

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political **DEPARTMENT.**

GO. No. 294	Press Mis. —
Dated 5-5	19-180

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
for the month of May 1860.*

Read the following papers :

No. 26. From H. D. PHILLIPS, Esq., Commissioner of Tanjore, to T. PYCROFT, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Tanjore, 7th April 1860,
No. 975.*

No. 27. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT, 14th April 1860.

The whole of these jewels were State property, and were transferred from the ladies of the family of one generation to those of another. Thus the jewels used by Avú Sâhiba during her husband's life time, were handed over when she became a widow, to Saidamba Bhái, the late Rájá's elder wife and mother of the Princess.

Now that the Ráj has come to an end and an independent provision has to be made for the different members of the family, the whole of these jewels and the gold and silver ornaments, with the exception only of such as may be considered to have been Regalia, as having been usually worn by the Rájá, should, in my opinion, be distributed among the members of the family according to the most equitable arrangement that can be devised.

The jewels which have been identified as having once been assigned to the Avú Sâhiba, may, I think, be at once given to her; and the rest of the jewels which were in Saidamba Bhái's use at her decease, should be given to her daughter.

And the Commissioner should be instructed to prepare a scheme for the distribution of the rest of the jewels with the exception of the Regalia as above stated, and the gold and silver ornaments. The general principle of the distribution should, I think, be that those should share in the division, who were entitled, according to the custom of the family, to the advantage of using the jewels; and that they should share in proportion to the stipends which have been respectively assigned to them, but there may be cases in which it may be proper to depart from these rules. The Howdas and Tonjons of gold and silver should be included in the distribution.

The proceedings of the Commissioner in regard to Rámabhadra Bhonsle appear to have been judicious, and should be confirmed.

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.

No. 28. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE E. MALTBY, 16th April 1860.

It seems to me that the answer to this letter had best be decided on in Council. I have no objection to the generality of the jewels being distributed among the family, those jewels being first set apart to which individual claims are proved. But if any jewels are to be retained as Regalia, I should have thought that the gold and silver Howdahs would be included among them, and I am not aware why the gold and silver ornaments should be treated differently from those which have precious stones.

(Signed) E. MALTBY.

No. 29. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE W. MOREHEAD, 16th April 1860.

I strongly object to any partition or distribution being made until a final decision has been passed by the Home Authorities on the points that have been referred to them and on which we are at issue.

The proposition of the President to act as he now suggests is simply carrying out the views he has already contended for, and to which I have not assented.

(Signed) W. MOREHEAD.

No. 30. MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

I also am of opinion that no distribution of the jewels, or aught else, should be made until this Government is in possession of the final decision of the Home Authorities.

(Signed) P. GRANT.

* Entered in Proceedings, 30th April 1860.

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
for the month of May 1860.

No. 31.

ORDER THEREON, 5th May 1860, No. 293.
Ordered that the following letter be despatched.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 32. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, dated Fort Saint George, 5th May 1860, No. 294.

In a letter from the Government of India, 8th September 1856, Foreign Department, No. 4644, on the subject of the affairs of Tanjore, it was directed, paragraph 5, that the mode in which it was proposed by the Government of Madras to deal with the Rájá's State Jewels should be reported to the Supreme Government before any measures were taken.

2. In my letter of 25th February last, Political Department, No. 98, I stated that the Commissioner Mr. H. D. Phillips had been instructed to proceed as quickly as possible to ascertain the nature and value of the personalties left by the Rájá, and that when these were accurately known, a further report would be made to the Government of India, and some definite arrangement suggested.

3. In the Minutes of the Members of Government transmitted with that letter were recorded their several views, as to the mode in which the personal property of the late Rájá should be dealt with. A summary of these views was given in paragraph 9 of my letter above referred to, and paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Despatch from this Government to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, dated 24th February 1860, copy of which was forwarded to the Government of India on the 8th ultimo.

4. I am now desired to submit a copy of a letter from the Commissioner of Tanjore, with five original lists* of the Jewels of the late Rájá. The total value, it will be observed, amounts to Pagodas 1,75,882½ or Rupees (6,15,588-5-0) six lacs, fifteen thousand, five hundred and eighty-eight, and Annas five.

It is requested that these may be returned.

5. Mr. Phillips has distinguished these Jewels as follows:

	No.	Value in			
		Pagodas.	R.	A.	P.
State Jewels - - - -	31	51,370½	1,79,797	10	0
Men's do. - - - -	43	15,562½	54,468	1	6
Female do. - - - -	142	46,201½	1,61,704	6	0
Jewels common to both sexes -	69	33,009½	1,15,531	15	0
M. Sydumba Boyee Saib's Jewels -	90	29,738½	1,04,086	4	6
Total		1,75,882½	6,15,588	5	0

6. The history of the Jewels (90) falling under the latter class is given by Mr. Phillips in paragraphs 7 to 11 of his report. This Government are of opinion that the 55 Jewels identified as having belonged to Her Highness Avoo Sáhibá, mother of the late Rájá, should be made over to her, and the remainder given to the young Princess, daughter of the late Rájá, in right of her mother Sydumba Bhái.

