858

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th May 1871. *No. 858.*

No. 200. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th March 1871, No. 1,330:—

Read the following letters:—

From the Acting Collector of Chinglepu[illegible], to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, [illegible]rd November 1870, No. 504.

With reference to the Board's Pro[illegible]edings, Miscellaneous No. 1,332, dated the 2nd instant, I have the honour to report that the Cutwall's Cutcherry at Conjeveram is *bona fide* Government property, and that one Rupee a-month would be a fair rent for the building. I do not, however, think it desirable that any rent should be levied.

2. The building is at present occupied by a European Head Constable.

From the Collector of Cuddapah, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Badwail, 17th December 1870, No. 235.

Adverting to your foot-note, dated 2nd ultimo, No. 1,332, to the Government Proceedings, dated 25th October last, No. 1,634, I have the honour to inform you that the travellers' bungalow at Appayapully in the Cuddapah Range is *bona fide* the property of Government, and has hitherto been occupied by the Police Inspector, Cuddapah Taluq, but is now vacant.

2. The building being the absolute property of Government, and being no longer required for the purpose for which it was originally constructed, I think it reasonable that any person occupying it as a private residence should be charged with a reasonable rent. Mr. Boyle reports that the Superintendent of Police proposes a rent of Rs. 10 per mensem for its occupation, and as this sum appears to be fair, I beg to recommend the same for adoption.

From the Acting Collector of Bellary, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ghooty, 1st December 1870, No. 425.

Referring to Government Order, No. 1,634, dated 25th October last, communicated with the Board's endorsement, No. 1,332 dated 2nd November, I have the honour to state that the European chuttrum at Ramandrug has been for some time occupied by the Sub-Magistrate. Prior to the receipt of the order I had been endeavouring to discover, but without success, whether any permission had been given for this procedure by any former Collector.

2. I do not think it desirable that any rent should be fixed upon the building, or that the officer should continue to reside in it; I have therefore ordered him to vacate it.

3. The Native chuttrum is not, and has not been to my certain knowledge for a year past, occupied by the Post Office Clerk.

From the Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 15th November 1870, No. 301.

I have the honour to acknowledge the Board's endorsement of the 2nd instant on the Proceedings of Government under date the 25th October, Revenue Department

enclosing Proceedings of the 14th idem, passed in the Public Works Department, and requesting me to report whether it is desirable to fix any, and what, rent on the Government building in my occupation, also whether the house in question is *bona fide* Government property.

2. In reply, I have to state that the house I occupy is *bona fide* the property of Government, and it forms part of a block of buildings forming three sides of a square comprising the offices named in the margin. I have paid no rent for the Government house during my occupancy of it, my predecessor before me in like manner having occupied it rent free; and I have always thought that the non-payment of rent was a privilege due to the position which the Collector of South Arcot occupies as Special Agent to the French Government.

1. Collector's Office with all departments.
2. Treasury.
3. Treasury Deputy-Collector.
4. Assistant Collector.
5. General Post Office.
6. District Post Office.
7. Telegraph Office.
8. Records, English and Vernacular.
9. Registration Office.
10. Press Department and Office.

3. In former days, after the abolition of the French Agency as a Special Department, there was a special allowance, I believe, for conducting the duties connected with the office of Special Agent to the French Government, but for many years this has ceased. The position which the Collector holds is peculiar, and many expenses are thrown upon him unknown elsewhere, since there being no higher representative of the British Government, it devolves on him to return the civilities and social courtesies of the Governor of the French Settlements and other French officials, and thus is imposed on him the necessity of keeping up a position as representative of the Government; and I have always regarded the privilege of occupying the Government house rent-free in this light, for otherwise I think some remuneration might reasonably be claimed, not merely in reference to the additional expenses, but for the additional duties required of the Collector of this district in his capacity as Special Agent, and which at times are both delicate and very troublesome.

