M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 489. Press Mis.

13-14.

Dated 8-10- 1861.

13-14 ~~16-17~~ 16/17

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 13. Read the following letter from Mrs. ARABELLA FRENCH, Widow of the late Mr. T. French; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue and Public Works Department, Fort Saint George, dated 31st July 1861.

I beg to transmit a Memorial in triplicate to the address of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, praying for some provision for the Children of my late husband, Mr. Thomas French, who served the Government for above 34 years, of which 25 years were in the Revenue, &c., Departments of the Secretariat; and to express my earnest hope that in forwarding the Memorial to its address, His Excellency the Governor in Council will be pleased, in consideration of my husband's long and faithful services, to support its prayer with his favorable recommendation.

To

THE RIGHT HONORABLE SIR CHARLES WOOD,
Secretary of State for India.

The humble Memorial of ARABELLA FRENCH, widow of the late Mr. THOMAS FRENCH, First Uncovenanted Assistant in the Revenue and Public Works Departments of the Secretariat of the Government of Fort Saint George.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH,

That your Memorialist's late husband Mr. Thomas French, after having spent the best years and energies of his life in the Public Service which he had entered while young, died at Madras on the 4th of March 1861 at the age of 53 years.

2. That her late husband served the Government for a period of 34 years in the most important Departments of the Public Service; and the high testimonials recorded of his merits as a servant of the State will show the estimation in which the late T. French was held. It would not become your Memorialist to dilate in this Petition on her husband's services, as they have on several occasions been specially brought to the notice of the Home Government in recommending an increase to the salary of his office, and they are more particularly alluded to in his Memorial, dated the 17th November 1858. It will be sufficient here to note that having commenced his official career at an early age, he had been actively employed in the Collectorates of Masulipatam, Guntoor and Salem for above 8 years, and that a very favorable opinion having been entertained of his merits and services in the last District, he was selected for the appointment of Uncovenaunted Assistant in the Revenue* and Judical Departments of the Government Secretariat, on the creation of that Office in 1835.

* Afterwards Revenue and Public Works Departments.

3. Thus your Memorialist's late husband had been employed in the Secretariat alone for 25 years or a quarter century, during which he had labored earnestly and zealously for the interests of Government, and it was evident to all that his health was latterly painfully affected by the arduous nature of his duties, under which he eventually broke down, worn by toil and anxiety, as has been certified by his Medical* attendant. It may not be considered out of place to mention here, that during the above period, the highest testimony had been borne to the value of her late husband's services and to the zeal and ability with which he had discharged the duties of the Departments in which he was employed; and your Memorialist would especially refer, among many others, to the testimony recorded by Messrs. H. Forbes, W. H. Bayley, and the Honorable Walter Elliot, under whom her husband had served at different times in the Secretariat. Copies of these testimonials are appended to this Memorial, marked Nos. 1 to 3.

* Certificate appended.

4. With a family of 14 children, it might readily be imagined how immeasurably low (considering the position the late T. French had acquired,) their parent's means must always have been to give his offspring the like opportunity of attaining a proper footing in life. Mr. French's salary was raised to the equivalent of £ 50 per mensem, only within the last three years

of his life; but with all his prudence and self-imposed privations in domestic management, in order to give his children support and education, it was utterly impossible to lay up a provision to shield them from penury and want, when the awful calamity might arrive which they have now so bitterly to deplore. That event occurred in the midst of important public duty, which he had been struggling under great mental anxiety to overcome.

5. Had the late T. French not maintained these struggles with an unswerving respectable demeanor acknowledged by all who knew him, resting upon the firm conviction that it was utterly impossible to fail in his hopes with a Government distinguished for its humanity, your Memorialist might feel less confidence in assuming the privilege of appeal; but seeing that with all his discretion, his family are left utterly destitute, she feels that she may venture to cast herself and them on the mercy and justice of the State, with every reasonable hope of success.

6. Those of her household at present consist of two sons in Madras who are respectively receiving 50 and 30 Rupees monthly in the public service, and seven other children whose ages are given in the margin, and who are totally dependant together with your Memorialist on the precarious bounty of friends. The late T. French, before the family became so large, did endeavour to secure his family against want, and invested his hard savings in the purchase of some landed property, but his resources not keeping pace with the increase of his family, the little that was acquired became encumbered by mortgages; to meet which and other debts, your Memoralist was obliged to sell all the property; and the very house the family have been residing in for many years, and which was purchased from the small patrimony left to your Memorialist by her late father, the late Mr. John Richardson, an old and faithful servant of Government, is also in mortgage.

Georgiana	21 years.	Charles	11 years.
Isabella	18 do.	Herbert	10 do.
George	14 do.	Charlotte	7 do.
Henry	13 do.		

