

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1655	Press ~~Mis~~
Dated 19-10-1886	

251-232

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1655

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
19th October 1866.

No. 251. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Military Department, dated 1st October 1866, No. 3403A.

Ordering the nomination of a European
to have command of the guard of
sepoys proceeding in charge of Con-
victs to Port Blair in the *Sir Robert*
Sale. } (Vide Proceedings, Military Department,
dated 1st October 1866, Nos. 24G &
24H.)

No. 252. ORDER THEREON, 19th October 1866, No. 1655.

To be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, No. 1466, 21st September 1866. } Recorded in *Proceedings of Government, Military Department, No. 3330, 22nd September 1866.* } Read again the paper noted in the margin.

Read also the following papers:—

From the Adjutant General, Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 27th September 1866, No. 514; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

With reference to Proceedings of Madras Government,* referred to this Department on the 22nd instant, I have the honor, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, to forward, for submission to the

**Judicial Department, No. 1466 of 21st September 1866.*

Right Honorable the Governor in Council, correspondence which has taken place between this and the Marine Department, regarding an European Officer to command a guard of 35 Sepoys over about 200 convicts proceeding in the *Robert Sale* to Port Blair.

2. The Commander-in-Chief considers it impossible that the new system of organization of this Army can be fairly tried, if all confidence in the Native Officer is to be withdrawn, whenever a guard of even 30 or 40 men leaves a Regiment, and if they are *only* to command their Companies when on parade.

3. Probably had the Superintendent of Marine informed Government of the objection taken through this Department to an European Officer being furnished, the matter would have been left in the hands of the Commander-in-Chief for disposal.

From the Superintendent of Marine, Madras, 14th September 1866, No. 3578; to the Adjutant General.

Referring to my letter marginally noted, I have the honor to request you will be good enough to appoint an European Officer, to command the guard to be embarked for the security of the 200 native convicts about to be sent to Port

Blair, as on further consideration it appears hardly safe that they should proceed without some one competent to direct them in case of an outbreak of the prisoners.

2. The *Sir Robert Sale* of 704 tons, has been engaged for the service. She will leave on or about the 1st October, and will return with the guard direct to Madras.

3. I will likewise thank you to appoint a Medical Subordinate to proceed in the vessel.

From the Assistant Adjutant General, Fort Saint George, 17th September 1866, No. 1579; to the Superintendent of Marine.

With reference to your letter, No. 3578, dated 14th September 1866, I have the honor, by order of the Commander-in-Chief, to inform you that it has not been usual to nominate European Officers to command guards proceeding in charge of convicts, except when their Regiments may be proceeding to Burmah, as in the case of the 16th Regiment Native Infantry in September 1865, when 600 convicts were sent to Port Blair, and a party of 50 men commanded by a Subaltern was sent with each of the vessels; but in March 1865, when 107 convicts were sent to the same place, a guard of 1 Jemadar, 1 Havildar, 2 Naigues and 25 Privates was considered quite sufficient for that duty.

2. I am therefore directed to request you will be good enough to state for His Excellency's information, if a Subadar's guard would not suffice for the charge of the convicts proceeding by the *Sir Robert Sale*, or whether from the desperate character of the convicts, you consider it necessary that an European Officer should command

the guard noted in the margin, which I am to observe is properly a Native Officer's command.

1 *Subadar and 35 rank and file, with a due proportion of Non-Commissioned Officers.*

