M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 298 Press ~~Mis.~~

36-37
Dated 3 — 2 — 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

G.O. 298

No. 36. Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Coimbatore, 21st January 1868, No. 12 :—

1. I have the honor to forward for the consideration, I trust the favorable consideration, of His Excellency Lord Napier, K. T., the Governor in Council, a petition to His Excellency's address from Vencatesiah, the Head English Clerk in my Office. Petitioner is now forty-six years of age, and he has been twenty-four years in the public service. He obtained his present position in 1858, after passing through the ordinary minor grades in this office. Petitioner now prays that in consideration of his long and faithful services, and of his inability on account of the multiplicity of his onerous duties, which preclude the chance of his finding time for regular study, he may be exempted from the Special Test Examination now in force. I beg most strongly to recommend the prayer of petitioner to the favorable consideration of the Governor in Council. A more hardworking and painstaking Government servant than Vencatesiah I do not know. I believe him to be an honest man, and I know he possesses much sound sense and judgment; he is also a man of very considerable ability. His knowledge of English is very good, a fact which reflects no small credit on him, as he is nearly self-educated, and he acquired his knowledge at a time, I believe, when there was not one English school in Coimbatore. I confess I am personally much interested in the result of this petition. For nearly six years Vencatesiah has worked in my office, perhaps, I may more properly say, slaved in it. I have been unable to spare his services to enable him to study for the examination, and there is little chance of my successor being in a better position, for I do not see how he is to get on without his services, as no one in the office possesses a tithe of his general knowledge of the business of the district, or of his special knowledge of the numerous, and, in many instances, intricate cases connected with the Hills, some of them by no means unimportant.

2. With much hard work in prospect, with no time to devote to study, and no chance of promotion until the Special Test Examinations are got over, you will not, I venture to think, be astonished to hear that Vencatesiah contemplates the future with no very pleasing prospect, and that at times he is so much depressed, that he thinks of retiring from the service on the small pension to which he would be entitled. The object in passing the present Examination Rules was, no doubt, to exclude incompetent and undeserving men from the public service, but, in the present case, if they are enforced, the converse of this will be the result. I do trust therefore that, under these circumstances, His Excellency the Governor in Council will relax the rules in favor of Vencatesiah, and declare that his faithful services of twenty-four years entitle him to promotion in future without his being called on to pass the Special Test Examination.

3. The accompanying testimonials will prove that the high opinion entertained by me of Vencatesiah is shared in by all the gentlemen under whom he has ever served.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd February 1868.

No. 37. ORDER THEREON, 3rd February 1868, No. 298.

Miscellaneous.

The Government sanction, as a special case, the exemption advocated by the Collector of Coimbatore.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Coimbatore.
,, the Accountant General.
,, the Commissioner for Uncovenanted Civil Service Examinations.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

THE

TESTIMONIALS &c.

of

C. VENCATESIAH.

HEAD CLERK OF THE COLLECTOR'S OFFICE.

COIMBATORE.

1863.

Printed at the Collectorate Press, Coimbatore.

CONTENTS.

Nos, 1 to 4, 6 to 12 and 21— } Takeeds of appointments and Official Memo.

Nos, 5, 14, 17, 19, 20, 22 & 25—Private letters of appreciation.

Nos. 13, 15, 16, 18, 23, 24 & 26— } Official reports & remarks on character & qualifications.

TRANSLATIONS

Of Takeeds issued by J. C. WROUGHTON, Esquire, Principal Collector of Coimbatore to VENCATESIAH, at Coimbatore.

No. I.

Under date the 9th December 1843.

The Translator Naraniangar having applied for two months' leave to proceed to Conjeeveram, you are appointed to act as Translator during his absence. Do your duties carefully and correctly.

No. II.

Under date the 9th April 1844.

You are appointed as Writer in the Huzúr, on a salary of 18 Rs. per mensem from the 1st Instant, Naraniangar the Translator having returned to his duty. Attend to your duties with care and honesty.

No. III.

Under date the 29th July 1845.

You are promoted to the Office of Huzúr Writer on 20 Rs per mensem from this date.

No. IV.

Under date the 27th October 1846.

You are promoted to the Office of Huzúr Writer, on 22 Rupees per mensem, from this date vice Mutusawmy Chetti.

No. V.

EXTRACT from a letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esquire, to VENCATESIAH, *under date the 9th October* 1851.

