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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	594	Press
		Mis.
Dated	30.10.	1877.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

14th July 1877, No. 1907.

Pensions.

Read the following papers:—

No. 105. To HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF
BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS,

Governor in Council, Fort St. George.

The humble Petition of JOHN HENRY
COURT, late Sub-Auditor in the Office of
Examiner of Commissariat, Clothing, and
Stud Accounts at Madras.

HUMBLY SHOWETH,—That your humble petitioner was entertained in the Commissary-General's Office on the 28th April 1847, where he served up to the 31st March 1854, making a period of nearly seven years. Subsequently your petitioner was,

Mr. J. H. Court, Deputy Head Writer in the Commissariat in the Tenasserim Provinces, has, during the period I was in charge, conducted his duties to my satisfaction. He is a good Accountant, and I have no doubt he will qualify himself for the higher situation if he perseveres in acquiring a thorough knowledge of the Regulations and Circular Orders of the Department.

(Sd.) W. CHAPMAN, Lieut.,
*Dy. Commy., late in
charge of the Dept.,
Tenasserim Provinces.*

MOULMAIN, 26th May 1855.

I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to Mr. Court's zeal and ability in conducting the duties of Deputy Writer during the period (five months) I was in charge of this office. Mr. Court is an able and quick Accountant and laboured unremittingly in bringing up the arrear accounts of expenditure, devoting much of his leisure time to this important duty.

(Sd.) G. BARDIN, Lieut.,
Sub-Accountant, Commy.-Genl.

MOULMAIN, 19th November 1855.

on the 1st April 1854, appointed Deputy Manager in the Office of the Executive Commissariat Officer at Moulmain, at which station he served for a period of three years and seven months, with satisfaction to the officers in charge of the department, as will be seen by their opinions as marginally quoted. Your petitioner was obliged, owing to ill-health, to relinquish his appointment and return to the coast, after which your petitioner was entertained in the Office of the Commissariat Examiner as a Sub-Auditor, and continued in this department up to the 15th February 1877, on which date your humble petitioner was unfortunately dismissed.

2. Your humble petitioner is free to admit that his dismissal was justly deserved consequent on his recent intemperate habits; but your humble petitioner would fain hope that a humane and charitable Government would, after a full and due consideration of the circumstances of his case, extend to him a leniency which they are wont to do in cases worthy of commiseration. Your humble petitioner

Extract from a letter from Captain R. BENSON, Sub-Accountant, Commissary-General, Tenasserim Provinces, to the Commissary-General, dated Moulmain, 17th January 1856, No. 128.

Para. 2. The Clerks in the Disbursement Department of my office have, during my incumbency, exerted themselves by working early in the morning and late in the evening. Mr. Court, second Writer, and Mr. Hutton (fifth) have been particularly zealous, so much so that to pass over their exertions unnoticed would be an injustice, for, frequently, extra work has been thrown upon their hands in consequence of the subordinate clerks leaving this office after a short service for better pay, thus disorganizing the efficiency of this office.

premature death of his two eldest sons, aged, respectively, twenty and seventeen, within a few months of each other, both of whom had successfully passed the Matriculation Test. Your humble petitioner had entertained great hopes in respect to their future. He felt justly proud of their scholastic attainments, having spared no expense in their education at Bishop Corrie's Grammar School. The late Headmaster, the Rev. Mr. DuBois, had particularly expressed his astonishment at the rapid advancement made by the younger of your petitioner's sons, who was only fifteen years of age when he matriculated, and was further persevering for the First in Arts Degree at the time of his death. Such sentiments, coupled with your humble petitioner's happy anticipations of his sons' future career, together with the thought of the solace and comfort that they would be to your humble petitioner and his family in his declining years, have all vanished by the sudden stroke of death.

4. Your humble petitioner had taken these events much to heart, and, notwithstanding all his efforts to tide over his misfortunes, his fortitude failed him, and your humble petitioner thus fell a victim to the vice of drink, and thereby incurred the displeasure of the head of his department. It is needless to mention that the dismissal of your humble petitioner from the service of Government, with its attendant loss of the only means of support of himself, wife and six young children, was such a shock as to have arrested the irregular course of habit which your humble petitioner had lately indulged in. Consciousness of his folly having been restored and having arrived at an age, after a long and vigorous service in the employ of Government, he finds it a matter of difficulty, at this stage of life, to earn a recompense sufficiently adequate to meet the wants of his growing family.

