

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>877/7</i>	Press
	<i>176-177</i>	~~Mis.~~
Dated	<i>25.6.1861</i>	~~H.~~

9/8

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
25th June 1861.

No. 176. Read the following :—

COIMBATORE.

12th April 1861.

1. I visited the prison at this place on the afternoon of the 10th together with the Sessions Judge, the District Engineer and the Assistant Superintendent of Police, and again on the morning of the 11th with Mr. Renton the Zillah Surgeon.

Building.—The Building is literally hardly fit to support itself; a poor insane woman has nearly shaken down the outer wall of two cells in which she has been kept; the decay observable in many buildings near the sea or on saltpetre soils, is undermining the walls and the whole place is so insecure that I have very little doubt but that a hearty combined push would send any part of the old building to the ground; it never had any pretensions to be called a good building and the surprise should be, as with several other prisons, that it has stood so long.

2. In December 1855 I remarked that it had been proposed to expend 11,500 Rupees on this miserable and unhealthy place, which expense I had stopped: it has since done its duty for five years, whether it will stand for three more must depend on the forbearance of the inmates and some necessary repairs.

3. I believe that from seven to ten thousand Rupees might still be obtained for the building and its site, if therefore the Government can spare 12,000 Rupees more it is probable that the outer walls, worksheds, hospital and entrance of a prison worthy of the name and fit for immediate use might be built, to be hereafter perfected by the erection of the cells.

4. The immediate saving in the guarding of the prison would be about 4,000 Rupees a year. The moral effect, when prisoners were confined within walls, would justify a proportionate reduction of the sentences, which would be represented by a further reduction of expense. The removal of the prisoners from the present unhealthy locality would not only reduce the diet, which has for some years been maintained far above the standard to counteract the ill effect of the prison atmosphere, but the bad moral effects of this prison feasting would be removed.

5. The convict labor would perhaps not be available for brickmaking, there being no good clay near the prison, but the expenses of building might be greatly reduced by the employment of prisoners for all unskilled labor required on the spot.

6. I am told that rough stone in mortar here costs only 2 Rupees per cubic yard, it is very desirable to use stone instead of brick for the foundation and basement, or perhaps it may be used with economy to a height of 4 feet from the ground. The soil here for foundations is excellent and 1 yard cube would be ample for these; about 3,500 yards of stone, or brick wall, 15 feet above the ground and costing, including the value of Prisoner's labor, about 7,000 Rupees, would therefore provide a good outer wall of 800 yards circumference; four superficial yards of roof would suffice for every convict for lodging till the cells were built and this, with the partition walls, would not cost more than 10,000 Rupees more: 3,000 Rupees would cover expenses of all that was otherwise indispensable and thus for Rupees 20,000 a prison for 400 prisoners, in association, in six classes, will be provided, the building being capable of improvement hereafter without a sacrifice of any money in that most expensive of all works, a temporary expedient. Of this 20,000 Rupees, 7,000 perhaps will be immediately recovered by sale of the old prison, 4,000 Rupees annually will be saved in guards and establishment, and I can certainly promise a further saving of Rupees 1,000 in diet, thus in three years the whole expense will be covered.

7. If this suggestion is not acted on I can only say that a large sum of money must be utterly wasted in patching the old, insufficient, insecure, ill arranged, unhealthy prison, and that the Government must be content to allow the continuance of the present unnecessary and excessive outlay of 5,000 Rupees a year.

Expense of the retention of the old building.

or elsewhere. Mr. Rohde will,

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8. If the Government think fit to undertake this work, I will take care that the District Engineer receives the utmost aid that convict labor can afford both on the ground and in his own workshop which joins the Jail. For the extent to which this labor is available in reducing the cost of Jail building under favorable circumstances, I need only refer to the Trichinopoly Jail constructed by Major Lawford.

Convict labor available.

