

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	676	Press Mis
Dated	25. 8. 1937	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 25th August 1857.

No. 58. From Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, Resident at Travancore and Cochin; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 13th August 1857, No. 49.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 588 of the 30th July 1857, and with reference to para: 3rd I have the honor to transmit copy of a report* by the Dewan, the Statement in which I believe to be perfectly correct, and in which I concur.

2. It would be quite impracticable to carry on Judicial Proceedings in a country like this were such European Agency to be permitted.

(Signed) W. CULLEN, Lieutenant General,
Resident.

To Lieutenant General W. CULLEN, British Resident of Travancore, dated 12th August 1857, No. 1353.

SIR,

With reference to the enquiry in para: 3 of Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 588, dated 30th July 1857, a copy of which you have favored me with, I have the honor to explain that

1st. There is not a single instance on record of any British-born subject, or a Native of any part of Europe or America, or the British Colouel, possessions, having been nominated or acknowledged as a Vakeel in any one of the Law Courts of Travancore, at any time from the first establishment of the Judicial Courts up to the present moment. Hence the practice is unsanctioned by the Common Law and usage of the country, although there is no particular enactment directed against it. It is to be observed that European and American-born subjects have ever been excluded from the Office of Vakeel in Suits not only in Travancore, but I believe in the Territories of the Honorable Company also; at all events until very recently.

2nd. It has ever been deemed inexpedient to allow such persons to act as Vakeels from the presumed fact of a want of familiar acquaintance on their part with the languages and habits of the Natives and the Local Customs and usages of the country. Further the Local Authorities are not supposed to be cognizant of the character and antecedents of such parties to determine whether they can be admitted as Vakeels or in any other capacity, and such strangers might create difficulties of all kinds to the embarrassment of the Courts and their Proceedings. Moreover it has not been usual to admit Europeans or Americans in any capacity in connection with the Sircar's Government without special sanction being previously obtained in every instance from the British Government.

3rd. The existing system has been found to work most satisfactorily all along; even Europeans involved in Suits having themselves employed none but Native Vakeels, and with advantage to their own interests, and there having hitherto been no complaints on their part against the present system.

4th. Mr. Hannay is totally unacquainted with any of the languages of the country, has been constantly engaged in litigations and discussions with the Local Authorities and has no ostensible or definite calling or occupation of any kind and lives by barely eleemosynary means.

Finally he has continued to reside in Travancore without permission from the Authorities, which indeed he never sought for.

V. KRISTNO ROW,
Dewan.

(True Copy.) Signed) W. CULLEN,
Resident.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 25th August 1857.

No. 59.

ORDER THEREON, No. 676; dated 25th August 1857.

Under the very strong opinions here expressed, the Government will not move further in the question.

Political - 1857 Sept.
From, Nelson. 25 Aug 57.
The Resident at
Travancore and Cochin

C.B.
The Secy. Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George.

Dated 13: August 1857.
Recd: 18: N. 49.
Enclosure One

N. 729.
Acknowledges Extract
Mins. of Gov. No. 208 of 30:
July 1857 and transmits
a report from the Secy.
of Travancore on the exch.
of Cochin and as follows
in Travancore. -

588 702 3 Per 21.
4-8-57 303-58

18/6/57
Order for the Secy. of Travancore
to be sent to the Secy. of Travancore
24th Aug 57, by
25th Aug 57, by
26th Aug 57, by