

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1074	Press
		Mis.
37-38		
Dated	4. 7. 1963.	19

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
4th July 1863.*

No. 37. Read the following letter from Colonel JOHN IMPETT, Sheriff of Madras; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 1st July 1863, No. 32.

I have the honor to transmit a letter* from the Acting Surgeon, 1st District, with copies of correspondence thereto annexed, and to request that the sanction of Government may be obtained for the removal, from the Grand Jail to the Native Infirmary, of such of the Convicts expected from Salem as may be attacked with the Cholera during their confinement in the Jail, as it will be absolutely necessary to separate persons so attacked, from the general body of prisoners; and if possible, to have them altogether removed from the Jail premises.

If it should be necessary to have any of the Convicts so removed, arrangements will have to be made in communication with the Commissioner of Police, for their safe custody during their absence from the Jail.

From GEORGE SMITH, Esq., M. D., for Surgeon 1st District; to the Sheriff of Madras, dated 30th June 1863, No. 72.

I have the honor to solicit your attention to the enclosed correspondence regarding the advisability of promptly separating from the mass of prisoners daily expected at Her Majesty's Jail, and treating in the Native Infirmary any case or cases of Cholera which may occur.

2. My anxiety on this point arises from the fear—too often realized on experience,—that epidemic disease is very apt to break out among bodies of men reaching Madras from the Mofussil, and confined in one place, however well ventilated and cleansed such a place may be.

3. It is said that 200 prisoners are expected daily, and I am anxious that we should be prepared for any contingencies that may occur.

4. Should you take the same view, may I hope that you will give the necessary authority for their removal to the Native Infirmary and such instructions as you may deem necessary for their personal security whilst patients there.

From GEORGE SMITH, Esq., M. D., Acting Surgeon 1st District; to the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, Presidency Division, dated Madras, 29th June 1863, No. 78.

I have the honor to inform you that the Jail authorities state that they are daily expecting the arrival in Madras of a batch of Native prisoners some 200 strong.

2. As masses of men such as this is, are peculiarly prone to epidemic disease, especially when they are kept collected together in one place, such as a Jail, it has occurred to me that, in addition to the ordinary precautions as regards ventilation, cleanliness, &c., in the Jail, it might be well to authorize me, in the event of Cholera appearing to direct the removal of men affected at once to the Native Infirmary, so that if possible the tendency of the disease to spread, may be checked.

3. Of course it will rest with the Police authorities, to make arrangements for the personal security of those who may be placed under treatment, at the Infirmary.

4. This suggestion of mine is made now, in order that, should necessity arise, there may be no difficulty in the way of transferring to this Choultry the cases as they occur.

5. The dieting of these transferred patients might be continued, as if they were actually present in the Jail Hospital.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) GEORGE SMITH, M. D.,

For Surgeon 1st District.

From J. McKENNA, Esq., M. D., Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals; to Surgeon G. SMITH, M. D., in charge 1st District, dated Madras, 29th June 1863, No. 1,249.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 78, of this days' date, and to state to you in reply that I fully approve of the measures you propose to adopt of separating cases of sickness from the Jail building where so large a number of prisoners is now expected to be incarcerated.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
4th July 1863.*

I however trust that no epidemic may prevail among them, and if it does the Police authorities should be informed to enable them to make arrangements in time for the security of those who may be placed under treatment at the Native Infirmary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) GEORGE SMITH, M. D.,

For Surgeon 1st District.

No. 38.

ORDER THEREON, 4th July 1863, No. 1,074.

The Government sanction the arrangement proposed to be adopted in the event of Cholera breaking out among the Salem Convicts during their confinement in the Grand Jail. Should any such contingency arise, the requisite number of guards should be provided from those furnished by the Inspector General of Police, for the safe custody of the Convicts that may be removed to the Native Infirmary.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

1 day.

No 1074 - 4th July 1863.

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*Let St.
The Sheriff of Madras.
- - - - - Sec. Genl. of Police
- - - - - Com of Police Madras*

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