

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2835-

Press
~~Mis.~~

548-549

Dated 28-11-1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th November 1867.*

No. 548. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Judicial Department:—

Passing orders on report on the Subsidiary Jail } (Here enter 23rd November 1867, No. 1,902.)
requirements of the Salem District.

No. 549. ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1867, No. 2,835.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. H. WILKINSON,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Judicial Department, No. 1,902.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23rd November 1867.

No. 287. Read the following letter from the Subsidiary Jail Committee, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 19th October 1867, No. 32.

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

2. *Magistrate's Division.*—The Magistrate's division comprises the Taluqs of Salem and Ahtoor, in which are the five Magisterial stations of Womaloor, Rauzepoor, Ahtoor, Salem, and Yercaud, (Shervaroy Hills.)

3. *Womaloor.*—This is the station of a Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate of the Salem Taluq, and is ten miles north-west of the town of Salem.

4. The Cutcherry, Police station, and Jail, are all in one long building (Plan A.), built by the townspeople at their own expense; bounded on the south by the main street; on the west by a lane ten feet wide, with houses on the opposite side; on the east by houses; and on the north by a vacant portion of the village site. It is only on this side that any extension (and this to a very small extent) is practicable.

5. The Magistrate considers a new Sub-Magistrate's office necessary, and of this there can be no question. A good site can be procured just outside the town, and on receipt of a plan of it, we will again address Government. Meanwhile, as a temporary arrangement, we propose (vide Plan B.) to convert the present Police room into a ward, and to build another room (which may be of brick in mud) for the Police, in rear of the Sub-Magistrate's office. There will thus be accommodation for six males in two wards, and one female in one ward. Should this at any time prove insufficient, the prisoners in excess of these numbers can be transferred to the Salem Subsidiary Jail, under the arrangements proposed in paragraph 27.

6. A small cook-room may be built at X, and a latrine at Z, in Plan B. The number of prisoners here is so small that a separate ward will usually be available for a sick prisoner, until he can be sent to Salem for treatment.

7. *Rauzepoor.*—This is also the station of a Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate of the Salem Taluq, and is sixteen miles south of Salem.

8. The Cutcherry, Jail, &c., are in one block, surrounded by a compound wall, and are shown in Plan A. It will be seen that the Jail accommodation is insufficient. We propose to build two new wards, each $16 \times 12 \times 15$, and capable of accommodating four prisoners, and to divide the present southern ward into two wards, in each of which two females may be imprisoned. Plan B. shows these additions, and also the improvements in ventilation, &c., which we propose. The latrine should be at X, and the Hospital shed at Z. The present cook-room will suffice.

9. There will thus be room here for four females and twelve males, which, judging from the Returns, and taking into consideration the distance from Salem and Namkul on either side, will be enough.

10. *Ahtoor.*—This is the station of the Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate of the Taluq, and is thirty-one miles east of Salem.

11. Plan A. shows the existing Cutcherry, Plan B. the Police station (formerly one of Mr. Orr's choultries), which is a separate building at the entrance of the town, about 200 yards distant. There is no separate Police Lock-up.

12. The buildings which compose the present Cutcherry are of no great value, nor are they well suited even for their original purpose; while from being surrounded on all sides by private houses, the additional accommodation required for a Jail and its subsidiary buildings cannot be provided. It has, we find, already been proposed to build a new Tahsildar's Cutcherry; a site has been selected, and plans and estimates have been prepared. The site of the present Cutcherry in the middle of the town will doubtless sell to advantage, and we therefore have framed our suggestions as regards this station, on the supposition of a new Cutcherry being built, which we consider necessary.

13. We suggest the substitution of Mr. Chisholm's Plan No. 1 for the usual standard plan of a Tahsildar's Cutcherry.

14. Plan C. exhibits the selected site, and upon it we have indicated the position of the new Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail, with its out-buildings.

