M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT**

G.O. No. 1397 Press ~~Mis.~~

252-253

Dated 28.8.1883 ~~1883~~.

3/3

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 28th August 1863.

No. 252. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Magistrate of Cuddapah; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Fort Saint George, dated Cuddapah, 4th February 1863, No. 5.

With reference to the Order of Government, No. 82, dated 21st January 1863, prohibiting the grant of a license to go armed to any private individual with more than one or two servants, in consequence of a Magistrate having allowed a Zemindar to come to the Presidency with a large armed force, and that if a larger force than one or two armed servants be required by any one, he should apply to the Superintendent of Police, who will supply a guard on payment, if practicable, I have the honor to state that occasionally large sums are carried for mercantile purposes through this District, that one or two armed servants would be an insufficient guard, and that, even if there were a disposition to apply for a Police escort, there is a difficulty in supplying it, owing to their other duties affording sufficient employment for the small force in an extensive District. I would therefore urge that a Magistrate might have the power to license a number of private guards, not exceeding twelve to mercantile men. An instance came before me some time ago, when, but for the protection of such a guard, a large sum would have been plundered by a large gang of robbers, in the presence of two Policemen, who both came to report the circumstance to me. The twelve private guards, and not the two Policemen, prevented the robbery of the treasure. Two female travellers, however, subsequently fell into the robbers' hands, and were stripped of their valuables, after which the robbers dispersed and could not be traced. I think that a distinction should be observed between guards for the necessary protection of property in a hilly and wild District, and armed retainers kept for purposes of ostentation, and when prevention is more effectual than attempts at subsequent detection, it would be advisable to allow of a discretionary power to the Magistrate, when guards are required for commercial purposes.

No. 253. ORDER THEREON, 28th August 1863, No. 1,397.

The Governor in Council will leave it to the discretion of the Magistrate of Cuddapah to grant licenses for such number of private guards, for the purpose of escorting merchandize or cash remittances, as he may deem requisite.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. McMootry.

№ 1397 D 28th Sept 1803.

The Governor in Council will leave it to the discretion of the Magistrate of Cuddapah to grant licences for such number of peons as they may deem for the purpose of escorting merchandize or cash remittances, as he may deem requisite.—

To the Magistrate of Cuddapah.
" Superr. Genl of Police.

dated 17th