

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1544-45 Press
His.

191-194

Dated 19.9.1862 10

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
19th September 1862.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 191. From Lieutenant Colonel W. J. WILSON, Commissioner of Police; to the Honorable T. PYCROFT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 6th September 1862, No. 105.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Order of Government, noted in the margin, in which I am directed to remark upon a proposal made by the Resident Councillor of Prince of Wales' Island to the effect that the Convicts of the Straits Settlements should for the future be transported to Madras instead of to Bombay as has hitherto been the case.

2. I presume that the information required from me is principally with regard to the means of accommodation available in the Madras Penitentiary for the reception of such Convicts, and I shall therefore confine myself to that point.

3. The Penitentiary is divided into two parts, one being under the control of the Sheriff and used for the reception of Prisoners awaiting trial; the other is under charge of the Commissioner of Police and is occupied by Convicts.

4. It is calculated that this part of the Prison will not, with due regard to considerations of health, contain more than 386 persons.

5. There are at present 377 Convicts, but as the number is frequently greater, and during some months of the past year exceeded 400, I am of opinion that the criminals from the Straits cannot be accommodated.

No. 192. From J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Jails; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 12th September 1862, No. 468.

I have the honor to acknowledge the Order of Government, 2nd September 1862, referring for remark Major Man's and Colonel Cavenagh's letter relative to Convicts under sentence of transportation from the Straits Settlements and in reply to state that the Chinamen may with advantage be received in the Ootacamund and other Prisons on the understanding that they may be released on license as suggested in the 3rd para. of Major Man's letter.

2. The Madras district Prisons are generally crowded already, but I hope provision will soon be made for relieving them; in the mean time the number of Chinese Convicts will probably not exceed fifty or sixty, such as are handicraftsmen will be useful in the Jails and such as are agriculturists may be confined at this place and eventually placed where I can depend on their being looked after.

No. 193. ORDER THEREON, 19th September 1862, No. 1,544.

The above papers relate to a proposal emanating from the Governor of the Straits Settlements, and referred by the Government of India for the opinion of this Government, to the effect that Convicts from those Settlements, not being Natives of India, be transported to the Madras Presidency instead of, as heretofore, to Bombay.

2. The Governor in Council observes that at present the Madras Jails are greatly overcrowded. From the Administration Report for 1861-62, (see "Jails," paras. 57 to 60, pages 22, 23, 24,) it will be seen that while the number actually in confinement on the 30th April 1862, exceeded 7,000, the amount of accommodation available was barely sufficient for 5,000, and that several of the Jails were exceedingly unhealthy. The number of Prisoners has considerably increased since the 1st May last and the Government have before them plans and estimates for the construction of Central Prisons at a large outlay. Under these circumstances Convicts from the Straits Settlements could not be received into the Madras Jails, and the Government of India will be requested on no account to allow any to be sent.

3. The Inspector General of Jails would it seems be prepared to receive them in Ootacamund and other Prisons, on the understanding that they would be released on license as

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Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

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From the Commissioner of Police. Here enter 6th September 1862. N^o 105.
" Inspector General of Jails. " " 12th " " N^o 468.

Order thereon 19th September 1862. N^o 1544

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and hardened criminals
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To the President of Calif.
" Commission, San Francisco } Sept 20th

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Judicial Department.

No. 1545.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India.

Home Department.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo, Home Department Judicial No. 4439, forwarding copy of a letter from the Governor of the Straits Settlements and of its enclosure, relative to the expediency of transporting the Straits Settlements Convicts, not being natives of India, to Madras instead of to Bombay, and intimating that, under the circumstances represented, the Governor General in Council

1862-19

1862. Department.

No. 1544.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated 19th Decr 1862.

1862

*It is to be
forwarded to the
Hon. Secy to Govt.
in a separate
envelope.*

1862/1944

could propose
to authorise the Gover
of the Straits to send per
sons sentenced to trans-
-portation to Madras
instead of as heretofore
to B... Bay, unless there
should be any strong
objection to such a mea-
-sure.

2 In reply I am
desirous to state that there
do exist the very gravest
objections to the proposed
transportation to the
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J. J. Lamb George
19 September

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Nov - 1847

Oct 15/45

To the Secretary of the
Society of Friends
Harrow Weald

2/19/46

Dear Sir,
I have the
very great pleasure to
acknowledge the receipt of
your letter of the 18th inst.
and in reply to inform you
that the same has been
referred to the
Committee of the
Society of Friends
in the
United States
and that they
have decided
to send
a delegate
to the
meeting
at
Harrow Weald
on the 1st of
November next.