1, Number of pages 5
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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Finance DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 256	Press Mis.
Dated 7-3-	19 1872.

Lo/11

78

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 256.

FROM

THE HON. W. HUDLESTON,
Offg. Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to forward, for the perusal of the Government of India, the marginally noted papers having reference to the claims of Vencatarungum Naidoo to a pension which this Government are desirous of conferring on him.

E. M. C., dated 9th June 1852, No. 1375, with enclosures.
E. M. C., dated 31st July 1852, No. 1826, with enclosures.
Letter from the Military Board to Government, dated 20th September 1852, No. 182
E. M. C., dated 4th April 1853, No. 738, with enclosures.
Do. ,, 5th November 1853, No. 2757, ,,
Letter to the Court of Directors, dated 23rd November 1853, No. 154.
Reply of Court of Directors, dated 1st March 1854, No. 13.
E. M. C., dated 23rd June 1854, No. 1772.
Letter to Court of Directors, dated 18th July 1854, No. 109.
Reply of Court, dated 29th November 1854, No. 102.
E. M. C., dated 6th March 1855, No. 758.
Do. ,, 3rd April, 1855, No. 1003.
Do. ,, 5th June 1855, No. 1647.
Letter to Court of Directors, dated 7th July 1855, No. 87.
Reply of Court, dated 7th November 1855, No. 22.
G. O., dated 29th August 1856, No. 1549.
G. O., dated 21st October 1856, No. 1933.
Letter to Court of Directors, dated 24th Oct. 1856, No. 19.
G. O., dated 1st December 1857, No. 2214.
G. O., dated 22nd February 1858, No. 306.

2. The circumstances of the case may be thus briefly stated. In 1852, Vencatarungum, holding the situation of Record-keeper in the Office of the Military Board, was, after a period of twenty-nine years and three months of attested service, suspected of complicity with his brother, a writer in the Record Department, in communicating information derived from official papers to parties tendering to execute public works on contract. A Court of Enquiry appointed to investigate the case, stated that there was no proof of Vencatarungum's active participation in the guilty collusion of his brother, but recorded its opinion that it was scarcely possible that he was unacquainted with it, and that at any rate he was guilty of gross neglect in permitting Contractors constant access to his office, and probably to its records. On this opinion, Vencatarungum was on the 29th June 1852 dismissed from his employment by order of the Military Board—a proceeding which met with the approval of Government in Extract from Minutes of Consultation, 31st July 1852, No. 1826. On a petition received from him, however, the Government in April 1853 intimated that they had no objection to his re-employment in the public service, but subsequently, on being apprised of the Resolution of the Military Board, 14th June 1853, to restore him to employment in their office, the Government objected to such re-employment in the Board's Office, as contrary to the Board's own order and opposed also to the good of the service. This decision of Government was appealed against by Vencatarungum, but was confirmed by the Honourable Court in their Despatches of the 1st March 1854, No. 13, paragraphs 8 to 10, 29th November 1854, No. 102, paragraphs 3 to 6, and 7th November 1855, No. 87, paragraph 3. After his dismissal from the public service on the 29th June 1852, Vencatarungum Naidoo continued out of employ until the 1st August 1855, when on the organization of the Central Office, Department of Public Works, he obtained in it the post of head Record-keeper. The Chief Engineer became strongly impressed in his favour, and when Vencatarungum Naidoo became temporarily incapacitated for work from sickness or infirmity, Colonel Faber on two occasions forcibly urged his claim to a pension on the ground that, before the

expiration of a year from the date of his dismissal by them, the Military Board were led to order his reinstatement, and that the charge against him was unfounded. The result of the Chief Engineer's representations was that the Government in a letter to the Court of Directors, dated 24th October 1856, No. 19, requested that they might be authorized to grant Vencatarungum Naidoo a moderate pension. The Court refused assent to this proposal, but sanctioned instead the grant to him of a gratuity equal to six months' pay.

3. In 1858 petitioner was entertained in the Office of the Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines and was employed there for a period of 12 years, 7 months, 27 days, his salary for the last eight years having been Rupees 50. He left the service finally on the 15th July 1871, being pronounced unfit for further duty. Under Clause 1, Section 6, of the Revised Pension Rules, he is eligible to a gratuity of Rupees 600, equal to 12 months' salary, his service being reckoned from the 1st August 1858.

