M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 643	Press / Mis.
124-135	
Dated 14-5	1873.

8/9

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
14th May 1873.

No. 134. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st May 1873, No. 696 :—

Read the following letter from Rev. W. STEVENSON, Secretary to the Financial Board, Free Church of Scotland Mission, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 10th March 1873 :—

I HAVE the honour, on behalf of the Financial Board of the Free Church of Scotland Mission, to address you with reference to the Wallajahbad Branch School under their management, and the action of the Local Fund Board of the Chingleput Circle regarding it.

2. In 1854, the Free Church of Scotland Mission opened an Anglo-Vernacular School at Wallajahbad in premises, about half a mile distant from the village, presented to the Mission by Major Brett. It was the only school in the place, and was kept up by the Free Church Mission, at a considerable outlay, till March 1865. At that date, circumstances necessitated the closing of it, and for four years the village had no better means of education than the Pial Schools. The inhabitants, feeling the want of the school, petitioned the Mission to re-open it, promising to pay reasonable fees. As soon as circumstances permitted, their petition was granted and the school was re-opened in April 1869. Suitable teachers were appointed,—some certificated, some uncertificated,—and grants in aid of their salaries were sanctioned by the Director of Public Instruction to the amount of Rupees 25 a month, which was the sum drawn at the time when, in 18—, this school, along with the two other lower class schools of Rajampettah and Iyempettah, was handed over to the superintendence of the Local Fund Board of the Chingleput Circle.

3. As the school increased in numbers and advanced to a higher standard, some changes were made in the teachers ; certificated men being substituted, when possible, for uncertificated. As, according to the Grant-in-aid Rules, the Mission was entitled to higher grants on account of these certificated teachers, the Financial Board addressed an application, dated February 2nd, 1872, (of which a copy, marked No. 1, is enclosed) to the Vice-President of the Local Fund Board. Had the school been under the superintendence of the Director of Public Instruction, the grants would have been sanctioned, as a matter of course, in accordance with the rules. The Local Fund Board, however, refused them on the ground that funds had not been provided in the year's budget.

4. On the 19th October, the application was renewed in order that the Local Fund Board might have it before them in estimating the funds required for the next year. A copy of that letter, marked No. 2, I enclose. I must mention here that, before sending that letter, the Financial Board had heard a rumour that the Local Fund Board was itself about to establish a school in Wallajahbad, and it was thought necessary to refer to it, as is done in paragraph 5 of that letter.

5. To this application the Local Fund Board has not sent any reply ; and the Financial Board should have remained quite ignorant of any action with reference to it, had not a copy of the Chingleput District Gazette, of date November 30th, 1872, been sent to the Secretary, in the end of December, by a person in the district interested in the school. In the Minutes of the Board's Proceedings reported in that gazette is the following paragraph :—

"Read letter from Secretary to the Free Church Mission, requesting an increase to the salary grants of certain schools, and objecting to the establishment of a Union School at Wallajahbad.

"(Letter No. 146, dated 19th October 1872.)

"The Board resolve to inform Mr. Stevenson that, with the information at present before them, they regret to be obliged to decline making the increase requested.

"They also desire to be informed to what class the schools entered in his list belong. In regard to the objection to the Union School at Wallajahbad, the Board observe that it has already received their sanction in the supplemental budget of 16th October 1872. After full reconsid-

eration of the subject, they see no reason to alter a decision which they believe to be equally sound and acceptable to the rate-payers of the locality in question."

6. From the above paragraph it appears that two resolutions vitally affecting the Mission School at Wallajahbad have been come to by the Local Fund Board: first to refuse any increase of the grants in aid of it; and, second, to establish a Union School at Wallajahbad.

