M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 257 Press Mis.
13-14-15

Dated 2-3- 1860

2-3 1860

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, for the month of March 1860.

Read the following papers:—

No. 13. From C. F. CHAMIER, Esq., Registrar to the Sudder Court; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 20th February 1860, No. 22.

1. I have the honor to request that you will bring the following circumstances under the consideration of the Government for their orders.

2. Owing to the large number of judicial papers constantly required for the Court, and the necessity of giving them the preference in sending M. S. S., to the Press, to avoid impeding the work of the Court, I have always experienced the greatest difficulty in getting the Civil and Criminal Decisions of the Judges printed within a reasonable time after they were recorded.

3. I have frequently had the Court's Decisions lying on my table for some weeks before the Press has been so much in advance of the Court, as to enable me to have the Decisions printed.

4. This state of things has always been a cause of much concern to me, as I consider it of very great importance that the Lower Courts should have before them, at as early a date as possible, the various precedents established by the Decrees of the Sudder Court, both as to law and practice.

5. The Government having recently authorized the Translators to Government to employ private Presses, it has occurred to me that they might not object to the Decisions of this Court being similarly made over for printing to such Presses, indeed that they might consider it really *desirable*, as a means of encouraging private enterprise.

6. I have, therefore, the honor to request the authority of the Government for having the Court's *Decisions* printed at some private Press, selecting for this purpose the Press whose terms may be the most advantageous.

7. Under this arrangement, I should hope to have the Criminal Decisions published in less than a month, and the Civil Decrees (in which costs have first to be taxed), in about six weeks, after they were passed.

No. 14. MEMORANDUM.

On the subject of the letter from the Registrar of the Sudr Court, No. 22 of 20th February, the Superintendent of the Press begs to submit for the information of Government, that about 900 Rupees was lately expended, at the request of the Registrar, in completing the plant of the Sudr Department, which would be mere waste if any of the work were now withdrawn, as the material was provided with special reference to that work alone.

Then, not only in no instance whatever has the work of the Sudr Court been delayed, all papers being printed directly the manuscripts are received at the Press, but there has never been a complaint of supposed delay, and the Department is not always, even, kept in full work on the business which the Registrar has been able to send in.

And again, not only might more work be executed for the Sudr Court in their Department of the Press, but, if required, the work now turned out might be done both quicker and more economically, if the Decisions, when struck off (as they are in the first instance, in the foolscap size) were returned soon enough to the Press to have them reprinted in the book form before the type is broken up.

That there has been no "difficulty in getting the Criminal and Civil Decisions of the Judges printed within a reasonable time," or, rather, that the "difficulty" has had nothing to do with the operations of the Press, is evident from the fact that those for August last have only just been sent in. They could have been printed just as easily at the termination of the month to which they refer, or any part of the subsequently intervening period, as now, if they had been forwarded for that purpose.

Paragraph 3 must have been written under a mis-apprehension of the capabilities of the Government Press. It is impossible for any Press to be in advance of the Court's Translators;

although if the Translators would get in advance of the Court, the thing would be easy enough. In fact, it has frequently been necessary to employ a number of the men engaged for the Sudr Court work in other Departments because the Decisions have not been sent in to be printed.

The Superintendent respectfully submits that if arrangements are made for supplying the Press with the manuscripts in time, there can be no possible difficulty in the printing of these Decisions as rapidly as the Registrar can wish them to be printed; but it is obviously unfair to charge the Press (by implication) with inability to do work which has never been sent to it, and respecting which no question has been asked as to whether it can be done or not.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
24th February 1860.

(Signed) H. SMITH,
Superintendent.

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, 2nd March 1860, No. 257.

A copy of Mr. Smith's explanation will be sent to the Register to the Sadr Adálat, in view to his endeavouring to carry out such arrangements as shall ensure the manuscript papers, Decisions of the Judges, &c., being sent to the Gazette Press at earlier dates.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read letter from the Sadar Adalat — Enter 20th February '60 No. 22.

" also Memo. by the Superintendent of the Gazette Press — 24th do.

Order. 2d March 1860 — No 257.

A copy of Mr. Smith's explanation will be sent to the Register to the Sadar Adalat in view to his endeavoring to carry out such arrangements as shall ensure the manuscript papers — Decisions of the Judges &c — being sent to the Gazette Press at earlier dates.

The Register to the Sadar Adalat. } Sent 5
" Superintendent - Gazette Press. }