D. P. E.
41
100—19-3-96.

Pension (1896) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 893-94.

DATED 28-9-96.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Transmitting to the Govt of India, a memorial addressed to the Rt. Hon'ble the Sec.y of State for India by Mrs E.L.S. Pogson, widow of the late Mr N.R. Pogson. C.B.; F.R.A.S., formerly Govt. Astronomer, Madras, and recommending the grant to her of a compassionate allowance of £150 per annum in consideration of the pre-eminent exceptional nature of her late husband's services to Astronomical Science.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
"	1162 A	Pen.	3-12-96				
"	740	Pen.	29-7-97				

Government {1896} of Madras.

PENSION.

FROM

THE ACTING SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
PENSION DEPARTMENT,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME DEPARTMENT (PUBLIC).

Recd. } 1896. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

Letter No. 894, 28th September 1896.

SEPTEMBER.

TRANSMITTING to the Government of India the accompanying memorial addressed to the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India, by Mrs. E. L. S. Pogson, widow of the late Mr. N. R. Pogson, C.I.E., F.R.A.S., F.M.U., formerly Government Astronomer, Madras; and recommending the grant to her of a compassionate allowance of £150 per annum in consideration of the pre-eminent and exceptional nature of her late husband's services to astronomical science.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

From

G. STOKES, Esq., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Pension Department,

To

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
Home Department (Public),

Dated Ootacamund, 28th September 1896.

Sir,

I am directed to transmit the accompanying memorial to the address of the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India in Council submitted by Mrs. E. L .S. Pogson, widow of the late Mr. N. R. Pogson, C.I.E., F.R.A.S., F.M.U., formerly Government Astronomer, Madras. The memorialist's prayer is that "at least some portion of the sum due to her late husband as pension earned, but never received owing to his sudden and untimely death, may now be granted to his widow, and that if any sum is due to his estate from the Madras Government for the ten volumes embodying the Meridian Circle observations sanctioned by Government at the rate of £150 per volume, that also should be paid" to her.

2. The late Mr. Pogson entered Government service as Astronomer on the 8th February 1861 and held the appointment continuously until the date of his death, 23rd June 1891, *i.e.*, for thirty years, during fourteen of which he also discharged the duties of Meteorological Superintendent. It is unnecessary to dwell upon the exceptional nature of Mr. Pogson's services to the cause of science as these are detailed in the memorial transmitted with this letter; the nature of his work as a servant of Government may be inferred from the fact that so long ago as the year 1883 his "meritorious services" were considered by His Lordship the Secretary of State to warrant the grant to him of a special retiring pension of Rs. 4,500 per annum. This allowance was, however, never drawn by Mr. Pogson, whose continuance in office was sanctioned in the interests of the public service. He was busily occupied in the discharge of his duties until the year 1891, at the close of which he intended to retire on pension. On the 20th of May, however, a medical examination, to which he was subjected by Brigade-Surgeon Lt.-Col. Drake Brockman and Surgeon-Major Branfoot, elicited the fact that he was suffering from virulent cancer of the liver against which medical science was powerless. Mr. Pogson decided forthwith to put his official affairs in as good order as the time remaining to him permitted and took steps to leave clear and full directions for the guidance of his successor in regard to the completion of his unpublished astronomical works. In reporting to Government the fact of his impending decease, he expressed the hope that the Secretary of State would "mercifully take into consideration the very unprovided condition in which his wife and two infants would be left," and urged that his long service of over thirty years without a day's leave of any kind, and his numerous discoveries of new planets and variable stars, entitled his family to liberal consideration at the hands of the Government. Mr. Pogson's death took place on the third day after this final report.

