

MADRAS.--LAND FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

ACT No. I. OF 1854.

[Passed on the 3rd February, 1854.]

1. *Extends Act 20, 1852, in a modified manner to Land in Madras.*
2. *Extends to Supreme Court as to Land in Madras, powers possessed by Zillah Court, out of it.*
3. *Deposits on account of land, placed under same regulations as suitors money in Supreme Court.*
4. *Interest on deposits, to be paid to persons who would have been entitled to the original fund.*
5. *Extends jurisdiction of Madras Small Cause Court to claims of deposits under Rs. 500.*

An Act to amend the law for facilitating the acquisition of land needed for public purposes within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Judicature at Madras.

I. The provisions of Act XX. of 1852, as herein modified shall be applicable to all lands situate within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Judicature at Madras.

II. The powers given to the Civil Court of the Zillah in Section XIV. of Act No. XX. of 1852 shall, for the purposes of this Act, be exercised by the Supreme Court of Judicature at Madras, either upon motion or petition: and the said Court upon the investigation of any matter under the provisions of this Section may compel the attendance of witnesses, and take their evidence in the same manner as upon a trial of an action at law,

and the said Court upon such motion or petition may award such costs as they may think just.

III. In all cases in which payment of any part of the purchase or compensation money exceeding in amount the sum of five hundred Rupees is held in deposit according to Section XV., Act XX. of 1852 on account of any lands taken for any public purpose under this Act, the Government Securities mentioned in the said Section shall be deposited with the Government Agents at Fort St. George, in the name and with the privity of the Accountant General of Her Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort St. George to be placed by him to the credit of the persons interested in such lands, describing them as nearly as may be done according to the course of proceeding in the said Court in matters and causes depending before it in Equity.

IV. The said Securities shall remain in the hands of the Government Agents, and the interest accruing on the Securities shall be, from time to time, received and paid under the order of the said Supreme Court to the person or persons for the time being who would have been entitled to receive the rents and profits of the said lands, if the same had not been taken as aforesaid, until there shall be some person or persons absolutely entitled to receive the principal sum of the monies so reserved, and thereupon the said Government Securities, with all interest then due thereon, shall be transferred and paid to such person or persons under the like order of the said Court, and so long as no person can be found entitled to receive the interest of the said Government Securities, the Government Agent shall continue to receive, and from time to time to invest the accumulation of the interest due thereon in the purchase of other Government Securities, to be held and applied by him on the same trusts as the Securities first purchased.

V. The right to receive payment of all sums not exceeding five hundred Rupces which shall be held in deposit under the said Section XV., Act No. XX. of 1852 may be determined by the Madras Court of Small Causes, and the said Court may make an order for the payment thereof, which order shall be a sufficient indemnity to the Government and all persons acting in obedience thereto.