5. Your humble petitioner begs to be pardoned for the belief with which he is impressed that he has some claim on the kind and humane consideration of Government, if for nothing else but the simple fact of the best portion of their lives, of father and son, having been spent in the service of Government, viz., over seventy years. Your humble petitioner, under all the painful circumstances of his case, would most respectfully throw himself on the mercy of Government, and solicit at their hands the boon of a pensionary grant of one-third of his pay, which an Uncovenanted servant after fifteen years' service, under the rules, stands entitled to. This amount, calculated on the average of the last five years' service, will be only about Rupees 29, for the sustenance of himself and the large and growing family dependent upon him. Your humble petitioner is conscious of having, by his misconduct, forfeited his right to a good-service pension; but humbly hopes that a benevolent Government will be pleased to concede to him the forbearance and protection he prays for. For which act of charity your humble petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray,

MADRAS,
19th March 1877.

(Signed) J. H. COURT,
late Sub-Auditor in the Office of
Examiner of Commissariat, Clothing,
and Stud Accounts.

most respectfully submits that his services under the Government extend over a period of twenty-nine years and three months, while those of his late father, who bore the same names as your humble petitioner, and was Manager and Book-keeper at the time of his retirement on a good-service pension of Rupees 200 per mensem, extended over a period of forty-one years and six months, making in the aggregate the services of father and son rendered to Government seventy years and nine months.

3. Your humble petitioner had unfortunately recently encountered a domestic bereavement, such as seldom happens to parents of his class, in the

No. 65.

Transferred to the Chief Secretary to Government.

(By Order.)

(Signed) P. J. HANKIN,
Private Secretary.

MADRAS,
19th March 1877.

No. 1889.

Referred to the Controller of Military Accounts.

(By Order.)

(Signed) J. MICHAEL, Colonel,
Secy. to Govt., Mily. Dept.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28th March 1877.

No. 106. From Colonel T. GILLILAN, Controller of Military Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 13th April 1877, No. B.

I have the honor, in returning the petition of Mr. J. H. Court, late Sub-Auditor of the Office of the Examiner of Commissariat, Clothing, and Stud Accounts, referred under your docket, No. 1889, dated 28th March 1877, to forward the communications of the Examiner, as per margin, which too fully prove that every indulgence had been shown the petitioner and every chance afforded him of saving himself by reformation.

No. 5544, dated 7th April 1877.
" 106, " 11th " " with annexures.

2. His case, however, is of a very painful character. He is the son of a most respectable old servant of Government, long the Uncovenanted Head of that office, well known to me, and his own service under Government extends over a period of twenty-nine years, three months, and fourteen days, of which six years, two months, and three days do not qualify for pension, being service under age. Just on the eve of completing the required period of service, viz., twenty-five years, to entitle him to half-pay* pension under medical certificate, he has made shipwreck of his prospects, and brought ruin not only on himself but on a large family.

3. It will be seen from the accompanying statement that long intervals elapsed during which good service was rendered to the State, which no doubt led the head of the office for the time being to show leniency in the hope of reformation, but after the last warning he had had, there appeared no alternative to dismissal on the late occasion reported by the Examiner.

4. Under the circumstances set forth by the petitioner, Government might, perhaps, in consideration of such lengthened service, and the recognition of the long and faithful services of his late father, feel disposed to deal somewhat leniently with the petitioner, and to recommend the grant to him, as a special case, of a compassionate allowance to keep himself and family from absolute starvation, with reference to the despatch of Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 133, dated 27th March 1873, published at page 24 of the Civil Pension Code.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

No. 5544.

REPORT called for in Controller of Military Accounts' docket, No. 3579, dated 28th March 1877, on docket from Government, Madras, Military Department, No. 1889, dated Fort St. George, 28th March 1877, with enclosures herewith returned.

Subject referred.—Petition of Mr. J. H. Court, dated 19th March 1877, praying for the grant to him of a pension, in consideration of his long service and that of his late father.

Remarks by Examiner of Commissariat Accounts.—In this petition, Mr. Court has correctly recounted the circumstances of his dismissal from this office for intemperance, and his statements as to the periods of service of his late father and himself have been verified and are also found to be correct. Mr. Court was, when not under the influence of the vice which was the cause of his downfall, a very intelligent man and a useful public servant. The undersigned is of course not in a position to judge of the correctness of the petitioner's statement that very severe domestic affliction had affected his brain, but is aware that he did, as stated, lose two very promising sons within a short period of each other. It appears that the question of the grant of the prayer in the petition must be left entirely for Government to decide, but the undersigned would venture to hope that due consideration may be given to it, and that in disposing of it the Government may remember that the unfortunate applicant only needed a few months more service to entitle him to a good-service pension, and that his family are at present, owing to his imprudence, left entirely destitute.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
7th April 1877.