15. Accommodation is required at Ahtoor for eighteen males and six females. This fully represents the average requirements of this Taluq. To provide for the necessary classification of prisoners, we propose three wards for males and two for females.

16. We do not propose any alteration in the Police station, but as provision is made in the new plan of a Tahsil Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail for the accommodation of the Police, it may be a question whether the present Police station should be sold or reserved for other public purposes. It must, however, be mentioned that the proposed site of the Taluq Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail is about half a mile from the centre of the town of Ahtoor, which may render the retention of the Police Station-house necessary.

17. *Salem.*—This is the chief station of the District, and the Head Quarters of the Magistrate and Tahsildar. A Town Sub-Magistrate is also located here.

18. The Magistrate's office is situated in the middle of the town, but in a spacious compound, as shown in Plan A.

19. The Tahsildar's office is in the middle of the chief street of the town.

20. The Town Sub-Magistrate occupies an inferior building also in the town, at a short distance only from the Tahsildar.

21. The Subsidiary Jail and Police Lock-up are comprised in one building (Plan B.), immediately opposite the Tahsildar's Cutcherry. This building was formerly the Zillah Jail. It was sold by Government for 600 Rupees a few years ago, and is now rented from the purchaser for 420 Rupees per annum.

22. The buildings are in a dilapidated condition, and if the Jail is retained in its present position, the existing building must be removed, and a fresh one constructed. The site has the advantage of being close to the Tahsildar's office, but, on the other hand, it is not desirable to have a Jail in the heart of a large town like Salem, closely surrounded by houses and streets.

23. Moreover, the site will have to be re-purchased, and, we believe, it was found to be damp and unhealthy formerly. On the whole, we are decidedly of opinion that, as a new Jail is a necessity, the best plan will be to build it in the compound of the Collector's Cutcherry, where (although it is in the town) there is ample space, and where it will be under the immediate supervision of the Magistrate. The compound is only a stone's throw distant from the offices of the Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate, and is open and airy.

24. In this Jail we propose that all prisoners under trial before, and sentenced by all grades of the Magistracy at Salem to periods under one month, shall be confined.

25. The number of prisoners has occasionally been very large at Salem, owing, in some measure, to prisoners being transferred from the Jails at Yercaud, Womaloor and Raupoor.

26. We propose to construct five wards for males and three for females. The former will each be $16 \times 15 \times 15$, and will hold six male prisoners in each. The latter will be $15 \times 8 \times 15$, and will accommodate three females in each.

27. This is somewhat above the ordinary requirements of Salem itself, but there were in January last as many as forty prisoners in Jail, and the extra accommodation we have provided is intended to meet the contingency detailed in paragraph 114.

28. Under these arrangements no separate Police Lock-up will be required, and, moreover, it will be unnecessary that prisoners, sentenced to periods of imprisonment exceeding fourteen days, should be sent to the Central Jail, as is the practice at present.

29. Plan C. exhibits the proposed new wards, the position of which, and of their subsidiary buildings, all drawn to scale, is indicated in Plan A., in yellow.

30. There are two wells in the walled enclosure surrounding the present press-room, but one should be dug within easier reach of the wards.

31. *Yercaud*—Shervaroy Hills.—Plan A. shows the present Jail and Lock-up. It is simply a thatched hut, $11-6 \times 10 \times 6-9$, and can at the utmost hold only one person. All convicted prisoners are sent to Salem, ten miles distant.

32. The number of prisoners here is very small indeed, the cases being chiefly trespasses on recently enclosed land. It is decidedly a great hardship to send these prisoners, who are generally Hill men, down to the plains for confinement. We propose, as the least accommodation which can well be afforded, two wards for males, each $12 \times 10 \times 10$, to hold three males each, and two wards, $12 \times 7 \times 10$, each for two females. The roof should be terraced on account of the high winds prevailing here.

33. A small cooking-shed and latrine are necessary. Considering the climate, we hardly think that a Hospital shed is required, at all events, at present.

