M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1522 Press Mis.
79-80

Dated 8-11-1985

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, for the month of November 1859.

No. 79. Read the following letter from STREE VURDARAUZE BUNGE, Ex-Zemindar of Goomsur; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 20th October 1859.

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of Government, forwarded by you on the 8th Instant, and feel satisfied with the orders therein.

With respect to the statement contained in the Extract dated 24th Ultimo, from the Brigadier Commanding Vellore, about Balabudra Bunge, who is declared a Goomsur pensioner and not a servant; the following statements I hope would commend themselves to your entire satisfaction so as to shew that he is a servant and not a pensioner.

Joginnada Bunge, the late father of Balabudra Bunge, entered the service of my much respected father at Berhampoor when returning home-ward from Conchi. When my father met him and his son Balabudra Bunge, they were then found in a most wretched and forlorn condition, suffering for want of food and clothes, living upon hunting in the wild jungles of Navangada.

They requested my father to employ them in his service, which he did when a vacancy of a Foujdar had occured in Soovardah Talook; which my father had then received on contract from the Government and made it over in my name for 99 years.

Joginnada Bunge was sent thither in order to quell certain disturbances kindled by Soondra Singh and Gopi Singh, the sons of Danniah Singh.

As a remuneration for his services Kathapada, a Gramum, annually yielding 300 Rupees was bestowed on him in order to pay him at the rate of 25 Rupees per mensem. While he was thus exalted to power and influence instead of being satisfied and grateful for what was done to him by my father, he went about creating variance between my father and the Government, which I believe is the cause of reducing us into such a low condition.

I beg to state further that when I was brought out of my native country, the Government was so good as to award pensions both to me and to the servants under me for doing my service. When I employed Joginnada Bunge to follow me from Vizayanuggar to Vellore, he was then under imprisonment, receiving a batta of 4 Annas per day, and as I required an experienced servant to accompany me, I spoke in his behalf and requested the Honorable Russel to allow him to go with me on a salary of 25 Rupees per mensem.

After the death of Joginnada Bunge, his son Balabudra Bunge occupied the post on a reduced salary of 15 Rupees for doing my service.

Now according to the statement of the Brigadier, Balabudra Bunge is declared to be "deranged" and "his mind impaired" for the past 15 years, what truth or certainty can be expected from him in that position, I leave this to your own judgment.

Moreover, he brought the same complaint (which he did now) in the days of the Brigadier A. Logan, which after strict enquiry was dismissed by the Brigadier for want of satisfactory evidence.

Also that the Gramum held by Joginnada Bunge was also held by the Foujdar Pindigovenge in my grand-father's days, for which Pindigovenge received a pension of 20 Rupees from the Government for his 18 years' service, and after his decease his sons applied for the continuance of the same allowance, but were refused on the ground of their not being in my service.

Since such is the treatment experienced by the sons of the late Pindigovenge, though their father served 18 years and yet refused pension, I see no reason why Balabudra Bunge's allowance continued while his father served only 3 years and also while he is refusing to do my service.

If the Government be not satisfied with what I have stated about Balabudra Bunge, they are at liberty to substitute enquiry at some of the Native gentlemen in my own country, who I believe are better persons to satisfy them on the point than the people at Vellore.

As to the statement of the Brigadier that the women on the receipt of trifling allowance of five or eight Rupees, declared to be the wives of Rajah, I leave to your own mind to form a judgment on the matter. Will the wives of Rajah ever receive such paltry sums?

In conclusion, I beg to state that I am quite willing to submit to any judgment that the Government may form against me, if the case brought by Balabudra Bunge be proved.

No. 80. ORDER THEREON, 8th November 1859, No. 1522.

The Government cannot enter into the matters discussed in the above letter. As Balabudra Bunj will not join Strí Varadaraj Bunj at Madras, he may remain at Vellore on the pension of Rupees 15 granted him.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

No. 1522 – 8 November/59.

The Govt. cannot enter into the matters discussed in the above letter. Balabadra Bunj will not join Stri. Varadaraj Bunj at Madras, he may remain at Vellore on the pension of Rs. 15 granted him.

Stri Varadaraj Bunj. } Dept. to
The Brigadier Commanding }
at Vellore.