

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

[illegible]

1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
16th February 1854.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 103. From the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Magistrate of Salem; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOTT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated *Camp Puthramindanpallam, 9th January 1854, No. 3.

I have the honor to enclose, for the information of Government, copy of a letter received from the Superintendent of Police, Salem, dated 4th instant, No. 8, informing me of the attempt made by certain convicts under sentence of transportation, who were on their way from Tinnevely, to effect their escape from the custody of the Police.

2. Most of the prisoners have been re-taken and are now under trial.

From Lieutenant J. B. REID, Acting Superintendent of Police; to the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, dated Camp Thathungapatty, 4th January 1854, No. 8.

I have the honor to inform you that on the 1st instant, at about 5 p.m., a gang of 36 convicts under sentence of transportation, en-route from Tinnevely, made a desperate attempt to effect their escape from the custody of their Police escort, while halting for their evening meal at the Sub-station house here, and that the attempt has unfortunately been attended with fatal results.

2. From inquiries made next day at the spot by Captain Storey, Assistant Superintendent of Police, and myself, it would appear that, on the arrival of the party from Namcal, the prisoners' food being prepared their hand-cuffs were removed to permit of their eating. While thus engaged one of the prisoners, a young Brahmin, who did not join with the others in the attempt to escape, gave the Inspector and petty Officers of the Police party warning of what was about to take place, telling them that he had heard the other prisoners agree among themselves to delay as long as possible over their rice, in order to have the advantage of night-fall soon after breaking away. At this time there were twelve Constables standing on guard round the gang. These, on the alarm, under the Inspector's orders hurried the prisoners into the Station house (an open shed), and the Inspector and Head Constable at once began putting on the hand-cuffs. Resistance was offered by the first man they tried to fetter. A scuffle ensued, and, finally, on a signal by one of the leaders, the whole broke loose in a body beating off the Police with the stones they had been using to make fire places with, and whatever else came to hand, one of them snatching a musket (which has not since been recovered) from the hands of one of the Constables.

3. Of the 36, 29 in all got clear away on the first rush. They were followed by the Police, who at first attempted but failed to re-take them without resorting to extreme measures. In the chase which ensued, it would appear that the convicts kept together and frequently fired about on their pursuers with large stones, which are abundant in the fields round the village. Several Constables as well as villagers who turned out to assist were hit. Finding evening coming on and all else unavailing, the Police charged with bayonet and sword, and a running fight was kept up for about three miles.

4. Four prisoners were shot dead, and others were brought in wounded more or less severely. Of these two died in the Station-house during the night, and one next day, while three others were sent into Salem by me for Medical treatment, who were at the time in a very critical condition.

5. Two convicts were re-taken yesterday unhurt; eight are missing.

6. The Police received material assistance from several of the villagers. I shall furnish you with particulars in another letter, and trust that these men will meet with some reward.

P. 84—7 p.m.—Three more prisoners have just been brought in, of whom two have slight bayonet wounds.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT,
Magistrate.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
10th February 1864.

No. 101. From J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Jails, Outramund; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, Madras Outramund, 19th January 1864, No. 514.

I have the honor to forward copy of a report of an escape of convicts under sentence of transportation on their way from Palancottah to the Railway Station at Salem, on the evening of the 1st instant.

2. The matter will, I doubt not, have already been communicated to the Government in the Police Department, and as I have no knowledge of the matter other than that communicated by Mr. Reid in the letter, a copy of which is now forwarded, I can add nothing to the report.

3. I met these prisoners, and, if my memory is correct, two others, under charge of Sergeant Green, now of the Police, and 16 Constables ten miles south of Trichinopoly on the 24th ultimo, and inspected the gang and instructions, nothing seemed wanting to their safe custody.

4. My first impression on seeing the gang was that the prisoners should have been sent by sea from Tuticorin, but it afterwards occurred to me that the Steamer would have touched Colombo, and that the legality of their detention might be there questioned. This is a point on which I shall be obliged by your communicating to me the views of the Government.

From J. B. REID, Esq., Superintendent of Police, Salem; to J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector General of Jails, dated Salem, 8th January 1864, No. 19.

I have the honor to inform you that on the 1st instant, at about 5 p. m., a gang of 36 convicts under sentence of transportation, en-route from Tinnevely, made a desperate attempt to effect their escape from the custody of their Police escort, while halting for their evening meal at the Sub-station house at Thalhampatty,* and that the attempt has unfortunately been attended with fatal results.

* Empire's Division, Salem District.

