

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	489	Press <u>Mis</u>
Dated	23. 3. 1986	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 288. Read the following letter from C. R. PELLY, Esq., Civil Judge of Nellore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Nellore, 12th March 1867, No. 19.

In acknowledging receipt of Government Order, Judicial Department, dated 7th instant, No. 370, subjoined to Proceedings, Public Works Department, of the 14th ultimo, I have the honor to state as follows.

2. The unclaimed property referred to is that left by persons dying intestate, temporarily taken charge of under Clause

7, Section 16, Regulation III of 1802. The Heads of the Villages where such persons demise transmit the property to

the nearest District Moonsiff, who takes charge, and retains the property until sanction of Government for its disposal by public auction has been received. The above course is necessitated by there being no funds at my disposal to meet the expenses of carriage to this Court; and, even if there were, it would frequently happen that the sale proceeds would not suffice to cover expenditure on the above account. On reference to the List for 1865, I find that of 27 estates, the total number taken charge of as above, no less than 12 were under a Rupee in value, while the whole varied from 0-1-3 to Rupees 14-14-0. The greater part of the jurisdiction of the late Caligiri Court is now included in that of the Ongole Court; there is, consequently, an increase in the quantity of property of the above description received by the latter; and though, as I have observed, this, as a rule, is of little value, it does not follow that it is insignificant in bulk. On reference to the List for 1865 (that for 1866 has not yet been completed), I find it comprises the following articles:—Tobacco, wooden tubs, date mats, old cloths, cumblies, shoes, agricultural implements, baskets, stools for sitting on, country cots, brass vessels, measures, grain, boxes, bottles of Ganges' water, pictures, and cavity sticks with baskets on each side, used by pilgrims from Benares. All the above take up room; and every addition becomes of importance when the entire accommodation for the Court and Establishment, Vakeels and Public, is comprised in "two small rooms and a small centre hall."

3. The records of suits disposed of are not retained by the District Moonsiff; they are forwarded at the close of each

month to the Civil Court and placed in my Record Rooms. The records referred

to by the District Moonsiff, of which mention is made in my letter (exclusive of correspondence) comprise those of Suits under examination, and connected with Decrees in the course of execution. When execution is applied for, the District Moonsiff makes application to me for the record; this is thereupon forwarded to him, and he retains it until it is fully executed, and then returns it to my records. The file of the Ongole Court, however, is very heavy—above 1000 Suits per annum. The records of the current Suits and those connected with Decrees under execution are thus numerous, and occupy no inconsiderable portion of the very limited space available. None of the above can be destroyed.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23rd March 1867.

4. The destruction of the records of the late Caligiri and Ongole Courts for the last 22 years, viz., from 1815 to 1837, has been completed; the orders in force relative to the destruction of records, both Criminal and Civil, have been carried into

"And whether any of these belonging to either the Ongole or the Caligiri Court have been destroyed, under the orders in force, during the last three years, and if not, why not."

effect; and to prevent possible remissness on the part of the Record-keepers in discharge of this part of their duty, I require each to submit a monthly report showing progress. The orders referred to relieve my record rooms; and have obviated the necessity for application on my part for increased accommodation, but do not affect any of the District Moonsiffs, whose records, with the exception of those specified in paragraph 3, are in each instance forwarded monthly to my Court.

No. 289.

ORDER THEREON, 23rd March 1867, No. 489.

To be recorded.

A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Pro. 7th March 1867 No. 30-81.

Judicial Dept

From Secy. 23rd March 1867

The Civil Judge

Mellore

The Chief Secretary
of Government

Ant. St. George

Dated 12th March
1867

Recd.

No 550
Replying to G.O.
Judicial Depart-
ment of the 7th
Instant No 370
relative to the
additional ac-
commodation ap-
plied for by the
Ongole Moonsiff

N.

489 of 23rd March 1867

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