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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2274	Press Mis.
67-72	
Dated 26. 7.	18-7.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

6/11/13
7/11/13

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th July 1867.*

No. 671. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Ecclesiastical Department:—

Passing orders on an application from the
Reverend J. B. Pierron for a grant to assist
in completing the Roman Catholic Church at } (Here enter 18th July 1867, No. 163.)
Ootacamund in the Coimbatore District.

No. 672. ORDER THEREON, 26th July 1867, No. 2,274.

ACCOUNT, No. 51.

Communicated to the Superintend-
ing Engineer of the 7th Division for
information.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Ecclesiastical Department,
18th July 1867.

No. 27. Read the following letter from the Very Reverend S. FENNELLY, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Catholic Cathedral, Madras, 1st July 1867, No. 2.

I have the honor to forward, for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, a letter to your address from the Reverend J. B. Pierron, the Roman Catholic Clergyman at Ootacamund, who solicits aid from Government to finish a Church at that place on which he has already expended Rupees 7000. There is no suitable place of worship at Ootacamund for the accommodation of the resident Catholics, one hundred of whom are Government servants, or of the large number of Government servants who occasionally visit the Hills on business or for health. After all local resources have been exhausted, Mr. Pierron naturally looks to Government for assistance; and the liberal way in which a similar application for aid to build a second Protestant Church on the Hills has been recently dealt with, encourages him to hope that Government will be graciously pleased to assist him to complete his Church.

From Reverend J. B. PIERRON, M. A., Roman Catholic Missionary, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 29th June 1867.

I beg to submit the following circumstances for the favorable consideration of Government.

2. The present Roman Catholic Chapel at Ootacamund being in a state of decadence and totally inadequate to accommodate the numerous Roman Catholics at the station, has induced me to undertake the building of a new Church. Its erection was commenced in the year 1859, and ever since I have struggled hard by means of public subscriptions and other resources at my disposal to push it on so far as to raise the walls to their entire height. I am now denuded of all funds and have no further immediate prospect wherewith to complete the Church, except to seek it at the hands of a kind and liberal Government.

The estimate for erecting the Church is Rupees...	15,000
I have already spent upon it, from public subscription, &c...	7,000
To finish the Church, I require...	8,000
The total number of Native congregation is...	1,800
Do. Europeans and East Indians...	150

about 100 of these are in the service of Government.

There are also about 185 Natives employed by Government.

3. In the summer particularly there are always a great influx of visitors, consisting of Officers, Civil and Military, Government servants of various public offices, &c., and the present Chapel is totally inadequate to accommodate them. Ladies and gentlemen, who by their position in Society are entitled to distinction, are obliged to be mixed up with the Natives.

4. I may yet raise a subscription of 3000 Rupees, but this from past experience will be a work of time; what I immediately need, are funds to cover the Church; for I apprehend leaving the erections in their present state,

(viz., Rupees 5000).

exposed to the weather, will cause to them destruction.

5. Under the above circumstances, I earnestly solicit the Right Honorable the Governor in Council will, as a special case, graciously be pleased to sanction a Grant-in-aid, to enable me to execute the necessary works to the Church, for which I shall be ever grateful.

No. 28. ORDER THEREON, 18th July 1867, No. 163.

The Governor in Council considers that the circumstances of Ootacamund are exceptional, and that a very strong case has been made out for the assistance of the State towards providing a suitable place of worship for the large number of Roman Catholics at that station. The Church has been commenced, and the subscriptions collected are large when the condition of the community from which they are drawn is remembered. Many of the European and East Indian Roman

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Ecclesiastical Department,
18th July 1867.

Catholics on the Hills are persons in the employment of Government on small salaries, and the majority of the Native Roman Catholics are the servants of English Officers, Civil and Military, who resort to the Hills for the recovery of their health, or petty Shop-keepers attracted to the station by the European visitors.

2. It is probable that unless timely assistance be given by the Government for the completion of the Church, it will be seriously damaged by the climate, and the Roman Catholic congregation will remain for a long time as they are at present, without any suitable place of public worship.

3. Under these circumstances the Governor in Council resolves to submit this application to the Government of India, and to recommend that, as a special case, a grant of 4000 Rupees be sanctioned, to assist in completing the Roman Catholic Church at Ootacamund.
(True Extract.)

W. M. S.
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
,, Very Reverend S. Fennelly.

Trist 87 George
26th July 1867
W. E. J. Tulloch

M.

for the information

Committed to the

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Exd. J. Tulloch.

22 1867 Sept
Pro. of Govt. for July
No 2747

Pro. of the Madras Govt
in the Ecc. Dept

Recd 23rd July 1867

No 163

2274-26th July 1867

Passing orders on an
application from the Rev.
J. B. Perron for a grant
to assist in completing
the Roman Catholic Church
at Ootacamund in the
Coimbatore District
With an order

No. 641-642