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Duplicate

N^o 1586.

From

The Secretary to the
Government of Bengal

To

The Commissioner of Patna.

Dated Fort William, the 4th Aug^r 1857.

Judicial Sir,

On the 31st Ultimo, the Lieutenant Governor received a Telegraphic message from Gaya announcing that the Civil officers of the district were about to abandon the station and all in it including the large amount of cash in the Treasury.

2 As it was known that the residents had up to the day before been fully prepared to repel attack and to defend themselves, having 45 European Soldiers and 100 Sikhs and Sheergothy with its little garrison close at hand and no enemy in sight or in present apprehension, this extraordinary movement was wholly unintelligible to the Lieutenant Governor,

and

and he was disposed to blame very severely the injudicious and pusillanimous conduct of the English Officers in question and did in fact send a message after them to that purport.

3

From your letter of the same date c. 724 which was received late last night, and laid before the Lieutenant Governor this morning, he is astonished to find that this most unfortunate and unnecessary retreat was your doing, and that under the obvious influence of a local panic, you have actually directed the abandonment by the civil functionaries of all the stations in your Division.

विहार मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग
(विहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)

4 The Lieutenant Governor most strongly disapproves of this act and considers it not merely injudicious but disgraceful. In the case of Gya, more particularly, it was utterly without reasonable cause, because the Station was threatened with no immediate danger, was guarded by a detachment of English and Sikh soldiers and was in close communication with the Trunk Road at Sheergothy, where was, at the time, another detachment of English soldiers.

What

What terrible and unexpected disasters this error may have brought on the Stations thus abandoned, the Lieutenant Governor is unwilling to surmise. You have already been directed by Electric Telegraph to revoke your orders and to send the Residents back to their respective Stations if it should be found possible for them to return, and it will remain to be seen whether they will return in time to prevent the otherwise inevitable disasters which their absence, if prolonged, is sure to produce.

The Electric Telegraph communication having been interrupted, this message has not been transmitted.

At Gaya, the judgment and courage of Mr. Money, the officiating collector and Magistrate and Mr. Hollings the Sub Deputy Opium Agent may perhaps have saved the Town, Treasure and District.

A copy of Mr. Money's letter on this subject and of my reply of this date is forwarded for your information.

After the evidence thus afforded of your haste and want of judgment, coming as it does after many other reasons for dissatisfaction which you have given to

to the Lieutenant Governor, it is no longer considered safe that you should continue in charge of your office. By an arrangement which is immediately about to be completed, another officer will be appointed Commissioner in your stead, and you are now directed to make over charge of the Commissioner'ship to Mr. Farguharson who will officiate as Commissioner until the new arrangement above alluded to can come into effect.

I have the honor to be,

बिहार सरकार
 मन्त्रिमंडल सचिवालय, विभाग
 (बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार विदेशालय)
 Sir,
 Your most Obed Servant

M. S. Sanyal

Secy to the Govt of Bengal

14th Decr 1857
 Mr. Farguharson -

1586 of 1857

From
 the Secy to Govt

of Bengal

Recd
 25/10/34
 24th Decr

24th Decr

Subscribed

Regarding the observation
 of the Station of your
 and Secret Mr. Farguharson
 of Patna to make over
 charge of his office
 to Mr. Farguharson

1022

ms. & M.

6

No. 2951

From

The Secretary to the
Government of Bengal.

To

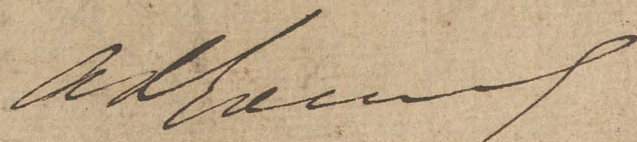
The Commissioner of the
Patna DivisionDated Fort William, 5th October 1857.Judicial
minutes

Sir,

I am directed by the Lieutenant Governor to forward to you a copy of a letter dated the 2^d instant from your predecessor Mr. Tayler, and to request that you will furnish Mr. Farguharson with a copy of the letter and forward any remarks that he may desire to offer in reference to such of Mr. Tayler's statements as relate to him, together with your own observations on the several matters noticed in this communication.