You always do your own duty satisfactorily, and I am well pleased with you, and I believe I seldom fail to advance those who are deserving.

TRANSLATIONS

Of Takeeds issued by E. B. THOMAS, Esquire, Collector of Coimbatore to VENCATESIAH, Huzúr Writer.

No. VI.

Under date the 10th April 1852.

You are appointed to act as Writer, on 30 Rupees per mensem with the intention of confirming you therein ultimately. Until further orders you will continue to draw your present pay and do your duties satisfactorily.

No. VII.

Under date the 21st May 1852.

You are confirmed in the appointment of Huzúr Writer, on 30 Rs. per mensem, from the 18th Instant.

No. VIII.

Under date the 8th January 1856.

You are appointed to act as Huzúr Writer, on 40 Rupees per mensem; until further orders you will continue to draw your present pay and do your duties satisfactorily.

No IX.

OFFICIAL MEMO.

It was my intention, on Narniangar's promotion, to make *Vencatesiah*, Head Writer, as the most fit in the Office, but he himself with great propriety and liberality, requests the older servants may hold the higher *pay*, and he will do the *work*, and be content with 40 Rupees at present—this is therefore done, but I consider Vencatesiah entitled to succeed on the 1st vacancy. All Writers will now step up and one Volunteer come in.

(Signed) E. B. THOMAS,
Collector.

January 1856.

No. X.

TRANSLATIONS of Takeeds issued by E. B. THOMAS, Esq. Collector of Coimbatore to VENCATESIAH.

Under date the 14th March 1856.

You are confirmed in the appointment of Huzúr Writer on 40 Rupees per mensem, from the 26th February 1856.

No. XI

Under date the 25th October 1856,

You are promoted to the vacant Office of the Huzúr Writer on a salary of 45 Rupees per mensem.

XII.

Under date the 15th March 1858.

Two years back, when some arrangements were made in the Writers' Office, Mr. Trinder was appoint-

ed Head Writer, as the oldest servant in the Office and he has accordingly drawn the salary thereof, but you have with only 45 Rupees a month performed all the chief duties of the Office ever since, and with motives of charity and good feelings allowed Mr. Trinder to hold the higher pay 100. Now without your request, but in justice to yourself, it is fair and clear that you and Mr. Trinder should receive payment with reference to the work performed by each of you. There is no fault on Mr. Trinder, but as he is too old to transact the duties of the Head Writer, he is transferred to your present situation of 45 Rs. per month, and you are appointed as Head Writer, on 100 Rupees per month—the same to take effect from this date. You will accordingly enter your name in the Moyenzabitah, and conduct the duties of the Office.

No. XIII

C. VENCATESIAH,

I have received most ready and intelligent assistance from this Officer while making enquiry in regard to the Village Institution of Coimbatore.

Coimbatore.
3rd September 1838 } (Signed) W. ROBINSON,

No. XIV.

EXTRACT from a letter from J. W. CHERRY, Esquire, Acting Collector of Coimbatore, to VENCATESIAH,

dated 23rd Nov. 1838.

It was only to day that I wrote to Mr. THOMAS, expressing myself pleased with *you* as "Head Clerk" the new designation given to your Office.

No. XV.—C. VENCATESIAH

COLLECTOR OF COIMBATORE.

Establishment	Date.	Appointment.	Salary	Period of Service in each appointment. Y.	M.	D.
1	2	3	4		5	
	1st April 1844	English Writer	18 ...	1	3	28
	29th July 1845	do.	20 ..	1	2	29
	27th October 1846	do.	22 ...	5	6	22
	18th May 1852	do.	30 ...	3	9	8
	26th Febry 1856	do.	40 ...	...	7	28
	25th October 1856	do.	45 ...	1	4	21
	15th March 1858	Head Accountant	100 ...	...	4	16
	1st July 1858	English Hd. Clerk.	100 ...	3	9	10
	11th April 1862	Acting Sherista-dar Collector's Office.	200 ...	...	5	12
	23rd Septr. 1862	English Head Clerk	100 ...			
	1st November 1865	do.	150 -			

Age when first entertained—21 years.

Remarks regarding punishments & formal reprimands and all special commendations and marks of approbation.

6

Very intelligent and pains taking and most respectable. Has arisen by his own merits.

(Signed) E. B. THOMAS,
Collector.