4. I am so soon about to leave the district that personally I have little interest in the question of future rent; but in the interest of my successor, I may be permitted to hope that on consideration, the Government may see fit to continue the privilege of rent free quarters to the Collector of South Arcot on the special grounds I have stated. Meanwhile, I have consulted with the Superintending Engineer of the division, Captain Robertson, on the subject of rent, and after inspecting the house and premises, he is of opinion that 90 Rs. a-month would be a fair sum to fix should thereafter payment of rent be determined on.

From the Collector of Salem, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd November 1870, No. 242.

With reference to Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, dated 2nd November 1870, No. 1,332, communicating Order of Government, dated 25th October last, No. 1,634, I have the honour to report that the building occupied by Mr. Jones at Darampury is part of a range of buildings, a portion of which is used as the District Munsiff's Court. The late Collector Mr. Pochin, about two years ago,

gave permission to Mr. Jones to occupy the building rent free, he keeping it in good repair.

2. The Acting Sub-Collector reports that a rent of Rs. 8 might fairly be imposed on this building, the Department of Public Works being required to guarantee its future repair.

3. The building in question is *bona fide* Government property.

From the same officer, dated Tripatore, 14th March 1871, No. 736.

With reference to my letter, dated 23rd November 1870, No. 242, I have the honour to submit copy of communication received from the Superintending Engineer, dated 8th instant, No. 140, and my reply thereto. Since the date of my letter to the Board, I have not received any orders from Board or Government as to the rent or custody of the building in question. I have already stated I am of opinion that the Department of Public Works should be charged with the repairs of such buildings.

2. In the absence of any instructions from the Board, I have deferred handing over the Darampury bungalow to the Department of Public Works.

Enclosure No. 1.

Memorandum from the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, to the Collector of Salem, dated 8th March 1871, No. 140.

Mr. Paynter's remarks being in accordance with the rules lately issued by Government on the subject of hiring and renting public buildings, that officer has been instructed to submit an estimate for the repairs required to Munro's bungalow at Darampury, and also to collect, from the occupant of the buildings, a rent of Rs. 10 per month, which he considers to be "very reasonable." The Superintending Engineer would therefore feel obliged if the Collector will be good enough to issue the necessary orders to the Tahsildar on the subject.

From L. W. PAYNTER, Esq., Executive Engineer, Oossoor Range, to the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, dated Oossoor, 25th February 1871, No. 1,096.

I beg to offer a few remarks on letter No. 367, dated 7th instant, from the Collector of Salem, forwarded to me with your endorsement No. 451, dated 14th idem.

2. Mr. Longley states, "that the late Collector permitted the Tahsildar of Darampury to occupy the building on the distinct understanding that he keeps it in good repair." But in paragraph 10 of the rules forwarded with Government Order No. 6 of the 4th instant, bearing your office endorsement, No. 183, of the 14th idem, it is stated, "the practice of allowing public "officers and others to occupy Government buildings rent-free, on condition of keeping them in "repairs, is prohibited. A rent fixed by the Range officer with reference to the value of the "property shall in all cases be demanded, and the repairs shall be made by the agency of the "Public Works Department."

3. Mr. Longley also states he recommended "that a rent of Rs. 8 be charged for the occupancy of the bungalow," but from the above extract it would appear it is the Range officer who should fix the rent.

4. I also beg to call your attention to Government Order, No. 2,708, of 11th November 1870, and request you will inform me, if I am to collect the rent for this building. I consider Rs. 10 per month is a very reasonable rent for it.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, dated Tripatur, 14th March 1871.

WITH reference to your memorandum No. 140, forwarding copy of a letter from the Range officer, I have the honour to inform you that the Board having called upon me to report what would be a reasonable rent for the building in question, I have reported the same, and have not yet received a reply. In my letter to the Board I have proposed that the Department of Public Works should carry out the repairs. I have submitted a copy of the communication now received from you to the Board, and would suggest that no action be taken by your department until the Board's final orders are received.