9. Immediately, a few inexpensive repairs which I pointed out, must be undertaken; namely, the repair of the Jail hospital verandah roof; the erection of a cistern for the convict Washermen in the outer Jail enclosure, to avoid the necessity for detaching convicts and Police men in small parties contrary to the rules; the erection of a small house for the Jailor, which will, at any time, sell for its full value; the filling up of the decayed walls of the wards; the re-building of so much as was shaken by the insane patient; the securing of some of the window bars by rails, notched to hold them, and securely nailed together and to the old frame; the securing the door of the under trial yard in a similar way; the coal tarring of the urinals and of the floor and wall near them, and the providing of two iron swing gates (to be hereafter removed to the new Jail) between the convict prison and the debtors and hospital courts.

Necessary and emergent repairs.

10. Since I last visited this Jail, three female wards have been added to it; they are all I could desire except that the bars are rivetted over separate washers, which may be burned out, instead of over a continuous iron plate. This has given up the old female ward for committed prisoners who can now be kept distinct from the convicts.

New Wards.

11. It was brought to my notice that the present Jailor Mr. Hyland had to pay, since the increased demand for small houses suited to Europeans at the station, 12 Rupees for his house for the rent of which the Government at my request sanctioned 7 Rupees monthly; I desired that till a house could be built, the full rent should be charged in the Contingent Bill.

Rent of the Jailor's house, insufficient.

12. I some time since sanctioned the making up of furniture for the Jailor's house by the convicts, the furniture to remain the property of Government.

Furniture.

13. The messing system being in use in this prison and inconvenience and loss arising from the use of earthen pots, I promised to sanction the cost of metal boilers in substitution for those of clay.

Requisition for metal Cooking Pots.

14. The diet of the prison had been changed consequent on my remarks in 1855-56, but the great expense of it had repeatedly called for my notice, I had lately spoken with Dr. Renton on the subject and found that that he had on going into the matter very fully this morning he admitted that he could not perceive any material improvement in the health of the prisoners consequent on the general high feeding, which, as he justly remarked was far in excess of what any of the prisoners could have been accustomed to; it was then agreed that this extra diet should, in the case of the prisoners in health, be at once reduced to two issues during the week; that in the case of prisoners who did not receive meat, the ghee, hitherto substituted for it at 2½ oz. for each meal should be reduced to 1 oz.; that jaggery to the extent of 2 oz. should be substituted at least once a week for the

*Dr. Porteous, at the end of 1849 remarked, "I have found no beneficial result from varying the diet of those affected with diarrhoea, nor do I consider that by introducing luxuries that any advantage would accrue, as when those articles and rice were very generally supplied to the Prisoners, the disease was of as frequent occurrence. To account therefore for the prevalence of diarrhoea in this Jail, it is my opinion that it is not connected with the quality of the food supplied."

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present issue of mutton or ghee; that the issue of meat to committed prisoners in health should be discontinued and that the grain allowance in their case should be reduced to 55 Rupees weight of cholam, the latter step being in a moral point called for, lest prisoners released on trial, should be led to form too favorable an impression of their residence in the Jail.

15. There were at the time of my visit nine cases in hospital, none of them serious, but among them several cases of guinea worm, a complaint that seems to have somewhat increased of late years in this prison. At Bellary where the sub-soil is very similar I thought I had checked the disease by the construction of a large filter, through which, as I supposed all water used for food, passed. I was however somewhat put out of conceit of my contrivance by finding, some time afterwards, the prisoners drawing from the side into which the water first flowed.

Disease.

JAIL HOSPITAL AT COIMBATORE.