4. The Government, after a careful perusal of the record, cannot but consider that petitioner's dismissal after 29 years' service, was, on the evidence adduced, a measure of extreme severity, and they would view with satisfaction a further mitigation of the consequences entailed by his dismissal in depriving him of the pension to which he would otherwise be entitled.

5. Besides his long service of 45 years and 10 months, Vencatarungum Naidoo has a strong* collateral claim upon the liberality of the Government, owing to his lineal descent from C. Guruvappah, an inhabitant of Dugarazpatam, who about the year 1640 materially aided the British in establishing a settlement there. The services of Guruvappah in this respect are mentioned in the report of Major DeHavilland, who in 1822 was deputed to collect information regarding Dugarazpatam and the neighbouring coast. The current tradition in the village was to the effect that Guruvappah and another man named Armoogum Moodelly (from whom the village of Armoogum was named) were the agents who obtained for the English the site of the settlement. Vencatarungum's descent from Guruvappah has been established by competent native testimony.

Vide his petition to Government, dated 18th August 1871.

6. I am, therefore, to submit the recommendation of this Government that a pension of Rupees 25 per mensem, or half his salary for the last eight years, may, as a special case, be conferred upon Vencatarungum Naidoo, on the refund by him of the gratuities which he has received.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Officiating Chief Secretary.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
7th March 1872.

Exd. J. Wright.

1872.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

From

The Offg. Chief Secretary to Govt.,
Fort St. George.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Financial Department.

Dated 7th March 1872.

Recd.

No. 256.

Enclosure.

Forwarding, for perusal and favourable consideration, certain papers having reference to the claims of Vencatarungum Naidoo to a pension which this Government are desirous of conferring on him.

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dups 6/3/72
with the marginal papers
in original.

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Financial Department. 58

No. 256.

To

The Secretary to Government
of India,
Financial Department.

Sir,

I am directed to forward for the perusal of the Govt. of India the marginally noted papers having reference to the claims of Venkata-rungum Naidoo to a pension which this Govt are desirous of conferring on him.

2. The circumstances of the case may be briefly stated. In 1852, Vencatarungum holding the situation of Record Keeper in the office of the Military Board, was after a period of ~~thirty-two years~~ twenty nine years three months of attested service suspected of complicity with his brother, a writer in the Record Dept., in communicating informa-tion derived from official papers

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papers to parties tendering to execute public works on contract. A Court of enquiry appointed to investigate the case, stated that there was no proof of Vencatarungum's active participation in the guilty collusion of his brother, but recorded its opinion that it was scarcely possible that he was unacquainted with it, and that at any rate he was guilty of gross neglect in permitting contractors constant access to his office, and probably to its records. On this opinion, Vencatarungum was on the 29th June 1852, dismissed from his employment by order of the Military Board, a proceeding, which met with the approval of Govt. in Extract Minutes of Consultation, 31st July 1852, No. 1826.

On a petition received from him

him however, the Govt. in April 1853 intimated that they had no objection to his re-employment in the public service, but subsequently, on being apprized of the Resolution of the Military Board, 14th June 1853, to restore him to employment in their office, the Govt. objected to such re-employment in the Board's Office, as contrary to the Board's own order and opposed also to the good of the service. This decision of Govt. was appealed against by Vencatarungum but was confirmed by the Honorable Court in their Despatches of the 1st March 1854 No. 13, paras 8 to 10, 29th November 1854, No. 102 paras 3 to 6, and 7th November 1855. No. 87, para 3. After his dismissal from the

the public service on the 29th June 1852, Venkatarungum Naidoo continued out of employ until the 1st August 1855 when on the organization of the central office Department of Public Works he obtained in it the post of Head Record Keeper. The Chief Engineer became strongly impressed in his favour & when Venkata-rungum Naidoo became temporarily incapacitated for work from sickness or infirmity, Colonel Faber on two occasions forcibly urged his claim to a pension on the ground that before the expiration of a year from the date of his dismissal by them, the Military Board were led to order his reinstatement, & that the charge against him was unfounded. The result

result of the Chief Engineers representations was that the Govt. in a letter to the Court of Directors dated 24th October 1856, No. 19 requested that they might be authorised to grant Venkata-rungum a moderate pension. The Court refused assent to this proposal but sanctioned instead the grant to him of a gratuity equal to six months pay.

