M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

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| G.O. No. | 7 | Press ~~Mis.~~ |
| Dated | 4-1- | M 1859 |

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

No. 52. From FATIMAH BEGUM, Widow of the late RAZA HOOSSAIN KHAN, a Carnatic Stipendiary; to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated 22nd October 1858.

The humble Petition of Fatimah Begum, the Widow of the late Raza Hoossain Khan, a Carnatic Stipendiary.

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

That your Petitioner had in last year forwarded a Memorial to the Honorable Court of Directors, praying for some allowance out of her late husband's Stipend may be granted to her.

Your Petitioner hears that the Honorable Court whereupon were pleased to send an order to institute enquiry into the circumstances stated in the Memorial and to grant her Pension on being satisfied, and in conformity to the said order the Government Agent had summoned your Petitioner's sons before him, and made an enquiry as to whether there were any means of support either to your Petitioner or to them, and he was made to understand that your Petitioner has no source of maintainance; while so, she is sorry to hear that he submitted a report to Government stating that your Petitioner receives a Stipend of 10 Rupees from Rashdood Dowlah Bahadoor and his lady, consequently she deserves no support of Government, and the Government approved the Agent's report.

That your Petitioner in consequence begs to observe that she derives no support whatever from either Rashudood Dowlah Bahadoor or his lady and she on having heard of the above proceedings, addressed a Petition on the 16th Instant to Rashudood Dowlah Bahadoor, desiring that as she derives no support whatever from him or his lady, he would be pleased to certify the same by an endorsement on her Petition, which the said Bahadoor has done; and your Petitioner in enclosing the above Document herewith indulges a hope that the Government after a perusal of the said endorsement alluded to will be pleased to alter the opinion they were led to entertain in regard to your Petitioner's case, and in consideration of all the circumstances set forth in her Memorial support to her by granting a Pension as prayed therein.

For which act of Charity your Petitioner shall, as in duty bound, Ever Pray.

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No. 2915 of 1858.

Referred to the Agent for early report.

By Order.

FORT SAINT GEORGE, *5th November* 1858.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
*Deputy Secretary to Government.*

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No. 53. From Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepauk; to T. PYCROFT Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 18th December 1858, No. 2028 of P. C. S.

SIR,

I have the honor to report to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council on the subject referred to me by Order of Government, No. 2915 of 5th Ultimo, on the Petition of Fatimah Begum.

2. I regret to mention that from this Office not having originally taken evidence in that very formal manner, which the alterations in the ways of these people, that have occurred since the Nabob's demise, has rendered necessary, I cannot now obtain matter for report in the facile manner which was possible to have obtained at the outset of the inquiry. The instant the Petition of Fatimah Begum went to and came from Government, the subject matter thereof seems to have become known to all the Mahomedan people who are so linked together and as I many years ago reported, so support the allegations of each other in matters connected with Government that it is very difficult to obtain reliable information, and difficulties are thrown in the way of ascertaining even the simplest point.

Begum only, that it be only an amount sufficient for her own personal maintenance; and under the distinct recognition that it shall wholly terminate on her demise. I do not, however, recommend this, believing that any grant of this kind will tend to prolong the time when these people must cease to think of obtaining support from the public funds of the State and trust to their own exertions for an honorable livelihood. According to the treaty of 1801, the Stipend of the childless Nickah Wife of Wallajah should have ceased wholly on her demise in 1804. But if a gracious Government have continued her personal life maintenance for 54 years since she died, for the support of her remote relatives collateral relatives, a time must come when such bounty must be discontinued, and perhaps no time can be better than the present while these young man of 18 and 19 years of age respectively have ample time before them to look about for their own future means of livelihood. The 30 Rupees which their deceased father had, must have been insufficient even for his household, and, therefore, wholly useless when he has left 3 sons, the eldest of whom, though only 19 years of age, is already married and has a son 4 years old.

16. I would offer as my opinion, that these people being neither of the Wallajah Family nor the descendants of any Servant of that family, be now declared to have no claim on the bounty of the State.

