M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2114 Press ~~Mis.~~

307. 308

Dated 24—11—~~19~~1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 24th November 1863.

No. 307. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th November 1863, No. 7,046 :—

Read the following letter from J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tenkasy, 12th September 1863, No. 352.

SIR,

1. With reference to the Board's Official Memorandum of the 30th March last, No. 211, calling for a report on the condition of the records and the buildings in which they are deposited, as required by their Circular Order of the 30th January 1854, No. 213, I have the honor to state, that generally the whole of the English and Vernacular records in the Hoozoor and Talook Cutcherries are in good condition, and well arranged. Some of the rooms containing the records require slight repairs, and I have called the attention of the Public Works Department to the same. The only building that is in very bad order, is the Talook Cutcherry at Ambasamudram, but sanction has been solicited, through the Department of Public Works, for constructing a new Cutcherry at that place.

2. In 1860 the state of the Vernacular records in the Hoozoor Cutcherry attracted my notice, and I submitted to the Board a list of the papers that should be reserved, and of those that might be destroyed, and as the Board approved of the list in their Proceedings dated the 13th June 1860, I ordered the records to be searched and separated, and it was accordingly done by some of the Devastanum Gumashtas, when they were not otherwise engaged, and their services were available. Up to this time about half the records have been searched and sorted, and the rejected records that have been already torn up and sold realized a sum of Rupees 509-13-8.

3. In their Proceedings of 11th June 1863, No. 1,023, the Government have ordered the Devastanum Gumashtas to be dispensed with, and the above work is now at a stand, as no hands can be spared from my very limited Establishment.

4. In some of the Talooks also a lot of useless records are to be found, and there are no hands to sort them. Unless these useless records are removed, not only will the records become inconveniently bulky and require much room to keep them, but there will be great delay and inconvenience experienced in picking out papers continually required for reference. It is therefore very desirable that the whole of the useless records, both in the Hoozoor and in the Talooks, should be carefully searched and sorted, and it is supposed that they will fetch about Rupees 1,000 if sold by auction.

5. I am therefore of opinion that it is highly necessary, that ten temporary Gumashtas should be entertained for the above work for six months, on a salary of Rupees 10 each per mensem, they being paid from the sale proceeds of the rejected papers, and I request to be favored with the early instructions of the Board on the subject.

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1. Ordered that the foregoing letter be submitted for the orders of Government, with the Board's recommendation that the Collector be authorized to entertain for six months, ten Gumashtas at 10 Rupees each per mensem, to be paid from the sale proceeds of the defaced records, the charge being met, in the first instance, by an advance to be adjusted hereafter.

2. The Devastanum Gumashtas, alluded to by Mr. Silver in paragraph 3 of his letter, were paid from deductions at various rates from the Tusdeeks of Devastanums, and attended to all the duties connected with those Institutions. After the transfer of the Devastanums to Trustees, these Gumashtas were employed in keeping the accounts of the Government Tusdeeks paid

The Honorable Mr. Pelly's letter to Government, No. 1,526, dated 5th May 1863, paragraph 16.

to Pagodas, and also assisted in the ordinary revenue duties of the Collectorate. On the recommendation, however, of the Honorable Mr. Pelly, the Government ordered the abolition of this Establishment from the end of the past Fusly 1272 (1862-63).

Government Order, No. 1,023, dated 11th June 1863, paragraph 7, R. D.

3. In the event of the temporary Establishment now recommended being sanctioned, Mr. Silver will be careful that the work is not needlessly prolonged. As the new hands proposed to be employed might be tempted to increase the funds to meet the charge, by including papers that ought not to be destroyed, the work of selection should be entrusted to trustworthy men on the permanent Establishment, and the temporary Gumashtas should be employed on the ordinary duties of these officials.

No. 308. ORDER THEREON, 24th November 1863, No. 2,114.

The Government sanction the entertainment of the ten Gumashtas applied for in these Proceedings for six months at Rupees 10 each per mensem, and grant authority for their being employed in the manner proposed by the Board in the last paragraph. Referring to the Board's suggestion on the latter part of paragraph 1, the Governor in Council observes that the proper course is to credit to Government the sale proceeds of the defaced records, and debit it with the pay of the men. The charge must be met from savings in the Budget, and if none such are anticipated it must be deferred.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ Accountant General.
„ Civil Paymaster.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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To The Bd of Rev Dupl 25 Nov
" Accts Genl "
" Civil Paymr "

Fort St. Geo 24 Nov 1863

Cro No. 191-192
11-6-1863

No. 307-308

Exd. S. T. Augustin.