

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>264</i>	Press
		<i>M.R.</i>
Dated	<i>20 4 1958</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 20th April 1858.

No. 32. From Messrs : ASHTON, RICHARDSON and Co; to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 17th April 1858.

SIR,

1. We beg leave to address you on a subject which deeply affects the interests of our firm, and in submitting the following circumstances for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, we trust that they will receive favorable consideration and induce His Lordship to extend to us the aid which we seek at his hands, as a partial relief of the necessities which press so heavily upon us at the present moment.

2. The Government are aware that proceedings were first instituted by us in the Supreme Court in January 1857, or 16 months after the death of the late Nawaub of the Carnatic, in order merely to establish our claims to certain landed properties on the mortgage of which we made large advances for the Service of the Sirkar, for which the loans were represented to be urgently required. These proceedings were taken at a time when it was quite uncertain what course the Home and Local Authorities intended to adopt in the matter of the late Nawaub's debts, and with a view to secure ourselves against any risk. A decree was obtained in March 1857 for the sum of Rupees 5,55,813 in our favor, as the enclosed document will show. In consequence however of a communication we received from the Company's Solicitor, intimating to the creditors generally the views of Government in regard to the legal measures that may be taken by them for the settlement of their claims on the Nawaub, we caused further proceedings to be stayed in the matter of our Suit. Nearly a year had elapsed since then, and finding that no steps were being taken by the Government for the investigation and payment of the Nawaub's debts, we instructed our Solicitor Mr. Ritchie to address the Company's Solicitor Mr. Boyson on the subject, and to press for an early settlement of our claims. This correspondence having been laid before Government, we were informed that they left it to us to take such steps as we thought proper, and accordingly, under this discretion, we caused proceedings to be renewed which led to the sale of the properties. Reluctant as we were to adopt this course, we must here beg leave to assure the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that we were forced to it as the only alternative of partially relieving the most pressing necessities of our firm. It should be explained, in reference to the great difficulties in which we have been placed, that our transactions in regard to the loans made for the Service of the Sirkar were not confined to our own resources, a part of the loans was obtained from others on the security of our firm, and we have in consequence been obliged to pay regularly a high rate of interest on these sums for the past two years and a half, without deriving a fraction of benefit ourselves; and this we have done solely with a view to maintain the credit of our firm which has been in existence for the last 50 years.

3. We beg also to assure His Lordship in Council that at the recent sale of the properties we were actuated by no other motives in purchasing the Premises known as Pater's and Moorat's Gardens than by an anxious desire to prevent their being sacrificed at a sum much below their value; and we were not quite sure that Government would be the purchasers of these properties. We need scarcely observe that throughout these transaction we have experienced great anxiety of mind, and have been subjected not only to serious embarrassment but to loss in carrying on the business of our firm with the present limited means at our command. Not knowing when the time may arrive for the investigation and payment of the debts of the late Nawaub, and being in the meantime hard pressed and seriously hampered in our business, we are induced on the above consideration to appeal to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council and to solicit His

gracious aid in relieving us from our present embarrassing position

Mr. Boyson's bid	by advancing to us the amount of the purchase value of the two	
For Pater's	Rs. 67,000	properties, Pater's and Moorat's Gardens, viz. Rupees 1,30,000
„ Moorat's	„ 55,000	on the deposit of the Title Deeds, &c. of those Premises, as well
		as of Turnbull's Gardens at Adyar and the Market at Triplicane.

Rupees 1,22,000 We beg to state that we shall further be prepared to execute any Deed that may be considered by the Law Officers to be necessary

to secure the Government against any loss or risk.

4. In soliciting this especial favor, we cannot too strongly and earnestly press upon the attention of Government the very embarrassing position in which we are now placed by the

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deferred Settlement of the claims against the late Nawaub of the Carnatic. It will be seen from the accompanying letter from the Directors of the Bank of Madras, in reply to ours addressed to them on the extent of the accommodation hitherto allowed us, that they are not disposed to accede to our very reasonable request that the Promissory Notes which we have already with the Bank may be renewed for a further period of 3 or 4 months. We preferred this request in consequence of the recent resolution of the Directors to reduce to 25,000 Rupees the accommodation we had hitherto been allowed to the extent of 60,000 Rupees. We would respectfully submit for the consideration of Government whether we could consistently with the credit which our firm has hitherto maintained, consent, as proposed by the Bank Directors, to allow such of our notes as may not be taken up at maturity, *to lie overdue after being noted*, with the understanding that no immediate steps will be taken by the Bank for their recovery. Our credit would sustain a severe shock by such a proceeding, and we must therefore throw ourselves upon the clemency and generosity of Government in this hour of need. It is hardly necessary to state that of the credit we had hitherto at the Madras Bank to the extent of sixty thousand Rupees, we availed ourselves only to the amount of forty-eight thousand Rupees; and that in consequence of the Bank Accommodation to us and other Tradesmen being recently restricted to twenty-five thousand Rupees, we have been subjected to the most serious inconvenience and difficulty in taking up our notes above that amount.

