

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Medical DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	885	Press
		~~VHS~~
Dated	29-5-1918	

311-312

415

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
29th May 1867.*

No. 311. Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 22nd May 1867, No. 33.

With reference to the Order of Government noted in the margin, I have the honor to report that I placed myself in communication with the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, with respect to the necessity of retaining the Jail at Paumben, and I herewith enclose the reply of that Officer, from which it will appear that he does not consider it advisable to give up the Jail. He states that the whole of the dredging work, the management of the rafts and stone boats, and the boring for the blasting operations, is performed by the convicts; that Paumben is a small place without cultivation and with no demand for labor, so that the removal of the convicts would render it necessary to obtain laborers from the main land at a high rate of wages.

2. I also enclose a statement shewing the strength of the Paumben Jail on the 1st of each month, from the 1st January 1866 up to the 31st March 1867, inclusive, together with the number of admissions and releases during each month. The admissions amount to 296, which number was made up by convicts sentenced at the undermentioned places, viz.,

At Ramnad.....	244
„ Mootocoolatoor.....	24
„ Tiroowadany.....	5
„ Tiroochooly.....	4
„ Paumben.....	18
Received from Madura.....	1
	296

On the 16th instant, the inmates consisted of 124 persons, for whom accommodation must be provided if the Jail is given up, and this accommodation could not be found at present without difficulty. When the Central Jails are finished, and all convicts sentenced to periods exceeding one year are withdrawn from the District Jails at Madura and Tinnevely, then Paumben may probably be abandoned without inconvenience, but I cannot recommend that it should be given up at this time.

3. The services of a Covenanted Officer as Superintendent may not be necessary, but it is essential that some one should be appointed, whose position is such as to afford a reasonable guarantee for the efficient and conscientious discharge of duties, which, even in a small Jail, require care and attention. The Overseer of the works is not considered fit to superintend, and I would, therefore, recommend that Mr. Burby, the Sub-Magistrate, who is now in charge, should continue to act; but as the works at Paumben appear to be of importance, perhaps a competent Officer of a superior grade to that of Overseer may be furnished from the Public Works Department for both duties. This is the only alternative I am able to suggest.

From the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Inspector General Jails; dated Kodaikanel, 4th May 1867, No. 230.

In returning the Order* of Government received with your letter, No. 221 of the 26th ultimo, I have the honor to state my opinion that, as far as the requirements of this Department are concerned, it is advisable to keep up the Jail at Paumben.

* Revenue Department, No. 532 of 10th April 1867.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
29th May 1867.

2. The whole of the dredging work, both in the reef channel, and in the inner sand bank channel, is done by the prisoners' labor, as also the management of the rafts and stone boats, and the boring for the blasting operations. Paumben is a small place with no demand for labor, and there is no cultivation, so that ordinary supplies must be imported. If we were deprived of the prisoners' labor, we should have to obtain coolies from the main land, and pay them at a high rate, perhaps have to build lines for them also.

3. The Government having ordered me, in February 1866, to depute an Overseer for charge of the works, I sent a European, Serjeant Sanderson, as the most fit person; his salary is Rupees 94, and acquaintance with the vernacular limited; and I would not recommend that he should be vested with the powers of a Magistrate, or of administering corporal punishment.

STATEMENT showing the number of Convicts in Jail at Paumben, from 1st January 1866 to 31st March 1867.

	Convicts remaining on the 1st of the month.		Received during month.		Released during month.		Remarks.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1866.							
January	186	.....	14	.....	11	.....	
February	186	.....	17	.....	17	.....	
March	178	.....	7	.....	15	.....	
April	178	.....	15	.....	14	.....	
May	175	.....	14	.....	16	.....	
June	154	.....	13	.....	34	.....	
July	151	1	18	1	18	.....	
August	156	1	22	1	17	1	
September	167	23	30	23	19	1	
October	170	27	22	6	18	2	
November	170	7	21	7	21	27	
December	176	8	22	3	14	2	
1867.							
January	154	3	17	1	39	6	
February	127	3	16	1	42	1	
March	116	1	5	.....	16	2	
			253	43	311	42	

(Signed) W. J. WILSON, Lieut. Colonel,
Inspector General of Jails.

No. 312. ORDER THEREON, 29th May 1867, No. 885.

Under the circumstances represented by the Inspector General of Jails the Jail at Paumben must be retained for the present.

2. The Inspector General states that the Sub-Magistrate, Mr. Burby, is at present in charge. The Magistrate will report whether Mr. Burby is a fit person to be entrusted with the charge of a Jail, whether he resides permanently at Paumben, and under what circumstances the Assistant Magistrate lately in charge was relieved from his duty.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Jails.
" Magistrate of Madura.
Ed. J. Tulloch.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

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the Inspector General of Jails.
Dated 22nd May 1867 No. 885.

Order thereon 29 May 1867 No. 885.

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W. J. Wilson

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and under what
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charge was relieved from
his duty.

By

To the Master of the Court }
Magistrate of the Court }

Number 1012

311.312

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No. 225

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Ms. 1347.
2118

Dated. 29. May 1867.

Comment