M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-94

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1556 Press Mis.

208 to 209

Dated 12-7- 1897.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12*th July* 1867.

No. 208. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd July 1867, No. 4,151.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 6th May 1867, No. 106:—

1. In the third paragraph of their Proceedings of the 25th ultimo, No. 2,523, the Board "consider it very desirable that the Head Assistant should be located at some convenient place in the northern part of the district," and I am called upon to state my opinion on the subject.

2. There can be no question that, in removing the Head Assistant's head-quarters from Trichinopoly, much benefit would in some respects accrue to that portion of the district to which they might be transferred; but if the result of this transfer would be to saddle the Collector with the duties of Sitting Magistrate for the large and populous town and talook of Trichinopoly, then it must, in my opinion, be obvious that the measure would be the reverse of beneficial to the general interests of the district.

3. At present there are in the district, besides myself, two Magistrates with full powers, the Head Assistant and the Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury. The latter officer has no separate charge, except that of the town of Sreerungam, while Deputy Collector Mahommed Esuf, who is in Revenue and Magisterial charge of the talooks of Perambalur and Woodiarpolliem, has not full Magisterial powers. Consequently at present, except in the Head Assistant's two talooks, Moosery and Trichinopoly, all cases in the district requiring to be disposed of by a Magistrate with full powers are brought before myself. Hitherto, when the Collector has not been able to spare time to conduct Magisterial trials, it has been the practice of my predecessors to refer these cases either to the Head Assistant or to the Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury for trial. I have, moreover, to hear appeals from all the Sub-Magistrates except those under the Head Assistant. It will be seen, therefore, that with three Covenanted Assistants and two Deputy Collectors the bulk of the Judicial work falls on myself. Present arrangements are not satisfactory, but matters would be much worse were the Magisterial work of the town and talook of Trichinopoly thrown upon my hands. I could not undertake this with due regard to the performance of my general duties as Collector, nor would I advocate the burden being placed upon the Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury whose legitimate duties afford him ample occupation. Unless, therefore, the Government are prepared to locate a Magistrate with full powers, other than myself and the Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, in Trichinopoly, I can only deprecate any change in the Head Assistant's station, under the conviction that the Magisterial work of the town and talook could only be undertaken by the Collector to the great detriment of the interests of the district at large.

4. If the Government are prepared to make an arrangement of this nature, then I think it is most desirable that the Head Assistant's charge should be re-arranged, the Trichinopoly talook reverting, as far as its revenue administration is concerned, to the Collector. It remains to be considered which of the other four talooks should constitute the Head Assistant's division, and where that Officer should be located.

5. From the mention made by the Board, in paragraph 4 of the Deputy Collector's "*talook*," and their after proposal to locate the Head Assistant in the northern part of the district, it strikes me that perhaps the Board did not recollect that besides the Woodiarpolliem *talook*, that of Perambalur, including all the north of the district, excepting a strip of the Torriore division of the Moosery talook, is comprised in the Deputy Collector's division.

6. Putting, however, the Deputy Collector aside for the present, there are just three methods for disposing of the Head Assistant :—

First.—To give him the Deputy Collector's present division, Woodiarpolliem and Perambalur, and locate him at Arcalur.

Second.—To give him Moosery and Perambalur, and locate him at or near Perambalur.

Third.—To gave him Moosery and Kulitallay, and locate him at Moosery.

7. At none of these places, nor elsewhere in the district, is there proper accommodation for a Head Assistant and his Office.

At Arcalur there is no public building. On the Madras trunk road there is the old Travellers' Bungalow at Toramungalum not far from Perambalur, but this was made over to the Department of Public Works some years ago as a Store-house. At Moosery there is a Travellers' Bungalow, which on the opening of the line to Erode I shall recommend to be given up. Application has already been made to me for its purchase for a school-house by the inhabitants of Moosery through the Inspector of Schools. At Moosery there is another bungalow which I lately purchased from Mr. Banbury, but which I shall not object to dispose of should the Government wish to have it.

