M.R.O. 1—77,006—3-6-37.

(1) Number of pages.

(2) Date of repair.

(3) Initials of the Referencer.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2536 Press Mis.

114-115

Dated 6-11- 1936.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

15

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 6th November 1866.

No. 114. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department:—

Disapproving of the course taken by the Collector of South Arcot in publishing in the District Gazette a statement which conveyed a reflection on Captain Swanston and Mr. Harington. } (Here enter 22nd October 1866, No. 2,846.)

No. 115. ORDER THEREON, 6th November 1866, No. 3,536.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 15. Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustine

No. 489. Read the following letter from Captain W. O. SWANSTON, Superintendent of Police, and W. S. HARINGTON, Esq., Executive Engineer, Cuddalore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Cuddalore, 4th October 1866 :—

1. We have the honor to forward a copy of the "South Arcot District Gazette," of the 29th ultimo, issued under the authority of the Collector, and beg to draw your attention to page 384 of the same, containing a report of the proceedings of the South Arcot Relief Fund Committee, and to protest against the insertion, by Mr. Reade in an official Gazette, of the last paragraph of the report.

2. You will observe that the only resolution put had been carried, and that, in fact, the business of the Meeting had terminated. Any insertion of further conversation was wholly uncalled for, and the publication, in this prominent manner, of our names can only be considered as an intentionally most insulting reflection upon us.

3. Had Mr. Reade had the candor at the same time that he drew this public attention to us, (for he must have been well aware of the publicity of the notice, copies of the Gazette being circulated throughout the Presidency,) to have stated the grounds upon which we objected to be bound by the resolution, we should not have considered the matter worthy of remark; he has, however, kept back the fact that we both stated that, in our tours through the District, we had happily met with no instances of distress, and that we had reason to believe that there was very little distress strictly so-called. We also objected to the outlay on public works of money subscribed in aid of famine, when famine or severe distress did not, as we believed, exist, and when if the money were expended, it would be on hale, able-bodied men, and not on famine-stricken wretches, for whose latter sakes the relief was being contributed, and we therefore demurred to the collection and expenditure of money for what we considered an improper end.

4. That Mr. Reade or the majority of the Meeting should have differed with us, we have no reason to complain, nor, had Mr. Reade been the Editor of a public newspaper, should we have had any good reason for objecting to the mention he has thought proper to make of our names, but we respectfully submit that he has far exceeded the due limits of official reporting, and that the manner in which he has introduced our names was most improper.

5. We have, therefore, the honor to request that you will submit this matter for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, hoping that His Lordship may see fit to direct that Mr. Reade be informed that the District Gazette is not intended to be the medium of conveying "conversations," or, as we respectfully submit, the channel of circulation of injurious reflections on the characters of individuals.

No. 490. ORDER THEREON, 22nd October 1866, No. 2,846.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Governor in Council considers that the course taken by Mr. Reade in publishing in the District Gazette a statement which conveyed a reflection on two gentlemen, unaccompanied as it was by any allusion to the reasons assigned by them for objecting to pay their subscriptions to the Relief Fund, was very improper.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of South Arcot.
,, Captain W. Swanston.
,, the Board of Revenue.
To W. Harington, Esq.
,, the Department Public Works.
,, the Inspector General of Police.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

P. W. 1866 & E. 1st

Pro. of Govt. Store Keeper
No 4464

Pro. of the address Book
in the Revenue Depts

Dft 22 Oct
Rec'd 2 Nov 1866

No 2846.

Disapproving
of the course taken by
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Mr. Harington.

Recorded
No 3536 - 6th Nov 1866

pp 114 - 115

No 3536

Recorded

Genl. St. George
6th Nov 1866