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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,  
20th February 1867.*

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No. 160. Read the following letter from the Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Madras, Appellate Side, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 12th February 1867, No. 10.

In their Proceedings of the 19th August 1862, No. 1754, Revenue Department, the Government directed that the Shevaroy Hills should be placed under the charge of a Deputy Tahsildar, with the powers of a Subordinate Magistrate and District Moonsiff, on Rupees 150 per mensem. Great difficulty seems to have been experienced in finding an Officer with the requisite Revenue and Magisterial qualifications willing to accept the office. As to judicial fitness, the High Court have been constrained to accept the nominations of the Collector, stipulating only that the nominees should pass the prescribed test before being confirmed. Even then, the Civil Judge writes, "The person last appointed resigned almost immediately after he had entered upon his duties, and the Court has been since closed for about four months."

2. The judicial work arising on the Shevaroy Hills is inconsiderable. In the 1st quarter of last year there were three suits pending, but no work was done; probably that was another interval in which there was no one to do it: the 2nd quarter saw two of those suits and three Small Causes disposed of: the 3rd, eight suits and three Small Causes, since which, as already stated, the Court has been closed.

3. The Judges are of opinion that the Civil jurisdiction over the Shevaroy Hills should be re-transferred to the District Moonsiff of Salem, but they are unwilling to issue orders to that effect without consulting Government by whom the Special Court was established. The Salem Moonsiff might be required to visit the Hills once in three months (or oftener if desired by the Civil Judge) for the final disposal of cases set down for trial, but all other proceedings, in the opinion of the High Court, should be conducted at Salem. The aversion to the Hills entertained by the classes from which District Moonsiffs are drawn, precludes all likelihood of the visits to Yercaud being made too frequently or unduly prolonged.

4. I am directed to inquire whether the Government see any objection to the above proposals. If not, the High Court will issue the necessary order without delay.

No. 161. ORDER THEREON, 20th February 1867, No. 264.

Under the circumstances stated, the Governor in Council sees no objection to the proposals made in the foregoing letter.

(True Extract).

*Chief Secretary.*

To the Honorable the Judges of the High Court.

„ Collector of Salem.

„ Revenue Department.

Erd. J. Tulloch.

20<sup>th</sup> February 1867 N<sup>o</sup> 264

Under the circumstances  
stated, the Governor in  
Council sees no objection to  
the proposals made in the  
foregoing letter.

W. M.

To the Hon. the Judges of the High Court  
Colt of Salem  
Revenue Department } despatch 23/2

P. No: 17<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>r</sup> 1862 ch 232 to  
234. ✓

J 20<sup>th</sup> April 1860 ch 32-33.  
" 29<sup>th</sup> June 1861 ch 224 & 225  
" 11<sup>th</sup> July " ch 91-92.