

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	221	Press
		~~Mis.~~
Dated	28-2-	1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
28th February 1867.*

No. 159. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Ecclesiastical Department, dated 20th February 1867, No. 41.

Sanctioning the transfer of the Government Market at Royapettah to the Trustees of Saint George's Cathedral, for use as an Alms-house. } (Vide Proceedings, Ecclesiastical Department, dated 20th February 1867, Nos. 21—23.)

No. 160. ORDER THEREON, 28th February 1867, No. 221.

To be recorded.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Ecclesiastical Department,

20th February 1867.

Read the following papers:—

No. 21. From Major J. W. RIDEOUT, Lay Trustee of Saint George's Cathedral, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 21st January 1867.

The very helpless and wretched state of a large number of the poor East Indians belonging to the Cathedral Parish has long attracted the attention of some of the Trustees, and the idea has often suggested itself that Alms-houses might be erected to accommodate about 60 or 70 of these paupers on some suitable spot of ground where they would be more healthily located, and better cared for, than they can be while scattered over the Royapettah bazaar. I must tell you that these poor people are utterly destitute, and though they receive a little money weekly from Mr. Griffiths' hands out of the offertory alms, to keep them from starvation, they must still go about begging for wherewithal to pay for their lodging, or live crowded together in such squalor and misery that deaths occur among them in appalling numbers, and I am told that only a fortnight ago as many as six people were carried off in one of these huts. A subscription for the purpose of building these Alms-houses was about to be raised by Mr. Griffiths, when I was informed of the existence of a square of buildings in Royapettah, an old deserted market place, Government property, unused since 1844, in every way suited to the purpose we have in view, and capable of being made habitable for quite 70 people by the outlay of merely 150 Rupees; and I now venture to ask if Government will kindly give us the loan of this building, and allow of its being at once adapted to the urgent necessity I have represented. The erection of doors to the 44 stalls and the knocking out of a few windows is all that is needed, and this would in no way deteriorate the property, which might be claimed again at any time by Government.

Referred to the Municipal Commissioners to report whether they see any objection to the building in question being lent to the Trustees of Saint George's Cathedral for use as Alms-houses. It is understood that the market has not been used for the purpose specified in the Commissioners' letter of the 10th April 1865.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
8th February 1867.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 22. From the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 13th February 1867.

We have the honor to return Major J. W. Rideout's letter, dated 21st ultimo, soliciting the loan of the Government Market place at Royapettah to be converted into an Alms-house, referred for our report on the 8th instant, and to state that we see no objection to the request being complied with, as the building is not likely to be required for the purpose it was originally intended for.

No. 23. ORDER THEREON, 20th February 1867, No. 41.

The Governor in Council directs that the Government Market place at Royapettah be placed temporarily at the disposal of the Lay Trustee's of Saint George Cathedral for the purpose of being used as an Alms-house, on the understanding that no alterations are to be made to the buildings which would in any way diminish their value or permanently unfit them for the purpose for which they were originally built, and that they are to be replaced at the disposal of the Government whenever they may be required. The buildings occupied by one of the European Constables and that used as a Police station will be reserved.

(True Extract).

(Signature)
Chief Secretary.

To the Trustees of Saint George's Cathedral.

„ Commissioner of Police.

„ Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras.

„ Public Department. ✓

Exd. J. Tulloch.