(Signed) E. T. FASKEN, Colonel,
Examiner of Commissariat Accounts.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From Colonel E. T. FASKEN, Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, to the Controller of Military Accounts, dated Fort St. George, 11th April 1877, No. 106.

1. Your memorandum, No. 74, dated 9th instant, with enclosures herewith returned.

2. Forwards, as requested, extracts from this Office Departmental Order Book, giving particulars of instances of intemperance on the part of Mr. J. H. Court, and the steps taken on each occasion.

EXTRACTS from Office Departmental Order Book.

No. 24.

Mr. J. H. Court, second-class Sub-Auditor, is fined 10 Rupees for being drunk in the office on the 7th instant.

MADRAS,
8th July 1865.

(Signed) E. T. FASKEN, Major,
Offg. Examiner of Commissariat Accounts.

No. 24.

Mr. J. H. Court is fined Rupees 40 for being drunk in the office on the 12th instant, and incapable of properly performing his duties.

13th July 1872.

(Signed) E. T. FASKEN, Colonel,
Examiner of Commissariat Accounts.

No. 55.

Mr. J. H. Court having been drunk in the office on the 27th instant is suspended until further orders from pay and duty.

27th May 1874.

(Signed) M. A. ROWLANDSON, Captain,
for Offg. Examiner, Commissariat Accounts.

No. 56.

With reference to Departmental Order of the 27th ultimo, the Officiating Examiner having ascertained that the admission of any pension to Mr. Court could not be authorized, is resolved to give him one more trial, with a hope that this act of unmerited leniency will lead to reformation in Mr. Court's future character.

Mr. Court is fined Rupees 50 for the present offence, and hereby warned that any future misbehaviour of a like description will result in immediate dismissal.

1st June 1874.

(Signed) J. W. RIDEOUT, Lt.-Colonel,
Offg. Examiner, Commissariat Accounts.

No. 63.

With reference to Departmental Orders, Nos. 55 and 56, of the 27th May and 1st June last, respectively, Mr. J. H. Court having again attended office in a state of drunkenness, the Officiating Examiner is compelled to direct that his services be dispensed with, and his name struck off the strength of the establishment from this date.

(Signed) J. W. RIDEOUT, Lt.-Colonel,
Offg. Examiner, Commissariat Accounts.

16th December 1874.

No. 66.

With reference to Departmental Order of the 16th ultimo, Mr. J. H. Court will be considered as having been suspended from office without pay from that date, pending the result of a reference to the Controller, Military Accounts.

(Signed) J. W. RIDEOUT, Lt.-Colonel,
Offg. Examiner, Commissariat Accounts.

12th January 1875.

From Colonel T. GILLILAN, Controller of Military Accounts, to the Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, dated Fort St. George, 15th January 1875, No. 2472.

Your letter, No. 3207, of 12th instant. After giving due deliberation to the painful case of misconduct on the part of the Government servant therein mentioned—misconduct which apparently fully justified the severe measure adopted by you—I am disposed, in consideration of the lengthened period during which the Government has had the benefit of his service, to afford sanction to your carrying out your seeming desire of affording him one more chance of re-establishing his claim to the benefit of his past service.

Accordingly, more especially with advertence to the hope of reformation the circumstance mentioned in paragraph 5 of your letter offers, Mr. Court may be re-employed, but on a reduced salary, and on the clear and distinct understanding that instant dismissal awaits the first offence of a like kind to that reported.

No. 67.

Mr. J. H. Court will return to duty in the reduced grade of a clerk of the third class on the classified minimum salary of Rupees 70.

(Signed) J. W. RIDEOUT, Lt.-Colonel,
Offg. Examiner, Commissariat Accounts.

16th January 1875.

No. 109.

The Examiner having found Mr. J. H. Court this morning drunk in the office, and incapable of properly performing his work, he is with reference to paragraph 2 of memorandum, No. 2472, dated 15th January 1875, from the Controller of Military Accounts, dismissed from the office.

MADRAS,
15th February 1877.

(Signed) E. T. FASKEN, Colonel,
Examiner of Commissariat Accounts.

No. 2286.

Transferred to the Pension Department.

(By Order.)

FORT ST. GEORGE,
16th April 1877.