2. From inquiries made next day at the spot by Captain Storey, Assistant Superintendent of Police, and myself, it would appear that, on the arrival of the party from Namkud, the prisoners' food being prepared their hand-cuffs were removed to permit of their eating. While thus engaged one of the prisoners, a young Brahmin, who did not join with the others in the attempt to escape, gave the Inspector and the petty Officers of the Police party warning of what was about to take place, telling them that he had heard the other prisoners agree among themselves to delay as long as possible over their rice, in order to have the advantage of night-fall soon after breaking away. At this time there were twelve Constables standing on guard (besides the three regular sentries) round the gang, whose, on the alarm, under the Inspector's orders hurried the prisoners into the Station-house (an open shed) and the Inspector and head Constable at once began putting on the hand-cuffs. Resistance was offered by the first man they tried to fetter. A scuffle ensued, and, finally, on a signal by one of the leaders, the whole broke loose in a body hurling off the Police with the stones they had been using to make fire places with, and whatever else came to hand, one of them snatching a musket (which has not since been recovered) from the hands of one of the Constables.

3. Of the 36 convicts, 29 in all got clear away on the first rush. They were followed by the Police, who at first attempted but failed to re-take them without resorting to extreme measures. In the chase which ensued it would appear that the Convicts kept together and frequently fired about on their pursuers with large stones, which are abundant in the fields round the village. Several Constables as well as one of the villagers who turned out to assist were hit. Finding evening coming on and all else unavailing, the Police charged with bayonet and sword, and a running fight was kept up for about three miles.

4. Four prisoners were shot dead and fifteen were brought back wounded more or less severely; of the latter, four have since died of their wounds. Two more were re-taken on the 2nd instant, four on the 4th instant; and I yesterday received information of the re-capture of members of the gang in Egnor village of the Karur Taluk, Coimbatore. Only three of the convicts therefore remain at large, and every effort is being made to effect their re-capture. I enclose a Bill showing the names of the killed, wounded, and missing.

(A true Copy)

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector General of Jails.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
10th February 1864.

SALEM DISTRICT.

Nominal Roll of 36 convicts under sentence of transportation from Tinnevely, who effected their escape on the 1st January 1864, at Thalhampatty Sub-station, in Bangalore Division.

Sentenced Case No.	Name of the Prisoners.	Sentence.	Remarks.
Killed 8.			
114	Carrageen alias Moothoo Carrageen ...	10 years' transportation.	Died in the Jail Hospital.
95	C. Rangaswamy... ..		
95	Oodiahamey... ..		
95	Anangaperumal... ..		
95	Vannamamalar... ..		
95	Anangaperumal... ..	Transportation for life.	
95	Sopthio... ..		
95	Cannamothoo... ..		
Wounded 13.			
95	Soodalamoosoo... ..	10 years' transportation.	
95	Madamswamy... ..		
95	Soodalamoosoo... ..		
95	Muthoo alias Padaravannam... ..		
114	Soodalar Moothoo... ..		
114	Madamswamy Taven... ..	10 years' transportation.	
114	Commamooly Taven... ..		
114	Samy Taven... ..		
114	Madamswamy Taven... ..		
95	Andy... ..		
95	Arundulla Taven... ..		
95	Ramen... ..		
95	Ratharumoo Madamswamy... ..		
Re-taken, value, 2.			
95	Kylam... ..	10 years' transportation.	
95	Pallavanam... ..		
95	Mandoo... ..	Transportation for life.	
Re-taken, but not yet brought in, 2.			
95	Chinnamooly... ..	10 years' transportation.	
95	Parumadum... ..		
Did not succeed in effecting escape 7.			
114	Vannamodoo... ..	10 years' transportation.	*This man warned the Police immediately before the outbreak.
78	*Pillay Inger... ..	7 do.	
70	Ramaswamy Nallam... ..	do.	
94	Sickaramaswamy Pillay... ..	Reprises fine.	
94	Soodhar... ..	7 years' transportation.	
95	Kavaram... ..	Transportation for life.	
95	Madamswamy... ..	10 years' transportation.	
Missing 2.			
95	Pillay Moothoo... ..	10 years' transportation.	
114	Madamswamy... ..		
95	Ramaswamy... ..		

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,
SALEM, 8th January 1864.

(Signed) J. B. REID,
Acting Superintendent of Police.

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector General of Jails.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
16th February 1864.*

No. 102. From W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 25th January 1864, No. 157.

General Department.

