

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Indrial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 483

Press

Mis.

Dated 29. 3. 1915

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 221. Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel W. J. WILSON, Commissioner of Police, to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 9th March 1865, No. 29.

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, two petitions to the address of the Governor General, one from John Pendergast, the other from Charles Ross, both convicts at present confined in the Madras Penitentiary.

2. Pendergast was tried before the Supreme Court in Calcutta, and sentenced to Penal Servitude for six years, on the 4th April 1860, for cutting and wounding, and he was subsequently sentenced to six months' hard labor for Prison breach. He was transferred to the Penitentiary from Ootacamund, on the 8th September 1864, on account of his health. His conduct, while in the Ootacamund prison, was good, and he has behaved well since he has been here.

Judicial Department, 6th September 1864, No. 1354.

3. Ross was sentenced in Calcutta, on the 7th December 1861, to six years' Penal Servitude, for forging and uttering, and was also transferred from Ootacamund to the Penitentiary, on account

Judicial Department, 2nd March 1863, No. 340.

of his health. In the month of June 1863, he petitioned either for a remission of the remainder of his sentence, or for a conditional pardon in the Andaman Islands.

Judicial Department, 15th September 1863, No. 1476.

The Lieutenant Governor declined to grant the remission, as no grounds were shown; and the President in Council was of opinion that the convict's state of health made it undesirable to send him to Port Blair. He has now recovered his health, and the Medical Officer has granted a certificate to that effect, which I herewith forward.

Judicial Department, 29th August 1863, No. 1406.

4. His conduct, both at Ootacamund and in the Penitentiary, has been very good.

No. 222. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Fort Saint George, 29th March 1865, No. 483.

I am directed to transmit the annexed copy of a letter from the Commissioner of Police, dated 9th March, No. 29, submitting petitions from prisoners, Charles E. Ross, and John Pendergast, praying that they may be granted "a conditional pardon to proceed to Port Blair."

2. Both the prisoners are under sentence of penal servitude passed upon them by the late Supreme Court of Calcutta. John Pendergast is also under sentence of imprisonment, which he will have to undergo at Calcutta, at the expiration of his current sentence of penal servitude. These men were sent from Calcutta to Ootacamund, whence, the climate of the place disagreeing with them, they were transferred, on emergent Medical Certificates, to the Penitentiary at Madras, where they are at present.

Proceedings of the Madras C.
29th March 1865.

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(Signed) A. J. AR

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Judicial Department.

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To

The Secretary to the Government
of India.

Home Department.

Sir,

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transmit the annex-
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from the Commissi-
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9th March N^o 29, sub-
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Letter to Court. of India
dated 15th July '53 N^o 1153.
Indorsement by do. 10th Augt.
N^o 2001.

3. The conduct of these prisoners is favorably reported on, & they may so far be considered fit subjects for the indulgence they solicit. This Court recommends that their prayer be acceded to, & that their removal to Port Blair may be authorised, as the Penitentiary is not a suitable place of confinement for European prisoners undergoing long sentences.

4. Charles Ross' former application was not complied with, on acct. of the bad state of his health at that time. He has now submitted a Medical Certificate, herewith forwarded, which removes all objections on that ground.

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