(Signed) J. MICHAEL, Colonel,
Secy. to Govt., Milg. Dept.

No. 107. From Colonel J. G. TOUCH, Officiating Controller of Military Accounts, to the Under Secretary to Government, Pension Department, dated Fort St. George, 6th July 1877, B.

In forwarding the marginally-noted documents, received from the Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, I have the honor to report that the services of Mr. J. H. Court, late clerk in the Commissariat Examiner's Office, have been verified from the records of this office as indicated below:—

Commissary-General's Office.

	Y.	M.	D.
As Clerk, from 28th April 1847 to 13th October 1850, at Rupees 21 per mensem	3	5	16
As Clerk, from 14th October to 30th November 1850, at Rupees 32 per mensem	0	1	18
As Clerk, from 1st December 1850 to 11th April 1853, at Rupees 35 per mensem	2	4	11
As Clerk, from 12th April 1853 to 31st March 1854, at Rupees 45 per mensem	0	11	19

Executive Commissariat Office, Moulmain.

As Deputy Writer, from 1st April 1854 to 10th November 1857, at Rupees 120 per mensem, latter the date on which he was discharged at his own request	3	7	10
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Commissariat Examiner's Office.

As Sub-Auditor, from 1st April 1859 to 2nd April 1861, at Rupees 60 per mensem	1	8	26
As Sub-Auditor, from 10th December 1859 to 2nd April 1861, at Rupees 65 per mensem	1	3	24
As Sub-Auditor, from 3rd April 1861 to 31st July 1863, at Rupees 70 per mensem	2	3	28
As Sub-Auditor, from 1st August 1863 to 16th December 1874, at Rupees 100 per mensem, latter the date on which he was suspended	11	4	16
As third-class Clerk, from 16th January 1875 to 15th January 1876, at Rupees 70 per mensem, former the date on which he was reinstated on the next lower grade	1	0	0
As third-class Clerk, from 16th January 1876 to 15th January 1877, at Rupees 74 per mensem	1	1	0
As third-class Clerk, from 16th January to 15th February 1877, at Rupees 78 per mensem, latter the date on which he was dismissed	0	1	0

Total .. 29 4 18

Deduct.

The period of his under-age service from 28th April 1847 to 1st July 1853	6	2	4
The period of leave from 4th to 14th July 1874 and from 1st June to 3rd August 1875 on the forfeiture of moiety	0	2	14
	6	4	18
Total ..	23	0	0

2. The above individual was unemployed from 11th November 1857 to 14th March 1858 on account of his having been discharged at his own request; but the previous service may be reckoned for pension, as he was reappointed within twelve months from the date of his resignation, under Rule 1, Section 48, of the Civil Pension Code.

3. He was under suspension from 17th December 1874 to 15th January 1875, during which period he was not in receipt of any pay.

4. The average salary for the last five years is Rupees 88-7-0 per mensem.

5. I am unable to support the application under the circumstances of Mr. Court's case, as he has not only rendered himself medically unfit for the service by habits of intemperance, but was dismissed in consequence of repeated exhibitions of intemperance in office, and the length of his service is due to the amount of forbearance exercised towards him during past years. It is therefore submitted, for the consideration of Government, whether the grant of a compassionate allowance in such a case is advisable.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Colonel E. T. FASKEN, Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, to the Under Secretary to Government, Pension Department, dated Fort St. George, 16th June 1877, No. 1229.

Has the honor, in compliance with the request contained in your No. 11, dated 19th ultimo, to submit an application, in triplicate, for compassionate allowance on behalf of Mr. J. H. Court, supported by a medical certificate of unfitness for further service, in consequence of nervous debility caused by intemperate habits.

2. His dismissal from this office was not on medical grounds, but in consequence of frequent instances of intemperance.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

No. 39.

I, D. R. Thompson, M.D., Surgeon, First District, do hereby certify that I have carefully examined John Henry Court, son of John Henry Court, and late a Sub-Auditor in the Commissariat Examiner's Office. His age is, by his own statement, forty-six years, and by appearance about forty-six years. I consider J. H. Court to be completely and permanently incapacitated for further services of any kind, in the department to which he belongs, in consequence of nervous debility. His incapacity has been caused by intemperate habits.

MADRAS,
14th June 1877.

(Signed) D. R. THOMPSON, M.D.,
Surgeon, First District.

15th June 1877.

(Signed) G. SMITH, M.D.,
Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.

No. 108. ORDER THEREON, 14th July 1877, No. 1907.

