

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Indicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	636. 637	Press
	48-50	Mis.
Dated	9 - 5	19 1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled

PMP

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
from 4th to 10th May 1859.*

No. 48. Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Jails; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated 20th April 1859, No. 183.

From Secretary to Government
of Bombay dated 11th February
1859.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of correspondence relative to the liability to labor of Convicts sentenced in the Presidency of Bombay, to transportation.

2. Though no objection has been raised in this Presidency to the employment of Convicts so sentenced until they are put on boardship, I believe it would be well to suggest to the Legislative Councillor the expedience of a Clause authorizing the Government of any Presidency to subject to *penal servitude*, within the Presidency, for a term not exceeding (say) two years, any prisoner sentenced to transportation; the period during which a Convict should be so confined being considered part of the term for which sentence of transportation is passed.

3. The change in the feeling of the people, generally, in respect to transportation consequent on our extended dominion and the encouragement given to emigration, has removed the terrors formerly attaching to "*Bancoolen*" and unless severe penal servitude is exacted for a portion of the term either in India or in the Settlements, the sentence will become one of the lightest in our Statutes.

4. The information I receive relative to the so called Penal Settlements does not favor the idea of their being places of punishment.

ORDER THEREON, 9th May 1859, No. 636.

No. 49.

Ordered that the foregoing letter be communicated to the Member for Madras of the Legislative Council.

2. The Government agree with the Inspector that legal provision should be made for subjecting Convicts to penal servitude for the interval between their sentence and their transportation—but they do not see why any limit should be placed on the period for which they may be so subjected.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 50. To the Honorable H. FORBES, Esq., Member for Madras of the Legislative Council, dated Fort St. George, 9th May 1859, No. 637.

SIR,

Dated 20th April 1859, No. 183.

I am directed to forward to you copy of a communication received from the Inspector General of Jails on the subject of subjecting prisoners, sentenced to transportation, to hard labor during the period intervening between sentence and deportation.

2. Government agree with the Inspector General that legal provisions should be made with this object, but they do not see why any limit should be placed on the period for which prisoners may be so subjected.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 136.

Ordered that the foregoing letter be communicated to the Member for Madras of the Legislative Council.

2. The Govt. agree with the Inspector that legal provision should be made for subjectings Convicts to penal servitude for the interval between their sentence & their transportation - but they do not see why any limit should be placed on the period for which they may be so subjected.

Inspector Genl. of Sails. *[Signature]*

Judicial Department.

No. 137.

The Honble H. Forbes, Esq.
Member for Madras of the
Legislative Council.

Sir.

I am directed to forward
to you copy of a communi-
cation received from the
Inspector Genl. of Jails on
the subject of subjecting pris-
ners sentenced to transporta-
tion, to hard labor during the
period intervening between
sentence & deportation.

2. Govt. agree with the Inspec-
tor Genl. that legal provision
should be made with this
object, but they do not see
why any limit should be
placed on the period for
which prisoners may be
so subjected.

W. S. G. 2
9 May, 1859.

J. J.

W. S. G. 2
12/6

Initials on the
draft order on the
subject.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

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No. 1834

The Member for the District
of the Legislative Council
of India

at the House of Commons