

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1397	Press
		~~His~~
Dated	7-9-	1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

4/5

No. 1397.

FROM

J. D. SIM, Esq.,

Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

HOME DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed by the Governor in Council to transmit the annexed copies of

Proceedings, 11th April 1866, Nos. 101-104.
 " 25th " " " 213-215.
 " 6th June " " 74-76.
 " 24th July " " 221-222A.
 From Government of Bengal, 1st August, No. 4081.

the Proceedings of this Government,
 together with a copy of a communication from the Government of Bengal,
 relative to the escape from Port Blair of

certain convicts transported from this Presidency.

2. It will be seen that within the last few months nineteen escapes have been brought to notice by the Magistrates of Cuddapah and Bellary. The monthly returns of casualties among transmarine convicts at Port Blair show that, excluding re-captures, there occurred—

15 Escapes in December 1865 and January 1866.

11 " in February 1866.

12 " in March and April 1866.

3. The frequency of these escapes would seem to call for more effective measures for the safe custody of the prisoners at Port Blair. Almost all the Cuddapah and Bellary convicts now at large are notorious dacoits whose return is much dreaded in the Districts, and, even though it may be improbable that they will succeed in reaching this Presidency, the mere notification of their escape cannot but have a most injurious effect both on the criminal classes, the people, and the Police. By the agency of the Magistracy and Police these escapes are promulgated throughout the country, and especially in the old haunts of the convicts, to which their return is particularly feared by the people, who naturally apprehend a recurrence of criminal outrages or vengeance for information and evidence given. The salutary effect of transportation as a penal sentence is also greatly diminished by these frequent escapes.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

FORT SAINT GEORGE,

7th September 1866.

Secretary to Government.

From the Magistrate of Chittagong, to the Commissioner of Circuit, Chittagong;
 dated Chittagong, 18th July 1866, No. 468.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 359, dated the 22nd May last, giving cover to a letter of the Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 3012, of the 16th idem, no trace of the escaped convicts therein mentioned has been found in this District up to the present time.

The

desd 13/9 with 3 copies
of each of the 4 Nos. -

2. I do not know if the Government of Bengal has any control over the arrangements at Port Blair, but measures for securing more effectually, than at present, the safe custody of the prisoners would appear to be urgently called for.

3. In addition to the series of escapes mentioned in the letter above quoted, and in that received under your endorsement, No. 40, of the 3rd instant, I have received intimation from the Superintendent of (Port Blair) the escape of a convict of the District sentenced to transportation for life for murder on the 21st September last.

No. 520.

Copy submitted to the Government of Bengal, with reference to their No. 3012, dated the 16th May last.

COMM. 'S OFFICE, CHITTAGONG,
20th July 1866.

(Signed) W. G. YOUNG,
Commissioner.

No. 4081.

Copy forwarded for the information of the Government of Fort Saint George, with reference to Chief Secretary Mr. Arbuthnot's letter, Nos. 540 and 623, dated respectively the 11th and 25th April last.

(By order of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal.)

FORT WILLIAM,
1st August 1866.

(Signed) A. MACKENZIE,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India,

Home Department.

Sir,

Pro: 11 April 1866 N^o 540 101 to 102
" 25 " " " N^o 623 213 to 215
" 6 June " " N^o 94 74-76
" 24 July " " N^o 1145 221-222
From Govt of Bengal, dtg^t N^o 4081.

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Fort St. George
7 Sept. 1886

1871

General Abbott Report.

Sept 1871

Dr. P. P. Abbott
City, Dec. 16th 1871.
of Medicine

Oct 22 1871.

Rec'd 7 September 1871.

71-72

71-72