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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 944 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 8-11- ~~19~~ 1887

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 9. From Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepauk; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 22nd July 1857, No. 202 of G. A.

SIR,

In Government of India letter, No. 4780 of 17th September 1856, para: 13, a small Guard was proposed for the Begums of the late Nabob, taking care that Prince Azeem Jah Bahadoor has no authority over or concern with them, whatever.

2. In para: 18 of Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 332 of 1856, I was directed to report as to the retention of the requisite number of the Sircar Soldiery for these Guards.

3. In para: 2 of Extract Minutes of Consultation of 27th October, No. 390 of 1856, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council repeated the above orders of the Government of India that I was to be careful, that Prince Azeem Jah Bahadoor has no authority over nor concern with them.

4. In para: 2 of Extract Minutes of Consultation of 6th March 1857, I was commanded to notify to Ahmud Oon Nissa Begum that the Servants of her Grand-mother, the deceased Saeed Oon Nissa Begum, must no longer wear Military Accoutrements, which I communicated accordingly.

5. In my communication of the 3rd April, I explained how Ahmud Oon Nissa Begum had evaded compliance with the orders of Government, and placed His Highness Prince Azeem Jah Bahadoor in the position which it was the particular desire of the Government of India and of the Right Honorable the Governor of Madras in Council that I should be careful to prevent the occurrence.

6. Government in reply, in Extract Minutes of Consultation of 23rd April, No. 313, saw no cause to interfere between Prince Azeem Jah Bahadoor and Ahmud Oon Nissa Begum.

7. In the List of Servants of Her Highness the late Saeed Oon Nissa Begum, enclosed in my letter of 26th September, No. 65 of 1856, the Troops were shown to be as per margin.*

* Jemadars.	Havildars.	Naigues.	Troopers, Gunners & Privates.	Buglers, Drummers and Fifers.	Boys.	Barbers and Washermen.	Total.
3	3	3	61	3	7	2	82

8. My object in now writing is that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, engaged in many other important matters of business, may be aware of the position of Prince Azeem Jah Bahadoor; that Arms to the extent of that Force, are in the possession of these Soldiers; that he has all the display of which it was the wish of the Government of India he should not have, and that Ahmud Oon Nissa Begum, to whom Government granted the sum of Rupees 2,250 for the support of her Grand-mother's dependents, while she has handed over the means of display, has also got rid of the expense of keeping them.

(Signed) EDWARD BALFOUR,
Government Agent.

MINUTES BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT,

I think there is only one way to meet such duplicity as this, and that is to inform Ahmed-Oon-Nissa Begum and the Prince Azeem Jah, that Government can tolerate no such transactions, and that the payment of the Salaries or Pensions of the late Saeed-Oon-Nissa Begum's Establishment will be paid for the future by the Chepauk Agent.

The Prince Azeem Jah should be informed that the Government have already expressed their decision, and that he is not to have servants in Military uniform.

(Signed) HARRIS,

Dated August 1857.

I think that there can be no question that the Government of India intended, that the Prince Azeem Jah should have no Military retainers and this transfer of the Armed Military Servants to the Prince by Ammed Oon Nissa Begum is, as I termed it originally, an act of duplicity which should be noticed.

I do not exactly understand how these men are now paid, but if they are not paid out of 30,000 Rupees allowed to Ammed Oon Nissa Begum, it is only fair that Allowance should be diminished by the aggregate amount of their Stipends, which was granted, when these men were included in the List of her Dependents.

I should be sorry to do anything just now to hurt the feelings of Azeem Jah particularly as he is, I hear, very ill, but I think on the Arms Bill being passed, this Government should insist on this Guard being disarmed.

(Signed) HARRIS.

Dated October 1857.

I wish to record my previous remarks on this subject as a Minute.

I have no wish to add any additional disappointment to the Prince Azeem Jah, at the same time, I must observe, that the fact of his retaining his Guard, which it now appears pretty clearly is considered his own, enables him to keep up an appearance of his claims to the Nabobship of the Carnatic.