From the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 18th January 1871, No. 20.

WITH reference to the Order of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 14th October 1870, No. 2,464, I have the honour to enclose a letter from the Acting Head Assistant Collector regarding the rent to be paid by him for the old public bungalow at Museri occupied partly as a residence and partly as an office under Government Order, 12th July 1867, No. 1,556.

2. A suitable office is required for the Head Assistant when funds are available. Meanwhile, a rent of eight Annas a-day seems sufficient.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Acting Head Assistant Collector, to the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, dated 14th January 1871, No. 11.

IN reply to your docket No. 9 of the 6th January 1871, I have the honour to remark that I have not been occupying the bungalow at Museri since the end of November 1870. With regard to the amount of rent to be paid, I have the honour to submit that the bungalow when perfectly empty was hardly inhabitable in the state in which it was handed over to me originally. I have spent between two hundred and three hundred Rs. on it, and the out-houses within the past twenty months, but even as it stands, I cannot imagine that it is worth paying any rent for, if the condition of its serving as an office is still to remain attached to it, for, I think, any official would prefer not to remain in his office if it was in any way avoidable.

2. The place is, however, unsuited for public business, as the reverberation from the arched walls of the very small rooms is so great as to make distinction of articulate sounds very difficult. I have myself been obliged to build a shed for holding my Court in, and I would recommend that the bungalow be set apart exclusively for the use of the Head Assistant Collector at a rent of eight Annas for each day's occupation and a suitable Court-house at least equal to that provided for the Sub-Magistrates in the new Jails be built for him as soon as the cost can be conveniently provided.

From the Collector of Madura, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Dindigul, 25th February 1871, No. 58.

IN reply to your foot-note of the 2nd November last, No. 1,332, to the Government Proceedings, Revenue Department, No. 1,634, dated 25th October 1870, I have the honour to report that the bungalow at present occupied by the Sub-Collector of Dindigul consists of one centre and two side rooms; it was built by Mr. Hurdis about 1800. There is no record to say from what funds, but probably at the expense of Government. Since his time it has always been

occupied by the Sub-Collectors, who have at various times since 1855 repaired it at their own expense, and who have hitherto paid no rent for it. Rs. 606 were expended on its repair by Government in 1855, and since then no public money has been spent on it. There is very little demand for house accommodation at Dindigul at present, so that it is hard to estimate the value of the buildings; but the Minicipal Commissioners have assumed that the rent would be Rs. 12½ per mensem, and have assessed the building on that assumption. The building is in the same compound and close to the Sub-Collector's Cutcherry, so that it would not be a suitable dwelling for any one but that officer.

2. Under the circumstances, and considering the fact that the building has been so long occupied free of rent, I would propose that in future Sub-Collectors who live in it should pay over Rs. 120 per annum, to be expended from time to time in repairs, or if the Government prefer to take it into their own hands, they might undertake the repairs and charge the rent at which the building has been assessed in the Municipal valuation.

From the Collector of Malabar, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Nilambur, 9th January 1871, No. 1c.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Board's Proceedings, conveying instructions to report according to paragraph 1 of Government Order, dated 25th October 1870, No. 1,634, whether it is desirable to fix any, and if so what amount of rent on the old Infantry Place of-arms at Manantoddy occupied as a residence by the Deputy-Collector.

2. Permission was given by the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings of the 28th February 1860, No. 1,038, for the occupation, by the Deputy-Collector, of a portion of the Place-of-arms as a residence on payment of a monthly rent of 10 Rs.; and this arrangement held in the time of Messrs. Stuart and Richardson.

3. From the time of the present Deputy-Collector, it would appear that no rent has been paid; nothing is on record to show what led to the discontinuance of payment of rent.

4. When the original sanction was accorded for the occupation of the building there was accommodation adjoining for the office; but in 1868, owing to its dilapidated state this part of the buildings was pulled down, and on this in their order, dated 7th September 1868, No. 6,346, the Board sanctioned the payment to the Deputy-Collector of extra tentage for providing accommodation for his office servants while at his head-quarters, Manantoddy.

