

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Journal DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1825	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated 21-5-1867	

224-227

3/3

Not to be folded or roughly handled

12

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
21st September 1867.*

No. 226. Read the following letter from the Session Judge, Berhampore, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Berhampore, 3rd September 1867, No. 92.

Under Section 390 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, I have the honor to report, for the information of Government, that I have given a special judgment in Case No. 35 of 1867, this Court's file, that Wandrasi Chendriah, the accused person, is of unsound mind, and incapable of making his defence. The trial of the case has been twice resumed under Section 391, because I was not satisfied that the insanity of the accused person was not feigned—the Subordinate Magistrate who committed the case for trial having remarked, in his Proceedings, that the accused person had put very sensible cross questions to the witnesses for the prosecution—but the statements of the Zillah Surgeon, under whose treatment the accused person has been for the last three months, have now convinced me that he is really of unsound mind.

2. He is accused of having attempted to murder the owner of the house he resided in, by cutting him on the head, face, shoulders, and hands, with a sword, because the latter ejected him, at the request of the villagers, who objected to the accused person residing in the village, on the grounds that he was a reputed thief.

3. The Medical Officer deposed before the Sub-Magistrate that the wounds on the head, shoulders, and hands, were severe ones, and that he apprehended that lock-jaw would ensue. The wounded man has, however, since recovered. I beg to suggest that Wandrasi Chendriah be sent to a Lunatic Asylum, there to be detained during the pleasure of Government. Copies of the Zillah Surgeon's depositions are herewith enclosed.

The Examination of John Simpson Howard, M. D., Zillah Surgeon of Berhampore, who, on oath, saith—

The prisoner before the Court has been under my charge in the Zillah Jail for nearly six weeks. He has been exceedingly troublesome and quarrelsome from the date of his admission into the Jail. He has repeatedly destroyed his clothing and broken his cooking pots. He has been sleepless and restless during the nights, singing and making noises, standing before the light for some time and worshipping it. I have observed him personally during two nights. He is very filthy in his habits, and bedaubed his body with charcoal ashes, and attempts to eat his food off the floor. His appetite is very voracious, and he is apparently never satisfied with what is given him as food. From the persistent manner in which he has conducted himself in the above manner for nearly six weeks, I have arrived at the conclusion that he is not of sound mind. I forgot to add that he is always muttering to himself. At present, I have no reason to suppose that he is feigning insanity.

(Signed) J. S. HOWARD, M. D.,
Zillah Surgeon.

Taken by me, on solemn affirmation, this 27th June 1867.

(Signed) E. B. FOORD,
Session Judge.

The Examination of John Simpson Howard, M. D., who, on oath, saith—

The prisoner before the Court has been under my charge ever since I gave my last deposition. I have observed no change in his demeanour: he has been going on much in the same

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
21st September 1867.*

way as before. At times there seems to be a little reason in him, and he is then quiet and gives sensible answers to questions put to him, but he soon relapses into the same state I before described. He is restless at night, and when awake he sometimes sits quietly by himself, and sometimes sings and laughs idiotically.

I have frequently come upon him suddenly and when he least expected me, and I have set men to watch him, but I have been unable to ascertain anything which leads me to suppose that he is feigning insanity.

(Signed) J. S. HOWARD, M. D.,
Jail Superintendent.

Taken by me, on solemn affirmation, this 5th August 1867.

(Signed) E. B. FOORD,
Session Judge.

The Examination of John Simpson Howard, M. D., Zillah Surgeon of Berhampore, who, on oath, saith—

The prisoner before the Court has been under my charge since the last Sessions. About three weeks ago, he had rather a severe attack of dysentery, since which time he has been much quieter. He has slept better at night, and has not been so destructive as before, but he does not seem to me to be sound in his mind. Latterly, he has not talked to himself or laughed. He sits in a corner by himself speaking to no one. When asked a question, he does not give a direct answer, but hesitates. His appetite is as voracious as ever. On one occasion I heard him ask the Dresser of the Jail, "how much longer am I to be kept a prisoner, why don't they hang me, or release me?" I think the attack of dysentery, during which he lost a great deal of blood, has lowered his system and calmed him considerably. Otherwise, I have observed no marked change in his demeanour.

(Signed) J. S. HOWARD, M. D.,
In Medical charge, Jail.

Taken by me, on solemn affirmation, this 2nd September 1867.

(Signed) E. B. FOORD,
Session Judge.

No. 227. ORDER THEREON, 21st September 1867, No. 1525.

Under the provisions of Section 394 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Governor in Council directs that the prisoner Wandrasi Chendriah be forwarded to the Lunatic Asylum at Vizagapatam.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Session Judge of Berhampore.
„ Magistrate of Ganjam.
„ „ of Vizagapatam.
„ Inspector General of Jails.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

No 1525 of 21 Sept 67
Under the provisions of
Section 394 of the Code
of Criminal Procedure,
the Governor in Council
directs that the prisoner
Wandrasi Chendriah
be forwarded to the Lunatic
Asylum at Vizagapatam.

to the Session Judge of Berhampore
- " Magistrate of Ganjam
- " Magistrate of Vizagapatam
- " Inspector General of Jails.

(True Extract).

To the Session Judge of Berhampore.

„ Magistrate of Ganjam.

„ „ of Vizagapatam.

„ Inspector General of Jails.

Exd. J. H. Burns.