

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 46-95

DATED 7 Sept 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Communicating to the Board of
Revenue Proceedings of the Judicial
Department reviewing the Police
Administration Report for 1896.

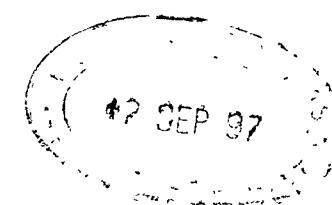
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Government (1897) of Madras. JUDICIAL.



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1897.

G.O., &c., Nos. 1210, 1211, 21st August 1897.

G.O. misc. 10116958779491

AUGUST.

*Communicated
to the Board of Revenue
Land Revenue.*

*Ulls
6.9.97*

2 To the Board (L.R.).

21.10.97

Police Administration Report.

Reviewing the — for 1896 and forwarding copy to the Government of India.

*21.10.97
3-9.*

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From the Inspector-General of Police, dated 21st June 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding copies of the Police Administration report for the year 1896.

ORDER—No. 1210, Judicial, dated 21st August 1897.

Mr. M. Hammick, I.C.S., continued to be in charge of the Police Department during the greater portion of the year 1896.

2. His report is based, as in the preceding year, upon figures showing the results of police work as exhibited by the operations of the criminal courts between the 1st January and the 31st December. Previous to 1895 the statistics were compiled upon other principles, and towards the close of the year under review a new set of statements, drawn up by the Government of India, was communicated to the Inspector-General for adoption in the current year. As a result of these changes it is, and for some years will continue to be, necessary to exercise caution in deducing comparative inferences from the police statistics of a series of years. The attempt to effect a correspondence between the police figures and those in the report on the administration of criminal justice has been finally abandoned.

3. The main feature of the year under review was perhaps the increase in grave crime. This was due partly to the Mappilla disturbances in Malabar, partly to the Anti-Kallar agitation in Madura, and in some districts to the acute rise in the prices of food-grains, and the consequent distress in many parts of the Presidency, which occurred at the end of the year. The decline in the number of grave crimes which characterized the previous three years continued during the greater part of 1896, and it was only towards its close that the advance occurred. Coming thus late in the year it affected the statistics of detection adversely, as on the 31st December there remained on the registers a number of offences the recent occurrence of which did not permit of their detection before the close of the year. In other respects the year was, on the whole, one of progress in police administration. Its salient features are summarized in paragraph 33 *infra*.

4. *Strength and cost of the force*.—Service in the police appears to be becoming more popular. There were fewer desertions than in the preceding year; the number of resignations remained about the same; and, though enlistments were slightly fewer, recruitment was, on the whole, attended with less difficulty. In Bellary, where recruits were scarce in 1895, there were only five vacancies at the end of the year.

5. Excluding private guards, office establishment and village police, the total strength of the force at the end of the year was 22,403 or 8 per cent. less than the sanctioned strength, the deficiency at the close of 1895 being 1.3 per cent. The total cost was nearly 44 lakhs, showing an increase of Rs. 1,70,611 over the figure of the preceding year. The causes of this advance have been explained by the Inspector-General in paragraph 10 of the report. The average cost of a policeman has been rising almost continuously since 1888, when it was Rs. 166½, and it has now reached the highest figure on record, viz., Rs. 193-3-10.

6. *Conduct and education of the force*.—In paragraph 16 of his report, the Inspector-General has discussed in detail the statistics of punishments inflicted upon members of the force in the various ranges and districts. There appear to be no reasons to suppose that in any of these unnecessary severity or undue leniency has been marked, but, as was observed in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the review of the preceding year's report, the state of discipline in each district is not a matter which

can be accurately gauged by statistics alone and the Government must rely upon the Inspector-General to exercise close supervision over it. Absence without leave, which in 1895 was treated with leniency, was more strictly dealt with in 1896.

