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M.R.O. 1-83,000-16-10-23.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	697	Press
28-29		~~Mis.~~
Dated	31-5-1968	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 1st June 1858.

No. 28. Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 15th May 1858, No. 166.

SIR,

I have the honor to request the consideration of Government to a modification of the rules now in force for the transfer of prisoners sentenced to transportation beyond sea.

2. The present rules provide for the transfer of such Convicts, in the first instance to the Jail at Chingleput, a building without outer walls and in other respects defective; from thence they are forwarded to the charge of the Commissioner of Police in Madras preparatory to embarkation.

3. The usual mode of transferring Convicts, so sentenced, is by daily stages of ten or twelve miles, a practice that is open to many obvious objections and one that may now, in many cases, be avoided.

4. Of the 22 principal Jails in this Presidency, 4, on the western coast, are at sea ports, the Prisons at Vizagapatam, Masulipatam and Cuddalore are also at sea ports, those of Chicacole, Tinnevely and Combaconum are all within one or two short stages of sea ports, Rajahmundry has speedy water communication with Cocanada which is reached by boats in 10 hours.

5. It occurs to me that as the Government have now Steamers frequently touching at the ports named, it would be desirable that, whenever practicable, Convicts, under sentence of transportation, should be embarked directly from the ports nearest to the Jail from which they are sent and that, in this case, they should, on arrival at the Presidency, be, at once, delivered into the custody of the Commissioner of Police who has much more secure accommodation for them in the "Penitentiary" than any that the Chingleput Jail can afford: should this be approved of, the same building might be made the Dépôt for all prisoners under similar sentences.

6. When the central Prison is completed, it may be considered whether that shall be the Dépôt for such Convicts, in the meantime I would recommend that the transfer should be made direct to Madras, avoiding the double transfer now in practice.

No. 29.

ORDER THEREON, No. 697; dated 31st May 1858.

Ordered that the above letter be referred to the Commissioner of Police, who will be pleased to report whether the extent of accommodation available at the Madras Penitentiary is sufficient to admit of Mr. Rohde's proposition being carried out, and to give his opinion upon it generally.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Ordered that the above letter be
 referred to the Commission of
 Police who will be pleased to
 Will report whether the extent of accom-
 -modation available at St. Michael's
 Penitentiary is sufficient to
 admit of Mr. Rodde's propositions
 being carried out and to give
 his opinion upon it generally

Fort St. George
 31 May 1858

Commission of Police }
 Inspector of Prisons - }

Jail Rules. Page 34.
 Judicial Letter to Govt.
 7th Sept 1858 of 1858.
 Jan 24.

22 May 1858
 28 May 1858

The Commission of Police
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