M.R.O. 1—88,060—16-10-30

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 973 Press Mis.

28.29

Dated 17—8—1929

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 28. Read the following letter from GEORGE ELLIS, Esq., Register to the Court of Foujdaree Udalut; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated 27th July 1857, No. 40.

SIR,

1. With reference to the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated the 27th January last, No. 124, forwarding for report 2 petitions from certain Convicts in the Jail at Bellary, I am directed by the Judges of the Court of Foujdaree Udalut to report that the prisoners Ally Saib, Madar, Goodoo and Chota Ibram were convicted by this Court in 1837, of having in concert with others committed murder by thuggee, and as that crime was then carried on to a frightful extent between Bellary and Bangalore, the Judges then forming the Court were of opinion that the best mode of putting a stop to that system of murder, would be to make a severe example at once of those who were convicted of being concerned in any of the murders perpetrated by thugs or their followers, and they accordingly sentenced the principals to suffer death by being hanged on the high road, and directed that their bodies be afterwards suspended in chains on a high gibbet, and that a stone with an inscription engraved on it commemorative of the crime for which they suffered to be set up in the neighbourhood, and the prisoners above referred to were sentenced to be imprisoned for life with hard labor in irons.

2. The prisoners Goondala Soobbappoo, Kooketty Sooboo, and Shaik Ahmed alias Shecoo, having been convicted of Treason and Rebellion in cases No. 98, 108 and 109 of the Mangalore Special Commission, were sentenced by this Court to suffer death, but the Government were pleased, under date the 23rd January 1838, to commute the above sentence to imprisonment for life with hard labor in irons.

3. The original petitions are herewith returned.

(Signed) GEORGE ELLIS,
Register.

No. 29. ORDER THEREON, No. 973; dated 7th August 1857.

Certain Convicts in the Jail at Bellary having petitioned Government for release, the memorials were forwarded on the 27th Instant last, for the report of the Foujdaree Udalut. The letter above recorded, for the delay in transmitting which no explanation has been offered by the Court, contains such report.

2. Three of the Convicts who petition, were, it appears, convicted with others of the crime of *Thuggee* in 1837. Some of the gang were hanged in chains, the rest imprisoned for life. The remaining petitioners were sentenced to death by the Court in 1838, for participation in the insurrection in Canara of the year preceding. This sentence was commuted by Government to penal servitude for life.

3. Resolved to return the above petitions to the parties through the Inspector of Prisons, with the following endorsement in each case—"The Governor in Council see no reason to interfere with the due course of the law."

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Judicial Dept

Est. No. Encl. under date 7th August 1857.

Read following Letters from the Registrar to the Supt. Kolaba } Letters rec'd 27th July 1857.

Certain Convicts in the Jail at Bellary Lr Petitioned Govt for re-Release, the Memorials were forwarded on the 27th Jany last for the report of the Superintendent Kolaba. The Letters above recd last, from the delays in transmitting which no explanation has been offered by the Co., contain such report.

2. Three of the convicts who petition, were, it appears, convicted with others of the crime of Thuggee in 1837. Some of the gang were hanged in chains, the rest imprisoned for life. The remaining Petitioners were sentenced to death by the Court in 1838, for participation in the insurrection in Canara of the year preceding. Their sentence was commuted by Govt to penal servitude for life.

Title Sheet of the Supt Kolaba "Prefix of Forwarder" with 3 Letters enclosed

3. Resolved to return the above Petns to the Justices through the Superintendent of Prisons, with the following endorsements in each case. "The G-in-C- see no reason "to interfere with the due course of the Law"

D.T.C. 29/7/57.

Encl: Ltr dtd 11 August 1857

Judicial 1857 Despatch

No. 97

Abstract of Minutes of Proceedings

of 5th August 1857

Jud. Ltr dtd 11 Augt 1857

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