M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 672 Press Mis.

4-35

Dated 3 . 5 . 19-1866

3/3

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 34. Read the following letter from the Civil and Session Judge of Salem, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Salem, 7th April 1866, No. 3.

With reference to note 1 annexed to I. A., Judicial Test, Civil, Higher Grade, and a similar note annexed to II. A. Judicial Test, Criminal, Higher Grade, to the effect that the examination will be conducted in English, unless for special reasons any candidate is permitted by Order of Government to pass in the Vernacular, I have the honor to enclose for the Orders of Government, an application from some of the Ministerial Officers of this Court for permission to be examined according to the said Test in the tamil language. The reasons for this application are fully stated in the application. It is only necessary for me to add—compliance or non-compliance with the request being entirely in the discretion of the Government—that it is quite true that the applicants have little or no leisure, the Court sitting from half past ten till half past six, and often later, even to prepare themselves for the examination in their own vernacular, much less to acquire a new language in which to pass such examination.

To C. F. CHAMIER, Esq.,

Civil and Session Judge of Salem.

The Memorial of the undersigned servants on your Establishment.

Respectfully Sheweth,

That many of your Memorialists have been entertained in the Government service about the year 1843, when the new system was introduced, and long before 1859 ; that many of your Memorialists, while at a time the test prescribed for the District Moonsiffs was easy, they held themselves in readiness to present themselves for examination before the Divisional Committee, have been unfortunately prevented from doing so, as they could not obtain leave from their then superiors, owing to the pressing nature of their business, and to the difficulty which then existed of filling up their places, though temporarily, by competent persons. Had they then obtained permission, they would have ere long passed the necessary examination and been appointed Moonsiffs. But your Memorialists now find the test prescribed for the District Moonsiff to be too hard and calculated to exclude many of them not acquainted with the English language from the benefit of the examination ; whilst those acquainted with English have scarcely any time left for preparing themselves fully, and in fact some of your Memorialists have failed in their attempt to pass in consequence of the very reason of the want of sufficient time to devote themselves to the careful study of the different subjects prescribed for the examination ; moreover, the distance between the Court House and the town, where your Memorialists live, is nearly 2½ miles, and they have scarcely time enough in the morning to take their meals and attend the Court, and in the evening to return home and take their supper—the hour of attendance being, under the Rules, fixed from half past ten till sunset, thus to devote a sufficient portion of their private time to their study being rendered impossible.

2. Under these circumstances, your Memorialists respectfully crave that you will be so good as to recommend to Government that they may be allowed to pass their examination in Tamil.

And your Memorialists shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

(Signed) T. G. DEVOOROOYOPEN,
and others.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
3rd May 1866.

No. 35. ORDER THEREON, 3rd May 1866, No. 672.

The Governor in Council considers a knowledge of English so essential for the higher offices for which the Special Test Examinations have been prescribed, that, except under very special circumstances, he is unwilling to sanction a departure from the Rule which requires that the Examination shall be ordinarily conducted in English.

2. The Governor in Council accordingly declines to accede to the present application.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Civil and Session Judge of Salem.
" Commissioner for the Uncovenanted Civil Service Examinations.

Ed. E. H. Lee.

3rd May 1866 No. 672.

The Governor in Council considers a knowledge of English so essential for the higher Offices for which the Special Test Examinations have been prescribed that except under very special circumstances, he is unwilling to sanction a departure from the Rule which requires that the Examination shall be ordinarily conducted in English.

The Gov. in Council accordingly declines to accede to the present application.

To Civil & S. J. Salem
" Comm. U. C. S. Ex.