M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 169 Press ~~Mis.~~

15-19

Dated 10-2-1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 10th February 1857.

Read the following Papers.

No. 15. Letter from the Inspector of Prisons.

Submitting his general Report upon the Prisons of the Madras Presidency to the close of the Official year 1855-56 } (Here enter 30th April 1856, No.)*

No. 16. From J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 2nd January 1857, No. 3.

SIR,

I trust I may be excused for again bringing forward my request for an increase to the pay of Jailors attached to the Zillah Jails as proposed in my letter of the 22nd August, my object in proposing that the pay should be given immediately, not to all the present incumbents, but only to such as were worthy of it, was only because I saw it would take time to get rid of those who were useless, and supply their places by proper persons, and I did not wish the Government to be charged unnecessarily in paying inefficient persons. I see by Dr. Mouatt's Report that the European Jailor at Sandaway, gets 80 Rupees monthly. Other Departments pay the salary I ask for duties less onerous, and to which the responsibility is comparatively trifling; the establishment of Central Jails will, it is true, reduce the number of Prisoners in each Jail, but I do not see that even after this relief the trust and responsibility will be adequately remunerated, or that a sufficient qualification can generally be obtained on a lower salary than I have proposed. Twenty Rupees was perhaps quite as much as was necessary when the qualifications of a Jailor were limited to what might be expected in a Peon promoted to the Office, and the selection was for many years of such persons or of those who from any cause were disqualified for other employ, the writing and a great part of the duty more especially required of a Jailor, were done by others either on the Court or Jail Establishment, even now I have met with European Jailors who cannot read or write, and the Jailor is necessarily dependant on some Peon or Court Writer, or Oomeedwar (volunteer expectant) while the responsibility in such cases rests nowhere. What I require is a Jailor at each Station capable of doing the work himself, and this I am satisfied, cannot be obtained *generally* at the present rate.

No. 17. Memo. from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons, dated 26th January 1857.

The Inspector of Prisons requests the Chief Secretary to lay before the Members of Government, the following extract from a note of Dr Mouatt, Inspector of Prisons, L. P., with reference to his application for an increase of pay to European Jailors.

"The European Jailor to whom you refer, receives 80 Rupees a month, in consequence of being in Arracan, which is an extremely expensive place for him to live in. The ordinary salary of European Jailors in the Regulation Provinces is 75 Rupees a month, with an allowance of 25 per cent upon the realized profits of manufactures. It has been a real economy to employ them, and I have as yet experienced no difficulty in obtaining sanction to their appointment from the Supreme Government."

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, No. 168; dated 7th February 1857.

The Inspector of Prisons re-submits his Report upon the Jails of the Madras Presidency to the close of the Official year 1855-56. That originally sent in by him was ordered to be revised. It had been printed at Madras during Mr. Rohde's absence, the proof sheets being sent out to him for correction. Owing to the difficulty of effectually Superintending the Press at a distance, the first copy of the Report contained several typographical errors. The punctuation had not been attended to. Besides these defects, the Report was itself wanting in arrangement. It was in parts redundant, passages were introduced into the body of the Report which it was unnecessary to insert, and which should have been thrown into the Appendix. Altogether it required to be condensed and corrected. This was ordered to be done, and the Report itself, but not the Appendix, has accordingly been revised and re-printed, of course at the cost of some delay.

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* This letter is printed with the Report of the Inspector of Prisons, for the Official Year 1855-56.

2. It is to be regretted that in its present shape the Report is not altogether what could have been wished. It has been shortened indeed, and condensed, but the defects have not all been removed. The punctuation is still very far from being correct, and, in consequence of want of attention to this point, paragraphs, which might easily have been broken up into four or five sentences, now appear as one sentence dragging on to an inconvenient length, at the expence of clearness and precision. The Report, however, contains much useful information and shows that Mr. Rohde has a considerable degree of practical knowledge on the subject of which he writes.

3. The Inspector has divided his report into the several heads of

1. Present state of the Jails.
2. Their Security.
3. Construction of Prisons.
4. Ventilation.
5. Increased accommodation and Central Prisons.
6. Discipline.
7. Labor.
8. Diet and Clothing.
9. Diseases of Prisoners.
10. Prison Establishments.
11. Education.
12. Criminal Lunatics.

Present state of the Jails.

4. This is represented to be very defective. There are no means of enforcing hard labor within the walls of the Jail, and the work which is exacted outside, is, to a labouring man at least, any thing but *hard* labor. In most Jails no fixed task is exacted; Prisoners are too often employed with very little regard to the object of their being in Prison. They have outside the walls access to their friends. There is too much community of feeling between the guards and the Prisoners. In one instance last year, they united in committing a highway robbery. The diet of the Prisoners is rather an inducement to offenders than otherwise. The Jail Establishments are such that any very great improvement is hardly to be expected till the Prisoners are retained under the immediate eye of one trustworthy head. The pay (generally 20 Rupees) now given to that head certainly deos not justify the expectation, that regard for it should induce a man to resist temptation. Every Jailor has necessarily very much in his power. The present system of employing Convicts gives great openings for indulging favored Prisoners. The Establishments of the Jails offer no facilities for doing more than guarding the Prisoners. Several of the Jailors cannot read or write. The European Jailors are generally unable to understand, or make themselves understood by, the Prisoners. All the rest of the Establishment are of the class of Peons, often for a series of years associated with Convicts. Classification can hardly be said to exist.

5. It is remarked that in a letter, under date 22nd August last, the Inspector brought to notice the inadequate remuneration received by Jailors in this Presidency, and the impossibility of commanding the services of really efficient men upon such terms. Of the 22 Jailors having charge of Zillah Jails in the Madras Presidency, one draws 42 Rupees per mensem, one 30 and one only 15. The rest receive each Rupees 20 a month. Mr. Rohde proposes to raise the pay to Rupees 50 generally, involving an increased monthly expenditure on the whole of Rupees 633. In a late letter 2nd January 1857, he has recurred to the subject, and more recently has apprized Government on information derived from Dr. Mouatt, Inspector of Prisons Lower Provinces, that the ordinary salary of European Jailors in the Regulation Provinces of Bengal, is Rupees 75 a month with an allowance of 25 Rupees per cent. upon the realized profits of manufactures. "It has been" Dr. Mouatt states "a real economy to employ them" on this rate of pay.

Memo. dated 26th January 1857.

6. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council observes that it is quite hopeless to expect that any effectual reform can be wrought in the Jails of this Presidency unless the Jailor, on whose intelligence and honesty so much must depend, be placed on point of remuneration on such footing as to secure its being efficiently filled. He resolves therefore strongly to recommend to the Supreme Government, the enhanced rate of salary proposed by the Inspector, with the understanding that it will not be given as a matter of course to all present incumbents, but only to such as are duly qualified, and according as thoroughly fit men can be found for the Office.

Security of the Prisons.

7. With the exception of Trichinopoly none of the Jails can be considered secure, from the want of height of the walls. It will not be easy to add to the height of the walls of most Jails, without materially impeding the circulation of air. If two or three courses of open bricks were laid diagonally, it would be very difficult for any person to scale the walls without alarming the guard. The Jail wall affords but little security unless it is from 15 to 18 feet in height. As to the wards, few it is said, are calculated to resist any determined and well planned scheme to escape, the fastenings are generally very indifferent, the roofs too are generally low and insecure.

8. The Government authorize the suggestion of the Inspector for laying courses of open bricks diagonally upon the Jail walls, being tried whenever it can be conveniently done. They also empower him to carry out at once through the Civil Engineer of the District any measures which he may from time to time find necessary for ensuring the security of the wards of any Prisons, and preventing escape.

Construction of Prisons.

9. A short precis is given of the general character and of the arrangements in the several Jails. The review shows that very few afford the means of classifying Prisoners within the walls; several are wholly unfit from their construction, for Jail purposes. The Subsidiary Jails are still more defective, no amount of expenditure will alter the existing buildings, so that an improved system can be economically and efficiently carried out.

Ventilation.

