M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-23.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1657
42-43

Press ~~Misc.~~

Dated 22-11-~~1918~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 42. Read the following letter from J. W. CHERRY, Esq., Acting Magistrate of Coimbatore; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 5th November 1858, No. 53.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to state for the information of Government, that a report reached me yesterday, that the individual noted in the margin* was apprehended at Seevanasamoodrum, in Coligal Talook, by my Head Assistant, on a charge of attempt to seriously assault a party of European visitors, and was sentenced by that Officer to 3 months' imprisonment with hard labor in irons, under Section VII, Regulation X of 1816. A copy of the charge and sentence is herein enclosed. I have expressed my opinion to Mr. Boswell, as to the inadequacy of the punishment.

* Ameenshah Abanishah.

2. The prisoner is stated to come from the neighbourhood of Delhi; the Acting Head Assistant says, that he is a suspicious and dangerous character, and totally unsafe to be permitted to go at large; it appears he was also much excited and violent before the Head Assistant. when under enquiry.

3. For the above reasons, I beg to support the Acting Head Assistant's recommendation, as to his further detention in Jail, upon the expiration of his present sentence.

ASSAULT, &c.

Prosecutor.

Sirkar, on behalf of Captain Fitzgerald.

Witnesses.
1. Soobdul Hussain.
2. Ismal Sahib.
3. Cherag Allysha.

Prisoner.

Ameenshah Abanishah.

The prisoner is charged with having, on the morning of Friday, the 27th August, on the Island of Shevanasamoodrum, in the Colligaul Talook, attempted to assault a party of European visitors, and rushed upon them in a violent manner, brandishing a hatchet and using abusive language.

He is further charged with having wounded on the arm, the 1st witness, who attempted to wrest the hatchet out of his hand. He is further charged with being a most dangerous character, whose violent actions render him quite unsafe to be at large.

Captain Fitzgerald states that on Friday the 27th August, at 6 A. M., in company with two ladies, he visited the falls of the Cavery near Shevanasamoodrum, a Peon went with them; on approaching about 100 yards of a Mahomedan tomb, the prisoner rushed out upon them, brandishing a hatchet, and jabbering in a violent and menacing manner, the Peon seized him, but received a cut on the arm. Prosecutor presented his Revolver at him, when he seemed cowed, at length 3rd witness came and took the hatchet from him, when he took up a stone. He was taken into custody.

1st witness states. I am a Mysore Peon, about 2 months ago, I accompanied Captain and Mrs. Fitzgerald and another lady to the falls of the Cavery. As the party were walking on, Peon behind, the prisoner who is a Facquir, rushed out upon them, brandishing a hatchet, and using vile and abusive language, as he was running forward, I rushed on him to stop him, on this he struck me with the hatchet and cut open my arm, (witness shewed the mark of the wound,) the 3rd witness came forward and assisted me in taking him. If we had not stopped him, he was in the act of cutting down the ladies.

2nd witness states, he was present at the Bungalow at Shevanasamoodrum, when the Facquir was brought in, he was very furious and used abusive language.

3rd witness states, hearing a great noise, he came out from the mosque near the falls and saw 1st witness struggling with the prisoner who was brandishing a hatchet at the European visitors and using most abusive language.

Prisoner states, that he comes from the neighbourhood of Delhi, that he is a wandering Facquir, that he is not responsible for his actions when under the influence of bhang, that he thought the Europeans were coming too close to the tomb which made him rush out and abuse them. The prisoner is a wild and a fierce and dangerous looking fellow. He was most abusive and violent before the Magistrate, when brought up for examination and he seems a most dangerous individual to be loose on the country.

The charge is fully proved and he is sentenced to be imprisoned in the Zillah Jail for 3 months, with hard labour in irons under Regulation X of 1816, Section 7, at the expiration of this term he will still be retained in Jail as a suspicious character, pending the further order of Government, under the Minutes of Consultation, dated 10th July 1857, and a report of his detention will be forwarded direct to the Chief Secretary, for orders of Government.

(Signed) J. A. C. BOSWELL,
Ag. Head Asst. Magistrate.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. W. CHERRY,
Acting Magistrate.

No. 43. ORDER THEREON, No. 1657; dated 22nd November 1858.

The Acting Magistrate of Coimbatore will detain in custody the individual referred to in the foregoing communication, until further orders. He will call for, and submit to Government, a report from the Medical Officer in charge of the Jail, in regard to Ameenshah's sanity.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
Acting Secretary to Govt.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

A° 2018

The man should
certainly be detained
& the Med.l Officer
desired to report on
him.

I have little
doubt he is mad

WH

No 1657.

The Acting Magistrate of Coimbatore will detain in custody the individual referred to in the foregoing communication until further orders. He will call for and submit to Govt. a report from the Medical Officer in charge of the Jail in regard to Ameenchab's sanity.

W. H. B

Fort St George,
22d November, 1858.

Copy to A.S Magistrate of Coimbatore. Sept 25th