I have the honor to submit, for the information of Government, the report of the Deputy Inspector General on the recent attempt on the part of a gang of 36 convicts, proceeding to Madras for embarkation to undergo sentence of transportation, to escape from the guard.

2. A gang of 36 convicts sentenced to transportation was despatched from Palamcottah Jail early in December. The gang consisted of desperate ruffians: 21 belonged to the same case on the Session file, and 8 to another case. They were marched with much care through the Tinnevely, Madurai, and Trichinopoly Districts, and only at the last stage before reaching the Railway Station at Thathangapatty, near Salem, on the afternoon of the 1st instant, made the desperate attempt which has ended so fatally to many.

3. The guard seems, on the whole, to have been forbearing. They only used their arms when they found that the escape could not otherwise be prevented. Eight convicts were killed or have died of their wounds, and other 15 were more or less wounded. There only have effected a successful escape. I hope shortly to learn that these have been apprehended.

4. The loss of life is deeply to be mourned, but it was unavoidable. A Native convict sets little value on his life when transportation is before him, and the outbreak was determined and desperate.

5. I am writing to Mr. Rolde to request him to beg Officers in charge of Jails to intimate to Police Officers the number of convicts for transportation, and leave the arrangement of the gangs, &c. to them. I shall then instruct Police Officers never to send more than 10 men in the same gang, and to see that many men concerned in the same case are not despatched together. It was obviously inexpedient to send 36 such ruffians in one gang.

From Captain E. L. HANKIN, Acting Deputy Inspector General of Police, Western Range, to W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police, dated Salem, 25th January 1864, No. 18.

I have the honor to make a detailed report on the attempt at escape of a body of 36 convicts at Thathangapatty, Salem District, on the evening of the 1st instant. The convicts were enroute from Tinnevely to Madras under sentence of transportation.

2. A party of the Salem Police, strength as per margin, took charge of the convicts at Vallapatty on the 30th ultimo, from a party of the Trichinopoly Police. The guard was unusually strong owing to the known desperate character of the convicts to be escorted.

1 Native Inspector.
2 Head Constables.
3 Deputy Head Constables.
11 Constables.

3. On the morning of the 31st the party reached Nankal, and the convicts were safely lodged for the night in the lock-up at that place.

4. On the 1st, about mid-day, they reached Thathangapatty; here unfortunately there was no lock-up, or other secure accommodation. The convicts were placed in the only building available, viz., an open Chattram. The Inspector having made effective arrangements for guarding the convicts, allowed a portion of the guard to go away to procure food. All this time the prisoners were hand-cuffed in couples. At 4 o'clock p.m. the whole guard returned, and the convicts, after having their hand-fetters removed, were allowed to come outside of the building to eat their food. About half past 4, on the completion of the meal, as the convicts were being turned into the building again, one of the prisoners, who had the name of Pully Teyager, who speaks English, addressed one of the Deputy Head Constables, who also understands English, in that language, to the effect that the prisoners had been conspiring together, and that the Police had better look out. This hint quickened the movements of the latter, and the hand-fetters were about to be put on again, when a lawless ruffian (one of those who had been inside) gave a signal, and the whole body of convicts made a rush to get out again. As already stated, there was no wall to prevent their doing so. The Police were given up with loaded muskets and swords outside, and although a hint had been given a few minutes before to the Deputy Constable in charge

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
16th February 1864.*

not known that a general rush was about to be made; 29 convicts got out of the building, 7 were kept back by the Police. On getting outside, the convicts took up stones, and whatever else came to hand, and hurled them at the Police. One of the convicts seized a musket from the hands of a Policeman, and another armed himself with a bludgeon, and made a blow at the Inspector's head which that individual luckily avoided. Within a few yards of the Chattram the direction was open country, and towards it the convicts made off. The Police used their swords when the first general rush was made, and a few of the convicts were stopped; but this did not deter the remainder from making off as fast as their legs would carry them. The Police were at this juncture unwilling to fire, but the convicts armed themselves with large stones prevented them from coming to close quarters. It was not till the convicts had got at least 400 yards away from the building that the first shot was fired. One convict dropped dead. The firing then became pretty general. There were eight carbines amongst the Police, the remainder Policemen were armed with swords. The Police continued the pursuit till after dark, firing and re-loading as they advanced. At the close of the day when the Police desisted from active pursuit, the result was four convicts shot dead, 15 re-captured more or less wounded (principally by sword cuts), excluding the seven who did not get out of the Chattram.

