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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Ecclesiastical
~~*Ecclesiastical*~~ DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 57 Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 28-6-1893 197

3-4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

10TH JUNE 1893, No. 1552 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

READ—the following papers :—

Petition from Father MABBOAX, Roman Catholic Priest, St. Anne's Church,
Cocanada, dated 27th September 1892.

ABSTRACT.—Applying for a grant-in-aid of Rs. 500 towards the erection of a belfrey for his
church.

Endorsement in the Ecclesiastical Department, dated 6th October 1892, No. 1584.
Office-note from the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, dated 22nd October 1892, No. 1462 C.
Letter from the Collector, Gódvári, dated 6th May 1893, No. 141.
" " " " 25th " " " 169.

ORDER—dated 10th June 1893, No. 1552 W., Public Works.

His Excellency the Governor in Council regrets that he is precluded, under the
rules of the Public Works Department, from making any grant of State funds for the
church in question, there being among the congregation less than 25 British born
subjects in the general service of Government.

(True Extract.)

W. H. Spink

Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Reverend Father Mabboax.
" Superintending Engineer, I Circle.
" Ecclesiastical Department.

Exd. C. A. Munisawmy.
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BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of {1893} Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.



Dated June, 10th.

Recd.

{Encl.

G.O., 10th June 1893, No. 1552 W.

cl. order of 28 June 93 No. 57
Recorded.

27/6/93

23/6

JUNE.

St. Anne's Church at Cocanada

Declining for certain reasons to make any
grant of State funds for —.

5A

(with enclosure)

4-10-03

(K)

ORDINARY, MS.

Eccl DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED *20-6-93*
No. *57*

INDEXED.

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Resolving per
A.H. dept. asking
to make any funds
of the funds for
St. Anne's Church
Cocacoda-*

30
3/4/5

No. 57, ECCLESIASTICAL, 27TH APRIL 1888.
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.

31/3

Struck 30 copies

John
3/4/05

Agg G.R. to
and 3 copies
to 0007

for record

John

Sent
8/4/05

READ—the following paper:—

G.O., No. 272, Political, dated 13th April 1888.

Read—the following papers:—

From the Government of India, to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, dated Simla, the 3rd September 1887, No. 5.

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Lordship's Despatch No. 19 (Public—Ecclesiastical), dated the 27th January 1887, requesting to be furnished with an expression of our opinion upon the Concordat concluded on the 23rd June 1886, between Portugal and the Vatican, relative to the right of Ecclesiastical patronage in India formerly exercised by the Portuguese Crown through the Archbishop of Goa.

2. We called upon the Local Governments and Administrations for their opinion on this matter; and we now transmit for Your Lordship's information a copy of the replies which we have received from them, together with an opinion recorded by our Advocate-General on the subject. We concur generally in the opinion expressed by the authorities whom we have consulted that the Concordat is likely to have a beneficial effect; but we do not consider it necessary or desirable that the Government of India should accord to the Concordat any formal recognition or depart from the attitude of complete neutrality assumed in the Despatch No. 16, dated 14th November 1860, addressed by the Governor General in Council to Sir Charles Wood, then Secretary of State for India.

3. We take this opportunity of referring for Your Lordship's orders a question which has been raised as to the style in which Ecclesiastical dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church in India should be addressed, and also the question whether any rank or precedence is to be accorded to them. On the former question the only directions which the Government of India has received from Her Majesty's Government on this subject are those contained in paragraph 4 of Sir Charles Wood's Despatch No. 5, dated 30th January 1861. These directions are to the effect that although it was not necessary to prohibit by law, as in England, the assumption by Roman Catholic Bishops of titles taken from places situated in Her Majesty's Indian territories, such titles should not be recognised by our Government. We have, however, as a matter of mere courtesy and in accordance with a practice which was formally prescribed by the Government of India in 1856, but which, to some extent, seems to have prevailed at a still earlier period, been in the habit of addressing Vicars Apostolic, who have the rank of Archbishop, as "the Most Reverend"; and of giving them the territorial title of their See; and Bishops as "the Right Reverend" with similar territorial title, as shown in the margin. Although the Ecclesiastical Titles Act (which has been repealed in England) never had any currency in India, it still seems to us, having regard to the provisions of the Statute 34 and 35 Vic., Chapter 53, that it rests exclusively with Her Majesty to determine whether Roman Catholic Prelates in India are to be allowed any rank or precedence. The questions of such rank and precedence, as well as the question of style of address, should, we think, be

To the Most Reverend _____,
Archbishop and Vicar Apostolic,
Western Bengal.

Most Reverend Sir.

To the Right Reverend _____,
Bishop and Vicar Apostolic
of Agra.

Right Reverend Sir.

