M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 622 Press ~~Mis.~~

195-196

Dated 22.4.1863 ~~19~~ .

4/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 22nd April 1863.

No. 195. Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Jails; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Vizagapatam, on Circuit, 28th March 1863, No. 914.

I have the honor to forward a letter* from the Sub-Judge in charge of the European Prison at Ootacamund, pointing out the risk and inconvenience arising from the limited number of Warders of that Jail when one or more Warders from sickness is incapacitated for duty.

* Dated 16th February 1863, (original.)

2. It was with regard to this contingency that I proposed a larger number of Officers, I was aware that the services of qualified Europeans could not be obtained at the instant.

3. I had in my Budget retained the salary of the Jailor of the District Jail, though hitherto I have not thought it necessary to fill up the situation, the keeper of the European Jail doing duty as Jailor of the District prison also, an arrangement that is not without its drawbacks, as the supervision of the Native Convicts is necessarily neglected. If the Government think fit a separate Officer will be engaged for this duty with the understanding that in case of necessity he is to do duty as Warder.

4. No fresh sanction is I believe necessary, though I have on several occasions spoken of the one office as merged in the other, the Government Order, 28th April 1862, No. 670, provides for the Jailor on Rupees 75 monthly.

See also E. P. G. I., 9th June 1862, No. 4,051.

From W. S. NESBITT, Esq., Sub-Judge, in charge of European Prison, Ootacamund; to J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Jails, dated Ootacamund, 16th February 1863, No. 33.

I have the honor to bring to your notice the great inconvenience which arises when any one of the Warders of the European Jail falls sick and becomes unable to attend to his duties.

The four Warders are detailed in rotation for duty in the entrance room of the Jail, and each Warder when on this duty is obliged to remain at his post from 6 o'clock on the morning he comes on duty, till 6 o'clock the following morning, and is also obliged to be on the alert during the whole night. It is therefore considered necessary when he comes off duty to permit him to be absent from the Jail for the remainder of the day, consequently there are only three Warders available for duty, and one of these is employed as above in the entrance room, that is outside of the inner Iron Gate, and two inside the body of the Jail; but when any one of these two Warders becomes sick, it only leaves *one available* for the inside of the Jail which is certainly not sufficient, as it is impossible for one man to have an eye to the *whole* of the prisoners, some of whom are at work in different parts of the Jail both inside and *out in the yards*.

Under these circumstances I beg to suggest for your consideration whether it would not be advisable to move the Government to sanction the employment of an additional Warder, which would be advantageous as securing more effectual supervision.

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196. ORDER THEREON, 22nd April 1863, No. 622.

Under the circumstances brought to notice, His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the keeper of the European Prison at Ootacamund should be relieved from the duty of Jailor of the District Jail, and that a separate Officer should be engaged to take charge of this latter Jail at the rate of salary sanctioned in the Order of Government of the 28th April 1862, No. 670, viz., Rupees 75 per mensem, and with the understanding, as proposed by Mr. Rohde, that he is to do duty as Warder also in case of necessity. This will be only giving effect to an arrangement already sanctioned, but which it has hitherto not been considered necessary to carry out.

Confirmed by the Government of India, 9th June 1862, No. 4,051.

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

Exd. T. McMootry.

Judl 1863 Depart

No. 622.

Proceedings of Court

No 22
Feb 25/64