

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2003	Press ~~Mis.~~
^{365-66.} Dated	21-7-	191868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st July 1868.*

No. 365. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Judicial Department:—

Passing orders on the report of the Subsidiary
Jail Committee on the Jail requirements of } (Here enter 16th July 1868, No. 1,127.)
the Coimbatore District.

No. 366. ORDER THEREON, 21st July 1868, No. 2,003.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. SEWELL,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Judicial Department, No. 1,127.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
16th July 1868.

Read the following papers:—

No. 143. From the Subsidiary Jail Committee, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 27th May 1868, No. 129.

We have the honor to report on the Subsidiary Jail requirements of the District of Coimbatore.

1. The District of Coimbatore is of considerable extent—8470 square miles. It is divided into eleven Taluqs, and has in all 19 Magisterial stations.

2. It is bounded on the north by Mysore, on the east by Salem and Trichinopoly, on the south by Madura, and on the west by Malabar and Cochin.

3. The Staff of Officers with their respective charges is as follows:—

Officers.	Head Quarters.	Taluqs.	Tahsildar's Stations.	Sub-Magistrate's Stations.
Collector, Revenue charge of.....	Coimbatore....	Neilgherry.....	Ootacamund	{ Ootacamund. Coonoor. Wellington. Anamallay.
		Pollachy	Pollachy	
		Bhowany	Bhowany.....	
Sub Collector, Revenue and Magisterial charges of.....	Konghiem....	Caroor.....	Caroor.....	Aravancoorehy. Konghiem.
		Dharapooram....	Dharapooram ..	
		Oodoomalpettah.	Oodoomalpettah.	
Head Assistant Collector, Revenue and Magisterial charges of.....	Coimbatore....	Coimbatore....	Coimbatore....	{ Coimbatore. Mettapolliem. Avanashy.
		Palladom.....	Palladom.....	
		Pollachy.....		
Magisterial charge of...		Pollachy.....		
Deputy Collector, Revenue and Magisterial charges of...	Suttiamungalum.	Collegal....	Collegal.....	 Talavady.
		Suttiamungalum.	Suttiamungalum.	
Deputy Collector, Revenue and Magisterial charges of...	Errode.....	Perindorai....	Perindorai	
		Bhowany.....		
Magisterial charge of...		Bhowany.....		

4. At Coimbatore are located the Magistrate of the District, the Head Assistant, and Tahsildar Sub-Magistrate. The location of the Head Assistant Magistrate in one of the Taluqs in that Officer's charge is under consideration, and it will be necessary at Coimbatore to build an office for the Magistrate with the Subsidiary Jail attached. We propose submitting a special report on this station, but we have been unwilling to delay on this account reporting on the other Subsidiary Jail requirements of the district, which are urgent.

5. PERINDORAI.—This is at present the station of the Tahsildar of the Perindorai Taluq. The transfer of the office to Erode has been sanctioned by Government.

6. This being the case, it would obviously be undesirable to incur any expense that can be avoided, and, therefore, our present proposals are limited to the better ventilation of the existing wards (3 in number) in the Cutcherry and Station-house, and the conversion of the store-room in the Cutcherry into an additional ward.

7. The use of the privy and stables at the back of the Station-house should be discontinued, owing to their proximity to the wards.

8. The above are only temporary expedients. It will be necessary to construct a new Taluq Cutcherry and Jail at Errode on Mr. Chisholm's plan No. 1, with accommodation for eighteen males and six females. We have requested the Magistrate to select a suitable site, and send us a plan of it.

9. CAROOR.—This is the station of the Tahsildar of the Caroor Taluq.

10. Plan *A* shows the present Cutcherry, which is a large and commodious building. One-half of it is devoted to Jail purposes.

11. At this place are confined, not only the local prisoners, but also those sentenced to more than five days by the Sub-Magistrate of Aravancoorchy.

12. There are at present only three wards—two for males, each capable of containing eight prisoners, and one for females, with room for four.

