

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Finance DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 381	Press Mis.
Dated 9 th July. 18 89	

B.No. 7-9

8/9

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
from 9th to 15th July 1859.*

No. 7. To THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, Home Department, dated 9th July 1859 No. 381.

I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to state that this Government recently received a Petition signed Pursoorama Moodelly.

2. This Petition contained various charges against the establishment of the Accountant General of this Presidency, which it is unnecessary to notice, but in its 28th paragraph, a copy of which accompanies, it distinctly accused the Accountant General, Mr. G. L. Prendergast, of having availed himself of information derived from his Official position, and purchased Bonds of the Tanjore Debt to a large amount, and at a heavy discount, with the knowledge that they had been ordered by the Honorable Court to be paid off.

3. The letter from the Government of India 22nd October 1858, No. 5878, giving cover to a copy of a Despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors, No. 65 of 1858, dated 11th August 1858, regarding the repayment of the Bonds issued to the creditors of the Rajah of Tanjore, was received at Madras on the 9th November last, and was on the following day communicated, in the Secret Department, to the Accountant General, who was requested to prepare and submit a notification, as required by the Supreme Government, for the discharge of the Bonds. The notification was furnished by the Accountant General on the 11th November and transmitted to Calcutta with Mr. Acting Secretary Bayley's letter of the 16th idem. The approval of the Government of India, to the draft notification, conveyed in their letter of the 18th December last, was received at Madras about the 28th idem, and the notification was first published in the Fort Saint George Gazette of the 31st of that month.

4. The charge against Mr. Prendergast in Pursoorama Moodely's Petition is, in substance, that he made use of the information con-

NOTE.—The dates are incorrectly given

tained in the letter of the Secretary to the Government of India, 22nd October, communicated to

him by this Government, and made large purchases of Tanjore paper in consequence.

5. There was reason to believe that the name Pursoorama Moodelly was an assumed name. No party answering to that name could be found to own himself the author of the Petition which therefore might be regarded as anonymous, at the same time this Government were aware that reports respecting Mr. Prendergast, to the effect stated in the Petition, had been current in Madras Society. This Government therefore thought it but due to Mr. Prendergast to forward the Petition to him for any explanation which he might wish to offer on that point which related to himself. It was sent to him on the 4th Instant.

6. This morning (the 9th Instant) Mr. Prendergast submitted to Government an application for leave of absence for a fortnight to proceed to Calcutta on urgent private affairs. He was informed in reply that Government could pass no order upon his application until he had given a distinct answer to the question which had been asked of him about the purchase of the Tanjore Bonds. Mr. Prendergast thereon forwarded a letter, a copy of which is submitted.

7. With reference to this letter I am desired to state, that prior to his furnishing the explanation which it conveys, Mr. Prendergast had made voluntary admissions to the Honorable the President, and to the Honorable Mr. Elliot which implied that the only information which he had before him, when he purchased the Tanjore Bonds was that derived from the Official communication on the subject, from the Supreme Government.

8. Under these circumstances, I am instructed to submit that, in the opinion of this Government, the matter cannot rest in its present state, and I have to request the sanction of the Governor General in Council, for the institution of an investigation under Act XXXVII 1850, Section 23, Mr. Prendergast, although a Madras Civil Servant, holding an Office from which he is removable only by the Supreme Government.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
from 9th to 15th July 1859.

9. I have further to request that an answer to this communication may be sent by Electric Telegraph, and to add, that Mr. Prendergast has been informed, that this Government would address the Governor General in Council on the subject, and that it was necessary that he should remain at Madras until he received further orders.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Received by
Chief Secretary
10th July 1859
No 381
Proceedings of Govt
dated 9th July

Exd. A. P. W. Begbie.

Sent by Steam
10th July 1859

Public Dep^t

No 381. 9 July 1859

Secretary to Govt of India
Home Dep^t

I am &c to state that
in connection with this
recently received Peti-
tion signed Pursoor
Sama Mooddy -

2 - This Petition contains
in various charges
against the estate
- and of the Revenue
- and finally of this
Presidency, which it
is unnecessary to

notice - but in its
20th paragraph it dis-
tinctly asserts the

- a copy of which
accompanies -

Accountant General
Mr G L Pendergast
~~himself~~, of having
awaited him self for
information derived
from his official posi-

tion, to and purchased
Bonds of the Rajah
of Tanjore
sell to a large amount
and at a heavy
discount, with the
knowledge that they
had been ordered to
be paid off -

3 - The letter from the
Govt of India 22nd
Oct 1850 No 5070,
giving com to a copy
of a despatch from the
Honble Council of Directors

11 Aug 1850 regarding
the repayment of the
Bonds issued to the

Condition of the Rajah
of Tanjore, was receiv-
ed at Madras on the
9th last,
to Govt and was on

The following day com-
municated in the
Secret Dept, to the Secy
Genl, ~~and~~ ^{who} was
requested to prepare
and submit a note-
-petition, as required
by the Comtee Genl, for
the discharge of the
Bonds - The note peti-
-tion was forwarded
by the Accountant Genl
on the 11th Nov. and trans-
-mitted to Calcutta
with Mr At-^s Secy
Baird's letter of the 16

idem - The approval
of the Govt of India &
the Hong Kong notification,
conveyed in the letter
of the 10 Dec last, was
received at Madras
about the 20th idem,
and the notification
was first published
in the Fort St. George
gazette of the 31st of
that month -

4. The charge against
Mr. Pundarikast in
Pussorana Moodley's
petition is, in substance,
that he made use
of the information
contained in the letter
of the Secretary to the
Govt of India 22 Oct
communicated to
him by this Govt -
and made large

purchases of Tanjore
paper in consequence -
5. There was reason to
believe that the name
Pussorana Moodley
was an assumed
name - he partly an-
swering to that
name could be found
to own himself the
author of the petition,
which Mr. P. might
be regarded as avo-
uncious - At the
same time this fact
was known, that re-
ports respecting Mr.
Pundarikast, to the
effect stated in the
petition, had been
current in Madras
Society - This fact
Mr. P. knew it

note
The dates are incorrect -
- by given

had seen to Mr. Pender-
-fast to forward the
petition to him for any
explanation which he
^{might} wish to offer on that
point which related
to himself. It was sent
to him on the 4th ~~inst~~^{inst}.
This
4th ~~inst~~ morning of
the 9th inst of Mr. Pender-
-fast submitted
to him an application
for leave of absence
for a fortnight to pro-
ceed to Calcutta on
a private affair.
He was it is now
in reply that he
could pass no order
upon his application
until he had seen

a distinct answer
to the question which
had been asked of
him about the
purchase of the
Tanjore Bonds -
Mr. Pender-gate
thereon forwarded a
letter ^a copy of which
is submitted.
5 - With reference
to this letter I am
desirous to state, that
prior to his forward-
ing the explanation
which it conveys,
Mr. Pender-gate
had made voluntary
admissions to the
Hon^{ble} the President,
and to the Hon^{ble} the
Chairman

