M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 167 Press Mis.

184-185

Dated 26-1-1886

9/8

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 184. Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 5th January 1866, No. 664.

In order to the proper introduction of the Rules for the superintendence and management of District Jails, and for the preparations necessary for their introduction, I have the honor to request that they may remain in abeyance till the beginning of the official year.

2. New contracts must be entered into (Rule 345), new clothing provided (Rule 80), new forms and new Registers (Rule 390) and new huts or tents (Rule 368). The Rules are absolute, and, when introduced, must, it appears, be so in their integrity. Even were it not so, I think it would be unwise to introduce the Rules piecemeal—more in one Jail, less in another.

3. There is a question which must be disposed of before the rules can be introduced with any chance of success, and this is that of the Establishment. If Superintendents are to do the work gratuitously, it will, in many cases, I fear, be done grudgingly and badly. Under any circumstances, it cannot be done with the present office establishments.

4. For the first few months of the introduction of the new system, the whole detail of its working must, of necessity, be personally examined and supervised by the Inspector General, but even then I question whether he will be able to do his work with his present establishment. It is highly necessary that errors and laxity in returns should not be passed over in the commencement, or it will induce continued negligence, which years of casual check will not correct. I would, therefore, desire that, together with the introduction of the new Rules, the Inspector General should be in a position to enforce them.

5. The Government is well aware that the introduction of these rules into this Presidency was in opposition to my views. When resolved on by Government, I determined that nothing should be wanting on my part to facilitate their introduction, but I dislike multiplications of forms and returns, which make a show of work while the real object is neglected. One-fourth of the money that will be required to carry out these rules, if spent in 1856, in carrying out my plans approved by Government, would, to the best of my belief, as I said in 1856, have kept the number of prisoners to be provided for at or under three-fourths of the present numbers. I say this to show that, in advocating an increased charge, I am not supporting any hobby of my own, but simply endeavouring to give efficiency to the Government scheme, which will assuredly break down, unless ample funds are provided ungrudgingly and immediately.

6. I must beg to be rightly understood. I do not say that I consider the change of system now adopted uncalled for, but I greatly fear that more stress will be laid on that which adds nothing to the real object than to the end which is required—the deterring from crime. I warned the Government, in 1856, that with the then state of the prisoners, a system really deterring from crime might have been adopted at small cost, and that such would not be the case after the lapse of a few years. In nine years the number of convicts has increased from 5933 to 7593 from the causes I then named, and whether what I proposed in 1856, could with economy have been carried out in 1866, appeared even to myself doubtful. That I give over

charge disappointed I must candidly admit; but, in giving up charge, I am anxious that my successor, to whom the duty of carrying out the new rules will fall, should enter on his duties with the means of carrying them out in their integrity, and I trust that, now the rules are passed, the Government will be pleased to sanction the means for enforcing them, and for entering on the new system with due precautions.

No. 185. ORDER THEREON, 26th January 1866, No. 107.

The Governor in Council resolves to postpone the introduction of the new Jail Rules until the 1st of May next. He notices, however, with much surprise the assertion made by Mr. Rohde that the adoption of the rules in question for this Presidency was a measure opposed to his views. In the Order of Government of the 7th February last, appointing Mr. Rohde and Mr. Ellis to prepare, among other things, a revised Code of Rules for the management of Jails in this Presidency, there was nothing which bound them to adopt any particular set of rules, or any single rule, which, in their judgment, was open to objection. Moreover, in submitting those rules, Mr. Rohde said nothing which could lead Government to infer that they had not his full approval.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.
" Inspector General of Police.
" Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.

Exd. J. H. Burn.

Judicial Depart.

No. 32

3

From The Inspector General of Jails.

Dated 5th January 1866.

Rec'd 8th

For Orders.

The introduction of the new Jail Rules may I think be properly deferred until the 1st proximo

The other matters touched by the Inspector General may be dealt with when his successor is under discussion by me the latter utterly useless but the former with his Report to which

If may however be noted that his opinion of the new Rules coincides with my own - There can certainly be nothing in the order of Subjects

Thompsons Ale Brewery
18-1-66

4

Steampower would not be advantageous for extra manual labour - as time plant &c may be wanted when materials can be procured - and a market for manufactured article - but in our opinion the Govt would act unwisely to hamper entirely by any regulations which would prevent employing the labour of women & boys in the best advantage.

WR

Mr Rees came to work - Still he does not like to undertake the new rules till he may ascertain how they will work in operation - Mr Rees is the only person who is dilatory effect of the one act will [illegible] that of the other would increase manual labour - [illegible]

18/1/66 WR

JP

Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read letter from the Inspector General of Jails.

1/5 January 1866. No 664.

Order thereon. 26 January 1866 No. 107.

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Judicial 1865. Department.

No. 127.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

J.C. 251.
" 728.

Dated 26 January 1865.

Copy No. 190-193
22/12/64

182-185.