Admissions from Dracunculus.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total in Year.
1836...	0	1	4	2	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0 13
1837...	0	2	5	6	9	3	1	0	1	1	1	1	0 29
1838...	1	4	2	7	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0 13
1839...	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0 8
1840...	1	1	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0 8
1841...	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0 2
1842...	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0 5
1843...	0	4	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 10
1844...	1	0	7	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0 14
1845...	0	3	4	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0 10
1846...	0	1	5	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 22
1847...	1	1	3	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0 17
1848...	3	1	6	4	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	3	3 31
1849...	0	1	0	6	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 21
1850...	2	0	7	12	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	2 35
1851...	0	4	7	3	6	3	4	4	4	7	3	1	4 47
1852...	3	4	9	10	8	6	3	1	0	1	6	1	1 47
1853...	1	1	7	5	8	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	0 29
1854...	2	0	3	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0 20
1855...	0	3	4	3	6	6	3	2	2	2	2	1	1 33
1856...	3	4	7	3	4	1	3	0	1	2	1	1	1 29
1857...	3	2	3	4	4	4	1	3	3	3	0	3	3 32
1858...	2	2	3	10	4	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	2 26
1859...	2	8	7	11	11	4	1	0	0	2	1	3	3 53
1860...	1	5	16	13	10	4	3	4	3	3	2	0	5 59
1861...	2	8	10										

16. During the passing year (May 1st, 1860—April 1861,) there have been 21 deaths, of which 8 were from cholera which appeared in the prison in October last and prevailed till December; of the remaining deaths 2 were of fever, 7 of diarrhoea, 2 of anasarca and atrophy, 1 from disease of the chest; from old age and 1 from accident. It should however be remarked that three of these deaths were in prisoners sent in from the gang at Paulghat.

Mortality.

17. Of four prisoners sent back from Ootacamund with dysentery or diarrhoea, not one had any symptom of disease on arrival at this place.

Prisoners transferred as sick from Ootacamund.

18. It is satisfactory to observe that since the open drain which flowed from the hospital privy through the debtors yard has been arched over there has been no sickness among this class, though previously it had been unusually great.

Improvements in health of debtors consequent on closing of a drain.

19. Of insane patients the poor insane woman who is constantly raving must be immediately transferred to the Asylum—she is no better then she was when I saw her a year ago; two males committed as dangerous lunatics.

Insane patients and prisoner.

or elsewhere—Mr. Rohde will,

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continued, as is generally the case with persons of their class, under restraint as regards drugs, tolerably quiet and well conducted; the third male is confined for life, having committed murder though acquitted as a lunatic.

20. There are now in Jail 364 prisoners in all, including 11 females, namely, 1 life prisoner, 229 convicted by the Sessions Court, 66 by the Criminal Court, and 14 by the Magistracy; 4 prisoners held to security by the Court and 11 by the Magistrate, 8 debtors and 26 Committed; of the committed prisoners I had been in Jail since December, his prosecutor having failed to attend.

21. The employment of the convicts was,

Employment of Prisoners.

On public road,	-	-	168
The Police buildings,	-	-	89
The Prison garden,	-	-	5
In cleaning Cholum,	-	-	31
As Cooks,	-	-	13
Toties,	-	-	9
Hospital attendants,	-	-	2
Sweepers (aged and infirm,)	-	-	12
Washermen,	-	-	6
Carpentry and Smiths,	-	-	6
Basket making	-	-	6

22. The demand for Coyar matting not being steady, the manufacture is only maintained as orders come in; during the year, 652 Rupees worth have been made to order, giving a profit of Rupees 422-12-6. If this material were made up in pieces of various lengths and of width varying from 2½ to 6 feet, it is probable the sales would be equal to the out-turn.

Manufactures.

23. In regard to the system of supply which has prevailed for many years in this Jail and which is clearly influenced by false returns of prices current, furnished by the Revenue Department, I observed, in 1855, that the "nerrick" furnished to the Officer in charge of the Jail was purposely maintained 25 per cent. above the true market rates. Mr. Roupell, then the Sessions Judge in charge, engaged to reform this and I now append a resume of the practice from papers prepared for me by the Sessions Judge and from my own enquiries, as far as I am yet able to ascertain it.

Supply of food, frauds in.

See Report, Coimbatore, paragraph 7.

