

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	<i>1008</i>	Press Mis.
Dated	<i>1-12-1918</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 1st December 1857.

No. 23. From PEDTHANYNAH, *alias* COOMARAH SOOBAB SAWMY NAICK ; to Colonel A. S. LOGAN, Brigadier, Commanding, dated Vellore, 3rd October 1857.

MOST HONORED SIR,

1. I beg leave very submissively again to address your honor and to crave your honor's kind and gracious consideration to the two Petitions which I submitted to your honor, one dated 25th May and the other the 14th August last, setting forth my claim to certain Allowances to which I considered myself justly entitled for performing the funeral obsequies for the late Ex-King of Candy, to which Petitions your honor gave Endorsements that the circumstances mentioned in the 3rd para : of the last Petition do not agree with the Records of the Stipend Office, and that it would appear from the report of Colonel Andrews to Government that Coomarasawmy Naick, Son of the late Gumpaul Naick by his first wife, was elected by the late Ex-King to perform the funeral Ceremonies for the Royal Family, and that consequently your Honor declined to forward my Memorials to Government.

2. In reference to the above Endorsement I respectfully beg to state for your Honor's information that I would never presume to make a false representation to your honor, and that I stated the real facts connected with the circumstances under which I was induced to perform the late Ex-King's Funeral Ceremonies which was done with the concurrence of the Queens and the former Paymaster of Stipends, the late Colonel F. P. Stewart.

3. At the time this sacred duty was performed by me, my Father the late Gumpaul Naick was dead, and consequently my elder Brother the late Coomarasawmy Naick was nominated Head of the family under whose support and protection I and my younger Brothers then remained, in consequence of which his name was chiefly borne on the Public Records ; but if I was not equally considered like him I would not have been selected by him and by Colonel Stewart to undertake the performance of the funeral obsequies and other Ceremonies for his late Highness. It however pleased the Ceylon Government to grant a monthly Stipend of Seventy Rupees for the said Coomarasawmy Naick and his family ; also a monthly Allowance of 107 Rupees for the support of myself and the family connected with me.

4. In the month of July 1833, when your honor was Paymaster of Stipends at this Station, it will be in your honor's recollection that the Government of Ceylon were pleased to sanction the grant of 800 Rupees for the expence of two Marriages in Coomarasawmy Naick's family, as also the sum of 1,600 Rupees for the expences of four Marriages in my family, thus making me equal to him in every respect.

5. Although agreeably to the Hindu-Law, and according to the usage of Royalty my elder Brother was nominated as Head of the family, yet there was no less respect shewn to me and my younger Brothers by Government as well as by the late Ex-King and by his Queens. If I was less esteemed in any respect, it would not have been deemed proper or expedient to select me to perform the Funeral Ceremonies, &c., instead of my elder Brother Coomarasawmy Naick, while he was alive.

6. I further beg to submit in reference to the 5th para : of my foregoing Petition that the former King of Candy Rajah de Rajah Simlah Maha Rajah left two Queens Oopandra Ummah and Allamaloo Ummah whose respective Brothers named Condasawmy Naick and Ramasawmy Naick were both nominated by Government to transact all the affairs of those Queens ; the Son of the former Vencata Soobaroyloo Naick, and the Son of the latter Coomarasawmy Naick having performed the funeral obsequies on account of those Queens, the Government of Ceylon were pleased to grant them the full amount of Pensions enjoyed by these Ladies, and the same indulgence was awarded to one Soobaroyloo Naick who performed the same Office for Moodoomen Ummah, Wife of Mootoosawmy Naick, a distant relative of the late Maha Rajah. As I have performed the Funeral Ceremonies for the late Ex-King in a more strict and rigid form than any of the aforesaid individuals, and likewise not as such individuals, who are appointed to perform that Office for the Son of a deceased King who is of tender age, in which latter case it is customary to procure a small "Earthen Vessel" in which is placed a piece of lighted Sandal Wood and a few blades of *Sacred Grass* on all which the child places his hand, and the "Earthen Vessel" is then given to the individual so nominated, who performs the Ceremony not as if he would do it for a relative but as if for a friend or stranger ; I however beg to state, Most Honored Sir, that this was

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 1st December 1857.

not the case with me for I performed the funeral Ceremonies for the late Ex-King in the same manner as if I would have done it for my own Father in strict conformity to the Rules prescribed in the Hindu Religion and Shastras observed among the Candian Kings. I further beg to state that from the date of the Ex-King's death and for 11 days after I wore black clothes while I performed the Ceremonies which is likewise in conformity to Royal usage: I therefore most humbly trust that under all the foregoing circumstances the Government will extend the same liberality towards me by granting me such suitable Allowance as in their superior judgment they may deem most expedient.

For which act of equity and benevolence I and my large family will for ever feel deeply grateful, and pray that the Almighty will bless your honor with long life, health and every happiness, as I depend on your honor alone to aid my cause, and afford me due redress.

