M.R.O. 1—32,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 120	**Press Mis.**
217-218 **Dated** 31 / ~~19~~ 1876	

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 217. Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 11th January 1866, No. 681.

In reference to the Government Order, No. 1823 (19th December), requiring information as the nationality of certain prisoners, described by Captain Hankin as Malays, but who were denominated in official returns as Chinese, I have the honor to forward Captain Hankin's justification of the designation assigned by him to them.

2. That the dialect of the men was not understood by other Chinese was no evidence that the men were not Chinese. I dare say the men were from the Islands of the Archipelago. I understood that they were Chinese.

3. It is very desirable that we should know something more of the convicts received than is conveyed in a bare descriptive roll. A mere prison character is of very little value; but I should think that in very many cases circumstances are known to the Straits Police, who, I suppose, watch the trials, that would materially help to an intimation of the reliance to be put on each prisoner.

From the Officer in charge of the Convicts on the Lawrence Asylum Works, to the Inspector General of Jails, Ootacamund; dated Ootacamund, 8th January 1866, No. 111.

With reference to G. O., No. 1823, dated 19th December 1865, I have the honor to inform you that, among the 10 Chinese prisoners originally received from Ootacamund, three were certainly Malays. The men have all been transferred, and although I believe there were more than three, I cannot now speak with certainty. Of these three men, one was sent sick to Salem, one is dead, and one was sent to the Jail at Dodapett. These men's appearance was quite different from the ordinary Chinese, and they did not speak the same language. The Chinese Interpreter I had here could hardly understand them, while a Constable here who had served in the Artillery for years in Labuan and Malacca conversed in Malay freely with them, and the men themselves said they were not Chinese.

No. 218. ORDER THEREON, 31st January 1866, No. 120.

It is observed that the Government of the Straits Settlements have been already requested to furnish information of the nature of that referred to by the Inspector General of Jails, with reference to any convicts who may be hereafter transported to the Presidency.

Proceedings, 21st November 1865, Nos. 178 and 179.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Judicial Department

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Jails.

(Received 11th January 1866 No. 131)

Order thereon 31st January 1866 No. 120.

It is observed that the Government of the Straits Settlements have been already requested to furnish information of the nature of that referred to by the Inspector General of Jails with reference to any convicts who may be hereafter transported to the Presidency.

Rec. 21 Rev/65 - 170 - 179

To the Inspector General of Jails - dcp 3/2.

Judicial 1866. Department.

No. 120.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated 31 January 1866

Press No. 2755, G. M.—14-11-65—500.

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