M.R.C. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 365 Press ~~Mis~~

49-50

Dated 4-3- ~~19~~ 1950

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 49. Read the following letter from Colonel J. C. BOULDERSON, Commissioner of Police; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 8th March 1858, No. 26.

SIR,

1. In accordance with the orders of Government, marginally noted, I have the honor to submit the following observations with reference to paras. 2, 5 and 11 of the Presentment of the Grand Jury regarding the Madras Penitentiary.

Judicial Department, dated 26th January 1858, No. 131.

2. By a communication received from the Department of Public Works, on the 2nd Instant, I learn that Colonel Faber has recommended that the 18 feet wall, which is now under construction on the north and east faces of the Penitentiary, beyond the old outer wall, be carried round the south and west faces also. To this desirable measure, I have no objection; and if adopted, the object contemplated by the Grand Jury will be accomplished, because the four buildings alluded to by them will not then join the outer wall.

Para. 2 of the Presentment of the Grand Jury.

3. When I assumed charge of the Penitentiary in April 1856, I found Mr. Owen, a Constable of the Madras Police Force, on a pay of 60 Rupees per month, in charge of the Penitentiary, performing the duties of Jailor and Superintendent, and Mr. Kirk, a pensioned Soldier for whom 35 Rupees per month was drawn, as Superintendent of the Penitentiary, was performing Mr. Owen's duty as a Constable of Police in one of the Police Divisions. Mr. Owen was selected for that responsible duty by the late Chief Magistrate and Superintendent of Police, Mr. E. F. Elliot, on account of his particular fitness for it; and since that period for the same reason, I have continued him therein, the only difference is Mr. Owen having been promoted to the rank of Inspector of Police on a pay of 120 Rupees per month. So long as the Penitentiary remains under the controul of the Commissioner of Police, the present arrangement may be continued without any great injury to the Public service, but if the Penitentiary is placed under the direction of any other Department, it will be necessary to change it for another.

Para. 6 of the Presentment of the Grand Jury.

4. Mr. Owen has until recently been the only European Officer employed in that Jail, and has been there now one year, 11 months and 10 days in the constant execution of his duty without any respite therefrom. By a late order of Government, (as a temporary measure,) the House of Industry, with its European Superintendent, (a Pensioned Soldier), on a salary of 35 Rupees per month, has been there located; and he could be made available to take charge of the Jail, in the event of the present Superintendent becoming unable from sickness or any other temporary cause, to perform his duty. The present strength of the Madras Police Force, employed in the Jail, is noted in the margin, and so also the number of prisoners under confinement on the day the Grand Jury visited the building.

Police Officers.	Inspector or Superintendent	1
	Duffadars	2
	Naigues	3
	Peons	36
	Total	42

Prisoners sentenced by the Supreme Court.	
Europeans	2
East Indians	1
Natives	32
Females	1
	36
Sentenced by the Magistrates.	
Europeans	10
East Indians	1
Natives	149
Females	4
	164
Total	200

5. Until the year 1851, the situation of Jailor was always held by a Native, and the salary appears to have been fixed for a person of that class. On the death of Rungiah, the last Native incumbent, Mr. Elliot introduced the present arrangement; whether it shall be continued or not must now be determined by Government, considering the responsibility of the post, and that there are always several Europeans undergoing confinement, I consider it necessary that the post of Jailor should always be held by an able bodied, intelligent, respectable and educated European. I need scarcely say, for the Government must be well aware of the fact, that the services of a person of that description cannot be obtained at the present day for so small a salary as 35 Rupees. The demand for Europeans is now much greater than formerly, and in the

Railway, and in other situations, Pensioned Soldiers, whose character is good, can procure better paid situations than the one now under discussion.

6. At present there is only one light in each ward, and none in the Penitentiary yard. The Superintendent has frequently complained of the insufficiency of the lighting, and being of the same opinion, I recommend that one extra light be allowed for each ward, one at each angle of the inner wall, one in the centre of each face of the inner wall, two lights for the new guard room, and 8 lights in the Prison yard.

Para. 11 of the Presentment of the Grand Jury.

Annexed is a Memorandum which gives the number and disposal of the lights now in use at the Penitentiary, and the quantity of oil and cotton now supplied, and also the proposed increase, distribution, and supply. If approved, will you do me the favor to obtain the sanction of Government for the same.

Memorandum showing the number of lights now lighted every night in the Penitentiary and the proposed increase and distribution.

Present.		*Proposed.*	
9 Wards...	9 lights.	9 Wards two lights each...	18 lights.
Gateway and Guard room... ...	1 do	Guard room and Gateways... ...	2 do
Hospital yard.....	1 do	Prison yard...	8 do
Stairs leading to Jailor's Quarters	1 do	Hospital...	2 do
Cook rooms...	3 do	Cook rooms...	3 do
Total.....	15 lights.	Between outer and inner walls	
		Each face 1 light...	4 do
		Each angle 1 do	4 do
			41 lights.
Oil supplied per month... ...	30 Measures.	Oil at 2½ Pollums per night...	2 mrs. 22½ pols.
Cotton do do	14 Pollums.	do per month	76 do 5 do
		Cotton do	76 Pollums.

(Signed) J. C. BOULDERSON,
Commissioner of Police.

No. 50. ORDER THEREON, No. 365; dated 19th March 1858.

1. In the foregoing letter the Commissioner of Police offers observations on the Presentment of the Grand Jury respecting the Madras Penitentiary.

2. It is observed that the proposal of the Chief Engineer referred to in para. 1 of the above letter respecting the extension of the outer wall now under construction, to the south and west faces of this building is under consideration in the Public Works Department of the Secretariat and orders will be there passed on it.

3. Under the explanation given by the Commissioner, no orders seem necessary relative to the recommendation of the Grand Jury respecting the increase of the salary of the Jailor.

4. The Government sanction the augmentation of the number of lights in the Penitentiary to the extent proposed by the Commissioner in para. 6 of his letter.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

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Judicial Department.

No. 365

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Dated 19 March 1858.

Read the following letter from the Commissioner of Police.

(Here enter 8th ultimo 1858. No 445)

1. In the foregoing letter the Commissioner of Police offers observations on the Presentment of the Grand Jury respecting the Madras Penitentiary.

2. It is observed that the proposal of the Chief Engineer referred to in para 1 of the above letter respecting the extension of the outer wall now under construction, to the south and west faces of this building is under consideration in

the Public Works Dept. of the Secretariat and orders will be passed on there ~~book~~ regard it.

3. Under the explanation given by the Commissioner in orders seem necessary relative to the recommendation of the Grand Jury respecting the increase of the salary of the Gaoler

4. The Govt. sanction the augmentation of the number of lights in the Penitentiary to the extent proposed by the Commissioner in para 6 of his letter.

Copy to the Court of Police
" Public Works Dept. with letter
" Comrs General do
" Auditor of Comt Accts

Despd 23d

Madras:—Printed at the Government Press.

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No. 3015

Extract Mins. Cons.

Dated 19th March 1858

P4 Feb 530.
P2 11 559.

From Govt. 19th March
Public 1858 Department

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C Hibbert
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