3. In September 1891, Mrs. Pogson, who had previously addressed the India Office direct on the subject, wrote to the Madras Government praying for the grant of a compassionate allowance to herself and her two children, in consideration of her late husband's valuable astronomical discoveries and unremitting labours in the cause of science. The case not being provided for in the rules regarding the payment of pensions from Indian Revenues, the Government as then constituted considered that it

was precluded from recommending to the Secretary of State the grant of the allowance requested by Mrs. Pogson. It was, however, suggested to His Lordship, that in view of the eminent services Mr. Pogson had rendered in the cause of science in general, and not specially for the benefit of this country, the case was one in which a civil list pension might appropriately be sanctioned. No official communication appears to have been received from the Secretary of State in reply to this suggestion; but from an unofficial communication from Lord Cross to the late Governor, Lord Wenlock, it appears that the Secretary of State, while regretting his inability to obtain any pension for Mrs. Pogson from the English treasury, indicated that such an allowance might be a charge on Indian Revenues.

4. In March 1893 a further application was received from Mrs. Pogson, and, though it was then decided that no further steps could be taken on behalf of Mrs. Pogson, that decision has now been reconsidered since the receipt of the memorial transmitted with this letter, and I am now to urge that the Government of India may be pleased to forward Mrs. Pogson's memorial for the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council in view of the pre-eminent and exceptional nature of the services which Mr. Pogson rendered to astronomical science during his long service as Government Astronomer in this Presidency. The grant of a special pension or allowance to his widow and children is one which is no doubt not provided for by the Civil Service Regulations; but the case is to some extent analogous to that contemplated in article 789, which authorizes the grant of small pensions to the family of a Government officer injured or killed in the execution of his duties. Mr. Pogson continued to devote himself to his public duties up to the day before his death, which took place during the hottest month of a year in which the heat was exceptionally severe, and, as Brigade-Surgeon Lt.-Col. Drake Brockman writes in the letter which forms an enclosure to Mrs. Pogson's memorial, Mr. Pogson's labours told upon him severely "especially towards the end, when he personally superintended and in fact at times with his own hands undertook heavy manual labour in taking to pieces and re-setting the delicate machinery connected with the telescopes" in his charge. This exposure and over-work no doubt told upon his health and materially hastened his death, which may be ascribed to that devotion to his duty and the cause of science which led Mr. Pogson to continue his labours in a tropical climate long after considerations of health should have induced him to quit the country. These circumstances taken together with the very exceptional nature of Mr. Pogson's astronomical discoveries constitute, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, cogent reasons for the grant of a compassionate allowance to his widow and children, as to whose straitened circumstances there is no question. I am therefore to express the earnest hope of His Excellency the Governor in Council that a strong recommendation may be made on their behalf to the Secretary of State.

5. As regards Mrs. Pogson's request that any sum due to her husband's estate on account of the published volumes of the Meridian Circle observations conducted under his supervision may be paid to her, I am to observe that a sum of Rs. 600 was disbursed to Mrs. Pogson in July 1891 on account of so much of the work of publication as had been completed by her husband before his death. Enquiries which have subsequently been made of Mr. Michie Smith, the present Government Astronomer, show that no further sum on this account is due to the late Mr. Pogson's estate.

6. Finally, as regards the amount of pension which should be granted to Mrs. Pogson, I am to say that His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that her late husband's services warrant the grant to her of a pension of £150 per annum.

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

Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. Shaik Karim.
35 Copies.

Mrs. E.L.S. Pogson

Pension Dept.

C.No.690

ORDER

Mrs. E.L.S. Pogson's memorial will be transmitted to the Govt. of India.

(from orders)

LETTER

To

The Secy. to the Govt. of India,
Home Dept. (Public)

Sir,

I am directed to transmit the accompanying memorial to the address of the Rt. Hon. the Secy. of State for India in Council submitted by Mrs. Edith L.S. Pogson, widow of the late Mr. N.R. Pogson C.I.E., F.R.A.S., F.M.U., formerly Govt. Astronomer, Madras. The memorialist's prayer is that at least some portion of "the sum due to her late husband as pension "earned but never received owing to his "sudden and untimely death may now be granted to his widow and that if any sum is due to "his estate from the Madras Govt. for the 10 volumes embodying the Meridian Circle observations made "under his supervision at the rate of "£150 per volume may also be paid to her.

