

Educational (1900) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 484

DATED 30. 8. 01 ✓

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Informing V. Absolute Dams that his
requests for the grant of a pension or
gratuity for his past services in the
Madras observation & for some remuneration
in any other shape, are inadmissible

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[Pub. 29] 2,500-27-2-01

Public (1901) Department.

CURRENT No. ~~2483~~ 1150

From

[Name]

V. Absalom David

[Designation]

No. 19 St. George's Cathedral Road,

[Station]

Seynampet, Madras

No.

Received

15

1901.

Dated

14. 8.

1901.

Enclosures

5. 8. 02

Registered

16

1901.

in ad 23. 8. 01

SUBJECT.

Praying that he may be granted a pension or gratuity for the period of 12 years that he served for as 5th Assistant in the Madras Observatory or that clemency may be shown to him in any other shape.

R. O.

for pp. 22/90

BACK PAPERS.

265 ad & 30. 4. 01 R + cond papers
C. pd. rules (24)

FURTHER PAPERS.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,

Public Department.

To,

CURRENT NO.
2483
PUBLIC

No. 19, ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL ROAD, TEYNAMPET,

MADRAS, 14 August 1901.

To

His Excellency the Right Honourable

Arthur Oliver Villiers, BARON AMPHILL,

G. C. I. E.,

Governor in Council

FORT ST. GEORGE.

*The Memorial of Vellore ABSALOM DAVID,
a loyal citizen of Madras.*

HUMBLY SHOWETH,

1. That, presuming that the approaching coronation of our Most Gracious Sovereign King-Emperor Edward VII will, among other celebrations, be marked in India as well as in other parts of His Majesty's dominions by acts of clemency usual on such an occasion, your Excellency's memorialist craves permission to approach your Excellency with the humble prayer that your Excellency will be graciously pleased to grant that he may be included in the list of objects deemed worthy of the Royal clemency.

2. That your Excellency's memorialist does so on the following grounds.

3. That your Excellency's memorialist was employed as 5th Assistant on the permanent Establishment of the Madras Observatory for a period of about twelve years, extending from 1st of July 1877 to the 7th October 1889, at the end of which period his services were dispensed with under circumstances which he is saved the necessity of himself stating by the fact that he holds a certificate from the late Mr. N. R. Pogson, F. R. A. S., C. I. E., &c—a name that cannot be unknown to your Excellency and that is held in universal reverence in Madras—in which they are stated accurately and with sufficient fullness, and of which your Excellency's memorialist begs to submit a true copy (the original being in his possession) as follows:—

"MADRAS OBSERVATORY,
1890, August 1st.

"Vellore Absalom David served under me as an Assistant in the Madaas Observatory [from July 1877 until October 1889, when the unfortunate result of a charge brought against him, of being personated at a public examination, caused Government to dispense with his further services.

"During the 12 years I knew David his conduct was most exemplary, and he was the most truthful, trustworthy native I have had and experience of during nearly thirty years' residence in India. I regarded his leaving as a personal loss and deeply regretted it.

"David was undoubtedly personated at Bellary by one Appasawmy engaged for the purpose, who was caught and punished for the offence. I believe, however that David knew nothing about the attempt to obtain him a Government certificate by fraudulent means, but that it was a conspiracy, carried out by some of his relations who were personally interested in his becoming eligible for promotion, and that he had no participation in it.

"I further believe that his trial was unfair, and his conviction only procured by means of false evidence and the violent prejudice and rancour of the prosecutor, to whom he was utterly unknown, being accepted as more credible than the testimony of an employer he had served so well for many years.

"N. R. POGSON,
"Government Astronomer."

Your Excellency's memorialist has nothing to add to the above except that the charge against Appasawmy was that of personating your Excellency's memorialist at the Matriculation Examination held in Bellary while your Excellency's memorialist was himself at Madras, and that the offence charged against your Excellency's memorialist was that of aiding and abetting Appasawmy; the sentence on Appasawmy being one year's rigorous imprisonment, and on your Excellency's memorialist six months' simple imprisonment.