No. 54. ORDER THEREON, No. 7; dated 4th January 1859.

The Governor in Council apprehends that there is no reason to doubt that the Petitioner, Fatimah Begum, is in destitute circumstances, and as the late Honorable Court,* in disposing of her Memorial to them, authorised the grant to her of a small subsistence Allowance, should it be proved that she is in want, he resolves to direct that a Stipend of 10 Rupees (ten Rupees) per mensem be passed to her, the same to cease absolutely with her life.

* *Vide Extract Minutes Consultation, Political Department, No. 568, dated 2nd September 1858, para: 4.*

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
*Chief Secretary.*

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Pol.e Dep.o

Memo.d for orders.

Letter from Chepauk Agent 4 D/ 18th Dec.r/58.
No 2028.

Para 15

vide Pml.
Pol. Dep.o
No 568
D/ 2d Sept/58
Para 4.

Pml. No 657
D/ 7th Oct/58

Bee Fatimah Begum, a widow of a Carnatic stipendiary, L.y memorialized the Hon. Court for support, the H. C.e remitted, that if the petitioner had been left destitute "we shd not be "unwilling to grant to her for life, a "mere subsistence"

2. Upon this the Agent reported that she got 10 Rs. a month from Rusteem-ood-dowlah - but the alleged donor L.y denied this, the Agent was asked to report further on the subject.

3. Accordingly a second report is now submitted - Dr. B. seems to allow that he was misinformed, and after discussing the point at some length, he suggests, that, if anything is given "it be only an amount "sufficient for her own personal "maintenance, & under the distinct "recognition that it shall wholly ter. "minate into her life".

4. She does not name the sum. Her husband, it seems, drew Rs 30 a month, & his brother's widow Lady 17½ rupees assigned for her maintenance on her husband's death.

D. S. C. 22/12/58

It seems to me sufficient

Judicial Dept

No 7
Encl. to 4th January 1859.

Read Petition from Fatimah Begum, the widow of the late Raja Hoshiar Khan, Jamadar & Pensioner.

Here enter No 915 22nd October 1858 / 1858

Read also Letter from Agent at Chupanir

Here enter No 2028 of 18th Dec 1858.

The Govt of Fort St George have no reason to doubt that the Petr Fatimah Begum, ~~has been left~~ ~~without the means of support~~ is in destitute circumstances, and as the late Hon'ble Court of Directors in their Despatch on the Memorial to them, authorized the grant to her of a small subsistence allowance, it would seem that she is entitled to a pension of 10 Rs (ten Rupees) per mensem to be paid to her, to cease also on her marriage with any person.

Dec 31-58

Wrote E. Govt
Jud. Depch No 3568
of 2nd Sept 58
Para 4.

Govt Agent at Chupanir
Asst Genl
Civil Auditor

Jan 4

Thus appears to be the case of a claimant who has always been in indigent circumstances - where it cannot be presumed that applicant has other means of subsistence - Upon which she is a long & increasing debt.

Under the circumstances mentioned - a small pension of 10 Rs. might be given - for allowance for 10 Rs a month Ct
There no doubt she is in distress
W Ward

C 23 Dec
R 3 Jany 59

Sd as the truth in case like this. but are probably the original information was correct - There seems no little doubt that Residency does the proper to what extent a pension should be granted it may not be practicable to specify - something for that she is not an object for relief from the State.

As the country of the to get any thing it should be a immediate - consider herself & for her own life

CD

Inclt in Letter 11th Jany 1859

Vol. 22 to beg. 25 March
No. 13 of 1860.
Replies to by the Sec. of State for India 11th
January 15th 1860

15. 3. 55

In Cons. 4th Jany 1859
Political 1858 Departt

No 7

Extract Mins. of Cons

At the Council Chamber Fort William the 4th January 1859.

Directing that a Stipend of Rupees 10 per mensem be granted to Fatimah Begum the Nurse to cease absolutely with her life and the Govr in Council that there is no reason to doubt that she is in destitute circumstances.

52 @ 54