24. I should premise that cholum has been for many years the grain ordinarily issued to prisoners in this Jail, that now cholum is considered less wholesome than that which has been cut for some months, and that in our best cholum districts we always give the preference to that grain which is stacked with the sheaves, but, that here the practice seems to be to cut off the heads, instead of reaping the straw with the grain on, here too I am told they have no cholum of the kinds we know as Pedda Jonna, Putta Jonna, &c., all of which are five months on the ground and that the best grain known here is the garden (irrigated) cholum and what we call Gidda Jonna which are three months, crops and which are considered in the north of inferior quality, but to the description what it may there is always a trifling difference, perhaps one measure in the rupee, between the grain for a month or two after it is cut and the old cholum which remains: cholum, unlike paddy, raghee, and other grains is injured by keeping in large quantities and is rarely so stored, this renders the prisons using it very dependant on the fluctuations of the market.

25. I had been struck by the high price of cholum as charged in the contingent bills from Coimbatore, but my enquiries were met by quotations from the "nerrick" rates, at last I employed a merchant of Ootacamund to ascertain from his correspondents in Coimbatore the

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price at which I could procure cholum; the reply showed a difference of 7 measures per rupee greater than the price charged in the Jail contingent bill. I warned the Sessions Judge of this, and on his enquiry the difference was quoted at 4½ measures; on further enquiry he found that the Thasildar, on whom he had been dependant for the price current, with reference to which the Jail contracts had been made, had returned the price of old cholum at an arbitrary rate of 6 measures in the rupee above the ordinary prices for cholum, this difference, therefore, assuming 13½ measures per rupee to have been a correct quotation, would have entailed on the Government purchaser a loss of nearly 4½ Rupees for every hundred Rupees paid. In all probability the grain furnished to the Jail is superior to that ordinarily found in the market, and for reasons which I shall mention in recounting the arrangements since 1855, the loss had during several years been reduced to a comparatively small amount.

26. By the term "nerricks" or price current, as now used, I understand a *bona fide* statement made by the Collector of the selling prices of grain, prepared chiefly as a check on the Commissariat, under the Orders of Government of

the 28th May and 1st July 1850, and which it is evident from the detailed instructions given for its preparations, as quoted in the Board of Revenue Circular of the 1st July 1850, should be a most reliable document, indeed it is on this return that the ordinary expenditure for grain by Government is regulated and the claims for compensation by sepoys in case of rice exceeding a certain rate, I suppose, justified. I cannot under these circumstances blame an officer in charge of a Jail for placing reliance on it and making his contracts for supply accordingly, and

I find that the present Sessions Judge, Mr. Ward, in October 1857, in two letters, particularly called the Collector's attention to the prices as returned to him, and which he stated he suspected to be inaccurate.

27. In the absence of any reply by the Collector to the Sessions Judge's recent enquiry I can only give the particulars from the facts before me. I mentioned to Coopoo Row the Deputy Collector in charge, in conversation with whom and the Court Sherishtadar, I had, in 1855, ascertained that false "nerricks" were maintained, the points on which I wanted information.

28. It appears that previous to 1850, a price for cholum supplied to the Jail greatly in excess of the ordinary rate had been maintained under sanction of the price current. It does not appear what led to the change, but in

History of prices paid by the Jail.

October of that year, the present Collector seems to have directed that the price current should show a fixed difference in the prices of new and old cholum of 6 measures for the Rupee. The rapid rise in the quoted price of old over new cholum commenced in 1848, previous to which it had rarely exceeded 10 per cent. and was generally far less; during this year the difference rapidly rose from 2 and 3 to 13 and 14 measures in the Rupee, that is in November and December old cholum being quoted at 40 measures for the Rupee, only 27 and 26 were supplied to the Jail. About the same difference was maintained throughout the year 1849; in January 1850, new cholum being quoted at 44 measures for the Rupee, the difference was quoted at 18 measures and never fell to less than 10. In October 1850, the order fixing the difference of rate at 6 measures is said to have been issued and the quotations are so continued with no material alteration till June 1854; one Vencatarow then succeeded as Thasildar, and seems to have summarily reduced the difference in the return to 4 measures, at which, with few exceptions, it was maintained till the end of 1855. In 1856, it was again, (Vencatarow being I believe dead) raised to 6 measures, but whether in consequence of my remark to Mr. Roupell or from other causes, it fell in March to 1 measure; in May and June (months by the way in which there is no new cholum) it rose to 5 measures and in July to 6, at which rate with trivial exceptions it has since been maintained, without the slightest regard to actual prices.