34. Plan B. shows the proposed Jail. We cannot indicate its position, as the Board of Revenue are in communication with the Collector regarding the purchase of a site for public buildings.

DEPUTY COLLECTOR'S DIVISION.

35. The Deputy Collector's Division comprises the Southern Taluqs of Namkul and Trichengode, containing the four Magisterial stations of Namkul, Parmutty, Trichengode and Senkerrydroog.

36. *Namkul.*—This is the station of the Deputy Collector, and of the Tahsildar in charge of the Taluq. It is thirty-two miles south of Salem, and twenty-eight from the nearest Railway station at Senkerrydroog.

37. A new Taluq office on the standard plan has been sanctioned, and is necessary. The site selected is good, (vide A1), and, as it affords the necessary space, we recommend that Mr. Chisholm's Plan, No. 1, be substituted for the old standard plan already sanctioned.

38. The present Tahsildar's office (Plan A.) is in the middle of the town, is flanked on two sides by houses, and in rear by a high Droog, which impedes ventilation. This building cannot be converted into a good Subsidiary Jail. It is badly situated and ill-designed.

39. Accommodation is required at Namkul for eighteen males and six females. We propose for the former three wards, each to contain six prisoners; and two wards for females, each containing three prisoners.

40. We have roughly indicated on the site plan (A1) the position of the new buildings.

41. *Parmutty*.—This is the station of the Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar. It is distant eleven miles from Namkul, and about twenty-seven from the Senkerrydroog Railway station.

42. The Cutcherry (Plan A.), which includes the Subsidiary Jail, is in the middle of the town. It is in good repair, and, with the alterations indicated in Plan B., the necessary accommodation for prisoners can be provided at a very moderate expense.

43. It has hitherto been the practice to send the prisoners sentenced by the Parmutty Sub-Magistrate to the Namkul Jail, but this will, with the alterations suggested, be no longer necessary.

44. It will be observed from Plan B. that we have provided accommodation for ten males and six females, the former in two wards, capable of containing five prisoners in each, and the latter in two wards, each containing three female prisoners. The subsidiary buildings are indicated in Plan B.

45. *Trichengode*.—This is the station of the Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate.

46. The existing Cutcherry building (Plan A.), which includes the Subsidiary Jail, is substantial and in fair order, and all that is required to secure sufficient Subsidiary Jail accommodation is a change in the allotment of the buildings, and some slight alterations and improvements as regards ventilation.

47. These changes are exhibited in Plan B. Accommodation, as will be perceived, is afforded for twenty-four prisoners, with the usual classification.

48. There is a difficulty in providing the necessary subsidiary buildings. The Taluq Cutcherry is in the centre of the town, and is closely hemmed in by streets and houses.

49. The only suggestion we can offer in this dilemma is the purchase of a small house in the neighbourhood of the Jail, which may give space for subsidiary buildings. The Collector of the District can arrange this.

50. *Senkerrydroog*.—This is the station of the Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate of the Trichengode Taluq. The town is distant two miles from the Railway station.

51. Plan A. exhibits the existing Cutcherry and Jail.

Plan B. shows the alterations in allotment, and the improvements which we propose.

52. Accommodation has been provided for eight males and six females in four wards. This will meet the requirements of this station. The subsidiary buildings are also indicated in Plan B.

HEAD ASSISTANT COLLECTOR'S DIVISION.

53. The Head Assistant's Division comprises the Taluqs of Tripatore and Ootankarry, with the four Magisterial stations of Tripatore, Vaniembady, Ootankarry and Hurroor.

54. *Tripatore*.—This is the station of the Head Assistant, and of the Tahsildar of the Taluq.

55. Plan A. shows the existing Cutcherry of the Tahsildar, the whole of which is certainly not more than sufficient for his own requirements. It is closely surrounded by houses and streets, and no extension on the premises is practicable. It is impossible to provide the necessary space for prisoners in the Cutcherry, and we propose to build five wards; three for six males in each, and two for three females in each, in the compound of the Head Assistant's Cutcherry (Plan B.), where there is ample room.