7. (1.) Regarding the first of these resolutions, the Financial Board beg to observe that they, as Managers of the school, fully comply with all the conditions laid down in the Grant-in-aid Scheme, as giving a title to receive grants; and they cannot, therefore, see on what grounds the grants applied for are refused. Managers of aided schools have been led to look upon the Grant-in-aid Scheme as a virtual agreement between Government and themselves that the former will give the amount of aid specified in the rules if the latter satisfy the prescribed conditions. The Financial Board is not aware whether the Local Fund Boards are empowered to set aside these terms, and to give or decline aid as they see fit; but the Managers of aided schools were led, by repeated assurances on the part of the chief promoter of the Bill, to expect that their interests would be duly regarded, and that aid would be given on the same terms as before. It is unnecessary to point out how very injurious it will be to the cause of education as well as unfair to the Managers of aided schools if these assurances are ignored and the Grant-in-aid Scheme virtually nullified by the action of the Local Fund Boards. It will be acknowledged a matter of the first importance that faith should be kept with those who, in the interests of education, have established schools, trusting to the promised aid of Government, and have complied with all the conditions which entitle a school to receive that aid.

8. (2.) The second resolution contained in the paragraph quoted, namely, to establish a Union School at Wallajahbad, is one, in the opinion of the Financial Board, most deeply to be regretted, and which they feel bound, in the interests of education, earnestly to remonstrate against. What reasons may have induced the Local Fund Board to resolve on this step the Financial Board have no means of knowing; the resolution itself not even having been communicated. The Local Fund Board only remark that they believe their decision "to be equally sound and acceptable to the rate-payers of the locality in question." The facts of the case do not seem to justify this belief: the village is not a very large one, nor can there be said to be such a demand for education in it as to necessitate the establishment of a second school. There are about 90 boys in attendance at the Free Church Mission School, and there is room for more. That the inhabitants are in any way dissatisfied with the Mission School there is not the slightest ground to suppose. It was re-opened at the express and repeated request of the people themselves, and, since its re-establishment, it has gone on increasing in numbers. The school being about half a mile from the village, some of the inhabitants a short time ago complained that it was rather far for their younger children to walk in the hot weather; the lower classes were accordingly transferred to a hired building in the village. Thus, in every way, the Financial Board seek to make the school suitable and convenient for its purposes, and, they have good reason to believe, to the full satisfaction of the inhabitants. What ground, therefore, the Local Fund Board have for the resolution the Financial Board cannot guess.

9. As there is, we respectfully submit, no good reason for the resolution to establish a second school, there are many reasons against it. I have mentioned already that there are about 90 boys in attendance at the Free Church Mission School. Suppose that the Union School, if established, would draw away half, then there would be in the village two schools in unseemly rivalry with each other, and containing about 50 boys each. The waste of money implied in this it is not difficult to calculate. The Local Fund Board could not establish a school worthy of the name at a cost of less than at least Rs. 60 or 70 a month; so that, if the grant of Rupees 25 were still continued to the Free Church Mission School, they would have to pay about Rupees 90 a month, instead of Rupees 36-8-0, which they would pay if they gave to the Mission School the increased grants asked for. This implies the imposition of much heavier taxes on the inhabi-

tants, and that quite unnecessarily. Whether that is likely to be acceptable to the inhabitants, it is not difficult to judge. The rivalry, besides, of two small schools in a village where there is not room for both would exercise a most injurious influence on the feelings of the people regarding education. The Native Masters will be so anxious to get boys to their own schools that parents will regard it as a favour done to the Managers to send their children to school instead of feeling that education is a privilege to be prized; and the discipline of the schools will also be seriously interfered with. In fact, the establishment of a Union School at Wallajahbad will only waste funds in hindering the cause of education in the place. The further mischief likely to be done to the Local Fund Board itself and to the whole scheme by what can only be regarded as hostile action to the operations of a body which has done not a little in promoting sound and efficient education, the Financial Board need not dwell upon.

10. For the reasons now set forth, the Financial Board request that the Revenue Board will be pleased to take up the matter, and, after satisfying themselves as to the facts of the case, take such action as will secure the true interests of education in the village, and the due encouragement by increased grants according to the rules of the existing school.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Rev. W. STEVENSON, Secretary to the Financial Board, Free Church of Scotland Mission, to C. S. CROLE, Esq., Vice-President of the Local Fund Board, Chingleput Circle, dated Madras, 2nd February 1872.