or elsewhere Mr. Rohde will
therefore

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29. In the last nerrick namah (price current) reference is made to a "Takeed" of the 8th October 1850 as regulating the price.

30. I have before alluded to Mr. Ward's letters to the Collector, in October 1857, as calling his attention to the price current quotations; to the first of these Mr. Thomas replied promising attention and requesting information as to the items particularly referred to, when Mr. Ward instanced "old cholam" and other specified products.

31. I cannot find from either Coopoo Row or Bashkail Naidoo, from whom it was that I derived the information quoted in my first report, what foundation there was for the statement that the price of condiment was enhanced by a price list rendered 20 per cent. above the true rates; but from that hour to this the accuracy of my assertion was never questioned and Mr. Roupell, admitting its accuracy, invited tenders, which, I may remark, have been made at rates below the price currents, and to these I shall now refer.

32. On the 21st January 1856 tenders were received for the supply of the Jail, and one Kistna Chetty, who seems to have monopolised the supply since 1838, tendered to furnish, for one year, cholam at 3 measures in the Rupee beyond the rates returned in the nerrick, or should other tender be received, to give $\frac{1}{4}$ measure in the Rupee more than any other competitor; he further offered to supply rice and other articles at $1\frac{1}{2}$ measure for the Rupee beyond the quoted prices; this tender was accepted.

33. In February 1857 the same contractor engaged to supply cholam at $4\frac{1}{4}$ measures in the Rupee beyond quoted rates, this being $\frac{1}{4}$ measure in excess of the tender of Ramasawmy Naick, whose tender was otherwise the lowest. Other articles were to be supplied at $1\frac{1}{2}$ measures per Rupee beyond the quoted rates.

34. In October 1857, grain being quoted at 7 measures per Rupee for old cholam, Mr. Ward, then in charge of the Jail, called Mr. Thomas' attention to the high rates of quotation and requested his attention to the returns; on the 12th October the Collector replied enquiring the particular items objected to and promising to attend to the matter; Mr. Ward replied to this letter on the 21st October, but it does not appear that any change was made though, from what I could gather, some enquiry was made.

35. On the 28th May 1858, the same contractor obtained the supply (under the provision by which he engaged to give $\frac{1}{4}$ measure more than others) at $5\frac{1}{4}$ measures of cholam per Rupee beyond the quoted rates and at $1\frac{1}{2}$ measures per Rupee in excess of the nerrick for salt, dholl, &c.

36. In June 1859, there being no competition, the same contractor was allowed to supply at 2 measures per Rupee in excess of the quoted rates, and the same terms were accepted for 1860-61.

37. On the 1st March 1861, the Thasildar in making his return stated that the true selling rate was $13\frac{1}{2}$ measures for the Rupee, but, that the nerrick rate was $7\frac{1}{2}$ measures; so that in fact, if the selling price was really at $13\frac{1}{2}$ measures, the Jail received $9\frac{1}{2}$ or, in other words, the Government has received nearly 50 per cent. less for its money than it ought to have got.

38. It was no doubt a great mistake to allow a person tendering to secure the contract by a clause providing for his giving $\frac{1}{4}$ more than the amount of any other tender, and it was objectionable to make a contract at rates depending on the returns of the Revenue Officials; there can however be little doubt that many interests were engaged in maintaining this system and that influence was used to prevent any other, indeed it is by no means likely that gains so great, founded on false returns, officially rendered, from month to month, were enjoyed by the contractor alone. It is true that for one year the falsification of the price current was met by a contract that left a comparatively small margin for excessive profits, but from 1848 up to 1856, or for eight years the harvest must have been enormous.