10. The Inspector questions the correctness of the doctrine laid down by the Medical Board, and adopted by the Honorable Court of Directors, that less than 500 cubic feet of air is insufficient for each Prisoner. He points out that some of the most confined Jails in the country, where the accommodation falls much below that standard, are at the same time the most healthy, and urges that the healthiness of Jails depends not on the actual average extent of space allowed, but on the rapidity with which the foul or respired air passes out from above and is re-placed by fresh air from below. The Government consider that there is much truth in this remark. It will therefore be for the Inspector to recommend from time to time any measures requisite for duly ventilating the wards of Prisons according to this principle. With regard to the average space to be allowed, the orders of the Honorable Court are explicit and will be carefully attended to in the construction of all future Prisons, and, as far as possible, in the regulation of existing ones. There is, however, scarcely a Jail in the country at present, in which they can be fully carried out. The actual average accommodation, taking all the Prisons in the Madras Presidency, little exceeds 300 cubic feet per man as has already been pointed out to the Honorable Court.

Increased accommodation, and Central Prisons.

11. The total number of all the Prisoners in the Madras Jails, may be taken to be as it was in December 1853—5057, of which there were confined

For life	55
Seven years and over	2519
Under seven years	2355

It is proposed to provide Central Jails for all those sentenced to transportation, or Prisoners, whose sentence of imprisonment amounts to or exceeds seven years. The stations of the Central Prisons and the number to be confined in each are:

Madras	1148
Trichinopoly	817
Tellicherry	552
Bellary	407
Vizagapatam	387
	3311

leaving for confinement in the present Jails, Prisoners under seven years sentence. Besides which, with the improvement in the Police and consequent larger proportion of offenders detected, the demand for Jail accommodation may be expected to increase.

12. The Government concur in these suggestions, but they are of opinion that it will eventually be found desirable to transfer to the Central Jails all Prisoners, whose sentence of imprisonment is above 2 years.

System of Imprisonment.

See Appendix A. B. C.

From Inspector, 8th May 1855
18th Sept. „
27th Aug. „
Appendix A. B. & C.

13. The system proposed is the separate system, as distinguished from the silent or solitary systems. The Convict for the first 9 or 12 months of his incarceration is to be confined within the walls of the Jail, and kept to labor wholly separate from the other Prisoners; he is then to labor in association with them, and to be separated from them at night, and when not at labor, the first period of confinement is to be severely penal, but to be gradually relaxed till the Prisoner be placed in a position to feel the value of his labor as a source of support and enjoyment. It is considered that in no ordinary case in which it is right that the Prisoner should ever again be at large, need the sentence under a proper system of penal discipline exceed four years, after that, the Prisoner may be placed under restraint in the forced service of Government according to his position in life.

14. The Government are not at present disposed to pass any decided opinion upon the merits of the separate *as contradistinguished* from the silent or solitary systems. The question is one which has led to much controversy. It would be well to be prepared to try each system. It may be found that each has its advantages, and is more suited to some individuals than the others. It is, however, evident that none of these systems, nor indeed any effectual measure of reform, can be carried out in the Jails as they now exist. A new Jail for Salem in which each Prisoner is to be separately confined has been included in the Budget for 1857-58. A Plan and Estimate for a Central Jail at Madras on the same principle, but on a much larger scale, has also been laid before Government, but returned to the Engineer Department for revision, the Estimate appearing to Government needlessly high.

Labor.

15. The labor at present whether without or within the walls of the Jail, is described as in no degree amounting to hard labor. The Inspector gives his views generally on the mode in which labor should be enforced, and states that, as it will be sometime before an improved system of labour within the Prison walls can be fully introduced, in the meantime Prisoners without the walls should be employed only in large gangs, and never within the precincts of a Town, that their labor be limited to that which can be tasked, and that that task be never less than what two thirds of a day's hire of a cooly would purchase at the contract rates. It is pointed out that there are a number of occupations† of a laborious nature, in which Prisoners might be employed, and it is proposed, pending further reform in the Jails, that every Prisoner, during the first year of his confinement, shall be so employed, and that he shall not, until after the expiration of this period, be permitted to leave the precincts of the Prison. At some Jails, the Inspector would establish large manufactories for the supply of the State. The expense attendant on the construction of the necessary buildings and enclosures would be met by a decrease in the present outlay for charges of supervision. Allowing 1 guard to 20 Convicts instead of 1 to 4, as at present, the cost of maintenance would, it is computed, be per head 12 Rupees a year, less than it is now.

† Such as (by crank movements,) turning cotton gins, engaging in the manufacture of rope. The making of gunny, coir-making, cumblies, &c. Spinning is condemned, as being light work.

Masulipatam, Tent-making.
Rajahmundry, Tannery.

16. The Government would not object to Prisoners being worked altogether within the walls of the Jail during the first year of their imprisonment, in any Prisons in which effectual arrangements can be made for the purpose, but they are not disposed to go the full length advocated by the Inspector, or wholly to prohibit their being worked within the precincts of a Town. In the present state of the Jails, the employment of Prisoners in cleansing the streets of the Zillah Station or making or repairing the roads in or about it, is the only mode in which any return can be obtained from their labor. With regard to the Establishment of large manufactories, the Governor in Council believes that such undertakings can seldom be profitably carried on by Government, but the experiment might be tried in the few Prisons that admit of it.

Diet.

17. The Inspector treats this subject at considerable length. The Medical Board have informed him that they see no reason to change their present Diet Tables : but it is his own opinion that use should be made of the great variety of coarser grains‡ and pulses which form the bulk of the food on which the lower orders in this country subsist. Dr. McKay, the Civil Surgeon at Coimbatore, has suggested that an analysis of these various articles of food should be made, with a view to ascertain the proportion of nutritive matter inherent in each. This suggestion has the Inspector's support. He would then give those grains and pulses which are found to possess the most albumen. These, with the addition of oil-cake and jaggery, and occasionally a little tyre (which he commends as the prophylactic best suited to the native constitution) would, he is of opinion, be found to form an excellent and most wholesome Table of Diet. From discussing the question of the staple food, the Inspector passes on to the question of condiments, cooking and water.

Condiments.

18. By the present rules, condiments are supplied in kind by the Officer in charge at his discretion, at a cost ordinarily of 3½ pie per head a day, including charges on account of firewood and cooking pots. As the prices of these condiments vary in different parts of the Presidency, it has happened that while the Prisoners at Calicut have a margin for the purchase of luxuries, those at Coimbatore, 100 miles distant, are not supplied with sufficient to impart a wholesome seasoning to their rice. As a remedy to this, it is proposed that henceforth the supply of condiment be independent of fluctuations in value.

Cooking.

The Inspector suggests that all rations shall be served out cooked. The time now occupied by each Prisoner in cooking for himself is a gratification to the man and so much time abstracted from labour. All at Combaconum and nearly all at Salem take their rice from the common pot. Caste prejudices should be discouraged as much as possible. With an improved Jail system, separate cooking would be altogether inadmissible.

Water.

The Medical Board, at the Inspector's request, are now engaged in analysing the water in use at the various Jails. Complaints are made at many Jail Stations of this part of the Prisoner's diet. But too little attention appears heretofore to have been paid to procuring water free from filth and salts. A special paragraph is devoted to the case of Europeans. Here, the Inspector considers, where hard labor forms part of the sentence, that the scale in force for European Soldiers under similar sentence should be adopted, and where the imprisonment is without labor, the scale laid down by the Secretary of State, with the substitution of Indian products for such articles as are not here grown. He sees no reason why country-born people should not be dieted under the same scale as natives. They are for the most part accustomed to the ordinary fare.

19. The Government are disposed to agree with the Inspector that greater use might be made of the coarser grains and pulses in the diet of Prisoners. The ordinary food of the mass of the Convicts is of the coarsest kind. It will be proper, however, that any changes of this sort in the present Diet Tables should be made with caution and their effects closely watched. The analysis of the various articles of the food, and particularly of the water at the several Jails should be made carefully and the result reported to Government. Condiments should be supplied on a fixed scale independent of fluctuations in value, and the Jailors should be wholly inhibited from any share in the supply of these or of any other articles for the use of Convicts. The messing system should be carried out generally as respects all Convicts, but Civil Prisoners and Prisoners under examination or confined in default of finding security, should be treated with more consideration. The Government approve the views of the Inspector in regard to the dieting of European and country-born Prisoners.

