M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1670	Press ~~Mis.~~
23-24		
Dated	16-12-	No 1859.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, for the month of December 1859.

No. 23. Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Magistrate of Malabar; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Fort Saint George, dated Calicut, 26th November 1859, No. 117.

The inefficiency of the Police at Cochin to repress thieving, especially at the large Mercantile Depôts, has been brought to the notice of this Office several times.

2. The present Police* force was sanctioned† when Cochin was in far different circumstances, to what it now is, there was then but little trade, and few temptations to the criminal population.

* 1 *Cutwal,* at 10 *Rupees per mensem.*
10 *Police Peons,* at 5 *do.*
10 *Ditto* at 4 *do.*

† 21*st July* 1835 *and* 18*th December* 1849.

3. There are now in Cochin several large European Mercantile Firms, representing very large interests, the commerce in which they are engaged is of such a nature, that the Merchants are obliged to have very large ware-houses, in which and about the yards, most valuable raw produce is scattered, and open to the depredations of people from without, if not well protected by their watch-men within, who too frequently, it is to be feared, commit depredations which the small number of Peons in the Town, are unable to check. The habits and movements of these latter are so well known, that stolen property in considerable quantities is easily removed, without any great chances of the parties carrying it away being apprehended.

4. The Chamber of Commerce have now addressed me, stating that they are prepared to guarantee Rupees 160 per mensem for the payment of 20 Peons, to be placed under the immediate orders of the Fiscal of Cochin, in view to the more efficient protection of their property. I request the sanction of Government to accept this offer, and to act up to the wishes of the Chamber, until such time as the new Police system under the Inspector General of Police is introduced.

5. The extra Peons will receive Rupees 8 per mensem, a rate of pay which it is hoped, will prove sufficient to ensure faithful services, and thereby tend to put down the pilfering and thieving so much complained of, and which the present small Police force at Cochin, is quite insufficient to cope with.

No. 24. ORDER THEREON, 14th December 1859, No. 1670.

The Government see no objection to the Magistrate of Malabar accepting the offer of the Chamber of Commerce at Cochin as a temporary arrangement.

It is to be understood that the amount, Rupees 160, must be punctually paid every month, and that the Peons who may be employed will be entirely under the orders of the Magistrate and Fiscal.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Order thereon 14 December 1859. No 1670.

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I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obed^t Servan

P. Moore
Magistrate-

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