I have a very high opinion of this Public Servant. He is one of the best English Correspondence Writers that I know of, and his indefatigable attention, intelligence and straightforwardness in the discharge of his onerous duties call for my highest approval.

Coimbatore, 12th March 1859. } (Signed) J. W. CHERRY.
Acting Collector.

VENCATESIAH is a most industrious and careful Officer, singularly accurate and clear in all his work,—I look upon him as a highly valuable and trustworthy public Servant,

(Signed) M. J. WALHOUSE,
Sub Collector in charge

9th April 1859.

No, XVI

EXTRACT from the remarks of H. E SULLIVAN, Esquire, Acting Sub Collector in charge, made in the list forwarded with his letter to Board of Revenue, dated, 11th April 1859, No. 55,

* * *

VENCATESIAH, entered the Service of Government on the 1st April 1814 in the capacity of English Writer in the Collector's Cutcherry, on a salary of Rupees. 18. Passing through the different grades of the Office, he has risen entirely by his own merits to the post he most ably fills, viz, Head Clerk. He speaks, reads and writes English almost as well as his own language, and is well versed in the Regulations and Circular Orders, both Revenue and Judicial. I have known him for the last 3½ years and can safely assert that I have rarely, if ever, met with any public servant whom I could more conscientiously recommend for the Post of Deputy Collector and Magistrate. The testimonials to his character, ability, and diligence, herewith enclosed, show that my opinion is not exaggerated.

No XVII

VENCATESIAH,

The perusal of the enclosed notes was not necessary to convince me of your fairness and liberality to Mr. M° and to all your fellow servants in the Office. Whatever promotion you have had at *my* hands, has been in simple justice to your work, and your claims, and entirely unasked by you. In 33 years' public service in 7 Districts, it is only fair and right to you to say, that I have not met a more honest, pains-taking, hard working official than yourself, though I have had some good servants under me, and I think Iknow *something* of Native character whether Brahmins or others—Keep this note by you. It is my honest and just estimate of your integrity and value as a Public Servant.

Believe me,
Your friend,

(Signed) E. B. THOMAS,

Collector

Ootacamund, 1st Augt. 1859.

XVIII.

EXTRACT from a Statement of Services, qualifications, acquirements, character and conduct &c. of the Public Servants eligible to the Post of Deputy Collector in the District of Coimbatore sent to the Board of Revenue with the Collector's letter dated 15th May 1861 No. 103.

Name & Rank	Age.	Period of Service.	Character and conduct, &c.	Qualifications and acquirements.
Vencatesiah, Head Clerk Collector's Office, Coimbatore.	Y.	Y. M.	GOOD.	I have been now 35 years in the Public Service myself and have some knowledge of Native character, public and private. I found Vencatesiah in Office here, and have observed and known him well for 12 years. I do not usually commit myself to a strong character to any native (especially a *Bramin* except for talent), but I have no hesitation in saying that I believe Vencatesiah to be one of the most intelligent and upright Natives, I have met with in a long service. He is as modest as he is able and his private character as good as his public, which can be said of but *few*. I recommend him for the Post of Deputy Collector with the fuliest confidence. I have been in 7 Districts and known and promoted a good many Natives and I have seen *very* few on whom I would venture to risk my own judgment and confidence, as I would on the Head Clerk Vencatesiah.
	55	17		

(True Extract)
(Signed) E. B. THOMAS,
Collector.

No. XIX.

VENCATESIAH,

I wish to leave with you a small token of my *private* good will and regard for your character and conduct, now known to me for more than 13 years. In your public capacity I *have* fully testified to your efficiency and merit. I enclose two Rings worth, I believe, *about* 100 Rs each. Choose and accept whichever you prefer, and

Believe me always,

Your friend and well wisher

(Signed) E. B. THOMAS,

Ootacamund, 7th April 1862.

No. XX.

VENCATESIAH,

I duly received your letter—whatever I may have done for you, has only been in justice, & due to your character and work—I *wish* you to keep the Ring as a mark of my private regard

Your's sincerely,

(Signed) E. B. THOMAS,

8th April 1862.

No. XXI.

TRANSLATION of a Takeed issued by E. B. THOMAS, Esq Collector of Coimbatore, to VENCATESIAH,

Under date the 16th April 1862.