7. There was an improvement in the guarding of sub-jails by the police, which was not satisfactory in 1895. Although at the close of the year jails of this class must have been more than usually full, the number of escapes from them was 32 as against 39 in the previous year and an average for the past ten years of 53. Twenty-five under-trial prisoners are shown in the report under review as having escaped from five under-trial prisoners are shown in the report under review as having escaped from sub-jails, whereas, according to the report on the administration of the Jail Department for 1896, the number was 26, including the four escapes which, owing to the incorrectness of the return furnished by the District Magistrate, Kistna, were omitted in the jail report.

8. The standard of education in the force continued to advance, the percentage of men able to read and write (which was 74.5 in 1887) being 85.7, and the number of men who had passed University and other non-departmental examinations having increased.

9. In paragraph 20 of the report Mr. Hammick has furnished some interesting particulars regarding the classes of men enlisted as Inspectors during the time that he has been in charge of the department. Among other things it appears that out of 98 inspectors appointed since the end of 1894, as many as 38 were promoted from the grade of head constable.

10. *Processes*.—The number of processes to be served by the police and the number of cases in which warrants were issued for neglect of summons decreased, but very slightly. The attention of all District Magistrates will be called to the remarks on the subject of the unnecessary issue of processes in paragraphs 14 and 15 of the review on the report for the preceding year. These were apparently not received by the officers concerned in time to largely affect the figures of 1896. Of the districts which were selected for unfavourable criticism therein and in previous reviews, an appreciable improvement took place in Gódvári and Kistna. The same cannot, however, be said of Tanjore and Madura, in each of which,—owing perhaps to the Negapatam railway riots in the former and the Anti-Kallar agitation in the latter,—the number of processes entrusted to the police for execution increased considerably. There was also a fall in the proportion of prosecutions instituted in these two districts for disobedience of summons. The Government trusts that the improvement in this matter will be more marked in the current year. The attention of all District Magistrates will be invited to the remarks of the Deputy Inspector-General, Southern Range, referred to in paragraph 22 of the report.

11. With reference to paragraph 3 of his remarks at page 131 of appendix C to the report, the District Magistrate of Trichinopoly will be informed that Madras Act III of 1863 was repealed as far back as 1880.

The Mappillas shot at Manjeri by the troops at the beginning of the year have apparently been inadvertently omitted from the statement of violent and unnatural deaths in paragraph 23 of the report.

12. *Registration of Criminals*.—The revision of the district registers of known depredators, suspects and wandering gangs which was begun in 1895 is reported to have been practically completed during the year under review, with the result that about 6,300 persons who were considered to have been unnecessarily kept under surveillance were removed from the registers and about 3,500 individuals, mainly members of criminal gangs, who had before escaped supervision, were entered in them. On the whole the force has been relieved of the work of watching more than sixteen per cent. of the persons who were formerly borne on the registers as criminals or suspects, and, as Mr. Hammick considers that the revision has been carried out with care, its completion is a matter for congratulation, as is the fact that the Inspector-General has found in the course of his tours that the Police have much improved in their knowledge of habitual criminals. The proposed district lists of registered men appear likely to be useful.

13. *Conviction of old offenders.*—As a result probably of the special attention which the Inspector-General in his last administration report promised to give to this subject, the number of known depredators convicted and of persons sentenced to enhanced punishment under section 75, Indian Penal Code, increased from 916 and 1,681 in 1895 to 1,045 and 1,758, respectively, in 1896. In neither case, however, was the heavy fall which occurred in 1895 fully recovered, and the Jail department continued to identify, after conviction, a number of convicts whom the police had failed to recognize as old offenders before trial. Progress will probably continue to be slow and uncertain until the anthropometric and finger-print systems have had time to have fuller effect and there is something more to rely upon than the memories of the constabulary. It is satisfactory to note that whereas in 1895 the anthropometric system only resulted in the identification of one individual, sixty-one cases of previous conviction were traced by means of it in the year under review. Progress in a corresponding ratio may be expected in the future. The Inspector-General of Police in Bengal appears to have succeeded in his attempt to classify finger-prints in such a way that the usual measurements of criminals may be dispensed with, and particulars of his system will shortly be communicated.