7. Your Memorialist cannot but deeply deplore the calamity which has so overtaken her as to compel her appealing to the benevolence and humanity of Her Majesty's Government, and to implore a compassionate consideration of the case of her late husband's family, and their present forlorn condition; and she most humbly but earnestly prays, that Her Majesty's Government will be graciously pleased, in reference to the several precedents, noticed in the margin, of the families of deceased meritorious Servants; and in favourable recognition of her husband's long and faithful services in the Secretariat, especially considering that he died in active service, to confer upon your Memorialist such an allowance, as may upon a consideration of all the circumstances of her case, be deemed fitting for the support and education of her dependant ones.

Mrs. Jane Corner, widow of the late Mr. John Corner, Head Clerk and Accountant in the Civil Auditor's Office.
Mrs. C. Vint, widow of the late Mr. J. Vint, Manager in the same Office.
Widow of the late Teagaroy Chetty, late Head Accountant also in the Civil Auditor's Office.
Mrs. R. Neale, widow of the late Mr. F. Neale, Manager of the General Post Office.
Mrs. E. Lloyd, widow of the late Mr. J. Lloyd, Examiner in the Revenue Board Office.
Three Misses Fernandez, daughters of the late Mr. H. Fernandez, Head Record Keeper of the Sudr and Foujdaree Adalut Court.
Eight Children of the late Mr. W. B. Brunette, Manager of the Adjutant General's Office.
Widow of the late Goorooswamy Naidoo, Manager, Revenue Department, Government Office.
Widow of the late Mauriappa Moodelly, Manager, Revenue Department, Government Office (still in receipt of pension.)

8. That your Memorialist has deferred submitting her present appeal to Her Majesty's Government to the present time, in order to ascertain and state with certainty the precise condition of her late husband's Estate to which she has administered, and she is now enabled to assert that the assets are not sufficient to meet the liabilities, and that in fact she and her children are left quite destitute and dependent on relatives and friends for a precarious provision, a forlorn condition from which your Memorialist must look to your Honorable Government alone to rescue her.

And your Memorialist, as in duty bound shall ever pray.

(Signed) ARBELLA FRENCH.

MADRAS, 31st July 1861.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
8th October 1861.

I do hereby certify that Mr. Thomas French consulted me about the beginning of June 1860, for symptoms which indicated disease of the heart and kidneys. He was then suffering also from general weakness and nervous depression induced by organic disease and by the laborious and fatiguing nature of his Office duties. I urgently impressed upon him the absolute necessity of his suspending himself from all work and advised him to obtain leave of absence and proceed by sea for a change of air, as I was of opinion that Medical treatment would prove of little or no avail in his case, unless he could at the same time be relieved from Office work which seemed to harass his mind and keep him always in a state of excitement. This leave was not obtained Mr. French continued to get worse till December last when he was compelled by the progressive advancement of his disease and general prostration to leave off duty. He went for a change of air to Bangalore in the early part of January 1861, and remained there for a month under the treatment of Dr. Rogers. He there improved at first, but subsequently got much worse and was advised to return to Madras when he gradually sunk and died sixteen days afterwards on the 4th March.

I have known Mr. T. French for several years and he was always particularly sober and temperate in his habits. The disease of which he died, if not actually caused, was probably aggravated by his necessarily sedentary life and by the laborious and unintermitting nature of the duties he had to perform in his Office.

(Signed) R. S. MAIR, M. D.

MADRAS,
15*th July* 1861.

Extracts from the Register of Uncovenanted Servants.

No. 1. Mr. T. French has been in every way a most useful Assistant during the time that I have held the Secretary's Office, attentive, diligent, able and experienced, he has conducted his duties in a manner that has given me entire satisfaction.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

30th April 1858.

---

2. *Extract from a Memo. recorded by W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, 7th January* 1859.

Before leaving the Secretary's Office where I have been acting for eight months, I would wish to leave on record my sense of the assistance I have received from Mr. T. French the Senior Uncovenanted Assistant and Vejia Ragavooloo Chetty the Registrar.

I have had Mr. French's aid in this Office before, and am fully aware of the value of his services, and of the testimony that has been borne to them, so it is almost superfluous to add any thing more. I only trust they may be properly recognised by the Home Government.

---

3. *Minute by the Honorable WALTER ELLIOT, Esq., dated 16th February* 1858.

I cannot allow this draught to pass without expressing my sense of the strong claims that the Memorialists have on the consideration of the Honorable Court. I have known the two Messrs. French from the time that I served in the Secretariat in 1842, and I can say with confidence that the Government do not possess two abler or more zealous or hardworking Servants. Mr. Ferrand was not in my Department, but I know that he stood equally high in the estimation of his superiors. These men have grown grey in the service on the very inadequate salaries allotted to them, buoyed up by the hope that their merits would be recognized and that they would be placed on the same footing as their more fortunate fellow servants in the other Presidencies. It is not very long ago that Mr. T. French in asking me to assist him in getting some provision for his family, informed me of the difficulties he has had to contend with in bringing up fourteen children, (ten of whom are now with him) and how he has constantly been looking forward to the reasonable expectation of acquiring the means of leaving them in somewhat more comfortable circumstances.

