

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 664	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated 24.8.1917	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 664.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, under date the 24th August 1857.

From Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepauk ; to E. MALTRY, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 18th August 1857.
No. 235 of G. A.

SIR,

In my communication No. 155, dated 24th December 1856, I submitted to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, my report on all connected with the Carnatic Sircar, my observations relating to the servants being framed in accordance with the orders of the Government of India.

2. In that communication, I reported, amongst others, on the Chief Officers of the Sircar, sending on the list of their names with other remarks in the letter dated 30th December No. 163 of 1856.

3. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council, in Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 230, dated 19th March sanctioned that list, with one alteration, and as it had been framed by me with much care, and had been under the consideration of Government for nearly three months, it was legitimate in me to infer that the list had received the mature consideration of Government and would be generally adhered to and all my replies to petitioners and endorsements were made in that belief.

4. Since that time, however, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, has made four changes in this list : has admitted the claim to the rank of Chief Officer ; and enjoyment of full

	rate of pension, of the
* 1327 Moonshee ool Moolk Bahadoor.	four individuals named
1346 Raees ool Oomrah Bahadoor.	on the margin.* Though
2112 Motamim ool Dowlah Bahadoor.	the last of them was a
1206 Uslum Jung Styled Surferaz ool Dowlah Bahadoor.	ready a stipendiary of
	Government.

5. Although I urged much to prevent that being done, my now alluding thereto is merely to solicit the declaration of the principles which are to guide me in deciding on the cases of other individuals who are advancing their claims to similar consideration.

6. In List No. 2 above alluded to, of pensioned Sircar servants returned to me in a printed shape, in Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 19th March last, there were named 24 individuals, who had previously been in receipt of Rupees 4,499 per mensem, and to whom were

In witness whereof the said

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See letter from Persian and Hindoostanee Translator to Government, No. 13, dated 19th May 1857.

test : for, although Extract Minutes Consultation dated 20th July 1857, No. 563 raised two individuals of List 2, to full allowances, it still left other ten individuals in that list on pensions smaller than their former full salaries; and though the subject of

Sunnuds was fully before Government, and Extract Minutes Consultation 22nd July No. 565 commanded the elevation to the grade of Chief Officer of one person, and after I had written this, Extract Minutes of Consultation; No. 619 of the 10th Instant, has named a fourth who had furnished, his Sunnuds as evidence of his rank,—Government nevertheless have not issued any general instructions, as to Sunnud holders generally.

12. It is, however, my duty to submit for the consideration of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that I do not concur as to the existence of any necessity for any alteration in list No. 2 ; but as, from these four decisions, Government evidently hold a different opinion from myself on this point, unless general principles for the guidance of the Agency be declared, or a new list framed upon certain other principles, not only will my decisions on the applications which will come before me, unless upheld by Government, seem to be opposed to the wishes of Government, but only those individuals will have their cases re-considered, whom circumstances may inspire to address Government ; while humble and good but modest men, perhaps more entitled to further consideration than any of those who apply, will, from not applying, not receive any augmentation of their stipends.

14. I have noticed this point before in my letter of 21st February 1857, No. 52 but the Government in Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 24th March 1857, No. 244 para. 7 thought it useless to consider this suggestion and its relation to the present occasion is that, as hereditary services have been reckoned. I think it a matter of more importance, than before they were so, that the long service of these people should be considered. Favorably to consider their cases, however, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council must have the means; these will not be forthcoming if the other classes of pensioners be still more largely extended. With permission.

Wm. H. Hall, Th. Co.

declared, which shall be my guide in disposing of the claims made by servants to be raised to the grade and pension of Chief Officer.

(Signed) EDWARD BALFOUR,
Government Agent.

The only orders which Government have to pass on this letter are to instruct the Agent to examine fully the grounds on which claims are advanced either to an increase of pension or to admission into the list of Chief Officers, and to report the result to Government together with his own opinion.

2. With reference to list No. 2, the remarks of the Agent constrain Government to observe that they accepted that list in reliance on his care and experience in preparing it. But when they found that some of the highest servants of the household who were entitled to receive their full salaries for life as Chief Officers, had not had their claims allowed, it was necessary to correct the error, and Government are not prepared to declare the list final without hearing the claims of those applicants to whom the Agent alludes.

3. In Para. 11 of his letter the Agent observes that as the principle of finality respecting List 2 has been broken in upon, very many applications may be looked for from parties claiming the full pensions of Chief Officers. But Government has no anticipation of any difficulty on this point. It is known that the Chief Civil Officers of the Nawab's Household were only about 12 in number and most of them are now included in List 2. Their rank is ascertainable by their Sunnuds and titles by their being at the head of Departments, and by their having Seats round the throne, as the acknowledged Chief Officers of the Household on state occasions.

4. Government readily acknowledge Mr. Balfour's zeal in the discharge of his duties, but they cannot view with approval the comments which he offers in para. 13 on orders which Government have seen fit to issue after full consideration for assigning pensions to the Nawab's servants. The remarks also in para. 12 are out of place, as it is the Agent's Office to provide that good but modest men receive the benefits intended for them by the arrangements of Government instead of being overlooked.

(True Extract and Copy.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Government Agent.

Political Department.

20.6.14

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
of 31st August 1857.
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at Chapank d. 18th Aug 1857
No. 235.

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Yks

Copy to the Govt Agent - Dec 24/14