I beg to remain with every degree of respect.

Most honored Sir,

Your very obedient,
Humble Servant,

VELLORE,
3rd October 1857.

పెద్దనాయనలనే కుమారమునామివారివేదములు.

Peddanyah, alias Coomarah Soobah Sawmy Naick, Brother of the 1st and 2nd Queens of His late Highness the Ex-King of Candy.

P. S.—It may not be out of place to, add in reference to para: 6, of this Petition that the individuals therein alluded to, Vencata Soobaroyaloo Naick and Coomara Sawmy Naick receive through the liberality of Government the full amount of the Pension enjoyed by the two Queens of the former King of Candy, viz., Rupees 44 each. The individual Soobah Narnaendra Sawmy who performed the funeral obsequies for the 2nd Queen of His late Highness receives two-thirds of the Allowance enjoyed by that Queen, viz. 66-5-4.

పెద్దనాయనలనే కుమారమునామివారివేదములు.

Petitioner is referred to the Endorsement given on his Petition, dated 14th August last, and is informed that, if his claim was a just one, it should have been made immediately after he performed the funeral Ceremonies for the late Ex-King, which it would appear took place so far back as January 1832.

VELLORE,
STIPEND PAY OFFICE,
15th October 1857.

(Signed) A. LOGAN, Brigadier,

Commanding Vellore.

No. 23. From T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; to the COLONIAL SECRETARY AT COLOMBO, dated Fort Saint George, 1st December 1857, No. 1008. 1008

SIR,

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council has lately received a Petition from Peddanayana, alias Coomara Soobha Sawmy Naick, Brother-in-law of the late Ex-King of Candy, requesting him to forward a Memorial to the address of His Excellency Sir H. Ward, and to give his recommendation to the prayer therein made, the subject of which is mentioned in the Memorialist's Petition to this Government.

2. I am accordingly directed to transmit the Memorial,* but without any recommendation, the Governor in Council not being clear that the Petitioner has any rightful claim in the matter. A copy of his application to the Officer Commanding Vellore, and of Brigadier Logan's Endorsement thereon are also forwarded, as tending to throw light upon the question.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

To The Right Honorable
George J. A. Lord Harris
Governor in Council
Yea Yea Yea
Fort Saint George
Madras.

The humble Petition
of Peddanyah, alias
Coomarah Soobah Sawmy
Naick, brother of the 1st
and 2nd Queens of His
late Highness Vickramah
Simlah Ex-King of Candy,
residing at Vellore;

Most respectfully sheweth,

1. That after the Capture of the Candian Provinces by the British Government, Petitioner's father, the late Gumpaul Naick with his family accompanied His late Highness the Ex-King into Vellore in 1816, and the Government were pleased to grant them Rations according to their respective grades, which, after the death of Petitioner's father was continued to the members of his family, and in course of time, monthly payments were allotted to them

them

them in lieu of Rations.

2. That a short time prior to the death of His late Highness, he expressed great solicitude respecting the selection of a proper person for the performance of his funeral obsequies and other annual Ceremonies, and at length, with the concurrence of the Queens, Petitioner was considered the most eligible to undertake those sacred duties because of his near affinity, and he was accordingly nominated to conduct those solemn duties. After the death of His late Highness, the Queens communicated the above Circumstances to Colonel T. P. Stewart, who confirmed the selection made by the late Ex-King and granted authority that Petitioner should fulfil the obligation which thus devolved on him. In conformity with this authority, Petitioner performed the necessary funeral obsequies on the day of His Highness' death in accordance with the Customs laid down in the Hindu Religion, and continued it for ten successive days, during which time he clothed himself with black according to the custom observed among Hindus of rank and respectability; and Petitioner has since continued to perform the usual

Annual

annual Ceremonies on account of His deceased Highness.

3. Petitioner here takes the liberty to submit the following facts for the consideration of your Lordship in Council.

1. After the death of the Queens Moonpadthra Ummah, and Alamaloo Ummah of His late Highness' predecessor Rajah de Rajah Simlahettah Rajah, the funeral obsequies and Annual Ceremonies for the first mentioned Queen were performed by Tencata Soobroyaloo (now residing at Bellare, and for the second named Queen by Coomarasawmy (now residing at Nagapatam, to both of whom the Government were pleased to grant the full allowance enjoyed by those Queens; the allowance of the latter individual being only recently sanctioned, nearly 25 years after the demise of the Queen on whose account he draws it, which fact will be borne out by a reference to the Public Records.

2. Subsequent to the death of His late Highness' 2nd Queen, which lately occurred at Tanjore, the Government were pleased to grant two thirds of her allowance, vizt, Rupees 66-5-4 per Mensem to Soobah Nar. Mahendrasawmy residing at Tanjore, who performed the funeral rites and Ceremonies for the above

Queen.