It is well known that he has not given up the intention of maintaining himself in Politica hostility to the declared opinion of Government in this subject, and of agitating the subject of his right to the succession.

The course too which Azeem Jah has pursued during the late excitement has, in my opinion, by no means entitled him to the consideration of Government.

His determined refusal to accept the Stipend offered by Government, has enabled him to appear as an object of pity and commisseration, as being left destitute of the ordinary means of subsistence, and this feeling has been increased by the fact of his servants and retainers being unpaid and actually in want.

This course, which he has adopted, or which he has been induced to adopt by the men who misguide him, and who are notoriously hostile to the British Government, is the more inexcusable, because it was carefully pointed out to him by the Chepauk Agent, that the course he was taking was not considered either respectful or friendly to Government, particularly under the present serious state of affairs, and that his acceptance of the Salary proposed by Government would by no means preclude his endeavours to obtain a larger portion, while its receipt would maintain himself and his family in comfort, and would thus prevent the unjust inferences which might be drawn to the disadvantage of Government as if it were depriving him of the means of subsistence.

Under these circumstances and under the impression that it was the intention by the Supreme Government that the Prince Azeem Jah should be prohibited from retaining such appearances, as it might give to the preservation of his claims to Political Authority, I must request that this subject should be referred to the Government of India for decision.

(Signed) HARRIS.

MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

Dated August 1857.

As regards the payment of these retainers, if it is not borne by Government but arranged between Azeem Jah and Ammed Oon Nissa Begum, I see no occasion to interfere.

I should be sorry to see the Prince Azeem Jah deprived of the means of display to which he attaches such importance, but I think his Armed Retainers are much too numerous and that they should be deprived of their Arms when the Act is passed.

Signed) P. G.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 10th November 1857.

MINUTES BY THE HONORABLE W. ELLIOT, Esq.

This reference does not present itself to my view in the light in which it has been understood above.

Prince Azeem Jah has always been attended by Military Guards.

I was under the impression that they had been allowed to him by his Nephew and made the remark on a former letter when Sir H. Montgomery set me right.

But I have more than once stated my opinion that although these Guards were private Servants they should not now be interfered with.

I believe the Prince's Statement to be strictly correct, that these men were kept up by his Mother for his gratification, and I have no doubt they have always been under his immediate orders.

I think he asks for permission to retain them with the most perfect respect and humility, and I own I should see with great regret that he was refused.

He has enjoyed this piece of petty pagantry all his life. He is now in his old age, with disappointed hopes and baffled expectations, required to relinquish the mere outward resemblance of the rank he has so long held and to which he attaches an importance which however childish in our eyes, is of very great value in his.

I should be sorry to see such a paltry sacrifice insisted on.

(Signed) W. E.

Dated 18th September 1857.

Prince Azeem Jah as Uncle of the late Nawab and Naib-i-Mukhtar or Regent during his Nephew's minority has enjoyed the distinction of a Military Guard since 1820.

I have little doubt that his Brother Nawab Azam Jah allowed the same privilege during his life time.

On the late Nawab attaining his majority in 1842, he quarrelled with his Uncle and slighted him in every way.

The Prince then entertained a private Military Guard which was paid by his Mother, the late Saeed Oon Nissa Begum, out of her own resources.

The Begum further used to allow him a sum of Rupees 4,000 a month out of her own Stipend in addition to the 4,000 Rupees he received from the Nawab.

On his Mother's death last year, the Military retainers who had constituted his Body Guard were still kept up, but by whom they have been and are now paid I am not aware.

The Prince has taken out Letters of Administration to his Mother's Estate as her next heir. He has naturally much influence and control over his Niece (her Grand-daughter) Ahmud Oon Nissa Begum, and I do not see how she could well have objected to her Uncle retaining the services of these Soldiers in the same manner as he had always done.

I am therefore unable to perceive in what manner she can be charged with any duplicity or misconduct in the matter.