5. On the 2nd the Superintendent and his Assistant arrived, who awarded the country offering rewards of 20 Rupees for each convict brought in. An inquest was held on the dead bodies by the Sub-Magistrate, Veerkatesubiah. By this time three of the wounded men had died.

6. On the 2nd two convicts were brought in, one by a villager, the other by a Police Constable.

7. On the 4th three more convicts were arrested, and sent in by the Monegar of Mandur, eight miles from the Chattram: two of these men were wounded. They had all three succeeded in getting rid of their leg fetters. On the same day another convict was captured by the Village Monegar of Kanchacherry, some 25 miles away.

8. On the 2nd or 3rd a convict was caught at Ernoor, Caroor Division, Coimbatore District, by the Village Monegar.* Below is a statement of results up to date.

Results up to date.	
Killed on the spot, and since died of their wounds...	8
Wounded more or less severely (one of these is in a dangerous state)...	15
Re-taken without...	3
Re-taken, but not yet brought into Salem (they may or may not be wounded)...	2
Re-taken, but not yet brought into Salem...	7
Still at large...	3
	36

9. Of the three still at large we are daily expecting to hear good accounts.

10. While regretting the great amount of bloodshed, I cannot impute blame to the Police. They were lath to use their arms at first, and it was only when they saw that unless they resorted to extreme means, the escape of a large body of convicts was inevitable, that they did so. I think on the contrary that their conduct was firm, and only what the unhappy occasion required.

11. One mistake occurred in my opinion, and that was the removal of the hand-fetters for any purpose whatever. I learn, however, that before the Salem Police took charge, only leg chains were worn by the convicts.

12. There can be no doubt that an escape had been long contemplated by the convicts, but the attempt was put off from day to day till the very last day for making it had arrived; the next march would have brought the party into Salem.

13. Some of the Police rendered assistance from stones, but none have been seriously hurt.

14. I trust that the reward offered by the Superintendent for the re-capture of the escaped convicts may be confirmed.

15. I append a Nominal Roll of the convicts who have been killed, of those who have been re-captured, and of those still at large.

16. It must be remembered that no Nominal or Descriptive Roll was sent with the convicts. This omission has caused delay in the re-capture of those who effected their escape.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
16th February 1864.

SALEM DISTRICT.

Nominal Roll of 36 convicts under sentence of transportation from Tiruvelli who effected their escape on the 1st January 1864 at Thuthungapathy Sub-station in Rameswaram Division.

Serial Case No.	Name of the Prisoners.	Sentence.	Remarks.
Killed 3.			
114	Caruppan alias Muttu Caruppan	10 years' transportation.	Died in the Jail Hospital.
95	C. Ramaswamy		
95	Qadu Taven		
95	Annapuram		
95	Vasumalai		
95	Annapuram	Transportation for life.	
95	Soubhu		
95	Cammoth		
Wounded 13.			
93	Soodamunth	10 years' transportation.	
95	Muttu Muttu		
95	Soodamunth		
95	Muttu alias Palaniam		
114	Soodamunth		
114	Muttu Muttu		
114	Cammoth		
114	Somy Taven		
114	Muttu Muttu		
95	Annapuram		
95	Ravi		
95	Rathnam Muttu		
95	Anda		
Re-taken, subject, 3.			
95	Ky...	10 years' transportation.	
95	P...		
95	M...		
Re-taken, but not yet brought in, 2.			
95	Ch...	10 years' transportation.	
95	P...		
Did not succeed in effecting escape 7.			
114	V...	10 years' transportation.	This man warned the Police immediately before the outbreak.
78	P...	7 do. do.	
79	R...	7 do. do. and 200 Rupees fine.	
94	S...	2 years' transportation.	
94	R...	7 do. do.	
95	K...	Transportation for life.	
95	M...	10 years' transportation.	
Missing 3.			
95	P...	10 years' transportation.	
114	M...		
95	R...		

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

Office of Superintendent of Police,
Salem, 3rd January 1864.

(Signed) J. B. SHED,
Acting Superintendent of Police.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
16th February 1864.

No. 103.

Order Thursday, 16th February 1864, No. 196.

The papers above forwarded contain the reports received from the Officers of the Departments concerned, on a desperate attempt at escape made by a gang of 36 convicts under sentence of transportation while at the village of Thuthungapathy in the Salem District, on their way from Palamudich to Madras on the 1st January 1864.