Ordered that the foregoing petition, with the reports of the Controller of Military Accounts, be forwarded to the Secretary of State through the Government of India, Military Department.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 109. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 14th July 1877, No. 1908.

I am directed to forward, for transmission through the Government of India, as required by the Standing order, the accompanying despatch addressed by the Madras Government to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State, recommending a compassionate allowance of Rupees (29-7-8) twenty-nine, Annas seven, and Pies eight per mensem to Mr. J. H. Court, late Sub-Auditor in the Office of the Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, appealing for the grant of a pension.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 110. *To the Most Honorable the Secretary of State for India, dated Fort St. George, 14th July 1877 No. 16.*

We have the honor to forward, for the consideration of your Lordship, the accompanying petition addressed to us by Mr. J. H. Court, late a Sub-Auditor in the Office of the Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, appealing for the grant of a pension.

2. Mr. Court, who has served the Government for the lengthened period of twenty-nine odd years, was, after repeated warnings, removed from the service on account of his intemperate habits.

3. Colonel Fasken, the Examiner, reports that when not under the influence of the vice which was the cause of his downfall, Mr. Court is an intelligent man, and has been a very useful public servant. Although it was found necessary to dismiss Mr. Court from the service, Colonel Fasken has asked that in disposing of his case "the Government may remember that the unfortunate applicant only needed a few months more service to entitle him to a good-service pension, and that his family are at present, owing to his imprudence, left entirely destitute."

4. Colonel Gillilan, the late Controller of Military Accounts, in reporting upon Mr. Court's case characterizes it as one of a very painful character, Mr. Court being the son of a most respectable old servant of Government, long the Uncovenanted Head of the Office in which the son had since served. On the score of his own long service, as well as in consideration of the long and faithful services of his late father, Colonel Gillilan suggests the case being treated with leniency, in view to a recommendation being submitted to your Lordship in Mr. Court's favor for the grant to him, as a special case, of a compassionate allowance.

5. On a careful consideration of all the circumstances, and having regard to the heavy domestic afflictions which Mr. Court has suffered, we are not disposed to do him altogether of the benefit of his long service. We beg, therefore, on the ground of the reports made by Colonel Gillilan and Fasken, to recommend to your Lordship that, under the terms of the Home Despatch dated 27th March 1872, No. 133, Mr. Court may be granted a compassionate monthly allowance of Rupees 29-7-8, being one-third of the average salary for the last five years of which he was in receipt at the time of his dismissal, and which is the amount which would ordinarily be given after fifteen years' service.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

18th October 1877, No. 2530.

Pensions.

Read the following paper:—

No. 138. From Lieutenant H. A. SAWYER, Officiating Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort William, 12th October 1877, No. 205.

Pensions.

I am directed to acquaint you, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, that the despatch received with your letter, No. 1908, dated 14th July 1877, recommending the grant of a compassionate allowance of Rupees 29-7-8 per mensem to Mr. J. H. Court, late Sub-Auditor in the Office of the Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, Madras, has been forwarded to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India.

No. 139. ORDER THEREON, 18th October 1877, No. 2530.
Communicated to the Military Department in reference to enforcement by that department, No. 2286, dated 16th April 1877.
(True Extract.)

G. H. A. Sawyer
For Chief Secretary.

To the Military Department.
" Pension "

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Govt. of 1877 Madras

FINANCIAL.

To THE CONTROLLER OF
MILITARY ACCOUNTS,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated July, 14th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 14th July 1877, Nos. 1907-8.

JULY.
Nos. 105-110.

Pensions.—Petition from Mr. J. H. Court, late a Sub-Auditor in the Office of the Examiner of Commissariat Accounts, Madras, praying for the grant of a pension, forwarded to the Government of India for transmission to the Secretary of State.



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Order No. 30 - October 1897 No. 594
Communicated to the Controller of
Military Accounts with reference to his
letter dated 13th April 1897 No. B-
To the Controller of Military Accounts
10th April 1897

Order No. 187 No. 594
Oct. of 1877
FINANCIAL.
 MILITARY DEPARTMENT,
 Secy. &c.,
 Dated October, 18th.
 Issued
 Recd. - 25th
 G.O., 18th October 1877, No. 2530.
OCTOBER.
 Nos. 138-139.

Pensions.—Commissioning letter from Government of India intimating that the despatch of Government recommending the grant of a pensionable allowance to Mr. Court, late Secretary in the Office of the Examiner of Comma-
 Audit Accounts, has been forwarded to Secretary of State.

With Order No. 594