But putting aside all personal considerations which of course cannot be allowed to influence such questions, I would merely urge the unanswerable argument that the labourer is worthy of his hire, and that I can imagine no possible reason why the same services should be rewarded on one scale at Madras and on another at Calcutta and Agra and Bombay.

I do most sincerely trust that the very reasonable and moderate prayer of these Gentlemen will meet with that consideration from the Honorable Court which it has ever been ready to extend to its really deserving servants.

POSTSCRIPT.—Among the papers left by the late T. French there has been found draft of an application for a Pension prepared in the early part of 1860 for submission to Sir Charles Trevelyan the Governor—but under what circumstances it was not sent in, or if submitted, it was afterwards withdrawn, it does not appear.

No. 14. ORDER THEREON, 8th October 1861, No. 489.

The Government resolve to forward the Memorial submitted with the foregoing letter to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, with their recommendation that in consideration of Mrs. French's present circumstances and of her late husband's faithful and meritorious services during the long period of 34 years, a pension of Rupees 175 per mensem be granted to her on the terms marginally noted for the support of herself and her family of seven children.

	Rs.	A.	P.	
Mrs. French for life.....	50	0	0	*per mensem.*
3 *Girls till marriage or death at* 15 *Rs. each*..	45	0	0	„ „
4 *Boys till the age of* 18 *at* 20 *Rs. each*.....	80	0	0	„ „
	175	0	0	

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

59

I do hereby certify that Mr Thomas French contracted [illegible] in the beginning of June 1860 [illegible] indicated disease of the heart [illegible] there was suffering also from general weakness and nervous debility induced by organic disease and by the laborious and fatiguing nature of his Office duties. I urgently impressed upon him the absolute necessity of his suspending himself from all work and advised him to obtain leave of absence and proceed by Sea for a change of Air, as I was of opinion that Medical treatment would be of little or no avail in his Case, unless he could at the same time be relieved from Office work which seemed to harass his mind and keep him always in a State of excitement. His leave was not obtained & Mr French continued to get worse till December last, when he was compelled by the progressive advancement of his disease and general prostration to leave off duty. He went for a change of Air to Bangalore in the Early part of January 1861 and

Proceedings of the Madras Gov
8th Octo

But putting aside all personal considerations
such questions, I would merely urge the unansw
his hire, and that I can imagine no possible rea

ever permanent there for a Month under the
treatment of Dr. Rogers. He there improved
at first, but subsequently got much worse and
was ordered to return to Madras where he
gradually [illegible] Eastern Lodge
[illegible]

I have known Mr. J. French
for several years and he was always particularly
sober and temperate in his habits. The disease
which he died, if not actually caused, was
probably aggravated by his necessarily sedentary
life and by the laborious and uninterrupting
nature of the duties he had to perform in his

Signed R. S. Rogers
M.D.

Ootacamund
15th July 1861.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Extracts from the Register of Uncovenanted Servants. Madras Rec. 14th Feb 1861.

99

Extracts from the Register of Uncovenanted Servants.

No. 1. Mr. T. FRENCH has been in every way a most useful assistant during the time that I have held the Secretary's Office, attentive, diligent, able and experienced, he has conducted his duties in a manner that has given me entire satisfaction.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

30*th April* 1858.

---

2. *Extract from a Memo. recorded by W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, 7th January* 1859.

Before leaving the Secretary's Office where I have been acting for eight months, I would wish to leave on record my sense of the assistance I have received from Mr. T. FRENCH the Senior Uncovenanted Assistant and VEJIA RAGAVOOLOO Chetty the Registrar.

I have had Mr. FRENCH's aid in this Office before, and am fully aware of the value of his services, and of the testimony that has been borne to them, so it is almost superfluous to add any thing more. I only trust they may be properly recognised by the Home Government.

---

3. *Minute by the Hon'ble WALTER ELLIOT, Esq., dated 16th February* 1858.

I cannot allow this draught to pass without expressing my sense of the strong claims that the Memorialists have on the consideration of the Honorable Court. I have known the two Messrs. FRENCH from the time that I served in the Secretariat in 1842, and I can say with confidence that the Government do not possess two abler or more zealous or hardworking Servants. Mr. FERRAND was not in my Department, but I know that he stood equally high in the estimation of his Superiors. These men have grown grey in the service on the very inadequate salaries allotted to them, buoyed up by the hope that their merits would be recognized and that they would be placed on the same footing as their more fortunate fellow servants in the other Presidencies. It is not very long ago that Mr. T. FRENCH in asking me to assist him in getting some provision for his family, informed me of the difficulties he has had to contend with in bringing up fourteen children, (ten of whom are now with him) and how he has constantly been looking forward to the reasonable expectation of acquiring the means of leaving them in somewhat more comfortable circumstances.

