M.R.O. 1—20,000—16-10-28.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 265 Press Mis.

195-196

Dated 21—2— 19 1868

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 195. Read the following letter from the Registrar General of Assurances, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 9th February 1866, No. 37.

I have the honor to report that a petition was forwarded to me, on the 30th March, by Narayana Pillay and other inhabitants of Trichinopoly, complaining that the Tahsildar attended to his registration duties only during three days of each week, and praying that a non-official might be appointed in his place.

2. The Deputy Registrar, on being called on for an explanation, denied that he only registered instruments on certain days, or that any delay had taken place in the registration of instruments in his office, and he declared himself perfectly able to carry on his registration duties in addition to his work as Tahsildar.

3. The District Registrar, in forwarding this explanation, stated that the complaints brought against this Officer, although somewhat exaggerated, were not entirely devoid of foundation, and that some unavoidable delay had taken place in the registration of instruments. He considered that there was sufficient registration work to occupy a single individual for six hours daily; and, accordingly, recommended that the duties should be transferred to Satchadanandum Pillay, the non-official Deputy Registrar of Keelapalur.

4. The Officiating Collector was also of opinion that a non-official Deputy Registrar should be appointed to Trichinopoly.

5. From the Returns it appeared that 180 registrations had taken place in the months of February, March, and April, which, at the rate of 25 working days in a month, would give $2\frac{1}{2}$ instruments per diem. Assuming that about 15 or 20 minutes would in most cases suffice for the inquiries necessary to the admission of an instrument to registration, and that the mechanical duty of copying, endorsing and indexing an instrument might, on an average, occupy a Clerk for an hour or an hour and a half, it appeared that there was hardly an hour's work a day for the Deputy Registrar, and not much more than three hour's work for his Clerk. The commission during these three months had averaged only Rupees 36-12-0.

6. In the meantime, the Tahsildar had been relieved of a portion of his registration work, as the Cantonment of Trichinopoly had been constituted a distinct Sub-District under the Cantonment Magistrate.

7. Under these circumstances, I considered that sufficient grounds had not been shown for the appointment of a non-official Deputy Registrar to Trichinopoly.

8. On the 6th November 1865, Ramasawmy Pillay and other inhabitants of Trichinopoly forwarded another petition on the same subject, complaining that parties having instruments to register were detained 10 or 15 days, in consequence of the heavy duties devolving on the Deputy Registrar.

9. From the Returns and the District Registrar's inquiries, it appears that these complaints are well founded, as several cases have occurred within the last four months in which 22 days have intervened between the presentment and registration of instruments. The Collector agrees with him in thinking that the work cannot

be performed by the Tahsildar, and that a non-official must be appointed, with jurisdiction over a portion of the tract now under the Tahsildar.

Months.	Registrations	Fees. Rs.	A.	P.
January	..	..	..	..
February	36	47	8	0
March	90	93	1	0
April	54	79	12	0
May	241	180	12	0
June	257	200	4	0
July	285	181	12	0
August	184	192	8	0
September	225	147	0	0
October	207	320	8	0
November	326	141	4	0
December	255	317	12	0

10. The Statement in the margin shows the number of instruments registered and fees collected during each month of the year 1865. It will be observed that since April there has been an enormous increase in the number of registrations, the average of the last eight months being 255, and that the fees now are quite sufficient to admit of a competent non-official being appointed to this office.

11. I beg, therefore, that I may be permitted to insert an advertisement in the *Fort Saint George Gazette*, inviting applications for this post from graduates of the Madras University, on the same terms as were sanctioned with regard to the Deputy Registrarship of Madura.

No. 196. ORDER THEREON, 21st February 1866, No. 265.

The Governor in Council approves of the proposition contained in the last paragraph of the foregoing letter.

(True Extract).

To the Registrar General of Assurances.

Ed. J. H. Burns.

Pro No. 115-117
13.12.65

21st February 1866 No 265

The Governor in Council approves of the proposition contained in the last para of the foregoing letter

The Registrar General of Assurances to be informed