M.R.C. 1—30,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 233	Press Mis.
27-28	
Dated 12-8-1927	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, from 10th to 16th September 1859.

No. 27. Read the following Despatch from Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India; to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated India Office, London, 28th July 1859, No. 8.

Letter dated 8th Feby. (No. 3), 1859.
" " 3rd May (" 14) "
Riot in the Town of Tinnevelly.

1. Your letters noted in the margin on the subject of a serious riot which occurred in the town of Tinnevelly on the 22nd December last, having been laid before me in Council, I have now to communicate to you the following remarks.

2. It is unnecessary to enter into any detail of the circumstances connected with the riot, as they are very fully and accurately stated in your Order No. 122, dated 28th January. The origin of the disturbance is to be traced to the determination of some of the Hindoo population of the town to prevent the corpse of a Native Christian being carried through the public street to its place of burial.

3. Your decision in support of that of the local authorities, to the effect that "the public high streets in all towns are the property not of any particular caste but of the whole community, and every man, be his caste or religion what it may, has a right to the full use of them, provided that he does not obstruct or molest others in the use of them," has the entire approval of Her Majesty's Government who concur with you that the Magistrate acted rightly in ordering that the corpse should be borne to the place of burial by the nearest public high road.

4. Her Majesty's Government further concur with you that the melancholy loss of life on the occasion was unavoidable and that the Magistrate, Mr. Levinge, acted with praiseworthy firmness and judgment.

5. The Village Moonsiff and Head of Police entirely failed in their duty to the Government and have very properly been dismissed from office.

6. Her Majesty's Government have perused with great gratification your report that, as the result of the prompt and energetic measures taken in December last, the town of Tinnevelly has continued perfectly quiet since the date of the disturbance and that not only in its precincts, but throughout the whole District, the question of the right of all classes to a common use of the high streets and roads is considered finally settled.

No. 28. ORDER THEREON, 12th September 1859, No. 1233.

The above Despatch will be communicated to the Magistrate of Tinnevelly.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Registrar of Tinnevelly. Page 10

Judicial.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

[2]

Read Despatch from the Rt. Honble the Secretary of State for India — Entered 28th July 1859 No 8.

Order thereon — 2 September 59. No 233

The above Despatch will be communicated to the Magistrate of Tinnevelly.

WM

The Magistrate of Tinnevelly. Dispd 15th.

Judicial 1859 Sept.

No 1233

Proceedings of Court

of 12th September/59