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‡ NOTE.—The price of these is one half that of rice.

Diseases of Prisoners.

Salem.
Coimbatore.
Madura.

20. It appears from the Reports of the Medical Board, that for a series of years the average mortality has been greatest in the three Jails marginally noted. At Combaconum also, the mortality has greatly increased since 1852. The remaining Jails, with the exception of Calicut, where small pox is extremely virulent, do not call for special attention on account of the prevalence of certain diseases. On the contrary, they are generally healthy, especially those at Guntoor, Tellicherry, and Bellary. The scourge at Salem has been the cholera. The mortality has averaged 21 per cent. for the last ten years. The present buildings are to be abandoned.

As has been the case at the Tanna Jail, Bombay.

21. The Civil Surgeon at Coimbatore inclines to look for the cause of the disease in the effect of the change of climate working upon certain classes of Prisoners. Secondly, in the injury produced by the full Prison diet on frames in a state too low to permit of the food being properly digested. Thirdly, on the want of proper ventilation in the wards. The Inspector agrees with Dr. McKay, except in the last reason assigned. He dissents from the Civil Surgeon on this point, because it can be shown that some of the healthiest Jails are not by any means so well ventilated as those in which the excess of mortality is most noticeable. He suggests, however, some sanitary measures, such as an improved system of Privies, the closing of any adjacent grave yards or other sources of impurity in the atmosphere in the vicinity of Jails, the introduction of which measures will prove, in his opinion, of the last importance in checking the spread of contagion.

Madura.
Combaconum.
Trichinopoly.

Vide his letter in the Appendix, where the excess is stated to be as 17 to 3.

22. While the Civil Surgeon at Coimbatore considers the Prison diet in many instances too nourishing, the Acting Superintending Surgeon of the Southern Division, Doctor Davidson, who is the chief controlling authority in other Jails, which have been noticed as unhealthy, is clear that the Prisoners have not sufficient food for the labor to which they are exposed. To this and want of air in their Cells he attributes the startling excess of the mortality in the Prisons over that apparent in that portion of the army quartered in the same Districts.

23. The Government direct that the sanitary measures recommended by the Inspector be adopted, where practicable. The question at issue between Dr. McKay and Dr. Davidson in regard to the excess or insufficiency of the Jail allowance, should be carefully investigated. The result of the diet adopted by Dr. McKay at the Coimbatore Jail, should also be reported, when it has had a fair trial.

Prison Guards.

24. These hitherto have consisted :

1st. Of a certain fixed establishment of Jailor, Deputy Jailor, Duffadar and Peons.
2nd. Extra Peons, to accompany the Convicts on the Roads.
3rd. A Military Guard of Invalided Soldiers, who are sentries at night and are expected to repress any out-break among the Prisoners.

25. Mr Rohde now proposes that the Officers entrusted with the interior discipline of the Prison shall form a separate body, with an European Superintendent and well conducted Prisoners, as his Peons, that the present effete Military guard be dispensed with, and that a body of "Jail Guards" equipped with carbines and regularly drilled, be at once enrolled for Jail duties within a certain limit and not for certain Jails only.

26. The Government consider the principle here enunciated to be quite correct. They desire that Mr. Rohde will proceed to submit the details of the arrangements that he would propose. The Corps should be for the whole Presidency. The Inspector will report the number, rates of pay, organization, equipment and expense, as compared with that incurred under the present system.

Education.

27. Mr. Rohde is of opinion that a system of Education which excludes Christian truth, so far from improving the morals of a people, will have the effect of stimulating the minds of those brought under its evil influence, to the commission of crime.

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28. He is averse further to subjecting the adult Convict to the drudgery of learning his letters: but he would be glad to see the establishment in every Jail of a course of lectures. The subject of these addresses is not specified, but it should be of such a nature as shall tend "to remove prejudice and induce in the mind of the hearers a healthy tone of thought." Missionaries, it is also suggested, should be allowed to enter the walls, so that the Prisoner "may not be excluded from those influences to which he might (however remote the probability) have been led, had he remained at large."

29. The Government are not prepared to commit themselves to these conclusions. Lectures must be useless when the parties to whom they would be addressed would be too illiterate to understand them. The Government would not favor any attempts at proselytizing, but some system of moral training will ultimately have to be adopted. The Inspector should refer to the other Presidencies for information as to what has been done in the improved Jails established there and especially in the N. W. Provinces.

Criminal Lunatics.

30. These number only 17, of these 5 have been sent to the Asylum at the Presidency, 12 are in various Jails, 12 also is the number of Lunatics (not Criminals) confined for security. These latter, the Inspector presumes, will hereafter be received into the Asylum. He therefore leaves them out of his calculation, judging from the mortality among the other class of Lunatics since the passing of Act IV of 1849, (which makes provision for their safe keeping &c.) he is of opinion that the numbers likely to be inmates at one time of the Jails, will be 30: and for that number he would provide accommodation in the Central Jail hereafter to be built.

31. The course here recommended seems to Government to be the proper one.

Zillah Jails.
Chicacole,
Kurnool.
Principal Suddr Ameens Jails.
Vizagapatam.
Sudr Ameens.
Cumbum,
Itchapoor.
Two gangs under the Magistrate of Tanjore.

32. In his Appendix, the Inspector has submitted detailed descriptions and plans of all the Jails in the Madras Presidency with the few exceptions noted in the margin. The Government proceed to remark on such as seem to require notice.

Masulipatam.

33. The prickly pear in the vicinity of this Jail which is supposed to deteriorate the water used by the Prisoners, should be cleared away by Convict labor, in aid of which the Government would be prepared to give some allowance. It is represented that the Jail guards are too much drawn from the same castes and families. This the Judge should correct. The tools given to the Prisoners and which are from the Arsenal, are said to be altogether too bulky to be used by natives. The Government understand this to be a common complaint and the attention of the Military Board will be called to it.

Nellore.

34. The pickaxes in use by the Convicts at this Jail should be steeled.

The suggestions of the Inspector in regard to the entertainment of a whipper, hangman and grave digger should be attended to.

The messing system should be carried out in this as in other Jails, and here as elsewhere the Jailor should be allowed to take no part in the purchase of provisions for the Prisoners.

Chingleput.

35. This Jail is stated to be insecure. Immediate measures should be taken by the District Engineer (to whom orders will be given through the Department Public Works) in communication with the Inspector for ensuring its security, and especially of that part of it which is appropriated to the confinement of Convicts under sentence of transportation of which this Jail is the Depôt.

Chittoor.

36. The Collector of North Arcot to whom reference will be made in the Revenue Department will report the expense of buying up the land surrounding the Jail as recommended by the Inspector to prevent the encroachment of the Town in that direction.

The Sub Judge in charge of the Jail should at once, if he has not already done so, remove all Peons incapacitated by age, from the efficient performance of their duty.

Arcot and Vellore. 37. The Government are not disposed to assent to the discontinuance of the Arcot Jail. There seems no reason why under the management of Mr. A. Sullivan, whose station as Sub-Collector is to be at Arcot, the Jail there, should not be in as good a state as that at Vellore has been under that Officer.

Cuddapah. 38. The diversion of the Peons attached to this Jail to duties alien to their proper Office, should be stopped by the Sub-Judge.

Combaconum. 39. The number in this Jail should be limited to that which it is adapted to hold, and as far as possible, drafts made from it to other Jails. When allowance has been made for such drafts as well as for those that are to be removed to the Central Jail, it may prove that the number left is not more than the present Jail at Combaconum can well accommodate and that a new Prison is not needed there.