13. The number of prisoners at this station is sometimes very large.

14. Another ward for females is absolutely necessary, and may be provided by converting the present Inspector's room into a ward. Should experience show further accommodation to be necessary, an excellent ward, capable of containing eight prisoners, may easily be formed, by enclosing 24 feet of the "Place of Arms" (Plan *A*). In this event it will be necessary to provide space elsewhere for the Police.

15. It will be seen from Plan *A* that the verandahs at the back of the present wards and the Inspector's room have been converted into cook-rooms, &c., thus materially impeding the ventilation of the wards. We propose re-converting two of these rooms into verandahs, so as to afford further ventilation to the large wards for males, and giving the Inspector of Police, in lieu of his present room, the two rooms now occupied by the Dresser and Pound-keeper. The Village Magistrate or Dresser can have the central cooking-room on the other side, but we would prefer giving these Officers accommodation elsewhere, and making this room over to the Police as an additional guard-room.

16. These arrangements, which are shown in Plan *A* in yellow, will afford ample accommodation for prisoners at a very moderate expense.

17. The subsidiary buildings must be constructed outside the Jail. Plan *B* shows the site and their location.

18. ARAVANCOORCHY.—This is the station of a Deputy Tahsildar Sub-Magistrate and is distant 18 miles from Caroor, the Cusbah of the Taluq, to which place all prisoners sentenced for more than five days are sent.

19. It will be seen from Plan *A* that the Jail consists of a long room at the back of the Office 34' 6" long, by 7' broad and 5' high, with scarcely any ventilation. It is quite unsuited for the purposes of a Jail.

20. It will be necessary to build an Office and Jail on Mr. Chisholm's plan No. 2, with four wards in some other position, the present site being closely surrounded by streets and buildings. We have requested the Magistrate to select a suitable site.

21. SUTTIAMUNGALUM.—This is the Cusbah of the Taluq of the same name, and the station of the Tahsildar Sub-Magistrate, and also of a Deputy Collector and Magistrate.

22. Plan *A* shows the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry, the Sub-Jail and Police Lock-up, which are all in building. There appears to be a separate Police Station at some distance from the Cutcherry.

23. The accommodation for prisoners, consists of a ward for males 15' 3" $\times$ 10', and a ward for females 15' 3" $\times$ 5' 3". Two sides of each of these wards are formed of palmyra bars, and the female ward has a small window. These wards would be over-crowded if six prisoners were confined in them, but the returns show that upwards of twenty have frequently been in confinement for days together. A long thatched shed (Plan *B*) with mud walls is also used as a Jail, but is utterly unsuited for the purpose.

24. The plan shows that a considerable portion of the Cutcherry is used as a Store. The building appears to be closely surrounded by streets and houses and no extension of the building is therefore practicable.

25. As the speediest and most economical arrangement, we propose to convert the whole of the eastern side of the Cutcherry into a Jail of four wards with two passages. The present ward for males will answer all the purposes of a store-room. The adjacent women's ward, unoccupied space, and "store-room for old instruments" might be converted into one large record-room, about 30' $\times$ 15' 3", very nearly the size of the existing record-room, which we propose converting into wards.

26. There will thus be accommodation for twenty-three prisoners in four wards, which, as the Talavady prisoners will not be transferred to this place, will, we think, prove generally sufficient.

27. Our proposals are shown in yellow in Plan *A*.

28. The subsidiary buildings, hospital-shed, cooking-shed, and latrine must be built on the site (Plan *C*) occupied by the thatched shed alluded to in paragraph 23.

29. TALAVADY.—This is the station of a Deputy Tahsildar Sub-Magistrate, and is distant 45 miles from Suttiamungalum (the Cusbah of the Taluq) to which place prisoners sentenced for more than ten days are transferred.

30. Plan *A* shows the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry and the adjacent Police Station. These are described as old and dilapidated, and quite unfit for the purposes to which they are applied. Their walls are of earth, and their roofs low and weak. The Police Station is very damp. There are no wards or places of confinement; and prisoners, when there are any, are said to be hand-cuffed and shackled to prevent their escape.

31. A new office and Jail with the minimum number of wards on Mr. Chisholm's plan No. 2 is absolutely necessary here; and, pending its construction (which should be ordered as soon as possible), the Magistrate must endeavour to arrange, by renting a building or otherwise, for the proper custody of prisoners.

