

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 589

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated 22. 10. 1859

B. No. 3-4

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
from 22nd to 31st October 1859.*

No. 3. Read the following letter from J. RATLIFF Esq., Civil Service; to T. PYCROFT Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Nellore, October 1859.

I have the the honor to enclose herewith (four copies of) a Memorial addressed by the Gentlemen, marginally noted and myself, to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council—praying that—for reasons detailed—we may be, either, excepted from influence of the provisions of the order of Supreme Government under date April 30th, 1859, with reference to Civil Salaries, or, in default, that we may be, individually, permitted to quit the service, at once, or as soon as desirous, upon a Pension of £ 500 per annum, plus such annuity as may have been, in each case, actually subscribed for to the Annuity Fund.

2. That the local Government will appreciate the peculiar hardship of our position, and admit the justice of our allegations, generally, as set forth in body of the Memorial, we venture to confidently hope—and believe—and would accordingly, in soliciting the favor of its being transmitted to the Secretary of State for India, respectfully beg that it may be so, with favorable recommendation of the Honorable the Governor in Council, as well as with a confirmation of the correctness of the belief we have ventured to record at close of its seventh paragraph.

No. 4. ORDER THEREON, 22nd October 1859, No. 589.

Resolved, that the Memorial be forwarded to its address by the next Mail, and that the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India be referred to the Honorable the President's Minute on the subject of the salaries of the Civil Servants of this Presidency, copy of which was transmitted with the Despatch in this Department, dated the 19th instant, No. 23.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

THE RESPECTFUL MEMORIAL OF

JOHN WILLIAM CHERRY.
EDWARD GEORGE ROBERT FANE.
JOHN RATLIFF.
JOHN HENRY GOLDIE.
THOMAS JOHN KNOX.

Members of Her

Majesty's Indian Civil Service,

on the Madras Establishment

to HER MAJESTY'S SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL

Humbly Sheweth;

NOTIFICATION.

Fort St. George, May 3d, 1859.

The following Telegram received from the Government of India, is published for general information:—

Saturday, 30th April 1859.

The following Notification has this day been published in the Calcutta Extraordinary.

Mr. Rickett's reports on Civil Salaries being now under the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, it is hereby notified that in the case of all Civil Appointments made after the date of this Notification, the salaries of such appointment, will be held to be subject to such reduction as may be determined upon by the Government of India provisionally, and permanently to such reductions as shall be ordered by the Secretary of State for India.

By Order of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

(Signed.) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

1. That your Memorialists

have reason to believe, with reference to the Order of the Supreme Govern-

ment, marginally quoted, that a general reduction in the scale of emol-

uments at present attached to the several Offices filled by Members of

their Service, is in contemplation:—

the said reduction to affect all Incumbents appointed subsequently to

the 30th of April 1859.

2. That your Memorialists, would, from their particular position in the Service and its attendant circumstances, be far more seriously affected and injured by the working of this Order, than any of their Junior Brethern—and venture, accordingly, to submit the same for special consideration:—apart, that is to say, from any representations that may be made by, or considered with reference to, the Service generally.

3. That, being of the Season of 1839, your Memorialists have individually served the Government for twenty years:—but, owing to a tardiness in promotion—without precedent in the Service—arising, partly and chiefly from the abolition of the Provincial Courts—partly, from the insufficiency of available Annuities—they are, notwithstanding, still without permanent advancement to the higher Line—grades (Civil and Session Judge—or Collector and Magistrate—to wit)—and consequently rendered liable, by the above quoted Order, to succeed to such, hereafter, upon reduced allowances only.

4. That, had the previously ordinary rate of advancement in the Service not been thus suddenly and sadly retarded, your Memorialists would have all, and some even long, ere now received such final Line—Promotion, will be apparent from a glance at Past Records;—whilst reference to the Civil List of to-day will shew that, even under existing drawbacks, it has not only already reached two Gentlemen of the same Season as themselves (1839) Messrs. Hathaway and Ellis, but, been even conferred upon two others of subsequent Seasons—Mr. Cadell of 1840—and Mr. P. Grant of 1842—all prior to the restrictive date.