Mayavarum. 40. This Jail is understood to be exceedingly healthy when only 60 Prisoners are confined in it, and should not be discontinued, while it, as well as Negapatam and Tranquebar are required to receive the surplus of the Combaconum Jail.

41. There can in so small a Jail be no need of a Writer to the Jailor nor any necessity for adding his pay to the salary drawn by the latter.

Cuddalore. 42. The swords given to the Peons at this Jail are said to be exceedingly bad. They should be replaced by serviceable swords, pending the measures to be carried out for reforming the equipment of the Prison guards generally.

Ossoor. 43. The expenses attendant on the charge of the fifty Prisoners at this station certainly, seem heavy and should be reduced, but the men are in health, and the Zillah Jail of Salem, in which they would otherwise be confined, is pronounced to be deadly. The Government could not therefore sanction their being remanded thither.

Coimbatore. 44. The Medical Board will be called upon for explanation in respect to the alleged sparing use of quinine in the case of Prisoners suffering from Fever in this Jail; until the effect of this drug be fully tested, it would be premature to sanction the construction of a new Jail.

Palghaut. 45. This small Jail is said to be very ill managed; the Joint Magistrate who has charge of it, being necessarily absent for many months in the year and the Prison being during his absence left under a native Havildar. The Joint Magistrate should make arrangements for the Officer Commanding, or one of his Staff, supervising the Prisoners whilst he is himself absent on duty.

Calicut. 46. The District Engineer of Malabar should, in communication with the Inspector, submit a Plan and Estimate of a new Jail for this Zillah in a suitable locality. The Inspector will communicate with the Medical Board in respect to the large allowance of fish, fresh and salted, now given to the Prisoners and supposed by the former to be the cause of disease.

Tellicherry. 47. The opinion of the Collector will be asked on the proposal of the Inspector that the Government Offices in the Fort be removed and the whole available space devoted to Prison purposes. The luxuries said to be allowed in this Jail should be discontinued here and wherever else they may have been permitted, and *hard* labour enforced in the case of all those whose age and strength admit of it. It is observed from a late communication from the Inspector, that tobacco has now been ordered to be discontinued in every Jail except Itchapore.

Dated 17th July 1866.

Cannanore. 48. Reference will be made to the Military Department to ascertain whether the store houses here referred to might be given up for Jail buildings. The measurs recommended by Mr. Rohde for improving the ventilation should be carried out in the Department of Public Works and an European Jailor put in charge of the Convicts.

49. Here, as elsewhere, no holidays should be allowed. The Prisoners should be kept to work every day except Sundays.

Honore. 50. The improvements in this Jail, suggested by the Inspector, should be carried out as far as practicable.

Sircy. 51. The Jail at this station may be discontinued on that at Honore being finished.

Ootacamund. 52. The District Engineer of Coimbatore, will, in communication with the Inspector, submit a Plan and Estimate for a small Prison at this station. The Government however, consider that, looking to the probable increase to the population of the Hills, accommodation for more than 20 Prisoners will be required.

Madura. 53. A Plan and Estimate for a new Jail at this station should be prepared by the District Engineer in communication with the Inspector.

Palamcottah and Tinnevelly. 54. It should be explained whether one Jail would not suffice for both these places.

Rajahmundry. 55. The state of this Jail, as described by the Sessions Judge, is very bad, but the Inspector has taken measures to remedy the abuses represented. His attention should be carefully given to it. The partitions proposed by Mr. R. R. Cotton should be constructed.

56. Ordered that this Extract Minutes Consultation be communicated to the Inspector, the Foujdaree Udalut, the Medical Board, the Military Department, Department Public Works, and Revenue Department, and that copies of it be distributed, through the Inspector, with the Report, to all Officers in charge of Jails, and Zillah Surgeons.

57. Ordered also that copies of the Report, with the observations of Government, be forwarded to the Honorable the Court of Directors, the Government of India, the Governments of Bengal, Agra, Bombay, and other authorities.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary.

No. 19. Ordered that the following letter be despatched

From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George; to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated 7th February 1857, No. 169.

SIR,

In forwarding for submission to the Government of India 10 copies of the Report of the Inspector of Prisons on the Jails of this Presidency, and of the remarks recorded on it by this Government, I am desired to solicit particular attention to the observations made by the Inspector upon the insufficiency of the salaries given to the Jailors. Mr. Rohde, has since recurred to the subject in two further letters, copies of which are also transmitted. It appears to this Government utterly hopeless to expect any improvement in the condition of the Madras Jails, until the Office of Jailor be placed on such a footing in point of salary as to command the services of intelligent and trustworthy men. The Government would strongly urge that the salaries of the Zillah Jailors throughout the Presidency, be fixed at Rupees 50 per mensem, (in addition to any pension of which the party may be in receipt) which they understand to be below the rate obtaining in the Bengal Regulation Provinces. It would be understood that the Government would not give it indiscriminately to all present incumbents, but to such only as are possessed of the requisite qualifications, and, in other cases, as fit men could be appointed.

Dated 30th April 1856.

Dated 22nd August 1856.
2nd January 1857.

An application in the usual form accompanies.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Year.	Revenue. Ordinary.	Revenue. Extraordinary.	Charges. Ordinary.	Charges. Extraordinary.	Total. Revenue.	Total. Charges.	Net. Surplus.	Net. Deficit.

Extract from Home Dept. Govt. of India. No.	Date	Office to which the proposition refers.	Nature of Charge. Present Scale.	Rs.	A.	P.	Nature of Charge. Proposed Scale. Rs.	A.	P.	Proposition. Permanent. Increase per month. Rs.	A.	P.	Proposition. Permanent. Decrease per month. Rs. A P.	Proposition. Temporary. Increase per month. Period.	Rs. A P	Proposition. Temporary. Decrease per month. Period.	Rs. A P	Casual or Extraordinary.	Grounds of Proposition.	Local Government's recommendation.	Orders of the Government of India. Home Dept. Remarks.	Financial Department. Remarks.	Financial Department. Orders.
		Judicia Department. 22 Jails in the Presidency of Fort St. George, exclusive of Subsidiary Jails.	Chicacole, ...	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0							That the pay of 20 Rupees is wholly insufficient to secure the services of efficient Jailors and that the large demand for respectable Europeans in the Departments precludes all hope of the Prisons Department retaining the few respectable men there are in it, except in some few cases where other considerations prevail.				
			Vizagapatam,.	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Rajahmundry,	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Masulipatam,.	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Guntoor, ...	30	0	0	50	0	0	20	0	0											
			Nellore,........	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Kurnool,......	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Cuddapah, ...	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Bellary,........	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Chittoor, ...	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Chingleput,...	42	0	0	50	0	0	8	0	0											
			Cuddalore,....	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Combaconum,	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Trichinopoly,	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Madura, ...	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Tinnevelly, ...	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Salem, ...	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Coimbatore, ..	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Mangalore, ...	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Calicut, ...	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	0	0											
			Tellicherry,...	15	0	0	50	0	0	35	0	0											
			Honore, ...	20	0	0	50	0	0	30	...	...											
			Total...	467	0	0	1100	0	0	633	0	0											

Fort St. George, the 7th February 1857.

Judicial Department.
No. 169 A.

No. 20. Forwarded for sanction to the Home Department of the Government of India.
(Signed) T. PYCROFT, *Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.*

Judicial Dept.

No. 168

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Dated 7th February 1857.

