M.R.O. 1—29,000—16-10-57.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1515 Press Mis.

179-180.

Dated 25-10-1865 19 .

2/3

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 179. Read the following letter from the Magistrate of Malabar, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Tamberacherry, 20th September 1865, No. 121.

In G. O., dated the 13th instant, No. 1309, I am directed to submit, in a confidential letter, the names of any planters in Wynaad whom I would recommend to be appointed Honorary Magistrates.

2. If Honorary Magistrates are to be appointed at all, I think the gentlemen named in the margin would be amongst the best qualified to act as such, and that the powers of a 2nd Class Sub-Magistrate might be given in each case of appointment. I give the names after communication with Mr. Richardson, Deputy Collector of Wynaad, who is well acquainted with almost every planter.

Mr. T. Richmond.
Colonel A. W. Woolridge.
Mr. J. Minchin.
„ L. Miller.
Mr. J. Beaumont.
„ A. R. Hinde.
„ T. J. Ferguson.
„ A. C. Barnes.

3. But I am bound to say that I think there are many and various objections to the appointment of Honorary Magistrates in Wynaad at present; and if the arrangements, with respect to the official establishments, which I proposed in a late communication are introduced, I consider the step as unnecessary as undesirable.

4. The principal objections appear to me two-fold:—

Firstly.—Very few of the planters understand the Vernacular, or have any Magisterial training, or leisure to acquire it, or to discharge Magisterial functions efficiently.

Secondly.—The official Agency is, and will probably be maintained so as to be, quite competent to deal with ordinary Magisterial work—such as preliminary inquiries and committals in grave crimes, and trials and disposals of minor offences, such as petty thefts, assaults, trespasses and such like.

It is for the adjudication of a distinct and peculiar class of cases, viz., cases between employers and laborers, and for enforcement of contracts, solely, that increased Magisterial Agency is called for.

And I must unhesitatingly state my opinion that the appointment of Honorary Magistrates chosen solely from the ranks of the employers, *i. e.*, from one of the two classes whose conflicting interests or prejudices will form the sole subjects of trial, as will practically be the case in Wynaad, would be a measure that would not command the confidence of all classes, and that, consequently, would not work satisfactorily.

No. 180. ORDER THEREON, 25th October 1865, No. 1515.

Under the circumstances stated by the Magistrate, the Governor in Council does not deem it expedient at present to appoint any Honorary Magistrates in Wynaad.

(True Extract).

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Magistrate of Malabar.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Order thereon. 25 Oc 1865 — 1575.

Under the circumstances stated by the Magistrate, the Governor in Council does not deem it expedient at present to appoint any Honorary Magistrates in Wynaad.

Magistrate of Malabar 3 dec. Rs 27/60