

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Judicial* DEPARTMENT.

|          |           |                 |
|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| G.O. No. | 355       | Press           |
|          |           | <del>Mis.</del> |
| 148-149  |           |                 |
| Dated    | 12.3.1864 | 18              |

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,  
12th March 1864.*

No. 148. Read the following letter from W. H. HAVELOCK, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bombay; to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Bombay Castle, 3rd March 1864, No. 762.

From inquiries made by this Government, it has been found that the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure in regard to the trial of offences punishable under Section 380 of the Indian Penal Code have been felt to be a source of much hardship in every District of the Bombay Presidency. In cases of the most trivial character where the amount of stolen property was of trifling value, prosecutors and their witnesses have been constantly put to the very serious inconvenience of having to travel long distances in order to attend the Court of a Full Power Magistrate who alone has jurisdiction under the present Law to hear charges preferred under the above quoted Section of the Indian Penal Code.

2. It has been suggested to the Honorable the Governor in Council that this evil can be remedied either by conferring full powers on a larger number of Magisterial Officers, or by an alteration of the existing Law by which cases of theft in a dwelling house shall be made triable by Officers exercising powers less than those of a Magistrate.

3. It appears to His Excellency in Council that some measures for remedying the inconvenience that has been felt in this Presidency are urgently called for, but before taking any steps with this object His Excellency in Council would wish to know whether similar difficulties in regard to the trial of persons charged with offences punishable under Section 380 of the Indian Penal Code have been felt in the Madras Presidency, and if so, how they have been remedied or how it has been proposed to remedy them; and I am desired, therefore, to request that you will, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, favor this Government with information on these points.

No. 149. ORDER THEREON, 12th March 1864, No. 355.

Referred to the Inspector General of Police and to the Magistrates of Vizagapatam, South Arcot, Coimbatore, South Canara and Malabar for early report.

(True Extract.)

*Chief Secretary.*

To the Inspector General of Police.

„ Magistrate of

Ezd. T. O'Connor.

N<sup>o</sup> 355 - 12<sup>th</sup> March 1864.

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The Inspector Genl.  
of Police.

Magistrate of

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