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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Finance DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 88 Press
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Dated 26-2- 1867.

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56-57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
26th February 1867.

No. 56. Read the following letter from the Accountant General, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 12th December 1866, No. 313.

Book Department.

No. 296, dated 1st December 1866.

In continuation of my letter, date and number as per margin, I have the honor to request that the sanction of Government may be conceded to my writing off the Books of this Presidency a sum of Rupees 99,998-8-0 now standing to the credit of "Eight per cent. Promissory Notes of 1st June 1807."

2. The above mentioned sum represents the value of an outstanding Bond, viz., No. 799, dated 31st August 1807, in favor of one Rajah Vencataram Row, for Star Pagodas 28,571, the equivalent of which in Government Rupees, at the exchange of Rupees 350 per 100 Pagodas, is Rupees 99,998-8-0. This Bond was granted to the owner, upon the application of his Attorney, Colonel Alexander Orr, and was issued in lieu of a Promissory Note, No. 1020, of the "Second 10 per cent. Loan" granted to the same person for cash subscribed to that Loan.

3. No interest appears to have been drawn since 1809 on this Note, nor was it ever presented either for payment of interest or principal, until Messrs. McDowell & Co., as Attorneys for the holder, claimed both, in a letter addressed to this office, dated 11th December 1843.

4. The Accountant General resisted payment, on the grounds that the endorsements did not appear to be genuine, and that, altogether, there was strong room to doubt the right of the claimant to possession of the Note, this claimant being one Ramasawmy Moodelliar, the last endorser of the Note, and who was stated to be a Banker, chiefly resident at Hyderabad.

5. Mr. Prendergast, the Accountant General at that period, in reporting the circumstances of the case to the Government, in his letter, No. 17, dated 24th January 1844, requested sanction to withhold payment of the claim, pending reference, as to claimant's right, made to the Resident at Hyderabad, and which request was granted—vide Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 78, dated 10th February 1844.

6. Meanwhile, the Resident, from inquiries on the spot, reported to this office, in his letter, No. 1561, dated 19th February 1844, that he had strong doubts as to the authenticity of the Persian endorsements on the Note, and Messrs. McDowell & Co. having also about the same time asked for return of the Note, their letter making this request was forwarded to Government with this office letter, No. 76, dated 11th March 1844, giving a history of the case to that date. The reply of Government thereto, bearing date 16th March 1844, No.——, cannot now be found in the records of this office, but the Government, in Extract from Minutes of Consultation, No. 22, dated 30th March 1844, subsequently received, sanctioned the return of the Note to Messrs. McDowell & Co., forwarding at the same time copy of Mr. George Norton's* Opinion, dated 28th March 1844, on the case referred to him, and which opinion was adverse to the claimants (vide copy of paragraph 5 of the said Opinion, noted in the margin for ready reference).

* The then Advocate General.

"On these considerations, I have the honor to submit my opinion that the Note should be returned by the Accountant General, with a reply that its detention was for the purpose of inquiry into the genuineness or otherwise of the endorsements, and that, as the result of that inquiry has led to the conviction of the endorsements thereon having been forged, any payment upon them will be refused."

7. The correspondence in connection with this case is very voluminous, and some portions of it cannot be traced in the records of this Office. One of the missing documents is the letter from the Resident at Hyderabad, giving his final opinion on the merits of the claim, and which must have been unfavorable to the claimant, but the Government no doubt was furnished at the time with a copy of the Resident's letter, if it was not sent, as is most probable, to them in original. This is, however, unimportant, as the other documents referred to in this letter fully substantiate the fact that no money liability rests upon Government, and that no other claim is likely to be made on account of this Note.

8. Under these circumstances, seeing that about 22 years have elapsed since Messrs. McDowell & Co. preferred their claim, and that no interest has been drawn upon the Note since 1809, now 57 years ago, I consider it useless to allow the value to remain on the Public Books,

as it may practically be considered as cancelled from the date when interest ceased to be drawn upon it, and I, therefore, request permission to write its value off the Books of this Office.

No. 57. ORDER THEREON, 26th February 1867, No. 88.

Under the circumstances stated in the foregoing letter, the Governor in Council grants sanction for the sum of Rupees (99,998-8-0) ninety-nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight, and Annas eight, the value of an outstanding Bond, No. 799, of 31st August 1807, in favor of one Rajah Vencataram Row, being written off in the Public Books.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

Ed. J. H. Burns.

Book Department

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Fort Saint George
Accountant General's Office
No. 313 12 December 1866

From
F. Lushington Esqre
Accountant General

To
The Honble A. J. Arbuthnot
Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department
Madras

Sir,

×No. 296 dated 1st Dec.r 1866.

In continuation of my letter dated and number as per margin, I have the honor to request that the sanction of Government may be conceded to my writing off the books of this Presidency a sum of Rs. 99,998-8- now standing to the credit of "Eight per Cent Promissory Notes of 1st June 1807."

2. The above mentioned sum represents the value of an outstanding Bond, Viz.t No. 799 dated 31st August 1807, in favor of one Rajah Vencataram Row, for Star Pagodas 28,571 the equivalent of which in Government Rupees at the Exchange of Rs. 350 per 100 Pagodas is Rupees 99,998-8-. This Bond was granted to the owner upon the application of his Attorney

portions of it cannot be traced in the records of this Office. One of the missing documents is the letter from the Resident at Hyderabad, giving his final opinion on the merits of the claim, & which must have been unfavorable to the claimant, but the Government no doubt was furnished at the time with a Copy of the Resident's letter, if it was not sent as is most probable to them in original. This is however unimportant, as the other documents referred to in this letter fully substantiate the fact that no money liability rests upon Government and that no other claim is likely to be made on account of this note.

8. Under these circumstances, seeing that about 22 years have elapsed since Messrs McDowell & Co preferred their claim, and that no Interest has been drawn upon the note since 1809, now 57 years ago, I consider it useless to allow the value to remain on the public books, as it may practically be considered as cancelled from the date when Interest ceased to be drawn upon it, and I therefore request permission to

result of that enquiry has led to the conviction of the Endorsements thereon having been forged, any payment upon them will be refused."

to write its value off the books of this Office

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obed.t Servt

T. Buchanan

Accountant General.

Compd. T.B.C.

Cpd. C. Nagabuthnum

Financial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read letter from the
Accountant General
(Dated 12th Dec'r 66 No 313)

Order — 26th February 1867 No 88.

Under the circumstances stated in the foregoing letter, the Governor in Council grants sanction for the sum of Rupees (99,998-8-0) Ninety nine thousand, nine hundred & ninety eight & annas eight, the value of one outstanding Bond No 799 of 31st August 1867 in favor of one Rajah Venkatarama Row, being written off in the Public Books.

To Accountt General 28th 1-3-67.

R/N 482

Mad. 26th Feby 1867
Fort St George 1868 Department

From
The Accountant General
To
The Chief Secretary to the Govt
of Fort St George

Dated 12th December 1866
Rec'd 1-3-67

No 313

No. Dpt.

Requesting Sanction to write off in the Books of this Office the value of one outstanding Bond for Rupees 99,998-8-0 —

Sanction accordingly given 28/2/67

Financial 1867. *Department.*

No. 88

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated. 26 *February* 1867

56.57.