2. The late Mr. Pogson entered Govt. service as Govt. Astronomer on the 8th

8th Feb: 1861 and held the appointment continuously until the date of his death, 23rd June, 1891, for 30 years, during 14 of which he also discharged the duties of Metereological Supt.. It is unnecesary to dwell upon the ~~pre-eminent services which he rendered~~ he labored during that period in the interests of astronomical research and it will no doubt be within the recollection of the G. of I. that a special retiring pension of Rs.4,500 per annum was sanctioned in the year 1883. This retiring allowance was however never actually drawn by Mr. Pogson whose continuance in office was sanctioned in the interests of the public service. He was busily occupied in the discharge of his duties until the year 1891, at the close of which he had intended to retire on pension. On the 30th of May however a medical examination to which he was subjected by Brigade Surgn: Lt.-Col: Drake Brockman and Surgn: Major Branfoot elicited the fact that he was suffering from virulent cancer of the liver ~~of rapid growth~~ against which medical science was powerless. Mr. Pogson decided forthwith to put his official affairs in as good order as the time remaining permitted and took steps to leave clear and full directions for the guidance of his successor in regard to the completion of his unpublished astronomical works. In reporting to Govt. the fact of his impending decease he expressed the hope that the S. of S. would mercifully take into consideration the very unprovided condition in which his wife and infants would be left, urging that his long service of over 30 years without a day's leave of any kind, and his numerous discoveries of new planets and variable stars entitled his family to liberal consideration at the hands of the Govt. Mr. Pogson's death took place on the third day after this final report.

2 0.

Exceptional nature of Mr. Pogson's services to the cause of science as these are fully detailed in the memorial transmitted with this letter; the nature of his work as a servant of Govt. may be inferred from the fact that so long ago as 1873 his "meritorious services" were considered by the Lordship in Council of State to warrant the grant to him of a special pension of £ 500 per annum.

vide Lord Kimberley's Despatch to the G. of I., No.3 Pub., d/ 11th Jany. 1883.

So 681 Rule 15-3-83

3. In Septr. 1891 Mrs. Pogson, who had previously addressed the India office direct on the subject, wrote to the Madras Govt. praying for the grant of a compassionate allowance to herself and her two children in consideration of the her late husband's valuable astronomical discoveries and unremitting labours in the cause of science. The case not being provided for by the C.S.R. or any other code of rules regarding the payment of pensions payable from the Indian Revenues, the Govt as then constituted considered that it was precluded from recommending to the S. of S. the grant of the allowance requested by Mrs. Pogson. It was however suggested to His Lordship, that in view of the eminent services to the country Mr Pogson had rendered in the cause of science in general and not specially for the benefit of this country, the case was one in which a Civil List pension might appropriately be sanctioned. No official communication appears to have been received from the S. of S. in reply to that letter; but from an unofficial communication from the late Govt. addressed by Lord Cross to Lord Wenlock, it appears that the S. of S. while regretted his inability to obtain any pension for Mrs. Pogson from the English treasury, indicated that such an allowance might be a charge

on Indian revenues. In March 1895 a further application was received from Mrs. Pogson, and it was then decided that no further steps could be taken on behalf of Mrs. Pogson, but that decision has now been reconsidered since the receipt of the memorial transmitted with this letter, and I am now earnestly to urge that the G. of I. may be pleased to forward Mrs. Pogson's memorial for the favourable consideration of H.M's S. of S. for India in Council. ~~I am to say that H.E. the G. in C. desires to lay great stress upon the~~ In view of the pre-eminent and exceptional nature of the services which Mr. Pogson rendered to astronomical science during his long service as Govt. Astronomer in this Presy. The grant of a special pension or allowance to his widow and children is one which is no doubt not provided for by the C.S.R.; but the case is to some extent analogous to that contemplated in art: ~~799~~ 797, which authorizes the grant of small pensions to the family of a Govt. officer injured or killed in the execution of his duties. Up to the ~~very~~ day before his death which took place during the hottest month of a year in which the heat was exceptionally severe, and as Brigade Surgeon Lt:Col: Drake Brockman writes in the letter which forms an enclosure to Mrs. Pogson's memorial, Mr. Pogson's labours told upon him severely especially towards the end, when he personally superintended and in fact at times with his own hands undertook heavy manual labour in the taking to pieces and resetting the delicate machinery connected with the telescopes. This exposure and over-work no doubt told upon his health and materially hastened his death which may ~~undoubtedly~~ be ascribed to devotion to his duty and the cause of science, which led Mr. Pogson to continue his labours in a tropical climate long after considerations of health induced him to quit the country. These circumstances taken together with the very exceptional nature of Mr. Pogson's astronomical discoveries constitute in the opinion of H.E. the G. in C. cogent reasons for the grant of a compassionate allowance to his widow and children as to whose straightened circumstances there is no question. I am therefore to express the hopes of H.E. the G. in C. that a strong recommendation may be made on their behalf to the S. of S.