7. In respect to the remaining Jewels of an aggregate value of Rupees 5,11,502, I am directed to solicit the Orders of the Government of India in reference to the several opinions relative to the disposal of the property of the Rájá which have been given by the Members of this Government. I am also desired to solicit reference to the Minutes which have been recorded on the present letter from the Commissioner.

8. It should be noted that the lists now forwarded include only Jewels set with precious stones, and not gold and silver ornaments, State Carriages, Howdahs, &c. But if the principle on which the articles borne in the lists now under submission are to be disposed of, be settled, that principle can without difficulty be applied to these ornaments. A copy of this letter and the proceedings connected with it will be specially reported to the Secretary of State.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No 975 Tanjore Commissioners Office
7th April 1860.
From H. D. Phillips Esquire
Commissioner

To J. Pycroft Esquire
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George

25th May 1860
2, 5th May 1860

From the communications marginally noted, the Government are aware of the steps taken by me to verify the lists of the jewels prepared when Mr. J. Forbes was Commissioner and to bring together all those which had not come under that officer's notice.

* 25th Dec 1859
1860

* 5 in number.

In the absence of specific instructions regarding the principles to be observed in separating the State from Private jewels, and according to the orders of Government relative to claims preferred, I have deemed it best to divide the jewels set with precious stones into five classes, the articles composing each of which are secured in separate boxes, and so ticketted and numbered that, with the aid of the lists which I now have the honor to submit, there

there will be no future difficulty in assigning to any one, the duty of disposing of this part of the Tanjore property in such manner as may eventually be determined on.

3. Had I not taken this course it would have been necessary mainly to depend on the personal knowledge of each or many of the jewels which the one or the other of the native custodians has acquired from long and hereditary employment in the jewel department.

4. I have designated the five classes "State", "Male", "Female", "Common to both sexes" and "Tydamba Bhai".

5. There are several of almost every kind of ornament that the Raja himself used to wear on occasions of important State ceremonies. I have therefore entered as ~~State~~ as complete a set of ornaments of kinds as he could adorn himself with at any one time, and in my selection of these, I have set up those of the highest value. In this selection I have been guided by what the Raja is said to have worn when last he celebrated the Dasara festival.

6. Those which only a man could wear according

according to the practice of the Mahattas, form the second class. What females alone are in the habit of using, are entered in the third class, whilst the fourth description embraces all such as, from their character, might be worn as well by men as women.

7. The fifth class consists of the jewels which are known to have belonged to Tydamba Bhai Sahib, first wife of the Raja and mother of the young Prince recently united to Sahibaram Sahib. In assigning a separate class to the ornaments of the deceased lady, I believe myself to have met the wish and intentions of the Honorable the President of the Council expressed when he visited Tanjore in January last.

8. It has, however, been necessary to subdivide the Tydamba Bhai class consequent on a claim to several of them preferred to me by the Nonsahibai. I have made careful reference to the old lists in the records of the jewels depository and am satisfied that, to 55 of those which were in possession of Tydamba Bhai at the

this is no part of the jewels of the Raja

Calcutta 1791

the period of her demise, the Awaschiba had once a right. I find, however, nothing to guide me to a determination whether that right did not cease on the transfer of those jewels to her son's wife, who was her ~~own~~ Grand-daughter.

9 At the present time and under existing circumstances, it may, perhaps, not be the wish of Government to assign to the Prince, the jewels left by her mother. In that case, I need not trouble the Government for orders as to the jewels found to have been those of the Awaschiba. But if the view which I understand the President of the Council to express, is now to be acted on, I submit that I should be authorised to give one portion to the Prince and, if approved, transfer to the Awaschiba those which she has shown to have been hers.

10. In arrangement of the fund would benefit through this aged lady, members of the Sanyo family other than the Prince, for whom a large provision has been made and whose husband is wealthy, and it is this contingency, more than the ~~other~~ ^{possible} tract rights of the Awaschiba, which prompts me to make a suggestion in her favour.

There

11 The value of the Awaschiba's jewels more than the jewels which it has been practicable to identify. In respect therefore of those which I have not been able to trace, her demand should be rejected.

12 For convenient reference, I enter below a table showing the number and values of the jewels to which this communication has reference.

