M.R.O. 1—27,000—8-6-31.

(1) Number of pages 1-6

(2) Date of repair 22-2-37

(3) Initials of the Referencer

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 313-314 Press Mis.

9-12

Dated 4-7- 1868.

9-12 4/5

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,*
## *4th July* 1868.

Read the following papers :—

No. 9. From Mrs. CAMILLA FRENCH, Widow of the late Mr. H. A. FRENCH, 1st Uncovenanted Assistant, Government Office, Chief Secretary's Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 9th March 1868.

I beg respectfully to forward the accompanying Memorial to the address of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, praying for a re-consideration of my case, with reference to a decision of the Home Government declining to grant a small pensionary provision to myself and family.

2. I humbly trust that his Excellency the Governor in Council will be pleased to view my case favorably, and give his kind and able support to the application herewith forwarded.

---

To

THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

The humble Memorial of CAMILLA FRENCH, widow of the late H. A. French, First Uncovenanted Assistant, Chief Secretary's Department,

SHEWETH,

That your Memorialist received with deep sorrow a copy of the Proceedings of the Madras Government, noted in the margin, communicating an extract from your, Despatch, dated 24th July 1866, declining to comply with her earnest prayer for a small pensionary provision for the support of herself and family, who are now left in almost utter destitution and distress.

Dated 29th August 1866, No. 326.

2. Your Memorialist had cherished every expectation that some small aid would have been extended to her by Government, as they had dealt very considerately and liberally with the families of other servants similarly situated, although they held less responsible posts under the State than that filled with great credit by your Memorialist's late husband.

3. Your Memorialist's former appeal enlarged on the meritorious services rendered by her late husband, and to that appeal the testimonials granted to him by the highest officials were appended for your information. On this point, therefore, it would be superfluous for your Memorialist at present to dwell.

4. Your Memorialist's late husband risked both health and strength in the interests of the State. He labored unremittingly, even when suffering under severe bodily ailment. Although advised by his Medical Attendant as regards the dangers consequent on close application to his desk, and the sedentary nature of his work, if continued for any lengthened period, he still worked on, his sole aim and object being to discharge his duties without detriment to the Government.

5. Your Memorialist would respectfully observe that in your Despatch referred to above, Your Excellency states that "it is contrary to the general practice to grant pensions to the families of Uncovenanted Servants." It will, however, be seen from the cases specified in the margin that pensions have been awarded to the families of such servants, and that your Memorialist's case is similar to those who have enjoyed the bounty of the State, and were thus rescued from all the miseries attendant on poverty. The family* of the late Mr. Thomas French, an Uncovenanted First Assistant in the Revenue Department, is on the receipt of a liberal pension, and your Memorialist humbly submits that her case corresponds in all respects with that of the late Mr. T. French's family.

| | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|
| CIVIL AUDITOR'S OFFICE. | | | |
| In 1846. Pension granted to Mrs. Charlotte Vint, widow, and her four sons and a daughter..... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| GENERAL POST OFFICE. | | | |
| In 1850. Pension granted to Mrs. Rose Neale, widow, and her four daughters, and three sons..... | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| CIVIL ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT. | | | |
| In 1857. Pension granted to Mrs. Sarah Gaynor, widow, and her son and two daughters. | 16 | 8 | 0 |
| CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE. | | | |
| In 1859. Pension granted to Mrs. Jane Oliver, widow..... | 35 | 0 | 0 |
| COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, NORTH ARCOT. | | | |
| In 1859. Pension granted to Mrs. Mary Anne Stafford, widow, and her son and daughter. | 17 | 0 | 0 |
| SEA CUSTOMS OFFICE. | | | |
| In 1866. Pension granted to Mrs. P. Drysdale, widow, and her two daughters..... | 25 | 0 | 0 |

| | Rs. | |
|---|---|---|
| * Mrs. A. French..... | 50 | per mensem. |
| Miss I. French..... | 15 | do. do. |
| Miss B. French..... | 15 | do. do. |

The eldest daughter has since the grant of the pension been married.

6. Your Memorialist has at present four daughters solely dependent on her for support, and a young son whom she has still to educate. Having been suddenly deprived of the prop and

stay of the family, your Memorialist and her children are, and have been since February 1866, sorely tried in the school of adversity. It is very difficult indeed for her, and those dependent on her for support, to live under their present painfully reduced condition.

7. Under these circumstances, your Memorialist entreats that your Excellency will graciously re-consider her hard case, and grant to her that indulgence which the benevolence of Government has not denied to those placed in the same unfortunate and painful situation as herself.

8. Should your Excellency still consider that her case is not entitled to be treated in all respects as the case of the family of the late Mr. T. French, your Memorialist would humbly implore that your Excellency will be pleased to award to her alone such a stipend as your Excellency may deem to be adequate to save her and her children from absolute want.

9. Your Memorialist places her fullest trust in your Excellency's benevolence, and she humbly beseeches that the helpless widow and orphans of an old and faithful servant may receive some consideration at the hands of Government, whose interests were held by that servant so precious that neither health nor life, nor the pressing admonitions of his Medical Adviser, could induce him to swerve from what he deemed his sacred duty to the State ; and

For which act of charity your Memorialist, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed) CAMILLA FRENCH.

MADRAS, *9th March* 1868.

---

No. 10. From Mrs. CAMILLA FRENCH, Widow of the late Mr. H. A. FRENCH, 1st Uncovenanted Assistant, Government Office, Chief Secretary's Department, to the Under Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Madras, 22nd June 1868.

