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M.R.O. 1-38,000-16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G O. No.	319	Press Mis.
Dated	18-5-	10 1860

Not to be folded or roughly handled

319

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

No. 34. Read the following letter from H. D. PHILLIPS, Esq., Commissioner of Tanjore, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 13th April 1860, No. 988.

* 12th April 1860, No. 987. In my examination of the claims against the late Raja's Estate which belong to the Dowlat Pámlók Department and on which I have recently* reported, I came upon one for an alleged arrear† of salary in the name of Ry Latchman Venkáji Pandit.

† Rupees 539-9-4.

2. As the Government will observe on reference to the brief history of this arrear, No. 39, in the memoranda that accompanied my report above quoted, and of which for convenience I transmit a copy, I felt bound to disallow the claim and rejected it.

3. Apart, however, from this rejection, I have the honor now to recommend the cancellation of the monthly pension of Rupees 20 which Latchman Venkáji Pandit draws, as No. 215 on the Dowlat Pámlók list.

4. From previous correspondence, the Government are aware that the Department of the late Sirkele supplied the materials on which Mr. Forbes and myself recommended the assignment of pensions and gratuities to the three minor establishments of which the Dowlat Pámlók was one.

5. As an indispensable ingredient for the grant of a pension, it was necessary, under the rules prescribed by the Supreme Government, either that the office held by the incumbent should have been of an hereditary character, or that the period of his service should have been not less than thirty years.

6. Accordingly, the requisite columns were opened and filled from such old accounts as were found to be available in the Sirkele's records, used, as then were, by Gumástás of much experience and long standing in the Sirkele's office.

7. Where the word "ancient" appears in the lists submitted to Government, as one of the means of fixing the pensions of the minor establishments, it was understood to indicate, that the office was of the hereditary class and that the incumbents of such offices were recommended for pensions, even when their period of service had extended to only a few months, or even days, prior to the death of the late Raja.

8. Therefore, when, in the instance of Latchman Venkáji Pandit, it was shown that up to some time in 1857, he had been in employ only 1 year, 4 months and 24 days, he would have had allotted to him a mere gratuity of three months' salary, and his claim on the Raj would by that payment have been closed.

9. When, however, in the appropriate column of the Mahratta material, I found that his office was ancient and hereditary, he became one of the more fortunate class and was put down for a pension of half his salary of 40 Rupees or 20 Rupees a month.

10. I now find that the entry of "ancient" was a false entry, and I also learn on enquiry from the servants of the Sirkele's Department, that Latchman Venkáji did not join the office of Muzamdár prior to the demise of the Raja. Subsequently to this event, there has been no opening for his so doing, as the death of the Raja virtually abolished what he had held for no more than 2 months and 21 days.

11. Latchman Venkáji is a son of Venkat Rau, recently the Sarishtadar of the Government Agency at Tanjore, and who, being now a very old man, has not held office under the Tanjore Rajas at any period of his life. There is, thus, in the generation next above Latchman Venkáji, a serious hiatus in the essentials of hereditary servitude.

12. From the Sirkele's accounts and report, the *grand-father* of Latchman Venkáji would seem to have done service under the Raj, but in a situation conferred on him by the Superintendent of a Department to whom, under the olden system, a fixed monthly sum was allowed in order to his providing such subordinate aid as he required for the work of the department confided to him.

Ry

Political Department.

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

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Read the following
letter from the Commissioner
of Tanjore.

(Dated 13th April, 1860. N^o 988.)

Order thereon 18 May 1860. No 319.

13. It does not appear, then, that even the grandfather of Latchman Venkaji was an hereditary servant of the Raj, supposing for argument's sake, that it would be just to pass over as of no importance, the fact of his father's non-servitude.

14. The predecessor of Latchman Venkaji was one Ramaji Bavaji Pandit, a son of the much respected Sirkele Bavaji Ramaji Pandit. Under the operation of a palace intrigue, with the details of which I need not fatigue the Government, especially as I cannot support my history of it by papers on record, this Ramaji Bavaji Pandit was in August 1855, removed from the Muzamdarship, without any known cause, but permitted to draw the amount enjoyed by him as salary as if nothing had happened.

15. It is likely that this indulgence was a concession to prevent a complaint of injustice reaching the ears of the Resident. Any how, the son of the
* 7th August 1855. then Resident's Sarishtadar was appointed* to the vacancy and he stood appointed to it when the Raja suddenly demised in the following month of October.
29th October 1855.

16. The family of Sirkele Bavaji Ramaji Pandit and that of Venkat Rau, recently Government Agent's Sarishtadar, were in no wise related, so that even that ground fails for supplying the deficient hereditary link.

17. The Muzamdarship had been held by the venerable and much respected Bavaji Ramaji Pandit up to the date of his selection for the office of Sirkele; it then went to a family other than that of Venkat Rau, but was subsequently conferred on Bavaji Ramaji's own son.

Extract from &c.,

No. 39. "LATCHMAN VENKAJI PANDIT.—This claim rests on an appointment to the office of the palace "Muzamdar" of which the claimant never
Rupees 539-9-4. for one moment entered upon the duties.

2. "It was, it appears, made about three months before the Raja's demise, a vacancy having been specially created that claimant's nomination might take place."

3. "On the strength of claimants alleged filling of the Muzamdar's situation, which was one of the hereditary classes of Darbar offices, he has secured a pension of Rupees 20 a month on the Dowlat Pamlok list for the cancelment of which I shall separately address the Government. This claim is rejected."

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. D. PHILLIPS,

Commissioner.

No. 35. ORDER THEREON, 18th May 1860, No. 319.

Before passing orders on the above letter, the Government would wish to have before them any explanation which Ry. Latchman Venkaji Pandit and his father Venkat Rau may have to offer in respect to the matter in question, as well as relative to the claim referred to in the extract appended.

2. The Commissioner will call on Venkat Rau and Ry. Latchman Venkaji Pandit for such explanation, and submit it to Government with his own remarks upon it.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

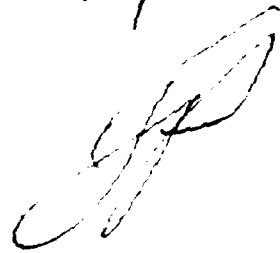
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge

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Ry Latchman Venkay Pandit
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own remarks upon it.



To the Commissioner }
of Tanjore } Sep 21st

6-11-18

Pro of Govt. 20 May
Attorney 1800 (24th)

No 319

Proce. Inq. of Govt

of 18 May 1800

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