56. Plan C. shows the proposed Jail and subsidiary buildings.

57. *Vaniembady*.—This is the station of the Deputy Tahsildar of the Tripatore Taluq.

58. The Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate holds his office in an old Village Moonsiff's Cutcherry, wholly unadapted to the purpose, and the construction of a new office has been proposed by the Collector.

59. The Police Lock-up and Subsidiary Jail are in a rented upstairs house, in the middle of the town. This building, Plan A, is not at all suited for a Jail, and the whole arrangement for the Sub-Magistrate and prisoners is objectionable.

60. As a new Cutcherry and Jail are indispensable, we recommend that a combined Office and Jail, according to Mr. Chisholm's Plan No. 2, be built on a site (Plan B.) just over the bridge, on the south side, at the entrance of the town. The Prison accommodation provided is two wards each for six males, and two wards each for three females.

61. The land will have to be purchased, but as the old travellers' bungalow has just been sold for 400 and odd Rupees, that sum, which we have ascertained to be in excess of what is required for the purchase of the new site, may be considered a set off.

62. Meanwhile, we recommend that, as a temporary measure, the prisoners should be confined in the upper story of the present building, which can be adapted and improved at little expense.

63. We have indicated in yellow, in Plan A., the improvements that are obviously desirable, but the manner in which these are carried out must be left to the Engineer's discretion.

64. *Ootankarry*.—This is the station of the Tahsildar.

65. Plan A. shows the existing Cutcherry, with its two wards A. and B., which will properly accommodate only eight prisoners. The Return of prisoners shows that this is quite insufficient. It will be necessary to build two additional wards. We show in Plan B. the position and dimensions of these. They will each accommodate seven prisoners, and with the existing wards, which may be allotted to females, will suffice.

66. Plan B. shows also the position of the subsidiary buildings.

67. The site we have selected is now occupied by the Pound. This must be removed to some other position. The tank in the compound should be cleaned out.

68. *Hurroor*.—This is the station of the Deputy Tahsildar of Ootankarry Taluq. It is distant sixteen miles from Ootankarry, whither all sentenced prisoners are now sent as a matter of course, however short their sentences may be. The reason assigned is the absence of a Police guard. If the Ootankarry Jail happens to be full, the prisoners are taken to Tripatore, which is fifteen miles further on.

69. Plan A. shows the present Cutcherry, which is sufficiently large for an Office and Jail.

70. We show in Plan B. the alterations necessary to afford accommodation for twelve males and six females, and the requisite subsidiary buildings.

71. As this is necessarily a Police station, there should be no difficulty about guarding the Jail, and it is out of the question sending prisoners sixteen, and sometimes even thirty-one miles, when there is accommodation on the spot. It must obviously be easier to guard them here, than provide escorts.

THE SUB-COLLECTOR'S DIVISION.

72. The Sub-Collector's Division comprises the Taluqs of Kistnagherry, Oosoor and Dharmapoor, with the five Magisterial stations of Denkenkottah, Kistnagherry, Dharmapoor, Penagaram, and Oosoor.

73. *Denkenkottah*.—This is the station of the Deputy Tahsildar of the Oosoor Taluq, and is distant sixteen miles from Oosoor.

74. The Office (Plan A) is according to the old plan, and was intended for a Taluq Cutcherry. The best portion of it, however, is occupied by the Forest Department. There is no separate Police Lock-up here.

75. The number of prisoners at this station is often very large, the chief offences, we understand, being connected with the Forest Department. There have frequently been as many as thirty persons confined here at one time for several days together. At present there is only one ward capable of holding eight persons.

76. It is absolutely necessary that the Forest Department should be provided with accommodation elsewhere, as no addition to the building is practicable. We propose to place the Sub-Magistrate, with his office and records, in the rooms now occupied by the Forest Department, and convert the northern and eastern sides into Jail wards, as shown in Plan B.