In reply to your Official Memorandum, dated the 18th instant, I beg very respectfully to state that my Memorial therein referred to has been signed by me as directed, and that, my late husband having left no property whatever, I am solely dependent on the pension I receive from the Madras Widows' Fund, as stated in my Memorial.

Trusting you will kindly enlist your sympathy in behalf of the widow and orphans of the late H. A. French, I remain, &c.

---

No. 11. ORDER THEREON, 4th July 1868, No. 313.

Mrs. French's Memorial will be forwarded to the Secretary of State, through the Government of India, with a recommendation that her case may be re-considered and some pensionary provision be granted her.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
*Chief Secretary.*

---

No. 12. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, dated Fort Saint George, 4th July 1868, No. 314.

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward to the Government of India the accompanying Memorial from Mrs. H. A. French, the widow of the late Mr. H. A. French, 1st Uncovenanted Assistant to the Chief Secretary, who died early in 1866, leaving his large family* without any provision other than an allowance from the Madras Widows' Fund, of Rupees 30 to the widow for life, and Rupees 20 to a son aged twelve, payable till he attained the age of eighteen.

* Consisting of a widow and eight children.

2. I am to remark that the Secretary of State was addressed by this Government shortly after Mr. French's decease, with a strong recommendation that the prayer of a similar Memorial from the widow might be granted, by the allotment of a suitable provision ; but this request was refused, on the ground that it was contrary to the general practice to grant such provision. Copies of the Proceedings† in that case are enclosed.

† 26th April 1866, No. 163.



3. The Memorialist in her present appeal cites several cases of grants which have been made under special circumstances, in recent years, and prays that her case may be similarly treated. I am to state that the instances are correctly cited, and that they appear to be very similar in their circumstances to those of the present application.

4. I am to point out that the sole resources of this family of nine persons are Rupees 30 for the life of the widow and Rupees 20 for four years for her son ; while her husband's salary was Rupees 500 per mensem. It is quite true that the advanced salary given to Mr. French in 1858 came into effect only as prices rose very greatly, so as materially to diminish the value of the boon as a means of making provision for a family. As it was thought possible that the absence of a specific statement as to the property left by Mr. French might have weighed with the Secretary of State in inducing a refusal of the grant sought for, Mrs. French has, in reply to a note on the subject, stated that her husband left no property whatever.

5. I am to state that the Government of Madras abstain from again remarking upon the valuable services which Mr. French rendered, further than to observe that they were such as, in their opinion, to justify their again applying to the Secretary of State for such grant as he may see fit to make to the widow and orphans, in case he should consider that the allowances formerly recommended were too large.

6. I am to request that the Memorial may be forwarded to the Secretary of State, and to solicit, on behalf of the Memorialist, the support of the Government of India.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
*Chief Secretary.*

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Vide Pro. 16th Memorial in Ist original

Financial Department.

No. 314.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India,
Financial Department.

Sir,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward to the Government of India, the accompanying Memorial from Mrs. H. F. French, the widow of the late Mr. H. F. French, 1st Uncovenanted Assistant to the Chief Secretary who died early in 1866, leaving his large family without any provision other than an allowance from the Madras Widows' Fund, of Rs 30 to the widow for life, and Rs 20 to a son aged twelve, payable till he attained the age of Eighteen.

consisting of a widow and eight children

2. I am to remark that the Secretary of State was addressed by this Government

shortly after Mr French's decease with a strong recommendation that the prayer of a similar memorial from the widow might be granted, by the allotment of a suitable provision, but this request was refused on the ground that it was contrary to the general practice & grant such provision. Copies of the Proceedings in that case are enclosed.

* 26 April 1866. S. 163.

3. The memorialist in her present appeal cites several cases of grants which have been made under special circumstances, in recent years, and prays that her case may be similarly treated. I am to state that the instances are correctly cited, and that they appear to be very similar in their circumstances to those of the present application.

4. I am to point out that the sole resources of this family of nine persons, are Rs 30 for the life of the widow and Rs 20 for

for 4 years for the son; while her husband's salary was Rs 500 per mensem - it is quite true that the aforesaid salary, given to Mr French in 1858 came into effect only for a period less than 8 months, so as materially to diminish the value of the boon as a means of making provision for a family - but it was thought possible that the absence of a specific statement as to the property left in India by French might have weighed with the Secretary of State in inducing a refusal of the grant sought for, as Mrs French has, in reply to an Enquiry on the subject, stated that her husband left no property whatever.

5 I am to state that the Government of Bengal also desire again remarking upon the valuable services which Mr French rendered, further than to observe that they were such as, in their opinion,

42

Jail 1868. Department.

No. 314

To

The Secretary to the
Government of India
Department.

Dated 4 July 1868.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying Petition addressed to the Governor General of India in Council by Mr. Charles Hutchinson, Superintendent of the Jail at Kotah, praying for the grant of a pension.

2. I am directed to request that you will submit the Petition for the orders of the Governor General of India in Council.

I have &c.

(Signed) [illegible]
Secy. to the Govt. of India
Jail Department

Fort William
4th July 1868

Jail 1868

Jail 1868. Department.

No. 314

To

The Secretary to the
Government of India
Department.

Dated 4 July 1868.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying Petition addressed to the Governor General of India in Council by Mr. Charles Hutchinson, Superintendent of the Jail at Kotah, praying for the grant of a pension.

2. I am directed to request that you will submit the Petition for the orders of the Governor General of India in Council.

I have &c.

(Signed) [illegible]
Secy. to the Govt. of India
Jail Department

Fort William
4th July 1868

C.S. Leon
13 Aug 68

9—12