M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 163 Press Mis.

33-34

Dated 2 . 2 — 1934

Not to be folded or roughly handled

163 W/

5-6-60
19-1-5-8

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Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 2nd February 1858.

No. 33. Read the following letter from J. J. COTTON, Esq., Commissioner, Masulipatam ; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department, Fort St. George, dated 20th January 1858, No. 6.

SIR,

1. With reference to Extract from the Minutes of Consultation dated 8th Ultimo, No. 1594, para. 3, I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of Government, that judging from what has transpired in the case, forwarded to Government with my communication of the 18th Instant, and from circumstances connected with another erroneously committed for trial, considerable inconvenience, and useless expense are likely to be incurred, should the instructions conveyed in the above para. be acted up to literally.

2. I have not been favored with a copy of the letter from the Acting Magistrate, on whose suggestions the orders of Government alluded to appear to have been framed ; but upon a supposition that in the generality of convictions the sentences passed would probably be various periods of incarceration, in the Zillah Jail at this station or elsewhere, it seems a question whether it would not be advisable that the trials should be conducted at the Huzzoor station.

3. The gang who committed the offence of robbing the Government Treasury, and looting the Town of Juggiahpettah, have apparently long since dispersed, and it is not likely that they will be apprehended *in a body*. A few individuals may be from time to time seized and sent for trial ; but a series of trips to Juggiahpettah, a distance of about 120 miles from the Sudr station, for the trial of such as may be suspected of being implicated in the robbery, would entail not only very great inconvenience and expense on Government Officers whose duty it would be to attend and conduct such trials from this station, but must interfere very greatly with the other duties which devolve on them, and throw all current work into arrears.

4. I beg respectfully therefore to submit that, under the circumstances pointed out, the orders of Government conveyed in the above para. may be reconsidered, with the view of being modified so as to guard against the evils above shown.

5. There can be no question that had the body of Rohillas been apprehended at the time, or shortly after the commission of the robbery, a trial of the offenders held on the spot, with summary infliction of punishment on the ringleaders and guilty parties, would have had a highly beneficial effect ; but the opportunity for such a display of signal justice has now passed, and any sentences upon convicted prisoners may be carried out now with as much effect, after a trial held at this station, as could be looked for by holding the trial at Juggiahpettah.

(Signed) J. J. COTTON,
Commissioner.

No. 34. ORDER THEREON, No. 163 ; dated 2nd February 1858.

The orders of Government 8th December last, No. 1594, were issued on the supposition of their being acted on at once. Mr. J. J. Cotton is correct in his opinion, that it would not be desirable for him to proceed to Juggiahpettah for the trial of any parties concerned in the late robbery under present circumstances.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Mad. F. Curtledge.

Judicial Department 3
2

No. 158.

From The Commissioner
of Masulipatam

Dated 20th January 1850.-

For Orders.-

The order of Govt was clearly
made on the supposition that
it would not come - how
Collr is quite right in dispensing
with his proceedings & forgiving
petition

[illegible]

Lot

No 163

The owners of Lot 8 Dec^d laid No 1594
was issued on the supposition
of Peter being dead or absconded
But I & Cotton is consulted in his
opinion that it would not be
desirable for him to proceed
to Jerusalem for the trial
of any parties concerned
in the Lot 20 being under present
circumstances JPS

Lot 8 Plan 2
Feb^y 1858

Maj^r &
Judge
Mos - Supt