P. 21st Sept 1866
Judicial 1866. DEPT.

23 Oct 1866

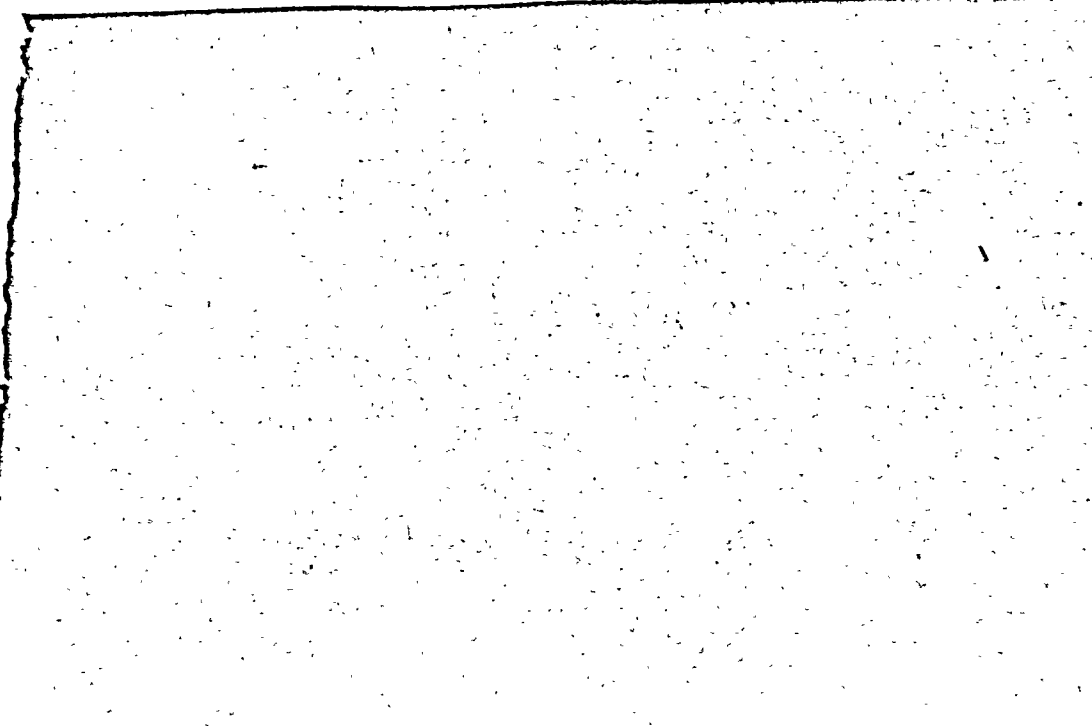
Proceedings of Government in the
Military Department.
No. 3403A

Dated 18th October 1866.
Received 8

No. 2214

*Ordering the nomination
of a European to have
Command of the Guard
of Sepoy proceeding in
charge of Convicts to Port
Blair in the Sir Robert
Sale. - 17th October 1866*

357-252



From the Superintendent of Marine, Madras, 18th September 1866, No. 3613; to the Adjutant General.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, No. 157 inform you that although I am not aware that the convicts about to be sent to Port Blair *Sir Robert Sale*, are more desperate than convicts usually are, if they imagine there is of escape, I do not consider it advisable that they should embark without an European command of the guard.

2. The number of convicts to be sent is above 200, and with a Captain unable to communicate with the Jemadar by word of mouth, it appears to me most imprudent to a vessel to proceed without an European Officer. I am in hopes therefore that one will be ap

EXTRACT from Division and Garrison Orders, by Colonel EATON, Commanding Centre I dated Head Quarters, Fort Saint George, 15th September 1866.

Division and Garrison Order.

IV. Under instructions from Army Head Quarters, a guard of 35 rank and file, w portion of Non-Commissioned Officers under command of a Subadar from 41st Regiment Infantry, will be held in readiness to embark about the 1st proximo, for Port Blair, as an d 200 native convicts. An engagement has been made by the Superintendent of Marine, return of the escort by the same vessel to Madras.

(True extract.)

(Signed) T. DYER, Captain,
Offg. Brigade Ma

For the Assistant Adjutant General, Fort Saint George.

ORDER, No. 3403A, 1st October 1866.

With every desire to defer to the wishes of the Commander-in-Chief, pressed in the foregoing correspondence, the Governor in Council adheres opinion that an European Officer should, if possible, be detailed to comman Sepoy guard proceeding in charge of convicts by the *Sir Robert Sale*. Government have been led to this conclusion partly for the reason state Mr. Franklin in paragraph 2 of his letter to the Adjutant General, No. 3613, recorded, and partly because the duty in question being of an important wholly exceptional description, not restricted to the mere Military Command guard, but involving a general responsibility for the supervision and safe cu of over 200 convicts, is one which cannot in their judgment be expedie entrusted to a Native Officer, however intelligent. In this view, Govern resolve to request His Excellency to be good enough to nominate, if possibl European Officer of some experience for the duty in question.

(True Extract.)

W. Marshall Major Gen
Secretary to Government.

To the Adjutant General, with four enclosures.

- .. Quarter Master General.
- .. Controller of Military Accounts.
- .. Judicial Department. *With Sepoy Office*
- .. Superintendent of Marine.