

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	129	Press
227-230		~~Mis.~~
Dated	23-1-	1918

6/7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

To

THE COMMISSIONER FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
TERRITORIES OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH OF M YSORE
SIR,

I am directed by the Governor in Council to forward the annexed copy of a communication from the Government of India, and to request that you will be so good as to cause the enclosed letter to be delivered to its address. Should the family of the Convict be willing to join him, I am also to request that they be sent to the Commissioner of Police at Madras, who will arrange for their passage to Port Blair. Any expense incurred in the transmission of the family to Madras will be refunded to you on application.

Dated 21st December 1866, No. 1665.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
23rd January 1867.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Chief Secretary.

From the Under Secretary to the Government of India, to the Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, the 21st December 1866, No. 1665.

Home Department.

With reference to the accompanying copy of the correspondence noted on the margin, I am directed to request that

From Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, No. 585 C.,
dated 22nd November, with enclosures.
To do. No. 1660, dated 21st December.

the necessary steps may be taken for sending the family of the Convict "Ramgaiah" *alias* "Tom" to Port Blair, if

they are willing to go, and that the enclosed letter from him may be forwarded to its address.

2. With reference to paragraph 4 of the letter addressed to the Chief Commissioner of this day's date, I am directed to forward, for the information and guidance of the Government of Madras, a copy of the orders addressed to the Chief Commissioner on the 6th October 1864, No. 4902.

From the Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah, to the Secretary to the Government of India; dated Rangoon, the 22nd November 1866, No. 585C.

I have the honor, by direction of the Chief Commissioner, to submit, for the favorable consideration of His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, a petition from a life-prisoner named Ramgaiah *alias* Tom, (No. 5634,) who is now at the Penal Settlement of Port Blair, praying that his wife and children may be permitted to join him at that Settlement. A form showing the particulars of his family is attached.

2. The grounds upon which the prisoner makes his prayer are his inability to provide for their sustenance, more especially now, that provisions are dearer than usual in Madras.

3. From the Descriptive Roll attached, it appears that the prisoner was sentenced to transportation for life by the Chittoor Sessions Court on the 14th of October 1861, and he has been in the Settlement of Port Blair now upwards of four years.

4. The ground upon which the Superintendent of Port Blair promotes the prisoner's petition, is the prisoner's good conduct during that portion of his sentence which he has served at Port Blair; and endorsed on the back of the petition attached is a testimony to his good conduct from the Officiating Executive Engineer, Lieutenant W. G. Cummings, R. E., who states that his conduct has been "excellent," and that the favor he asks "would be well and deservedly bestowed."

5. Enclosed is a letter from the prisoner to be forwarded to his wife, Peermaul, should His Excellency accede to the Petitioner's request.

To Major B. FORD, Superintendent of Port Blair.

The humble petition of Tom Ramgaiah, Convict No. 5634, attached to 4th Division, dated Port Blair, the 22nd June 1866.

SHREWETH,—That your petitioner is a life-convict, and has done four years of his time; during the last two years your petitioner has served Lieutenant W. G. Cummings, R. E., Executive Engineer, who can bear testimony to your petitioner's conduct. That your petitioner most respectfully begs to inform your Honor, that he has a wife and four children at Madras, for whom he entertains considerable anxiety owing to his inability to provide for them, especially at present, when every thing is sold dear in Madras. Your petitioner, therefore, most earnestly implores that your Honor will commiserate his case as to grant his wife and children leave to join him here by some Government vessels coming this way, where, by his exertions, he may be able to relieve them, in some measure, of their suffering; for which act of kindness your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

(Signed) TOM RAMGAIAH.

I can bear the highest testimony to the petitioner's excellent conduct during the two years he has served under me; and I think, from his good behaviour at all times, and from his unfortunate circumstance, that the petition which he begs, if granted, would be well and deservedly bestowed.

(Signed) W. G. CUMMINGS, Lieutenant, R. E.,
Officiating Executive Engineer.

Descriptive Roll.

By what Court.	Number of the case on Calendar.	Name.	Color and caste.	Age.	Height.		Distinguishing marks.	Crime and Sentence.	Date of sentence.	Night cell.		Day cumbly.	Cloth.	Truss cloth.	Taling and residence.	Remarks.
					Feet.	Inches.				1st.	2nd.					
Fouzdaree Adawlut.	Calendar No. 77 of 1861.	No. 5634, Ramgaiah alias Tom.	Brown.	45	5	6 1/2	Green mark on the forehead, green mark on the right arm, a scar on the right thigh, and the first joint of the forefinger of the left hand cut off.	Transportation for life.	14th October 1861.	16	16	16	16	16	Bangalore.	The prisoner arrived in Port Blair on the 4th May 1862, since which period his conduct has been good.

CHITTOOR,

The 17th October 1861.

(Signed) G. H. HARRIS,
Session Judge.

Particulars of the Persons referred to in the annexed letter.

Register Number. Name, and Father's name of Convict, &c.	Name, and Father's name of Wife, or relative invited to join the prisoner at Port Blair.	Name of the person in whose house she is living.	Zillah, Pergunnah, Mouza, in which parties reside, with name of any well-known person who can point them out.
No. 5634.—Tom Ramgaiah. Captain Ellis. Native Christian. Life prisoner.	Wife's name, Peermaul; age, 35 years. Father's name, Valladom. Names of two daughters, Mongay, age 14 years; Vertye, age 9 years. Names of two sons, Narainsamy, age 12 years; Dooraysamy, age 8 years.	She is living in her own house, in Fishing Street at Bangalore, Madras.	Can be pointed out by one Goorappah, Proprietor of a Liquor Shop next door to applicant's house.