77. There is no space available for subsidiary buildings. These may be erected across the road on the western side of the office, where a good site can be obtained on the banks of the tank which supplies good water.

78. *Kistnagherry*.—This is the station of the Tahsildar of the Taluq. The Cutcherry is at Dowlatabad, about a mile from the town of Kistnagherry, and is a quadrangular building. There is no separate Police Lock-up here.

79. Plan A. shows the building and the allotment of the different rooms.

80. The Subsidiary Jail comprises a single ward, capable of containing only three prisoners.

81. It has been the practice hitherto to send all prisoners sentenced to more than five days' imprisonment to Oosoor, which is thirty-one miles distant.

82. The number of prisoners at this place is not large, but a glance at Plan A. will show that it is impossible to provide the necessary accommodation in the Cutcherry, which, in fact, is too small for Revenue and Magisterial purposes.

83. There is a Government building, Plan B., lately occupied by the District Moonsiff (whose Court has been removed to Dharmapoor) available. It is about

200 yards from the Cutcherry, and the addition of a ward, and some minor alterations, which are shown in Plan C., will render this a good Jail, capable of accommodating all classes of prisoners at a much less expense than the necessary accommodation could be provided at the Cutcherry. The latter building may then be made over entirely to the Tahsildar.

84. There will be no occasion, when these arrangements have been carried out, to send prisoners to any other Jail, unless, of course, the wards here should be over-crowded, which will not be of frequent occurrence.

85. *Dharmapoor*.—This is the station of the Tahsildar of Dharmapoor Taluq, and is seventeen miles from the nearest Railway station (Morapoor), and fifty-two miles from Oosoor.

86. The building (Plan A) is in a dilapidated condition. There are only two wards for prisoners, capable of containing eight or nine persons. The number confined has been as large as thirty-eight, and twenty-four has been frequent. It is impossible to provide accommodation in the Cutcherry, even if the latter were a substantial building.

87. Dharmapoor is an important station, and the Taluq is a large one. It is absolutely necessary that a new Cutcherry and Jail, with wards for eighteen males and six females, be built. The Jail Returns show that this is the minimum of accommodation required.

88. The ~~site~~ good site, Plan B., at the entrance of the town, where the Moonsiff's Court and Taluq school are situated. It will be necessary to purchase about 100 feet more to the west, than is shown in the sketch plan of the proposed site.

89. We recommend that a new Office and Jail, on Mr. Chisholm's Plan No. 1, should be erected here. The position of the different buildings is indicated in Plan B.

90. *Penagaram*.—This is the station of the Deputy Tahsildar (Sub-Magistrate) of the Dharmapoor Taluq, and is eighteen miles west of Dharmapoor.

91. The Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry (Plan A) is a very small building of an oblong shape, rented for Rupees 1-4-0 per month.

92. The Jail (Plan B.) consists of one ward in an enclosed verandah, in the main street of the town, and about 200 yards distant from the Cutcherry. The dimensions of this ward are 6-9 x 8-6 x 8, which is not enough for one person. This is also a rented building, the charge being two Rupees per month.

93. It is absolutely necessary to build a Cutcherry and Jail at this station.

94. Plan C. exhibits the site on which we propose to erect the new buildings, according to Mr. Chisholm's Plan No. 2.

95. There will be no necessity, ordinarily, for sending prisoners to Dharmapoor, as our plan provides four wards for eighteen prisoners.

96. Arrangements should be made at once for the temporary accommodation of prisoners, in the manner sanctioned by Government.

97. *Oosoor*.—This is the station of the Sub-Collector and of the Tahsildar of the Taluq.

98. The Tahsildar's Cutcherry is in the main street of the town, and, as Plan A. shows, is very small. It contains one ward, 24½ x 17 x 12½, in which under-trial males are confined.

99. At a distance of about 150 yards is the building (Plan B.) now used as a Subsidiary Jail. It is an old Mantapam, and quite unsuited for the purposes of a Jail.