As regards the retinue kept up by the Prince, it is a distinction he has always enjoyed, and one to the continuance of which the Government of India could hardly, I should think, object, when it is not maintained at the public expense.

Guards at the public expense were recommended by this Government for the Begums in consideration of their position, and there is no positive prohibition to the enjoyment of a similar privilege by the Prince when not a charge on the Revenue.

I think it is unnecessary to interfere with his enjoyment of the distinction *now*. He has suffered quite enough disappointment and real loss of dignity and wealth already, to add to i by the exercise of petty measures of humiliation.

The number of retainers 61 with 9 Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers is perhaps large. But he keeps up several residencies at each of which is a small Guard over his Zenana, and, as a whole, such a body is altogether contemptible and incapable of disturbing the peace.

I strongly deprecate any interference with the condition of this worn-out, disappointed old man, who cannot in the nature of things live much longer, and whose death will shortly put an end to all difficulties on the subject.

(Signed) W. E.

Dated 23rd October 1857.

As the question of Prince Azeem Jah's retention of his Escort is to be referred to the Supreme Government, I should like the observations I made on a former occasion to stand as a Minute.

I have met with nothing to show that the Prince has evinced a bad spirit during the late rebellion. If he had done so I should not consider him deserving of consideration.

His refusal to draw his Pension occurred before the commencement of the Mutinies and arises out of common feeling that the acceptance of a smaller allowance whilst he is urging his claims to greater degree of consideration would have the effect of comprising his rights by appearing to acquiesce in the inadequate recognition of them.

This is quite in accordance with native modes of thinking.

It is true the Government Agent was desired to explain to him that his acceptance of his allowance would not prejudice the consideration of any claim he might have to a larger provision. But such an argument would not operate against the fixed idea under which he had already declined to receive it.

(Signed) WALTER ELLIOT.

MINUTE BY SIR H. C. MONTGOMERY, BART.

Dated 14th April 1857.

I am inclined to this view, I think it would be better not to interfere with the arrangement. It is doubtful, from what Colonel Boulderson, I believe, said on a former occasion whether the Government could permit these men wearing Military uniform. I think the Agent is disposed to be very hard with Ahmud Oon Nissa Begum. I do not understand from the correspondence that Azeem Jah asks the Government to maintain this Guard for him. He merely desires to retain at his own charge the Guard, he has been accustomed to, and this I would not prevent his doing.

(Signed) H. C. M.

No. 10. From E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; to G. F. EDMONSTONE, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, dated the 5th November 1857, No. 944.

SIR,

I am directed to request the orders of the Government of India on the subject of the Prince Azeem Jah being allowed to retain the Military Guard which he now possesses. This Guard consists of about 80 men who formed part of the Military Retinue of the late Nabob of the Carnatic, and are dressed in uniform, and carry the same Arms as Sepoys.

2. In the arrangements which followed the Nabob's decease, the subject of his soldiery engaged attention, and is alluded to in your letter of the 17th September 1856, which made provision for keeping on, at the expense of Government, a small escort for the Begums. But the Guard which now attends the Prince Azeem Jah is kept up at his own charge, and the question for decision is whether the entertainment of this Guard is contrary to the policy and orders of the Supreme Government, or whether its retention, at the Prince's private cost for the period of his life, is to be allowed on that principle of respect and consideration for the heads of Princely Families of expiring dignity which is expressed in para: 13 of your letter.

3. The question came before this Government in two letters from the Chepauk Agent, dated 3rd April and 22nd July last. Copies of these letters are forwarded, together with the enclosures to the first which give the explanation of Prince Azeem Jah and Ahmud Oon Nissa Begum respecting this Guard. The Minutes of the* Members of Government on the question are also submitted.

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

* *The Right Honorable the President.*
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.
The Honorable W. Elliot, Esq.
The Honorable Sir H. Montgomery, Bart.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

the Prince Regent felt & he informed
that the Post have already dispersed
their decision - & that he is not to know
Onslow in his Interpretation.