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5. Unfortunate therefore as your Memorialists have indubitably been in not having obtained permanent Advancement to the highest Line- Grades at a period antecedent to the 1st of May 1859 (and consequently early enough to have been spared the necessity for this present Appeal)— they beg to very earnestly and respectfully submit, how bitterly past disappointment will be enhanced, if this very tardiness in Promotion, from and under which they have already suffered, per se, should also become the direct impediment to their obtaining that Promotion, eventually, except upon terms less advantageous than those under which both their Cotemporaries and Juniors, have already received it.

6. That this last fact would, of itself, suffice to ensure the sympathy of Her Majesty's Government in the matter, and establish their claim to be hereafter placed in a no less advantageous relative position as to emoluments, on promotion, than that already attained to by those their more fortunate Cotemporaries and Juniors,— your Memorialists do not doubt:—though cannot, at the same time, forbear suggesting, independently of considerations connected with, or engendered by, comparison of positions, how sore a grievance would, in any case be, de facto, inflicted, were the legitimate hopes and prospects cherished, and built upon, by faithful and unoffending servants, for the protracted period of 20 Years, to be thus suddenly blighted, on the very eve of fruition!—Those younger in the Service, however much they might feel the pressure of the present, would, nathless, still have it in their power to render the future less hopeless, by a mean while exercise of stricter economy—the necessity for which, the fore-known conditions of that future would themselves suggest. Not so, however, your Memorialists. *Four-fifths* of their prescribed term of Service has already passed away:—it is no longer open to them, by timely economies to oppose, or at any rate to sensibly mitigate, deteriorated position:—their past has been regulated with reference to, and in reliance upon, a far different future, to that, apparently, dawning upon them:—they have, naturally, and *legitimately*, looked forward to the period of receipt of the, comparatively, high emoluments hitherto attainable on final promotion, as one that would afford sufficient facility for laying by, to enable the dispensing with any extraordinary anticipatory carefulness— and have lived accordingly:— they have, in fact, lived for 20 years in the fair, reasonable, and legitimate, expectation of one, and as they believed, guaranteed, future position, and find themselves suddenly, and from no fault of their own, placed face to face with another of (as feared,) a sadly deteriorated character.

7. Assured, accordingly, that a consideration of the several circumstances attendant upon their position in the Service, as above set forth, will have served to convince Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council, of the *peculiar* hardship with which the (presumed) contemplated alteration in salaries would, specially, bear upon them, individually and collectively, if applied to their case, your Memorialists venture to respectfully solicit, “ that they may be excepted from the operation of the restrictive Order of the ” “ Supreme Government under date 30th April 1859 quoted at opening of this Memorial— ” “ and be permitted to hereafter succeed, permanently, to the Offices of Civil and Session ” “ Judge, Collector and Magistrate, or other Office soever conferred hereafter as promotion, upon such salary and emoluments as are presently attached thereto ” :—observing,

III

at the same time, that, each of your Memorialists is even now *temporarily* filling the one or other of abovenamed Offices; whilst some have *been doing* so, off and on, for the last five Years as per annexed memorandum at foot:— and, that the absence of hitherto confirmation therein has arisen solely from their misfortune, and in no way soever from their fault, your Memorialists venture to believe that the Local Government will not hesitate to state in their behalf.

8. Having thus submitted their case for consideration as fully as they have felt at liberty to do in a petition of the kind, and expressed a belief, which, with reference to the nature of that case, they cannot but confidently entertain, as to its commanding the ready sympathy of Her Majesty's Government, your Memorialists cannot, nathless, conceal from themselves the fact, that, notwithstanding its palpable hardship, and the crying necessity for relief of some sort, it *may* be deemed inadvisable to afford that relief in the particular manner above proposed;—and they therefore, under this feeling, venture to suggest a second mode, which, whilst acceptable to themselves as an alternative, will, they venture to believe, with reference to precedent, be also of a nature to render it so to Her Majesty's Government.—Your Memorialists are fully sensible that, whatever the amount of individual hardship or inconvenience involved, private interests must, and as a rule are made to, succumb to public weal, whatever the matter at issue:— but, they are happy, at the same time, in the recollection, that sacrifices are *never* insisted upon, without the grant of such “ *Compensation* ” as the case may demand and circumstances admit of.— That the interests and prospects of your Memorialists *would* be not only seriously, but, as regards their fellow-servants, *specially*, affected, by a reduction of salaries, if carried out as at present, apparently, contemplated, they have already shewn:— but, should such carrying out, in its integrity be deemed indispensable, and exceptions in their special cases (for whatever cause) held to be inadvisable, they would respectfully submit (as the second mode of meeting their case above adverted to) the feasibility of affording them *Compensation*, and in the following manner— to wit— “ by according to each of them, ” “ permission to quit the Service, at once, or as soon as desirous, upon the *full Pension* ” “ of £500 per annum— plus such Annuity as each of them may have *actually subscribed* ” “ for, to the Annuity Fund ”.