100. It is absolutely necessary to build new wards for prisoners, and as the Cutcherry is too closely surrounded by houses to admit of this being done in its compound, a fresh site must be procured elsewhere.

101. Plan C. shows the site and new buildings which we propose. The land will have to be purchased. The Acting Sub-Collector has informed us that the owner asks Rupees 61-4-0 for the site, and does not consider the sum exorbitant. The Jail will accommodate the Police guard, and twelve males and six females in four wards.

102. As a temporary arrangement, until the new Jail is built, we suggest that the records of the Tahsildar be placed in one of the upper rooms of the Cutcherry, and the record-room converted into a ward. This will be inconvenient no doubt, but still the present accommodation for prisoners is so very bad that some arrangement of the kind is essentially necessary.

103. From the circumstance of the Railway traversing the District, we were in hopes that we might have economized expenditure by establishing Central Subsidiary Jails along the line. We find, however, that this cannot be done in the Salem District.

104. The Railway passes close only to four Magisterial stations, viz., Vaniembady, Tripatore, Salem, and Senkerrydroog. The first is at the northern extremity of the District; there is no building available, and it is the station only of a Deputy Tahsildar and Sub-Magistrate.

105. We think a Central Subsidiary Jail should always be at the station of an officer of higher position.

106. The last is at the opposite extremity of the District. The existing buildings are not sufficiently extensive, and it also is the station of a Deputy Tahsildar.

107. Tripatore is not open to this objection, as it is the Head Quarters of the Head Assistant and the Tahsildar; but, unfortunately, there is no building here. A Central Jail would have to be built; and there arises the question whether, this being the case, it is not preferable to add to the local Jails where these happen to be somewhat deficient in accommodation, and thus save the expense, risks, and inconvenience of conveying prisoners from one place to another? Tripatore and Salem would be the only eligible stations.

108. The marginal statement gives the distance of each Jail from the nearest

Jails.	Railway Stations.	Miles.
* Wonaloor...	Salem.....	7½
Rauzepoor.....	Do.	19
Ahtoor.....	Do.	34
Namkul.....	Senkerrydroog	23
Parmutty.....	Do.	24
* Trichengode.....	Do.	5
* Senkerrydroog.....	Do.	2
Hurroor.....	Morapoor.....	8
Dharmapoor.....	Do.	17
Penagaram.....	Do.	35
* Ootankarry.....	Samalputty.....	5
Kistnagherry.....	Do.	22
* Vaniembady.....	Vaniembady.....	14
Oosoor.....	Malloor.....	19
Denkenkottah.....	Do.	85

Railway station, and will show that, except at the stations marked with an asterisk, the distance is too great to make it advisable or economical to send their prisoners to a Central Jail. Even at these excepted stations, there is sufficient accommodation on the spot, or it can be supplied at a moderate cost.

109. There are also practical difficulties attending the system of Central Jails. The prisoners can only be sent at stated periods: they have to be marched

under escort several miles to the station, and are for longer or shorter periods without food or shelter, &c., &c.

110. The great difficulty, however, lies in this, that the number of prisoners under trial, and of those sentenced to periods of imprisonment too short to render it worthwhile to send them elsewhere, is so great, that when provision is made on the spot for them, with the approved classification, the additional expenditure necessary to provide accommodation for the other convicted prisoners is comparatively trifling.

111. The minimum number of wards at any place is necessarily four—

- One for convicted males,
- One for convicted females,
- One for males under trial,
- One for females under trial,

and this allotment generally suffices for all the short-sentenced prisoners at the station.

112. We have entered thus fully into the subject, as there is much to recommend the central system, if it were not for these difficulties which occur more or less in every district.

113. One of the principal advantages urged in favor of the aggregation of short-sentenced prisoners in Central Subsidiary Jails is, that it is easier to exact labor from them. We have not lost sight of this fact, but we are of opinion that, if the Sub-Magistracy will attend to the Subsidiary Jails under their charge, work of a useful kind can be provided on the spot for this class of prisoners.