I HAVE the honour to apply for some additional grants in aid of the salaries of the teachers employed in the schools at Wallajahbad, Rajampettah, and Iyempettah, connected with the Free Church of Scotland Mission.

2. C. Cundasawmy, who has passed the Matriculation Examination, has been employed at Wallajahbad in the room of an uncertificated teacher, for whom no grant is received. His salary is Rupees 15, and I have the honour accordingly to apply for a grant of Rupees 7-8-0 from the 1st of this month.

3. C. Auroomugum's salary is raised from Rupees 10 to Rupees 12. At present a grant of Rupees 5 is received on his account, and I request that it may be raised to Rupees 6 from 1st February. He has passed the 5th grade examination.

4. Samiah is a Telugu Munshee in the same school, and teaches the lowest class. He has passed no examination, and his salary is Rupees 6. I request, on his account, that your Board will sanction a third grant of Rupees 2 from 1st February.

5. Coomarasawmy teaches the class next to the lowest in the same school, and his salary is also Rupees 6. He, too, has not passed any examination, and, therefore, I request, on his account, only a third grant of Rupees 2.

6. At Rajampettah, a new teacher, C. Cundasawmy, has been employed in the room of C. Mooneesawmy, transferred to Madras, on the same salary of Rupees 14. I request, therefore, that the grant of Rupees 7, hitherto drawn on account of the latter, may be drawn from 1st February in the name of the former, as he has passed the same examination, namely, the 5th grade.

7. S. Coomarasawmy, the second teacher in the same school, receives a salary of Rupees 6½. He has passed no examination, and I therefore request, on his account, only a grant of Rupees 2.

8. C. Kishnasawmy, Head Teacher at Iyempettah, is to receive an increase to his salary of Rupees 2 from 1st February, making it Rupees 12. I request, therefore, that the grant, on his account, may be raised to Rupees 6 from that date. He has passed the 5th grade.

9. C. Sithumbarum is the second teacher in the same school, and his salary is Rupees 7. He holds no certificate, and I request accordingly, on his account, only a third grant of Rupees 2-5-4 from 1st February.

10. I now present these applications in a tabular form for the sake of clearness.

Schools.	Teachers.	Grade.	Whole Salary.	Grant applied for.	Remarks.
			RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
Wallajahbad School.	C. Cundasawmy...	3rd grade	15 0 0	7 8 0	New grant.
	C. Auroomugum ..	5th ,,	12 0 0	6 0 0	Increased grant.
	Samiah	None	6 0 0	2 0 0	
Rajampettah School.	Coomarasawmy...	None	6 0 0	2 0 0	New grant.
	C. Cundasawmy...	5th grade	14 0 0	7 0 0	
Iyempettah School.	C. Coomarasawmy	None	6 8 0	2 0 0	
	C Kishnasawmy...	5th grade	12 0 0	6 0 0	Increased grant.
	Sithumbarum ...	None	7 0 0	2 5 4	New grant.

11. As the Managers of these small schools are doing their best to improve them, I trust that your Board will receive these applications favourably.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From the same Gentleman, dated Madras, 19th October 1872.

I HAVE the honour again to apply for increased grants in aid of the schools connected with the Free Church of Scotland Mission at Wallajahbad, Rajampettah, and Iyempettah, in the Chingleput District.

2. On February 2nd of the current year, I submitted an application on behalf of these schools which your Board could not at the time meet, as funds had not been provided in the budget. As I believe the budget for the next year is now under your consideration, I beg leave to submit an application again.

3. On the Wallajahbad school, the Financial Board of the Free Church of Scotland Mission at present expends Rupees 83 per mensem, of which it receives from your Board Rupees 25, or rather more than 30 per cent. On Rajampettah school the monthly outlay is Rupees 24, of which your Board contributes Rupees 7, or about 29 per cent. On Iyempettah school it is Rupees 18, of which your Board grants Rupees 5, or 28 per cent. Since the Grant-in-aid Rules admit of the receipt in grants of 50 per cent. of the expenditure on a school, it will be seen how little aid comparatively these schools receive.

