

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1570

Press
Mis.

238-239

Dated 23 - 9 - 1918

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23rd September 1862.*

No. 238. Read the following letter from C. F. CHAMIER, Esq., Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Madras; to the Honorable T. PYCROFT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 15th September 1862, No. 10.

I am directed by the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court to acknowledge receipt of the Proceedings of Government, dated 25th ultimo, referring for the remarks of the High Court a Resolution of the Government of India calling upon the Government to report how far reductions in Ministerial establishments are keeping pace with the reduction in work effected by Section 172 of the Code of Civil Procedure, under which "comparatively little is left to be done by the Ministerial Officers of the Courts."

2. The Chief Justice and Judges direct me to state that it has never been the practice in this Presidency to employ Ministerial Officers upon any other than purely Ministerial duties; and that, even as regards the manner of taking evidence, no relief has been afforded by the Code of Civil Procedure, as under Clause first, Section XXXIII, Regulation VI of 1816, depositions were not required to be recorded by District Moonsiffs in cases in which an appeal does not lie.

3. It will also be remembered that the establishments of the District Moonsiff's Courts have hitherto been proverbially deficient, and have only recently been put upon an improved footing. The number of suits instituted in their Courts has likewise increased during the last five years, from 98,848 in 1857, to 2,05,741 in 1861, involving a proportional increase of Ministerial labor.

4. The Chief Justice and Judges are, therefore, of opinion that no reduction can at present be made in the Ministerial establishments of the District Moonsiffs; but it is probable that when the Courts of Small Causes shall have been in operation for some months, the files of the District Moonsiffs may be sufficiently diminished to allow of some of their Courts being abolished.

No. 239. 23rd September 1862, No. 1,570.

Submitted to the Government of India, in reference to para. 2 of their Financial Resolution of the 18th July last, No. 5,113.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

N^o 1570 - 23^d Sept. 1862

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Recd 23^d