I have the honor to be,

 Sir,
Your most Obedt. Servant,



Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal

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बिहार सरकार
मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग
(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)

10-Oct/57 A.1220
Copy of the Enclosure
sent to Mr. H. Jagannathan
Esq. Secy. Dy. Secy. to Govt.
C. A. M. S.

2951 of 1057
From Secy. Govt. of
Bengal
At 3-11-57
At 10-11-57
At 1-12-57

Enclosed copy of a letter
from Mr. Jagannathan &
request that a copy
of the same be sent
to Mr. Jagannathan
personally. Made in
the name of
Secretary to Govt.

1863

at de

of
Gyau

8

The Magistrate of Behar.

of

The Secretary to the Government
of Bengal.

Gyau, August 15th

Sir,

Yesterday's electric telegraph will have told you of the events that have occurred within the last 24 hours. At 10^{1/2} A.M. I received the Electric Telegraph message from the Patna Commissioner, which I forwarded together with one from myself. I received also a letter from the Magistrate of Patna, written by the Commissioner's directions. A copy of it is enclosed. In accordance with the orders therein contained the station of Gyah was deserted at 5 P.M. Before going, I sent for the Darogah and Subadar of the Mujib guard and told them that to their keeping I delivered over the town and Govt. property. The treasure could not be carried away. I had neither carts nor Elephants. This abandonment of the Government property (and almost certain giving up of the district and town to anarchy and plunder) was repugnant to me. I felt

9
I could personally be of very little use at
Dinapore; here I might preserve order.
Mr. Hollings was also anxious to return.
We rode back together, having gone about
3 miles from the Town. All was quiet.
We went first to the Jail, and I called out
the Nujibs and addressed them - they all
professed loyalty. We then rode to the
Treasury, and there again I addressed the
Nujibs. We had been absent 3 hours from
the Town (for the stoppages had been nu-
merous) and I was glad to find all quiet.
During the 2 or 3 hours after our arrival,
we had visits from many of the respectable
inhabitants; the greatest joy was manifested.
This morning a deputation from the
Gairwals came here. I told them that I could
not secure their safety without they gave
me means to do so. They have promised,
in conjunction with the Zemindars, to
supply ^{some} 3 or 4 thousand men; but these
priests are an insolent race, and I much
doubt any useful fulfilment of their
promises. Meanwhile, danger is probab-
ly less. Protected only by themselves, is a
great temptation to the Nujibs, brothers
in blood and probably feeling to the
mutineers.

mutineers. The Hargrave bough mutineers
 will, I think, avoid the Grand Trunk
 Road as they would otherwise encounter
 the detachment of M. M's 64th. I
 expect them here tomorrow. If they
 come, Mr Hollings and I must go.
 It would be flinging away life to
 remain. We have returned at some
 risk. Today and tomorrow are the Butcher
 Feeds; if the Insurgents choose, they may
 rise with tolerable impunity. Govern-
 ment will, I trust, feel that I have
 tried to do my duty. When my remain-
 ing would be useless, I shall go, but not
 till I think that time has arrived.
 In my own opinion, it is a misfortune
 Mr Taylor's having ordered away the force.
 The 80 men of the 64th would have
 joined us and we should have been strong
 enough to defy anything from the East.
 I now am inclined to think the mu-
 tineers at Arrah will not come here. But
 others will no doubt.

I would beg particularly to call your
 attention to Mr. Hollings' public spirit.
 His duty did not call him here. He

remains

remains from a wish to protect the town,
and was anxious to return alone and brave
whatever dangers might arise.

I am, &c

sd/ A. Money.

A. Money, Esquire, Patna,
Gya.

My dear Sir,

Taylor is sending you a
message to be sent by Electric Telegraph
to Calcutta. You are to come with all your
force to Patna. If you can bring your
treasure you are to ^{do} it, but you will
leave it if the bringing it would endanger
the personal safety of your party.

Taylor begs you will take every
precaution to make your arrangements as
promptly as possible, but as quietly as
you can, and keeping as good a face on
affairs as possible.

I remain, &c

sd/ H. Richardson.

Major

for Commr.

Copy