5. The fact that at this very time the Deputy Collector was residing free of rent in a Government building probably escaped the Collector's notice, for it could hardly have been considered that the Deputy-Collector was under such circumstances entitled to a daily allowance of 5 Rs. for maintaining a shed adjoining the building.

6. Under the circumstances of the case, I think that the building should be allotted as Deputy-Collector's office, but that no objection should be offered to his residing in it rent-free provided he maintains at his own expense the accommodation for his office which he has hitherto provided.

7. Mr. Underwood states that he has spent a good deal of money on the place, but against this may be set the rent of 10 Rs. which he should have been paying all this time.

These letters will be submitted to Government, with reference to Government Order, 25th October 1870, No. [redacted], requesting a report as to whether rent should be charged to the occupants of certain Government buildings.

2. *Appayapully travellers' bungalow (Cuddapah).*—This building is now unoccupied. The Collector and Superintendent of Police propose that a rent of Rs. 10 a-month should be charged. In the absence of any information about the size or nature of the building, the Board support this proposal.

3. *Ramandroog European chuttrum (Bellary).*—This chuttrum seems to be occupied as an official residence by a Sub-Magistrate. As far as the Board can judge from the Collector's report he seems to think that the building should be devoted to its proper purpose. He has ordered the Sub-Magistrate to vacate it.

4. *Ramandroog Native chuttrum (Bellary).*—This is not used as a residence now, and has not been for more than a year.

5. *Conjeveram Cutwal's Cutcherry (Chingleput).*—This building is occupied by a Head Constable, and the Collector thinks Rupee 1 a-month would be a fair rent, but does not think it desirable to make any charge. Considering how trifling the amount is, the Board agree with the Collector.

6. *Cuddalore Government buildings (South Arcot).*—The house occupied by the Collector is a fine building, and the Superintending Engineer considers that Rs. 90 a-month would be a fair rent for it. The Collector points out that it has always been occupied rent-free, and that this privilege has been regarded as a compensation for the extra work and expense which fall to the lot of the Collector as Special Agent. The Board consider this view of the matter to be correct, and recommend that the Collector and Special Agent be still allowed to occupy the building rent free.

7. *Darampury Munro's bungalow (Salem).*—This building is occupied by the Tahsildar, who pays no rent but keeps it in repair. The Collector thinks that a rent of Rs. 8 might be charged, but in that case Government would have to undertake the repairs. The Executive Engineer points out that Government do not approve of the occupation of Government buildings rent-free on condition of executing repairs, and thinks Rs. 10 would be a proper rent. The building is evidently of such trifling value that the Board think it will be best not to disturb the existing arrangement.

8. *Manantoddy Infantry Place-of-arms (Wynaad).*—This building is occupied by the Deputy-Collector in charge of Wynaad. Previous to the time of the present Deputy-Collector a monthly rent of Rs. 10 was charged. He, it appears, has paid nothing, but has kept the building in repair. In 1868 it became necessary for him to provide additional accommodation for his office, and he has since been allowed extra tentage at Rs. 150 a month for providing what the Collector describes as a shed adjoining his residence. The Collector recommends that the building should be made the Deputy-Collector's Office, but that he should be

allowed to reside in it for the present without paying rent, but also without drawing extra tentage for the accommodation of the office at head-quarters. The Board concur. A cutcherry and bungalow are to be built when funds can be provided— *vide* Government Order, 14th August 1869, No. 2,337, and 13th December 1870, No. 2,018.

9. *Dindigul Sub-Collector's bungalow (Madura).*—This house was built by Mr. Hurdis about 1800, and has been occupied rent-free by Sub-Collectors since that time. They have kept it in repair for the most part, but in 1855 Rs 606 was spent in repairs by Government. The Municipal Commissioners estimate the rent-value as Rs. 12-8-0 a-month. The Collector recommends that a rent of Rs. 10 a-month should be charged but left in the Sub-Collector's hands to be expended on repairs, or that Government should charge the rent fixed by the Municipal Commissioners and undertake the repairs. The Board think this will be the best course.

