M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-20.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 945 Press ~~Mis~~

259-280

Dated 28 : 6 — ~~11~~ 1864

464.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 28th June 1864.

No. 259. Read the following letter from T. G. CLARKE, Magistrate of Police; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 20th June 1864, No. 86.

I have the honor to request that you will do me the favor to bring to the notice of Government that considerable inconvenience is felt at the Town Police Court, from there being only one Bench in the Court, while there are two Magistrates every day on duty, viz., myself and the fourth Magistrate, Mr. Campbell; whilst one Magistrate is presiding on the Bench, the other is obliged to convert his room into an open Court, when summarily adjudicating cases, without the convenience or protection of a Bench, or a railing, but merely an office table. When sitting ministerially, viz., as Justices of the Peace, in the investigation of charges for committal to the High Court, the Magistrates' rooms are always used for the purpose, because they can, in their discretion, prevent the over-crowding of the room, or clear it altogether of strangers, but they have no power to do so when exercising summary jurisdiction, as everybody has a right to enter, dependent upon good behaviour. I would therefore respectfully suggest the construction of another Bench in one of the rooms in the premises of the Police Court, on the same principle as the Small Cause Court, where each of the three Judges is provided with a separate Bench.

2. The room is not large, but it can easily be enlarged by taking in the verandah, and making some slight alterations, when sufficient space will be found for the Bench; and as it would remove the inconvenience at present felt, and the expense would be trifling compared with the advantage to be derived, I trust His Excellency in Council will be pleased to sanction the measure.

No. 260. ORDER THEREON, 28th June 1864, No. 945.

The Governor in Council is not prepared at present to sanction any expenditure on the building occupied by the Town Police Court.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Magistrate of Police, 1st District.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]