

(195)

No. 217

193

From
Lieut Col J. M. Graham
Deputy Commissioner
Lakhimpur

The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner
of Assam
Camp Sessa Hakoori the 28th Sept 1877

Judl Sept Sir,

I have the honor to
acknowledge receipt of your letter
No. 2329 of the 25th instant Judicial
Department on the subject of
the projected survey in this
district, and to say that I
presume the escort of 25 police
to be provided from this district
is intended for the Subansiri
party, which will prosecute, and
complete its work in that
neighbourhood

194

196



Neighbourhood without moving
further east.

2. Former Correspondence alludes
to two parties, one for the
Subansiri, under Lt Harman,
and another for the Country
east of the Dehong under
Lt Woodthorpe, ^{your} present
letter however, leads me to
believe that there is only to
be one party for both works,
under Lt Woodthorpe, and
if so, I can only say that
although an escort of 25 men
may suffice for the party
while at the Subansiri, it
is certainly inadequate to
prevent risks for a considerable
distance east of the Dehong.

3. If one party is to do all
the

195

(192)

the work what I would suggest
is that the Subansiri should
be done first, and then the
Country in the direction of the
Brahmakund, working round
Eastward from where the
work left off last year, for
which, the escort of 25 men
would suffice, at first, but
on the work getting near the
portion of the Aboi Country, which
lies east of the Dehong, the
escort should be quadrupled,
it being as the Chief Commissioner
remarks "impossible to foretell
the Caprices of Savage tribes,"
and with reference to para.
3 of Govt of India letter
No 2680 of 7th November/95

4. I do not anticipate any
difficulty

196
198
difficulty, with regard to
detaching either Mr. Joad, or
a Native officer, when the
party is working east of
the Debong, and trust to
visit the party myself in order
to ascertain what the Abors are
really about, with regard to
their reported encroachments on
the plains.

5 The Survey of the Subansiri
"up to the first range of hills"
can be but a small matter,
if this programme be strictly
adhered to, for the river ~~is~~
having already been surveyed
up to the Rajghur Ally, there
can not be much more of
it left between this point
and the hills, and I trust
that

that at least a small party, may
be allowed to push ~~two~~, or
three, days up the river beyond
the gorge where it leaves the
hills, so as to obtain at least
some information as to the course
of the river mentioned by
Lt Maxwell in the 2, 3, 4,
5, and 6 paras of his letter
to your address No 124 R. dated
20th August/77

6. I have this day replied
to a letter from the Inspector
General of Police on the
subject of the police escort.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed^t servant

Mulcahan

Deputy Commissioner

187^m.Office of the Chief Commissioner
of Assam.*Judicial Police*
REVENUE.FROM *Dist. Supdt. of Police*
Lakhimpur
SECRETARY, GOVT. OF INDIA,Dated *6th*
December
Received *10th*

File No. 194

No. 405-

Serial No. *57*Enclos. *Nil*

Proceedings

Foreign
May 1884
84

SUBJECT.

*Conveyance of baggage & provisions of the Police constables forming the escort of the Topographical Survey party under Lieut. Woodthorpe.**Enquires the source from which the cost of — is to be met, as there has been no provision made for the purpose. —**We should place certain sum to the credit of the D.C. to defray these expenses and which will be adjusted in the usual manner.*

No 405

201



*From
Police
10/12/77*

From

The District Superintendent of
Police, Lakhimpur

To

The Inspector General of Police
Assam

Dated Dibrugarh the 6th December 1877

Sir

I have the honor to solicit your
informing me from what source
the cost of conveying laggages
and provisions of the Police
constables forming escort of the
Topographical Survey party, in
under Lieutenant Woodthorpe R.E.
is to be met with, as no provision
has been made in the Sanctioned
Budget Estimate for the year 1877-78.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant

Inspector
in charge of District Superintendent's
office, Dibrugarh

(202)

1877.

200

Office of the Chief Commissioner
of Assam.

JUDICIAL.

To Surveyor General
Calcutta

Dated 17th Decr

Despatched 20/12 } 77

File No. 194

No. 2754

Serial No. ~~58~~ 5657

Enclosures.

Prods.



No.

Subject.

Coolies for Lt. Woodthorpe

Forwards copy of telegram
regarding

ASSAM CHIEF COMMISSIONERSHIP.

1877 .

No.

POST COPY OF SERVICE MESSAGE.

FROM

Shillong

Dated 17th Decr 1877

FROM

Secretary

To

Calcutta

To

Surveyor General

StateYour telegram 13th

Impossible to obtain Cookies from
Kowong. Have tried again. will give
Woodthorpe all assistance possible

Sd/ S. B. Riddole

Secretary

Memo No. 2754

Copy forwarded by post

By order

Gh

17/12.

1877 Dec. 20/12

Secretary

(204)

1877.

202

Office of the Chief Commissioner of
Assam.