8. I should be best pleased to see a Covenanted Officer located at Arcalur in charge of the Woodiarpolliem and Perambalur talooks; but this can hardly be, unless Government undertake to provide him with a house to reside in, as well as an Office building. Otherwise the Head Assistant would be best located at Moosery in charge of that and the Kulitallay talook. He would have both cusbahs under his eye with easy access to the interior of each talook by the roads now in progress and projected.

If any change, therefore, is to take place, this is the arrangement which I beg to propose.

9. While upon the subject, I request the Board will represent to Government the inconvenience attendant upon the Deputy Collector in charge of Woodiarpolliem and Perambalur not being invested with the full powers of a Magistrate. Besides the work thereby thrown upon me, parties are put to great trouble and inconvenience in coming from long distances into Trichinopoly. If the Government are still unwilling to invest Mahommed Esuf with full powers, I beg the Board to recommend the Government to transfer him elsewhere, and to send me in his stead a Deputy Magistrate with full powers.

10. I may also as well mention in this place that Puttabhiram Pillay, the Tahsildar and second class Sub-Magistrate of Trichinopoly, is in every respect perfectly qualified to exercise the powers of a first class Sub-Magistrate.

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1. Resolved that the foregoing letter be submitted to Government, with reference to paragraph 2 of their Proceedings, dated 17th May, No. 1,113.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th July 1867.

2. The Board in their Proceedings, dated 25th April 1867, No. 2,523, embodied in the above-mentioned Proceedings of Government, expressed their opinion that the Head Assistant Collector should be located in the northern part of the district, in which opinion Government concurred; and the Collector was requested to give his own views on the subject.

3. The letter submitted with these Proceedings is his reply.

4. The Collector observes that the removal of the Head Assistant from Trichinopoly will, unless an additional Magistrate with full powers be provided, throw more judicial work on his hands than he will be able to undertake.

5. Should, however, the removal of the Head Assistant still be considered desirable, he recommends that his charge be re-arranged; Trichinopoly talook reverting to the Collector, and the Head Assistant being located at Moosery in charge of that *talook* and Kulitallay. He brings forward two other propositions, but there appear to be in both these cases difficulties about house accommodation; whereas there is at Moosery a public bungalow no longer required, and a bungalow belonging to Mr. Vans Agnew.

6. In paragraph 9 of his letter, the Collector strongly recommends that full Magisterial powers be granted to Deputy Collector Mahommed Esuf, in charge of Woodiarpolliem, pointing out that this will not only be a great advantage to the people of the district, but will relieve the Collector of a considerable amount of work.

7. The Board still consider it highly desirable that the Head Assistant should be located in the northern part of the district, and they concur with the Collector in recommending Moosery for his head-quarters.

8. They do not consider that, with the Treasury Deputy and Cantonment Magistrate at Trichinopoly, the work will be found excessive, as the Revenue work of the district is light, and there is neither a Salt nor a Sea Customs charge.

9. The Board observe that Mr. Agnew should have addressed Government, through the Judicial Department, on the subject of investing Mahommed Esuf and the Sub-Magistrate with larger powers.

No. 209. ORDER THEREON, 12th July 1867, No. 1,556.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government sanction the arrangement for giving the Head Assistant charge of Museri and Kulitallay talooks, with head-quarters at Museri, to be carried out as soon as the public bungalow becomes available for an Office on the opening of the rail to Errode.

2. The question of granting extended Magisterial powers to the Collector's subordinates named, will be considered in the Judicial Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the *Board of Revenue.*
,, the Accountant General.
,, the Judicial Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

92.-1856.

The Pres. directs the
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The carried out as soon
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is requested to communicate
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Rev. 1867. Department.
Proceedings for July

No. 1725.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 3rd July 1867.
Read 8th
Rec'd 8th

No. 4,151.

Submitting to Government with remarks letter from Collector of Trichinopoly on subject of location of Head Assistant in northern part of district, and concurring with Collector in recommending Moosery taluk for his head-quarters.

Nos 208-209

Ent 1355 12 July