5. We can only add the assurance that this act of grace which we solicit at the hands of the Government will subject them to no risk whatever, as the properties on which an advance to the amount of their actual purchase value is required will at any time realize much more; and the amount of the advance can moreover be recovered from the sums that may be adjudged to be paid to us on account of our claim against the Estate of the late Nawaub.

G. G. K. RICHARDSON, and another, and another,
versus
GHOOLAM MAHOMED SAIB.

Mr. RITCHIE,

By virtue of an order of reference I do appoint to consider of the matters thereby to me referred on Tuesday next the 8th December at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at my Chambers, in the Supreme Court House, Madras, at which time and place all parties concerned are to attend. At which time the Defendant is to pay to the Plaintiffs the sum of Rupees 5,55,813-12-2, being the amount found due to the said Plaintiffs by the said Defendant for Principal and Costs.

Dated this 23rd day of November, one thousand eight hundred and fifty seven.

(Signed) C. M. TEED,
Master.

From ROBERT HUNTER, Esq., Secretary and Treasurer, Bank of Madras; to Messrs.: ASHTON, RICHARDSON AND Co., dated 14th April 1858, No. 888.

Sirs,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 17th Instant, which has been duly submitted to the Directors of the Bank. I am directed to intimate to you in reply that the Board is not disposed to accede to your request that the Promissory Notes which you already have with this Bank may be renewed for a further period of three or four months, they are willing however, in the event of your being prepared to give, by way of collateral security, an assignment to the Bank of the Istafa Cutcherry Bond referred to in your letter, to allow such of your Notes as may not be taken up at maturity to lie overdue after being noted, with the understanding that no immediate steps will be taken by the Bank for their recovery.

No. 83. ORDER THEREON, No. 261; dated 20th April 1858.

The Government understand that, in the foregoing letter, Messrs: Ashton, Richardson and Co. request that an advance of Rupees 1,30,000 the sum for which they purchased the premises, generally known as Moorat's and Pater's gardens, lately the property of His late Highness the Na-

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wab, may be made to them from the Public Treasury, on their depositing as security the Title Deeds of those two properties as well as those of Turnbull's garden on the south side of the Adyar, and of the Fish Market in Triplicane; the request is made in consequence of the difficulties the firm as long been under from their claim on the late Nawaub's Estate having remained so long unsettled; difficulties which have been much increased by a sudden determination of the Bank to restrict very greatly the accommodation as hitherto granted to many of the trading Firms at the Presidency.

2. The Government being of opinion that Messrs: Ashton, Richardson and Co. have some claims to consideration, resolve to transmit their letter and its enclosures to the Honorable Company's Solicitor, with a request that he will, at an early date, report on the validity of the security tendered by the Firm, on the understanding that any advance that may be made shall be re-paid immediately on Messrs: Ashton, Richardson and Co's claim on the Estate being finally adjusted.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

~~The Commission~~
has been learned in
great degree of the country
proceeding of Govt in disposing
of the public affairs.
The request to give some con-
sideration to the application of the
public land with respect to
the opinion of Mr. McChesney
ought to be taken up to the Commission
of the Treasury of the U.S.
In continuing the bank business, many
unsuccessful attempts which are at
times of difficulty would tend to
disturb & commercial distress.

I have been thinking
is really required in
the South & I hope for
a number of the purchase
money for a short
time but as
the debt is not
yet paid in a
large proportion

will

Political Department

Nº 264

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Dated 20 April 1858.

Read the following
letter from Mr. Richardson

(Received 17 April 1858)

The Government under-
stand that in the foregoing
letter, Mr. Richard
son has requested that an
advance of Np. 130,000,
the sum for which he
purchased the premises
generally known as Morah
& Pakenfaden, lately
the property of his late
Highness the Maharaja, was
be made to him for the
public readers, as being
depositing as security
the title deeds of the
two properties.

will

well as one of Jarraults,
Jordan on the South side
of the ledge, and of the
fish marked in duplicate -
- the report is made in
consequence of the diffi-
culty the firm has long
been under from their
loss on the late New York
estate having remained
so long unsettled and
difficult which has been
much increased by a sudden
deterioration of the
Bank to restrict very
greatly the accommo-
dation to which it had
been one of the leading firms
in the Presidency -

15
The present account
being of opinion
that the delay that
Richardson & Co.
have since settlement of the late
claim & Co. New York office must be
satisfaction been a source of great con-
- harassment to his
highly numerous
creditors, and his con-
- harassment has probably
been increased from an
expectation having been
held out for some time
eighteen months that he
put all about in case,
- looked to make an
an advertisement of affairs
before giving any
definite reply to his

Acton Richardson's
present application for
avoidance, the first
refuse to transmit his
letter & to answer to
the Hon: Com: Solicitor,
with a request that he will,
at an early date, report on
the validity of the avoidance
decided on by the Juries, on the
understanding that any
advances that may be
made shall be repaid
unconditionally on the Acton
Richardson's claim on the
settle being finally adjusted

H. G.

Copy to the Hon: Com: Solicitor
with a request that he will
at an early date report on
the validity of the avoidance
decided on by the Juries - Sept 20th