114. All that we can recommend in this District is, that, when any of the local Jails near the Railway line are over-crowded, the surplus of prisoners (who should be those who have the longest periods of imprisonment to undergo, and are in good health) should be sent to Salem, where there will be usually room for them in the Subsidiary Jail, and where, if this is not the case, other suitable accommodation can be most easily procured.

115. The other Jails whenever crowded must seek relief from each other, as it is impossible, at any reasonable cost, to provide accommodation for the maximum number of prisoners that may, at rare intervals, be under trial or sentence at every station.

116. We recommend also that the floors of all proposed and existing wards should be asphalted.

117. We forwarded a copy of this letter to the Magistrate with all the plans. Mr. Pochin concurs in all the proposals here made, except as regards Vaniembady and Salem.

118. In respect to Vaniembady, he would build the new Office and Jail in the compound of the old travellers' bungalow. This compound is not very accessible, and is surrounded by topes. We think it very desirable that, as Government are going to the expense of new buildings, the best and healthiest site available should be selected. A mere saving of 400 Rupees, which is all that the site we propose will cost, would be a poor compensation for the irremediable evil of an undesirable position.

119. As regards Salem, Mr. Pochin objects to the Jail being in the compound of the Collector's Cutcherry. His remarks are as follows:—"I consider the placing of the Subsidiary Jail in the compound of the Collector's Cutcherry objectionable. There is at present a chance of getting fresh air, but if the place is to be filled with buildings, latrines, &c., it would be unhealthy, as well as unsightly. A Sub-Magistrate's office for the town is required, and the present press-rooms might be given; but then this would entail a new press-room being built, which must be in the compound. There is land to be had at no great distance from the Hazzoor and Taluq Cutcherry, and whilst this is the case, I don't see why the Collector's compound should be crowded. It may look all very well on paper, but any one on a personal inspection would object to the proposal."

120. The Government will observe from Plan A. (referred to in paragraph 18), that the compound is a large one, and that the buildings will not cause any overcrowding. On the north side the compound is bounded by fields, and on the west and south by roads, so that there can be no lack of ventilation.

121. We think it of great importance that a large Jail, such as that required here, should be under the Magistrate's immediate supervision wherever practicable. He has usually an Assistant, and always a Deputy Collector, resident at Head Quarters, and with such aid the proper management of the Jail should be assured. If the Jail be built elsewhere, this great advantage will be sacrificed, and economy of guarding will be lost. It must also be remembered that these Subsidiary Jails have no special establishment.

122. We are, therefore, decidedly of opinion that our proposal is the better.

123. If an office is required for the Town Sub-Magistrate, it should be provided independently of the Jail in the situation most convenient to the people.

No. 288. ORDER THEREON, 23rd November 1867, No. 1902.

In the letter above recorded, the Subsidiary Jail Committee have furnished a carefully prepared report upon the condition of the Subsidiary Jails of the Salem District, and upon the additional accommodation required, their proposals being based upon the criminal statistics furnished from the Magisterial records of the District.

2. In paragraphs 104 to 114, both inclusive, the Committee discuss the question of Central Subsidiary Jails for the Salem District, and it is shown that from the distance intervening between the stations of the Magistracy and existing Railway stations that there are only five places, namely, Womaloor, Trichengode, Senkerrydroog, Ootankerry, Vaniembady, (vide para. 108,) from which the Railway would be available to carry prisoners to a Central Jail on the line of Railway, such as might be provided at Salem and Tripatore; but, on the other hand, at all of these places, except Vaniembady and Womaloor, accommodation, by alteration in existing buildings not of a costly nature, is available. At Vaniembady and Womaloor a new Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherry is absolutely necessary, and as wards for under-trial prisoners must be provided at these stations, the addition of wards for convicted prisoners will not materially add to the expense. It must also be remembered that the average sentences of prisoners confined in Subsidiary Jails seldom exceed eight days, which makes the transfer of prisoners to Central Jails undesirable.

