

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	86	Press Mis.
Dated	20 1	19 1866

152-153

2/6

Not to be folded or roughly handled

20th January 1866.

No. 152. Read the following letter from the Superintendent of the Government Chinchona Plantations, Ootacamund, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 5th January 1866, No. 117.

With reference to the Order of Government in the Judicial Department, dated 19th December 1865, No. 1813, I would most respectfully submit, for the consideration of Government, that, deferring the transfer of convicts to the Neddiwuttum Jail, which is now completed and ready for their reception, will seriously retard the progress of this plantation.

2. The Government having approved* of the employment of convict labor on this plantation, and authorized the construction of a Jail for the reception of the prisoners, in order to complete this

* G. O., dated 3rd August 1864, No. 1338.

building, and secure to the plantation the advantages of the convict labor as speedily as possible, I employed many of the laborers which might have been (and would, had no Jail been in course of erection, be) employed in preparing ground to enable us to plant out our nursery plants in the spring. Early in January, many of our free laborers will be leaving for their homes, upwards of 200 having already given notice to that effect, and those men will not return until the end of May, or beginning of June, being in fact too late to prepare land for next planting season, I having depended on getting this work done by the convict labor during the months of January, February and March; and if disappointed in this, it will form a very serious impediment to getting our nursery plants put out this season, while they will be too large to transplant the following season.

3. With reference to the success which will attend the performance of heavy work on our plantations by convicts, there can, I submit, be no doubt, as what has already been done at Dodabettah fully establishes this; and I have no hesitation in saying that all future experience will establish that convicts can be employed on these plantations with advantage to the Government, and with satisfaction and benefit to themselves.

4. I have, for the last 25 years, been accustomed to the management and arrangement of labor, to the settlement of disputes arising among those employed under me, and so successful have I been in these matters as to procure a fair proportion of work, and to command laborers when others were unable to do so, thus establishing my arrangements to be satisfactory to the parties employed; and should any report contrary to this have reached the Government, I would esteem it a favor by being furnished with information respecting it, as I feel confident your Honorable Government will not allow any report, until fully investigated, to impede the progress of this national undertaking.

5. It is true that misconceptions arose among the prisoners when first located in the Dodabettah Jail; but for this, I am in no way responsible, as I then had no control or influence over them. The prisoners thought that they could throw off all control with impunity, and dictate their own terms. In this they were instigated by prisoners (thirteen) who were removed for doing so to the Lawrence Asylum Works, but, prior to their removal were sentenced by the Magistrate, Major Campbell, to 60 lashes each; but this punishment was not inflicted, being remitted on the recommendation of the Officer in charge of the Asylum Jail. This may have had a bad effect on our prisoners, by leading them to conceive that by giving trouble they could be removed, and evade punishment for any misconduct in this Jail.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
20th January 1866.*

6. With prisoners, it is natural to suppose that there will be some trouble in managing them, and, occasionally, hardened offenders must be punished; although, generally, the certainty of immediate punishment prevents its infliction. However, all that has taken place in the Dodabettah Jail is unimportant, when compared with the disturbances and escapes at the Kaundle and Lawrence Asylum Jails. Now that the prisoners on the Dodabettah plantation are accustomed to their work, they are contented, cheerful, and perform, on an average, quarter to half more than their daily task, for which they receive extra indulgences.

7. The Police guard are afraid of the Chinese prisoners, and misconceptions arise, because they do not understand their language, and as we have at present a large number of Chinese in proportion to the Native convicts, intending to train one half of the Chinese at Dodabettah, and remove them to the Neddiwuttum Jail immediately it was completed.

8. Under the circumstances above noticed, I beg most respectfully to solicit the favor of Government being pleased to reconsider their order, as it would be conferring a great benefit, not only to the plantations, but evidently to the Inspector General of Jails, to allow the transfer of convicts to Neddiwuttum, inasmuch as that Officer has so many in the southern prisons that he does not know how to dispose of them.