Secretary

The inference was not pleasant to any
one in the Office & has been understood
above. Prince Augustus felt his dismissal
from the Military Board
was more the impression that they had been
allowed to hear of his appointment. He made the remark
in a former letter when he left Shrewsbury
to the right.
But I have more than once stated my opinion

that although these Guards were private servants
they did not now be interfered with.
I believe the Queen's Statement to be strictly
correct - that Miss [illegible] never kept up
by his Mother for his Gratifications and I
have no doubt they have always been
under his immediate orders.
I think he asks for Leave of Absence
when [illegible] next [illegible] & knows
he was expected.
He has enjoyed the favor of Royalty before
by all his life. He is now in the full
vigor of his pleasures hopes & [illegible]
[illegible] injured & thwarted the more
[illegible] by the Duke & his
Court Sycophants upon the Duke & his
long held & to the others an unfortunate
[illegible] childish in our eyes,
& very [illegible] in his.
If very [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] on [illegible]

Secretary

James Graham

Minutes by the
R. H. the President
Dated April 67.
Hon'ble W. Elliot Esq.
Dated April 67.
Sir H. C. Montgomery Bt.
Dated 4th April 67.

the sum of Rs. 2250 per annum
was not granted to Khanum
on Hiela Begum, solely for
the support of her Grand mother's
dependents, as Dr Balfour seems
to suppose. It was considered
for the dignity and comfort
of the Begum & her husband,
as it was for the maintenance
of the dependents. It appears
from the Agents letter of the
6th April 1857 No 84. that Khanum
and our Hiela Begum handed
over to Rania Agum Sahib the
Military Guards of her deceased
Grandmother. This was
regarded as an arrangement
between the parties themselves, and the Govt. saw no

Order 28th April
1857 - No 919.

reason to interfere in
the matter. The above pre-
sumption therefore is that
the Guards are now paid
by the Rania, especially as
Khanum on Hiela Begum
states in her letter to the Agent
dated 12th March 1857 that the
Guards had never been un-
der her charge, but under
the control and orders of
Sahib the Rania Agum
Sahib.

It should be observed
that while Dr Balfour has
strongly deprecated the ar-
rangement under which his
portion of the old Begum's
Estate has been transferred
to her son the Rania, he

Vide Gov Letter
26 Sept 1856. No 83
para 5.

he must the first to propose
"that the amount placed at the
"disposal of Govt by the domicile
"of the Begum should be re-
"garded as affording the means
"of providing more amply for the
"Prince Azeem Jah and his
"it to him to support, in whose
"way, as the nearest available
"relative, dependant & heir
"of his brother, the deceased
"husband of his widow Begum."
And this proposition being
thus adopted, the withdrawal
of Guards would, as a matter
of course, fall upon him to
maintain, as being part of
the Begum's Establishment.

H. Rose
2nd Oct 1856

Extracts of correspondence about the Hyderabad guards

Extract from Letter of Govt of India 17 Sept 1856

P 4 - "This Prince has little claim to indulgence
"on the part of the Govt of India, & we have ceased
"to recognize any authority or Royal dignity as
"appertaining to his house

P 8 - To agree to Prince Azeem Jah an income in lieu
benefit, as proposed by the Madras Govt is objected
to in these words "To do so would be to assign
"to him a separate & quasi political position"

P. 13 - "The Govt General is not reconciled to the
objections ~~which may~~ to keeping up the ap-
pearance of a force for the sole purpose (as
in the palaces occupied by the Begums)
but he holds it to be of importance on some
occasions that the respect & consideration which
the Govt of India desires to show to Princely
families, whose dignity is sinking, should not
be always confined to substantial acts of munificence
alone - but that it should appear in external
& even in trifles."

