M.R.O. 1—50,000—14-12-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1681	Press Mis.
2dr 207		
Dated	24 11	19 1865

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 206. Read the following letter from the Acting Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Bangalore, 6th October 1865, No. 362.

I have the honor to forward a letter (with enclosures) from the Magistrate of Malabar, recommending that Captain Clay, Cantonment Magistrate of Cannanore, should be appointed Superintendent of the Jail at that station, and that Dr. Furnell and the Head Assistant Magistrate should be appointed Superintendents of the Jails at Cochin and Palghaut respectively.

2. The daily average number of prisoners in these Jails, during the month of August last, was as follows:—

Cannanore	92
Palghaut	87
Cochin	35

The returns for September have not yet been received, but I have no reason to believe that any material change has taken place in these numbers. The transfer of 60 Convicts from Coimbatore, which was to have been carried out on the 1st September, was postponed, in consequence of a telegram from Captain Clay, announcing the presence of Cholera on the route, but in all probability it will soon be carried out, which will bring up the number to 150 or thereabouts. It is also probable, bearing in mind the views expressed by Government, that a gang of convicts may, before long, be located on the site of the new Central Jail, and I therefore concur in the recommendation of Mr. Ballard, and suggest that these men also be placed under Captain Clay's supervision.

3. I do not see the necessity for making any change in the superintendence of the Jails at Cochin and Palghaut for the present.

From the Magistrate of Malabar, to the Inspector General of Jails; dated Kalpetta, 16th September 1865, No. 2739A.

I have honor to forward a letter* from the Cantonment Magistrate of Cannanore, applying to be put in charge of the Jail at that station.

* In original, dated 11th instant, No 321, with enclosure.

2. I have every reason to believe Captain Clay would prove a very efficient Superintendent, and in my opinion the charge is as important a one as several others to which I see Superintendents have been appointed.

3. I observe, also, that no Superintendents are appointed either to the Cochin or Palghaut Jails, and beg to suggest that Dr. Furnell and the Head Assistant Magistrate be appointed Superintendents, respectively, at those stations.

4. Should I be wrong in addressing you on this subject, may I beg the favor of your sending on this letter to the Chief Secretary to Government.

From Captain A. D. CLAY, Cantonment Magistrate in charge of the Jail at Cannanore, to the Magistrate of Malabar; dated Cannanore, 11th September 1865, No. 321.

Adverting to the Notification in the *Government Gazette*, under date the 8th instant, appointing gentlemen to be Superintendents of Jails, I have the honor to request you will do me the favor to submit my application, to be appointed Superintendent of the Cannanore Jail, to the favorable consideration of His Excellency the Governor.

2. I have been in charge of the Jail since February 19th, 1864, and have been complimented on its sanitary condition by every Medical Officer that has visited it, and by the Inspector General of Jails.

3. Since I have had charge of the Jail, I have most successfully introduced the dry earth conservancy system, and have established a garden in the Jail compound, where native vegetables are grown for the use of the convicts, besides instituting other reforms.

4. The Jail has been a source of incessant anxiety and unremitting care and attention to me during the late unusually sickly season, and to this (under Providence) I attribute the fact that not a single case of Cholera occurred in the Cannanore Jail, while hundreds—I might say thousands—were dying all round.

5. I have received intimation that 60 additional convicts are to be transferred to this Jail from Coimbatore, which will bring the number of inmates up to 150, the Jail affording altogether accommodation for 155.

6. I enclose an original letter from the Garrison Surgeon.

From the Garrison Surgeon, Cannanore, to Captain A. D. CLAY, Cantonment Magistrate in charge of the Jail at Cannanore; dated Cannanore, 11th September 1865.

I have the honor, at your request, to offer an opinion regarding the Jail at Cannanore.

2. During the period of my incumbency of the Medical charge, the past year, very great improvements in the Jail have been carried out by you. It has been rendered dry, light, and airy; the ventilation of the wards and parts around vastly improved; cleanliness constantly and thoroughly enforced; a most admirable system of conservancy (dry earth also) adopted, which I have never seen equalled; there has been nothing offensive in or out of the wards since; and I have never known any Jail wards so perfectly free of all offensive odours. I have been constantly struck with this latter, and have frequently remarked it to yourself. A very nice and productive garden has been formed; and I can testify to the care and attention that has been bestowed on the food and cooking. The results have been a marked diminution of sickness; the prisoners present a markedly healthy appearance—a more healthy and robust one generally than an equal number taken of the same classes outside, and which has been more than once officially noted by myself; and while Cholera and low fevers, for long past, have been raging fearfully and fatally around, there has been a total immunity from even a sign of these in the Jail—nay, more, there has been an immunity from all sickness, for I have not had a single admission into hospital for the past 5 or 6 weeks.

3. I speak to the above, having been in Medical charge, and the prisoners and Jail buildings, &c., constantly under my own eye, and frequently visited.

No. 207. ORDER THEREON, 24th November 1865, No. 1681.

The Governor in Council is not prepared to make any fresh arrangements, or to sanction any salaries, for the charge of the Jails at Cannanore, Cochin and Palghaut. The recent orders regarding the charge of Jails are applicable only to District Jails.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Order thereon. 24th November 1865 No. 1681

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Inspector Genl of Jails