It is clear from the reports of the Deputy Inspector General and the Acting District Superintendent of Police, that the attempt at escape was premeditated and the result of a conspiracy in which almost the whole gang took part, the men having apparently been waiting for a favorable opportunity, and having at last only determined to make the attempt on the last day of their march before reaching the Railway station at Salem, choosing the time of their evening meal when their hand-fetters were removed to enable them to eat, and there was but a little daylight remaining, as the opportunity affording them the best chance of success.

The moon was just over at half past 4 in the afternoon; the guard were all present and on the alert, and one of the Deputy Constables, to whom one of the convicts had given a hint that the rest of the gang were conspiring together, was about to re-place the hand-fetters, when at a given signal the convicts made a rush to get out of the Chattram in which they had been lodged for the night, but which being an open building without walls, afforded but scanty means of securing them. As many as 29 out of the 36 succeeded in getting outside, and after doing what damage they could with stones and anything they could lay their hands upon, made off in a body for the open country on the edge of which the Chattram stands, occasionally turning round and preventing the Police from coming to close quarters by volleys of stones. The latter, though apparently forbearing as long as forbearance was compatible with any chance of the re-capture of the convicts, acted with great vigour and maintained a close pursuit and running fight till night-fall, when they had killed or captured as many as 19 of the 29. Seven more were captured by the villagers or the Police in the three following days, so that on the 8th January, when the Deputy Inspector General's report was written, only three of the whole gang were unaccounted for.

The following abstract shows the numbers of the killed, wounded, and captured un-
lost:—

Killed on the spot or died of their wounds.....	8
Wounded.....	13
Re-taken subject.....	3
Re-taken, but not known on 8th January to be wounded or not.....	2
Did not succeed in getting out of the Chattram.....	7
Still at large.....	5
	36

The Government regret the loss of life which has been the consequence of this unfortunate attempt to escape, but are satisfied that, under the circumstances, the use of fire-arms by the Police was unavoidable. The mistake was, as pointed out by Mr. Robinson, the sending of a gang of 36 convicts under sentence of transportation and most of them old associates, to be marched through the country at all, although the precaution was taken of sending an unusually strong guard. Native convicts with transportation before them are proverbially careless of life when they conceive that by risking it they have a chance of escape, and it is much to the credit of the Police that their prisoners found no better opportunity of attempting an escape during their long march from Palamudich than that which has ended so disastrously. The attempt was made by the whole gang combined, only two results were possible, the convicts must escape or be prevented by the guards before their escape.

In the present instance the guard acted, as noted above, to have been forbearing as long as forbearance was possible, and to have acted throughout with courage and energy. The Inspector General will communicate to the men of the force concerned the approval of the Government in Council of the efficient manner in which they discharged their duty.

The Government speak with pleasure the ready assistance shown to have been afforded to the Police by the villagers on the occasion of this outbreak, and will be glad to be informed by Mr. Robinson of the names of any villagers whom he may consider deserving of reward, and the amount that he would recommend to be given.

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16th February 1864.

8. The Inspector General of Jails will be requested to issue instructions, as suggested by Mr. Robinson, directing all Officers in charge of Jails to leave the entire arrangement of the gangs of convicts required to be sent from one place to another to the Police. The Police guard should also in every case be furnished with a Descriptive Roll of the convicts entrusted to them.

9. The Inspector General of Jails will also be good enough to obtain and submit to Government an abstract of the case and sentence of Pillay Iyengar, the young Brahmin convict, who gave warning of the outbreak.

10. The point raised in paragraph 4 of Mr. Robde's letter will be referred for the opinion of the Government Pleas'er.

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

Received
Forwarded for
Inspector General
Information -
Another & fuller
report will follow
through D. I. P.

These papers
have been sent to
Mr. (A. J. Arbuthnot)
for his information
& for the
Inspector General will be
reported by Mr.
Robinson in due
course by the

not to be printed
It is anticipated
that the Police will
be able to get
the Village of
Kandam
The Police in the
themed receive the
prison due to them
and the latter get
something more
substantial - Some
commission of sentence
might be allowed
to the young Brahmin
who gave the warning
to the Police - if his
case be held to be
good one - This is
the order of the
Police - and the

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter—

From the Mag^r of Salem—(Recd. under 9: January 1854. No. 3.)
 — Inspector Gen^l of Police }
 Colacumund. } 19: — — — — — 5: 14: }
 — Inspector Gen^l of Police } 25: — — — — — 16: 7: }

Order thereon, 16: February 1854. No. 176.

