

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Indrial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2094	Press
		~~MIS.~~
Dated	18-12-1867	

243-244

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

2094

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,

18th December 1867.

No. 243. Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Vellore, 9th December 1867, No. 142.

With reference to the Order noted in the margin, I have the honor to forward the Proceedings of the Committee assembled at the European Prison at Ootacamund, on the 19th ultimo, to report upon

Judicial Department, 6th November 1867, No 1771.

the mental and physical condition of the convict George Baker.

THE PROCEEDINGS of a Committee held at the European Jail, Ootacamund, November 19th, 1867, pursuant to Order of Government, No. 1771, dated November 6th, 1867, and Proceedings of Government, dated November 11th, 1867, No. 1803.

President.

Surgeon C. J. Rogers, 39th Regiment, N. I.

Members.

Surgeon J. Wilson, Medical Officer, Coonoor.

Surgeon M. C. Furnell, Medical Officer, Neilgherries.

The Committee, in obedience to instructions contained in paragraph 2 of Government Order, No. 1771, examined at length Dr. J. Donaldson, Senior Medical Officer in medical charge of the Jail; Lieutenant Colonel W. R. Campbell, Superintendent of the Jail; Mr. Robert Bailey, Keeper of the European Prison; and P. Moonesawmy, Second Dresser, No. 615, attached to the General Dispensary, but formerly doing duty at the European Prison.

2. They also examined and conversed for some time with convict Baker in his cell.

3. Dr. Donaldson has no doubts whatever that the man has had epileptic fits, although he never saw him in one. Colonel Campbell has never seen him in a fit. Mr. Bailey has seen him every time he has been seized with fits; at first believed them genuine, but is now of opinion that they all are and have been feigned. Dresser Moonesawmy saw him three times in fits, and, although wanting in some features of epilepsy, has no doubt in his mind that the fits were epileptic.

4. The Committee, with the evidence before it, especially that of the Medical Officer in charge, believe that the convict Baker is an epileptic; but the concurrent evidence of all is that the fits, from some cause or another, are at present much less frequent, and that, of the last, some were undoubtedly simulated.

5. No fits have occurred since July 12th, 1867.

6. The Committee having carefully heard all that the Officers have to say on the subject and had an interview with the convict in his cell, are of opinion that there is no sufficient reason at present why he, convict Baker, should not be subjected to ordinary jail discipline, including corporal punishment when guilty of outrage or serious offences against the prison regulations.

7. But the Committee desire also to say that the circumstances of the case are peculiar, and, whilst arriving at the conclusion expressed in paragraph 6, desire to add that circumstances may arise hereafter which would render a fresh opinion, suited to fresh circumstances, desirable.

(Signed) C. J. ROGERS, Surgeon,
39th Regiment, N. I. } *President.*

(„) J. WILSON, Surgeon,
Medical Officer, Coonoor. } *Members.*
(„) M. C. FURNELL, Surgeon,
Medical Officer, Neilgherries. }

No. 244. ORDER THEREON, 18th December 1867, No. 2094.

From the report above recorded it appears that there is no sufficient reason at present why convict Baker should not be subjected to ordinary Jail discipline, including corporal punishment when guilty of outrage or serious offence against the prison regulations.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
17th December 1867.

2. The Officer in charge of the European Jail at Ootacamund will be guided by this opinion, should convict Baker, by misconduct, render himself liable to punishment.

3. Convict Baker should be informed that no exception will be made in his favor, should he, by violence or insubordination, be deserving of punishment.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.

Ed. J. H. Burns.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the

Inspector General of Jails.

(Hence sent 9 Decr 1867 No. 142)

Order thereon 18 Decr 1867 No. 2094.

From the report above recorded it appears that there is no sufficient reason at present why convict Baker should not be subjected to ordinary Jail discipline including corporal punishment when guilty of outrage or serious offences against the prison regulations.

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To the Superior Court of Indis.

West 1867 Department.

No. 2096.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated 17th November 1867.

243, 244.