14. *Preventive action of the Police.*—The bad livelihood sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure appear to have been worked with greater vigour in 1896 than in any of the preceding years. It is not clear whence the Inspector-General derives the figures given in paragraph 67 of his report, but from the statistics in the margin (which are abstracted from statement A) it will be seen that there was a further increase in the number of cases in which security to be of good behaviour was moved for and obtained, and that a considerable number of individuals were bound over to keep the peace after conviction for offences. The

	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Number of persons proceeded against to require them to give security for good behaviour ..	121	95	278	476
Number of persons ordered to give security ..	96	70	163	199
Number of persons bound over to keep the peace on conviction ..	12	19	118	92
Total number of persons ordered to give security ..	108	89	281	291

* The figures under these heads include a few cases under the European Vagrancy Act.

most noticeable point in the figures given by the Inspector-General is the wide difference in various districts in the success which attended the attempts of the police to obtain security from bad characters. In Kistna every one of 34 persons put before the Magistrates was bound over; in Anantapur 19 out of 21 were bound over; in Bellary 64 out of 77; and in Tanjore 47 out of 57. On the other hand in Madura only two were bound over out of 22 put up; in Tinnevely only five out of 32; and in Coimbatore only three out of 24. It is, of course, impossible to say from the figures alone whether the police are to blame in these latter districts for sending up cases in which there was no sufficient ground for proceeding or whether the results are due to an over-critical attitude on the part of the Magistracy. From the Inspector-General's report it would appear that the latter was the case, and the District Magistrates of the three last-named districts will be requested to look into the matter and issue such instructions as they may find necessary.

In Cuddapah, the police could not complain that their efforts were discouraged by the magistracy, and they might probably have effected more in this direction than they did.

15. *Non-cognizable crime.*—The police are not much concerned in the prevention and detection of this class of crime. They were, however, more frequently employed in its investigation during 1896 than in the preceding two years. The steady increase which has been noticeable in non-cognizable offences since 1890 continued during the year under report, but, as in 1895, it was comparatively small. It occurred entirely in offences under the Indian Penal Code, principally criminal intimidation, insult, and causing hurt—a class of cases in which frivolous and vexatious complaints are usually made. On the other hand offences under special and local laws, owing to a decrease in prosecutions under the Salt and Abkari Acts, declined in number.

16. *Cognizable crime generally.*—In consequence mainly of a fall—the first for several years—in the number of prosecutions for public and local nuisances, the total

amount of cognizable crime diminished to an appreciable extent. Offences under special and local laws, as usual, showed an increase. Those under the Indian Penal Code remained almost stationary on the whole, though, owing perhaps to the rise in grain prices at the end of the year, minor offences against person and property exhibited a slight advance in numbers. The subjoined abstract compares the statistics of cognizable crime, and of persons arrested and property lost in connection therewith for a period of five years:—