(Signed) B. FORD, Major,
Superintendent of Port Blair.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah ; dated Simla, the 6th October 1864, No. 4902.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from the Superintendent of Port Blair, No. 40, dated the 15th July, containing proposals with reference to the question of conveying to Port Blair the families of convicts transported thither ; and, in reply, to request that the Superintendent may be informed that any such general and indiscriminate arrangement as he proposes cannot be sanctioned.

2. The Superintendent of Port Blair has sent up lists of Convicts without the information as to the crimes for which they were convicted, or the terms of their sentences, or the periods of imprisonment which they have already undergone. Such lists are wholly useless for the purpose for which they are sent.

3. The Governor General in Council desires that the following principles may be kept in view :—

(a).—In no case should the family of a Convict be allowed to *accompany* the Convict to Port Blair. Such a proposal the Governor General in Council considers to be quite inconsistent with the maintenance of the punitive character of a sentence of transportation.

(b).—The family of no Convict who is sentenced for a *term of years* should be allowed to proceed to Port Blair. It is evident from the *tenor* of the communication from Port Blair, where the prevailing feeling is to convert the Penal Settlement into a Colony, that the proposed exception would become the rule ; and that the Settlement would be deprived of the essence of its penal character,—isolation from home and family,—besides subjecting the public to indefinite expense.

(c).—With regard to life-convicts and exceptional term-convicts, some period of servitude should be fixed, at the end of which a Convict, if he has been well behaved, and has consequently earned the position which the Rules of the Settlement should assign to well-conducted Convicts after fixed periods of servitude, may be permitted, as a great privilege, to send for his family.

4. It is requested that the Superintendent of Port Blair may be instructed to give the option to certain selected life and exceptional term-convicts of writing for their families, and to forward a list of those who accept the offer,—communicating full particulars of their cases, the crime for which they were convicted, the sentence, the date of sentence, the date of arrival at Port Blair, conduct since arrival, &c., &c.

For each woman, for one year, two Annas per diem, for which work is to be executed.
Boys under four years half Anna per diem ; above four and under eight years, one Anna per diem ; above eight and under twelve years, one-half Anna per diem.
Similar allowances for girls, save that their allowance, one-half Anna, is to be continued till they are 15 ; and after that two Annas a day, till they are married.

5. The scale of allowances as per margin, proposed by the Superintendent of Port Blair for the families of Convicts on arrival at the Settlement, is approved.

Copy forwarded to the Financial Department, with reference to the concluding paragraph.

Copy of the above letter forwarded to the Bengal Government for information, with reference to the letter therefrom, No. 1996 T, dated 2nd August last.

Copy of the above letter forwarded to the Government, North-Western Provinces, for information, with reference to the letter from that Government to the Bengal Government, No. 284 A, dated the 9th July last.

From the Under Secretary to the Government of India, to the Chief Commissioner of British Burmah ; dated Fort William, 21st December 1866, No. 1660.

Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your Secretary's letters Nos. 6—585 and 6—586, dated 22nd November last, transmitting petitions

“Ramgaiah” alias “Tom,” and “Mooffattoollah,” from the two Convicts at Port Blair named in the margin, praying that their families may be allowed to join them at the Settlement.

2. In reply, I am directed to state, with regard to the first prisoner, that as his conduct has been good at Port Blair, and he is recommended for the indulgence, and as the conditions laid down in General Orders No. 4902, dated 6th October 1864, are complied with in his case, the Governor General in Council is pleased to sanction the application. The Government of Madras will accordingly be asked to forward the prisoner's letter to its address, and to take the necessary steps for sending his family to Port Blair, if they are willing to go.

3. With regard to the second prisoner, as his conduct has also been satisfactory, and he is recommended for the indulgence, his case will be similarly treated through the Bengal Government.

4. I am to request that, in future, you will forward all such applications direct to the Local Governments as named in the margin, within which the prisoner concerned may have been sentenced, such applications will then be dealt with by those Governments under the General Orders of October 1864, referred to above.

Bombay.
Madras.
Bengal.
North-Western Provinces.
Punjab.

Erd, J. Tulloch.

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11/11/11
With a Tamil letter

11/11
Judicial Department

No 129

To the Commissioner for the Govt of the
Territories of H. H. the Maharajah
of Mysore

Sir,

I am directed by the
Governor in Council
to forward the annexed
copy of a communica-
tion from the Govt of
India & to request that
you will be so good as
to cause the enclosed
letter to be delivered to
its address. Should
the family of the ban-
nist be willing to join
him, I am also to re-
quest that they be sent
to the Commissioner
of Police at Madras
who will arrange for
their

Dated 21st Decr '66 No 1665.

their passage to Port
Blair. Any expense in-
curred in the trans-
mission of the family
to Madras will be
reimbursed to you on
application

Fort St George
23rd Jan^y 1867.

Copies to the Com^{dr} of Vols
" - Capt of Marines }
" - Asst General } despatch
" - Quarterm^{str} of Vols }

Received of the
Hon. Secy of the
Treasury

Jan 18 1867

No 129

To
The Comptroller
for the Govt of the
District of Columbia
Washington
of Missouri
Oct 23 1867

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Dec 12 1867

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