As regards Mrs. Pogson's request that any sum due to her husband's estate on account of the published volumes of the Meridian Circle observations conducted under his supervision may be paid to her, I am to observe that a sum of Rs.600 was disbursed to Mrs. Pogson in July 1891 on account of so much of the work of publication as had been completed by her husband before his death. Enquiries which have subsequently been made by Mr. Michie Smith, the present Govt. Astronomer, show that no further sum on this account is due to the late Mr. Pogson's estate.

Finally as regards the amount

amount of pension which should be granted to Mrs. Pogson, I am to say that H.E. the G. in C. considers that late husband's services warrant the grant ~~of~~ to her of a pension of £150 per annum~~, as has already been observed a special pension of Rs.4500 per annum was sanctioned so long ago as 1858.~~

Act
8.9.86

Mrs. Pogson's Memorial to the

Secretary of State.

(FROM ORDERS)

~~H.E. the Governor.~~

DESPATCH

Mrs. Pogson's Memorial to the

Secretary of State

for India.

(FROM ORDERS)

~~The Honourable Mr.Grose, C.I.E.~~

~~The Honourable Mr.Bliss, C.I.E.~~

H.E.the Governor. - who does not accept para 6 of the draft - which is based on the note of 25th April.

Pension Dept.

C.No.690.

ORDER. 28th Sept 1896 No 893

Mrs.E.L.S.Pogson's memorial will be transmitted to the Govt.of India.

(from orders)

D
10.9.96

Mrs.E.L.S.Pogson.

Para. 6 of the draft is in accordance with the views of the majority; N.E. the Govt Presents

D
10.9.96

H.S.H
12.9.96

No 894.

LETTER

To

The Secy.to the Govt.of India,
Home Dept.(Public).

Sir,

I am directed to transmit the accompanying memorial to the address of the Rt. Hon.the Secy.of State for India in Council submitted by Mrs.Edith L.S.Pogson, widow of the late Mr.N.R.Pogson, C.I.E.,F.R.A.S. F.M.U., formerly Govt.Astronomer, Madras. The memorialist's prayer is that " at "least some portion of the sum due to her "late husband as pension earned but never "received owing to his sudden and untime- "ly death may now be granted to his widow "and that if any sum is due to his es- "tate from the Madras Govt.for the 10 vo- "lumes embodying the Meridian Circle ob- "servations ~~made under his supervision~~ Sanctioned by Govt at "the rate of £150 per volume, that also "should be paid"to her.

3.

2. The late Mr.Pogson entered Govt. service as Astronomer on the 8th Feb. 1861 and held the appointment continuously until the date of his death, 23rd June 1891, i.e.for ~~30~~ thirty years, during ~~14~~ fourteen of which he also discharged the duties of Meteorological Supt. It is unnecessary to dwell upon the exceptional nature of Mr.Pogson's services to the cause of science as these are detailed in the memorial transmitted with this letter; the nature of his work as a servant of Govt.may be inferred from the fact that so long ago as the year 1883 his "meritorious services" were considered by His Lordship the Secy.of State to warrant the grant to him of a special retiring pension of Rs.4,500 per annum. This allowance was however, never drawn by Mr.Pogson whose continuance in office was sanctioned in the interests of the public service. He was busily occupied in the discharge of his duties until the year 1891, at the close of which he intended to retire on pension. On the 30th of May, however, a medical examination to which he was subjected by Brigade Surgeon Lt.-Col.Drake Brockman and Surgeon Major Branfoot elicited the fact that he was suffering from virulent cancer of the liver against which medical science was powerless. Mr.Pogson decided forthwith to put his official affairs in as good order as the time remaining to him permitted and took steps to leave clear and full directions for the guidance of his successor in regard to the completion of his unpublished astronomical works. In reporting to Govt. the fact of his impending decease, he expressed the hope that the Secy.of State would "mercifully take into consideration "the very unprovided condition in which "his wife and two infants would be left", and urged that his long service of over ~~30~~ thirty years without a day's leave of any kind and his numerous discoveries of new planets and variable stars, entitled his family to liberal consideration at the hands of the Govt. Mr.Pogson's death took place on the third day after this final report.

