M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-39.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2751 Press / ~~Mis.~~

13-14
Dated 2-11- 19 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 13. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th October 1868, No. 7,110 :—

Read the following letters :—

From the Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Pondicherry, 7th August 1868, No. 192.

1. In reference to the Proceedings of the Board, under date the 7th April, No. 2,583, I have the honor to state that at a meeting of the merchants of Pondicherry convened yesterday, it was resolved to subscribe Rupees 1,000 towards the erection of a Choultry at the Mortandy Sayer, and accordingly I have subscribed a similar sum on the part of Government, though I much question whether the amount will be sufficient to construct the required building.

2. The money will at once be paid into my treasury, and I have this day called on the Range Officer for a plan and estimate of the proposed Choultry, which must be so contrived as to meet the wants of all classes, including East Indians and Europeans, who are often detained at the station, though no great space in the divisional compartments will be needed.

3. I purpose going in a day or two to Mortandy to select an eligible site for the Chuttrum, and I will also furnish to the Engineer Officer a rough sketch of the sort of building required to guide him in making his estimate.

4. I have thought it right thus early to apprise the Board of what has passed in the matter, and to ask their confirmation of my advance of Rupees 1,000 from the Local Funds which can readily be arranged, as I think no time should be lost in commencing the building, the want of which has for so long been felt by travellers and traders passing through the Mortandy Station.

From the same Officer, dated 27th August 1868, No. 209.

1. Referring to my letter to the Board, No. 198, dated the 16th instant, I have the honor to state that, since the despatch of that letter, the French Mail Steamer has brought intelligence from France that an Agreement or Convention has been finally signed between the French Government and the Tramway Company, settling the conditions on which the long proposed extension of Railway communication between Conjeveram and Pondicherry is to be carried out, subject of course to the consent of the British Government in regard to the cession of territory to be crossed, &c.

2. The Governor informed me of the receipt by him of a Despatch to the above effect from the French Colonial Minister, and every one is of course on the *qui vive* in the Pondicherry Settlement, and the occasion has been availed of by the merchants of the town who, as reported by me to the Board, had subscribed Rupees 1,000 towards the erection of a Choultry at the Mortandy Sayer station, to object to paying up.

3. There can be little doubt that if there be Railway communication to Pondicherry, the station at Mortandy will be abandoned, although Customs Officers will have to be retained somewhere on the frontier for the protection of smuggling by the high road; there is, therefore, reason in what the Pondicherry merchants urge, and it appears to me that until the Railway question be definitely and finally settled, the erection of a Choultry, as proposed, must be postponed, and with the

Govt. of [illegible]

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated November, 2nd.

Read.

G. O., 2nd November 1863, *No.* 2,75[illegible]

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 13-14.

Chattrum at Mortandy in South Arcot.

Board's Proceedings regarding the postponement of its erection, pending the settlement of the line of Railway to be adopted, recorded.

No. 2,583.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 7th April 1868.

Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 22nd January 1868, No. 23:—

1. Sometime ago the great want of a choultry or place of shelter for travellers halting at Mortandy, the chief Customs station on the French frontier between Pondicherry and Madras, was brought to my notice. I deferred action in the matter pending a contemplated visit to the place, and I have now satisfied myself, after personal inspection and inquiry, that a choultry is really much needed. Indeed, the want of a place of the kind is felt to be a very serious grievance by the many travellers daily passing though Mortandichavady, and I am able to come forward for aid from Government, because of the interest evinced in the matter by certain of the native merchants at Pondicherry, who have offered to contribute Rupees 500 towards the cost of the required building, and accordingly I have to solicit sanction for the disbursement of a like amount, as the cost of the choultry is estimated to be at least 1,000 Rupees.

2. Translation of the Ameen's report on the subject, dated so far back as December 1866, I beg to enclose for the Board's information, and I would suggest, if unobjectionable, that the proposed expenditure of Rupees 500 be advanced from the Local Funds, to be debited hereafter to any other source from which it may be practicable to draw the money. At present I know of none while time is an object, and I believe the Pondicherry merchants are prepared to pay up their quota at once.

3. I solicit the early instructions of the Board on this application.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—AMEEN.

1. The Board concur with the Collector as to the desirability of erecting a choultry at Mortandy, and are prepared, on condition that the entire right to the building vests in the Government alone, to make a grant from the Road Cess Fund equivalent to the amount (Rupees 500) of private contributions promised.

2. The Collector is requested to furnish a plan and estimate of the proposed building, and to report the amount of subscriptions actually received.

3. On receipt of the plan and estimate, the Board will apply to Government for the usual endowment for the choultry, the construction of which should not be commenced until the Board approve of the plan.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Secretary.

To the Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. J. Wright.

1868. Department.

No. 3266.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 7th October 1868.

No. 7,110.

Proposed Chuttrum at Mortandy in South Arcot District, Collector directed to postpone execution of, pending settlement of line of Tramway to be adopted between Conjeveram and Pondicherry.

1868. Department.

R 3266/68

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 7th April 1868.

No. 2,583.

Concurring with the Collector of South Arcot as to the desirability of erecting a choultry at Mortandy, and requesting him to furnish estimate of the proposed building and to report the amount of subscriptions actually received.