32. Plan *B* shows the site. On that we have indicated the position of the new buildings. It will be necessary, as shown in the plan, to purchase land on the south-east.

33. COLLEGAL.—The Tahsildar Sub-Magistrate of the Collegal Taluq is stationed here.

34. Plan A shows the Cutcherry and Police buildings, which are all in one block. The latter, judging from the plan, must have been added to the Cutcherry recently, and their position prevents the proper ventilation of the adjacent rooms.

35. There are only two wards for prisoners, and both are badly ventilated.

36. We propose to convert the "Tahsildar's Office," into two wards, which will each hold five prisoners, and the store-room next to it into a ward for two females; to increase the ventilation of the present "male" wards; and to convert the two "sheds" on each side of the entrance, one into a Court for the Tahsildar, and the other into a room for his clerks, giving up to him the present female ward. We think it would be advisable to add ridge ventilation over the wards.

37. Plan A shows these arrangements colored yellow.

38. There are suitable sites near at hand for the usual subsidiary buildings; but, as they are private property, it will be necessary to purchase whichever the Magistrate may consider most suitable for the purpose.

39. BHOWANY.—This is the station of the Tahsildar Sub-Magistrate of the Bhowany Taluq.

40. Plan A shows the Cutcherry and Police Station, which are in the same building. There is at present only one ward. Prisoners sentenced to more than ten days are sent to Coimbatore.

41. It is now proposed to convert the adjacent store-room into another ward, and to form two wards, each for two females, and one ward for four males, on each side of the entrance opposite to the Sheristadar's side of the building. This will involve little expense and afford sufficient accommodation. Plan A exhibits these changes in yellow. Accommodation is thus provided for nineteen prisoners in all.

42. The subsidiary buildings must be constructed outside the building. We have indicated their position on Plan B on the only available space.

43. DHARAPOORAM.—This is the station of the Tahsildar of the Taluq.

44. In the Jail here are confined the local prisoners, and also those sentenced to more than five days' imprisonment by the Sub-Magistrate of Oodoomalpettah (25 miles distant), and those sentenced to more than seven days by the Sub-Magistrate of Konghiem (19 miles distant).

45. Plan A shows the Cutcherry, with one small ward 12' x 12' and the Subsidiary Jail, which is connected with the Police Station and distant five hundred yards from the Cutcherry.

46. The Jail (a rented building) is insecure and quite unsuited to its purpose, and the Cutcherry is very small and incommensurate. A new Cutcherry and Jail has, we are informed, been sanctioned, and is to be one of the first undertaken. We have requested the Magistrate to select a suitable site.

47. POLLACHY.—The Tahsildar of the Pollachy Taluq is stationed here.

48. Prisoners sentenced to more than five days' imprisonment are sent to Coimbatore, 24 miles distant.

49. Plan A shows the Cutcherry, in which there is only one ward, 17' x 12' x 8' for prisoners.

50. A new Cutcherry has, we are informed, already been sanctioned. We have requested the Magistrate to select a suitable site for a building according to Mr. Chisholm's plan No. 1, with four wards of the standard dimensions.

51. OODOOMALPETTAH.—This is the station of the Tahsildar of the Taluq of the same name.

52. The Cutcherry (Plan A) is in a dilapidated condition, and it is recommended that all patching up of the present building should be abandoned, as it is hopeless to attempt to improve it.

53. Under these circumstances we recommend the erection of a new Taluq Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail on the standard plan No. 1, with accommodation for twelve male and six female prisoners, with the usual adjuncts of latrine, cook-house, and hospital-shed.

54. The Magistrate will select and send us a site.

55. The Neilgherries comprise the Magisterial stations of Ootacamund, Wellington and Coonoor. At Ootacamund are stationed a Joint Magistrate (who is also Superintendent of the European and Native Jails), a Special Assistant Collector, a Tahsildar and a Town Sub-Magistrate.

