MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1182 Press Misc.

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Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 15th September 1857.

No. 36. 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. 52.

Sir,

With reference to the provisions of Act IV of 1849, I am directed by the Judges of the Foujdaree Udalut to submit, 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 29th Ultimo, (with an enclosure) reporting that a special verdict of acquittal on the ground of insanity has been pronounced on the prisoner* in case No. 46 of 1857, who was charged with the murder of his son, and requesting that the orders of Government may be obtained for his ultimate disposal.

* Veeraswamy.

2. As it is represented that the prisoner's state of mind has long been such as to render him dangerous to the community, the Judges beg to recommend that he be imprisoned for life.

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

From S. N. WARD, Esq., Session Judge of Coimbatore; to C. F. CHAMIER, Esq., Acting Register to the Court of Foujdaree Udalut, Fort Saint George, dated 29th August 1857, No. 22.

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. 46 of 1857, on the file of the Session Court of Coimbat. , a special verdict of acquittal has been pronounced by me on the grounds of the insanity of the prisoner therein named of the murder of his son Krishnan, 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 sufficient to prove that the prisoner Veeraswamiah killed his child, the deceased Krishnan, aged 3 years, by cutting his throat with a bill-hook.

3. But the witnesses, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 depose, that Veeraswamiah has for the last 3 years been insane though hitherto his insanity has never taken so violent a form as on the occasion in question. The Civil Surgeon also (witness No. 9) who has had the prisoner under observation, deposes to his being insane to such a degree as to render him unaccountable for his actions, and has stated it as his opinion that he has for some time back been suffering from a diseased brain. The result of this witness' observations of the prisoner tend strongly to corroborate the description given by the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th witnesses of his state of mind previous to, and at the time of, the attack upon his child, and to show that he was at that time insane; while the circumstances of the case tend strongly to the same presumption since they do not disclose any grounds whatever for such an attack being made. It is evident that the state of mind of the prisoner Veeraswamiah has long been such as to render him dangerous to the community, but that not having before committed any very furious acts of madness, his mother, grand-mother and aunt, under whose care he has resided, have failed to bring his insanity prominently to the notice of the authorities, but they should be deprived of their only male relative, which the prisoner appears to be.

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

5. The original deposition of Doctor Cornish, as well as the correspondence which passed between the Principal Sadr Ameen and the said officer, is herewith submitted for the information of the Court of Foujdaree Udalut.

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

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 15th September 1857.

From W. R. CORNISH, Esq., Civil Surgeon; to the Principal Sudr Ameen of Coimbatore, dated 17th August 1857, No. 81.

Sir,

In reply to your letter, No. 28, of the 3rd Instant, I have the honor to inform you, that the prisoner in criminal case No. 132 of 1857, has been closely observed since his admission, and that he appears to be of unsound mind.

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

(True Copies.)

(Signed) C. F. CHAMIER,
Acting Registar.

No. 27. ORDER THEREON, No. 1162; dated 15th September 1857.

Under the provisions of Section III, Act IV of 1849, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council authorises the detention in custody, for the term of his natural life, of Veeraterumanivelu, Prisoner in case No. 46 of 1857, on the file of the Sessions Court of Coimbatore, who was tried for the crime of murder, but acquitted on special verdict of insanity.

(Signed) E. MALTBY
Acting Chief Secretary.

Lieut. F. Cuthbert.

4.

No 1162

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 Veeraterumanivelu, Prisoner in case No 46 of 1857 on the file of the Sessions Court of Coimbatore who was tried for the crime of murder but acquitted on special verdict of insanity.

Fort St George
15th September 1857

Copy to F. Cuthbert Esqr 18/9