3. That the consequences to your Excellency's memorialist of his being thus dismissed the service have been very dire. He has not only been debarred from re-entering Government service but also lost the benefit of his twelve years' service as counting for pension, and has suffered great hardships from the difficulty of obtaining other employment. He, however, managed to eke out a living until 1899, when the last office (that of the Madras Electric Tramways Company) in which he was employed, was abolished, and since then he has been in utter poverty, so that, with a family to maintain, his position now is one of the utmost misery.

4. That, although conscious of his entire innocence in the matter of the personation case, your Excellency's memorialist does not impugn now the

judgment passed upon him therein by a competent court; but he humbly submits that, even granting that he was guilty of the offence charged against him, the punishment he has undergone and is still undergoing is more than either the Court or the Government could have contemplated, and it is to your Excellency's clemency alone that he now appeals.

5. That, considering that such clemency will be extended to even criminals and felons who have forfeited their liberty by the commission of heinous offences, your Excellency's memorialist humbly trusts that it will not be refused to him. He begs to append copies of certificates showing that even after leaving Government service he has borne a uniformly good character.

6. That your Excellency's memorialist is now only 39 years of age, and that therefore there are many more years' service in him yet.

7. That, under all the above circumstances, your Excellency will be graciously pleased to grant him a pension or gratuity for the 12 years he faithfully served the Government, or to bestow on him your Excellency's clemency in any other shape that may approve itself to your Excellency. And for such act of mercy.

Your Excellency's Memorialist,

As in duty bound, will ever pray.

Vellore Absalom David

(Encl. 1)

CERTIFICATES.

RANGOON, 15th May, 1891.

Certified that the bearer Absalom David has been in our employ for four months as a Clerk, during which period we have been very well satisfied with the way in which he has done his work. He leaves us as he is ill and wishes to return to Madras.

(Sd.) BULLOCH BROTHERS & Co.,
Agents, British India Steam Navigation Company (Ld.)

MADRAS ELECTRIC TRAMWAYS Co. (LD.)
9, Armenian Street,
Madras, 8th March, 1895.

Vellore Absalom David is Chief Clerk in my Office, where he has been employed for nearly two years. I have much pleasure in certifying that he is an excellent Clerk, very expert in business, and always willing. I have found him very useful, and have a high opinion of him.

(Sd.) S. A. CHALK,
Managing Director.

MADRAS ELECTRIC TRAMWAYS Co. (LD.)
Errabauloo Chetty Street,
Madras, 19th December, 1899.

I have pleasure in certifying that Vellore Absalom David has been in the employ of this Company as Chief Clerk since December 1893, and now leaves only because the Company has gone into liquidation, and the office is abolished. During these six years the record of his service has been one of entire satisfaction. His knowledge of the business of an office is extensive and varied, his intelligence is above the average, his willingness to do his best exemplary, and his adroitness in matters which require shrewd dealing nearly all that can be desired. He is besides hard working, though since recently, owing to illness, he has not been able to exert himself much. He has been drawing a salary of Rs. 60 in this office, and would in all probability have had his salary increased if the office had not been abolished. It is with regret that I part with him, and I shall be glad to hear that he has earned a post elsewhere worthy of his qualifications.

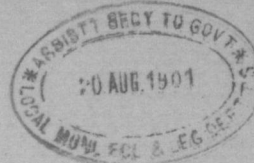
(Sd.) J. B. SALISBURY,
Assistant Secretary.

UNDER SECR.

15 AUG 1901

G.
74.

2,000-13-2-01.



Bureau DEPARTMENT.

No. 2483 From the Petition W. M. Adams, No. 6, Dated 14. 8. 1901.

Endorsement. No. 1297

19. 8. 02.

Transferred to the Educational
Department

Admiral

and Secretary

Cu. 17. 8. 01.
Dec
17. 8. 01

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The Educational & Phil.
in the U. S. in 1901 }
(also sent to Sec. of St.)

indicates
signature
all papers but not
except - Conf. - 100
which are all - only.
7/8
10/9

1,500-8-11-00.

190

C. No. 1150, From ~~the~~ V. Akalon David, No., dated 14th August

" " , " " , "

" " " " " " 190

ORDER No. 484, dated 30. 8. 190
his

The petitioner's requests are inadmissible.

27/81

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20.80

2 The Petitioner

3/2

, DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO (C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DIITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.