Read the following Papers

Letter from the Inspector of Prisons Submitting his general report upon the Prisons of the Madras Presidency, to the close of the Official year 1855-56.	Here enter 30th April 1856 &c (printed)
— Do. from Do. — again requesting an increase to the pay of the Jailors attached to the Zillah Jails as proposed in his letter of 22nd Augt. last	(— " — 2nd Jany. 1857 No. 3 /
Memo. from Do.	(— " — 26th — " — No. 173 /

The Inspector of Prisons resubmits his Report upon the Jails of the Madras Presidency ~~th~~ to the close of the Official year 1855/6. That originally sent in by him was ordered to be revised. It had been printed at Madras during Mr. Rohde's absence, the proof sheets being sent out to him for correction. Owing to the difficulty of effectually superintending the Press at a distance, the first copy of the Report contained several typographical errors. The punctuation had not been attended to. Besides these defects the Report was itself wanting in arrangement. It was in parts redundant. passages were introduced into the body of the report which it was unnecessary to insert, and which should have been thrown into the Appendix. Altogether it

it required to be condensed and corrected. This was ordered to be done and the Report itself but not the Appendix has accordingly been revised and reprinted, of course at the cost of some delay.—

2. It is to be regretted that in its present shape the Report is not altogether what could have been wished. It has been shortened indeed, and condensed but the defects have not all been removed. The punctuation is still very far from being correct, and, in consequence of want of attention to this point, paragraphs which might easily have been broken

up into four or five sentences, now appear as one sentence dragging on to an inconvenient length, at the expense of clearness and precision. The report, however, contains much useful information and shows that Mr Rohde has a considerable degree of practical knowledge on the subject of which he writes.

3.. The Inspector has divided his report into the several heads of

1st Present state of the Jails

Their

2.. Their Security.

3.. Construction of Prisons.

4. Ventilation..

5.. Increased accommodation and Central Prisons..

6.. Discipline

7.. Labor..

8.. Diet and Clothing

9.. Diseases of Prisoners

10.. Prison Establishments

11. Education..

12.. Criminal Lunatics

Present state of the Jails

4 This is represented to be very defective. There are no means of enforcing hard labor within the walls of the Jail, and the work which is exacted outside, is, to a labouring man at least, any thing but *hard* labor. In most Jails no fixed task is exacted; prisoners are

too often employed with very little regard to the object of their being in prison; They have outside the walls access to their friends. There is too much community of feeling between the guards and the prisoners. In one instance last year they united in committing a highway robbery. The diet of the ~~[illegible]~~ prisoners is rather an inducement to offenders than otherwise. The ~~Our~~ Jail Establishments are such that any very great improvement is hardly to be expected till the prisoners are retained under the immediate

eye

eye of one trustworthy head. The pay (generally 20 Rupees) now given to that head certainly does not justify the expectation, that regard for it should induce a man to resist temptation. Every Jailor has necessarily very much in his power. The present system of employing convicts gives great openings for indulging favored prisoners. The Establishments of the Jails offer no facilities for doing more than guarding the prisoners. Several of the Jailors cannot read or write; The European Jailors are generally unable to understand, or make themselves understood by, the prisoners. All the rest of the establishment are of the class of peons, often for a series of years associated with convicts. Classification can hardly be said to exist. ~~It~~

5. It is remarked that in a letter under date 22nd August last the Inspector brought to notice the inadequate remuneration received by Jailors in this Presidency and the impossibility of commanding the services of really efficient men upon such terms. Of the 22 Jailors having charge of Zillah

Zillah Jails in the Madras Presidency one draws 42 Rs per mensem, one 30 and one only 15. The rest receive each Rs 20 a month. Mr Rohde proposes to raise the pay to Rs 50 generally, involving an increased monthly expenditure on the whole of Rs 633. In a late letter 2nd Jany 1857 he has recurred to the subject and more recently has apprized Govt on information derived from Dr M~~oa~~ouatt Inspector of Prisons Lower Provinces, that the ordinary salary of European Jailors in the Regulation Provinces of Bengal is

Memo. D/- 26th Jany 1857.

is Rs 75 a month with an allowance of 25 Rs per cent upon the realized profits of manufactures. "It has been" Dr Mouatt states "a real economy to employ them" on this rate of pay. —

6 The Rt Hon the Govr in C. observes that it is quite hopeless to expect that any effectual reform can be wrought in the Jails of this Presidency unless the ~~post of~~ Jailor, on whose intelligence and honesty so much must depend, be placed on point of remuneration on such footing as to secure its being efficiently filled

[illegible] this [illegible] as
the intelligence & honesty
of [illegible]
[illegible] B

(He

He resolves therefore strongly to recommend to the Supreme Govt the enhanced rate of salary proposed by the Inspector, with the understanding that it will not be given as a matter of course to all present incumbents, but only to such as are duly qualified — and ~~for the other Jails~~ according as thoroughly fit men can be found for the Office

this is not specified [illegible]
previously mentioned &
[illegible] — B

Security of the Prisons

7 With the exception of Trichinopoly none of the Jails can be considered secure, from the want of height of the walls — It will not be easy to add to

to the height of the walls of most ~~of ou~~ Jails, without materially impeding the circulation of air. If two or three courses of open bricks were laid diagonally, it would be very difficult for any person to scale the walls without alarming the guard.- The Jail wall affords but little security unless it is from 15 to 18 feet in height.- As to the wards few, it is said, are calculated to resist any determined and well planned scheme to escape, the fastenings are generally very indifferent, the roofs too are

are generally low and insecure.-

8 The Govt. authorize the suggestion of the Inspector for laying courses of open bricks diagonally upon the Jail walls, being tried whenever it can be conveniently done. They also empower him to carry out at once thro' the Civil Engineer of the District any measures which he may from time to time find necessary for ensuring the security of the wards of any Prisons and preventing escape.

Construction of Prisons.-

9 A short precis is given of the general character and of the arrangements in the several Jails.-

The review shows that very few afford the means of classifying prisoners within the walls; several are wholly unfit from their construction, for Jail purposes- The Subsidiary Jails are still more defective- No amount of expenditure will alter the existing buildings, so that an improved system can be economically and efficiently carried out.-

Ventilation.-

10 The Inspector questions the correctness of the doctrine laid down by the Medical Board, and adopted by the Hon. the Court of Directors, that less than

500

500 Cubic feet of air is insufficient for each prisoner- He points out that some of the most confined Jails in the country, where the accommodation falls much below that Standard, are at the same time the most healthy, and urges that the healthiness of Jails depends not on the actual average extent of space allowed- but on the rapidity with which the foul or respired air passes out from above and is replaced by fresh air from below- The Govt. consider that there is much truth in

this remark. It will therefore be for the Inspector to recommend from time to time any measures requisite for duly ventilating the wards of Prisons according to this Principle. With regard to the average space to be allowed, the orders of the Hon. Court are explicit and will be carefully attended to in the construction of all future Prisons and, as far as possible, in the regulation of existing ones. There is, however, scarcely a Jail in the country at present, in which they can be fully carried out. The actual average accommodation,

taking

taking all the Prisoners in the Madras Presidency, ~~does not~~ little exceeds 300 cubic feet per man as has already been pointed out to the Hon. Court.-

Increased accommodation and Central Prisons.-

11 The total number of all the Prisoners in the Madras Jails may be taken to be as it was in December 1853 — 5067- of which there were confined

For life ——— 55.
Seven years and over - 2519.
Under seven years - 2355

It is proposed to provide Central Jails for all those sentenced to transportation, or Prisoners whose sentence of imprisonment amounts to or exceeds seven years. The

Stations of the Central Prisons and the number to be confined in each are.

Madras	1148.
Trichinopoly	817.
Tellicherry	552.
Bellary	407.
Vizagapatam	387
	3311

leaving for confinement in the present Jails prisoners under seven years sentence.- Besides which, with the improvement in the Police and consequent larger proportion of offenders detected, the demand for Jail accommodation may be expected to increase.-

12 The Govt. concur in these suggestions - but they are of opinion that will eventually be found desirable to transfer to the Central Jails all Prisoners whose sentence of imprisonment is above 2 years.-

System of Imprisonment

See appendix A. B - C

13 The system proposed is the separate system - as distinguished from the silent or solitary systems. The Convict for the first 9 or 12 months of his incarceration is to be confined within the walls of the Jail and kept to labor wholly separate from the other prisoners - he is then to labor in association with them - and to be separated from them at night, and when not at labor - The first period of confinement is to be severely penal,

but to be gradually relaxed till the prisoner be placed in a position to feel the value of his labor as a source of support and enjoyment. It is considered that in no ordinary case in which it is right that the prisoner should ever again be at large, need the sentence under a proper system of penal discipline exceed four years, - after that, the prisoner may be placed under restraint in the forced service of Government according to his position in life.-

From Inspector 8th May 1850.
18th Sept. —
27th Augt. —
Appendix A. B & C.

