MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1181 Press Misc.

34-35

Dated 15-5-1935

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No. 34. Read the following letter from C. F. CHAMIER, Esq., Acting Register to the Court of Foujdaree Udalut; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated 7th September 1857, No. 51.

Sir,

1. I am directed by the Judges of the Foujdaree Udalut to forward, for being laid before the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Session Judge of Coimbatore, dated the 18th Ultimo, reporting that Chinnepagounden, the prisoner in case No. 44 of 1857, on the file of the Session Court, who was charged with the murder of one Vally Ammal, has been acquitted on a special verdict of insanity, and requesting the orders of Government for his ultimate disposal.

2. A copy of the Zillah Surgeon's letter, dated the 8th July last, reporting the prisoner's state of mind, is herewith forwarded; and the Judges recommend that Chinnepagounden be imprisoned for life, under the provisions of Act No. IV of 1849.

(Signed) C. F. CHAMIER,
*Acting Register.*

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From S. N. WARD, Esq., Session Judge of Coimbatore; to C. F. CHAMIER, Esq., Acting Register to the Court of Foujdaree Udalut, Fort St. George, dated 18th August 1857, No. 18.

Sir,

1. In accordance with the instructions conveyed in an Extract from the Proceedings of the Foujdaree Udalut, dated 11th July 1849, I have the honor to report that, in case No. 44 of 1857, on the file of the Session Court, a special verdict of acquitted has been pronounced by me on the grounds of the insanity of the person therein accused of the murder of one Vally Ammal, and to request that the orders of Government may be obtained for the ultimate disposal of the individual in question, as prescribed in Act IV of 1849.

2. The evidence adduced is amply sufficient to prove that the prisoner Chinnepagounden killed the deceased Vally Ammal, by beating and kicking her to death, and that the assault was unprovoked on her part.

3. Both the witnesses, Nos. 1, 2 and 3 declare that the prisoner Chinnepagounden at the time he killed Vally Ammal, was violently insane. The Civil Surgeon also, who at the time he gave his evidence, had had the prisoner under observation for upwards of 3 weeks, has deposed that from what he had seen of him during that time, he considers him "to be insane and not accountable for his actions," mentioning at the same time, that "since the prisoner had been in the Jail, he had been occasionally very violent and abusive to the guard and people about him," and that "he had also had an epileptic fit, for three or four days before, and after which he was violently insane." And this statement agrees well with the evidence of the witnesses, Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 7, that it was just before and after a fit of "ponne" or convulsion (as they describe it) that the aberration of intellect and violence in the prisoner which led to the commission of the act charged, chiefly showed itself. As regards the prisoner's usual state, it appears from the Civil Surgeon's statement, "that his (the prisoner's) mind has been so weakened by repeated attacks of epileptic fits, as to be now in an unsound state," though excepting "before the epileptic attacks" when "he gets violent and excited," he is "generally quiet, but sullen, and takes very little notice of any thing around him," and further the Civil Surgeon has in his deposition expressed an opinion that it would "be dangerous to set him at large as the disease (epilepsy) comes on him suddenly."

4. I have further the honor to state, that I have directed that Chinnepagounden be kept in safe custody until the pleasure of Government in respect to his future disposal shall be made known.

(Signed) S. N. WARD,
*Session Judge.*

From W. R. CORNISH, Esq., Civil Surgeon; to the Principal Sudder Ameen of Coimbatore, dated 8th July 1857, No. 66.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 4th Instant, I have the honor to state that the prisoner Chinnapagoundan has been under observation since 23rd June 1857, up to the present date. He has on one or two occasions shown symptoms of insanity, but his general behaviour has been that of a rational man.

I am of opinion that he is liable to sudden out-breaks of insanity, and that at such times he is not answerable for his actions.

(Signed) W. R. CORNISH,
*Civil Surgeon.*

(True Copies.)

(Signed) C. F. CHAMIER,
*Acting Registrar.*

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No. 23. ORDER THEREON, No. 1181; dated 15th September 1857.

Under the provisions of Section III, Act IV of 1849, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council authorizes the detention in custody, for the term of his natural life, of Chinnapagoundan, Prisoner in case No. 44 of 1857, on the file of the Session Court of Coimbatore, who was tried for the crime of murder, but acquitted on special verdict of insanity.

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
*Acting Chief Secretary.*

Read F. Gazetteer.

No 1181

Under the provisions of Act IV of 1849, the Right Honble the Governor in Council authorizes the detention in custody, for the term of his natural life, of Chinnapagoundan Prisoner in case No 44 of 1857 on the file of the Session Court of Coimbatore, tried for the crime of Murder, but acquitted on special verdict of insanity.

Fort St George, 15th September 1857.

Copy to Surgeon General

Dispatched 18th