

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	26	Press
	67-68	Mis.
Dated	2-1-19	19-1-19

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 8th January, 1858.

No. 67. Read the following letter from C. F. CHAMIER, Esq., Acting Register to the Court of Foujdaree Udalt; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 24th December 1857, No. 66.

SIR,

I am directed by the Judges of the Foujdaree Udalt to forward copy of a letter, dated the 19th November last, addressed by the Principal Assistant Magistrate of Vizagapatam, to the Principal Sudr Ameen of that place, together with copy of a letter from the Civil Surgeon, both having reference to an individual named Wooddy Rookmany; and to suggest that, as she appears to be hopelessly insane, the Magistrate may be authorized to make arrangements for sending her by sea, (on board a Dhoney,) to the Lunatic Asylum at Madras, a female being engaged to take charge of her on the voyage, during which she might be kept under such restraint, by handcuffs or otherwise, as the Medical Officer might recommend.

(Signed) C. F. CHAMIER,
Acting Register.

To the Principal Sudr Ameen of Vizagapatam, dated 19th November 1857.

SIR,

With reference to your official communication under date the 9th Instant, enclosing copy of paras. 1, 2 and 3 of Circular from the Inspector of Prisons, No. 16, dated 14th January 1856, I have the honor to inform you, that from the statement of the members of the family of the lunatic Wooddy Rookmany, it appears that she has been insane for from 10 to 12 years, that she at times to a certain extent recovers her reason, but that lucid intervals are rare and of short duration, and that she habitually creates much disturbance by using obscene language, threatening to throw children into wells and set fire to houses, by throwing human excrement into houses, pelting people with stones and wandering about with lighted lamps on her head. Her age and want of strength probably render her incapable of inflicting personal injury on any but children, nor does it appear that she has actually been guilty of this, but when at liberty she not only conducts herself as above stated, but goes through the crowded bazars in a state of complete nudity, a liberal allowance has been offered to her relations to take charge of her, but neither they nor any one else can be induced to undertake the care of her on any terms, and on being supplied with clothing she at once destroys it. When wandering about the town in a state of nudity and molesting the public, the Police have no alternative but to take her to the Cutcherry guard, and when there, she requires the constant attendance of a Peon to prevent her injuring herself and the premises. The course adopted apparently for many years has been to detain her for a time at the Cutcherry, then to send her to the Jail under your charge. Whence she is set at liberty after a time, re-arrested and again sent to the Jail; her recovery appears hopeless, her relations or others will on no terms undertake the charge of her, and under these circumstances, the only course open to me is to repeat my recommendation, that she be sent to the Lunatic Asylum at Madras, as she is unquestionably a public nuisance.

(Signed) C. R. PELLY,
Acting Principal Asst. Magistrate.

To the Sheristadar in charge of Principal Sudr Ameen's Court, Vizagapatam, dated 21st November 1857, No. 56.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 20th Instant, accompanied by a letter of the Principal Assistant Magistrate, regarding W. Rookmany, lately admitted into the Jail, and described as a hopeless lunatic, as there is no proper place in this Jail for the confinement and treatment of such prisoners, and as I consider confinement in a solitary cell absolute cruelty in this poor woman's case, I beg you will take the proper steps for having her re-

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moved to Madras in compliance with the expressed recommendation of the Principal Assistant Magistrate.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. H. BLACKWELL.

Civil Surgeon.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) W. SLOAN,

Principal Sudr Ameen.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) C. F. CHAMIER,

Acting Register.

No. 63.

ORDER THEREON, No. 26; dated 7th January 1858.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council authorizes Woody Rookmany being sent to the Lunatic Asylum at Madras as recommended by the Court of Foujdaree Udalt. The Magistrate of Vizagapatam will accordingly make arrangements for sending her by sea in charge of a proper person and under such restraint as may be deemed necessary; reporting her date of probable arrival at Madras to the Commissioner of Police, who will receive her and have her conveyed to the Lunatic Asylum.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary.

no. 26.

~~Under the authority of the Governor in Council~~
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Copy to Foujdaree Udalt
Medical B. &
Commissioner of Police } Signed
7th January 1858