But putting aside all personal considerations which of course cannot be allowed to influence such questions, I would merely urge the unanswerable argument that the labourer is worthy of his hire, and that I can imagine no possible reason why the same services should be rewarded on one scale at Madras and on another at Calcutta and Agra and Bombay.

I do most sincerely trust that the very reasonable and moderate prayer of these gentlemen will meet with that consideration from the Honorable Court which it has ever been ready to extend to its really deserving servants.

Postscript — Among the papers left by the late T. French there has been found Draft of an Application for a Pension prepared in the early part of 1860 for submission to Sir Charles Trevelyan the Governor - but under what circumstances it was not sent in, or if submitted, it was afterwards withdrawn, it does not appear.

Certificate

119

TO

THE RIGHT HON'BLE SIR CHARLES WOOD,

Secretary of State for India.

THE HUMBLE MEMORIAL OF ARABELLA FRENCH, WIDOW OF THE LATE MR. THOMAS FRENCH, FIRST UNCOVENANTED ASSISTANT IN THE REVENUE AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH,

That your Memorialist's late husband Mr. THOMAS FRENCH, after having spent the best years and energies of his life in the Public Service which he had entered while young, died at Madras on the 4th of March 1861 at the age of 53 years.

2. That her late husband served the Government for a period of 34 years in the most important Departments of the Public Service; and the high testimonials recorded of his merits as a servant of the State will show the estimation in which the late T. FRENCH was held. It would not become your Memorialist to dilate in this Petition on her husband's services, as they have on several occasions been specially brought to the notice of the Home Government in recommending an increase to the salary of his Office, and they are more particularly alluded to in his Memorial dated the 17th November 1858. It will be sufficient here to note that having commenced his official career at an early age, he had been actively employed in the Collectorates of Masulipatam, Guntoor and Salem for above 8 years, and that a very favorable opinion having been entertained of his merits and services in the last District, he was selected for the appointment of Uncovenanted Assistant in the *Revenue and Judicial Departments of the Government Secretariat, on the creation of that Office in 1835.

* Afterwards Revenue and Public Works Departments.

3. Thus your Memorialist's late husband had been employed in the Secretariat alone for 25 years or a quarter century, during which he had labored earnestly and zealously for the interests of Government, and it was evident to all that his health was latterly painfully affected by the arduous nature of his duties, under which he eventually broke down, worn by toil and anxiety, as has been certified by his Medical *attendant. It may not be considered out of place to mention here, that during the above period, the highest testimony had been borne to the value of her late husband's services and to the zeal and ability with which he had discharged the duties of the Departments in which he was employed; and your Memorialist would especially refer, among many others, to the testimony recorded by Messrs. H. FORBES, W. H. BAYLEY, and the Hon'ble WALTER ELLIOT, under whom her husband had served at different times in the Secretariat. Copies of these testimonials are appended to this Memorial, marked Nos. 1 to 3.

* Certificate No. 2

4. With a family of 14 children, it might readily be imagined how immeasurably low (considering the position the late T. FRENCH had acquired,) their parents means must always have been to give his offspring the like opportunity of attaining a proper footing in life. Mr. FRENCH's salary was raised to the equivalent of £50 per mensem, only within the last three years

of his life; but with all his prudence and self-imposed privations in domestic management, in order to give his children support and education, it was utterly impossible to lay up a provision to shield them from penury and want, when the awful calamity might arrive which they have now so bitterly to deplore. That event occurred in the midst of important public duty, which he had been struggling under great mental anxiety to overcome.

5. Had the late T. FRENCH not maintained these struggles with an unswerving respectable demeanor acknowledged by all who knew him, resting upon the firm conviction that it was utterly impossible to fail in his hopes with a Government distinguished for its humanity, your Memorialist might feel less confidence in assuming the privilege of appeal; but seeing that with all his discretion, his family are left utterly destitute, she feels that she may venture to cast herself and them on the mercy and justice of the State, with every reasonable hope of success.

6. Those of her household at present consist of two Sons in Madras who are respectively receiving 50 and 30 Rupees monthly in the public service, and seven other children whose ages are given in the margin, and who are totally dependant together with your Memorialist on the precarious bounty of friends. The late T. FRENCH, before the family became so large, did endeavour to secure his family against want, and invested his hard savings in the purchase of some landed property, but his resources not keeping pace with the increase of his family, the little that was acquired became encumbered by mortgages; to meet which and other debts, your Memorialist was obliged to sell all the property; and the very house the family have been residing in for many years, and which was purchased from the small patrimony left to your Memorialist by her late father, the late Mr. JOHN RICHARDSON, an old and faithful servant of Government, is also in mortgage.

Georgiana	21 years.	Charles	11 years
Isabella	18 do.	Herbert	10 do.
George	14 do.	Charlotte	7 do.
Henry	13 do.		

