

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

155-156	G.O. No.	1825	Press
			~~Mis~~
	Dated	13-11-1867	

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
13th November 1867.*

No. 155. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th October 1867, No. 6355.

Read letter from the Acting Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue; dated Sydapet, 5th September 1867, No. 288.

The report promised in paragraph 3 of Mr. Burnell's letter to the Board, No. 127, of the 23rd May last, on the new Cutcherry at Madurantakum, in reply to the Board's Proceedings of the 22nd September 1866, No. 6815, has now been submitted by that Officer. I have the honor to forward it, in original, to the

Vide Board's No. 3957, of 27th June 1867.

Board. The state of the building has already been under the notice of the Sub-Jail Committee, and the requisite alterations have been determined on and sanctioned.

From A. C. BURNELL, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Madras, to the Acting Collector of Madras; dated Chingleput, 27th August 1867, No. 153.

In reply to your letter, dated 17th ultimo, No. 466, I have the honor to report as follows on the Madurantakum Taluq Cutcherry. As to the Cutcherry generally, I consider that it is totally unsuitable, and that it was clearly designed by persons who did not know what a Taluq Cutcherry is required for, and who have managed to produce the most inefficient building at the greatest possible cost.

2. A pretence of making the building capable of defence is clearly at the bottom of the chief defects, but I am at a loss to understand how the designees could imagine that a low building of brick and mud would stand an attack for an hour.

3. The building is unventilated, and the rooms, or rather verandahs, are in consequence like ovens: not a breath of air can enter, and, to make them still more unsuitable for Cutcheries, &c., the sunshine cannot be kept out, owing to defective construction of the outer verandah. The amount of accommodation is totally inadequate; all the different departments are huddled together in a way that renders it all but impossible to transact business. The Goomastahs are obliged to change their places perpetually to get out of the sun, and are nearly blinded by the glare. As there is no basement, the least rain renders the floor so damp as to make the place positively unhealthy, and to keep all the records so musty that they cannot last.

4. As there is only one door, the people coming in and out get hustled and delayed, and inside they have no room to stand and wait their turn, though the confusion and noise makes more than usual delay. The crowd, the confusion, the noise, and the glare and heat make up a scene which baffles description: it is a farce, and not an administration of justice.

5. There is a well; but, as might have been expected, it is worse than useless, except for ablutions, which defile the Court-yard. The parapet is not high enough, and the well is consequently dangerous at night.

6. I consider that it is worse than useless to erect such Cutcheries as the Madurantakum one. Officials will naturally shirk doing work in them, and we really cannot blame them very much.

7. In conclusion, I have only to remark that I hear it is intended to enlarge the Subsidiary Jail which forms part of the building. If this plan is carried out, some other place must be provided for the officials, as the space is already insufficient which is provided for them. That the Sub-Jail requires improvement I have no doubt; I should think that the damp floor alone would cause an astonishing amount of sickness, but this improvement cannot be effected by enhancing the sufferings of the taluq officials.

**Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
13th November 1867.**

Submitted to Government in continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated
6th June 1867, No. 3470.

(True Copies and Extract).

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Secretary.

To the Secy. to Govt., Revenue Department.

Transferred to the Judicial Department, with reference to G. O., No. 1155,
dated 20th July 1867, in that Department.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

24th October 1867.

Secy. to Govt., R. D.

No. 156.

ORDER THEREON, 13th November 1867, No. 1825.

To be recorded.

(True Extract).

R. S. ELLIS,

Chief Secretary.

22 June 1867 No. 13-214
21 July 1867 No. 61-102
20 July 1867 No. 223-224

*Hugh
Law*

1867.

Department.

No. 2697.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 5th October 1867.

*Despatch
Recd. 10th
Dec 25-*

No. 6355.

W. H. Ellis
No. 2503

Submitting to Government letter from Ac-
ting Collector of Madras forwarding Sub-Col-
lector's report on the new Cutcherry at Madu-
rantakum.

13th November 1867 No. 1825.

*Transferred
to Revenue*

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