4. It is unnecessary for me to say anything of what the Free Church of Scotland Mission has for many years been doing for education in the Chingleput District, as its efforts are well known, and have often received the heartiest acknowledgment from educational officers as well as from Government. I will only say here that the Financial Board is ever ready to make any improvement which is requisite to meet the educational wants of any place which it has undertaken to supply, while, at the same time, it seeks to manage its funds with the wisest economy.

5. A rumour has reached the Financial Board that the Local Fund Board contemplates the planting of a Union School at Wallajahbad. I take notice of it only as a rumour, since it is altogether unlikely that your Board would think of establishing a new school where one exists already quite adequate to meet the educational wants of the place, and thus at once unnecessarily expend funds as well as discourage and injure long existent operations. The Financial Board, however, will thank your Board for the assurance that the rumour has no foundation.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
14th May 1873.

6. The additional grants now applied for I place below in a tabular form, which will be readily understood :—

Schools.	Teachers.	Grade.	Whole Salary.	Grant applied for.	Remarks.
			RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
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Iyempettah School.	C. Kishnasawmy..	5th grade	12 0 0	6 0 0	Increased grant.
	C. Sithumbarum..	None	7 0 0	2 5 4	New grant.

It will be observed that for uncertificated teachers I apply only for a third grant in accordance with the rules.

7. I have received notice from the Director of Public Instruction that the grants in aid of the Chingleput Girl's School, which have hitherto been received from Imperial Funds, must, after the present month, be drawn from your Board.

THIS letter will be referred for the remarks of the Chingleput Local Fund Board.

2. The Rev. Mr. Stevenson's doctrine, that compliance with the conditions of the Grant-in-aid Rules confers on the Managers of private schools an absolute title to aid, has, the Board believe, been repeatedly repudiated by Government; but however this may be, it is certainly competent to Local Fund Boards, under the Local Fund Rules, to refuse new salary grants.

3. The course proposed, viz., to establish a school which would compete with the Mission School, is, however, one which requires very strong reasons to justify it. Under recent orders of Government, the proposed house-tax for the support of the new school will be disallowed; but should the Board still desire to establish it from other funds, the arguments in favour of this course must be reported for the orders of the Board and Government.

4. It was doubtless owing to some accident that the Rev. Mr. Stevenson received from the Local Board no reply to his letter. The Vice-President should give explanation on this point.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. ST. A. GOODRICH,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 135. ORDER THEREON, 14th May 1873, No. 643.

The proceedings of the Board of Revenue are approved, but the Governor in Council doubts whether the school in question is of a class that should be cast on Local Funds for grants-in-aid.

2. Only schools strictly of the lower class are to be aided from Local Funds. An Anglo-Vernacular School scarcely comes within this category.

(True Extract.)

Acting Under Secretary,
for *Chief Secretary.*

To the Board of Revenue.
,, Director of Public Instruction.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of [illegible] Madras

FINANCIAL.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c.,

Dated May. 14th.

Read.

G. O., 14th May 1873, No. 643.

MAY.

Nos. 134-135.

Approving the Revenue Board's Proceedings, with reference to the complaints preferred by the Financial Board of the Free Church of Scotland Mission against the Chingleput Circle Board.

No. 696.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 1st May 1873.

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3. As the school increased in numbers and advanced to a higher standard, some changes were made in the teachers; certificated men being substituted, when possible, for uncertificated. As, according to the Grant-in-aid Rules, the Mission was entitled to higher grants on account of these certificated teachers, the Financial Board addressed an application, dated February 2nd, 1872, (of which a copy, marked No. 1, is enclosed) to the Vice-President of the Local Fund Board. Had the school been under the superintendence of the Director of Public Instruction, the grants would have been sanctioned, as a matter of course, in accordance with the rules. The Local Fund Board, however, refused them on the ground that funds had not been provided in the year's budget.