Queen.
 3. The Ceylon Government have likewise given their sanction that a portion of the allowances enjoyed by the 3rd and 4th Queens (residing at Vellore), should be granted to such of their nearest relatives who may hereafter be appointed to perform their funeral ceremonies after their death.

4. The Government, moreover, after the lapse of several years, have liberally granted allowances to several surviving members of the families of deceased Stipendiaries, of suitable to their rank and respectability.

5. It is therefore with no small degree of regret Petitioner observes, that with such facts before him, and after having most religiously performed the funeral obsequies and Annual Ceremonies for His late Highness who was the Chief Head and Royal representative of the Candian Nation and Provinces that he should be excluded from participating in a similar indulgence. Petitioner will not presume to attach any blame to the Government, who have in all instances been most just, liberal, and benevolent, but he must impute

impute it to his own misfortune and neglect in not representing his case to the authorities at an earlier date, and he trusts the following reasons for such apparent misfortune on his part, and the necessity there now exists for his doing so, will have due weight with your Lordship in Council.

5. The reason that Petitioner did not make any representation to Government on the subject earlier, was, that when the Government were pleased to grant a monthly allowance of 107 Rupees for the maintenance of the family of the late Gumpaul Raick, Petitioner was not married, but in course of time he entered into wedlock, and the expenses incurred on that occasion were kindly defrayed by the Government. In process of time, when the family increased in number, it was deemed expedient that each individual head member should live separately with their respective families, and accordingly the above sum of 107 Rupees was divided between himself, his three brothers and a sister, in conformity with the instructions of Government. The small stipend drawn by Petitioner he respectfully begs to say is very inadequate to meet the increasing wants of his growing family, and he has suffered great privations and inconveniences, in consequence

in consequence of which he has been obliged to contract debts to a considerable extent, which he finds it a matter of the greatest difficulty to liquidate:—

6. As the Government have liberally extended their bounty to the parties who performed the funeral ceremonies for the Queen of His late Highness' predecessor Rajah de Rajah Simlah Maha Rajah, and that too several years after their demise, and have also granted the same indulgence to the individual who performed the same office for His late Highness' 2nd Queen who lately died at Tanjore; and as Petitioner performed the same sacred duties in a more rigid form for the Royal head of the Candian Nation as already shewn above, he very submissively implores your Lordship in Council will be graciously pleased to take his case into your Lordship's just, favorable and impartial consideration, and that your Lordship will benevolently grant him some portion of the 200 Rupees which was allotted to His late Highness (besides Rations &c.) so that Petitioner may be enabled to support his numerous family, who are deprived

deprived of many of the necessaries
and comforts of life, more decently
and in a manner as is becoming
Petitioner's rank, respectability and
near relationship to His late High
ness the Ex. King of Candy.

7. Finally, Petitioner herewith takes the liberty to Enclose an address to the Ceylon Government, which the most deferentially craves your Lordship in Council will be humanely pleased to forward with your Lordship's strong, powerful and favorable recommendation, in order that Petitioner's request to be allowed an increase to his present limited monthly stipend may be complied with, and that he may participate in the indulgence enjoyed by others of the families and relatives of the late E. King.

For which act of grace and benevolence Petitioner shall feel deeply grateful;

And as in duty bound
I shall Ever Pray,

Tell me,

45th Nov^r

1857.

విజయనగర పరమేశ్వరస్వామి విజయనగరం
రాలి

Political Dept

From the Chief Secy No. 1008.
to the Colonial Secy. Ceylon.

Sir,

The R. & C. G. in C. has lately recd a petition from Pethanayana alias Comara Sotha Sany Naidu, holder in Ceylon of the late taking of Candy, requesting him to forward a memorial to be addressed to his Excellency Sir H. Ward, and to give his recommendation to the prayer herein made, the subject of which is mentioned in the memorialist's petition to his Govt.

2. I am accordingly directed to transmit the Memorial, but without any recommendation, the G. in C. not being clear that the Petr. has any rightful claim in the matter. A copy of his application to the Officer Commr. Baller & of Messrs. Logan's endorsement thereon are also forwarded.

For to Mr. George. J. de Silva, as tending to throw light
1st December, 1857. Upon the question. D. S. L. 26/10/57.

* Enclosure No 1
in a close cover.

Handwritten signature/initials.

Handwritten signature/initials.

Handwritten signature/initials.

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21/10/57

From him to be
sent to Ceylon, in
which is no loss for
an increase of persons,
as the removal of the
which has taken as
least of the Kandian
Kandy, he having
been formed the funeral
ceremonies of the late
Kandy.
Pray the Secretary to
recommend his prayer.

*MS. A. 9. 2. 1. 30. 2. 1. 37.
Political 1837-1846*

Ms. 1008.

The Colonial Society at
Portland &

8/100 December/57.

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