P. S.—10th May.

1. By the contingent bill for April I see that we now receive $15\frac{1}{2}$ instead of $9\frac{1}{2}$ measures of grain for the Rupee, the real price being I believe the same.

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2. I annex a copy of the Collector's explanation relative to the entry in the price current

No. 90. COIMBATORE COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
on E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore; to
S. N. WARD, Esq., Session Judge of Coimbatore,
dated Ootacamund, 24th April 1861.

With reference to your letter of the 5th Instant, No. 39, I
have the honor to inform you that the Order dated 8th October
50, No. 28, referred to, was issued at a time when there was
considerable difference between the prices of old and new
blum; and to prevent confusion and undue cost at the Jail,
average was struck, and a rate fixed—that difference is now
oh less, and the market rates are the best to abide by as
Thasildar has been duly instructed.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) S. N. WARD,
Session Judge.

on Deputy Inspector General W. G. DAVIDSON, Southern
Division; to the Secretary to the Principal Inspector
General Medical Department, dated Coimbatore, 19th
April 1861.

I have the honor to report for the information of the Principal
Inspector General, that I inspected the Jail and Civil Dis-
pensary at Coimbatore on the 12th Instant. I forward with
the Inspection Report of the Dispensary in the printed

The great defect in this Jail, and in all others, is deficient
ventilation; this I state, as my confirmed conviction, after long
careful observation of prisoners in our Jails. The State is
lax towards them, as to food; and their work is not too
severe for men undergoing punishment, but we withhold from
them sufficiency of the pure air of heaven, which costs nothing,
and the mortality is very unusually great, I firmly believe, in
consequence. Abundant openings in their apartments are what
wanted; and the making of which need cause no great out-
lay. If fresh air were constantly flowing through their wards
making numerous openings near the ground, on which they
sit, and the number in each apartment not great, the mor-
tality would, I am convinced, soon become less.

As to the Jail of Coimbatore, the openings in the back wall
the Hospital are much too high being 14 feet from the
ground on which (or on cot) the sick convicts rest; other
wards 2 or 3 feet from the ground should be made. The
17 dozen minute holes on the level of the floor, not large
enough to admit a finger at present there, must be of very
little use; the plate of iron, in which the minute holes are made,
should be entirely removed and one opening of some size so
made. The same remark applies to the small ward adjoining,
usually used as a hospital, the high openings being much
higher and the minute low ones, near the ground, useless
all; and this remark appears to apply to the minute low
openings in all the wards. In No. 28 ward there are no open-
ings in the back wall; four windows should be made in it. In
No. 29 ward, there should be two more windows made in the
back wall. No. 21 ward is badly ventilated; more windows
should be made.

There are three convict cells for women and only one door to
each, no other opening, fearful! several windows should be
made in each.

No. 22 ward badly ventilated, no openings in the back
wall; and this is the case with wards Nos. 23, 24, 25, 4, 5,
10, 11, 12, 8, 9, & 7, to all which dozen wards the same
rule applies.

The three Civil Detainers' cells have each only one opening, and
this the door. At present this is of little consequence as they
are not confined to their cells; but these three cells may
be used yet for confining convict prisoners, and then would be
very improper, as there would be no access in their case to
open Court allowed.

The mortality of this Jail is about the same as that of
Singapore, about 6 per cent., which is very unnecessary.
There are barred doors in this Jail fortunately, though
we have hitherto quite made after many efforts to get
mitigation for the Trucknopoly wards, the doors there
made of solid plank.

constant flow of air through the wards, and a smaller
number of prisoners in each, will, I am convinced, remove the
obscenity of the present mortality from our Jails, to which I
I earnestly solicit special attention.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. G. DAVIDSON,
Deputy Inspector General,
Sd. Do.