14 The Govt. are not at present disposed to pass any decided opinion upon the merits

merits

merits of the separa
as contradistinguished from the silent or solitary systems - The question is one which has led to much controversy - It would be well to be prepared to try each system - It may be found that each has its advantages - and is more suited to some individuals than the others - It is, however, evident that none of these systems, nor indeed any effectual measure of reform, can be carried out in the Jails as they now exist - A new Jail for Salem in which each Prisoner is to be separately confined has

has been included in the Budget for 1857/8. A plan and estimate for a Central Jail at Madras on the same principle, but on a much larger scale, has also been laid before Govt. but returned to the Engineer Dept. for revision, - the estimate appearing to Govt. needlessly high.

Labor.

15 The labor at present whether without or within the walls of the Jail is described as in no degree amounting to hard labor - The Inspector gives his views generally on the mode in which labor should be enforced - and states that, as it will be sometime before an improved system of labor within the prison walls can be fully introduced, in the meantime prisoners without the walls should be employed only in large gangs, and never within the precincts of a town - that their labor be limited to that which can be tasked, and that that task be never less than what two-thirds of a day's hire of a cooly would purchase at the contract rates - It is pointed out that there × are a number of occupations of a laborious nature, in which Prisoners might be employed, and it is proposed,

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× Such as (by crank movement) turning cotton gins - engaging in the manufacture of rope. The making of gunny, coir-making, cumblies, &ca. - Spinning is condemned, as being light work.

proposed, pending further reform in the Jails, that every Prisoner, during the first year of his confinement, shall be so employed, and that he shall not, until after the expiration of this period, be permitted to leave the precincts of the Prison. At some Jails the Inspector would establish large manufactories for the supply of the State. The expense attendant on the construction of the necessary buildings and enclosures would be met by a decrease in the present outlay for charges of supervision. allowing

Masulipatam. Tent Making.
Rajahmundry. Tannery.

Allowing 1 guard to 20 convicts instead of 1 to 4, as at present, the cost of maintenance would, it is computed, be per head 12 Rs a year less than it is now.

16 The Govt would not object to Prisoners being worked altogether within the walls of the Jail during the first year of their imprisonment, in any prison in which effectual arrangements can be made for the purpose. but they are not disposed to go the full length advocated by the Inspector or wholly to prohibit their being worked within the precincts of a Town. In the present state

of the Jails the employment of prisoners in cleansing the streets of the Zillah Station or making or repairing the roads in or about it, is the only mode in which any return can be obtained from their labor. With regard to the establishment of large manufactories, the Govr. in C. believes that such undertakings can seldom be profitably carried on by Govt. but the experiment might be tried in the few Prisons that admit of it.

Diet

17 The Inspector treats this subject at considerable length. The Medical

Board

Board have informed him that they see no reason to change their present Diet Tables: but it is his own opinion that use should be made of the great va- ~~[illegible]~~ riety of coarser grain and pulses which form the bulk of the food on which the lower orders in this country subsist. Dr. McKay, the Civil Surgeon at Coimbatore, has suggested that an analysis of these various articles of food should be made, with a view to ascertain the proportion of nutritive matter inherent in each. This suggestion has the Inspector's support. He would

them

Note. the price of these is one half that of rice.

H. Doll

then give those grains and pulses which are found to possess the most albumen. These, with the addition of oil-cake and jaggery, and occasionally a little tyre (which he commends as the prophylactic best suited to the native constitution) would, he is of opinion, be found to form an excellent and most wholesome Table of Diet. From discussing the question of the staple food, the Inspector passes on to the question of condiments, cooking and water..

Condiments 18 By the present rules, condiments are supplied in kind by

by the Officer in charge at his discretion, at a cost ordinarily of 3½ Pie per head a day, including charges on account of firewood and cooking pots. As the prices of these condiments vary in different parts of the Presidency, it has happened that while the Prisoners at Calicut have a margin for the purchase of luxuries, those at Coimbatore, 100 miles distant, are not supplied with sufficient to impart a wholesome seasoning to their rice. As a remedy for this, it is proposed that henceforth the supply of condiment be independent of fluctuations in value.

Cooking. The Inspector suggests that all rations shall be served out cooked. The time now occupied by each Prisoner in cooking for himself is a gratification to the man and so much time abstracted from labor. All at Combaconum and nearly all at Salem take their rice from the common pot. Caste prejudices should be discouraged as much as possible. With an improved jail system separate cooking would be altogether inadmissible.

omit

~~It is not stated what caste the cook is?~~

There w'd be no harm in putting a high caste man [illegible] in jail [illegible] [illegible] but this [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Water. The Medical Board, at the Inspector's request, are now engaged in analysing the water in use in the various jails. Complaints are made at many jail stations of this part of the Prisoners' diet. But too little attention appears heretofore to have been paid to procuring water free from filth and salts. A special ~~point, a~~ paragraph is devoted to the case of Europeans. Here, the Inspector considers, where hard labor forms part of the sentence, that the scale in force for European soldiers under similar sentence should be adopted and where the imprisonment is without labor, the scale laid down by the Secretary of State, with the substitution of Indian products for such Articles as are not here grown - He sees no reason why country-born people should not be dieted under the same scale as natives - They are for the most part accustomed to the ordinary fare -

19 The Govt. are disposed to agree with the Inspector that greater use might be made of the coarser grains and pulses in the diet of prisoners - The ordinary food of the mass of convicts is of the coarsest kind - It will be proper, however, that any changes of this sort in the present diet tables should be made with caution and their effects closely watched - The analysis of the various articles of the food and particularly of the water at the ~~various~~ several Jails should be made carefully and the result reported to Govt. - Condiments should be supplied on a fixed scale, independent of fluctuations in value, and the Jailors should be wholly inhibited from any share in the

supply of these or of any other articles for the use of convicts - The messing system should be carried out generally as respects all convicts - but Civil prisoners and prisoners under examination or confined in default of finding security, should be treated with more consideration - The Govt. approve the views of the Inspector in regard to the dieting of European ~~x~~ & country-born Prisoners. -

Diseases of Prisoners.

20 It appears from the Reports of the Medical Board, that for a series of years the average mortality has

Salem.
Coimbatore.
Madura.

has been greatest in the three jails marginally noted - At Combaconum also the mortality has greatly increased since 1832. - The remaining Jails, with the exception of Calicut, where small pox is extremely virulent, do not call for special attention on account of the prevalence of certain diseases. On the contrary, they are generally healthy - especially those at Guntoor, Tellicherry, and Bellary. - The scourge at Salem has been the Cholera - The mortality has averaged 21 per cent for the last two years - The present buildings are to be abandoned -

as has been the case at the Tanna Jail - Bombay.-

21 The Civil Surgeon at Coimbatore inclines to look for the cause of the disease in the effect of the change of climate working upon certain classes of prisoners - secondly, in the injury produced by the full Prison diet on frames in a state too low to permit of the food being properly digested - Thirdly, on the want of proper ventilation in the wards - The Inspector agrees with Dr. McKay, except in the last reason assigned - He dissents from the Civil Surgeon on this point, because it can be shown that some of of the healthiest are not by any means so well ventilated as those in which the excess of mortality is most noticeable - He suggests, however, some sanitary measures - such as an improved system of Privies - the closing of any adjacent grave-yards or other sources of impurity in the atmosphere in the vicinity of Jails - the introduction of which measures will prove, in his opinion, of the last importance in checking the spread of contagion.-

22 While the Civil Surgeon at Coimbatore considers the Prison diet

Madura.-
Combaconum.-
Trichinopoly.-

Vide his letter in the Appendix. where the excess is stated to be as 17 to 3.-

diet in many instances too nourishing, the Acting Superintending Surgeon of the Southern Division, Dr. Davidson, who is the Chief controlling authority in other Jails which have been noticed as unhealthy, is clear that the Prisoners have not sufficient food for the labor to which they are exposed.- To this and want of air in their cells he attributes the startling excess of the mortality in the Prisons over that apparent in that portion of the Army quartered in the same District.-

The

The Govt. direct th the Sanitary measur recommended by the Inspector be adopted, where practicable- The question at issue between Dr. McKay & Dr. Davidson in regard to the excess or insufficiency of the Jail allowance should be carefully investigated.- The result of the diet adopted by Dr. McKay at the Coimbatore Jail should also be reported, when it has had a fair trial.-

Prison Guards

These hitherto have consisted:-

1st. of a certain Fixed establishment of Jailor- Deputy Jailor- Duffadar and Peons

extra

2nd, Extra Peons to accompany the convicts on the Roads.