Prelates in India are to be allowed any rank or precedence. The questions of such rank and precedence, as well as the question of style of address, should, we think, be

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No. 57, ECCLESIASTICAL, 27TH APRIL 1888.

settled according to the practice prevailing in England; and we accordingly submit them for Your Lordship's orders.

From Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, the 5th January 1888, No. 1 (Public—Ecclesiastical).

I have considered in Council your letter No. 5, dated the 3rd of September last, relative to the Concordat concluded between Portugal and the Vatican regarding Roman Catholic patronage, &c., in India.

2. I have informed the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that I see no reason to dissent from the opinion expressed by Your Excellency in Council as to the beneficial effect which may be expected from the operation of this agreement; but that it is not desirable that Her Majesty's Government should in any way formally recognize it or depart from the attitude of strict neutrality which has been hitherto maintained.

3. Your Excellency in Council asks as to the style in which Ecclesiastical dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church in England are usually addressed, and as to the rank or precedence assigned to them there. Having made inquiry into the matter, I am informed that neither in England nor in the Colonies has any rank or precedence been specially or authoritatively assigned to them. In addressing them the territorial title is never used, the style employed being, in the case of an Archbishop, thus,—“The Most Reverend Archbishop A” and “Most Reverend Sir”; and in the case of a Bishop, “The Right Reverend Bishop B” and “Right Reverend Sir”.

4. It must be borne in mind that these dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church in India are not appointed, and are not removable, by Her Majesty's Government; and I agree with Your Lordship in thinking it desirable that the question of rank or precedence should be settled according to the practice prevailing in England. But it is entirely within Your Excellency's discretion to deal with the matter under the provision of the Warrant, which declares that all persons not mentioned in the Table of Precedence are to take rank according to general usage, which is to be explained and determined by the Governor-General in Council in case any question shall arise.

No. 1/86.

Copy, with copy of the despatch to which it is a reply, forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted for information and guidance, and with the remark that the Governor-General in Council does not consider it necessary to exercise his discretion with the object of assigning to the Ecclesiastical dignitaries of the Roman Catholic Church in India any rank in the Table of Precedence.

No.

* Foreign Department.
Military do.
Finance do.

Public Works Department.
Revenue and Agricultural Department.
Legislative Department.

Copy, with copy of the despatch to which it is a reply, forwarded to the * for information and guidance.

(By Order.)

HOME DEPARTMENT,
ECCLESIASTICAL,
Calcutta, the 22nd March 1888.

W. M. YOUNG,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

8 14 5
No. 57, ECCLESIASTICAL, 27TH APRIL 1888.
Order—No. 272, Political, dated 13th April 1888.

Recorded.
(True Extract.)

W. S. MEYER,
Assistant Secretary.

To the Ecclesiastical department.

ORDER—No. 57, Ecclesiastical, dated 27th April 1888.

Recorded.
(True Extract.)

H. G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

MISCELLANEOUS.
G.O., No. 57, 27th April 1888.
APRIL.

Ecclesiastical Dignitaries.

Regarding the style in which — of the Roman Catholic Church in India should be addressed.



READ the following paper

From the Government of India
Copy attached. Home Department dated 22 March
1888- 28

Order 13 April 1888 No 272

Records.

True Extract.

W. Meyer
Assistant Secy

To the Ecclesiastical Dept

I 1/5 8
[No File]

CURRENT No. 125

[9]

Ed.

DEPARTMENT.

From

The Govt of India
Home Dept.

No. 1/86

Dated 22/3

Received 23/4

Enclosures —

SUBJECT

Stating that the Gov. Genl. does not consider it necessary to exercise his discretion with the object of assigning to the Secd. deputation of the R.C. Bishop the Church in India any rank in the Table of precedence.

3P
no. 27 April 1884 No. 57

Recorded

note with reference to para 12 of Sec. 11 of the R.C. Bishops and when in future he addresses his territorial jurisdiction

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, dated 188 , No. MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—

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BACK PAPER, No.

FURTHER PAPER, No.

160 Ed/92

OF 188

GO. NO. 11 Ed/92
23.2.1913

ORDINARY, MS.

Ecol. DEPARTMENT.

G.O., DATED 27 April 88

No. 57

Print for
record

29/5/88

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Regarding the style in which
ecclesiastical dignitaries of the
Roman Catholic Church in India
should be addressed.

24/1/88 ✓
25-7-99 Rev.

17/8/88 ✓

2/9/31 1

8/8/88 ✓

17-1-13 ✓

30.9.21 ✓

11.10.07 ✓

15.11.05 ✓

10-2-16 ✓

5/10/88 ✓

8/8/88 ✓

5/1/26 ✓

1-4-26 ✓

Ecol

5/10/88

27/10/88