

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Insane DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>525</i>	Press <u>Mis.</u>
<i>49.30</i> Dated	<i>5/4</i>	<i>19/8/67</i>

3/3

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
5th April 1867.*

No. 29. Read the following letter from the Commissioner of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 2nd April 1867, No. 43.

I have the honor to report that five Natives of Upper India, whose names are given in the subjoined list, were handed over to me yesterday by the Master Attendant on suspicion of being escaped convicts from Port Blair.

2. These men were picked up in an exhausted state at sea, between the Andaman Islands and the Tenasserim Coast, by a Native Dhony which has brought them direct to Madras. They were in a long Canoe, such as is used in the Burmese rivers, but with the unusual appendage of a metal sheathing to the bottom of the boat. Colonel Blake, who is well acquainted with Burmah and Port Blair, informs me that the Government boats in use at Port Blair are precisely of this description; that the metal sheathing is specially intended to protect the boats from the attacks of the teredo which infests the harbours of the Andamans, and that no other boats belonging to those coasts are so sheathed. The men themselves stated that they formed part of the crew of a vessel which foundered at sea between Calcutta and Rangoon, and that they escaped in the boat. They still adhere to this story, but the Syrang of the Dhony which picked them up states positively, that they are not sailors. The boat is not a ship's boat. They differ on being cross-questioned in many minor details, and on being closely examined in the Penitentiary, they are found to have marks of fetters below the knee and above the heels.

3. Under these circumstances, I think there can be no reasonable doubt that these men are escaped convicts from Port Blair. I propose with the sanction of Government to detain them in the Penitentiary and to send them to Port Blair in the Steamer *Prince Arthur*, which will sail with transportation convicts about the 6th or 7th instant. The boat might also be sent by the same opportunity. If they should prove not to be convicts the Superintendent of Port Blair can forward them to Rangoon, to which Port they say they were bound.

Name.	Caste.	Country.	Marks.
Fakeera	Jheer.....	Benares.....	Tough marks on the heels and on the shins, just such marks as fetter rings would make.
Ramdeen.....	Cavat.....	Patna.....	Do.
Ramoo.....	Bheen.....	Do	Do.
Caroo.....	Do... ..	Do	Do.
Kumrath.....	Do... ..	Do	Do.

No. 30. ORDER THEREON, 5th April 1867, No. 545.

The Governor in Council authorizes the Commissioner of Police to detain the five men referred to in the foregoing letter in the Penitentiary, and to send them and the boat in which they were picked up to Port Blair in the *Prince Arthur*, intimating the same to the Superintendent of Port Blair.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Commissioner of Police.
„ Superintendent of Marine.
Exd. J. Tulloch.

To 8000

23

N^o 545. 5 April 1854.

The Governor in Council
authorizes the Commissioner of Police
to detain the five men referred to
in the foregoing letter in the
Penitentiary and to send them and
the boat in which they were picked
up, to Port Blair in the "Prince
Arthur" intimating the same to
the Superintendent of Port Blair

JP

WDL

N.

by

Commissioner of Police }
Superint^t of Marine }
recd 6/4

16 40

JVD

Serial No.

Cro 545 22-5-4-67
29-30

8 3 1627 may
2001 R.H

1867

(1) Serial number.

1867. Tad Vail

(2) Current number

Cro no 545 Date 5-4-67

(3) Date received by Assistant

II. SECRETARIAT PERSONAL REGISTER OF

10/5/2002 Dr. Vail

(4) Title

10/5/2002 Dr. Vail

530 to 608 room number

(5) From whom

10/5/2002 Dr. Vail

Dr. Vail

(6) Outside number and date

(7) Submitted to Officer

(8) Returned to Section

15/2