7. Your Memorialist cannot but deeply deplore the calamity which has so overtaken her as to compel her appealing to the benevolence and humanity of Her Majesty's Government, and to implore a compassionate consideration of the case of her late husband's family, and their present forlorn condition; and she most humbly but earnestly prays, that Her Majesty's Government will be graciously pleased, in reference to the several precedents, noticed in the margin, of the families of deceased meritorious Servants; and in favourable recognition of her husband's long and faithful services in the Secretariat, especially considering that he died in active service, to confer upon your Memorialist such an allowance, as may upon a consideration of all the circumstances of her case, be deemed fitting for the support and education of her dependant ones.

Mrs. Jane Corner, widow of the late Mr. John Corner, Head Clerk and Accountant in the Civil Auditor's Office.
Mrs. C. Vint, widow of the late Mr. J. Vint, Manager in the same Office.
Widow of the late Teagaroy Chetty, late head Accountant also in the Civil Auditor's Office.
Mrs. R. Neale, widow of the late Mr. F. Neale, Manager of the General Post Office.
Mrs. E. Lloyd, widow of the late Mr. J. Lloyd, Examiner in the Revenue Board Office.
Three Misses Fernandez, daughters of the late Mr. H. Fernandez, Head Record Keeper of the Sudr and Fujdaree Adalut Court.
Eight Children of the late Mr. W. B. Brunette, Manager of the Adjutant General's Office.
Widow of the late Gooroosawmy Naidoo, Manager, Revenue Dept. Govt. Office.
Widow of the late Mauriappa Moodelly, Manager, Revenue Dept., Govt. Office (still in receipt of pension.)

8. That your Memorialist has deferred submitting her present appeal to Her Majesty's Government to the present time, in order to ascertain and state with certainty the precise condition of her late husband's Estate to which she has administered, and she is now enabled to assert that the assets are not sufficient to meet the liabilities, and that in fact she and her children are left quite destitute and dependent on relatives and friends for a precarious provision, a forlorn condition from which your Memorialist must look to your Hon'ble Government alone to rescue her.

And your Memorialist, as in duty bound shall ever pray.

MADRAS,
31st July 1861.

Annie Fred

139

I do hereby certify that Mrs Thomas French consulted me about the beginning of June 1860 for dyspeptic attack indicated disease of the heart and kidneys. He was then suffering also from general weakness and nervous depression induced by organic disease and by the laborious and fatiguing nature of his office duties. Surgently impressed upon him the absolute necessity of his suspending himself from all work and advised him to obtain leave of absence and proceed by sea for a change of air as I was of opinion that medical treatment would prove of little or no avail in his case unless he could at the same time be relieved from office work which seemed to harass his mind and keep him always in a state of excitement. His leave was not obtained

of his life; but with all his prudence and self-imposed privations in

obtained. Mr. French continued to get worse till December last when he was compelled by the progressive advancement of his disease and general prostration to leave off duty. He went for a change of air to Bangalore in the early part of January 1861 and remained there for a month under the treatment of Dr. Rogers. He there improved at first but subsequently got much worse and was advised to return to Madras when he gradually sunk and died sixteen days afterwards on the 9th March.

I have known Mr. T. French for several years and he was always particularly sober and temperate in his habits. The disease of which he died, if not actually caused, was probably aggravated by his necessarily sedentary life and by the laborious and unintermitting nature of the duties he had to perform in his office.

