M.R.O. 1—30,000—15-10-28.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 13 Press Mis.

21-22

Dated 4-1-1886.

5/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 21. Read the following letter from the Civil Judge of Chittoor; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Chittoor, 30th November 1865.

I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the propriety or otherwise of moving the District Moonsiff's Court from Vellore to Pallicondah.

2. In my letter* to the High Court of the 3rd October 1863, paragraph 11, I suggested that this transfer should take place, and the suggestion is referred to Government in their Proceedings of the 26th February 1864, No. 257, but no order was passed on the subject. My proposal, it should be observed, originated from the Order of Government, dated the 17th September 1863, No. 1497, wherein the question of retaining the Moonsiff's Court at Vellore was raised and deferred till the location of the Small Cause Court had been determined.

* Copy forwarded to Government.

3. The unfitness of the building now used as the District Moonsiff's Court House at Vellore has† long been admitted, and various proposals to locate the Court elsewhere have been the subject of a prolonged correspondence for seven years and upwards.

† Proceedings of Madras Government, 17th November 1858, No. 1631.

4. Sanction was granted by Government on the 1st June 1860, No. 680, for building a new Court House at Vellore at a cost of Rupees 2570. A long delay occurred in fixing upon a site for the building, and in disposing of other propositions as to the purchase of a house at Vellore for the same purpose, &c.; but the whole question was deferred, as above described, by Government in September 1863. The Government have‡ subsequently decided to retain the head quarters of the Small Cause Court permanently at Vellore; so at least I infer from their order quoted in the margin.

‡ 26th February 1864, No. 257.

5. After the receipt of the said order I applied§ to the Collector of North Arcot and was‖ informed that the only public building at Pallicondah, the late Taluq Cutcherry, had been made over to the Police, and on my again applying¶ to the Officer Commanding Vellore, he replied* that no public building was available at Vellore for a Moonsiff's Court.

§ 26th October 1864.
‖ 27th October 1864.
¶ 31st October 1864.
* 2nd November 1864.

6. I was, however,† led to believe that the building at Pallicondah was amply large enough for both the Police and the Judicial Departments, and having obtained‡ the consent of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, in charge of the office of the District Superintendent of Police, to a portion of the building being ceded to this Department, I addressed§ the Executive Engineer in charge of the Range, asking him to favor me with his opinion as to the best method of dividing the building and making it available for both Departments, &c., and with a plan and estimate of the cost.

† 27th March 1865.
‡ 10th April 1865.
§ 21st April 1865.

7. On the 18th instant, I received the aforesaid plan and estimate from the Superintending Engineer of the Division, and from these I find that a portion of the building is to be walled off for the use of the Police, and that the remainder will be available and afford abundant room for the District Moonsiff's Court at a cost of Rupees 270.

8. Having thus completed the necessary preliminary inquiries, it appeared to me that I could take no further step in the matter without the assent of the High Court. But as I have great doubts as to the advisability of transferring the District Moonsiff's Court from Vellore to Pallicondah, and cannot on further consideration recommend the transfer, I beg to submit to Government direct the grounds for my present opinion. I do so in continuation of the former correspondence on the subject. Should the proposed transfer of the Court be abandoned, no reference to the High Court may perhaps be considered necessary.

9. Pallicondah is within 12 miles of Vellore, and about two miles from the Railway station at Gudiattam, from which it is separated by a branch of the river Palar. It is slightly more central than Vellore with regard to the whole District under the District Moonsiff's jurisdiction. On the other hand, I am led to believe that the transfer would be distasteful to the public generally, who would much prefer that the Moonsiff's Court should remain at Vellore where accommodation for travellers is easily and abundantly procurable, whereas such facilities do not exist at Pallicondah. The latter, moreover, being a place of considerably less importance, has none of the attractions of Vellore. The change would also be a source of heavy expense to the low salaried Court servants.

10. The saving to Government by moving the Court to Pallicondah would amount, as above stated, to about Rupees 2300; but the actual outlay on a new building will be considerably less, as from the cost of it, Rupees 2570, must be deducted the value of the present Court House when sold, Rupees 1000 or 1200, as estimated by Mr. Harris.

11. It is very desirable that the question should be settled one way or another, as there can be no doubt of the exceeding inconvenience of the present Court House, owing to want of space inside the building and its confined position in the centre of a noisy bazaar. If the project of locating the Court elsewhere be abandoned, I would proceed with the inquiries as to the best method of procuring other accommodation for the Court at Vellore, either by the purchase of a suitable house, or the selection of a site for the new building.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1866, No. 13.

The Governor in Council is of opinion that the District Moonsiff's Court should be retained at Vellore, and requests that the Civil Judge of Chittoor will report at an early date the arrangements he would propose for providing better accommodation for the Court.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Civil Judge of Chittoor.

,, Honorable the Judges of the High Court.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Judicial Department

No. 2585

From the Civil Judge of Chittoor

Dated 30th November 1865.

For Orders

I would refer the Moonsiff's Court question and request the C. Judge to make early inquiry and report on the accommodation provided for the Court.

13.12.65

I am entirely of the above opinion - our S. Cause Court system can't, Pallicondah be accepted - abandoned as a permanent system. Let it stick on this trial

Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read letter from the
Civil Judge of Chittoor
(Dated 30th Nov.r 1865 No.)

Order. 4 January 1865 No. 13.

The Governor in Coun-
cil is of opinion that
the District Moonsiff's
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requests that the Civil
Judge of Chittoor will
~~make early enquiry~~
~~& report on the matter~~
~~the arrangements he would~~
~~accommodation to be~~
~~proper to provide, & to~~
~~provided for the Court~~
accommodation for the

Court.

To Civil Judge
of Chittoor.
and Judge of High Court

Judicial 1866 Departt.

No 13.

Proceedings of Govt

Dated 4th January 1866.

21.22.