10. *Museri Public Bungalow (Trichinopoly).*—This building, which is but a poor one, is the only accommodation available both for the Head Assistant Collector himself and for his office. Further accommodation for the office must be provided eventually, and in the meantime no rent should be charged.

11. All these buildings seem to be the property of Government.

No. 201. 4A ORDER THEREON, 15th May 1871, No. 858.

Miscellaneous.

25th October 1870, No. 1,634.

In the Proceedings of Government marginally noted the Board were requested to report whether any, and if so, what amount of rent should be fixed on certain public buildings, eight in number, reported by the Controller of Public Works Accounts to be in the occupation of Government officials. The paper noted above is a reply to that requisition.

Ramandroog.—European chuttrum.
Do. —Native do.

2. Removing the premises described in paragraphs 3 and 4 from the list as being now devoted to their proper use, six buildings remain for disposal.

3. The Board's recommendations not based on any uniform system. They recommend in one *(a)* case that the occupant shall keep the building in repair, paying a rent; and in another *(b)* that Government should charge rent and undertake the repairs.

(a) Paragraph 7. *Darampoory*.—Munro's bungalow.
(b) Paragraph 9. *Dindigul*.—Sub-Collector's bungalow.

4. The Executive Engineer of Salem has pointed out that the Standing Orders of Government prohibit the practice "of allowing public officers and others "to occupy Government buildings rent-free, on condition of keeping them in "repair. A rent fixed by the Range Officer with reference to the value of the "property shall in all cases be demanded, and the repairs shall be made by the "agency of the Department Public Works."

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th May 1871.

5. The Government are of opinion that this rule should stand good. When the premises in question are so mean and unimportant that no further repairs are contemplated, as appears to be the case with those marginally specified, there is no objection to their occupancy rent-free by the public officers concerned; and in very remote, unhealthy lo[illegible]s, such as the Maliahs of Ganjam and Vizagapatam, another exception has always been made in favour of young officers serving in those climates, the Gover[illegible]ent recognizing their liability to provide them with suitable accommodation rent-free.

Paragraph 5. *Conjeveram.*—Cutwal's Cutcherry.
Do. 10. *Museri.*—Public Bungal[illegible]

6. The remaining question is whether the Collector of South Arcot is to be allowed to occupy the so-called "Government House" at Cuddalore rent-free as heretofore, in consideration of his position as Agent to this Government in connection with the French Government at Pondicherry. His Excellency in Council is of opinion that the reasons assigned by the present Collector for the retention of this privilege have much force. He resolves not to disturb an arrangement which has subsisted for so many years. The house will be treated exceptionally as a sort of Residency, all necessary repairs being executed by the Department Public Works as in the case of other public buildings.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Secretary to Government

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Accountant-General.

Revenue Dept.

Memo. for Orders on No 1106

5 A

25 Oct. 1870
No 1634

1. In the Proc. of Govt. marginally noted, the Board were requested to report whether any, and if so, what amount of Rent should be fixed on certain Public Cuddapahs, eight in number, reported by the Controller of Public Works Accounts to be in the occupation of Govt. Official. The paper noted above is a reply to that requisition.

5-A

2. Removing the premises described

Ramandroog
European Chuttrum
Native —Do—

...ribed in Paras 3 and 4
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tions are not based on any
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mend in one (a) case that
the occupant shall keep
the building in repair, pay-
ing no rent, and in another
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(a) Para 7. Paramkoor
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(b) Dindigul. Para 9.
Sub Collr's Bungalow

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"A Rent fixed by the Range
"Officer with reference to the
"value of the property shall
"in all cases be demanded,
"and the Repairs shall be
"made by the agency of the
"D.P.W."

