

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 434	Procg ~~Mis~~
290-291	
Dated 31-3-1864	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

3/4

1

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
31st March 1864.

No. 290. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, dated
22nd March 1864, No. 488.

*Communicate the sanction of Government
for the employment of a Sub-Magistrate
at Mercanum in the District of South
Arcot, at a cost of Rupees 86 per mensem,
as particularized in paragraph 3.*

(Vide Proceedings Revenue Department, dated
22nd March 1864, Nos. 250 & 251.)

No. 291. ORDER THEREON, 31st March 1864, No. 434.

To be recorded.

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

Ed. T. O'Connor.

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd March 1864.

No. 250. Read the following letter from the Honorable C. PELLY, Member of the Board of Revenue, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 9th March 1864, No. 1,688:—

Sir,

From Collector, dated 21st Dec. 1863, No. 2,728.
To do. dated 5th Jan. 1864, No. 1,655.
From do. dated 22nd Feb. 1864, No. 2,752.

I have the honor to submit, for the orders of Government, the correspondence noted in the margin, having reference to a proposition for the appointment of a Sub-Magistrate at Mercanum in the South Arcot District.

2. There are at present in the Tindivanam Talook in which Mercanum is situated, two or including the Talook Sheristadar three Magisterial Officers, viz., the Tahsildar and Sheristadar of Tindivanam and the Sub-Magistrate of Gingee. It is not, the Collector explains, so much on account of any particular pressure of work in the Talook that a Sub-Magistrate is required at Mercanum, as for the preservation of rights and for the protection against wrongs for which some resident authority is desirable. There are at present 276 villages with 98,000 persons under the immediate jurisdiction of the Tahsildar. The average number of cases brought before him for trial each month amounts to 22. The Sub-Magistrate of Gingee has jurisdiction over 273 villages containing a population of about 56,000 persons with an average of 16 cases a month. The cases from the Mercanum Division at present average only four monthly. But the distance of Mercanum is 22 miles, which is sufficient to prevent many from seeking redress which they would apply for if an officer were on the spot.

3. The population of the town is composed of two classes, one being very rich and the other very poor, and a most unusual amount of oppression is exercised by the former towards the latter, which would probably be brought before a resident Sub-Magistrate and put a stop to, and for this reason as well as for those in regard to the Salt revenue, (for Mercanum is a large Salt Depôt and the Salt Superintendent is not vested with Magisterial powers), Mr. Read strongly recommends the appointment of a Magisterial Officer at this locality. There are nearly 80 villages within the limits that would fall under the jurisdiction of the Sub-Magistrate, the inhabitants of which have now to travel a long way for redress. It is, I think, desirable that the extra aid solicited by the Collector should be granted, and I would therefore recommend for the sanction of Government the following Establishment of the lowest class for Mercanum:—

	RS.
1 Sub-Magistrate	50
1 Gumashta	12
1 Dufterbund	7
1 Massaljee and Sweeper	5
2 Peons at 6 Rs. each	12
6	86

4. In connection with this recommendation the Collector states that necessity may arise for an increase of Magisterial Officers in the Chidambaram and Cuddalore Talooks, where notwithstanding the utmost exertions of the Sub-Magistrates, it seems utterly impossible to dispose of the heavy arrears of Magisterial complaints. The subject is still under the consideration of the Collector.

5. It is not improbable that here and there some further Magisterial assistance may be required in some Districts, owing to large amount of work thrown on Magisterial Officers by the recent introduction of the Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes and the operations of the new Police. But time has hardly yet been allowed for determining what changes may be necessary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd March 1864.*

No. 251.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd March 1864, No. 488.

Under the circumstances brought to notice, the Governor in Council sanctions the employment of a Sub-Magistrate at Mercanum in the South Arcot District at a cost of Rupees 86 per mensem, as particularized in paragraph 3 of the foregoing letter.

(True Extract.)

eghaster

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Honorable C. Pelly.

" Board of Revenue.

" Accountant General.

" Civil Paymaster.

" Judicial Department. ✓

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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List of 3 April.

Judicial 1804 Dep't

Pro: of the Grand
Jury the Department
to Gov: in the Bureau
Department.

Dated 22nd March 1804
Received 24th 8^{re}—

to Gov: in the Bureau
No. 1488.

No. 573

Dep't
No. 1488

Communicate the
direction of Gov: for the employ-
ment of a Subaltern to be
at the Bureau and the (Subst.)
of the Bureau at a cost of
Supplies. 81 per Bureau as
particularized in Journal.

No. 484 is 4 March 1804.

To be recorded.

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