

बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार



सत्समेव जयते

संचिका संख्या
अभिलेखागार संख्या

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बिहार सरकार

LETTER

Deodhar Singh

21. DATED 14TH OCTOBER 1857 E. A. SAMMUELS, COMMISSIONER OF PATNA
TO THE SECRETARY GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL DESCRIBING THE OUT
BREAK OF THE DISTURBANCE AT DIOGHAR IN SANTHAL PARGANA.

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पृष्ठ

विषय:—

Patna October 14th 1857

To

A. R. Young Esquire
Secretary to the Government
of Bengal

Sir

Not having heard from you either by letter or telegraph of the mutiny of the detachment of the 3rd at Deoghur and finding that Mr. Money at Jyga had received no intimation either, I was in hopes that there might be some mistake in the news I had received from Bhujalpoore, but the information received this morning from Park and private letters from Calcutta leave no doubt of the fact of the mutiny. In what direction the mutineers have gone I have not heard. I conclude, however, that they are still in the neighbourhood of Deoghur, as Raja Jyga Mungul Sing of Ghidhour had written to Mr. Vincent to say he would attack them.

2.

I need not repeat what I said in my telegraphic message of the 12th on the disastrous effect it will have

on

on this part of the Country, if those muti-
neers are allowed to escape with im-
punity. I beg that early intimation may
be given to me either direct by telegraph,
if the telegraph is open, or by telegraph
to Shergotty and thence by express of the
measures which the Supreme Government
intend to pursue. If no military force can
be spared for the pursuit and punishment
of the S. B., there can be no object in endeavour-
ing to prevent their egress from the Province
of Behar. If, however, it is determined to
attack them, it will be advisable, as re-
commended in my telegraphic message,
to occupy the ghats on the Soane, and also
to post detachments capable of dealing
with them at Gaya and Jehanabad.

23. Mr. Money has very properly
withdrawn the Rajpels from Nowada,
anticipating thereby an order which I had
sent him. These men would certainly
fraternise with the mutineers and swell
their force if left at Nowada. Mr.
Worsley has been ordered not to leave
till

till quite certain that the rebels are within one or two marches of him, and then to retire on Gya. It is lamentable to think that the whole of that part of the Country will again be thrown into the state of anarchy from which it had just recovered.

4 I beg that I may receive orders without loss of time regarding the Opium sedown, I must repeat ^{that} a fortified post like this in the heart of the city containing property worth upwards of a million sterling is, if left as it now is, in the hands of a native Corps of doubtful fidelity, a source of very great danger. If European troops are not to be posted there, the Stockades and other works should at once be demolished, and the place rendered as untenable as possible. The Government property will not be in greater danger than it is now, and there will be no temptation to disaffected men to seize upon the place. I cannot but think however that it ought to be garrisoned by

by Europeans until the opium is removed.
There does not appear to me to be any
such proof of the unhealthiness of the
fodown as should necessitate
our risking the loss of such valuable
property - not less than 20 Europeans
reside at, or in the vicinity of the
fodown, and their experience is that
the place is particularly healthy. The
men of Her Majesty's 10.th who have
been some time in India and understand
the necessity of keeping out of the sun
did not, I believe, find the post un-
healthy, and the causes of the sickness
and mortality which occurred amongst
the men of the 5.th Fusiliers were patent
to every body at the fodown. The men of
the 5.th seemed to consider themselves in
a climate similar to that of the Mauri-
tius, got wet without changing their
clothes, and wandered about in the sun.
They were never marched out for
exercise, and indulged freely in bazar
spirits

Spirits. If they had been in the healthiest spot in India, this system would have been sufficient to fill the sick list. I am confident if the guards sent to the fodder from Dinapore were relieved weekly, if the men were taken out regularly for exercise and pains was taken to prevent them from getting native spirits, that the troops at the fodder would be just as healthy as those at Dinapore.