5. [It is suggested] this
Rule should stand good
when the premises in

question are so many and im-
portant that no further re-
pairs are contemplated, as
appears to be the case with
those marginally specified,
no objection would probably
be raised by Govt. to their
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Rsa
5. Conjeveram
Colwali Cutcherry
10. Museri

6. The remaining qu
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as I understand
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is termed to dispens
to the French of Pu
chery.

7. The Engineer
Estimates Rs 90 as
proper rent for th
House at Cudalo
8. I have the honor
&c &c &c

as writing this Memo. would much rather Govt should do Repairs, than be used Rent and do it himself. He would refer this in any case, more now that he understands the case is in very bad air. From this fact a strong argument may be adduced for the Rent-free Repair system.

I do not think Govt is bound, in any case, to provide a house rent-free. In some localities &c: &c. Wynaad - houses are not procurable - and the officials are to have to build - there, the Govt builds the house but Execute a fair rent - 8A

I would act on this principle every where - the plan of giving a house rent-free, or commuting the Rent by fixing it in reference

Revenue Department.

Ry. 858.

Proceedings of Madras Government.

Under date the 15th May 1871.

Read the following

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting with remarks, replies of Collectors to Order of Government dated 25th October 1870 No. 1,634, requesting to know whether rent should be charged to occupants of Fort Buildings in certain Districts. — H. E. 27th March 1871 No. 1330.

1 In the Proceedings of

25th October 1870 No. 1,634. Government marginally noted the Board were requested to report whether any, and if so, what amount of Rent should be fixed on certain Public Buildings, eight in number, reported by the Controller of Public

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Memo

Govt. Rent Collection on certain Buildings occupied free of Rent. —

105

I do think that the Collector of Cuddalore must tax his house rent free with repairs by Govt. in consideration of his position as Agent in connection with the French Govt. The house is one of a rather dignified character and command dimensions. It is a proper habitation for the Collector and if no charge for rent he must get a less in a meaner house elsewhere. I would treat this House exceptionally as a sort of Residency

A

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for Ds Towns or take in pet leaving Ors. be easy Exchanges.

S. P.

Ry D.

But I think in view to the question in pursuance of allowing the Collector of Cuddalore Rent free of occupying the house he must originally [illegible] the Collector report to Govt. in what manner he considers this of his duties as Special Agent to Govt. entitling him to such privilege.

Ry D.

Ry Appl 21 Oct 1871

Public Works Accounts
to be in the occupation
of Government Officials.
The paper noted above
is a reply to that requi-
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2. Removing the premises
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(a) Para 7 - Darampoory
Munro's Bungalow.

(b) Dindigul - Para 9
Sub Collector's Bungalow

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in those climates; the
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their liability to provide
them with suitable
accomodation, rent-free.

The

Para
5. Conjeveram
Cotwal's Cutcherry

10 Museri
Public Bungalow

6. The remaining
question is whether the Collr.
of South Arcot is to be
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called "Government House"
at Cuddalore rent free
as heretofore, in consider-
tion of his position as
Agent to this Government
in connection with the
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Pondicherry. His Excellency
in Council is of opinion
that the reasons assigned by
the present Collector for the
retention

retention of this privilege have much force. He resolves not to disturb an arrange= =ment which has subsisted for so many years. The house will be treated exceptionally as a part of Residency; all necessary repairs being executed by the Dept. Pub. Works, as in the case of other Public Buildings.

1½ Folio Dft Plans Sept 16
21 — Dft Depatt
16 — Secrets Genl

Genl Buildings occupied by Public Officers.

Despatch inviting further Enquiries

Dy - 10/5/71.

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Genl Buildings occupied by Public Officers.

Despatch inviting further Enquiries

Dy - 10/5/71.

7-16 B 11

Original

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government Records.

Revenue Department.

G. O. (Mis.) Printed

Dated 15-5-1871.

No. 858.

7-16 B 11

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