

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1272	Press Mis
151-152		
Dated	24. 8 -	10 1864

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 151. Read the following letter from Mr. A. FRANKLYN, Negapatam; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Negapatam, 28th July 1864.

Although only a private individual, I trust I am not by that circumstance precluded from submitting, for the consideration of Government, such propositions as may be deserving of attention on grounds of public utility. Relying on this hope, and encouraged therein by the courtesy and consideration shown by the Government of this Presidency to those private individuals who have, from time to time, addressed it in the interests of Science, Commerce, and whatever concerned the welfare of the public generally, I take the liberty of submitting, for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, the following matter affecting the jurisdiction assigned respectively to the Zillah Courts of Tanjore and Tranquebar, on the division of the tracts which formed the limits of the late Zillah Court of Combacoonum.

2. The jurisdiction of the late Zillah Court extended over that of 16 District Moonsiffs, of whom 9 fell into the jurisdiction of the Zillah Court of Tanjore and 7 into that of the Tranquebar Court. The division of the province was no doubt a measure greatly needed, and the manner in which it was effected perhaps the best suited at the time; but the circumstances of the province having been altered since the construction of the Railroad which traverses it from east to west, a re-modelling of the territorial jurisdiction of the two Courts referred to appears highly desirable.

3. The station of the District Moonsiff of Tritarapoondy is distant from that of the Tranquebar Zillah Court about 50 miles, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ days' journey. The Negapatam District Moonsiff's Court is a whole day's journey distant from it. But under present circumstances the principal Court of the Tanjore Zillah can be reached by the inhabitants of Tritarapoondy and Negapatam in a much shorter time, or in ten and three hours respectively, and the journeys performed at much less cost. It would therefore be highly desirable, and I would respectfully beg to suggest, that the Taluqs of Negapatam and Tritarapoondy be included within the jurisdiction of the Tanjore Court and, *per contra*, that the jurisdiction of the Tranquebar Court be extended over the permanent and additional District Moonsiff's Courts of Combacoonum, and over that also of the District Moonsiff of Velangiman, all of which are stationed at Combacoonum, and at a distance of not more than 30 miles from Tranquebar. By this arrangement not only will the conveniences of suitors generally be better met, but the work of the two Zillah Courts will be more evenly distributed, and the necessity for maintaining the establishment of an additional Principal Sudder Amcon's Court at Tanjore cease to exist.

4. A circumstance of recent occurrence, which is the following, will also show the desirableness of this arrangement:—A European, who was in custody (for debt) of peons of the Small Cause Court at this station, broke away from his custodians, and escaped into the neighbouring French Settlement of Karical, where a Civil Process cannot follow him. An application was, it appears, made to the French authorities to suffer his re-capture, but this application was refused, and measures are it would seem about to be taken by them to prevent the practice, which has been all along the case, of peons from the Tritarapoondy and Negapatam Courts taking Civil debtors to Jail through their territories, which cannot be avoided.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
24th August 1864.*

5. Should effect be given to the suggestions contained in this letter Mayaveram would be a convenient locality for the Negapatam Small Cause Court, and Manargoody for that of Combaconum: the former having, till recently, been the station of the Sub-Collector, and the latter that of the Special Assistant Collector of Tanjore: these stations having been doubtlessly selected as the central places of their several ranges.

No. 152.

ORDER THEREON, 24th August 1864, No. 1272.
Forwarded to the Civil and Sessions Judges of Tanjore and Tranquebar for their observations.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Civil and Sessions Judge of Tanjore.
" " of Tranquebar.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

24 August 1864 No 1272

Forwarded to the Civil (and

Sessions Judge of Tanjore

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*To the Civil & Sessions Judge of Tanjore
do Tranquebar (dopt 27/8)*