1. The papers above recorded contain the reports received from the officers of the department concerned, on a desperate attempt at escape made by a gang of 36 convicts under sentences of transportation while at the Village of Nuthangapally in the Salem district on their way from Palamcottah to Madras on the 1st January 1854.

2. It is clear from the reports of the Deputy Inspector

General

176

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176

176

General and the Acting District
Superintendent of Police, that
the attempt at escape was pre-
meditated, and the result of a
conspiracy in which almost
the whole gang took part, the
men having apparently been
waiting for a favorable oppor-
tunity, and having at last
determined to make the attempt
on the last day of their march
before reaching the railway station
at Luling, choosing the time
of their evening meal when their
bandfellows were anxious to
enable them to eat, and there was
but a little day light remaining,
as the opportunity offering them
the best chance of success.

3. The meal was just over at
8 p.m. in the afternoon, the
guards were all present and one
the alert one of the Deputy
Constable to whom one of the
conspirators had given a hint
that the rest of the gang were
conspiring

17 ⑧
conspiring together, was about
to replace the bandfellows, when
at a given signal the conspirators
made a rush to get out of the
kitchen in which they had
been lodged for the night, but
which being an open building
without walls, offered but a
scanty means of securing them.
As many as 29 out of the 36 conspirators
in getting outside, and after doing
what damage they could with
stones and anything they could
lay their hands upon, made off
in a body for the open country,
on the edge of which the Chatterbox
stands, occasionally turning round
and preventing the Police from
coming to close quarters by pelting
of stones. The latter though
apparently forbearing as long as
fortune was propitious
with any chance of the escape
of the conspirators, acted with
great vigour and intent as soon as
close pursuit and running fight

till nightfall, when they had
killed or captured as many as 19
of the 29. Some more were cap-
tured by the Battalions or the Police
in the three following days, so
that on the 8th January when the
Deputy Inspector General's report
was written, only three of the
whole gang were unaccounted
for.

4. The following statement
shows the numbers of the killed,
wounded, and captured unharmed.

Killed on the spot or died of their wounds	8.
Wounded	13.
Retaken unharmed	3
Retaken but not known on	
8 th Jan. to be wounded or not	2.
Did not succeed in getting out of the <u>thicket</u>	7
Still at large	3
	<u>36</u>

5. The Government deeply
regret the great loss of life
which has been the conse-
quence of this unfortunate
attempt to escape, but are satisfied

that

that under the circumstances the
use of force by the Police was
unavoidable. The mistake was,
as pointed out by Mr. Police on
the sending of a gang of 36 Con-
victs under sentences of trans-
portation and most of them
old convicts, to be marched
through the country at all, ~~and~~
~~although the proportion was supposed~~
~~to be small and it was~~
~~supposed to~~
have been unusually strong ^{armed}
consisting of 20 men with 8 or
10 Native Convicts with
transportation before them
unprovokedly a mile of life
when they overcame that by
risking at they have a chance
of escape, and it is much to the
credit of the Police that they found
no better opportunity of attempting
an escape during their long
march from Patna to the
that which has ended so disastrously.
The attempt was
made by the whole gang

combining

combined, only two results were possible, the convicts must escape or be prevented by the guard using their arms. —

6. In the present instance the guard appear as noted, who to have been forbearing as long as forbearance was possible, and to have acted throughout with courage and energy. The Inspectors General will commend to the men of the force concerned the approval of the Government in reward of the efficient manner in which they discharged their duty. —

7. The Government remarks with pleasure the ready assistance stated to have been afforded to the Police by the villagers on the occasion of this outbreak, and will be glad to be informed by Mr. Robinson of the names of

17 (10)
of any villagers whom he may consider deserving of reward, the amount that he would recommend to be given. —

8. The Inspector General of Jails will be requested to issue instructions as suggested by Mr. Robinson directing all officers in charge of jails to have the entire arrangement of the gangs of convicts required to be sent from one place to another to the Police. The Police guard should also in every case be furnished with a description of the convicts entrusted to them. —

9. The Inspector General of Jails will also be good enough to obtain and submit to Govt. an abstract of the case and sentence of killing Syngar, the young Brahmin convict who gave warning of

Prescott's papers vol. 4678

of the outbreak -

The point raised on behalf
of Mr. Polden's letter will be
referred for the opinion of
the House and the Board.

see

by

To the High Court of Admiralty
High Court of Admiralty
Magistrate of London
Gov. Pleader

deposited 17th

F.M.

Attorney General
of Canada (Selwyn)

(14)

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PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated 18 February 1882

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Council