GOVERNMENT OF INDIA—HOME DEPARTMENT, JUDICIAL CONSULTATION,

12TH NOVEMBER 1858.

No. 15. — From C. Beadon, Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, to Doctor J. P. Walker, Superintendent of the Penal Settlement of Port Blair, No. 1683, dated the 6th November 1858.

I AM directed by the President in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters noted in the margin, and to express the satisfaction of the Government that the Settlement is making as fair progress as under all cir-

- cumstances could have been expected.

 2. Now that huts raised five feet from the ground have been built for the accommodation of 1,000 prisoners on Ross Island, it is hoped that the health of the men will greatly improve.
- 3. Regarding your plan of clearing the main land, and on the subject of the convict families, you will be separately addressed.
- 4. It is to be regretted that some of the convicts should still cling to the belief of the possibility of effecting their escape from the Settlement. The President in Council hopes however that the result of the attempt as reported President in Council hopes however that the result of the attempt as reported in paragraphs 12 to 14 of your letter of the 4th September, and the suitable in paragraphs 12 to 14 of your letter of the 4th September, and the suitable punishment inflicted on the men who returned, will have the effect of deterring others from so hopeless an attempt.
- 5. The President in Council has read the report of Dr. Gamack, dated the 25th instant, with painful interest. It would appear however that the severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortality among the convicts has been owing chiefly to severe sickness and mortalit
 - 6. The Senior Naval Officer has been desired to arrange for the gradual relief of the European Guard by means of the steamers taking conversional relief of the European Guard by means of the steamers taking to the formula to furnish stores to the Settlement. Captain Campbell will also be directed to furnish revolvers for 50 of the Guard, and authorized to indent for them on the arsenal.

- 7. The employment of one of the Guards as a clerk on Rupees 100 a month, as reported in paragraph 11 of your letter of the 28th September, is approved.
- 8. The Superintendent of Marine has been desired to report on the subject of paragraph 14 of the same letter, and to comply with your indent for a flag staff.
- 9. The arrangements reported in paragraphs 16 and 17 for furnishing the Settlement with the necessary boats, are approved.
- 10. The President in Council also sanctions the grant of batta at Rupees two a day and messing expense to Overseer Taylor, while detained and employed at Port Blair.
- 11. The sum of Rupees 25 was paid to the convict Ram Singh in my presence, and he has been permitted to go to his home.
- 12. A further credit for Rupees 50,000 on the Moulmein Treasury will be given to you, but I am directed to request that your accounts may be completed and sent in as soon as possible.
- 13. An official seal and stamp will be prepared and forwarded by the first opportunity
- 14. The President in Council trusts, that it may not be necessary for you to send again for thatching leaves to the Tenasserim Coast, and that you will now be able to obtain all the building materials you require on the spot. His Honor in Council must positively prohibit the further employment of steamers for the conveyance of thatching leaves.
- 15. I am desired to request that you will report whether iron sheets covered with any jungle material would be suitable for roofing the buildings on Ross and Chatham Islands, and whether you would recommend that a supply should be obtained for the purpose.
- 16. In reply to paragraph 20 of your letter of 28th September last, I have to refer you to the endorsement from this Department, No. 1625, dated the 25ty idem, containing an extract from the proceedings of the Government in the Financial Department, granting to the Assistant Surgeon and Apothecary and to the Native Doctors appointed to Port Blair an addition of 50 per cent. to their ordinary rates of pay for one year, subject to further consideration at the expiration of that period.
- No. 16. Ordered further, that a copy of paragraph 22 of the letter last, of paragraph 12 of the foregoing letter to his address, be forwarded to the Financial Department, whence the necessary orders will be issued on the subject of the further credit for 50,000 Rupees applied for by the Superintendent of Port Blair.

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