3rd, A Military Guard of Invalided Soldiers - who are sentries at night and are expected to repress any outbreak among the Prisoners.

24 Mr Rohde now proposes that the Officers entrusted with the interior discipline of the Prison shall form a separate body - with an European Superintendent and well conducted Prisoners as his peons - that the present effete military guard be dispensed with - and that a body of "Jail guards",

equipped

equipped with carbine and regularly drilled, be at once enrolled for Jail duties within a certain limit and not for certain Jails only.

25 The Govt. consider the principle here enunciated to be quite correct. They desire that Mr Rohde will proceed to submit the details of the arrangements that he would propose. The corps should be for the whole Presidency. The Inspector will report the number - rates of pay - organization - equipment and expense, as compared with that incurred under the present system.

Mr

Education

26. Mr. Rohde is of opinion that a system of Education which excludes Christian truth, so far from improving the morals of a people, will have the effect of stimulating the minds of those brought under its evil influence, to the commission of crime.

27 He is averse further to subjecting the adult convict to the drudgery of learning his letters: but he would be glad to see the establishment in every Gaol of a course of lectures. The subject of these addresses is not specified.

but

but it should be of such a nature as shall tend "to remove prejudice and induce in the mind of the hearers a healthy tone of thought". Missionaries, it is also suggested, should be allowed to enter the walls so that the prisoner "may not "be excluded from "those influences to "which he might "(however remote the "probability) have been "led, had he remained at large".

28. The Govt. are not prepared to commit themselves to these conclusions. Lectures must be useless when the parties to whom

they would be addressed would be too illiterate to understand them. The Govt. would not favor any attempt at proselytizing - but some system of moral training will ultimately have to be adopted - The Inspector should refer to the other Presidencies for information as to what has been done in the improved Jails established there - and, especially, in the N. W. Provinces.

Criminal Lunatics.

29 These number only 17 - of these 5 have been sent to the Asylum at the Presidency - 12 are in various Jails - 12 also is the number of lunatics (not criminals) confined for security - These latter the Inspector presumes will hereafter be received into the Asylum - He therefore leaves them out of his calculation - Judging from the mortality among the other class of lunatics since the passing of Act IV of 1849 (which makes provision for their safe keeping &ca) he is of opinion that the numbers likely to be inmates at one time of the Jails will be 30. and for that number he would provide accommodation in the Central Jail hereafter to be built. -

~~Note. Mr. Rohde is wrong in supposing that these Criminals having committed homicide while mentally unsound, are "necessarily detained for life." Sec V of the enactment quoted especially leaves it open with the Govt. to discharge the Prisoner from custody "on being restored to soundness." -~~

30 The course here recommended seems

to Govt. to be the proper one.-

31 In his Appendix the Inspector has submitted detailed descriptions and plans of all the Jails in the Madras Presidency with the few exceptions noted in the margin- The Govt. proceed to remark on such as seem to require notice.-

Zillah Jails
Chicacole.-
Kurnool.-
Pt. Sudr. Ameens. do.
Vizagapatam
Sudr: Ameens.-
Cumbum..
Itchapoor.
Two Jails under the
Magistrate of Tanjore

Masulipatam..

32 The prickly pear in the vicinity of this Jail which is supposed to deteriorate the water used by the Prisoners, should be cleared away by convict labor in aid of which the Govt. would be prepared to give some allowance

It

It is represented tha the Jail guards are too much drawn from the same Castes and families- This the Judge should correct- The tools given to the Prisoners and which are from the Arsenal are said to be altogether too bulky to be used by natives- The Govt. understand this to be a common complaint and the attention of the Military Board will be called to it.-

Vellore.-

33 The pickaxes in use by the Convicts at this Jail should be steeled.-

The suggestions of the Inspector in regard to the entertainment of a whipper - hangman and grave digger should be attended to.-

The messing system should be carried out in this as in other Jails - and here as elsewhere the Jailor should be allowed to take no part in the purchase of provisions for the Prisoners.-

Chingleput.- 34 This Jail is stated to be insecure. Immediate measures should be taken by the District Engineer (to whom orders will be given thro' the the Deptt. Public Works) in communication with the Inspector, ensuring its security - and especially of that part of it which is appropriated to the confinement of convicts under sentence of transportation of which this Jail is the depot.-

Chittoor 35 The Collector of N. Arcot to whom reference will be made in the Revenue Deptt. will report the expense of buying up the land surrounding the Jail as recommended by the Inspector to prevent the encroachment of the Town in that direction.-

The Sub Judge in charge of the Jail should at once if he has not already done so, remove all Peons incapacitated by age, from the efficient performance of their duty.-

Arcot and Vellore

36 The Govt. are not disposed to assent to the discontinuance of the Arcot- Jail There seems no reason why under the management of Mr. A. Sullivan whose station as Sub- Collector is to be at Arcot, the Jail there, should not be in as good a state as that at Vellore has been under trict Officer

Inst.d
&

Cuddapah..

37 The diversion of the Peons attached to this Jail to duties alien to their proper Office, should be stopped by the Sub. Judge

Combaconum.-

38 The number this Jail should be limited to that which it is adapted to hold- and as far as possible drafts made from it to other Jails- When allowance has been made for such drafts as well as for those that are to be removed to the Central Jail, it may prove that the number left is not more than the present Jail at Combaconum can well accommodate and that a new prison is not needed there.-

Mayavarum.-

39 This Jail is understood to be exceedingly healthy where only 60 prisoners are confined in it- and should not

be discontinued while it, as well as Negapatam and Tranquebar are required to receive the surplus of the Combaconum Jail.

40 There can in a small a Jail be no need of a writer to the Jailor nor any necessity for adding his pay to the salary drawn by the latter.

Cuddalore

41 The swords given to the Peons at this Jail are said to be exceedingly bad - They should be replaced by serviceable swords, pending the measures to be carried out for reforming the equipment of the Prison Guards generally.-

42 The expenses attendant on the charge of the fifty Prisoners at this Station certainly seem heavy and should be reduced - but the men are in health - and the Zillah Jail of Salem, in which they would otherwise be confined, is pronounced to be deadly.- The Govt. could not therefore sanction their being remanded thither.-

Coimbatore

43 The Medical Board will be called upon for explanation in respect to the alleged sparing use of Quinine in the case of Prisoners suffering from Fever in this Jail - Until the effect of this drug be fully tested, it would be premature to sanction the construction of a new Jail.

The

Palghaut.

44 This small Jail is said to be very ill-managed, the Joint Magistrate, who has charge of it, being necessarily absent for many months in the year and the prison being during his absence left under a Native Havildar. The Joint Magistrate should make arrangements for the Officer Commanding, or one of his Staff, supervising the Prisoners whilst he is himself absent on duty.-

Calicut.-

45 The District Engineer of Malabar should, in communication with the Inspector, submit a plan and Estimate of a

new

new Jail for this Z lah in a suitable lo lity - The Inspector will communicate with the Medical Board in respect to the large allowance of fish, fresh and salted, now given to the Prisoners and supposed by the former to be the cause of disease.-

Tellicherry.

