

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Indicil DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2053	Press
		<u>MIS.</u>
Dated	13 - 12 - 1867	

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 171. Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Coimbatore, 29th November 1867, No. 116.

By request of the Joint Magistrate of Ootacamund, I beg to forward the accompanying original letter, regarding the appointment of the clerks in his office, for the favorable reconsideration of Government.

2. The circumstances of the Hills are exceptional. Few Natives of character can be found to accept office on the Hills at the low rates of pay available in the Joint Magistrate's Office, except with a view to getting into the Public Service, and, when once in, to getting away from the Hills on the very first opportunity.

3. Mahomed Jehangeer, whom the Joint Magistrate proposes to appoint as 2nd Clerk, has been on the Hills for several years, and has petitioned me, over and over again, to be transferred to the low country, but I have always refused to accede to his request, as, in the event of the 2nd Clerk being promoted, I looked to him to succeed, and, therefore, kept him in the Joint Magistrate's office, in order that he might, from his experience, be fit to undertake the 2nd Clerk's work. A Magistrate's Clerk on the Hills requires a knowledge of Tamil, Telugu, Canarese, Hindoostanee, and Toda languages. A knowledge of English, which Mahomed Jehangeer possesses, is also of importance.

4. Ramiah, the clerk in the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry, and who the Joint Magistrate recommends should be allowed to act as 3rd Clerk, was appointed as Goomastah on 15 Rupees in the Sub-Magistrate's Office in Ootacamund in 1863, when unpassed candidates were allowed to hold permanent appointments of 25 Rupees per mensem, but, in October 1866, an order that, after the 1st June 1867, no unpassed candidates could hold a permanent appointment, unless the salary was less than 20 Rupees, was passed. The Joint Magistrate requests that Government will waive the latter order in favor of Ramiah, and I shall be glad if it can be done.

From the Joint Magistrate of Ootacamund, to the Collector and Magistrate of Coimbatore; dated Ootacamund, 27th November 1867, No. 111.

Adverting to Government Order, dated 12th November 1867, No. 1812, forwarded with your letter, No. 336, of the 18th instant, I have the honor again to address you, with reference to my letter, No. 97, of the 22nd October last, hoping that you will be so good as to submit the subject for the favorable reconsideration and sanction of Government.

2. I am aware that there are many candidates who have passed the General Test Examination, but I have a great objection to sending to the low country for an individual to come to Ootacamund to fill the situation of 2nd Clerk in my Court, passed though he may be, because he might have no practical experience in Magisterial work. He would in all probability dislike the climate of Ootacamund; become discontented; and, instead of taking any interest in his duties in my Court, he would be doing his utmost to obtain an appointment in the low country, even on a salary lower than that of my 2nd Clerk, so that my establishment would, under such circumstances, be subject to constant change, and the Joint Magistrate put to much unnecessary inconvenience.

3. I need hardly remind you that the Court of the Joint Magistrate of Ootacamund is not as it used to be three years ago. The work has increased since 11th December 1864, the date of my arrival at Ootacamund, fifty per cent., owing, I believe, to the Indian Penal Code and Criminal Breach of Contract Act, and also to the increase of population, so that my clerks should be trustworthy and experienced in Magisterial work. My 2nd Clerk, Sooba Row, whom I mentioned in my letter, No. 97, dated 22nd October last, to your address, as having gone to Goodaloor, to act as Sub-Magistrate, was most efficient: he could interpret fluently in Hindoostanee, Tamil, Telugu,

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Canarese, and the Toda and Burgher languages, all of which are spoken at Ootacamund, and frequently used in my Court. Sooba Row's departure, therefore, is a great loss to my Court. His small pay, 40 Rupees a month was no inducement for him to remain. Ootacamund is peculiarly situated: it is much disliked by clerks in general, and almost all of them are doing their utmost to exchange to the low country; it is a species of banishment to them. I would, therefore, strongly recommend to Government that the two clerks in my Court be paid as the 1st and 2nd Clerks of the Magistrate's Office at Wellington, where I imagine the duties are much less than those of the Joint Magistrate's Court of Ootacamund; such increase might induce good men to remain at Ootacamund. I may here mention that the 1st Clerk, Rungapah, is quite separate from my Court, and is entirely occupied in the office of Special Assistant Collector at Ootacamund.

4. As a further argument in favor of Mahomed Jehangeer being permitted by Government to act on full pay as my 2nd Clerk, and of Ramiah to act as 3rd Clerk, both pending the result of the next examination, I would here mention that they are both experienced in Magisterial work, accustomed for five years to the Neilgherry climate, and that they are much more likely to give me satisfaction than a stranger unaccustomed both to the climate and to the duties of my Court; besides which, they can interpret in Hindoostanee, Tamil, Telugu, Canarese, and the Toda and Burgher languages, which most probably a stranger from the plains would be unable to do.

5. Should Government accede to my request, that Mahomed Jehangeer and Ramiah be appointed acting pending the result of the next examination in February 1868, they are quite content to serve on the pay sanctioned by the Rules, namely, Mahomed Jehangeer 25 Rupees a month (his own pay as 3rd Clerk), and Ramiah on 19 Rupees a month, total 44 Rupees a month, which would cause a saving of 21 Rupees a month, the full pay of the two Clerks being 65 Rupees a month. At the same time, I would recommend full pay being given to them in this expensive station.

6. In conclusion, I would remark that no passed native candidates to fill the vacancies in my Court are to be had on the Neilgherry Hills, and that Ramiah, aforesaid, was appointed Goomastah in the office of the Sub-Magistrate at Ootacamund on a salary of 15 Rupees a month early in 1863, at a time when the Order of Government was that an unpassed candidate could obtain a permanent appointment on a salary not exceeding 25 Rupees per month, whilst an order was issued in June 1867 that no one unpassed could fill a permanent appointment, unless the salary of the same were under 20 Rupees a month. Under these circumstances, I would respectfully submit that Ramiah might be permitted to hold an appointment of 25 Rupees without passing.

No. 172. ORDER THEREON, 13th December 1867, No. 2053.

Under the circumstances represented in the foregoing letters, the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the arrangements made by the Joint Magistrate of Ootacamund for filling up the appointments of 2nd and 3rd Clerk in his office until the result of the examination in February next is known.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Magistrate of Coimbatore.

„ Accountant General.

„ Commissioner for the Uncovenanted Civil Service Examinations.

Ed. J. H. Burns.

13 Dec 1867 No. 2053.
Under the circumstances as
presented in the foregoing letters
the Governor in Council is pleased
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Ootacamund for filling up
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The Government have not
been informed whether any steps
have been taken by the Joint
Magistrate to invite passed Candi-
dates to the 2^d & 3^d Clerkships either
by advertisement or by direct
communication. It is shown in the District or Sub-District
from para 2 of Gazette-
letter of 27th Nov. 1867. It was
by the Magistrate of Coimbatore. It was
advised that the Government had not advertised
for the 2^d & 3^d Clerkships. It was
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