9. This Pension would not, under existing Rules, be available, in full, until after a further Service of five Years—but a title to $\frac{4}{5}$ (four-fifths) of it, your Memorialists have already *actually acquired*, by a hitherto Service of $\frac{4}{5}$ (four-fifths) of the period necessary for a title to the whole:—the grant therefore of the *remaining fifth*, without the obligation of serving for it is all they ask, or would be really obtaining, in the shape of actual, bonâfide, *Compensation*:—a proposition, accordingly, which, they venture to believe, will be viewed as one, moderate in itself, and consequently, at once, admissible.

10. That the British Government would, suddenly and summarily, not only alter the terms of tenure in a service under it, in a manner so as to seriously and exceptionally affect the pecuniary position of a section of its Members, but notwithstanding, *virtually*, compel those Members to continue in that deteriorated Service, by withholding the means

of withdrawal from it, your Memorialists cannot believe to be possible:— whilst, to simply permit, and afford means for, that withdrawal, by grant of such *proportionate* Pension only as each Member had *actually served for*, calculated with reference to heretofore existing rule as to rate and period, (i. e. £ 500 after 25 years) without, at the same time, affording "*Compensation soever, in addition,*" for the withdrawn advantages which had thus brought about that premature resignation, would, they venture to also believe, be similarly opposed, alike to British principles— and British precedent.

In the humble, but confident hope, accordingly, that one or other of their Prayers will be granted, your Memorialists subscribe themselves as Your Most Obedient, Humble Servants.

October 1859.

JOHN WILLIAM CHERRY.
EDWARD GEORGE ROBERT FANE.
JOHN RATLIFF.
JOHN HENRY GOLDIE.
THOMAS JOHN KNOX.

The following Memorandum exhibits the several Senior-grade appointments to which your Memorialists have been temporarily nominated from time to time during the past five years.

J. W. CHERRY. { As Judge of Salem, 28th September 1855.
" Collector of Tanjore, 13th May 1856.
" Do. of Salem, 6th January 1857.
" Judge of Salem, 17th April 1857.
" Collector of Coimbatore, 26th March 1858.
" Judge of Salem, 8th March 1859.
in which last appointment he was confirmed on the 1st September 1859.

E. G. R. FANE. { As Post Master General, 21st December 1858.
" Collector of Salem, 15th April 1859.
" Post Master General, 9th June 1859.
in which last appointment he is still officiating.

J. RATLIFF. { As Collector of Nellore, 25th July 1854.
" Judge of Rajahmundry, 7th July 1857.
" Collector of South Arcot, 16th November 1858.
" Judge of Nellore, 25th April 1859.
in which last appointment he is still officiating.

J. H. GOLDIE. { As Judge of Chittoor 4th December 1857.
" Do. of Bellary 21st December 1858.
in which last appointment he is still officiating.

T. J. KNOX. { As Judge of Masulipatam 14th December 1855.
" Collector of Do. 27th January 1857.
" Agent in Ganjam 26th May 1858.
" Collector of Masulipatam 16th March 1859.
" Do. of Salem 23rd May 1859.
in which last appointment he is still officiating.

715 July/59 to 10/11

Final L^y to L^y.
27th October 22.26
of 1859

Replies to D^y 8th Feb^y:
28th 6 of 1860.

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Financial 1859 Depart^y

Proof for 31 Oct^r

From

J. Ratliff Esq^r

Mad. Civil Servant

Dated 14th 3 October 1859.

Enclo 1.

N^o 509

Encloses a Memorial
addressed by certain gentlemen
and himself, to H. M. Sec^y of State
for India, praying that for reasons
detailed, they may be excepted
from the provisions of the order of the
Supreme Gov^t of 30 April 59 with re-
ference to Civil Salaries. And
the favor of its being transmitted
to that authority with the favorable
recommendation of this Gov^t.
With an Order