M.R.O. 1—88,000—16-10-39.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 15A Press Mis.

Read - 6-9-39

Dated 6-1-1837

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 5924

From H. T. Edmonstone, Esquire
Secretary to the Govt. of India

To

T. Pycroft, Esquire,
Chief Secretary to the Government
of Fort St. George.

Dy. Fort William, 20th November 1830.

Foreign Dept. A

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 24th ultimo, No. 380, reporting the proceedings of the Government of Fort St. George, and communicating some suggestions offered by them, with regard to the family of the late Nawab of the Carnatic.

2. In reply, I am directed to state, that the Governor General in Council approves of the selection of Lt. C. A. Read, Master of the Supreme Court, and Administrator General, to fill the place which remained vacant in the Commission appointed to investigate the debts of the late Prince.

3 It is intimated in your letter that, in the opinion of the Government of Fort St. George, it would not be empowers the Commission to summon

witnesses

witnesses, to examine upon oath, and to enforce the production of evidence, will be necessary for the prosecution of the enquiry. The Governor General in Council has no doubt that it is indispensable. Without such power, the Commissioners would be unable to contend against the fictitious claims and fraudulent evidence which would be set up. It appears, however, that the scope of the proposed Act has not been precisely determined by the Madras Government, but His Lordship in Council, concurs, generally, in the propriety of the measure.

4. With regard to the debts which were contracted by Prince Azeem Jah, not as a private individual, but as Naib. i. Mookhtecar, which office he held during the minority of the late Nawab, I am directed to state that the investigation of these debts will certainly form a part of the duties of the Commission.

5. The Government of Fort St George is further advised that their orders to exclude from the cognizance of the Commissioners the debts contracted by Azeem Jah in his private capacity, and the debts incurred by Sacedon Nissa Begum, grandmother of the late Nawab, are approved by

by the Governor General in Council.

6. Your letter is accompanied by a draft of a Notification of the grounds upon which the Government of India has acted in regard to the Carnatic family, but in the 13th paragraph of your letter, it is stated that the opinion of the Madras Government on this point has changed, and that it is now inclined to think that the Notification had better not issue, lest the excitement which has already been caused by a knowledge of the intentions of Government relative to the extinction of the Nawabee should be revived.

7. I am desired to state, that the Governor General in Council would be glad to see the course which the Government of India has pursued in this matter, publickly set forth, because it is a just, reasonable and liberal one, but he does not consider it essential that this should be done, and it is not required by the interests of any who are affected by it. Moreover, the proceedings of the Government will be sufficiently open and avowed, including, as they must, an act of Legislation, and the

the establishment of a Commission for the receiving and investigating of all claims.—

8. If, therefore, the Government of Madras, which is best able to judge of the probable effect of such a Notification, should, upon further consideration, still think it better to withhold it, His Lordship in Council does not desire to insist upon its issue.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt Servant

Fort William
the 28th November
1836

G. Edmonstone
Secy to the Govt of India

Ltr. England 13th
February No. 3 to
1837 Paris 1 @ 10.

In Cons. 6th Jany.
Political 1836 Dispr.

From the Secy. to the Govt.
of India
No. 5924

Dated 28th Novr.
Rec'd 16th Decr. 1836

95 21

No. 712

Approve the selection of

69 70

Mr. C. M. Reed to fill the place which remained vacant in the Commissions appointed to investigate the debts of the late Nawaub of the Carnatic and offer certain suggestions in connection with the Act applied for, and the Notification of the grounds on which the Govt. of India have acted in regard to the Carnatic family.

Mr. C. M. Reed
No. 15. A.

To be recorded
Govt. Records
6 Jany 37

JP