Having no answer to the telegraphic message which I dispatched yesterday relative to the threatened invasion of Fuzrah by Mohamed Hussein, and the circumstances being urgent, I have ordered the Ghorkha Regiment at Bettiah over to Sevan, and have directed the others to hold itself in readiness to march in support of the first, if the news of Mahomed Hussein's

Hopkins' advance be confirmed. I must
again bring to your notice the want
of officers to accompany the Ghorkha
Regiments. It was only on condition
that officers should be supplied that
the Durbar originally consented
that their regiments should cross the
Sundah, and although they subsequently
authorized me to move them across
without officers under the belief
that their services were urgently
required, they no doubt rely on the
British Government to supply
them with officers at the earliest
possible moment. I shall have boats
ready at Duxar to cross the
Naval brigade to Chuprah, if
Mahomed Hopkins' advance should
render their services there necessary.

I trust, however, to hear from you before the necessity for moving troops from this side, arises.

I mentioned in my last report that I had written to the Colonel com^dg at Dinapore to know whether he could assist me with a gun and some men to work it, for the purpose of driving Goodhur Sing out of his stronghold. Colonel Rowcroft informed me that he could not spare any men from Dinapore, but that he had no objection to allow Lieutenant Dobbin of the Artillery to proceed to Kummence with the pensioners employed at the Godown and 2 of the mountain howitzers - there being a strict order against sending out one gun alone. I was making arrangements yesterday for starting Lieutenant Dobbin with the guns and 30 Sikhs under Mr. Lindsay, when Mr. Chardon wrote to me to say that Goodhur Sing had taken fright at the detachment of 200 Europeans and 2 guns which left this for Benares via Arrah the day before yesterday, supposing that they were intended for him and had fled. I accordingly abandoned the idea of sending Lieutenant Dobbin and

desired

desired the Mujeebs at Arwal to proceed to
Mummenee, and, in the event of Goodhur Sing
having evacuated his house, to destroy it.
Should he still be holding out in it, the
Mujeebs were desired to surround the house
or to keep a watch so as to prevent his escape,
and to send immediate information to me.

The boldness of this man, Goodhur Sing, and
his successful resistance have created consi-
derable alarm throughout the country between
Arwal and Doodnagur. He is detested
by the country people, 400 of whom joined
in the attack which the Mujeebs made on
him, an attack which appears to have been
thoroughly mismanaged. The Mujeebs with
the help of the country people could easily
have surrounded Goodhur Sing's house and pre-
vented his escape, until I sent them reinforcements,
but instead of this, they fired away all their
ammunition - I suppose into the air - and then
retreated on Arwal.

77 I am glad to see that Captain Rattray's
cavalry have been behaving well. I hope their
carbines will be restored. It seems doubtful
policy to trust them by halves. They should
either

either be allowed to retain their arms as usual, or be dismounted and deprived of swords as well as carbines.

8 If other troops can be found to garrison Gya, I should prefer that Captain Rattray be allowed to remain in his present neighbourhood, though Saperam would be a better head quarters for him than Dehri. His presence there is doing much good. Mr. Wake proposes joining him by and by and making an effort to drive Umer Singh out of the district, but I have directed him to deal first with the refractory villagers round arrah.

9 I have heard of the safe arrival of the Naval Brigade at Ruxar.

10 A Gossip sent by a Mahajim of Patna to gaintidings of his relations at Lucknow, arrived here last night and says he left that city 6 days ago. He declares that a portion of the English force had been blown up by a mine which the insurgents had sprung, but as he did not witness the occurrence, I trust his statement is untrue.

11 I trust I may be favored with
early

early intimation either by Telegraph or
express from Shergotty - probably the quickest
plan for this Telegraph still works very badly.
of the measures which the Supreme Govern-
ment propose to adopt with regard to the
32^d, and of those which you would wish
me to adopt both in Cluprah and Behar.

I have the honor to be Sir
Yours faithfully
J. E. A. Samuels,
Commr.

True copy

Rana J. S. S.

Register, Bengal Secretariat.

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1857
The Government
Bengal