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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 625 Press ~~MS.~~

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Dated 27 5 — ~~19~~1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 2nd June 1857.

No. 1. From E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government of Fort St. George; to J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons, dated 27th May 1857, No. 625.

SIR,

The attention of Government has been drawn to an alteration in the mode of dieting Prisoners which you have resolved upon, under the sanction conveyed to you for reforming the management of Jails in my predecessor's letter of 26th April 1855, No. 322, para. 4.

Rule 9.

All rations to Convicts and Prisoners held to security will be issued ready cooked. Officers in charge will as far as may be consistent with proper discipline, arrange that the cooks are of the classes from whom Natives will generally take food, but this is not intended to warrant the employment of an unnecessary number of prisoners in that work.

2. The new principle which you propose to introduce of issuing food ready cooked, has many advantages and is approved of, but Government consider that your Rule 9, which is quoted in the margin, does not sufficiently provide for the cooks who may be employed in the Jails belonging to classes from whom Prisoners will have no valid objection to take food. Your precaution only provides that the cooks are to belong to classes from whom Natives *generally* will take food, and is to be followed only so far "as may be consistent with proper discipline." But Government desire me to point out that no Convict must ever be required to take food, which has been cooked by a person from whom his caste would lead him to refuse it if at liberty. This is a principle of primary importance and you are instructed to alter Rule 9 so that it may be clearly understood and invariably followed.

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Memo —

— This draft has been prepared in consequence of Mr. Rohde sending a printed copy of his new rules with this demi official letter — Mr. Rohde appears from his note to understand that proper care should be taken about the caste of jail cooks, but his circular rule 9 is not decisive & might lead to a wrong practice — As therefore the subject has importance I have drafted this letter for approval if Govt think it necessary to make known the principle to be followed beyond all risk of doubt

EHer

In every Prison's Office shall be kept,

1. *A General Register of all Prisoners admitted.*

2. *A Register of Convicts.*

3. *A Register of Prisoners confined in default of finding Security.*

4. *The Jail Diary,* which should contain all matter relative to the admission and release of prisoners, infliction of corporal punishment, collection of fines, issue of provisions or clothing, the appointment or dismissal of guards or others on the jail establishment, the imposition of fines or other punishment, outbreaks of disease, deaths of prisoners or guards, the whitewashing or repair of the jail, visits of the officer in charge and other notices which used to appear in the Court diary, or which it may be desirable to record. Where letters are written or orders issued, on matters connected with the jail, a note of them should appear in the diary, which should be kept in the office of the Subordinate Judge or other officer in charge, and will be exclusive of the daily report of labor &c. kept by the jailor.

5. *A Visitors Book.*

6. *A rough Order Book,* in double column, in which any orders to the jailor required to be in writing should be entered on one side, the return being on the opposite.

7. *A Day Book,* shewing the number of prisoners of each class in jail, their distribution and employment, the number of rations of each class drawn, the distribution of the working guard, the work on which each gang was employed and the amount done, the number of sick, &c.

8. *An Inventory of Tools or Stores,* to be revised annually.

9. In the hospital will be kept besides such returns as the Medical Board may direct, *A General Register of Vaccinations.*

Masulipatam Collectorate Press.

(Continuation of gaol Rules.)

CONVICT LABOR.

Able bodied prisoners, sentenced to hard labor on the public roads or other public works, are invariably to be employed in large gangs, at hard labor, during one third of their sentence, and such persons, except in case of certified inability for such labor, are not to be employed at light work or in small detached parties.

2. Prisoners, who have been well conducted during two thirds of their sentence, may be employed as occasion requires and, if thought desirable, they may be employed as maistries over working parties and as ward maistries, receiving a small increase to the allowance of condiment.

3. Where means exist for putting prisoners to hard labor within the precincts of a jail, no prisoner shall be permitted beyond the bounds, or to have intercourse with persons outside, except on leave, specially granted, by the officer in charge during the first year of his term.

4. Prisoners sentenced from the same gang shall, as far as circumstances allow, be confined in distinct wards and employed in separate gangs.

5. In all practicable cases taskwork shall be assigned, in ordinary soils a subdivision of 8 men should dig and carry 2 cubic yards to any distance under 40 yards.

CLOTHING OF PRISONERS.