The Government having appointed Naraina Rao, Huzúr Serishtadar, to act as Deputy Collector vice Devasikamoney Pillai on 4 months' sick leave, you are promoted to Acting Serishtadar.—You will, from the date on which Naraina Rao enters upon his duty draw half the salary of the Office of Sheristadar and half of that of the Head Clerk, your present appointment, and continue to attend to your duties with honesty and faithfulness.

No. XXII.

VENCATESIAH,

I send a good NEW WATCH,* for yourself or your son,—as a token of my remembrance and regard for you. Continue to write, when leisure permits you.

* I send it through Mr. Grant, to whom I have also mentioned your son.

Your friend,

(Signed) E. B. THOMAS.

28th October 1862.

No. XXIII

EXTRACT from the Jamabundy Report of the Collector of Coimbatore for Fusly 1271 dated 31st October 1862.

Cooppa Rao, the Treasury Deputy Collector, Naraina Rao, the Serishtadar, lately Acting Deputy Collector, Southern Division, and Vencatesiah, Head Clerk, lately Acting Serishtadar, have all given satisfaction.

(True Extract)

(Signed) P. GRANT,

Collector.

No XXIV.

EXTRACT of a letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd February 1863, No. 29.

In reply to the Official Memo. from the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd January 1863, No. 42, I beg to recommend the following persons for the Office of Deputy Collector.

Naraina Rao, Serishtadar of my Office, VENCATESIAH, English Head Clerk of my Office and Chenna Kistna Naidoo, at present Head Quarter Inspector of the Police Office at Calicut.

* * *

VENCATESIAH is an able pains taking man, honest and respected by those around him, and destined ere long, I hope to fill a higher post than that now occupied by him.

(True Extract)

(Signed) P. GRANT,

Collector.

No. XXV.

EXTRACT from a letter from O. B. IRVINE, Esquire, to VENCATESIAH, dated 16 Thurloe Place, Thurloe Square, London, September 5th 1863.

I am sorry that the changes among the Deputy Collectors of our District have rendered it necessary that you should return to the Post of Head Clerk. I am sure Mr Grant would have been glad if it could have been so arranged that you should have retained the Sheristadarship, for which Office you were so eminently qualified and in which during the time you held it, you rendered such valuable service.

No. XXVI.

EXTRACT from the Jumabundy Report of the Coimbatore District for Fusly 1272, dated 31st October 1863 No 204.

* * * *

VENCATESIAH, Head Clerk, maintains his high character; he is intelligent, industrious and very correct in his work, and I believe, an honest man.

(True Extract)

(Signed) P. GRANT,

Collector.

No XXVII.

Extract from the Jamabundy Report of the Coimbatore District for Fusly 1273 dated 31st October 1864.

With regard to the Sheristadar and Head Clerk Vencatasiah, both have had much to do and have done it well, the latter from his knowledge of English has been able to render much assistance.

True Extract

(Signed) P. Grant

Collector.

No XXVIII

Extract from the Jamabundy Report of the Coimbatore District for Fusly 1274 dated 13 November 1865

To Head Correspondence Clerk

Tinnevelly, has well maintained the character for honesty, diligence, and a correct knowledge of his work, which has for years past been recorded to him by my predecessor and myself.

I have &c
(Signed) P. Grant
Collector

No XXIX.

Extract from the Samabundy Report of the Tinnevelly District for July 1865 dated 8th October 1866.

× × × × × × ×

From my Sheristadar, I have often obtained valuable aid, and to my Head English Clerk, Tinnevelly, I am really indebted for the efficient and able manner in which he has carried on his work.

(A true Extract
(Signed) P. Grant
Collector

No XXX

Extract from the Samabundy Report of the Tinnevelly District for July 1866 Dd 5 November 1867 No 302.

× × × × × ×

× × × The Head Clerk Tinnevelly has aided me with his intelligence, ability and industry which has called forth the commendation of all the Collectors under whom he has served.

(A true Extract
(Signed) P. Grant
Collector

No XXXI

Tinnevelly. August 24th 1864

After a tolerably

close acquaintance with you of many years, I can safely say that I have never known you do any thing which I would not have done myself.

I know you to have been the working manager of the Mercantile office, and that on you has rested a heavy responsibility which it was not quite fair that any one should be called upon to bear.