56. The Joint Magistrate, a Military Officer, is vested with the full powers of a Magistrate, and is also a Justice of the Peace. He receives a civil allowance of Rupees 75 per mensem in addition to his military emoluments, and on him the Magisterial duties of the station chiefly devolve, the Special Assistant's work being restricted to matters of revenue administration, and the management of the sale, &c., of waste lands. The Tahsildar is a Sub-Magistrate of the second class, but his time is almost exclusively occupied by revenue details, which are heavy, owing to the number of Europeans located on the Hills. The Town Sub-Magistrate has powers of the second class, and deals with all petty cases arising within the limits of the Cantonment.

57. Wellington is a Military Cantonment, and the Military Cantonment Magistrate, besides his local jurisdiction, exercises (full) Magisterial powers over the Civil Sub-Magistracy of Coonoor, which includes Kotagherry.

58. At Coonoor a Sub-Magistrate with second class powers is stationed, but the Magisterial work is chiefly undertaken by the Cantonment Magistrate of Wellington, whose office is at Wellington village, about a mile distant from Coonoor, on the high road to Ootacamund.

59. The prison accommodation on the Hills comprises a Police Station and Lock-up combined at Coonoor, the same at Wellington village, and the same at Ootacamund, where also is a large Jail for Native convicts, besides the Central Jail for Europeans.

60. At COONOR the Travellers' Bungalow has lately been converted into Public Offices. The main building is assigned to the Sub-Magistrate and the Postmaster, the latter official having by far the best of the accommodation. A separate building, a few yards distant, constitutes the Police Office and Lock-up.

61. The situation of these buildings is inconvenient, but the arrangement was the most economical that presented itself at the time.

62. Plan A shows the Lock-up. It will be seen that the wards are, in fact, large cages on each side of a passage leading to the Police Office. Each will contain two persons, and with this number they are sufficiently airy.

63. Previous to the construction of this Lock-up, the Sub-Magistrate sent all convicted persons either to Wellington or Ootacamund. He now sends prisoners sentenced to more than five days to these places; but, owing to the Cantonment Magistrate of Wellington taking up all but cases of the most petty nature, and to their

being but little crime at Coonoor, the number of persons confined at Coonoor is very small.

64. In order to provide for the separation of sexes and the classification of prisoners, it will be necessary to add two wards, each 12' by 14', to the lock-up. We have shown these in Plan A in yellow. A small latrine, a cooking-shed, and a hospital-shed will also be necessary. These will be seen on Plan B.

65. There will then be accommodation for eight prisoners in the new, and four in the existing wards.

66. WELLINGTON.—Plan A shows the present Lock-up and Police Station combined. There are three wards with no ventilation outwards. The largest ward is 12 feet by 7½, and will only accommodate two persons. The other two wards are 7½ by 5½ feet, and will accommodate only one prisoner in each.

67. We recommend, as the best arrangement practicable, that the breadth of the wards be increased to 10 feet; that a portion of the guard-room, 10 feet by 10 feet, be converted into a fourth ward; and that a guard-room be constructed in front of the building. There will then be two wards for males, capable of holding three each, and two for females, holding one each, with a central passage six feet wide for the Sentry. The arrangement is open to the objection that the prisoners can communicate with each other, but it is the best that circumstances permit of, and the Police must prevent irregularities.

68. The alterations and additional ventilation we consider necessary are shown in yellow on the plan.

69. A latrine, cooking-shed, and hospital-shed will also be required. These are shown yellow on Plan B.

70. Owing to the practice of transferring prisoners to Ootacamund, we are unable to ascertain exactly the number of prisoners for whom accommodation will here be necessary; but fewer wards than we have proposed cannot be provided. If it should be found hereafter that more space is requisite, it must be provided by additions to the building.

71. At OOTACAMUND there are no wards attached to the Taluq Cutcherry, which is a very inferior building. In the Police Station (Plan A), which is not far off, there is a large ward for Europeans in the centre of the building and three small wards for Natives. These are altogether unsuited to the purpose of wards for prisoners, and cannot be materially improved, nor can any additions be made to the building.