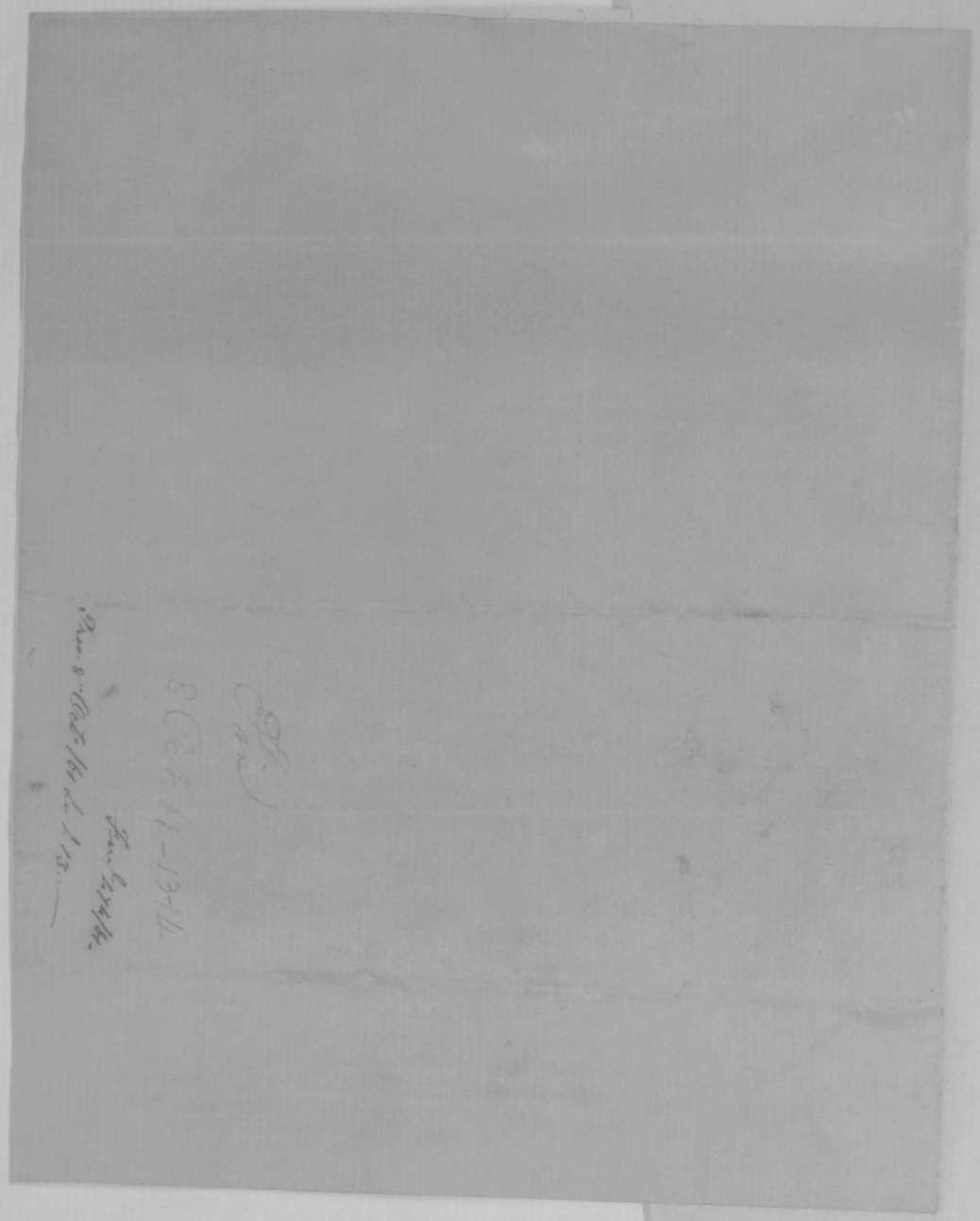
(Signed) R. L. Main M. D.

Madras,
15th July 1861.

And your Memorialist, as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Madras,
31st July 1861.

Articles



TO

THE RIGHT HON'BLE SIR CHARLES WOOD,

Secretary of State for India.

THE HUMBLE MEMORIAL OF ARABELLA FRENCH, WIDOW OF THE LATE MR. THOMAS FRENCH, FIRST UNCOVENANTED ASSISTANT IN THE REVENUE AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH,

That your Memorialist's late husband Mr. THOMAS FRENCH, after having spent the best years and energies of his life in the Public Service which he had entered while young, died at Madras on the 4th of March 1861 at the age of 53 years.

2. That her late husband served the Government for a period of 34 years in the most important Departments of the Public Service; and the high testimonials recorded of his merits as a servant of the State will show the estimation in which the late T. FRENCH was held. It would not become your Memorialist to dilate in this Petition on her husband's services, as they have on several occasions been specially brought to the notice of the Home Government in recommending an increase to the salary of his Office, and they are more particularly alluded to in his Memorial dated the 17th November 1858. It will be sufficient here to note that having commenced his official career at an early age, he had been actively employed in the Collectorates of Masulipatam, Guntoor and Salem for above 8 years, and that a very favorable opinion having been entertained of his merits and services in the last District, he was selected for the appointment of Uncovenanted Assistant in the *Revenue and Judicial Departments of the Government Secretariat, on the creation of that Office in 1835.

* Afterwards Revenue and Public Works Departments.

3. Thus your Memorialist's late husband had been employed in the Secretariat alone for 25 years or a quarter century, during which he had labored earnestly and zealously for the interests of Government, and it was evident to all that his health was latterly painfully affected by the arduous nature of his duties, under which he eventually broke down, worn by toil and anxiety, as has been certified by his Medical attendant. It may not be considered out of place to mention here, that during the above period, the highest testimony had been borne to the value of her late husband's services and to the zeal and ability with which he had discharged the duties of the Departments in which he was employed; and your Memorialist would especially refer, among many others, to the testimony recorded by Messrs. H. FORBES, W. H BAYLEY, and the Hon'ble WALTER ELLIOT, under whom her husband had served at different times in the Secretariat. Copies of these testimonials are appended to this Memorial, marked Nos. 1 to 3.

