

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	371		19/2/55				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1939		95				

N^o 166.

Central Jail Hospital.
Salem. 7th March 1895.

From

Surgeon Major Donald F. Dymott. M.B.
Medical Officer in charge
Central Jail, Salem.

To

The Superintendent

Central Jail, Salem.

CHIEF SECRETARY
13 MAR. 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement N^o 225
dated 6th March 1895 an Inspector General's
Order 4th March 1895 N^o 4335, I have the honour
to state that I only joined the Jail in Oc-
tober last, but so far as I know, admis-
sion to Hospital was always considered
necessary, and not merely formal. In no
case is a prisoner admitted to Hospital
unless the Medical Officer considers it to
be really necessary. Possibly the flogging
may be more severe in the Salem Jail than
in some of the others. To let a man re-
turn to work immediately after such a
flogging as is given here would, in my
opinion, be to run an unnecessary risk
from tetanus or blood-poisoning.

2. A statement for the required informa-
tion

information is enclosed.

I have etc.

(Signed) Donald F. Dymott M.B.
Surgeon Major
In medical charge
Central Jail.

(True Copy)

A. J. Cardew
Inspector General of Prisons.

Salem Central Jail

Statement showing the number of cases admitted to Hospital after whipping and the number of days each case remained under treatment during the year 1894.

Serial Number	No. of days under treatment in Hospital	No. of stripes received	Remarks
1.	12	20.	
2.	24	20	
3.	20	12	
4.	33	20	
5.	24	15	
6.	17	20	
7.	36	30	
8.	27	20	
9.	12	30	
10.	18	30	
11.	33	30	
12.	25	20	
13.	26	30	
14.	19	30	
15.	18	30	
16.	18	20	
17.	25	30	
18.	19	30	
19.	18	30.	

Salem Central Jail
7 March 1895 }

(Signed) Donald F. Dymott M.B.
Surgeon Major
In medical charge, Central Jail.

No. 1402

Ootacamund 1346
Prisons
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF JAILS,
Dated 15 March 1895.

From

A. G. CARDEW, Esq., M.A.,

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF JAILS, Prisons.

To

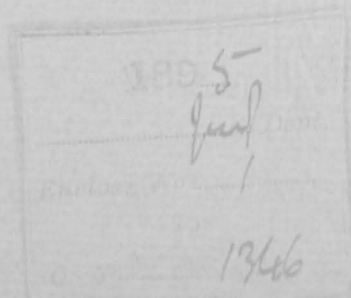
THE

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

SIR,

One Enclosure.

With reference to paragraph 2. G.O.
19 February 1895 No 371, I have the honour
to state that the Medical Officer of the
Salem Central Jail states in a Letter No.
166 dated 7 March 1895, of which a
copy is enclosed that the admission of
Convicts into Hospital after corporal pun-
ishment in that Jail has never been
done as a mere matter of form, but be-
cause it was absolutely necessary.
Surgeon Major Dymott, to whom I spoke
on the subject, assured me that in each
case which he had seen, admission was
undoubtedly desirable. I fear that the
words used in paragraph 4 of my Letter
No 504 dated 29 January 1895 may have
given



given the Government a contrary impression, and may have been unintentionally misleading. If this was so, I trust that the Medical Officer's explanation may be accepted.

2. As regards the general direction contained in the Ld under reply, that Convicts are not, as a general rule, to be admitted to Hospital after whipping, I respectfully solicit a reconsideration of the matter.

The responsibility for the due admission of sick prisoners to Hospital rests entirely with the Medical Officer and any interference, which would weaken that responsibility is, I think, especially to be deprecated.

Moreover, I doubt whether the Government is fully aware of the nature of the injuries which are referred to in the Ld as sores on the buttocks. Twenty or thirty cuts with a rattan, if well laid on, produce considerable laceration of the flesh. Several days after elapse before the sloughs or dead tissue come away, and there is frequently an extensive open surface. In such cases, it is practically impossible for a man to do his ordinary work, if that is of a sedentary nature, and walking about retards the healing processes. There would, moreover,

moreover, be an obvious danger if such sores were not properly cared for. Only 4 or 5 years ago two Convicts died of tetanus owing to the sores following vaccination being neglected, and a fatal case of gangrene of the buttocks after whipping is recorded in Ld 18 August 1892 No 1519. The necessity of admitting Convicts to Hospital after whipping is a matter of regret, but as the men spend most of their time lying on their faces and get no extra diet, the holiday cannot be very enjoyable. In the light of this explanation, I hope that the Government will consider further action unnecessary, or will take the opinion of the Surgeon-General on the matter.

* Had the opportunity, in the course of his tour, of seeing some of the men who have been recently whipped at the Salun & other jails.

RS
27/3/95

RS

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

W. Gordon
Inspector General of Prisons.

JUDICIAL.
JAIL (1895) DEPARTMENT.

From
THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF JAILS,

To
THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

Dated 15th
Despatched
Received 18th March 1895.

No. 1402

ENCLOSURES. One

Subject.

Submitting explanation regarding the question of the admission of convicts to Hospital after whipping in the Central Jail Salem - and soliciting a reconsideration of the general direction contained in G.O. 19.2.95 No. 371 (under reply) regarding the same.

H. H.

For orders

Please see G.O. 371 & notes in order. Mr. Cardew states that in Salem Jail whipped convicts are only admitted when the medical officer considers it desirable, & deprecates the order that admissions into hospital for ordinary sores on the buttocks should be discontinued.

D. 28.3.95

If matters are as stated in the letter of the medical officer in charge Salem Jail at that time, how comes it that prisoners whipped at other jails are apparently seldom if ever admitted into hospital after undergoing the punishment?

The inference is that either the prisoners who have been whipped are treated in a more careful way at Salem than elsewhere or that whipping at that jail has become a fine art. I submit that the S.G. should be called upon to account for this.

The real truth probably is that after the death from gangrene of the buttocks which occurred some time ago the medical officer in charge of the Salem Jail was very particular.

The best thing to do with, I think, is to call on the S.G. to report, after he has

C26/3
R 2/3

DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated

18, No.

Again G.O., dated

19 February 1895, No. 371

Current No.

of 18, dated

from

Current No. 1346 of 18 95, dated 15 March from the S.G. of Prisons

Order No. 713 & 4-4-95

The S.G.'s letter will be communicated to the Surgeon-General with the request that he will report upon the question involved after he has had the opportunity, in the course of his tour of seeing convicts in the Salem & other jails (who have recently been whipped) He should then be in a position to judge whether the special treatment now pursued at Salem is due merely to the existence of greater care on the part of the medical officer, or to the fact that the punishment is inflicted with unusual severity in that jail.

(from order)
D. 28.3.95

The S.G. Prisons G.O. DESIGNATED
The Surgeon-General (a copy of G.O. 371 (1895) in M.S.)

13/16
Treatment of
Whipped Convicts

Cs.
(from order)

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189

AD AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

COPY No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.