Indl.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To DEPUTY COMMISSIONER of

Lakhimpur

Dated 20th Decr

Despatched 21-1-77

File No. 194

No. 2765

Serial No. 57 58

Enclos. 2765

Proceedings

*Freign
May 18*

85

SUBJECT

• Conveyance of baggage
of the Constables forming
the escort of the Top^y Survey party

Directs him to disburse
from his Treasury such
sums as may be necessary
on account of the cost of —————

(205)

No 2765

203

To be Issued 21/12

Sir,
Referring to letter
No. 405 dt. 6 Dec. 1877
from the Sup. of
Police of your dt.
to the address of the
Corp. Genl. of Police
I am directed to
request that you
will be good
enough to disburse
from your Treasury
such ~~expenditure~~ ^{sums} as
may be necessary
on account of the
cost of conveying
the baggage and
provisions of the
Police constables &
forming the escort
of the Topographical
Survey Party under
Lt. Northrop. A
special application

ask to be at once
made to the Govt
of India for a
grant on this
account.

2. I am to
request that your
note call the attention
of the W. & A. S. S.
Office Cui to the
May 1877 & to take
care that the
instructions herein
contained regarding
the expenditure of
money on account
of charges connected
with the Survey are
carefully complied
with. That you
will not permit
any money to be
drawn from the
Treasury in an un-

authorized manner
I have &c

Ans. L. L.
no 2766 -

Copy to W. & A. S. S. Office

for copy by order

17/12/77

Ans. L. L.



3 A.

207

1877

205

Office of the Chief Commissioner
of Assam.

JUDICIAL.

To

SECRETARY, GOVT. OF INDIA,

Foreign Dept.

Dated 20th Decr

Despatched 21st Decr

File No. 194

No. 2764

Serial No. 6059

Enclos.

Proceedings

*Foreign
A May 178*

28

SUBJECT.

*Survey operation during
the present cold season
to the Lakhimpur Distt.*

*Asks sanction for a
grant of Rs 2500 for the*

Two drafts



208

206

No. 2,764, dated Shillong, the 20th December, 1877.

From—T. J. MURRAY, Esq., C.S., Assistant-Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.

REFERRING to the correspondence ending with this office letter No. 2,609, dated 20th November, 1877, to your address, regarding the survey operations to be carried on during the present cold season to the north and north-east of the district of Lakhimpur, I am directed to request that you will be good enough to move His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council to sanction the grant of a sum of Rs. 2,500 for the purpose of defraying the cost of provisions, carriage, &c., on account of the guard which is to accompany the party.

2. The expenditure on this account incurred during the field season of 1876-77 amounted to Rs. 1,766-3, and was sanctioned in your letter No. 555F., dated 9th November, 1877, but the operations during the present season are likely to be more extended than the previous year's operations, and a somewhat larger sum is therefore now asked for; but due care will be taken that the strictest economy is practiced in expending the money.

(209)

2045

187

207

21/12

Office of the Chief Commissioner
of Assam.

JUDICIAL.

FROM Surveyor General of India
Calcutta.
SECRETARY, GOVT. OF INDIA,

Dated 12th December
Received, 21st

File No. 194 No. 2003.

Serial No. 6160 Enclos. one

Foreign
Proceedings
A May 178
29

Say that C. regrets & hears of
the difficulties L. W. has
met with owing to the want of
coolie carriage for his escort &
of the possible obstruction & may
consequently prove to the success
of the Expedition.

Every assistance ~~however~~ their
powers have, however, the C. believes,
been given readily by the district
authorities to L. W.

The difficulty in procuring a
sufficiency of coolies for the L. W. has
arose from the heavy drain on their
source of supply on acct of the
Expedition to the Nagab hills for
L. W. & his party as the available
coolies had been already engaged.

The Miskins whom the R. S. Mungay
had engaged to perform for L. W.
absolutely refused ^{absolutely} to ~~engage~~ ^{engage}
for employment on the North bank
of the Mahanadiputra and the C.
did not think himself justified
in directing their being kept there
by force, especially as being a kind
& unenterprising race they w.
probably have been of no use and
w. have been away at the great
expense of the Govt.

The C. trusts that L. W. may have
been able to supplement his requirements
from natives of the neighbourhood.

M. J. R.

Alipore Jail Press, -24-4-77-2,000.

Logan
21/12

SUBJECT.

Supply of portage &c for
the survey party under
L. W. Woodthorpe

In forwarding copy of a
letter from L. W. Woodthorpe,
Solicits that the Civil Autho.
-rities be ~~instructed~~ instructed
for the _____

orders already
passed.



210

208

No. 2,003, dated Calcutta, the 12th December, 1877.

From—MAJOR-GENERAL H. L. THUILLIER, C.S.I., Surveyor-General of India,

To—The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam.

I HAVE the honour to forward, in continuation of my telegraph message of this day's date, copy of a letter, as per margin, from Lieutenant R. G. Woodthorpe, R.E., in charge of the exploration and survey party in North Assam, from which it appears that he is unable to procure portorage for the baggage of his military escort, and that his work and progress are therefore certain to be retarded, and I would earnestly solicit the Chief Commissioner's intervention, so as to secure the prompt aid and co-operation of the local Civil authorities in furnishing portorage, &c., for the party under Lieutenant Woodthorpe, which that officer is quite incompetent to provide for a military or police escort, in addition to his own survey requirements.