- The letter then says that the principle
applicable to the Begums, & that if the with-
drawal of the guard would be "painful to them
"his Lordship in Council would maintain it even
"at some little cost & inconvenience". - His
Lordship in Council presumes that a very few men will suffice
& if care be taken that Prince Azeem Jah B. has no authority
over or concern with them whatever & that they are attached
solely to the service of the Begums, his Lord

does not fear that any misapprehension will arise as to the political ~~[illegible]~~ conduct of the family on account of this countenance - Probably they may be placed under the control of the Chefaut Agent

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The Govt of India were thus alluding to guards to be kept up for the Begums at the expense of Govt - and these remarks on the consideration to be shown to Princely Families of exploring dignity make it doubtful whether they intended Shahebat Prince Azeem Jah (who has always had an escort) from keeping up one at his private cost-

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In the order of Govt No 390 - 28 Oct/56 - the Agent was directed to keep up & pay the following guard for the Begums.

1 Subahdar
1 Jemadar
4 Troopers
3½ Sowlidars
4 Ranjars
32 Seapoys.

2 In C No 201 - 6 March/57 - On a letter from the Agent pointing out that the Nawab keeping 32 sepoys for the Govt to attend on uniforms & desiring him to inform Khanadoon Rispa Begum (who had charge of Saadoon Rispa Begum's dependants) that the 2 widows only of the Nawab are to have guards.

Agent's letter 3 April 1857 - forwards correspondence with Khanadoon Rispa Begum & Prince Azeem Jah - which shows that the Prince keeps the guards now attending (about 25 in number) & that he has always had. & that he very respectfully expressed a hope that Govt would not deprive him of this customary attendance -

The Agent alleged that Khanadoon Rispa Begum had acted upon the orders of Govt & after getting rid of these 25 dependants ought not to receive the full stipend of 2250 Rs per annum

Govt answered that they would not interfere between her & the Prince Azeem Jah.

Circular

Read letter from the Govt Agent at Chepauk dated 22 July.

Govt have already intimated that they see no occasion to interfere between the Rajah Rajeem Jah Bahadoor & Ahmud Oon Nissa Begum regarding these servants. - It is therefore my wish to know that when the case is brought into discussion, measures will be taken to register the names of these Retainers, & decide what portion of them are to be allowed to be retained

Elle

Subscribers - 10th Nov.

Disp.d 11th

Political Depart.

No. 946

G. F. Edmonstone Esq.r

Sir,

I am directed to request the orders of the Govt. of India on the subject of the Prince Azeem Jah being allowed to retain the Military guard that he now possesses - This guard consists of about 60 men who formed part of the Military retinue of the late Nuwaub of the Carnatic, and who are dressed in uniform, & carry the same arms as Sepoys.

2/ In the arrangements which followed the Nuwabs decease, the subject of his soldiery engaged attention, & it is studied to in your

(22 Oct.
R 23 -

letter of the 17 Sept 1856 which made provision for keeping up, at the expense of Govt, a small escort for the Begums. But the Guard which now attends the Prince Azeem Jah is kept up at his own charge, and the question for decision is whether the entertainment of this guard is contrary to the policy & orders of the Supreme Govt, or whether its retention, at the Prince's private cost for the period of his life is to be allowed on that principle of respect & consideration for the heads of Princely families of exciting dignity which is expressed in P 13 of your letter. —

3/ — The question came before this Govt in two letters from the Chepauk Agent dated 3 April & 22 July last — Copies of these letters are forwarded, together with the enclosures to the first which gave the declaration of Prince Azeem Jah & Ahmad con respecting Begum respecting this guard — The remarks of the + Members of Govt

The Right Honble the President
His Excellency the C in Chief
The Hon. W. Ellis Esqre
The Hon. Sir H. Montgomery Bt

to whom the question was submitted. —

Fort St George
5th November 1857

Ellis

Political Letter to Engd dd 31st May No 9 of 1858

Paras 82 & 84.

18-4-12

Political 1857 Department

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No 944.

To

The Secretary to the Govt of India.

Foreign Department

Dated 5th Novr 1857.

In Dy to Cons: 10th Novr 1857.

9410

Soliciting instructions on the subject of the Prince Azim Jah being allowed to retain the Military guard he now possesses.