3. In 1858 petitioner was entertained in the office of the Inspector General of Ordnance & Magazines and was employed there for a period of 12 years, 7 months & 27 days. His salary for the last 8 years having been Rs. 50. He left the service finally on the 15th July 1871 being pronounced unfit for further duty.

Under

Under clause 1 section 6 of the revised Pension rules he is eligible to a gratuity of Rs: 600 equal to 12 months salary, his service being reckoned from the 1st August 1858.

4. The Govt. as now constituted, see grave reason, after a careful perusal of the papers, to question the justice of the decision under which Vencatarungum Naidoo was dismissed in June 1852, & they would view with satisfaction a further mitigation of the consequences entailed by his dismissal in depriving him of the pension to which he would otherwise be entitled.

5. Vencatarungum Naidoo has a strong claim upon the liberality of the Govt. owing to his lineal

I would rather say

The petr. after a careful perusal of the record, cannot but consider that Petr

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(29) after (32) yrs service,

on the Evidence

and Records a Memorial of the time

Besides his long service of 45 years, 10 months

Vide his petition to Govr. dd 18th August 1871.

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obtained for the English, the site of the settlement. Vencatarungum's descent from Goorooappah has been established by competent native testimony.

6. I am therefore to submit the recommendation of this Government that a pension of Rs. 25 per mensem or half his salary for the last eight years, may, as a special case, be conferred upon Venkatarungum Naicloo, on the refund by him of the gratuities which he has received

Fort St George
7th March 1832

I would let it stand. It may be - It may be - I would put 40 or 50 Rs

It seems doubtful whether the hereditary claim will be admitted by the Govt of India - It might perhaps be better to omit it. I think there can be no doubt that the Military Board were convinced of the injustice of the man's dismissal & his long service & if it is submitted a sufficient ground for the application

H.L.R

Note.

It is hardly probable (I submit) that the Govt of India will comply with this application.

As

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As for Vencatarungum's lineal descent from Goorooappah, it simply rests on his own statement & the fact that his statement is believed by the Municipal Commissioners of the 2nd Division.

2. In regard to Venkatarungum's service prior to 1832 it must be remembered that in 1856 the Court of Directors understanding that Vencatarungum was wholly unfit for further duty owing to his laborious application in the Chief Engineers Office sanctioned the grant to him of a gratuity equal to six months pay. It must therefore be remembered that the man's service prior to 1832, has to a considerable extent been allowed to count already. A great deal

deal of sympathy was at the time, expended by Colonel Faber upon the "deplorable condition" of "this old and able publice "servant whose distress "anxiety & suspense had "made a visible inroad "upon his health & constitu- "tion and whose laborious "duties were greater than "his enfeebled strength "enabled him to do justice "to". Notwithstanding all this Venkataramiyan having accepted the gratuity proceeds to take service again & does nearly 13 years more work for Govt. There is a great uncertainty about the mans age. In 1855 when it was advisible to make him out "advanced" in years he was 60 by his own statement. In April 1871, he was only 65, so

that

that in sixteen years he has only become five years older.

3. Supposing him to be only 70 years old it is very doubtful whether the Govt. would do him a service in getting him a pension of Rs. 25 instead of a gratuity of Rs. 600. especially, as under the rules he will have to refund the gratuity formerly re-

187 , *Department.*

No.

To

The Secretary to the
Government of

Department

Dated 187

1872

Financial DEPARTMENT

From
The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort Saint George,

To
The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Financial Department.

Dated March 7 1872.
Recd.

No. 256.
Enclosure.

Nos. 1 & 2.

Forwarding for ~~the~~ renewed and favourable Consideration, certain papers having reference to the Claims of Venkata-rungum Naidu to a pension which this Govt. are desirous of conferring on him.