Transferred to the Judicial Department.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

8th January 1866.

No. 153.

ORDER THEREON, 20th January 1866, No. 86.

Before passing final orders on the foregoing letter, the Governor in Council directs that the Inspector General of Jails will submit to Government, with as little delay as possible, a detailed estimate of all the additional charges which will have to be incurred in guarding, feeding, and clothing, and for medical attendance to, the prisoners whom it is proposed to locate in the Jail which has been erected on the Chinchona plantation at Neddiwuttum. The estimate should be prepared in communication with Captain Drever, the Deputy Inspector General of Police for the Division, the Inspector General of Police being at present at too great a distance to be communicated with, without considerable delay, and with the Medical Officer in charge of the Lawrence Asylum gangs. It should include the salary of a competent European Superintendent, to be employed exclusively on this particular duty, and of a Medical Subordinate. All extra charges entailed by the location of the prisoners at Neddiwuttum will have to be met from the Chinchona estimate.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.

„ Superintendent of the Government Chinchona Plantations, Ootacamund.

„ Revenue Department.

„ Inspector General of Police.

„ Deputy Inspector General of Police, Western Range, Calicut.

„ Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Government Gardens
Ootacamund 5 January 1866

No. 117

From,

The Superintendent
Govt Chinchona Plantations

To,

S. D. Sim Esqre
Secretary to Govt. Rev. Dept.

Madras

Sir,

With reference to the Order of Govt in the Judicial Department, dated 19 December 1865 No. 1813, I would most respectfully submit for the consideration of Govt that, deferring the transfer of convicts to the Neddiwuttum Jail, which is now completed and ready for their reception, will seriously retard the progress of this plantation.

2. The Govt. having approved of the employment of convict labor on this plantation, and authorized the construction of a jail for the reception of the prisoners, in order to complete this building, and secure to the plantation the advantages of the convict labor as speedily as possible, I employed many of the laborers which might have been (and

would

U.O dated 3 August
1866 No. 1388.

would had no soil been in course of erection) employed in preparing ground to enable us to plant out our nursery plants in the spring.

Early in January, many of our free laborers will be leaving for their homes, upwards of 200 having already given notice to that effect, and those men will not return until the end of May, or beginning of June, being in fact too late to prepare land for next planting season, I having depended on getting this work done by the convict labor during the months of January, February and March, and if disappointed in this, it will form a very serious impediment to getting our nursery plants put out this season, while they will be too large to transplant the following season.

3 With reference to the success which will attend the performance of heavy work on our Plantations by convicts, there can, I submit, be no doubt, as what has already been done at Dodabatta fully establishes this, and I have no hesitation in saying that all future experience will establish that convicts can be employed

I suppose they will stay in mud work here while JP

much better engaged in this district or in the Kanara or in the district of a lot of first class laborers can be got to work with and connected with so much difficulty getting them again from their own - but common sense JP

no convict labor

Then get them how for the Kanara - we have plenty of labor

on three plantations with advantage to the Govt. and with satisfaction and benefit to themselves.

4 I have for the last 25 years been accustomed to the management and arrangement of labor, to the settlement of disputes arising among those employed under me, and so successful have I been in these matters as to procure a fair proportion of work, and to command laborers when others were unable to do so, thus establishing my arrangements to be satisfactory to the parties employed, and should any report contrary to this have reached the Govt. I would return it a favor by being furnished with information respecting it, as I feel confident your Honorable Govt. will not allow any report, until fully investigated to impede the progress of this national undertaking.

5 It is true, that misconceptions arose among the prisoners when first located in the Dodabatta Jail, but for this, I am in no way responsible, as I then had no control or influence over them. The prisoners thought

thought that they could throw off all control with impunity, and dictate their own terms, in this they were instigated by prisoners (thirteen) who were removed for doing so to the Lawrence Asylum Works, but prior to their removal were sentenced by the magistrate Major Campbell to 60 lashes each, but this punishment was not inflicted being remitted on the recommendation of the Officer in charge of the Asylum Jail. This may have had a bad effect on our prisoners, by leading them to conceive that by giving trouble they could be removed and avoid punishment for any misconduct in this Jail.

