M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-34

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 79 Press Mis.

154-155½

Dated 10 — 1 — 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th January 1867.

No. 154. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department :—

Passing orders on papers relating to the space provided in the Coimbatore Talook Cutcherry for a Subsidiary Jail. } (Here enter 19th December 1866, No. 1,987.)

No. 155. ORDER THEREON, 10th January 1867, No. 79.

Miscellaneous. Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Judicial Department, No. 1,987.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

Read the following papers:—

No. 160. Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department.

Read Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th October 1866, No. 7565.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue; dated 29th September 1866, No. 259.

In accordance with the Order of the Board, communicated with their Proceedings of the 22nd September 1866, No. 6815, received to-day, I have the honor to inform you that the walls of the new Cutcherry at Coimbatore have been completed; a portion of the wood-work for the roof has also been put up, and two rooms have been roofed in, but they will probably have to be unroofed, as the Contractor seems to have executed the work in a very defective manner.

2. The execution of the Treasury and well has been stopped. I inspected the building yesterday, and feel satisfied that it is unsuited for the purpose of a Cutcherry, especially with regard to the space required by the Tahsildar when he has parties before him in Revenue and Magisterial cases.

3. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Board's remarks to Government, I beg to inform you that the Coimbatore Cutcherry is the first building of the kind I have seen. I have corresponded with the Board regarding the arrangement of the rooms for the confinement of prisoners, but I did not think, until I saw the building, that it was so deficient in space.

Submitted for the information of Government, with reference to Government Order, dated 6th September 1866, No. 2378, Revenue Department.

2. It occurs to the Board that, at a Kusbah station, where there is a regular Jail, the space provided in the Taluq Cutchorry for a Subsidiary Jail might be made available for general purposes, as the short-sentenced prisoners can, without any hardship, be sent to the District Jail.

Order, 3rd November 1866, No. 2975.

Miscellaneous.

1. Paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings will be referred for consideration in the Judicial Department.

2. The Collector should consult the Superintending Engineer as to the practicability and expense of improving the Cutcherry.

3. The information called for in paragraph 4 of G. O., 6th September last, No. 2378, should be submitted as soon as possible.

(True Extract).

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Judicial Department.

Referred for the remarks of the Inspector General of Jails.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

16th November 1866.

No. 161. From Lieutenant Colonel W. J. WILSON, Inspector General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 29th November 1866, No. 105.

I have the honor to return the Order of Government noted in the margin, which was referred to me on the 16th instant, for remark on the 2nd paragraph of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th October 1866.

Revenue Department, 3rd November 1866, No. 2975.

2. The Jail Rules recently sanctioned direct that all prisoners sentenced to less than 30 days' imprisonment should be confined in the Subsidiary Jails, provided that, in special cases, the Magistrate shall have power to direct them to be kept in the District Jail, and provided that no Convict should be confined for more than 14 days in a Subsidiary Jail if there is a District Jail within 20 miles of the Magistrate by whom the sentence of imprisonment was passed. It is true there would be no hardship to the short-sentenced prisoners in sending them to the District Jails, but the frequent admission and release of Convicts of this class would entail much additional work upon the Jail officials, whose duties are already sufficiently heavy, and I doubt whether the entry of such a fluctuating population upon the Jail Records is desirable, with reference to the statistics to be furnished. At Coimbatore, the reception of this class would be very inconvenient at the present time. There has recently been a sudden and considerable increase of crime in that District, and the Jail was so over-crowded that I have been obliged to transfer 100 men, and to locate them in the Work-sheds of the Central Jail, as a temporary measure.

Page 8, paragraph 30.

No. 162. ORDER THEREON, 19th December 1866, No. 1987.

For the reasons given by Lieutenant Colonel Wilson, and having regard to the inexpediency of subjecting all short-sentenced prisoners indiscriminately to the contamination of a regular Jail, the Governor in Council is not prepared to lay down the rule suggested by the Board of Revenue. The Jail Rules already vest the Magistrate of the District with discretionary power, in special cases, to send criminal prisoners sentenced to less than 30 days' imprisonment to the District Jail. This appears sufficient for all practical purposes. The Magistrate will exercise the discretion given to him whenever the condition of the Subsidiary Jail, the state of the District Jail as to accommodation, and the character of the prisoners concerned, may render it advisable to resort to the District in preference to the Taluq Jail.

Paragraph 30.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
„ Inspector General of Jails.
„ Magistrate of

Exd. J. H. Burns.