4. With a family of 14 children, it might readily be imagined how immeasurably low (considering the position the late T. FRENCH had acquired,) their parents means must always have been to give his offspring the like opportunity of attaining a proper footing in life. Mr. FRENCH's salary was raised to the equivalent of £50 per mensem, only within the last three years

of his life; but with all his prudence and self-imposed privations in domestic management, in order to give his children support and education, it was utterly impossible to lay up a provision to shield them from penury and want, when the awful calamity might arrive which they have now so bitterly to deplore. That event occurred in the midst of important public duty, which he had been struggling under great mental anxiety to overcome.

5. Had the late T. FRENCH not maintained these struggles with an unswerving respectable demeanor acknowledged by all who knew him, resting upon the firm conviction that it was utterly impossible to fail in his hopes with a Government distinguished for its humanity, your Memorialist might feel less confidence in assuming the privilege of appeal; but seeing that with all his discretion, his family are left utterly destitute, she feels that she may venture to cast herself and them on the mercy and justice of the State, with every reasonable hope of success.

6. Those of her household at present consist of two Sons in Madras who are respectively receiving 50 and 30 Rupees monthly in the public service, and seven other children whose ages are given in the margin, and who are totally dependant together with your Memorialist on the precarious bounty of friends. The late T. FRENCH, before the family became so large, did endeavour to secure his family against want, and invested his hard savings in the purchase of some landed property, but his resources not keeping pace with the increase of his family, the little that was acquired became encumbered by mortgages; to meet which and other debts, your Memorialist was obliged to sell all the property; and the very house the family have been residing in for many years, and which was purchased from the small patrimony left to your Memorialist by her late father, the late Mr. JOHN RICHARDSON, an old and faithful servant of Government, is also in mortgage.

Georgiana	21 years.	Charles	11 years
Isabella	18 do.	Herbert	10 do.
George	14 do.	Charlotte	7 do.
Henry	13 do.		

7. Your Memorialist cannot but deeply deplore the calamity which has so overtaken her as to compel her appealing to the benevolence and humanity of Her Majesty's Government, and to implore a compassionate consideration of the case of her late husband's family, and their present forlorn condition; and she most humbly but earnestly prays, that Her Majesty's Government will be graciously pleased, in reference to the several precedents, noticed in the margin, of the families of deceased meritorious Servants; and in favourable recognition of her husband's long and faithful services in the Secretariat, especially considering that he died in active service, to confer upon your Memorialist such an allowance, as may upon a consideration of all the circumstances of her case, be deemed fitting for the support and education of her dependant ones.

Mrs. Jane Corner, widow of the late Mr. John Corner, Head Clerk and Accountant in the Civil Auditor's Office.
Mrs. C. Vint, widow of the late Mr. J. Vint, Manager in the same Office.
Widow of the late Teagaroy Chetty, late head Accountant also in the Civil Auditor's Office.
Mrs. R. Neale, widow of the late Mr. F. Neale, Manager of the General Post Office.
Mrs E. Lloyd, widow of the late Mr. J. Lloyd, Examiner in the Revenue Board Office.
Three Misses Fernandez, daughters of the late Mr. H. Fernandez, Head Record Keeper of the Sudr and Fonjdaree Adalut Court.
Eight Children of the late Mr. W. B. Brunette, Manager of the Adjutant General's Office.
Widow of the late Gooroosawmy Naidoo, Manager, Revenue Dept. Govt. Office.
Widow of the late Mauriappa Moodelly, Manager, Revenue Dept., Govt. Office (still in receipt of pension.)

8. That your Memorialist has deferred submitting her present appeal to Her Majesty's Government to the present time, in order to ascertain and state with certainty the precise condition of her late husband's Estate to which she has administered, and she is now enabled to assert that the assets are not sufficient to meet the liabilities, and that in fact she and her children are left quite destitute and dependent on relatives and friends for a precarious provision, a forlorn condition from which your Memorialist must look to your Hon'ble Government alone to rescue her.

And your Memorialist, as in duty bound shall ever pray.

MADRAS, 31 July 1861.

Arabella French

199

Extracts from the Register of Uncovenanted Servants.

No. 1. Mr. T. FRENCH has been in every way a most useful assistant during the time that I have held the Secretary's Office, attentive, diligent, able and experienced, he has conducted his duties in a manner that has given me entire satisfaction.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

30*th April* 1858.

---

2. *Extract from a Memo. recorded by W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, 7th January* 1859.

Before leaving the Secretary's Office where I have been acting for eight months, I would wish to leave on record my sense of the assistance I have received from Mr. T. FRENCH the Senior Uncovenanted Assistant and VEJIA RAGAVOOLOO Chetty the Registrar.

I have had Mr. FRENCH's aid in this Office before, and am fully aware of the value of his services, and of the testimony that has been borne to them, so it is almost superfluous to add any thing more. I only trust they may be properly recognised by the Home Government.

---

3. *Minute by the Hon'ble WALTER ELLIOT, Esq., dated 16th February* 1858.

