M.R.O. 1—77,003—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair 30-8-40

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

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|---|---|
| G.O. No. 357 | Press / Mis. |
| 41-42 | |
| Dated 11-1- | 1875. |

6/7

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

CIVIL FUND.

No. 41. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Financial Department, dated Fort William, the 11th December 1874, No. 7090.

Read the following :—

From the Government of India, to the Secretary of State for India, dated 30th June 1874, No. 254.

Pensions and Gratuities.

With reference to the Duke of Argyll's despatch, No. 46, dated 15th May 1872, stating that the rule requiring subscription to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund would be struck out of the covenants of future native members of the Bengal Civil Service, and requesting us to make such arrangements as we might deem right in respect of the three native gentlemen who had already joined that service, we have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Bengal Civil Fund, reporting that the subscribers to that fund have passed the following resolutions with regard to the admission of native civilians to be members of the fund :—

"1. Native gentlemen who were members of the Bengal Civil Service on the 15th May 1872, and in whose covenants the condition of subscription to the fund was inserted before that date, shall be admitted as subscribers on the condition that subscriptions shall not at any time be accepted on behalf of a wife married during the life-time of another wife, or on behalf of a child born of a wife married during the life-time of another wife, and that such wife and such child shall receive no allowance from the fund.

"2. That the service do express its concurrence in the views adopted by the Secretary of State, both in 1865 and 1872, as to the inapplicability of the present conditions of the Civil Fund to native covenanted civilians, and the expediency of expunging from the covenants of such civilians the engagements relating to the Civil Fund."

2. In accordance with this decision, Messrs. Romesh Chunder Dutt and Bihari Lal Gupto have been admitted to the benefits of the fund, and Mr. Annondoram Borooah has been informed that he cannot be admitted.

3. We are of opinion that this decision is in many respects to be regretted, and we think it highly desirable that no distinction that can be avoided should be made between European and Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service.

4. In his Financial Despatch to the Government of Bombay, No. 108, dated 30th November 1864, Sir Charles Wood wrote as follows :—

"With reference to the Provident Fund, Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that, both as respects their domestic institutions and their personal requirements during absence on leave, natives of India differ so materially from Europeans that the Civil Fund is not adapted to them, and it does not appear to me that such alterations could be made in the rules as would render that fund a suitable institution for making provision for their widows and families."

5. But in a subsequent despatch to the same Government, No. 73, dated 22nd September 1865, he added :—

"I see no objection, however, to permitting native members of the service who may be Christians, to subscribe to those funds should they desire to do so, as appears to be proposed by the Secretary to the Civil Fund at your Presidency."

6. It would appear, therefore, that the objections to the admission of natives to these funds are due chiefly to an apprehension that embarrassments might arise owing to the custom of polygamy, and that they lose their force in case of a native member of the Civil Service who may profess the Christian religion.

7. We believe that owing to the valuable assistance granted by Government, the subscriptions at present paid by the members of the Bengal Civil Fund are more than sufficient to provide the benefits which they now receive, and that even if the risks to native lives were greater than in the case of Europeans in this country—a state of affairs which we are strongly of opinion does not exist—these risks would equally affect the lives of widows or orphans left on the fund, and compensation would thus be made for any probable diminution in the value of subscriptions during life.

8. It appears to us, therefore, that if native members of the Civil Service had been admitted to the benefits of the fund under the conditions specified in the first of the resolutions above quoted, no appreciable risk of loss would have been incurred, and we beg to propose that native covenanted civilians throughout India who have not been admitted to the service funds be allowed to pay to Government subscriptions calculated at the same rates and under the same rules as are applicable to their European colleagues of the Bengal Civil Service, and that in consideration of such payments, they and their families be allowed by Government the same benefits that are enjoyed by members of the Bengal Civil Fund.

9. Subscriptions would not be received in the case of a wife married in the life-time of another wife, or in the case of a child born of a wife married in the life-time of another wife, and such wife and child would not participate in any way in the benefits of the fund.

10. It is not our intention to recommend that a separate fund be created, but simply that the subscriptions be received and the benefits granted by Government, a *pro formâ* account being prepared annually in order to show the gain or loss.