	Number of cases.					Percentages of reported cases detected, arrested persons convicted, and lost property recovered.				
	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
Indian Penal Code—										
True cases reported ..	48,305	44,500	40,648	39,767	39,946	35.5	36.7	35.6	36.6	35.3
Persons arrested ..	94,962	93,375	86,355	83,475	84,556	30.2	29.3	28.6	29.0	28.6
Property lost (in rupees) ..	14,32,275	13,72,749	21,52,468	12,56,206	16,13,370	22.7	22.6	34.2	26.7	32.0
Special and Local Laws—										
True cases reported ..	36,233	36,409	39,410	41,931	42,350	92.3	89.6	90.4	92.9	91.6
Persons arrested ..	42,270	42,126	45,638	49,005	49,046	92.6	90.4	91.1	92.6	91.8
Property lost (in rupees) ..	611	578	577	2,636	1,735	63.8	57.6	61.9	57.8	68.7
Nuisances—										
True cases reported ..	52,565	54,567	65,565	84,331	79,900	92.1	93.6	94.1	93.9	93.7
Persons arrested ..	55,989	57,390	68,025	86,843	82,167	91.9	91.6	92.8	93.0	93.3
Total—										
True cases reported ..	137,103	135,476	145,623	166,029	162,196	72.2	73.9	76.8	79.9	78.8
Persons arrested ..	193,221	192,891	200,018	219,323	215,789	61.7	61.2	64.7	68.6	67.6
Property lost (in rupees) ..	14,32,886	13,73,327	21,53,035	12,58,842	16,15,605	22.7	22.6	34.2	26.8	32.1

17. Except in the conviction of nuisance cases, the police were unable to maintain the standard which was reached last year, detection and convictions having fallen off. An apparent advance occurred in the percentage of lost property recovered, but the Inspector-General shows that this was due to large recoveries in one particular case in South Arcot, excluding which the figure was lower than in 1895. At present the statistics include also cases dealt with direct by Magistrates, so that the extent of the responsibility of the police for these results is less clearly definable than it might be. Beginning from the current year, however, the report will show police cases separately from those taken up by Magistrates *suo motu*. Since 1891 the percentage of persons arrested for offences under the Indian Penal Code who were eventually convicted has almost continuously declined. In the year under report it was only 28.5.

18. *Tests of Police Work.*—The working of the police in regard to the more serious forms of cognizable crime was less successful than in 1895 as will be seen from the following figures:—

		Cases investigated by police.	Percentage of cases investigated to cases reported.	Police cases decided.	Police cases ending in conviction	Percentage of police cases convicted to cases investigated.	Percentage of police cases convicted to cases decided.	Persons arrested by police.	Percentage of persons convicted to persons arrested by police.	Percentage of property recovered to lost.
Class I. Offences against the State, public tranquillity, safety and justice.	1895 ..	1,366	56.6	636	468	34.3	73.6	4,791	41.6	..
	1896 ..	1,287	58.6	648	438	34.0	67.6	4,638	40.7	..
Class II. Serious offences against the person.	1895 ..	2,865	68.4	1,640	1,052	36.7	64.1	3,531	41.6	36.2
	1896 ..	2,794	68.3	1,614	957	34.3	59.3	3,358	40.0	25.4
Class III. Serious offences against person and property or against property only.	1895 ..	13,007	83.8	4,321	3,453	26.5	79.9	7,891	59.2	20.6
	1896 ..	12,688	82.7	4,318	3,389	26.7	78.5	8,900	53.5	29.4
Class IV. Minor offences against the person.	1895 ..	600	27.8	265	124	20.7	46.8	629	55.9	..
	1896 ..	634	28.2	301	134	21.1	44.5	608	34.2	..
Class V. Minor offences against property.	1895 ..	17,739	62.5	8,074	6,942	32.1	56.0	14,799	61.8	35.7
	1896 ..	17,564	61.7	8,192	6,888	39.2	84.1	15,149	62.1	36.2
Total ..	1895 ..	35,577	67.5	14,936	12,039	33.8	80.6	31,731	55.3	26.7
	1896 ..	34,967	66.8	15,073	11,806	33.8	78.3	32,653	53.9	32.0

The particulars of each of the forms of grave crime will be considered, as usual, separately.