No. 5A., dated 1st December, 1877.

2. The Chief Commissioner is doubtless aware that these survey explorations are most costly, and without proper progress, we can never hope for any return commensurate with the outlay.

Copy of letter No. 5A., dated North Lakhimpur, the 1st December, 1877, from Lieutenant R. G. Woodthorpe, R.E., in Charge, North Brahmaputra Survey, to the Surveyor-General of India.

I HAVE the honour to inform you of my arrival, with Mr. Robert, at this place on the 29th ultimo. We were detained two and a half days at Dhunsirimukh, owing to the snagging and sinking there of one of the flats in tow of the *Mirzapore*.

2. I find on arrival here that no carriage whatever is procurable for the escort in the hills. As I informed you in my No. 1A., dated 19th November, 1877, Colonel Keatinge left all arrangements for this to me. Having failed to get any Khásias beyond what I required for my own party, either through my own exertions or the Deputy-Commissioner, I telegraphed to Colonel Comber, of Nowgong, asking him to engage Mikirs. He said he should require at least ten days, to which I agreed; but this morning I hear from him that he engaged a certain number, but they were unwilling to come to the north bank, and, without the orders of the Chief Commissioner, he could not send them to me. Consequently, we must go into the hills with the men we have. Our progress will necessarily be only slow, and I am afraid a large outturn cannot be expected.

3. We (*i.e.*, Lieutenants Harman, R.E., Maxwell, Assistant-Commissioner, and myself) propose to march for Pathalipam, at the foot of the hills, on the 3rd, and there make our final arrangements for entering the hills. Mr. Robert will remain here for a few days to sketch in the lower range from clearances in the neighbourhood, as it will be impossible to sketch their southern slopes from the hills themselves.

4. My address here is "North Lakhimpur." Letters addressed to Lakhimpur only are frequently missent to Dibrugarh.

(211)

1877.

209

Office of the Chief Commissioner
of Assam.

JUDICIAL.

FROM

SECRETARY, GOVT. OF INDIA,

Foreign Dept.

Dated *14th December*

Received, *21st*

File No. *194*

No. *2704*

Serial No. *6067*

Enclos. *nil*

Proceedings—

A Foreign May 178 30

SUBJECT.

To Judd 31/12

*With Refce. to no. 2609
of 20.11.77, states that Dihong
was copied by mistake in
"Dihong" in his no. 2520
of 6.11.77. —*

*To Mr. Judd
Corrected
letter accd 31/12
Corrected
File
31/12*

(212)

210

No. 2,754P., dated Fort William, the 14th December, 1877.

From—T. J. CHICHELE-LOWDEN, Esq., Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Dept.

To—The Chief Commissioner of Assam.

IN reply to your Secretary's letter No. 2,609, dated 20th November, 1877, I am directed to say that the word "Dibong" in the concluding sentence of paragraph 2 of this office letter No. 2,526.P, dated 6th November, 1877, was copied by mistake for "Dihong," which latter word is correct.

File No 96 of 1878

(213)

1877.

217

Office of the Chief Commissioner
of Assam.

JUDICIAL.

To Surveyor General
of India

Dated 24th Decr 77

Despatched

File No. 194

No.

2808

Serial No.

Enclosures.

Prodgs.

A

No.

Foreign
May 178
31

Subject.

Supply of portage
for the Survey party
under Mr Woodthorpe

His No 2003 of 12th Decr 77

Says that the Chief Comr.
regrets to hear of the
difficulty which Mr Woodthorpe
has met with owing to
the want of cooly carriage
for his escort and of the
possible obstruction which
may consequently ensue
to the success of the Survey
operations.

No. 2,808, dated Shillong, the 24th December, 1877.

From—T. J. MURRAY, Esq., c.s., Assistant-Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,
To—The Surveyor-General of India.

WITH reference to your letter No. 2,003, dated 12th December, 1877, and enclosure, I am to say that the Chief Commissioner regrets to hear of the difficulties which Lieutenant Woodthorpe has met with, owing to the want of coolie-carriage for his escort, and of the possible obstruction which may consequently ensue to the success of the survey operations. Every assistance in their power has, however, the Chief Commissioner believes, been given readily by the district authorities to Lieutenant Woodthorpe.

2. I am to explain that the difficulty in procuring a sufficient number of coolies from the Khási Hills arose from the heavy drain on this source of supply on account of the expedition to the Nága Hills, for which purpose all the available coolies had been already engaged. The Mikirs whom the Deputy-Commissioner of Nowgong endeavoured to procure for Lieutenant Woodthorpe refused absolutely to engage for employment on the north bank of the Brahmaputra, and the Chief Commissioner did not think himself justified in directing their being sent there by force,—especially as, being a timid and unenterprising race, they would probably have been of no use, and would have run away at the first opportunity. The Chief Commissioner trusts that Lieutenant Woodthorpe may have been able to supplement his requirements from natives of the neighbourhood of his operations.