M.R.O. 1—20,000—16-10-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1621	Press Mis.—
108-109 Dated	11-11-	19 1864

3/3

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
11th November 1864.

No. 103. Read the following letter from Mrs. C. KING; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 7th November 1864.

I beg most respectfully to enclose a petition which I have addressed to His Excellency the Governor in Council, and humbly solicit the favor of your submitting the same to His Excellency in Council with your kind and powerful support.

MADRAS, *7th November* 1864.

To His Excellency Sir W. T. DENISON, K. C. B.,
Governor in Council of Fort Saint George.

The humble Petition of CHARLOTTE KING, wife of H. W. KING, late an Apothecary on the Madras Establishment, and now a prisoner in Her Majesty's Penitentiary at Madras.

SHEWETH,

That since addressing your Excellency in Council under date the 22nd April last, for a remission of the remaining portion of the sentence passed on your petitioner's husband by the High Court at Madras for Criminal Breach of Trust, your petitioner's husband is still feeble and in a declining state of health, owing to the hardships incidental to a prison life; your petitioner therefore ventures once more to appeal to your Excellency in Council for the benevolent exercise of the prerogative vested in your Excellency by Section 54 of Act XXV of 1861.

2. That of the 16 months' rigorous imprisonment, to which your petitioner's husband has been sentenced, 12 months have already expired, and your petitioner earnestly solicits, in behalf of her unfortunate husband, that your Excellency in Council will mercifully extend your protection, and exercise your benevolence by remitting the remaining portion of the sentence passed on your petitioner's husband.

3. That your petitioner has perused a letter from the Government of India, No. 952 of the 23rd June 1864, published in the local Journals, in which it is stated that the Committee, assembled for the purpose of considering the subject of jails and jail discipline in India, "did not intend to object to the *occasional reduction*, or the entire remission of a sentence where a convict may establish a claim to consideration by very special and exemplary good conduct, or by rendering special service of a valuable and important nature;" both the "exemplary good conduct" and "special service" of your petitioner's husband during the long period* he had faithfully served the Government, as testified to by the Most Noble the Marquis of Tweeddale, late Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Presidency (copy of whose Testimonial is herewith appended) the Principal Inspector General and other Medical Officers of high standing in the service, having been brought to the notice of your Excellency in Council by your petitioner.

* 35 years.

4. In urging her prayer upon the consideration of your Excellency in Council, your petitioner does not attempt to offer anything in extenuation of her husband's offence; but she would, with the greatest deference, submit that there are other considerations in your petitioner's case which weigh with greater force, viz., that in addition to rigorous imprisonment for the term of 16 months, to which your petitioner's husband has been sentenced by the High Court, a punishment heavy in itself, he has also been by a recent order† of Government "*dismissed* the service," by which your petitioner and her children will, on the death of her husband, forfeit all claim to pension from the "Apothecaries' Fund"‡ and also her individual pension from "Lord Clive's§ Fund," to the former of which institutions your petitioner's husband subscribed‖ from its foundation, and by the loss of which pensions your petitioner and her children will be thrown on the wide world in a state of utter destitution.

† Dated 13th October 1864.

		Rs.	A.	P.	
‡ Petitioner will be entitled to		28	0	0	Per Mensem.
Children	do.	15	0	0	
§ Petitioner	do.	14	14	6	
	Total Rupees	57	14	6	

§ Rupees 24,78,3-3

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
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5. Your petitioner begs, in conclusion, to state that she feels deeply her present humiliating position, both she and her children having experienced the greatest sorrows and privations from the long incarceration of petitioner's husband. Your petitioner therefore earnestly and respectfully prays that your Excellency in Council will, under all the circumstances above specified, be graciously pleased to extend the generous clemency of your Excellency in Council to your petitioner's husband, and remit the remaining portion of the sentence he has to undergo, viz., four months, by which manifestation of kindness your petitioner's husband may be enabled to earn a livelihood, and make some provision, during his life time, for your petitioner and her children; and for which act of mercy, your petitioner as in duty bound, will ever pray.

No. 109. ORDER THEREON, 11th November 1864, No. 1621.

The Governor in Council sees no reason for remitting any portion of the sentence under which petitioner's husband is undergoing imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To Mrs. Charlotte King.
To the Commissioner of Police for communication to the prisoner.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 1621 – 11th November 1864.

The Governor in Council sees no reason for remitting any portion of the sentence under which Petitioner's husband is undergoing imprisonment in the Penitentiary.

Pro No. 86.33
3.11.64

To Mrs. Charlotte King.
The Commissioner of Police for communication to the Prisoner } Copy 14/11