72. We propose, as in every way the best arrangement here, that wards be built on the hill on which the Native Jail stands for the accommodation of all short-sentenced prisoners, as well as those under trial and remand. These wards can be placed in close proximity to the Native Jail, but, at the same time, quite detached from it, so that no communication between the inmates of the two establishments need be apprehended. This arrangement will economize the expense of guarding.

73. We would then improve the three small wards in the Station-house as far as practicable, and reserve them solely for night cases.

74. The Jail would not require the addition of a hospital-shed.

75. The wards should be boarded, with the exception of small spaces, which should be asphalted for the night tubs, and glass windows will be necessary.

76. Under these circumstances, it will no longer be necessary to march prisoners from one station to another to undergo their imprisonment.

77. We recommend that the floors of all existing and proposed Jail wards, as well as those of the latrines, be asphalted.

78. The Magistrate should be authorized to employ a sweeper at every station where there is a Subsidiary Jail, and to provide coir mats and cumblies for the use of the prisoners. The number should be in proportion to that number of prisoners for whom accommodation is provided.

No. 144. From the Subsidiary Jail Committee, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 17th June 1868, No. 137.

In continuation of our letter, No. 129, dated May 27th, we have the honor to forward the accompanying report on the stations in the Coimbatore District marginally noted.

Palladom.
Avanashy.

Mettapolliem.
Anamallay.

2. PALLADOM.—This is the station of the Tahsildar Sub-Magistrate of the Palladom Taluq, and is 21 miles from Coimbatore, whither all convicted persons are sent to undergo their sentences.

3. The Cutcherry is small and in good order, but contains only one Lock-up, which does not admit of the proper separation of sexes.

4. Adjoining the Taluq Cutcherry, however, and only 16 feet from it, is the Cutcherry, now disused, of the Deputy Collector, who was formerly stationed here. This building we propose to convert into a Jail of four wards, joining it to the Cutcherry by a covered way eight feet wide.

5. Our proposals are exhibited in the Plan A; the alterations being colored yellow.

6. The Magistrate should be instructed to select suitable sites for the usual subsidiary buildings of latrine, cook-house and hospital-shed, all of which are necessary.

7. AVANASHY.—This is the station of a Deputy Tahsildar Sub-Magistrate of the Palladom Taluq, and is distant from Palladom 18 miles, and from Coimbatore 25 miles.

8. The Sub-Magistrate's Office, Plan A, is a small building with no accommodation for prisoners. They are confined up to five days in the Police Station, Plan B; after that period they are sent to Coimbatore.

9. The Police Station is apparently a new building in a good condition. It contains two wards, one capable of containing three prisoners, and the other one prisoner.

10. It will be necessary to build a block of four wards on the standard plan in rear of the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry, with the usual adjuncts of latrine, cook-house, and hospital-shed.

11. Accommodation is thus provided for twelve males and six females.

12. On Plan A will be seen the new Jail and subsidiary buildings in yellow.

13. The compound should be fenced round to the extent and in the direction indicated by us in yellow in the Plan.

14. METTAPOLLIEM is the station of a Sub-Magistrate in the Taluq of Coimbatore, from which place it is distant 23 miles.

15. Prisoners sentenced to more than five days' imprisonment are sent to Coimbatore. Under that period, they are confined in a Police Station, Plan A, where accommodation is provided for five persons in three wards.

16th July 1868.

16. The Sub-Magistrate's Office is a small building, Plan B, with no accommodation for prisoners.

17. It will, therefore, be necessary, as shown in Plan B in yellow, to build in rear of the Cutcherry a Jail of the usual size, with accommodation for twelve male and six female prisoners.

18. This, as well as the latrine, cook-house, and hospital-shed, are shown in Plan B.

19. The tiled shed which at present stands in the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry compound should be removed, and built elsewhere if necessary.

20. The compound should be fenced round.

21. ANAMALLAY.—This is the station of a Sub-Magistrate in the Pollachy Taluq, and is distant from Pollachy 8 miles, and from Coimbatore 32 miles.

22. The Cutcherry, Plan A, is an oblong building of two rooms, one of which is occupied by the Sub-Magistrate, and one by his records.

23. Prisoners whose sentences do not exceed five days are confined in the Police Station, Plan B; those whose sentences exceed that period are sent to Coimbatore.

