

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1589	Press
		Mis.
7-8		
Dated	9-12-1907	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

gle 7-11-07

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

No. 7. Read the following letter from A. W. SULLIVAN, Esq., Joint Magistrate, North Arcot, in charge of Convicts, Vellore; to the Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Fort Saint George, dated 5th December 1857, No. 27.

Jail Department.

SIR,

I have the honor to report for the information of Government, that on the afternoon of the 2nd Instant, five out of a gang of twelve Convicts employed in stone facing a road at the foot of the Suzerah Fort Hill of Vellore, suddenly attacked their guards, with the stones in their hands and succeeded in getting away up the hill and on to another Fort hill contiguous to the one they first ascended; the remainder of the party and 8 other Convicts working within 100 yards of them remained quiet and were immediately marched back to the Jail, a distance of about $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile, by a portion of their guard.

2. For some days past I have been engaged both here and at the Vellore station on special duty in collecting and furnishing carriage for the service of the numerous parties of European Troops and Military material moving up to Bangalore and elsewhere.

3. The circumstance of the escape was therefore in my absence reported to the Police Ameen, who appears with the European Jailor to have acted with great judgment and decision;

they had with them a small party* of Sepoys from the Main Guard, they surrounded the hills with Peons and had regularly to scale the Fort hill by moon-light, the escaped Convicts throwing down on them huge stones and other missiles; although frequently called upon to surrender, they failed to do so, and having on the arrival of the Jailor inside the old Fort thrown themselves over and attempted to escape by a deep ravine, they were fired on and three were shot dead, one was re-taken owing to severe contusions received in jumping from the Fort and will be committed to stand his trial for escape as soon as convalescent. The fifth prisoner has not yet been re-apprehended.

4. I received the report here on the 3rd Instant, too late to enable me to reach Vellore before dark, but was there at day-break yesterday morning the 4th, and held a lengthened enquiry into the circumstances of the escape, a report on which will be communicated in detail to the Inspector of Prisons for communication to Government in due course.

(Signed) A. W. SULLIVAN,
Joint Magistrate and in charge of Convicts, Vellore.

No. 8. ORDER THEREON, No. 1599; dated 9th December 1857.

Ordered to lie over, pending further report from the Inspector of Prisons.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 1599

Ordered to be on hand
for the report from the

Inspector of Prisons

Wm. J. St. George,
9 December, 1857

W. J.

507

October 18th 1861
Dear Sir,

Wichita
and Magistrate
in charge of Court
in charge of Court

Yours Most Obedient Servant,
Sir,
I have the honor to be

Yours