M.R.O. 1—33,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 67-68	1619	Press ~~His.~~
Dated	7.10.1863	19 .

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 7th October 1863.

No. 67. Read the following letter from T. J. KNOX, Esq., Civil Judge of Chicacole; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department, Fort Saint George, dated Chicacole, 25th September 1863, No. 311.

1. I have the honor to report for the information of Government, that I have deemed it my duty to postpone the establishment of the Munsiff's Court at Itchapore.

2. The Government are aware that formerly at Itchapore there was a Sudder Ameen exercising jurisdiction as a Munsiff over the limits of the abolished Munsiff's Court at Pooliacondah.

3. It was proposed by the Committee,* and sanctioned by Government, that there should be from the 1st July 1863 six Munsiffs' Courts in this District, namely at Aska, Berhampore, Chicacole, Itchapore, Palasa and Teekaly, and on the 1st July all excepting Itchapore were at work; as Itchapore was a 1st Class Munsiffship, I could not open the Court till the High Court had appointed an Officer to preside over it, which appointment was made in the Fort Saint Gazette, dated 1st September 1863.

* Vide letter to Government, dated 31st July 1862, No. 231.

4. I had by this time obtained some knowledge of the working of the late Agency Courts, and I am confident that I have done my duty to Government in delaying the opening of the Itchapore Court; as far as I can see at present, this Court will never be required, because not only is the work for the present five Courts not nearly as heavy as was anticipated; but also the recent alteration in the powers of the District Munsiffs will, I believe, check in no ordinary degree the suits filed in their Courts, for as Small Cause Courts they have power to pass decrees in certain cases as far as 50 Rupees against which no appeal is permitted and their action is very rapid, for in 20 of such suits a day they are expected by the High Court to pass judgment.

5. If I am wrong in my calculations it will be easy to open the 6th Munsiff's Court when it is proved clearly that it is required, but in the interim Government are saved the expense of an idle establishment.

6. I would, however, solicit the permission of Government that a 3rd Class Munsiffship be deemed the surplus one at present, I attach great importance to having a 1st Class Munsiffship in the District, it is a prize which excites wholesome emulation among the 3rd Class Munsiffs, and in this instance I would gladly take the 1st Class Munsiff already appointed by the High Court, and remove one of those I received from the Agency who is only officiating.

No. 68. ORDER THEREON, 7th October 1863, No. 1,619.

His Excellency the Governor in Council requests that the Honorable the Judges of the High Court will favor him with their opinion on the suggestion made in the foregoing letter.

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

Erd. T. McMootry.

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Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Civil Judge of Chicacole.

(Here enter 25th September 1863 No 311)

Order thereon 7th October 1863 No 1619.

His Excellency the Council in Council requests that the Honorable the Judges of the High Court will favor him with their opinion on the suggestions made in the foregoing letter.

To the Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Madras &c &c &c

List of 13 Vols.

Judicial 1863. Department.

No. 1619.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated 7 October 1863.

F. R. 2399.