19. *Murder*.—Murders were unusually frequent in 1896—the total number (442) being probably the highest on record—and, owing partly to the large number of persons who were awaiting trial at the end of the year, detection (25·5 per cent.) and conviction (16·8 per cent.) were poor. As has not infrequently been the case, murders were particularly numerous in Cuddapah, Madura and Malabar. The best results in detection were obtained in North Arcot and Trichinopoly and the worst in Tinnevely and Salem, in the latter of which out of twenty-five cases (excluding ten in which the murderers committed suicide) only two ended in conviction. No explanation has been offered by the Superintendent for this apparently unsatisfactory result—an omission which should now be supplied. It is pleaded that in Tinnevely the Courts lay great stress on the first reports of village munsifs and that these are very often false. It would, however, seem that prompt appearance of the police on the scene of each murder would do much to minimise the evils of this tendency. Detection was also poor in Nellore and Bellary. The attention of the District Magistrate, Anantapur, will be invited to the remarks of the Superintendent of Police of that district mentioned in paragraph 36 of the report.

20. *Dacoity*.—Perhaps the most unsatisfactory feature of the year's criminal statistics is the large increase (55) in the number of dacoities reported, and the sharp fall in the rates of detection, conviction and recovery of property under this head. The total number of cases (284) exceeded that of any of the preceding three years, and the crime was particularly frequent in the Ceded districts and Malabar. In the former it was probably due to the high price of grain and in the latter it was attributable to the state of unrest existing in the Ernad and Walavanad taluks during and after the Mappilla outbreak in the early part of the year. Fire-arms were used by dacoits more frequently than in either of the previous two years.

The results in individual districts have been fully gone into in paragraph 38 of the Inspector-General's report. On the whole the police were fairly successful in dealing with this crime in the Southern range. The districts in the Central range (excepting Chingleput) and Kistna, on the other hand, showed very poor results; but the statistics are affected throughout by the fact that many of the cases occurred at the end of the year, so that nearly three times as many persons were under trial for this crime at the close of 1896 as at the end of the year preceding. In only five districts did the proportion of property which was recovered amount to more than 20 per cent. of that dacoited. The percentage was highest in Gódvári (34) and lowest in Bellary (·8).

21. In the circumstances explained by the Inspector-General in the concluding portion of paragraph 42 of his report the Government has no objection to the work of the police being tested as heretofore upon the basis of the total number of cases investigated by them.

22. *Robbery*.—The statistics of this form of crime present features similar to those relating to dacoity, viz., an advance in the number of cases reported and a decline in the percentages of detection, conviction and recovery of property. Robbery was more prevalent in Malabar than elsewhere, but the figures of detection and conviction in that district were the worst in the Presidency. It is explained that this is in a great measure due to the very low percentage of convictions secured in cases taken up by Magistrates direct, but a reference to the statistics of police cases taken by themselves shows that the success obtained in them also was very moderate. All the four cases pending in Trichinopoly were detected, but conviction followed in the cases of only eleven out of thirty-six persons who were placed on trial in them and the percentage of property recovered was even lower. Excluding this district, and also Madras City, Vizagapatam and Jeypore (in all of which conditions are peculiar), the best results were obtained in Kistna and Nellore. The statistics of this crime, like those of dacoity, were affected by the fact that many cases occurred towards the end of the year and had not been tried before its close.

23. *Lurking house-trespass and house-breaking*.—The results obtained in combating lurking house-trespass and house-breaking were more satisfactory than those as regards dacoity and robbery. There was an increase as compared with 1895 in the number

of offences reported (6,221), but the figure is otherwise smaller than that returned in any of the preceding eight years. An improvement is also noticeable in the percentages of detection and recovery of property though the latter, as has been noticed above, is not real. The results in the various districts were much the same as those observable in the case of the other forms of crime dealt with above, Vizagapatam, Jeypore (in both of which local conditions are favourable to police work), Tanjore and Trichinopoly heading the list and the Ceded districts and Kistna closing it.