4. On the 19th October, the application was renewed in order that the Local Fund Board might have it before them in estimating the funds required for the next year. A copy of that letter, marked No. 2, I enclose. I must mention here that, before sending that letter, the Financial Board had heard a rumour that the Local Fund Board was itself about to establish a school in Wallajahbad, and it was thought necessary to refer to it, as is done in paragraph 5 of that letter.

5. To this application the Local Fund Board has not sent any reply; and the Financial Board should have remained quite ignorant of any action with reference to it, had not a copy of the Chingleput District Gazette, of date November 30th, 1872, been sent to the Secretary, in the end of December, by a person in the district interested in the school. In the Minutes of the Board's Proceedings reported in that gazette is the following paragraph:—

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"(Letter No. 146, dated 19th October 1872.)

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"They also desire to be informed to what class the schools entered in his list belong. In regard to the objection to the Union School at Wallajahbad, the Board observe that it has already received their sanction in the supplemental budget of 16th October 1872. After full reconsideration of the subject, they see no reason to alter a decision which they believe to be equally sound and acceptable to the rate-payers of the locality in question."

6. From the above paragraph it appears that two resolutions vitally affecting the Mission School at Wallajahbad have been come to by the Local Fund Board: first to refuse any increase of the grants in aid of it; and, second, to establish a Union School at Wallajahbad.

7. (1.) Regarding the first of these resolutions, the Financial Board beg to observe that they, as Managers of the school, fully comply with all the conditions laid down in the Grant-in-aid Scheme, as giving a title to receive grants; and they cannot, therefore, see on what grounds the grants applied for are refused. Managers of aided schools have been led to look upon the Grant-in-aid Scheme as a virtual agreement between Government and themselves that the former will give the amount of aid specified in the rules if the latter satisfy the prescribed conditions. The Financial Board is not aware whether the Local Fund Boards are empowered to set aside these terms, and to give or decline aid as they see fit; but the Managers of aided schools were led, by repeated assurances on the part of the chief promoter of the Bill, to expect that their interests would be duly regarded, and that aid would be given on the same terms as before. It is unnecessary to point out how very injurious it will be to the cause of education as well as unfair to the Managers of aided schools if these assurances are ignored and the Grant-in-aid Scheme virtually nullified by the action of the Local Fund Boards. It will be acknowledged a matter of the first importance that faith should be kept with those who, in the interests of education, have established schools, trusting to the promised aid of Government, and have complied with all the conditions which entitle a school to receive that aid.

8. (2.) The second resolution contained in the paragraph quoted, namely, to establish a Union School at Wallajahbad, is one, in the opinion of the Financial Board, most deeply to be regretted, and which they feel bound, in the interests of education, earnestly to remonstrate against. What reasons may have induced the Local Fund Board to resolve on this step the Financial Board have no means of knowing; the resolution itself not even having been communicated. The Local Fund Board only remark that they believe their decision "to be equally sound and acceptable to the rate-payers of the locality in question." The facts of the case do not seem to justify this belief: the village is not a very large one, nor can there be said to be such a demand for education in it as to necessitate the establishment of a second school. There are about 90 boys in attendance at the Free Church Mission School, and there is room for more. That the inhabitants are in any way dissatisfied with the Mission School there is not the slightest ground to suppose. It was re-opened at the express and repeated request of the people themselves, and, since its re-establishment, it has gone on increasing in numbers. The school being about half a mile from the village, some of the inhabitants a short time ago complained that it was rather far for their younger children to walk in the hot weather; the lower classes were accordingly transferred to a hired building in the village. Thus, in every way, the Financial Board seek to make the school suitable and convenient for its purposes, and, they have good reason to believe, to the full satisfaction of the inhabitants. What ground, therefore, the Local Fund Board have for the resolution the Financial Board cannot guess.

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2. On February 2nd of the current year, I submitted an application on behalf of these schools which your Board could not at the time meet, as funds had not been provided in the budget. As I believe the budget for the next year is now under your consideration, I beg leave to submit an application again.