I do not recommend any one whom I should like better placed to fill the highest posts of the service to solicit you

behalf, and I trust that we may yet meet again in the equally pretty Rhode Island Yacht match.

I know no one else to whom I could give such unmixed commendation, but you, who know me, well know that it is sincere and no more than I believe to be called for.

Always believe me yours as ever gratefully

Friend

(Signed) C. G. Walker

Late R. N. & Rear Adm.

R.S.C. Lancashire

1868 Dec 10
Ord. a letter from
the Secretary
Lambeth Pal
21st January 68
No 12

Testimonials
& Certificates
of the Petitioner
& Certificate

Rec. 21/68.

Pd 31st Jan 68
No 36 - 37

Pd 7th Feby 68 Ent. 36.

To His Excellency Lord Lisgar G.C.M.G.
The Governor in Council,
Fort Garry.

The Humble Petition of
Thomas Isaiah English Head
Clerk in the Police Court Office
Lambeton.

Most Humbly Sheweth.

1. That your Petitioner aged 46 years is an old Servant of 24 years standing. That he entered the Public Service in February 1844 as an English Writer in the Commissariat Office at Fort Garry, and after passing through the different grades of the Department in this Province was confirmed in his present post in 1858 & appointed Head Clerk in the Police Court Office, making a period of 18 years during which he has conducted the business of the Office to

2 Your Petitioner has also been connected with this Province from his early youth, and therefore from a knowledge of the existing Regulations Rules & Laws governing the Public Service, is competent to discharge the duties of any Office in the Province.

3 Your Petitioner is now 46 years old & therefore precluded from the possibility of ever rising to the higher appointments, but the duties of his Office are arduous requiring much attention, and a knowledge of keeping Accounts, & to fulfil them properly and with such careful and regular attendance as your Petitioner has ever had at his Office, and with his fixed habits of mind, it is necessary to attempt to keep the Regulations hitherto in force, & to comply as nearly as may be with the Regulations in force in the Province, & to conform generally to the English Methods, to which he has been accustomed the Public Service.

4 On the subject of the many duties Your Petitioner has to perform, he would pray Your Excellency to direct the present Collector of this District, and to Mr Walker the Assistant Secretary to Government who was in this District for three years, and so to know well the duties Your Petitioner has to perform.

5 Your Petitioner would willingly have taken advantage of the modified test by examination lately, which have now been passed, but they were only applicable to persons who had received nominations to superior appointments, such as Sahebships &c. Your Petitioner has reason to believe that had the present Collector Mr Grant been able to depose his, Petitioner's services, he would have nominated him to a superior appointment before the Rules closed to operate. This he was unable to do and Petitioner from his absentions to his profession duties had somewhat forfeited the chances of promotion.

6 If reference to the documents accompanying printed Testimonials granted by the undersigned noted gentlemen will testify to Petitioner's character and qualifications.

Hon. C. P.	Thomas
Hon. Dr. J.	Wallace
Hon. W. C.	Sullivan
Hon. Sir	Cherry
Hon. W.	Robinson
Hon. A. B.	Ommaney
Hon. D.	Grant
Hon. C. G.	Walker

7 Petitioner's name has on several occasions been included in the list of persons eligible for the offices of Deputy Collector and Magistrate and Sub-Collector periodically submitted to the Board of Revenue, and the Service list will show that he also acted as Assistant Sheristadar for some time.

8 Your Petitioner trusts that his case will be favourably viewed,

and

14

and that Your Excellency in Council will exempt him from the present special test by examination prescribed for the offices of Deputy Collector and Magistrate.

Under existing circumstances Your Petitioner is practically deprived of all hopes of promotion, but he trusts that after his long and faithful services of 24 years, and under the circumstances detailed above, Your Excellency will confer on him the boon he solicits, and relieve him of the burden which now oppresses him and casts a shadow on his future prospects whichever way he turns.

For this act of Charity and kindness Your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Coimbatore
3rd January 1868

C. Kucatesiah
Head English Clerk
Collectorate Office
Coimbatore

Rec'd. 21/1/68

15

No 298.

The Govt sanction
as a special case the
exemption advocate
by the Coll^r of Coimbatore.

[illegible]

3^d. Dec^r 88.

1 Copy To the Coll^r of Coimbatore Dated 8 Dec^r
6 Copies " " Asst Govt
5 " " Commissioner for the H.C. Steamnavigation
14 " " Dept Revt