M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-23.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 115 Press ~~Mis.~~

154-155

Dated 27/1/1863 HD .

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 27th January 1863.

No. 154. Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Jails; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, Judicial Department, dated Madras, 6th January 1863, No. 701.

I have the honor to forward a letter received from the Officer in charge of the European Prison at Ootacamund with reference to a prisoner, Leeman, now in the European Prison, and to request that Government will be pleased to appoint a Medical Commission, in order to this prisoner being transferred, if necessary, under Section 396 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

In original, (to be returned.)

2. I had reason to believe this man to be under a feigned name and that he had been confined in the Lunatic Asylum at Colombo, I have no doubt that he is the person described in the reply I received from Colombo which will be placed in the hands of the Committee or visitors nominated.

3. My own observation does not warrant my recommending the transfer without reference to a Committee, on* my last casual visit I certainly thought the man showed signs of mental imbecility, I had, up to that time, doubted this.

* 22nd December.

From W. S. NESBITT, Esq., Sub-Judge of Ootacamund; to J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Jails, dated Ootacamund, 20th December 1862.

With reference to para. 2 of your letter of the 16th instant, No. 651, I have the honor to forward herewith for your information a report *(original)* from the Medical Officer of the Jail, regarding the prisoner Leeman, and judging from what his state has at times been, I should think very questionable, the propriety of his being let loose by himself, with no friends, or any one here to take charge of him, when his sentence expires. From the possibility of his committing any offence in an aberrated state of mind, his being abroad would be a constant source of anxiety, and I should think it very desirable if Government could send him home to be kept under proper care, and with regard to the 4th para. of your letter, I have to inform you, that this prisoner brought no money with him, when he arrived here, and I think only a small bundle of *light* clothing.

2. I enclose also for your perusal and information a letter which he wrote some few days ago, and gave to the Jailor Mr. Warburton, and this was when he was not considered in his worst state of mind.

Statement of Prisoner Leeman's Case.

Reported sick on the 1st April and stated that he could not hear, except when spoken to in a very loud voice; also complained of a buzzing noise constantly in his ears, which at times was almost supernatural, and quite incapacitated him for any occupation.

He at this time stated that he had been confined in a Lunatic Asylum in Bombay as he was deranged in his mind, caused from the effects of sun-stroke during the mutiny in Central India.

On the 10th April he was relieved from the dreadful noise which he described, but the deafness remained.

On the 18th he complained of very severe pain in his head, which he described as though his head were in a vice. He felt sure some serious disease was taking place.

The vessels of face and head were prominent and congested. Pulse regular and of nominal strength. The Gaoler who accompanied me into his cell stated that Leeman was sitting up the greater part of the night. On the 20th he was much the same. On the 23rd he was better; but on 27th he was worse, when at night he started up suddenly on seeing a light at his door. Pulse was 120 per minute. Eyes suffused. Groaned from pain. From the 27th to 1st May he continued much in the same state, when a slight improvement took place. On the 11th May he passed several round worms, and though he was not quite free from pain and noise in his ears, he was discharged the sick list on the 6th June.

On the 11th August was re-admitted on the sick list for the same severe head symptoms though he had suffered occasionally between the dates of discharge and admission.

About the 15th September he complained of pain in his chest, and of being unable to eat his rations. The bread he said he never touched, and there was other symptoms of Dyspepsia for which he was placed on spoon diet, and suitable medicines prescribed. On the 17th September he said in a loud impertinent voice that he was much astonished at my treatment of him. He had to take, he continued, medicine an hour before dinner which made him ravenous, and had nothing to satisfy his hunger and was starving. Two days after this occurrence he expressed himself in writing as being very penitent at having spoken to me as he did. Throughout October and part of November he was pretty rational and complained but little of headache. Latterly he has lapsed into his former state, and is now (December 15th) apparently distracted from pain and describes his imagination on being terribly haunted.

On several occasions he has stated to me that he fears some dire calamity will overtake him as he constantly sees and hears most supernatural things.

He has been treated with Calomel, Jalapa, Tartar Emetic, Leeches, Blister behind the ears. Digitalis, Opium and Calomel, Iodide of Potassium and Vermifuges, and latterly Nux vomica.

From a review of all his symptoms since his arrival at Ootacamund, I am of opinion that he is subject to periodical attacks of inflammation of the membranes of the brain, in addition to inflammation of the internal ear at which times there is an aberration of mind, and he requires to be watched.

(Signed) L. W. STEWART,
Asst. Surgeon, Medl. Officer Neilgheries,
in charge of European Jail.

OOTACAMUND,
19*th December* 1862.

No. 155. ORDER THEREON, 27th January 1863, No. 115.

Resolved that a Committee composed of the Medical Officers named in the margin be appointed to examine and report on the mental condition of the prisoner Leeman referred to in the letter above recorded.

W. A. Leslie, Esq.
C. J. Rogers, Esq.
L. W. Stewart, Esq.

2. The report of the Committe will be submitted to Government through the Officer in charge of the Jail at Ootacamund.

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

Exd. T. McMootry.

Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Jails

(Here enter 6th January 1863. No. 701.)

Order thereon 27th January 1863. No. 115

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W. A. Leslie Esqr.
C. J. Rogers Esq.
L. W. Stewart Esq.

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Lt M

To the Keeper of Jails - with 1 Irons - ret
" Officer in charge of the Jail at Potacamund
Assistant Surgeon [illegible]
" C. J. Rogers } Potacamund
" Lt. H. Stewart }

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Prov. Camp

Ludh. 186 3. *Department.*

No. 157

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT,

Dated 27 January 63.

Ref. 283.

154/155