3. In Septr.1891, Mrs.Pogson, who had previously addressed the India Office direct on the subject, wrote to the Madras Govt.praying for the grant of a compassionate allowance to herself and her two children in consideration of her late husband's valuable astronomical discoveries and unremitting labours in the cause of science. The case not being provided for in the rules regarding the payment of pensions from Indian Revenues, the Govt.as then constituted considered that it was precluded from recommending to the Secy. of State the grant of the allowance requested by Mrs.Pogson. It was, however, suggested to His Lordship, that in view of the eminent services Mr.Pogson had rendered in the cause of science in general and not specially for the benefit of this country, the case was one in which ~~the~~ a Civil List pension might appropriately be sanctioned. No official communication appears to have been received from the Secy of State in reply ~~to that letter~~ to this suggestion; but

from

from an unofficial communication from Lord Cross to the late Govr, Lord Wenlock, it appears that the Secy. of State, while regretting his inability to obtain any pension for Mrs. Pogson from the English treasury, indicated that such an allowance might be a charge on Indian Revenues.

4 In March 1893 a further application was received from Mrs. Pogson, and, though it was then decided that no further steps could be taken on behalf of Mrs. Pogson, that decision has now been reconsidered since the receipt of the memorial transmitted with this letter, and I am now to urge that the Govt. of India may be pleased to forward Mrs. Pogson's memorial for the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Secy. of State for India in Council in view of the preëminent and exceptional nature of the services which Mr. Pogson rendered to astronomical science during his long service as Govt. Astronomer in this Presy. The grant of a special pension or allowance to his widow and children is one which is no doubt not provided for ~~in~~ by the C.S.R.; but the case is to some extent analogous to that contemplated in Article 797, which authorizes the grant of small pensions to the family of a Govt. officer injured or killed in the execution of his duties. Mr. Pogson continued to devote himself to his public duties up to the day before his death, which took place during the hottest month of a year in which the heat was exceptionally severe, and, as Brigade Surgeon Lt.-Col. Drake Brockman writes in the letter which forms an enclosure to Mrs. Pogson's memorial, Mr. Pogson's labours told upon him severely "especially towards the end, when he "personally superintended and in fact at "times with his own hands undertook heavy manual labour in taking to pieces and re-"setting the delicate machinery connected "with the telescopes" in his charge. This exposure and over-work no doubt told upon his health and materially hastened his death, which may be ascribed to that devotion to his duty and the cause of science which led Mr. Pogson to continue his labours in a tropical climate long after considerations of health should have induced him to quit the country. These circumstances taken together with the very exceptional nature of Mr. Pogson's astronomical discoveries constitute in the opinion of H.E. the Govr. in Council cogent reasons for the grant of a compassionate allowance to his widow and children, as to whose straitened circumstances there is no question. I am therefore to express the earnest hope of H.E. the G. in C. that a strong recommendation may be made on their behalf to the Secy. of State.

5 As regards Mrs. Pogson's request that any sum due to her husband's estate on account of the published volumes of the Meridian Circle observations conducted under his supervision may be paid to her, I am to observe that a sum of Rs. 600 was disbursed to Mrs. Pogson in July 1891 on account of so much of the work of publication as had been completed by her husband before his death. Enquiries which

have

have subsequently been made of Mr. Michie Smith, the present Govt. Astronomer, show that no further sum on this account is due to the late Mr. Pogson's estate.