Description of jewels	No	Value
		Procedural
State Jewels	31	57,370 ³ / ₄
Men's	43	15,562 ⁵ / ₁₆
Female	142	46,201 ¹ / ₄
Jewels Common to both sexes	69	33,000 ¹ / ₂
Hydamba Bhairi including the 55 identified, as having belonged to the Awaschiba	90	20,738 ¹⁵ / ₁₆
Total Rupees		615,589-5-

13 I would mention that the jewels identified as once belonging to the Awaschiba, have not been removed from the "Hydamba Bhairi" box. They are, however, so marked, that it will be easy to withdraw them from it on a necessity arising.

14 In respect of the gold and silver ornaments, I have not ventured on attempting to classify them as I have the jewels with precious stones. Lists of every gold

gold and silver articles are available and they are all under one roof, the howdahs and trunks of gold and silver excepted. Should it be the wish of the Government to distribute them to the members of the family, such distribution can take place, I submit, only ^{by} weight, at the current value of a ^{set} of gold or silver, for which purpose the ^{set} made by me will be sufficient.

15 A claim to certain jewels has also been preferred by Ramabadra Bhonsle, the fostered son of Sydamba Bhai Sahib, but I have rejected it as wholly inadmissible. He was unable to specify the articles claimed, or to describe them, but referred me for an account of his property, to a Gundasta formerly in the jewel department.

16 On investigation, I discovered that after the demise of Sydamba Bhai Sahib all the articles of any value which had been in her possession, were brought into the Diston Mahal, and that a few days subsequently, the Raja personally inspected them and ordered the delivery to Ramabadra Bhonsle of a few which were known to be his and had been deposited for security with

with the ornaments of the deceased. I have not yet received any reply from him. There were others, however, of the old royal family jewels, which in her possession, the Raja had, it would seem, given to Ramabadra Bhonsle. If this the Raja would not permit the delivery, in the contrary, he ordered this retention in the Diston Mahal, and in all probability they form part of the ^{now there} Raja's position gave him full power to act and Ramabadra Bhonsle demand therefore without any foundation.

of the Raja's
order of 12-5050

There is a proceeding of the Commission in regard to Ramabadra Bhonsle where it has been decided that he should be included in the distribution of the jewels and silver. The jewels which have been deposited in the Diston Mahal should be included in the distribution of the jewels; and that the Raja should have the right to select those which should be included in the distribution. The Raja's decision, who were in the Diston Mahal, according to the custom of the family, to the advantage of the Raja's jewels; and that the Raja should have the right to select those which should be included in the distribution. The Raja's decision, who were in the Diston Mahal, according to the custom of the family, to the advantage of the Raja's jewels; and that the Raja should have the right to select those which should be included in the distribution.

to 2 months

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16th
I thought I paid to my Insulation
a dis. Fil. more being made with
a single decision I was ~~very~~ ~~much~~
L. H. C.

Ordered that the
following letter be
despatched
No. 294
Government of India.
Foreign Department.
Sir,
In a letter from
the

1860
The Emancipator
For the
People of the
South

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten notes, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

The small which have been since put at having once been
assembled to the old building may be seen, he at once
the floor; and the rest of the small which were in the building
were at her decease, should be given to the small which
should the same person should be the small which
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Mr. [unclear] Sir,
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left by the Raja, and that
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would be made to the Govt
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of the late Raja should be
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of these views was given in
para 9 of my letter above
referred to, and paras 8 & 9 of
the Despatch from this
Govt to the Right Honble the
Secy of State for India
dated 24th February 1857, copy
of which was forwarded to
the Govt of India on the 8th
Ultimo.

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5 Mr Phillips has distinguished these Jewels as follows:

	Value in Pagodas		Rupees	
State Jewels	53,370 3/4	=	1,79,797	-10-
Men's do	15,562 9/16	=	54,468	-1-6-
Female do	46,201 1/2	=	1,61,704	-6-
Jewels common to both sexes	33,009 1/8	=	1,15,531	-15-
Gifts of Sydumba Bhair	29,738 5/16	=	1,04,086	-4-6-
Total	1,75,852 3/4	=	6,15,588	-5-

6 The history of the Jewels (90) falling under the latter class is given by Mr. Phillips in paras. 7 to 11 of his report

mut
I feel it is as good as
can be made out
from the evidence
in the British Museum.
I have called upon
him for more precise
information &c

John S. George &
5th May 1860.

letter from the Commissioners
& It should be noted
that the Lists now forwarded
include only Jewels set with
precious stones, and not
gold & silver ornaments,
State carriages, Howdahs, &c.
The value of these may be
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settled, that principle
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A copy of this
letter and the Proceedings
connected with it will
be specially reported to
the Secretary of State.

25-7-12

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(Under the direction
of the Government of India)
of the following letter:

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