J. ROHDE, Esq.,
with W. G. DAVIDSON'S Compts.
ALMA COTTAGE, COIMBATORE, 29th April 1861.

of an assumed rate; there can be no doubt as I
have shewn that the fraud for two years preced-
ing the order was enormous, but whether the
summary remedy applied was either right or
expedient is a matter which is not within my
cognizance.

3. In closing this report I would respect-
fully solicit the consideration of Government
to the suggestions I have made for providing a
proper prison without any cost to the State, I
feel assured that I have not over-estimated the
advantages and I would remind the Govern-
ment that every year will, as the prosperity of
the country increases, render the object more
difficult of attainment. Want is now too often
the incentive to crime, but when once pros-
perity induces the formation of predatory classes
their rapid strides will render all hope of check
by fear of punishment hopeless. To be effec-
tual, the machinery for inducing that fear should
be in operation before the incentive to crime
prevails, which ever is first applied will gain the
day.

Since visiting the prison I have received
from the Deputy Inspector General Medical
Department, Southern Division, his notes on a
recent visit to this prison, in which several of its
defects are noticed, the small apertures in the
cast iron ventilating bricks and want of suffi-
cient ventilation in some of the wards, &c. I
much fear however that the building is too bad
to be meddled with in the way of making more
openings in the walls, the ventilation has been
greatly improved since I first visited the Jail,
and I think that in most of the wards the open-
ing of more windows and enlarging the ventila-
tors below, would, at this altitude (1,400 feet
above the sea) make the rooms too cold. I have
already given free roof ventilation by removing
the mats under the tiles, cast iron ventilating
bricks are placed on the level of the floor, the
shutters to the windows have been removed
and converted into shades to the windows, the
nights are always cool in Coimbatore and for
nine months in the year cold.

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector General of Jails.

PRISONS OFFICE,
OOTACAMUND,
11th May 1861.

or elsewhere Mr. Rohde will,

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No. 177. ORDER THEREON, 25th June 1861, No. 817.

The Inspector General of Jails reports on the Prison at Coimbatore, visited by him on the 10th and 11th April last.

2. In paragraphs 1 to 8, he notices the insecure and generally ruinous state of the building, and makes suggestions for the gradual construction of a new prison. The Government cannot allow any expenditure at present for building new Jails at Coimbatore or elsewhere; Mr. Rohde will, therefore, direct the execution of the minor repairs referred to in paragraph 9 of his report, under the authority vested in him in paragraph 3, Extract Minutes Consultation 22nd May 1855, No. 380. Estimates exceeding the limit of Rupees 500 for works in connection with the Jail, will receive due consideration on being submitted in the usual way.

3. Under the circumstances represented in paragraph 11, house rent for the Jailer at the rate of (12) twelve Rupees may be passed in the Jail Contingent Bill, until a suitable building is completed for his use, provided that the Inspector General can compensate for the additional charge—Rupees 5 per mensem—by some equivalent reduction in the General Jail estimate as now sanctioned and as entered in the budget estimate, but not otherwise. This condition is indispensable under the late Orders of the Government of India. The furniture, it is observed, will be made up by Convicts. The Government sanction the cost of the necessary material, as also the substitution of metal boilers for those of clay.

Paragraph 13. 4. Mr. Rohde desires the removal of an insane woman, "who is constantly raving," to the Lunatic Asylum. The Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, will ascertain whether there is accommodation available for her there.

Paragraphs 23 ad finem. 5. From paragraphs 5 to the end of the report, it seems that for many years past the grain and condiments for the prisoners in the Jail have been supplied at rates greatly in excess of the real market prices—and that the merck or price current furnished by the Collector for the guidance of the Sessions Judge has been, purposely it is said, maintained greatly above the true bazaar rates. The Sessions Judge will submit to Government in reference to Mr. Rohde's remarks full explanation on the system pursued for provisioning the Jail since he has been in charge of it—the prices at which supplies have been furnished, and the means taken to ensure their fairness. The Collector will also be called on through the Revenue Department for explanation on the alleged falsification of the merck.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter
from the Inspector General of
Jails.