With prisoners it is natural to suppose that there will be some trouble in managing them, and occasionally, hardened offenders must be punished, although, generally, the certainty of immediate punishment prevents its infliction. However all that has taken place in the Sodabatta Jail is unimportant when compared with the disturbances and escapes at the Kamble, and Lawrence Asylum Jails,

Now

This is what John says - he has been - cordially been and used to disperse these Chinese men but he says that he is not ready to remove them to the Jail.

4
Now that the prisoners on the Sodabatta plantation are accustomed to their work, ^{they} are contented, cheerful, and perform on an average $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ more than their daily task, for which they receive extra indulgence.

The Police guard are afraid of the Chinese prisoners, and misconceptions arise, because they do not understand their language, and as we have at present a large number of Chinese in proportion to the native convicts, intending to train one half of the Chinese at Sodabatta and remove them to the Keddinattam Jail immediately it was completed.

Under the circumstances above noticed, I beg most respectfully to solicit the favor of Govt. being pleased to reconsider their order, as it would be conferring a great benefit not only to the plantation, but evidently to the Inspector Genl. of Jails, to allow the transfer of convicts to Keddinattam, inasmuch as that officer has so many in the Southern prisons that he does not know how to dispose of them.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt

J. M. P.
Supt. Govt. Chinchora Plantation

Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following
letter from the Supt. Govt
Chinchona Plantations.

Recd letter 5th Jan'y 1886. No 117.

Order thereon 25 Jan'y 1886 No 86

Before passing final
orders on the foregoing letter
the Governor in Council
directs that the Inspector
General of jails will sub-
mit to Government with
as little delay as possible
an estimate of additional
charges which will have
to be incurred in guarding,
feeding and clothing the
prisoners whom it is
proposed to locate in
the

and for medical
attendance to

The Prisoners have been treated
reasonably by the Supt. Govt
Chinchona Plantations. The
Supt. Govt Chinchona Plantations
has been instructed to have
the prisoners kept in the
prison at Chinchona Plantations
and not to be sent to the
prison at Chinchona Plantations.

9.1.86 W. J. P.

Francis &
Judicial Dept.

At a meeting of the
Madrass Government
held on the 15th Jan'y 1886
the following resolution was
passed:—
That the Supt. Govt
Chinchona Plantations
be directed to have the
prisoners kept in the
prison at Chinchona Plantations
and not to be sent to the
prison at Chinchona Plantations.

9.1.86 W. J. P.

For Order

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the jail which has been erected on the Chinchona plantation at Reddanthum. The estimate should be prepared in communication with Captain Deros, the Deputy Inspector General of Police for the Division, the Inspector General of Police being at present at too great a distance to be communicated with without considerable delay. It should include the salary of a competent Superintendent employed exclusively on this particular duty. All extra charges entailed by the location of the prisoners at Reddanthum will have to be met from the Chinchona estimate.

and with the Medical Officer in charge of the Jail at Reddanthum.

and a Medical Subordinate

[Handwritten signature]

- 1 To the Supd. Genl of Jails 3
- 4 — Supd. Genl of Police 6
- 3 — Revenue Department 6
- 5 Dy. Supd. Genl of Police. Western Range - Calicut 3
- 6 Principal Secy. Genl. Madras Dep. 6
- 2 Secy. for Chinchona Plantation Bt. 6

desp 22/

Register transfer of
convicts to be sent
per -

list of 25 July

Journal 1865. Department.

No. 86.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

7th 237
50-244/57
Dated 20 January 1866

Press No. 2755, G. M.-14.11.65-500.

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