6 Finally as regards the amount of pension which should be granted to Mrs. Pogson, I am to say that His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that her late husband's services warrant the grant to her of a pension of £150 per annum.

(from orders)

DD 10.5.96

ACA 10.9.96.

Ack. & off'd with memorial

[16]

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 690. + DO. 476

From Mrs. E. L. S. Pogson,
widow of the late Mr. N. R. Pogson. C.S.E. tra.
Dated 27th May 1896, ~~No.~~

The case is a special one & quite outside the terms of the C.S. Regs. I think Mrs Pogson's exceptional services (see Mrs P's petition & my note sending it to the Private Secretary) warrant a compassionate grant to her for Indian Revenues. No application for such a grant has been made yet. I think it should be made now.

What action has been taken about this publication of Knobel's volumes? [illegible] anything granted to Mrs Michie Smith on that account, & if so what?

JS
10/7/96

FOR ORDERS.

In September 1891, Mrs. Pogson applied to this Govt. for an allowance, and her application was forwarded to the Secretary of State, pointing out that the grant of a pension to her is, under the Indian rules, inadmissible, and suggesting that, as her late husband had rendered eminent services in the cause of science in general & not specially for the benefit of this country, a civil list pension might appropriately be conferred.

She applied again to this Govt. in 1892 for assistance, saying that she received a reply from Lord Cross regretting his inability to make any official representation to the 1st Lord of the Treasury on her behalf. In reply to this appeal she was informed that this Govt. did all that it could in her behalf, that the matter was out of the hands of H.E. the Governor in Council, and that in the circumstances no further action could be taken.

She appealed a third time in 1893, but with the same result. Lord Cross's reply to this [illegible] letter

* DO. 19 Pub 21.10.91

A. made about the publication of Knobel's volumes? J3 anything granted to Mrs Michie Smith on that account, & if so what?

* DO. 127 dy 5.6.92 Pub

† DO. 173 dy 6.5.93

P/21-10-91 No. 19 Public, was received in March 1893.
He regretted his inability to obtain any pension for her out of the English Treasury.

Mrs Pogson now appeals for the fourth time.

H.S. 30.6.96.

Special attention is invited to Mr. Pogson's last letter to Govt written 2 or 3 days before his death. (P.O. 520 3.7.91)

The case is an exceedingly hard one, but it seems that Govt has done all it can, unless any bonus can be granted to Mrs Pogson on account of the volumes of her husband's observations which have been published. This is a matter for the Public Department to note upon.

No pension is admissible under the C&R. but it is possible that a special extra-ordinary compassionate allowance might be sanctioned from Indian Revenues (C&R 1005) on the analogy of C&R. 784. Mr. Pogson's death was no doubt accelerated by his devotion to duty

LW
3-7-96

I do not understand why this Govt should have considered itself precluded from asking for a compassionate pension for Mrs Pogson out of Indian Revenues (vide letter to Sec. of S. in P.O. No 19-P 21-10-91.) and should merely have suggested a pension from the home Civil List. It is true "the eminent services" of the late Mr Pogson were" rendered in the cause of science in general but specially for the benefit of this country"; but as Mr Pogson served the Govt of this country for over 30 years without a day's leave of any kind, worked literally up to the eve of his death (see P.O. 542-2 of 3rd July 91) and never ~~desired~~ entered on the pension wh. the Sec. of S. had sanctioned for him, it seems to me quite as reasonable that India should provide a compassionate pension for the widow as that the English Civil List should provide it. The matter was however discussed in council & it was decided that nothing more should be done & Mrs Pogson was informed accordingly.

Mr Rice's pencil note in P.D. 173 of 6.5.93

+ vide H.E. the Governor's remarks in P.O. 173 of 6/5
(I imagine this was a private letter from Lord Cross to Lord Wenlock; for notes in P.O. 520 3.7.91 shew that a private letter was written to the former by the latter on 30.6.91)
D
2.7

Others are requested as to whether the order just quoted is to be final or whether an appln should for the first time be made to India & the Sec. of S. now made for a compassionate pension payable to Mrs Pogson out of Indian revenues. If the latter view should be taken it would probably be well not to ask for too large a sum, but to limit it to £100 or £150 a year — from the date of Mr Pogson's death.