(Here enter 11th May 1861.)

Order thereon 25th June 1861 No. 817.

The Inspector General
of Jails reports on the Prison at
Coimbatore, visited by him on
the 10th and 11th April last.

2 In paras 1 to 8, he notices
the insecure and generally ruinous
state of the building, and makes
suggestions for the gradual con-
struction of a new prison. The
Government cannot allow any
expenditure at present, for build-
ing new Jails at Coimbatore
or elsewhere. Mr. Rohde will,
therefore

Also paras 3 and 4
of Postscript.

Mr. Rohde to repair
the Jail
H. M.

3 Under the circumstances represented in para 11, house rent for the Sailer at the rate of (12) twelve Rupees may be passed in the Sail contingent Bill, until a suitable building is completed for his use, provided that the Inspector General can compensate for the additional charge - Rupees 5 per mensem - by some equivalent reduction in the General Sail estimate as now sanctioned and as entered in the budget estimate - but not otherwise - This condition is indispensable under the

Sharon in Communist
Mafia & Russia
J.P.

21/6/61

Para 13.

Para 19-

late orders of the Government of India. The furniture, it is observed, will be made up by convicts. The Government sanction the cost of the necessary material, as also the substitution of metal boilers for those of clay.

4- W. Rohde desires

4. Mr. Rohde desires the removal of an insane woman, "who is constantly raving," to the Lunatic Asylum. The Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, will ascertain whether there is accommodation available for her there.

5 From paras 5 to the end of the report, it seems that for many years past the grain and condiments for the prisoners in the Jail have been supplied at rates greatly

Paras 23 ad finem -
" 2 of Postscript

in excess of the real market prices - and that the merick or price current furnished by the collector for the guidance of the Sessions Judge has been - purposely it is said - maintained greatly above the ^{true} bazaar rates. The Sessions Judge will submit to government ~~full explanation~~ and in reference to Mr. Rhodes on the system pursued for provisioning the Jail since he has been in charge of it - the prices at which supplies have been furnished and the means taken to ensure their fairness. The collector will also be called on through the Revenue Department for explanation on the alleged falsification of the merick.

Remarks full explanation

Inspector General of Jails.
Principal Inspector General Medical Department.
Public Works Department.
Revenue Department.
General Post Office.
Civil Engineer.

desp 25th

Proff June

Judicial 1861. Department.

No. 817.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS

GOVERNMENT.

OL 1514/2

Dated 25th June 1861.

State that the government cannot allow any expenditure to be made for building new Jails at Coimbatore for elsewhere house rent for the Jails at the rate of 12 Rs may be paid in the Jail containing 1000. direct the Sessions Judge to submit full explanation on the subject forwarded for perusal. Changes the Jail since he has been in charge of it.

Madras - Printed at the Government Press.

12/6 2/13

in excess of the real market prices - and that the merick or price current furnished by the collector for the guidance of the Sessions Judge has been - purposely it is said - maintained greatly above the ^{true} bazaar rates. The Sessions Judge will submit to Government full explanation, and in reference to Mr. Rhodes on the system pursued for provisioning the Sail since he has been in charge of it - the prices at which supplies have been furnished and the means taken to ensure their fairness - The Collector will also be called on through the Revenue Department for explanation on the alleged falsification of the merick.

Remarks full explanation

- The Inspector General of Sails:
- Principal Inspector General Medical Department
 - Public Works Department
 - Revenue Department

25th Dec 25

Proof June

Judicial 1861 - Department.

No. 817.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS

GOVERNMENT.

Dated 25th June 1861.

Notice that the Government cannot allow any expenditure to be made for building new Sails at Government Sails House, until for the Sails at the rate of 12 Rs may be passed in the Sails Committee. Direct the Sessions Judge to direct the Sails Committee to submit full explanation on the system pursued for provisioning the Sails since he has been in charge of it.

25th June - Printed at the Government Press.

in charge of it.

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