24. *Thefts*.—Ordinary thefts increased slightly in numbers in all three ranges. The percentages of detection, conviction and recovery of property remained almost the same as in the previous year. Excluding again Jeypore and Madras City, detection was best in Tanjore (73·6) and worst in Cuddapah (22·7 per cent.). In one district in the Northern range (Jeypore) and three in the Southern, it exceeded 60 per cent., but in none of those in the Central range did it reach 50 per cent. In the recovery of stolen property also, the highest percentage (excluding Madras City again) was obtained in Tanjore (56·4) and the lowest in Cuddapah (14·5). The results in Trichinopoly were good.

25. There was a further decline in the number of cattle thefts registered—from 2,449 in 1895 to 2,306 in 1896—and a further fall in the rate of detection. The crime was as usual most frequent in Madura and Coimbatore. The best detection, excluding Vizagapatam and Jeypore, was shown in Tanjore (80·8) and Trichinopoly (76·9).

26. *References by and to the Police*.—The number of cases in which references were made by the magistracy to the police and *vice versa* did not greatly vary from the figures of the previous year. Particulars of such cases and the proportion of them which were found false are given below for the past five years:—

Year.	Cases referred		Percentage of cases struck off as false on the figures in		Percentage of police cases found false after trial.
	By the magistracy.	By the police.	Column 2.	Column 3.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1892	3,830	14,738	70·2	93·7	4·6
1893	4,397	13,247	64·2	89·6	4·4
1894	3,945	10,105	60·0	91·8	3·0
1895	3,550	9,135	53·8	86·8	2·1
1896	3,594	9,171	50·2	91·0	1·8

The cause of the continuous fall in the percentages in column 4 is not clear. Apparently Magistrates are becoming less disposed to treat definitely as false, after the police have enquired into them, the complaints which in the belief that they were groundless they referred to the police under section 202, Criminal Procedure Code.

The increase in the figure in column 5 is satisfactory as showing that the opinion of the police on referred charge sheets has been more frequently accepted as correct by the magistracy.

References by Magistrates increased in nine districts but, except in Ganjám, the rise was small. Of the three districts which were selected for unfavourable comment in this respect in paragraph 36 of the review on the Police administration report for 1895, an appreciable improvement has taken place in South Arcot and Malabar, but in Ganjám, if the statistics in the present report are accurate, the number of cases referred by the magistracy during the year (925) was considerably more than double the number referred in 1895 (376). From a recent report received from the District Magistrate of Ganjám, it would appear that only 164 references were made to the police in 1895 and 206 in 1896. The Inspector-General will be requested to report on this discrepancy. The Government agrees with Mr. Hammick in considering that it is not ordinarily necessary to refer complaints of nuisances to the police for report and his statement that 729 such complaints were so referred in Ganjám during the year will be brought to the notice of the District Magistrate.

27. References by the police were most numerous in North Arcot (671), but the largest increase as compared with the previous year occurred in Cuddapah (172)—a

result probably attributable to the unusual prevalence of crime in that district. In Madras City and South Arcot all, and in Vizagapatam almost all, the cases referred by the police as false were declared to be such by the Magistrates. Ganjam, however, was worse than ever in this respect, the magistracy declining to accept the police view in more than 31 per cent. of the references made. No reason has been assigned for this unsatisfactory result, although a like omission in similar circumstances was pointed out in the review on the report for 1895. An explanation should now be obtained from the Superintendent and submitted to Government.

The steady decline in the proportion of police cases found false after trial which has occurred ever since 1891 continued during the year, the percentage being 1.8 against an average of 3.8 in the previous five years. In six districts over 5 per cent. of such cases were found to be false, but in none did the percentage exceed 7.6.

28. *Prosecutions for lodging false complaints.*—The statistics given by the Inspector-General seem clearly to show that the prevalence of false complaints is due rather to the action of the magistracy than the neglect of the police. As many as 10,492 complaints were found to be false, and 2,147 of them were declared false after a formal trial. The police applied for sanction to prosecute the complainants in 616 of these, and these cases were presumably selected as being those in which success was most probable. In 306 of them, however, the Magistrates refused sanction, only 180 were eventually charged and of these only 41 ended in conviction. In some districts the proportions of refusals to prosecute were exceedingly high. In Nellore, for instance, sanction was only given in two cases out of 23 sent up by the police, and in Madura in only nineteen out of 156. The Magistrates of these two districts will be requested to look into the matter.

