M.R.O. 1—29,000—16-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1193 Press Mis.

231-232

Dated 29-8- 19--

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 231. Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel W. J. WILSON, Acting Inspector General of Jails, to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Bangalore, 18th August 1865, No. 180.

I have the honor to submit, for the favorable consideration of Government, copies of a letter and Statement forwarded by Mr. H. E. Sullivan, Acting Session Judge of Salem, in which he recommends the remission of portions of the sentences of five convicts, on account of their exertions in re-capturing certain convicts on the 12th May 1865, and in preventing others from attempting to escape on the same occasion.

From H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Session Judge, to Lieutenant Colonel W. J. WILSON, Acting Inspector General of Jails; dated Salem, 14th August 1865.

I have the honor to forward, herewith, a Nominal Roll of five convicts, whom I beg to recommend for a remission of punishment, for their good conduct in assisting to re-capture four out of five convicts who escaped from a working gang on the 12th of May last, and in preventing the rest of the gang, about 40 in number, from escaping.

2. The facts of the case are as follows :—On the day in question, a gang of 50 men were employed in getting water from the river. The guard in a most reprehensible manner sat down under a tree, in a position where they could not command a proper view of the convicts. Two of the prisoners mentioned in the accompanying roll gave the alarm that some of the gang were making off, but the guard at first refused to believe it, and it was not till the Warder had satisfied himself that five men had actually got away that any action was taken. Then, of course, they lost their presence of mind, and all, with the exception of one Constable, went in pursuit of the fugitives. (1) Dommara Cooppen, (2) Palla Mauren, and (3) Chinnapien accompanied them, and personally assisted in capturing four out of the five escaped convicts. One got clear away, and has never since been heard of. It may be imagined that it would have been no very difficult matter for the rest of the gang to have followed the lead, as there was only one Constable guarding them; but the two men (4) Nursiah and (5) Kaligan made use of their influence, and persuaded them to remain all quietly seated till fresh guards arrived from the Jail.

3. I have recommended that two years of the sentence should be remitted, except in the cases of Palla Mauren and Nursiah, who have not that time to serve. Perhaps the amount of remission may appear excessive, but it is most important to secure the co-operation of the prisoners themselves, and these men, in my opinion, conducted themselves in a meritorious manner under circumstances of considerable temptation. After they had been abandoned by the guard, there was nothing to prevent the whole gang making off, and I almost feel inclined to recommend that they should all be rewarded for not having done so.

(True Copy).

(Signed) W. J. WILSON, Lieut.-Colonel.,
Acting Inspector General of Jails.

Names of convicts in the Salem Jail, with crime and sentence, recommended for remission of punishment, for aiding the authorities in the capture of five escaped convicts, and guarding the rest of the gang on the 12th May 1865.

Number of case on Calendar.	Name of Prisoner.	Crime.	Sentence.	Date of Sentence.	Date of Release.	Why recommended.	Recommendation of the Officer in Charge of the Jail.
Calendar No. 45 of 1857.	Dommara Cooppen.....	Highway robbery.	14 years.	22nd August 1857.	22nd August 1871.	For assisting in capturing four escaped convicts.	That Palla Mauren and Nursiah be released at once. That Chinnapien be released on the 10th September next, and Kaligan on the 30th January 1866, and Dommara Cooppen on the 22nd August 1869. The amount of remission recommended is two years except in the cases of Palla Mauren and Nursiah who have not that time to serve.
,, No. 27 of 1846, and Criminal No. 7 of 1850.	Palla Mauren.....	Do. , and escape.	18 years.	20th May 1846.	19th March 1867.		
Calendar No. 148 and 149 of 1862.	Chinnapien.....	Theft and escape.	5 years.	10th Sept. 1862.	10th Sept. 1867.		
,, No. 68 of 1861.	Nursiah.....	Breach of trust.	5 years.	20th Dec. 1861.	20th Dec. 1866.	For preventing 40 convicts escaping, when abandoned by the guard, who, with the exception of one man, went in pursuit of the five prisoners who broke away from the gang.	
,, No. 6 of 1861.	Kaligan.....	Highway robbery.	7 years.	30th Jan. 1861.	30th Jan. 1868.		

SALEM JAIL OFFICE,
14*th August* 1865.

(True Copy).

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Session Judge.
(Signed) W. J. WILSON,
Acting Inspector General of Jails.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
29th August 1865.

No. 232. ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1865, No. 1193.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased, in recognition of the service performed by the five convicts named in Mr. Sullivan's letter, to remit two years out of the unexpired portion of the sentence under which Dommara Cooppen, Chinnapien, and Kaligan are severally undergoing imprisonment in the Salem Jail, and to authorize the immediate release of prisoners Palla Mauren and Nursiah.

2. The Governor in Council wishes to be informed what notice has been taken of the negligence of the Guard.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.
,, Inspector General of Police.
,, Session Judge of Salem.

Ed. J. H. Burn.

No 1193 - 25 August 1863

H. E. the Governor in Council is pleased, in recognition of the services performed by the five Convicts named in Mr. Sullivan's letter, to remit two years out of the unexpired portion of the sentence under which Dommara Coopsen, Chinnapiero, & Kaligan are severally undergoing imprisonment in the Salem Gaol, & to authorise the immediate release of prisoners Palla Mawren & Nursiah.

The Inspector-Genl of Gaols.
" Sessions Judge Salem.