11. As we are of opinion that the course now proposed involves no undue risk to Government, and would tend to remove what must be looked upon by native civilians as a hardship, and as placing them in a worse position than their European colleagues, we beg strongly to recommend the present proposal for your Lordship's consideration.

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From the Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India, dated 20th August, 1874, No. 136 (Public).

The despatch of your Excellency in Council in the Financial Department, dated 30th June, No. 254 of 1874, relative to the question of permitting native members of the Civil Service to subscribe to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, has been considered by me in Council.



2. Under the restrictions stated in the despatch of your Lordship in Council, I have no objection to the admission of native civilians as subscribers to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, but I must express my opinion that there should be a most stringent adherence to the conditions adverted to in the 9th paragraph of the despatch.

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Ordered, that copies of the despatches be forwarded to the Home Department, and to the Governments of Madras and Bombay, for information.

Ordered also, that copies of the despatches be forwarded to the following officers for information and guidance:—The Comptroller General, with the request that he will issue the necessary instructions for the preparation annually of the account referred to in paragraph 10 of the despatch of the Government of India; the Accountants-General; and all Deputy Accountants-General in independent charge.

(Signed) J. A. BOURDILLON,
*Offg. Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.*

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No. 42. ORDER THEREON, 11th January 1875, No. 35.

Copy furnished to the Managers of the Madras Civil Fund.

(True Extract.)

*Acting Chief Secretary.*

To the Managers of the Madras Civil Fund.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE MANAGERS OF THE MADRAS CIVIL FUND.

*Dated January* 11*th.*

*Recd.*

*G.O.*, 11*th January* 1875, *No.* 35.

**JANUARY.**
**Nos. 41-42.**

*Covenanted Native Civilians.*—Certain papers received from Government of India on the question of permitting native civilians to subscribe to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, communicated to the Managers of the Civil Fund.

No. 7090.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

**Pensions and Gratuities.**

FORT WILLIAM, *the* 11*th December* 1874.

Read the following :—

No. 254, dated 30th June, 1874.

*From—The Government of India,*
*To—The Secretary of State for India.*

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2. "That the service do express its concurrence in the views adopted by the Secretary of State, both in 1865 and 1872, as to the inapplicability of the present conditions of the Civil Fund to native covenanted civilians, and the expediency of expunging from the covenants of such civilians the engagements relating to the Civil Fund."

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7. We believe that owing to the valuable assistance granted by Government, the subscriptions at present paid by the members of the Bengal Civil Fund are more than sufficient to provide the benefits which they now receive, and that even if the risks to native lives were greater than in the case of Europeans in this country—a state of affairs which we are strongly of opinion does not exist—these risks would equally affect the lives of widows or orphans left on the fund, and compensation would thus be made for any probable diminution in the value of subscriptions during life.

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11. As we are of opinion that the course now proposed involves no undue risk to Government, and would tend to remove what must be looked upon by native civilians as a hardship, and as placing them in a worse position than their European colleagues, we beg strongly to recommend the present proposal for your Lordship's consideration.

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*From—The Secretary State for India,*
*To—The Government of India.*

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J. A. Bourdillon

Offg Under *Secretary to the Government of India.*

Financial 1873 DEPARTMENT.
(Pensions & Gratuities)

From

His Government
of India
Financial Dept

No. 7090

Dated 22nd Dec 1873.
Reed.

No.

Sir,

I have &c.

E. J. Thuillier

No. 2719

S. C. 3.

Forwarding for information copies of despatches to and from the Secy. of State for India regarding the admission of Native Civilians to be members of the Bengal Civil Fund

Written out

Civil Funds

22/12/74

Sir, I am &c.
Secretary to the Government of India.

H. Waterfield Esq
&c &c &c

Pensions & Gratuities 75 to 85.

Dept 1901-75

c 28/12
2 9/1/75

15-1-18 ✓
19-9-19 M ✓
2-9-20

Govt. of {187 } Madras.

Fwl ✓

G. O., 11 Jany., 187 5, No. 35

Nos. 41-2

Cov. Statute Civil and Criminal Passed
Receipt of Ss. 2 & the Question of
permitting Native Civilians to
Subscribe to the Indian Defence
Fund, Cond. to the Manager of
the Cs. Fund