The clothing of all prisoners, convicted or held to security, shall consist of 2 cloths in the year, 1 cumbly and 1 cumbly hood, besides 1 mat to sleep on, the cumblies will, if of good quality, last several years and in no case are they to be renewed oftener than once in each year.

2. The cloth shall ordinarily measure 3 yards in length for males and 6 for females, it shall be woven with distinctive marks or stripes in the web, and in quality shall be ordinarily that of the 12 or 14 punjum of the N. Circars (weighing 12 to 14 lbs to the piece of 72 cubits). Where the custom of the country induces the use of smaller cloths, as on the western coast, these shall be furnished in lieu of the 6 cubit cloths; in no case is any prisoner to be allowed to tear his cloth or to convert it into the shape of any other garment.

3. Strips of cloth (langooties) will be furnished, either from the old clothing, or, of cloth purposely woven with a distinctive mark.

4. Officers in charge of jails can either serve out the cloths on the 1st of July, or, one at a time, on the 1st January and 1st July, as they may find most conducive to cleanliness. In all cases the old prison clothing must be returned, washed and put in store, for issue to prisoners for broken periods. The prison clothing is on no account to be given to prisoners released (for whom due provision is made by Sec. 32, Reg. X of 1816) nor is the old cloth to be sold, unless in the form of rags, torn small, for the paper factory.

5. The cumbly, if issued annually, should be of a quality that may be purchased for about 5 annas, or 10 annas if issued biennially.

6. The cumbly hood may be formed from a piece of cumbly sufficiently long to allow of its being doubled on the top of the head and hang over the loins, to protect the person from both sun and rain and the head from dirt when carrying earth.

7. The cumbly, mat and second cloth, when the two are served out together, are to be left in the ward, suspended to a peg, the hood is to be worn at work.

8. Whenever practicable, all jail clothing should bear a well defined, broad, distinctive mark*; it remains the property of Government and any misappropriation of it is to be treated as a criminal offence.

Blue strips wash out, thread for stripes should be dyed with chay, or other durable red, brown, or black colour.

9. No criminal prisoner is to be allowed to retain any private property, any found on him, on admission, will be taken charge of, and any subseqently introduced will be confiscated.

Vellore 30th May 1857

My dear Maltby

[illegible] [illegible]

6th about the [illegible] of the Prisoners

[illegible] on Sunday Evening

on Monday I [illegible] [illegible]

on Tuesday the [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] of [illegible], I [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] from [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] that the

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] in the [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] of the [illegible]

[illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] gradually of the

[illegible] applied to particularly [illegible]

the order were introduced

and
any good amount apply to all, [illegible]

measures are the most difficult

all to carry out, those subjected to

rules introduced are discontented

and the rest are suspicious, while

all recognising the necessity of such a

mode of proceeding. I send you a

copy of the rule I drafted, the detail

must be left to individual judg[e]

to carry out. I shall ask [illegible] the

general measures [illegible]

but [illegible] take advantage of those on

whom I can rely, I believe that the

prisoners for the present may be

allowed within their several depart-

ments in parties as they choose, care will

of course be taken that the [illegible] are

[illegible] from what is ordinarily

cut.

I hope to be in Madras on Wednes-

day morning but I shall probably

not be in time for Dr. Harris's breakfast.

I will see you if I can during the day

at your Office.

Please ask Mr Smith to send to my

office the books I [illegible].

[illegible] please send me the 1855.56 Madras

[illegible] if available. I want to [illegible]

before sending in my [illegible]

for 56.57.

Very Sincerely Y[ours]

[illegible]

Dup.d 3.d

Jud.l Dep.t

No. 1125.

To
The Inspector of Prisons

Sir,

The attention of Government has been drawn to an alteration in the mode of dieting prisoners, which you have resolved upon under the sanction conveyed to you for reforming the management of Jails, in my predecessor's letter of 28th April 1855 No. 322 Para. 4.–

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2. The new principle which you propose to introduce of issuing food ready cooked has many advantages and is approved of, but Government consider that your Rule which is quoted in the margin does not sufficiently provide

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Ft St George }
27th May 1857 }

Ele

Exd
Pr. W.

Thos Dunead

In Ly Comm: 2nd June
Judicial 1857. Dept.

No. 1125

To
The Inspector of Prisons

D/27 May/57

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126