M.R.O. 1—29,000—16-10-20.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 387 Press ~~Mis.~~

63-64

Dated 7.3.1862 ~~15~~ .

3/4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

381/62

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
7th March 1862.

No. 63. Read the following letter from Colonel JOHN IMPETT, Sheriff of Madras; to the Honorable T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 4th March 1862, No. 15.

I have the honor to forward the accompanying Memorandum from the Surgeon of the Grand Jail, and request the instructions of the Government upon the subject, as with so large a number of convicts and many of them men of desperate character it may not be considered consistent with their safe custody to remove the irons.

I also request that an additional Guard of one Corporal and three Privates (European) may be provided for the safe keeping of those convicts who may be admitted into the Hospital on the Surgeon's recommendations.

MADRAS, *2nd March* 1862.

I hereby recommend on health-considerations that the chains be removed from the European and other convicts recently admitted into Her Majesty's Jail. The places allotted to them are so very circumscribed that even *without* their fetters they can scarcely obtain that amount of exercise which their health requires; *with* them, the difficulty is increased many-fold.

I also beg to urge the necessity of removing the prisoners on my sick-report to the Hospital wards, where a guard should be placed. The cells are so ill-ventilated and small that they cannot hold the number now admitted into them, without great risk of disease. Already a large proportion of the convicts are on the sick-list, and both for the sake of those already ailing and those who are well, the sooner the former are placed in the Hospital and the latter are allowed more room in the cells, the better.

(Signed) W. J. VANSOMEREN, M. D.
Surgeon 1st District.

ORDER THEREON, 7th March 1862, No. 381.

No. 64.

Resolved that the above letter be forwarded to the Director General Medical Department and that he be requested to favor Government, after such inquiry as he may think it proper to make, whether it be indispensably necessary for the health of the convicts in question, to remove their irons.

Such convicts as are on the sick report may be removed to the Hospital wards. The Major General Commanding the Division will, on application being made to him by the Commissioner of Police or the Sheriff, be pleased to strengthen the European Guard now at the Grand Jail to such extent as he may deem requisite.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Ex'd. F. Cartledge.

No 381 - 7 March 1862

Resolved that the above letter be forwarded to the Director General Medical Dept and that he be requested to favor the Board with his opinion as to the propriety of the Board recommending to the Secretary of War that provision be made, whether it be considered necessary for the health of the Convicts in question, to remove them from

Such convicts as are or may be sick apart from the Hospital wards - The Major General Com[g] the Division will on application being made to him by the Com[r] of Police of the District be pleased to direct such portion of the guard (Sentinels now at the Penitentiary) to be withdrawn as he may deem expedient

Adj[t] Genl
Surgt
Com[r] Police
Supt of Penitentiary
Medical Dept
Secretary

Jud.ᵉ Prov.ᵈ Marsh.ˡ
1862 Depart.ᵗ

From The Sheriff of Madras
To The Chief Sec.ʳʸ to Govᵗ

Dated 4ᵗʰ & March 1862
Rec.ᵈ

Nº 15

Written order

Enclosure 1.

Nº 445 Rᵈ

Forwarding a Memorandum from the Surgeon of H.M. Gaol and requesting the instructions of Govᵗ thereon. As also requesting an additional guard of One Corporal and 3 Privates may be provided for the safe keeping of the European Convicts who may be admitted into the Hospital.

63 & 64