M.R.O. 1—50,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 397 Press Mis.

129-131

Dated 17— 3— ~~18~~ 1886

4/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
17*th March* 1866.

Read the following papers:—

No. 129. From the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, 13th January 1866, No. 431.

Home Department.

The Indian Succession Act, Act X of 1865, came into operation on the first day of January, instant. With reference to the provisions of Section 259, which treats of the filing and custody of Wills, I am directed by the Governor General in Council to suggest that every District Judge, or Officer exercising equivalent powers (as defined in Section 3 of the Act,) may be provided with an iron chest for the safe custody of Wills, and that he may be instructed to place the chest in the Collectorate Treasury of the District under the Treasury guard. A tabular Statement should be furnished, showing the probable cost of the arrangement, in order that the necessary funds may be provided, should no money be available for this purpose, from other heads in the Budget for 1865-66.

Referred to the Registrar General of Assurances, who will be good enough to furnish a Statement, showing the probable cost of furnishing each Zillah Court with an iron cash chest. Major Macdonald having been recently engaged in procuring fire-proof boxes, is requested to report how those required for the Zillah Courts may best be procured.

Fort Saint George,
20*th February* 1866.

(Signed) C. G. WALKER,
Under Secretary to Government.

No. 130. From the Registrar General of Assurances, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 22nd February 1866, No. 53.

I have the honor, with reference to the Government Order of the 20th instant, to enclose one of Messrs. Chubb and Company's price lists.

2. The District Registrar of Madras was furnished with an upright Safe, No. 28A, of which there is no drawing in this list, but which exactly corresponds with No. 28, page 4, with the exception that it is made with a couple of shelves only in place of the fittings shown in the drawing, and resembles in appearance the Safe marked 17. The cost of it was £39-10-0, or, including shipping charges, £43-17-9. It will hold upwards of 2000 Wills.

3. The Safes ordered for the other District Registrars are of size No. 17, page 3. The cost of each was £17-10-0. Twenty-one of these safes, including shipping charges, cost £407-10-0. A Safe of this size will hold about 800 Wills.

4. The District Registrars of the North-West Provinces have been supplied with Safes of the size marked No. 10, the cost of which is £12-15-0.

5. It is not easy to form any estimate of the number of Wills, for the custody of which provision should be made under Section 259 of Act X of 1865. In the absence of any data on the subject, some medium size would seem to be appropriate, and probably No. 17 will be found fully sufficient for the purposes required.

6. Mr. Bayley's letter and the Government Order both refer to chests, but Messrs. Chubb and Company state that upright Safes are generally preferred to chests, because the door is so much easier to open than a lifting lid. The largest sized box shaped article made by them is 2 feet 6 inches long × 2 feet wide, and 1 foot 10

Price

inches deep, which dimensions are, it will be observed, exactly the same as those of Safe No. 17, but the lid is as much as any person of average strength can lift, and might be beyond the strength of an ordinary Native.

No. 131. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Fort Saint George, 17th March 1866, No. 397.

With reference to your letter of the 13th January last, No. 431, suggesting that every District Judge should be furnished with an iron chest for the safe custody of Wills filed under Section 259 of the Indian Succession Act, I am directed by the Governor in Council to forward herewith a tabular Statement, showing the cost of 22 medium sized Safes of the description represented by the drawing No. 17 in the accompanying price list of Messrs. Chubb and Company. The total cost of these Safes amounts, it will be seen, to £427 inclusive of shipping charges.

2. At the same time I am directed to request attention to the 3rd paragraph of the Proceedings of this Government, dated 10th instant, No. 361, submitted with my letter of the same date, suggesting the insertion of a Section in the new Registration Bill, constituting the Registrar's office an office for the public registry of Wills for the purposes contemplated in the Indian Succession Act, whereby the necessity and expense of providing two sets of iron Safes for almost the same purpose would be obviated.

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

STATEMENT showing the cost of Iron Safes required to be furnished to the Zillah Judges for the safe custody of Wills.

Zillahs.	Cost of Safes, Size No. 17. £.	s.	d.
Bellary.....	17	10	0
Berhampore...	17	10	0
Calicut...	17	10	0
Chingleput	17	10	0
Chittoor...	17	10	0
Coimbatore	17	10	0
Cuddalore...	17	10	0
Cuddapah...	17	10	0
Guntoor...	17	10	0
Madura...	17	10	0
Mangalore...	17	10	0
Nellore...	17	10	0
Nundial...	17	10	0
Ootacamund...	17	10	0
Rajahmundry...	17	10	0
Salem...	17	10	0
Tanjore...	17	10	0
Tellicherry...	17	10	0
Tinnevelly...	17	10	0
Tranquebar...	17	10	0
Trichinopoly...	17	10	0
Vizagapatam...	17	10	0
	385	0	0
Shipping charges ...	42	0	0
Total...	427	0	0

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Copied per French Steamer "Longmanite"

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,

Home Department.

Judicial Department.

No. 397

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 13th January last, No. 431, suggesting that every District Judge should be furnished with an Iron Chest for the safe custody of Wills filed under Section 259 of the Indian Succession Act, I am directed by the Governor in Council to forward herewith a tabular Statement showing the cost of 22 medium sized Safes of the description represented by the drawing No. 17 in the accompanying Price

Price List of Messrs Chubb and Company. The total cost of these Safes, amounts, it will be seen, to 427£ inclusive of Shipping charges.

2. At the same time I am directed to request attention to the 3d para of the Proceedings of this Government dated 20th instant No 364, submitted in the my letter of the same date, suggesting the insertion of a Section in the new Registration Bill, constituting the Registrars Office an Office for the public registry of wills for the purposes contemplated in the Indian Succession Act whereby the necessity and

and Expense of providing two sets of Iron Safes for almost the same purpose would be obviated.

Fort St. George
17 March 1865

Letters Issued.

1.

Judicial 1866 Departt.

N°397

To

The Secretary to the Govt.
of India

Dated 17 March 1866.

F.D. 74 & 210 7/67