3. On the Wallajahbad school, the Financial Board of the Free Church of Scotland Mission at present expends Rupees 83 per mensem, of which it receives from your Board Rupees 25, or rather more than 30 per cent. On Rajampettah school the monthly outlay is Rupees 24, of which your Board contributes Rupees 7, or about 29 per cent. On Iyempettah school it is Rupees 18, of which your Board grants Rupees 5, or 28 per cent. Since the Grant-in-aid Rules admit of the receipt in grants of 50 per cent. of the expenditure on a school, it will be seen how little aid comparatively these schools receive.

4. It is unnecessary for me to say anything of what the Free Church of Scotland Mission has for many years been doing for education in the Chingleput District, as its efforts are well known, and have often received the heartiest acknowledgment from educational officers as well as from Government. I will only say here that the Financial Board is ever ready to make any improvement which is requisite to meet the educational wants of any place which it has undertaken to supply, while, at the same time, it seeks to manage its funds with the wisest economy.

5. A rumour has reached the Financial Board that the Local Fund Board contemplates the planting of a Union School at Wallajahbad. I take notice of it only as a rumour, since it is altogether unlikely that your Board would think of establishing a new school where one exists already quite adequate to meet the educational wants of the place, and thus at once unnecessarily expend funds as well as discourage and injure long existent operations. The Financial Board, however, will thank your Board for the assurance that the rumour has no foundation.

6. The additional grants now applied for I place below in a tabular form, which will be readily understood :—

Schools.	Teachers.	Grade.	Whole Salary.	Grant applied for.	Remarks.
			RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
Wallajahbad School.	C. Cundasawmy...	3rd grade	15 0 0	7 8 0	New grant.
	Samiah	None	6 0 0	2 0 0	
	Coomarasawmy...	,,	6 0 0	2 0 0	
Rajampettah School.	C. Cundasawmy...	5th grade	14 0 0	7 0 0	
	S. Coomarasawmy	None	6 8 0	2 2 8	
Iyempettah School.	C. Kishnasawmy..	5th grade	12 0 0	6 0 0	Increased grant.
	C. Sithumbarum..	None	7 0 0	2 5 4	New grant.

It will be observed that for uncertificated teachers I apply only for a third grant in accordance with the rules.

7. I have received notice from the Director of Public Instruction that the grants in aid of the Chingleput Girl's School, which have hitherto been received from Imperial Funds, must, after the present month, be drawn from your Board.

THIS letter will be referred for the remarks of the Chingleput Local Fund Board.

2. The Rev. Mr. Stevenson's doctrine, that compliance with the conditions of the Grant-in-aid Rules confers on the Managers of private schools an absolute title to aid, has, the Board believe, been repeatedly repudiated by Government; but however this may be, it is certainly competent to Local Fund Boards, under the Local Fund Rules, to refuse new salary grants.

3. The course proposed, viz., to establish a school which would compete with the Mission School, is, however, one which requires very strong reasons to justify it. Under recent orders of Government, the proposed house-tax for the support of the new school will be disallowed; but should the Board still desire to establish it from other funds, the arguments in favour of this course must be reported for the orders of the Board and Government.

4. It was doubtless owing to some accident that the Rev. Mr. Stevenson received from the Local Board no reply to his letter. The Vice-President should give explanation on this point.

(True Copies and Extract.)

A Govindoo
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the President of the Local Fund Board, Chingleput.

Copy to the Secretary to the Financial Board of Free Church of Scotland Mission.
,, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
,, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Depts

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Financial Depart.

1873.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 1ST MAY 1873, No. 696.

Dept 8 May 73
Encl.

Received 12 May 73

MAY.
No. 696.

School.—Letter from Secretary to Financial Board of Free Church of Scotland Mission, complaining of refusal of Chingleput Local Fund Board to increase grant-in-aid to Mission School at Wallajahbad and of proposed establishment of a Union School there, referred to Local Board for remarks, with certain observations.

With advr.

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

Financial

To

The Board of Revenue

&c.

Dated 14 May

Recd

Encl.

G. O. 14 May 1873, No. 643.

Nos. 134. 135.

Approving the Rev. Board's Mcos. with reference to the complaints preferred by the Revd. Bd. of the Free Church of Scotland Mission against the Chingleput Circle Board