3. The Government concur in the view taken by the Subsidiary Jail Committee, that it is not desirable in the Salem District to introduce a system of central places of detention for prisoners under short sentence.

4. From the report under review, it appears that the existing Subsidiary Jails are generally insufficient to afford the required accommodation, and that the offices of the Subordinate Magistracy are inadequate. Thus in this District there are six stations, as per margin, at which new Cutcheries have either been sanctioned or proposed, and for these the Committee recommend the adoption of the new standard plan submitted in their letter, dated 18th October, No. 31, which has been approved by Government.

TAHSILDARS' CUTCHERIES.
Ahtoor.
Namkul.
Dharmapoor.
DEPUTY TAHSILDARS' CUTCHERIES.
Womaloor.
Vaniembady.
Penagaram.

5. At the four stations noted marginally, the Committee recommend new Subsidiary Jails according to the designs which accompany their report, the existing buildings not admitting of sufficient alteration or expansion.

Salem.
Yerkad.
Tripatore.
Oosoor.

6. At Razepore and Ootankerry new Jail wards are proposed to be added to the existing Taluq offices.

7. At Kistnagherry an old Government building is available, and with the alterations and additions proposed will satisfy all requirements.

8. At the stations marginally noted, all that is required is a change in the allotment of existing buildings, with improvements in ventilation.

Parmutty.
Trichengode.
Senkerrydroog.
Hurroor.
Denkencottah.

9. The Committee recommend that the floors of all existing and proposed Jail wards should be asphalted, and they make provision for the necessary out-buildings, such as hospital sheds, cook-houses and latrines.

10. The Magistrate of Salem, to whom the Committee have sent a copy of their report, concurs in all the proposals, except as regards Vaniembady and Salem. In respect to Vaniembady, he would place the proposed Cutcherry and Jail in the compound of the old Travellers' Bungalow, but the Committee consider it very desirable that the best and healthiest site available should be selected. At Salem, the Magistrate considers the construction of the Subsidiary Jail buildings in the compound of the Collector's Cutcherry to be objectionable, on the ground that these would be unsightly and impede the ventilation of his office. The Committee show that the compound is extensive, and that the buildings in question will not cause any overcrowding. The compound, moreover, is bounded by fields and roads, securing ample access to the prevailing winds.

11. It is of importance, as the Committee observe, that a large Subsidiary Jail, such as that required at Salem, should be under the immediate supervision of a superior Officer, and as an Assistant is generally, and the Deputy Collector always, resident at head quarters, the proper management of the Jail will be secured.

12. The Governor in Council approves and sanctions the several suggestions and recommendations contained in this report, and directs that steps be taken in the

Public Works Department for the immediate preparation of the necessary plans and estimates for the several works which have been proposed.

13. The Collector of Salem will be requested to arrange for the purchase of the lands required at the places indicated in the Committee's report, and for the purchase of the small house at Trichengode described in paragraph 49. He will also arrange for providing such temporary accommodation as is needed at Penagam, under the authority conveyed in paragraph 14 of G. O., dated 29th March 1866, No. 470.

14. The Inspector General of Police will be requested to report whether, under the arrangement now sanctioned, the Police station at Ahtoor should be retained. If this is not necessary it will be sold with the existing Cutcherry buildings.

(True Extract).

M. M. M.

Chief Secretary.

To the Committee on Subsidiary Jails.

- „ Public Works Department, with the plans.
- „ Magistrate of Salem.
- „ Revenue Department. ✓
- „ Inspector General of Police.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

11. 11. 18. 549.

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Referring to the
on Report on the
Subsidiary Jails re:
Governments of the
Salem District

Dated 23. 11. 1867
Received 27. 11. 1867
11. 1902.

Proceedings of the
11. 1902.

11. 1867 - 11. 1902
11. 1902.

5. 11. 1867 - 11. 1902

28. 11. 1867

Communicated to the
Revenue Department.

11. 1867.