24. The Police Station contains two rooms, one of which will accommodate nearly three, and the other one person. In neither ward is there any ventilation, excepting through the doors opening into the Station-house.

25. The compound of the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry is too small to admit of the erection of a Jail in it. We therefore propose the erection of a new Cutcherry Jail, with accommodation for twelve male and six female prisoners, with the usual subsidiary buildings.

26. We have requested the Magistrate to select a suitable site.

No. 145. ORDER THEREON, 16th July 1868, No. 1127.

In the foregoing reports the Committee on Subsidiary Jails have very fully described the requirements of the Coimbatore District in respect of the accommodation needed for prisoners sentenced by the Magistracy to imprisonment to periods not exceeding thirty days.

2. The Committee propose to submit a special report regarding the Coimbatore station, and they note in paragraphs 46 and 50 that new Cutcheries with Jails have already been sanctioned for the stations of Dharapooram and Pollachy, and that they have requested the Magistrate to select suitable sites for the same.

3. The Committee recommend the construction of new Cutcheries and Jails at—

Errode.	Oodoomalpettah; and
Aravancoorchy.	Anamallay.
Talavady.	

A new Jail at—

Mettapolliem.

New Wards at—

Coonoor.
Ootacamund; and
Avanashy.

Alterations, improvements, and additions at—

Perindorai.	Bhowany.
Caroor	Wellington; and
Suttiamungalum.	Pulladam.
Collegal.	

16th July 1868.

4. At Ootacamund the Committee propose that three small wards in the Police Station-house should be improved, and that the floors should be boarded, with the exception of small spaces which should be asphalted.

5. The floors of all existing and proposed Jails, as well as of latrines, to be asphalted.

6. The Governor in Council approves of the recommendations made by the Committee to meet the wants of the Coimbatore District, and directs that the foregoing reports, together with the plans, be referred to the Public Works Department, with a view to the requisite plans and estimates being prepared for sanction.

7. It appears from paragraph 30 of the first of the foregoing reports that at Talavady there is no accommodation whatever for prisoners, and that, when there are any prisoners whose sentence do not exceed ten days, they are hand-cuffed and shackled to prevent their escape. Such an arrangement is very discreditable to the Magistrate in charge of this Subsidiary Jail, who should have specially reported this deficiency of accommodation. The attention of the Magistrate is drawn to the authority granted in paragraph 14 of the Orders of Government dated the 29th March 1866, No. 470, and he will at once report why no steps have been taken up to the present time to rent a suitable house for the accommodation of prisoners at Talavady. Pending the submission of the report called for, the Magistrate is authorized to rent a suitable house at Talavady, or, should no building be procurable for hire, to take the necessary steps to provide hutting accommodation for the average number of prisoners.

8. The Magistrate will also explain how it has happened that the Talavady Subsidiary Jail has not been inspected quarterly by a European Assistant, as required by paragraph 15 of the G. O. quoted above.

9. The Magistrate is also authorized to arrange for the selection of suitable sites, for the purchase of land, and for fencing in the compounds at the stations indicated by the Committee in their reports.

10. The employment of a (toty) sweeper at every station, and the provision of coir mats and cumblies for the prisoners, is sanctioned.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Committee on Subsidiary Jails.

" Public Works Department, with plans.
" Revenue Department.
" Magistrate of Coimbatore.
" Accountant General.
" Inspector General of Jails.
" Inspector General of Police.

Revenue 1868 Oct 1st
No. of 4 and 7 1/2 - 2112 1/2

Exceeding 1000 the
Credit 28.9 1/2
Oct 1st 1868

Postal 164 3/4 1/2
Revenue 1868 1/68

1868-11/27-

Revenue 1868 on the
No. of 4 and 7 1/2 -
= 2112 1/2
= 2112 1/2 on the 1st
= 2112 1/2 on the 1st

Revenue 1868 on the
No. of 4 and 7 1/2 -
= 2112 1/2

With 1868

1868-2003

Revenue Board

21st July 1868

Revenue 1868 on the 1st 1868

1868-2003