It must be decided in the Public Dept. whether payment

C.No 690 Pension

FOR ORDERS.

Petition from Mrs E.L.S. Pogson, widow of the late Mr. N.R. Pogson, C.S.I. etc.

The Hon'ble Mr Grose C.S.I. & etc

Chief Sec.y (Pub.Dep.t)
for favour of Counter-initials

can be made to Mrs Pogson for the volumes of her husband's observations published after his death. If it is thought right to apply for a compassionate pension this question of payment for the books had better not be raised until the pension question is settled: payment for the books would obscure the issue & might prevent the pension from being granted.

A.L.A 4.7.96

The reason why Govt. did not apply for a Special pension in the matter from Indian Servants was that after Careful search nothing whatever could be found in the C.S.R which could be made to apply. There is a note of Mr Lt Hamilton in G.O No.173.615/93. but I do not recollect if Orders have been read in Council. I know that Mr. Pogson's case - as in any one was in question - took something for her, was more than once talked over in Council but the result was always the same. It is a very hard case and justifies pecuniary help but that D. Secretaries has now written, Indra might now perhaps be accepted with some chance of success. At any rate there will be no harm in trying. A work case for Special treatment outside the C.S.R

might be made - Establishment
Superintendence

Mr 7/7/96

ends 7/7 - Re e.mts
Rs 1479

Ind.ping from Mr. Michie Smith's letter. I don't see how I can be more explicit for giving Mrs Pogson any more an account of the Volumes published after Mr. Pogson's death than has been already given her (say Rs 600) Mr. Pogson's work with regard to them consisted entirely (according to Mr. Michie Smith) of the supervision of assistants employed on the work of taking & recording observations, & this was obviously part of his ordinary duty. But the matter may be left for consideration after words. I think we shd. now recommend the grant of a compassionate pension annuity to Rs 100 a year to Mrs Pogson, for which I enclose draft.

JG
31/7/96.

£100 a year is very little - Letter to go for £150

BH
3/8/96

Considering the scale on which Civil List Pensions are granted in England, £100 a year would be a liberal grant, - especially if it is to be paid from the date of Mr. Pogson's death.

A.S.th 5.8.96

A. Public dept

With reference to the Hon'ble query on the Note for orders regarding Mrs Pogson's application for an allowance it is submitted that Mr Michie Smith has continued the publication of the volumes but has received no extra remuneration for doing so. To make sure that this information was accurate a d/o was addressed to Mr: Michie Smith on the 23rd inst and the Hon'ble attention is invited to his reply (d/o ct No 476). It will be seen that the late Mr Pogson's work of revision in connection with the volumes had, at the time of his death, not gone beyond the year 1872. The Rs: 600/- paid to his estate under G.O. 602. Pub. dt. 21.7.91. was, therefore, apparently, in full of all demands.

H.B. 29/7
A.L.A 29.7.96

Hon^ble W. Rose. Cle.
Bliss cio
Recirculated for perusal of Hr.
& Govt's note marked B

Mrs Pogson's appeal

B
+ think that £100 a year would be sufficient.
Is it not a little undignified on our part to
ask the Govt. to Vote for more than we consider
enough. – in the expectation of being beaten
down. I know this practice prevails among
shrewd dealers. But, should it be adopted
by other Govt. or Members?
The cases mentioned by the Hon. Mr. Bliss
were those of the widow of Mr. Hamerton
and of Sir R. Hamilton. Both of these, es-
pecially the latter, were stronger than Mrs
Pogson's. I know personally the circumstances
of the latter case. (Lady Hamilton's)
A.H 20.8.96

Considering Mrs Pogson's services to
Science, I do not think £150 will be
too much. JG 25/8/96
JM
26/8/96

A
Ought to be payable to
Estbt. out of India & the
I. G.S. then we ask for that I
think prefer to ask for £150 a year.
Help than two to Civil List pensions of
this sort were given in 94-95 – see Whitaker's
Almanac.
JM
12/8/96
I think we might ask for £150 JG 18/8/96
Recd 3/8 30
520 5/8 Rec'd 21/8

B
I gather that Hon Members

Storehouse Hills.
23rd July 1896.

