

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1125	Press ~~His~~
136-137	
Dated 16.7.1862	~~His~~ .

4/4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,

16th July 1862.

No. 136. Read the following letter from T. J. KNOX, Esq., Session Judge of Chicacole :
to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint
George, dated 25th June 1862, No. 179.

1. In accordance with the provisions of Section V, Regulation II, 1819, I have the honor to submit for the consideration of the Governor in Council a representation made by certain State Prisoners in my custody.

2. On this petition I can offer no observations, for I am not aware of the facts of their case, to which they chiefly allude, perhaps if the prisoners were not suspected to be accomplices but only accessories after the fact, the Government may deem that seven years' imprisonment is a sufficient punishment for their offence.

2. I regret some delay has occurred in forwarding their petition because of the adjournment it was for a time mislaid.

TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Arzee addressed by—1, NARACOTTA PATTY
VITTAL SYED MAHOMED COYA-
CATTY, 2, CALLATIL AUDECAL MAR-
NAUNY, and 3, VODECAL NUNELCOYA,
State Prisoners in the Jail of the Session
Court of Chicacole, with the usual compliments.

1. It is now six years and seven months since the Circar apprehended us on suspicion that we allotted place for the Prisoners who escaped from the Gaol and confined us as State Prisoners in the Zillah Gaol of Chicacole six years ago.

2. Owing to our bad luck, our enemies instigated the Circar to suspect us in this case without any cause, but we are quite ignorant of anything in this case.

3. We do not know of the said Prisoners having been imprisoned in the Jail of Collecotta and of their having escaped from it. We do not know their names, or places of their residence, nor did we see them at any time.

4. The village of Parnoor of Bettatnadee Taluk is two days' journey from the 1st Prisoner's village and Collecotta. The village of Moonacal of Bettatnadee Taluk is two days' journey from the 2nd Prisoner's residing village. The village of Tamilchary is three cossees distance from the 3rd Prisoner's village and Collecotta. How could such family persons as ourselves who resided in such distant countries, know of the Prisoners having effected their escape from the Zillah Gaol? As the said Prisoners committed thefts and other heinous actions, they were imprisoned in Jail, but they were not great Zamindars. The Circar may consider that had they been Zamindars, we could hear by report of their having been imprisoned in the Jail and escaped from it.

5. After the Prisoners had effected their escape from the Jail, no proclamation was published in our villages for seizing them. We also heard some days after as well as other persons, that the said Prisoners with cruel intention, murdered the Collector barbarously, and that they were afterwards killed, but any of us did not hear of the Prisoners having made their escape before that time.

6. We are poor and persons of good families and are obedient to the Circar's orders, but never resisted them, nor were we ever found in any bad company, nor was it proved by any witnesses that we committed any crime, nor were any charges preferred against us before any authority about any treacherous actions before that time. While the Circar is ruling over all the people with much equity, it is not just that we who are indigent, should be imprisoned in the Gaol unjustly in this manner. When the Circar seized us to imprison us, the 1st Prisoner was 15 years old, the 2nd 25 years and the 3rd 30 years. The said Prisoners who absconded, were not our relations, nor inhabitants of our villages.

7. When there was no concern whatever between us and the said offenders, it is not just that the Circar without enquiring into the case, and without finding out the intrigues of our

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enemies, should separate us from our parents, &c. and imprison us in the Jail. The two Prisoners who were imprisoned in this Jail along with us on the charge of the said crime, died in this very Jail, and we three only are surviving, we therefore pray that the Circar who renders justice and supports all the people, will be pleased to comply with our humble request and pass an order for our release from the Jail that we may join again our parents, children, &c.

(Signed) NARACOTTA PATTY VITTAL
SYED MAHOMED COYACATTY.
(Marked) CALLATHIL AUDICAL MARNAUNY.
(") VODECAL NUNELCOYA.

28th April 1862.

(True Translation.) (Signed) T. J. KNOX,
Session Judge.

No. 137.

ORDER THEREON, 16th July 1862, No. 1,125.

Referred to the Magistrate of Malabar for his opinion as to the expediency of permitting the State Prisoners referred to, to return to Malabar.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Acting Chief Secretary.

N^o: 1125-16 July 1862

Referred to the Magistrate of Malabar for his opinion as to the expediency of permitting these State Prisoners ^{whom to} to return to Malabar.

The Magistrate of Malabar.
Sessions Judge of Chicacole.
Inspector General of Prisons.

1862

Judicial Dept.
From Prof. J. C. Dill
The Hon. Judge
of Chicago
The Acting Chief Secretary
to Government
Washington

Dated 25th June.
Recd 3rd July.

J. H. K. 2230
— 2860

No 179
Enclosure 1
to 1298

Submits for the consideration of the Governor in Council a representation made by certain state prisoners in his custody.

1862

With an Order.