29. Compensation to the victims of frivolous or vexatious complaints was awarded under section 560, Criminal Procedure Code, in 180 cases (not 108 as entered in the statement in paragraph 61 of the report), and of these 154 occurred in the districts of North Arcot, Trichinopoly, Tinnevely and Coimbatore. In the other districts the section was apparently altogether neglected. The attention of the District Magistrates in them is drawn to paragraph 41 of the review on the report for 1895 and they are requested to impress upon their subordinate Magistrates the usefulness of this provision of the law. The Government quite agrees with the Inspector-General in the remarks made by him in the concluding portion of paragraph 61 of the report.

30. Cases in which station-house officers declined, under section 157 (b), Criminal Procedure Code, to investigate were slightly more numerous, but the percentage of grave crime treated in this manner continued to be small. Cases thrown out as being due to mistakes of law or fact were fewer on the whole, but were unduly numerous in North Arcot, Kistna and Gódvári.

31. *Investigation and Inspection.*—The Government is glad to learn that the recently-appointed Prosecuting inspectors have done good work. The personal investigation of grave crime by Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents showed a further improvement. M.R.Ry. Srinivasachari and Messrs. Agar, Prendergast and Wilkinson—particularly the first-named officer—were conspicuous for energy in this direction, but in Bellary, Cuddapah and Ganjam the statistics are less favourable.

32. The main features of the year's administration were the following:—

- (i) the anti-Kallar agitation in Madura, the Mappilla disturbances in Malabar and the Railway Workshop riots at Negapatam;
- (ii) a decrease in cognizable and an increase in non-cognizable crime, with a rise in grave crime, especially dacoity, and a fall in its detection;
- (iii) the temporary establishment of a school at Vellore for the training of candidates for the inspectorate;
- (iv) a diminution in the number of processes served by the police;
- (v) a more extended application of the preventive provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure;
- (vi) the completion of the registers of bad characters, suspects and wandering gangs;

(vii) a further reduction in the percentage of police cases declared false after trial and an increase in the number of prosecutions for false complaints;

(viii) a further improvement in the personal investigation of grave crimes by Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents.

In almost all the matters specified in paragraph 4 of the last review as those which required attention, an advance has occurred.

The question of the improvement of the village police has recently been before Government and orders have issued directing that they shall continue under the control of the Revenue officers, that the salaries shall be treated mainly as police rather than revenue officials, and that above all the heads of villages shall be held more directly responsible for the prevention and detection of crime within their jurisdictions than has hitherto been the case.

District Magistrates have also been invited to give their opinion whether it is advisable that any of the provisions of the recently-amended Criminal Tribes Act should be extended to any part of their charges.

The orders of the Secretary of State on the Railway police scheme have not yet been received.

33. Taking into account the state of the season and the consequent sudden recrudescence of crime at the close of the year, the work of the police during the year was, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council, on the whole satisfactory. The commendations bestowed by Mr. Hammick on the work done by the officers named in paragraph 76 of his report are noted with pleasure.

The Government also desires to place on record its appreciation of the zeal and energy displayed by Mr. Hammick in the execution of his difficult duties as Inspector-General of Police.

(True Extract.)

J. F. Price
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Police.
 „ the Commissioner of Police.
 „ the Inspector-General of Prisons.
 „ the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
 „ the Chief Presidency Magistrate.
 „ the Revenue Department.
 „ the Honourable the Chief Justice, with C.L.
 „ the Accountant-General.
 „ all District Magistrates.
 „ the Public Department.
 Editors' Table.

ENDORSEMENT—No. 1211, Judicial, dated 21st August 1897.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

For the Secretary of State

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