

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Judicial* DEPARTMENT.

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| G.O. No. | 1007          | Press |
| 75-76    |               | Mis-  |
| Dated    | 10 - 8 - 1940 |       |

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,  
10th August 1860.*

No. 75. Read the following letter from J. R. KINDERSLEY, Esq., Acting Civil Judge of Bellary, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 30th July 1860, No. 72.

1. As desired in the Order of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, dated 18th July 1860, No. 901, I have the honor to report on the working of the arrangement by which the care of the roads of Bellary Cantonment is assigned to the Officer in charge of the Jail.

2. Under the orders originally issued on this subject, I had the honor to make a report on the 28th September 1859, in which I stated that besides the use of several pairs of bullocks, which had been discontinued, the Military Department had under the new arrangements recovered for Military purposes the services of the Road Serjeant whose pay, with the allowances of his family, amounted to Rupees 74-12-9 per mensem.

3. Since the date of that report the Government have sanctioned the employment of a Superintendent of prisoners' labor on a monthly salary of Rupees 20; which must be deducted from the saving effected by dispensing with the Road Serjeant.

4. A sum of Rupees 300 was also placed at my disposal for improvements and repairs in the Town of Bellary, but more particularly for the Civil side of the Town. Of this sum I have had occasion to spend a very small portion, as the prisoners are able to do a great deal without any great expenditure in cash.

5. The roads of the Cantonment are now in as good order as those which I have seen in other places, and I have generally been able to keep a number of prisoners varying from 60 to 100 employed on such Military works as making lines for men or horses, erecting riding schools, huts, &c.; also in cutting down prickly pear, and watering young trees.

6. But under the late Orders of Government the roads are my special charge, and on the 8th February 1833, the Government decided that if the prisoners were too few in number to repair the roads, they should not be employed on less necessary works. I have therefore once or twice been unable to comply with every requisition for Convict labor which the different authorities have made.

7. This appears to be the only large Cantonment without a Conservancy Committee, or separate funds for its improvement; and considering that the Judicial duties of the Civil Officer in charge of the Jail keep him much in doors, at a distance of two or three miles from the Regimental Lines, I cannot but think that the Military would derive much benefit from a Conservancy Committee of their own, who should point out the works most urgently required, which the Officer in charge of the Jail would undertake if he had a sufficient number of prisoners at his disposal, and if the nature of the work should be such as prisoners might safely and properly undertake. The Military would best understand their own wants, and the present irregular plan of giving Convicts to those Officers, who are the first to apply for them would be superseded. It is impossible for a Civilian to judge of the relative emergency of Military works, or to know whether any portion of the work should be performed by the Sepoys or Lascars, or at the charge of any particular fund. All these questions would be decided by a Conservative Committee, who might also be entrusted with a small allowance for such works as might not be performed by prisoners.

8. The Conservancy Committee would secure for the Officers' lines the same attention to planting and watering trees, which has hitherto been enjoyed too exclusively by the Civil side of the station.

9. On the other hand, I think that the superintendence of the prisoners at labor must still remain with the Officer in charge of the Jail, and that no other authority, Civil or Military, should be permitted to direct any alteration in their work.

10. For the above reasons I am of opinion that it would be very advantageous that the Cantonment should have a Military Conservancy Committee, with funds at their disposal, but that the Officer in charge of the Jail should have the sole control of the prisoners at labor, and should be at liberty to decline any work, stating his reasons.

J. R. Kindersley

*without*

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,  
10th August 1860.

No. 76.

ORDER THEREON, 10th August 1860, No. 1,007.

Resolved that the above letter be communicated to the Military Department, in reference to paragraph 5 of an Order in that Department, dated 23rd June last, No. 2,314.

2. The suggestions of the Acting Sessions Judge in respect to the appointment of a Conservancy Committee for the Cantonment of Bellary, will be considered in the Military Department. It is, however, to be observed that the control of the Convicts, and selection of the works on which they are to be employed, must under any circumstances be left, without interference on the part of the Military Authorities, to the Sessions Judge acting under the General Orders of the Inspector General of Jails and of the Government.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,  
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following  
letter from the Acting Civil  
Judge of Bellary.

1/Here, dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 1860 N<sup>o</sup> 72/

Order thereon 10<sup>th</sup> August 1860 N<sup>o</sup> 1007.

Resolved that the  
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to the Military Department  
in reference to para 5 of an  
order in that Department dated  
23<sup>rd</sup> June last N<sup>o</sup> 2314-

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without

JP

" Inspector Genl. of Jails.

" Sessions Judge } Bellamy,  
 " Sub Judge }

Sept 15-