46 The opinion of the Collector will be asked on the proposal of the Inspector that the Govt. Offices in the Fort be removed and the whole available space devoted to prison purposes - The luxuries said to be allowed in this Jail should be discontinued here

and wherever else they may have been permitted, and hard labor enforced in the case of all those whose age and strength admit of it - It is observed from a late communication from the Inspector that Tobacco has now been ordered to be discontinued - in every Jail except Itchapore.

dated 17th July 1856

Cannanore.

47 Reference will be made to the Military Dept. to ascertain whether the store house here referred to might be given up for Jail buildings - The measures recommended by Mr. Rohde for improving the Ventilation should be carried out in the Dept. Public Works - and an European Sailor put in charge the Convicts -

48 Here, as elsewhere, no Holidays should be allowed. The Prisoners should be kept to work every day except Sundays.

Honore.

49 The improvements in this Jail, suggested by the Inspector, should be carried out as far as practicable. -

Sircy.

50 The Jail at this Station may be discontinued on that at Honore being finished. -

Ootacamund

51 The District Engineer of Coimbatore will, in communication with the Inspector, submit a plan and estimate for a small prison at

this station - The Govt. however, consider that, looking to the probable increase to the population of the Hills, accommodation for more than 20 Prisoners will be required.

Madura.- 52 A plan and estimate for a new Jail at this Station should be prepared by the District Engineer in communication with the Inspector.-

Palamcottah and Tinnevelly.- 53 It should be explained whether one Jail would not suffice for both these places.-

Rajahmundry. 54 The state of this Jail, as described by the Session Judge, is very bad - but the Inspector has

has taken measu to remedy the abuses represented - His attention should be carefully given to it - The partitions proposed by Mr. R: H: Cotton should be constructed.-

55 Ordered that this E: M: C: be communicated to the Inspector - the Foujdaree Udalut - the Medical Boar the Military Dept. - Dept. Public Works and Revenue Dept. - and that copies of it be distributed, thro' the Inspector, with the report, to all Officers in charge of Jails, and Zillah Surgeons.

56 Ordered also that copies of the Report, with the observations of Govt., be

forwarded to the Hon. the Court of Directors - the Govt. of India - Govts. of Bengal - Agra - Bombay - and other authorities.-

57 Ordered also that the following letter be despatched.-

Secy. to the Govt. of India } Here enter 7th Feby. 1857 No. 169

Sn Dy to Com 10th Feby/57

15 CM

38

Memo

a

	Report Copies		
The Honble: Court of Directors	25	✓	25
" Govt of India Home Dept	10	✓	10
" Govt of Bengal	20	✓	10
" " of Bombay	5	✓	5
" " N. W. Provinces	12	✓	12
" " Ceylon	1	✓	1
" Board of Administration of the Punjaub	~~2~~ 1	✓	1
" Honble the Governor of the Straits Settlements	1	✓	1
~~" Inspector of Prisons at Bombay~~	~~1~~		
~~Medical Officers in charge of Jails~~	50 ~~5~~	✓	100
~~Officers in Charge of Jails~~	~~1~~		
Inspector of Prisons b	1		—1
Chief Secry	1	✓	—1
Dy Secry	1	✓	—1
Secry to Govt ~~Rev~~ & P. W. Dept	1	✓	1
~~Dy Secry~~ Revenue Dept	1	✓	1
Secry to Govt Mily Dept	1	✓	
Dy Secry Do	1 ~~3~~	✓	1
Board of Revenue	1 ~~3~~	✓	1
Court of Sadr Adalut	1	✓	1
Commissioner Mysore	1	✓	1
Do Nagpore	1	✓	1
Do Assigned Territories Hydrabad	1	✓	1
	1	✓	1
Right Honble the Governor	1	✓	1
H. Excy the Cin Chief	2	✓	2
Civil Members of Council c	8 ~~3~~	✓	8
Medical Board	2	✓	2
~~Judges of the Supreme Court~~	~~1~~		
~~Sheriff of Madras~~	1	✓	1
Commissioner of Police	1	✓	1
Resident Travancore & Cochin	1	✓	1
Resident at Hydrabad 12	~~15~~ 12		
Total	~~200~~		
Office	5	✓	5
Chief Engineer	200		197

64
125
189

a - with printed letter - two do from Mr Rohde & appx in prescribed form for settlement of pay to Jailers all printed

b - for himself and for distribution to Magistrates

Officers in charge of Civil & Zillah Surgeons
This should be so specified in the memo
sending them.

c. For themselves & dist. to Sub. Surgeons
those to Sub Surgs. will be distributed by Drs.
This sh. be explained in the memo trans-
-mitting the copies to the Bd

[illegible] 10 February

Judicial 1857 Depart.t

No. 168

Extract Mins: of Cons:

D/7th February 1857

"Feb. 885.
" - 1884.
" - 1891.
" - 1853/58.
" - 689/59.
" - 712/61.

68-69+

15 @ 20.

12/5/7

27-7-63

10th 5-65

Passing observations on the Report of the Inspector of Prisons upon the Jails of this Presidency - also regarding an increase to the pay of Jailors attached to the Zillah Jails and referring the same for the consideration of Government of India.

Disp.d 21st

Jud.l Dep.t

No. 169

To

The Secretary to the Government of India. -

Dated 30th April 1856.

Sir,

In forwarding for submission to the Gov.t of India ten copies of the Report of the Inspector of Prisons on the Jails of this Presidency and of the remarks recorded on it by this Gov.t - I am desired to solicit particular attention to the observations made by the Inspector upon the insufficiency of the salaries given to the Jailors - Mr. Rohde has since re-curred to the subject in

Dated 23rd Augt 1856
2nd Jany 1857

in two further letters. copies of which are also transmitted. It appears to this Govt. utterly hopeless to expect any improvement in the condition of the Madras Jails until the Office of Jailor be placed on such a footing in point of salary as to command the services of intelligent and trustworthy men. The Govt. would strongly urge that the salaries of the Zillah Jailors throughout the Presidency be fixed at Rs. 50 per mensem (in addition to any pension of which the party may be in receipt) which they understand to be below the rate obtaining in the Bengal Regulation Provinces. It would be understood that the Govt. would not give it indiscriminately to all present incumbents, but to such only as are possessed of the requisite qualifications, and, in other cases, as fit men could be appointed.

An application in the usual form accompanies.

I have &ca

Fort St George,
7th February 1857

H. C. Foll

40

In D7 to Cons 10 Feby/57
Medicial 1857 Depart.t

No. 169-

To
The Secy: to the Govt. of
India-

D/7th Jany/57.

F. A. No. 629-
829-
928.

19

C 3: Feb.
R 6"

Judicial Department.

	Revenue		Charges.		Total.		Net	
Year.	Ordinary	Extra=ordinary	Ordinary	Extra=Ordinary	Revenue	Charges	Surplus	Deficit.

Extract from Home Department Government of India		Office to which the proposi=tion refers.	Nature of Charge		Proposition						Casual or Extra=ordinary.	Grounds of Proposition.	Local Governments Recommenda=tion.	Orders of the Government of India.		
					Permanent		Temporary							Home Department.	Financial Department.	
No.	Date		Present Scale.	Proposed Scale	Increase per Month	Decrease per Month	Increase per Month		Decrease per Month.					Remarks	Remarks	Orders.
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Period	Rs. A. P.	Period	Rs. A. P.						
		Judicial Department. 22 Jails in the Presidency of Fort St. George exclusive of Subsidiary Jails	Chicacole — Rs. 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Vizagapatam — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Rajahmundry — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Masulipatam — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Guntoor — 30 " "	50 " "	20 " "											
			Nellore — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Kurnool — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Cuddapah — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Bellary — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Chittoor — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Chingleput — 42 " "	50 " "	8 " "											
			Cuddalore — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Combaconum — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Trichinopoly — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Madura — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Tinnevelly — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Salem — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Coimbatore — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Mangalore — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Calicut — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Tellicherry — 15 " "	50 " "	35 " "											
			Honore — 20 " "	50 " "	30 " "											
			Total — 467 " "	1100 " "	633 " "											

Ootacamund
Off: of Inspector of Prisons
18th September 1856

Inspector of Prisons.