M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1610 Press
~~Mis.~~

52-53

253.

Dated 6.12.1860 ~~19~~

415

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 6th December 1860.

No. 52. Read the following letter from W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, to the Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, the 19th November 1860, No. 2,645.

Home Department,
Judicial.

In a Minute recorded by the Governor General under date the 4th December 1858, His Excellency remarked as follows :—

"In regard to Rebels and Mutineers already convicted and undergoing sentence, undoubtedly the amnesty does not extend to them. But I take this opportunity of saying that I am satisfied that both in policy and in justice a revision of many of the sentences under which men have been transported and imprisoned will be necessary. I think, however, that this measure should not be undertaken at the present time. For the moment, we have enough to do, to watch the results of the pardon given to those who are unconvicted, and of the disbandment of the disarmed Regiments. Any considerable remission or relaxation of sentences legally passed should be reserved till the Districts still disturbed shall have been reclaimed to order."

2. It appears to the Governor General in Council that the time has now arrived when the amnesty declared in Her Majesty's proclamation may with safety be extended generally to those convicted of, and undergoing sentences of imprisonment for offences connected with the Mutinies, who would have been entitled to pardon had they been at large, or unconvicted at the time of the promulgation of the amnesty, and had they complied with the terms on which pardon was then offered. But before issuing a general order to this effect, His Excellency in Council considers it advisable that it should be ascertained from those Officers in whose custody the convicts have been during the period of their imprisonment, whether, in respect to any individuals of the classes which would be included in such a general pardon, any thing has come to the observation or knowledge of those Officers in respect to the previous history of such individuals, or to their conduct and bearing while undergoing sentence, which should disqualify them from sharing in the benefits of the proposed act of grace, or might make it dangerous and inexpedient that they should be permitted to return to their homes.

3. I am desired accordingly to request that with the permission of the Honorable the Governor in Council a return may be called for, from all Officers in charge of Jails under the Government of Madras of all convicts who may be undergoing sentences of imprisonment in the Madras Presidency for offences committed in connection with the disturbances of 1857-58, other than the offences noted in the margin, shewing what has been the behaviour of each convict during the period of his confinement, and what, if any thing, is known of his antecedents and general character, and that, after a review of such returns, His Honor in Council will cause the remainder of the sentence to be remitted in every case in which he may see no objection to such a course.

1. *Having directly taken part in the murder of British subjects.*
2. *Having willingly and knowingly given asylum to murderers.*
3. *Having been leaders or instigators of revolt.*
4. *Having belonged to and been present with a Regiment or Detachment of a Regiment which killed its Officers.*

No. 53. ORDER THEREON, 6th December 1860, No. 1,610.

Resolved that the Inspector General of Jails be requested to furnish a Return in the accompanying form,* of all the Convicts undergoing imprisonment in this Presidency for offences committed in connection with the disturbances of 1857-58.

* *In M.S.*

2. The Inspector General will include in his return the Canara Convicts in the Dharwar Jail, referred to in the papers noted in the margin, copies of which will now be furnished to him. For information respecting them, he will apply direct to the Session Judge, Dharwar, or the Inspector General of Jails, Bombay Presidency.

Proceedings, 3rd May 1859, *Nos.* 1 @ 3.
Do. 23rd June 1860, ,, 156 & 157.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Return of Convicts undergoing imprisonment for offences committed in connection with the disturbances of 1857-58 — called for by Govt. in Proceedings

No.	Districts to which belonging & Names of the Prisoners.	Jails where confined.	Date of Warrant.	Offences as described in the Calendars or Warrant.	For what period confined.	When sentence will expire	Character during the period of Confinement as per Jail Register.
1.	2.	3.	5	4.	6	7.	8.
	(District) (Names.)						
	(District) (Names.)						
	(District) (Names.)						

No. 1610 — 6 December 1860.

Resolved that the Inspector General of Jails be requested to furnish a Return in the accompanying form, of all the Convicts undergoing imprisonment in this Presidency for offences committed in connection with the disturbances of 1857-58.

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Jails

Form

Convicts in the Dhar-

Proceedings— ward Jail, referred

3rd May 59 No 1 @ 3.

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" 157 noted in the

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Dharwar, & the In-

spector Genl. of Jails,

Bombay Presidency.

The Inspector Genl. of

Jails — With papers referred to 3 Augt 7th