



सत्तममेव जयते

संचिका संख्या
अभिलेखागार संख्या

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बिहार सरकार

CERTIFIED COPY

18. ^ OF THE LETTER DATED 6TH SEPTEMBER 1857 FROM E. A. SAMUELS,
COMMISSIONER OF PATNA, TO THE SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL,
DETAILING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE BRITISH TROOPS AT DIFFERENT
PLACES IN BIHAR.

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विषयः—

Katua Sept 16th 1857.

To,

A. R. Young Esq^r,
Secretary to Govt of Bengal.

Sir,

Your letter No 2242 of the
2nd Instant reached me yesterday evening.
The Head Quarters of the 17th Madras
Native Infantry had gone on, but
I have in accordance with the per-
mission contained in your 16th para;
detained the detachment of the 4th Co
Regiment on board the *Lealenta* which
(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)
came in this afternoon, and shall
send them as soon as possible
to Derowlee on the Gogra whence
they will march to Seram. I did
intend at first to have stationed
them at Barragom in the Kuliampon
Pergunnah where there is an old canton-
ment on a fine high piece of ground,
but on consideration, I did not think
it quite safe to occupy such an ad-
vanced post with so small a body
of

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of men (only 300) and the officers will also require to have some one at hand acquainted with the country and able to communicate with the natives. At Sevan they will have the advice and assistance of two excellent officers Mr. Lynch and Mr. Macdonell, and will have the support of 75 Sikhs. It is besides a central spot and one from which the country can be readily watched and controlled.

2 I have written to the Lieutenant Governor of the Central Provinces and to the Resident at Nepal pointing out how very easy it could be with the force now at our disposal aided by 4 of the Mountain Howitzers from this, which could be worked by the men of the 5th who are well instructed in gunnery to retake Gornakpoor - all the accounts I receive from that district lead me to believe that the resistance offered would be quite immaterial. None of the great Zemindars, except the

Mushpoor

Murder poor man, have joined Mahomed Noossein. The Bupowlee Bahos turned out when Mahomed Noossein's people plundered the Perouna Tehseel, and attacked his troops, but was ultimately defeated. There is a strong report at Chuprah however, today that three of the principal Rajahs in the district have been more fortunate and that Mahomed Noossein has sustained a signal defeat. I think I mentioned to you ^{that} not above 500 of his men were provided with fire arms and that the rest were headless, burkundazes and people of that class.

3 I have heard nothing from Gya today. The Samars by my last accounts were at Meerzengunge, and Captain Pathay and Mr Money had determined on attacking them, should they attempt the passage of the Phalgoo. Captain Pathay did not

not think it would be prudent
to attack them with the river in his
rear, and had therefore determined not
to cross himself. The Sowars had been
joined by Mehussee Ali Khan a rela-
-tive of Syder Ali Khan who has
for some time been plundering in
the neighbourhood of Autee with
2 or 300 Budmashes. There are said
also to be 100 Sowtals with him and
many Elephants. I cannot but regret
that the forces on the Trunk road
are not employed in dispersing this
horde of Scoundrels, the amount of
plunder they have collected by tor-
-turing Muhajirs and plundering
villages is I am told enormous and
unless active measures are taken these
scenes will continue in the Gya
district for some time longer to the
great discredit of the British Government.

4. I cannot but think it a
mistaken policy also to allow the
Arrah district to be a second time
overrun

overrun by rebels who might be
dispersed by a very trifling exertion
on the part of the troops now
in their vicinity. Mues Sing has
actually built a cantonment for
his followers not far from the
Trunk road and reports are rife of
his intention to return to Jugdispora
to collect the rents of the estates.
The check which the passage
of European troops imposes on him will
be merely temporary, and if they pass
without acting against him, he will
naturally be emboldened and ascribe
their conduct to fear. As Shah
Kuberoodeen observes in one of his
letters to me, Lieutenant Stanton's
75 men are not sufficient. In
fact a small party at such
an important point, is merely an
exhibition of our weakness. I do trust
that the Military authorities may
be induced to reconsider their
orders on the subject of clearing
the

the Arrah District. If Arrah goes, it will be ^{quite} impossible to keep a large portion of Patna and probably Gya quiet. The mischief will be by no means confined to Arrah. It will spread over all Behar where the name of Koor Singh is familiar to every one and the communication between the capital and the army will be destroyed.

5. I understood from Gya that Lieutenant Stanton had gone to Dehri on his own authority, with the view of preventing the Sowars from crossing the river, but I now observe from your letter that he has been posted to Saffern as Deputy Magistrate and Commissioner under Act XVI of 1857. This is an excellent appointment and I only wish the force at Captain Stanton's command were a little

little larger than it is. The 150 Sikhs with Major Dalton also, I observe, were intended to escort him to Hazareebang, but from my Gya letters, it would seem that Major Dalton was on the Trunk road waiting the arrival of the Madras column. I should hope he would soon be able to raise a levy of his own among the people of the hill states and so be enabled to reinforce Captain Patray's little party of Sikhs.

6. Messrs Lynch and Macdonell have reoccupied Seman and report all quiet there. Tirhoot and Patna are perfectly quiet.

7. The Magistrate was again disappointed in getting his prisoners sent by the "River Bird". The Captain did not answer his letter or stop at
the

the godown for the prisoners
as requested.

8. Captain Layler of the
"Salutta" told me he had no
answer to a telegraphic message
he had sent you from Mouhyn,
and requested to know what he
was to do about the flat he had
left behind at Ichangeera and the
stones on board of it. It appeared
that he could make no progress on
with the flat and was obliged
to cast her off. The rapid fall
of the river during the last week
too rendered it imperative that
he should not be detained so
much longer in the river. I directed
him therefore after landing the
17th Madras Native Infantry
at Derowlee Ghat to bring up
the ammunition baggage &c. belong-
ing to the Regiment to Singapore,
which will not take him above
3 days going and coming, and then
to

to return direct to Calcutta, leaving the "Chunar" to bring up the flat with the heavy stones. This seemed to me the most advisable arrangement under the circumstances.

I have &c

W. B. S. Samuels,
Commissioner

(True copy)

W. B. S.
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

W. B. S.

मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग
(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)