M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 614-15 Press
3-6 ~~Mis.~~

Dated 6-2-8-~~10~~ 15

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 3. 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 Betutpoodiangaddy, 14th April 1859, No. 29.

Dated 8th Instant, No. 72. I have the honor to forward a letter from the Joint Magistrate of Cochin, enclosing one to your address from the Cochin Chamber of Commerce, pointing out the disadvantages under which they labor from the want of a sufficient number of Justices of the Peace.

2. The only person in Cochin at present holding a Commission of the Peace is the Joint Magistrate, Mr. Cullin. In 1854, Mr. John Scipio Vernede was vested with a Commission of the Peace, but he is at present absent in England although expected back very soon.

3. I think it would be well that a third party should be vested with the powers of a Justice of Peace, so as to act in the event of the absence of any of the other Justices.

4. Mr. Cullin suggests that Captain Castor, the Master Attendant, should be vested with a Commission of the Peace; he is I believe an able, intelligent and independent person, but being an East Indian, Government may doubt the expediency of the step. The only other person who could fill the post properly, would be some member of the Mercantile community, either Mr. Mirus now Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, or Mr. Berrie of the firm of Oughterson and Co., if either of them would agree to hold the office.

From E. CULLIN, Esq., Joint Magistrate of Cochin; to P. GRANT, Esq., Magistrate of Malabar, dated 8th April 1859, No. 72.

I have the honor to state that the accompanying letter from the Honorary Secretary to the Cochin Chamber of Commerce "respecting the great want of Justices of the Peace at this place," has been sent to me for transmission to Thomas Pycroft, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government.

I deem it proper to send the letter through you, may I beg you will have the goodness to forward it to its address.

I also send copy of a letter from the Honorary Secretary to the Cochin Chamber of Commerce, dated 7th April 1859, to my address, enclosing the letter to the address of Mr. Pycroft.

There is no doubt that occasions do arise, from time to time at Cochin, when I should be very glad to have the aid of one or two intelligent gentlemen to sit with me as Justices of the Peace, in the investigation of intricate, difficult cases, where Europeans are concerned, and I may observe, that in my absence or when unable to attend to duty from temporary indisposition, it is desirable that there should be a duly qualified person prepared to act for me as a Justiceof the Peace.

The Mercantile community of Cochin contains many gentlemen perfectly eligible, as regards character, education, and intelligence to discharge the duties of a Justice of the Peace.

I may be permitted to name Captain Castor, the Master Attendant of the Port, as a suitable person to be on the Commission of the Peace. He comes much in contact with European Sailors, and it is not unusual, I believe, at other Ports for the Master Attendant to be a Justice of the Peace.

The second Justice of the Peace, referred to in the 2nd para. of the letter from the Honorary Secretary to the Cochin Chamber of Commerce, is Scipio Vernede, Esq. This gentleman has been for the last year in England, but he is expected at Cochin immediately. He is in every way highly qualified to discharge the duties of the office.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) P. GRANT,
Magistrate.

No. 4. From P. LESLIE, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Cochin Chamber of Commerce; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 7th April 1859.

By desire of the Chairman of this Chamber, I have the honor to inform you, that at a General Meeting held on the 23rd Ultimo, it was unanimously resolved to request you to be good

enough to bring to the speedy notice of Government, the want of Justices of Peace for the town of Cochin.

At present there are only two Justices, one being the Joint Magistrate, and the other a gentleman now in Europe.

It must be obvious to you that the duties of the former as Magistrate in a place like this, are very onerous, and that in his absence, from sickness or other cause, it is very inconvenient to be without an authority competent to deal with cases, that are constantly occurring in a Port that is throughout the year so well filled with shipping.

It appears to this Chamber, likewise, that it might be of considerable advantage, in certain cases that come before the Court, if the Joint Magistrate had the assistance of one or more Justices qualified to give advice.

Without further troubling you, the Chamber therefore begs that you will give the matter early consideration.

No. 5. ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1859, No. 614.

The Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint Captain John Castor, Master Attendant at Cochin, to be a Justice of the Peace within and for the Presidency of Fort Saint George and the several provinces and places thereto subordinate.

2. Captain Castor will qualify himself in the Principal Sudder Ameen's Court at Cochin.

3. Ordered that an application be made to the Judges of Her Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature for the issue of a Commission of the Peace on his behalf.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 6. To the Judges of Her Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature at Madras, dated Fort Saint George, 4th May 1859, No. 615.

We, the Governor in Council, having duly nominated and appointed Captain John Castor, Master Attendant at Cochin, to be a Justice of the Peace, within and for the Presidency of Fort Saint George and the several provinces and places thereto subordinate, request you to issue from the Supreme Court a Commission of the Peace in his behalf, in conformity with the provisions of Act VI of 1845, for which this will be your Warrant.

2. Captain Castor will be directed to qualify himself in the Principal Sudder Ameen's Court at Cochin.

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN,
(„) PAT. GRANT,
(„) WALTER ELLIOT,
(„) W. A. MOREHEAD.

Extd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial Departmt.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Read the following letters—

From the Magistrate of Ma. labar — Enter 14th April 1859 No. 29.

" the Cochin Chamber of Commerce — " 7th do.

Order thereon — 4th May 1859 No. 614

The Honble the Governor in Council is pleased to appt. Joint Captain John Castor, Master Attendant at Cochin, to be a Justice of the Peace, within & for the Presidency of Fort St. George & the several provinces & places thereto Subordinate.

2. Captain Castor will qualify himself in the Principal Sudder Ameen's Ct. at Cochin.

3. Ordered that an application be made to the Judges of H.M. Supreme Court of Judicature for the issue of

of

Pro of Court to May
Judicial 1859 Depart.

No 13

To The Honble Sir H Dawison Kt
Chief Justice
The Honble Sir A Butlaston Kt
Prisne Justice
H M. Supreme Court
of Judicature

Dated 4 May 1859.

H. No 761.

306.