I cannot allow this draught to pass without expressing my sense of the strong claims that the Memorialists have on the consideration of the Honorable Court. I have known the two Messrs. FRENCH from the time that I served in the Secretariat in 1842, and I can say with confidence that the Government do not possess two abler or more zealous or hardworking Servants. Mr. FERRAND was not in my Department, but I know that he stood equally high in the estimation of his Superiors. These men have grown grey in the service on the very inadequate salaries allotted to them, buoyed up by the hope that their merits would be recognized and that they would be placed on the same footing as their more fortunate fellow servants in the other Presidencies. It is not very long ago that Mr. T. FRENCH in asking me to assist him in getting some provision for his family, informed me of the difficulties he has had to contend with in bringing up fourteen children, (ten of whom are now with him) and how he has constantly been looking forward to the reasonable expectation of acquiring the means of leaving them in somewhat more comfortable circumstances.

But putting aside all personal considerations which of course cannot be allowed to influence such questions, I would merely urge the unanswerable argument that the labourer is worthy of his hire, and that I can imagine no possible reason why the same services should be rewarded on one scale at Madras and on another at Calcutta and Agra and Bombay.

I do most sincerely trust that the very reasonable and moderate prayer of these gentlemen will meet with that consideration from the Honorable Court which it has ever been ready to extend to its really deserving servants.

Fm. Isabella Finch
Dated 31st July 1861.
Rd. 14th Augt.

219

To
H. D. Sim Esqr.
Secretary to Government
Revn. & Pubk. Works Departments
Fort St. George

Sir,

I beg to transmit a Memorial in triplicate to the address of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, praying for some provision for the Children of my late Husband, Wm. Thomas Finch, who served the Government for above 34 Years, of which 25 Years were in the Revenue & Cus. Departments of the Secretariat; and to express my earnest hope that in forwarding the Memorial to its address His Excellency the Governor in Council will be pleased, in consideration of my husband's long and faithful Services, to support its prayer with his favorable recommendation.

I remain,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
Isabella Finch

Madras
31st July, 1861.

Fin.l Dept. to Govt. 8th Oct.
No. 14 of 1861.

Financial
Public 1861 Oct. 8th
No. 1890 Extract of the late Bro. A. French
J. French.
Sd. 3 sheets
Rp. 3 sheets 3 Aug. 1861.
Memo. Lr. in Petition.

No. 1890/374

Forwards for Favourable consideration the Petition of late Revd. Jeremiah Browning for the extension of the Pension granted to his late husband & requests that the prayer may be complied with.

Recommended.

13.

Commissary General's Office
Madras 8th October 1861.

No. 207.

Memorandum.

To
The Deputy Secretary
to Government.
Financial Department
Fort St. George

With reference to Memorandum No. 390, dated 2d October 1861, the Commissary General has the honor to inform the Deputy Secretary to Government, Financial Department, that the Salary drawn by Jeremiah Browning, whose widow was allowed a sum of 20 Rupees monthly by Order of Government, was Rupees One Hundred & Seventy five Pr. measm.—

I have &c.
A. Wolfe Colonel,
Commissary General.

E & R 12 P.

Financial Department. 3591

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from Mrs A. French, Widow of the late Mr T. French - 3592

(Date enter 31st July 1861) No 1574

Order thereon 8th October 1861 No 4489.

The Government resolve to forward the Memorial submitted with the foregoing letter to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India with their recommendation that in consideration of Mrs French's present circumstances and of her late husband's faithful and meritorious services during the long period of 34 years a pension of Rupees 175. per mensem be granted to her on the terms marginally noted for the support of herself and her family of seven children. 3593 3594

J. D. S.

Rs A. P.

Mrs French for life ——— 50 - 0 - 0 per mensem.
3 Girls till Marriage or death at 15 Rs each — 45 - 0 - 0
4 Boys till the age of 18 at 20 Rs each — 80 - 0 - 0
175 - 0 - 0

To Mrs A. French 9/10

Financial 1861 Oct.
No
Memorandum
from the Secretary to Government
to
Mr Off. Secy to Govt
Financial Dept
Fort St George
Dated 8th October 1861
Rec'd 9th October 1861
A. S. No 3594.

Subject
Widow of Mr T. French
Sanctioned & Mem. 2nd
Sheriff, informs that the
salary drawn by Colonel
Branding was Rs 175 - p.
Month -

Financial 1861. Department.

No. 489.

PROCEEDINGS of GOVERNMENT.

Dated 8th October 1861.

I have an early Mussoorie from Mr. Secretary to the Govt. of India, with the recommendation of this Govt. thereon consideration of her present circumstances of her late husband's faithful and meritorious services during the long period of 34 years, a pension of Rs. 175 per mensem be granted to her on the terms set forth for the support of herself and her family of seven children

4394] Madras—Printed at the Government Press.