

(1) Number of pages 4
(2) Date of repair 8. 10-86
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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Judicial DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	117	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	23.	1. 1868 ~~197.~~

QW

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23rd January 1868.*

No. 190. Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 2nd January 1868, No. 155.

With reference to the 2nd paragraph of the Order of Government noted in the margin, I have the honor to enclose a letter from the Superintendent of the Central Jail at Coimbatore, in which he describes the gallows and platform which were made there some months ago.

2. The gallows and frame-work when not used are kept in a building close to the platform.

From the Superintendent of Central Jail, Coimbatore, to the Inspector General of Jails, Ootacamund; dated Coimbatore, 16th December 1867, No. 123.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1561, dated 12th instant, calling upon me to give a description of the gallows and platform, and the arrangements made for keeping them when not used.

2. The platform, built of bricks and mud, plastered with chunam, is seven feet high, eighteen feet wide with ten steps up to it; at a distance of three feet from the platform is a strong frame-work of wood, consisting of two uprights ten feet apart and about seven feet high with a cross bar, this carries the drop and bolt; between the frame-work and platform is a board ten feet long and three feet wide, connecting the platform with the drop, and on which the executioner stands—close to the lever which allows the drop to fall. The drop is a board ten feet long and three feet broad, working on hinges on the frame-work above-mentioned, and is kept up by a wooden frame which swings on an iron bar running through the two outer posts of frame-work; this wooden frame is locked into position by what the Natives call the key—really the bolt—a long iron lever, with a bend in it, fixed on the outer post of frame-work. I can only give an imperfect description of this in writing, as I am unable to name the various parts, but I trust you will be able to understand the construction and working of the drop and bolt from the rough drawings I enclose; at a distance of two feet from the frame-work which carries the drop and bolt are the gallows, they are eighteen feet high from the ground, ten feet wide, and are made of teak wood, six inches square; the gallows and the frame-work carrying the drop are moveable, being let into bricks and chunam holes to a depth of three feet.

3. The gallows when not required are kept in a building twenty feet long by four feet wide, and six feet in height; this building is about twenty yards in rear of the platform, is built of brick and mud with a concrete roof, and has a door with lock and key.

4. The gallows were made in Jail by convict labor on the model of the Bangalore gallows, with slight alterations as to size, &c., &c., but the drop and bolt are copied exactly from that model; they have been used once on the 15th August 1867, and answered very well.

5. The former execution ground was about a mile and a half by the road from the Jail, and as it was situated on the road leading from the Cantonment to the Hills, the Collector wrote to the Government recommending its removal to the vicinity of the Central Jail; this was sanctioned by Government in G. O., No. 576, dated 10th April 1867. The present site was selected by myself, with the approval of the Collector, as being the best situation near the Jail, being out of sight and not very near any great public thoroughfare.

No. 191. ORDER THEREON, 23rd January 1868, No. 117.
To be recorded.
(True Extract).

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

Inspector General of Jails

No. 155

From Lieut. Col. W. J. Wilson
Inspector General of Jail

To The Honble. R. S. Ellis Esq.
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George

Sir, With reference to the 2^d paragraph
of the order of Government noted in the
margin I have the honor to enclose a
letter from the Superintendent of the
Central Jail at Coimbatore in which he
describes the fallows and platform
which were made there some months
ago -

2 The fallows and frame work when
not used are kept in a building close
to the platform -

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
servant.

W. J. Wilson

Insp. Genl. of Jail

Madras
2^d Jan. 1867

March 2/1882

From J. S. 1882

The Chief of Police

of the City of New York

For Mr. S. J. 1882

March 2/1882

March 2/1882

No 155

From J. S. 1882
The Chief of Police
of the City of New York

March 2/1882

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