

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	875	Press
		Mis.
64-65		
Dated	6. 7. 1861	H.

6/7
Not to be folded or roughly handled

145

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
6th July 1861.*

No. 64. Read the following letter from W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 19th June 1861, No. 864.

General Department.

I venture to bring the following matter before the Government with reference to the recent order for the establishment of the Staff Corps, from which all Military Officers to be employed in Civil duty are to be selected. No Department will draw more largely from the Corps than the Police.

2. I understand that passing in the *Hindustani* language is to be the primary test of eligibility for the Staff Corps.

3. *Hindustani* may be, regimentally speaking, a useful language. But as regards Officers whose profession is to be a Civil one, who are to be employed amongst the people and not amongst Military classes, the *Hindustani* language is nearly useless. Civilians are not even permitted to take it as one of their two indispensable languages. They may only study it as an extra language.

4. To the great bulk of the agricultural and trading classes of this Presidency, *Hindustani* is a foreign language; and a Police Officer who knows only *Hindustani* cannot be thoroughly qualified for Police duty.

5. It seems to me to be desirable to encourage the study of the Native languages of the Presidency, properly so called; and I beg to suggest *Telugu*, *Tamil* and *Canarese* be placed on the same footing in regard to qualifying for the Civil branch of the Staff Corps as *Hindustani*.

No. 65. ORDER THEREON, 6th July 1861, No. 875.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the present rule whereby passing in the *Hindustani* language is the primary test of eligibility for the Staff Corps, should not be modified by the Vernacular languages *Telugu*, *Tamil* and *Canarese* being placed on the same footing as *Hindustani*, in regard to qualifying for the Civil branch of the Corps. His Excellency does not understand that there is to be any Civil branch of the Staff Corps distinct from the Military—that is, that the Corps is to be divided into two branches, Civil and Military, the members of which are to be wholly separate, and not transferrable from one branch to the other.

2. Officers appointed to the Staff Corps are at the option of Government to be employed either in Civil or *Military* duties, and either in the Madras or in any other Presidency. They are therefore liable to be placed in situations where a knowledge of *Hindustani* would be indispensable. No one Vernacular language would be so generally useful or so well adapted for a general test.

3. But the object of the Inspector General is met by the existing practice whereby the knowledge of one of the Vernacular languages of Southern India is made a departmental test for the Police Department, and all persons taken for it whether from the Staff Corps or otherwise are required to pass an examination in one of those tongues after a given period of probation. The principle on which the Staff Corps is to be formed, viz., as it were for general service, is thus maintained, while there is no bar to any of its members being employed in the Police.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cardledge.

My dear Sir,
I have taken the
reference in hand of your
letter of the 12th after reading which
I have taken the liberty
to refer it to the first clerk
of the Court and after having
got his opinion to submit it
for the consideration of the
Court. I have the honor to be,
Sir, your obedient servant,
J. H. H.

footing as Hindustani in regard to qualifying for the Civil Branch of the Corps. His Excellency does not understand that there is to be any Civil Branch of the Staff Corps distinct from the Military, that is that the Corps is to be divided into two branches, Civil and Military, the members of which are to be wholly separate, and not transferable from one branch to the other.

2. Officers appointed to the Staff Corps are at the option of Govt. to be employed either in Civil or Military duties, and either in the Madras or in any other Presidency. They are therefore liable to be placed in situations where a knowledge of Hindustani would

would be indispensable. No one vernacular language would be so generally useful or so well adapted for a general test.

3. But the object of the Inspector General is met by the existing practice whereby the knowledge of one of the Vernacular languages of Southern India is made a departmental test for the Police Department - and all ^{persons} taken for it whether from the Staff Corps or otherwise are required to pass on examination in one of those tongues after a given period of probation. The principle on which the Staff Corps is to be formed, viz. as it were for general service, is thus maintained while there is no bar to any of its members being employed in the Police.

Inspector General Police
Military Dept

J.P.

Washburn

Medical 1867. Department.

No. 875

*PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS
GOVERNMENT.*

Box 184 - Nov 1961 - Dec 1964

David G. Hall 1861

Capoing Constant, remarks
on the letter from the English
to the General of the other Company
viz. J. de la Roche Beaumont
Governor of the Island on the
same footing and report to
the Council for the Council
March of the 17th 1685 as
the Indian language.