My dear Mr. Richie Smith

In accordance with the particulars afforded in your demi-official of the 6th July 1891 the Govt by its order No. 602 dated 21st July 1891 sanctioned the payment of Rs: 600 to Mrs. Pogson's estate for one third of the Volume of the Meridian Circle Observations for 1871-72-73 which had been completed by him at the time of his death. Will you kindly let me know to what expenses exceeding that on printing the Government has been put on account of the publication of the other portion of that and the whole of the subsequent volumes, and how far they may be said to be the work of the late Mr. Pogson?

Yours sincerely
(Sd) A. T. Arundel

C. Richie Smith Esqre.
Government Astronomer.

23/-

PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR · MADRAS · SED LEX ET MOS

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
25 JUN 96
RECEIVED IN THE SECRETARIAT DEPARTMENT

25 June 1896.

My dear Arundel.

By desire of His Excellency I forward, for disposal in the Pen. sion Dept., the enclosed memorial from Mr. Pog. son, together with a note from the Hon. Mr. Grove.

Yours sincerely

H. Alliart.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

My dear Stuart,

Mrs Pogson has sent me this memorial with the request that I will forward it to the Governor.

She says, "I will not trouble you by repeating all I have already written on the extreme urgency of the case to me & my children & of what great weight the support of the Madras Govt will be in securing its favourable consideration at the India Office ×× If a sound case is made out for exceptional

treatment there is good ground for believing my case will be specially & favourably received at the India Office?

She is left very badly off with two children, a boy & a girl, & I doubt if they have more than enough to keep life in them till he dies. Mrs Smith knows all the circumstances.

There cannot be a shadow of doubt, as Sir M. E. Grant Duff says, about Mr Pogson's services to science. They were "exceptional", & the calm way in which, with the certainty of a speedy death before his eyes, he announced the fact to Govt & expended his dying energies in getting the Observatory Instruments and observations into order was "exceptional", too.

Mrs Pogson She prays for a "Compassionate pension". I do not know under what circumstances such pensions are granted, but I should be very glad if we can help her.

Yours sincerely

J. Grove.

E

Ld. Secy.

A. See if there are any precedents for compassionate pensions to widows of Govt servants.

A strong letter will have to be sent to India to move the Sec. of S. to grant a compassionate pension to Mrs Pearson for her husband's eminent scientific services — She might also get the payment of Rs £150 per vol. for the 7 vols. of observations published by the Madras Govt since Mr P's death.

B.

A. Pension Pearson Mrs HA 26.6.96
V.E. Precedents if any. No precedents can be traced. Please see note for ordering herewith submitted.

B. N.C. Note about this — ~~cab. 7.11.~~

K
30.6

J
26 6 96

CHILLI
SECRETARIAT
No. 367
Date 23.7.1896.

CURRENT No. 690

[9]

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

From

Mrs E. L. S. Pogson
widow of the late
Mr. Norman Robert Pogson
C.I.E. F.R.A.S. F.C.S.
late Govt Astronomer
Madras.

No.

Dated 27 May 1896.

Received 29 June 1896.

Enclosures 3.

SUBJECT.

Submitting a Memorial addressed to the Secy. of State for India, praying that some Compassionate pension may be granted to her in consideration of her late husband's Exceptional meritorious services rendered to Govt. and that if any sum is due to Mr. Pogson's estate for the 7 Volumes of Observations published by the Madras Govt. after his death, that may also be paid to her.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED. { Order complete. / Letter only. / Order complete with Letter.

READ AGAIN G.O.(s) No. 159 DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

...MENT OF GOVERNMENT

...MENT OF GOVERNMENT.

...GOVERNMENT WITH DITTO.

...NOT FIT FOR PRINTING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.