M.R.O. 1—38-4-0—16-10-29

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 425 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 8 7 ~~19~~ 1838

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 13. From Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepauk; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 28th June, No. 1132 of G. A.

SIR,

In Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 371, dated 8th Instant, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council referred for my report the case of a Nellore Pensioner named Meeram Bee, and not being aware, even yet, of the reasons for so referring it to me, I was, and am, not able to frame any report in brief terms.

2. In order to ascertain the nature of the case, I sent it on to the Collector of Nellore, whose reply, subjoined, shows the person not to belong to that Class of Carnatic Stipendiaries to whom the Treaty of 1801 relates, and seems to point out that it is the woman's Gosha or Seclusion which has caused this reference to me.

3. On this subject, I have already twice had the honor of reporting and stating the Laws of the Mahomedan Religion and feelings of these people. When the Gosha Order was first being thought of, I mentioned to Mr. Bourdillon in conversation, that the issue of any such order was equivalent to withdrawing the Stipend, and since then, in one of my letters I have had the honor of submitting that by the Mahomedan Religion every women has to retain her Gosha or Seclusion, being only permitted to appear unveiled before "their Husbands, or their Fathers, or their Husbands' Fathers, or their Sons, or their Husbands' Sons, or their Brothers, or their Brothers' Sons, or their Sisters' Sons, or their Women, or their Captives which their right hand shall possess, or to such men as attend them, and have no need of Women, or unto Children who distinguish not the nakedness of Women."

4. Any Mahomedan Woman acting otherwise than in the above manner is acting in direct opposition to the injunctions of her Religion, and amongst the very humble even it is only some pressing urgency that would induce them to disgrace themselves by appearing in public unveiled.

From F. B. ELTON, Esq., Collector of Nellore; to Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepauk and Paymaster of Carnatic Stipends, dated 23rd June, No. 148 of 1858.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 15th Instant, and the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, under date the 8th Idem, I have the honor to state that Mareumbee, the person alluded to is a Yeomiahdar of this District, to whom a subsistence allowance of 5 Rupees per month was originally granted under an Enayetnamah of the Nabob Oomdut Ool Oomrah, under date the 24th Rajb of 1213, Hejri (A. D. 2nd January 1799,) which was continued to her since the assumption of the Country by the British Government.

Circular Orders of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st July 1850, *approved by Government in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 5th June* 1850.

2. Mareumbee continued to draw her Pension by Vakeel, until the promulgation of the order requiring the personal appearance of Female Yeomiahdars above the age of 50 years, to draw their Pensions, Mareumbee being one of those coming under the restriction, but a Gosha Woman, abstained from appearing personally and her Yeomiah is therefore left undrawn from January 1850. Under the circumstances mentioned by Major Lys, I beg to recommend that Mareumbee may be allowed to draw her Pension without personal attendance at the Cutcherry and that sanction be at the same time granted for the payment of the arrears due to her.

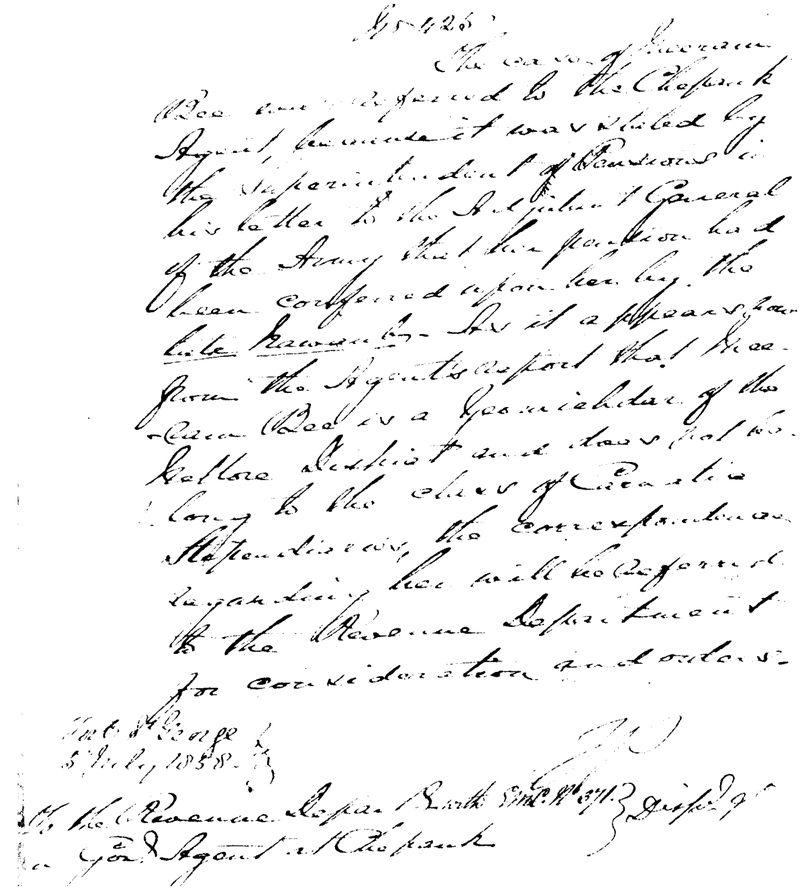
* *Forwarded to the Board of Revenue, under date 25th November* 1856.

3. I have included her name in the List* of persons recommended for the privilege of exemption from personal attendance on the grounds of her being a Female of Rank and respectability, and one who has hitherto strictly maintained her seclusion in private life. Her Father belonged to the family of a late Nabob of Cuddapah, and her husband was the Killadar of Nellore.

No. 14. ORDER THEREON, No. 425; dated 5th July 1858.

The case of Meeram Bee was referred to the Chepauk Agent, because it was stated by the Superintendent of Pensions in his letter to the Adjutant General of the Army that her Pension had been conferred upon her by the late Nawaub. As it appears now from the Agent's Report that Meeram Bee is a Yeomiahdar of the Nellore District and does not belong to the Class of Carnatic Stipendiaries, the correspondence regarding her will be referred to the Revenue Department for consideration and orders.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.



Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Con: 8th June 1858 No. 3 9440

Lett 18th ditto &c

to the Collector of Tellicherry, whose
Report the Inclosure shows the
Person not to belong to that
Class of Famine Stipend-
aries to whom the Treaty
of 1801 relates, and seems
to point out that it is
the Woman's Son-in-law or
Sister's Son who has come
this Reference to the Govt.
on which subject the
Government of Agent was
already twice put for
Power of Reporting.

1374.

In the Political Dept. 1

POLITICAL 1858 DEPARTMENT. 3

From Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR,

Government Agent at Chepauk.

To

J. Pycroft Esquire

Chief Secretary to Government

Fort St. George

Dated 28th June 1858

Received 30 - 1858

9446 No. 1132 of G.O.

With reference to Colonel Morrison's Letter No. 371 dated 8th Instant
stating for information that the case
of a Native Pensioner
named Bhavani Rau,
states that reminder to
ascertain the nature of the
case, it has been sent on

Madras:—Printed at the Government Press.

With the Letter