M.R. O. 1—89,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 63 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 3 - 2 - ~~19~~ 1860

Not to be folded or roughly handled

DP

No. 13. Read the following letter from H. D. PHILLIPS, Esq., Commissioner of Tanjore; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 27th January 1860, No. 708.

In conformity with the Orders of Government, dated the 5th ultimo, No. 705, I have commenced an inspection of the valuable shawls and cloths of which Mr. Forbes had completed the arrangement and partial classification, when, at the close of 1856, he was served with the injunction of Her Majesty's Judge, Sir Christopher Rawlinson, to abstain from intermeddling or interference with the property of the late Raja of Tanjore.

2. This item of assets has been estimated to be worth 70,000 Rupees. At that figure, however, I should be disposed to regard it as under valued and such seems the view of some of the persons by whom I am aided in my duty.

3. It is with regret, I have now to report, that, whatever its real original worth, the best of the cloths and almost all those articles which were likely to be most coveted by the ladies of the Tanjore family, have suffered in a material degree by the ravages of white ants.

4. Every box almost, has, to a certain extent, been attacked by them; and, as the best means of saving the remainder, I am having the contents of the boxes at once taken out. This mode of preserving what is still fit for use, is, of course, an obstacle to my ascertaining whether the cloths correspond with Mr. Forbe's list. But I see no reason, whatever, for the shadow of a doubt that a particle of what that gentleman left under his seal on receipt of the injunction, has been touched in any way except by white ants.

5. It is at present impracticable to calculate the centage of destruction. Some boxes, of which there are 52, yield a fair quantity of cloths still useful; others, contain little more than dust or cloths eaten right through in several or many parts.

6. I have allowed the Sirkele to take possession of a portion declared to be serviceable, in view to their being rendered available for the marriage of the late Rajah's daughter to Sakaram Sahib. These generally, are of a description specially required for the ceremony, but not readily procurable either here or in the neighbouring districts without long notice for their preparation.

7. By this arrangement, I believe I best consult the interests of the Tanjore family, as each cloth and article taken by the Sirkele is estimated at its present worth, the aggregate value of what is thus used for marriage purposes, being a debit against the sum to be allowed for the ceremonies and expenses.

8. Eventually, the sum due in this manner for what otherwise must have been bought in the open market, will remain in deposit until the Government determine in what manner it is to be divided.

No. 14. ORDER THEREON, 3rd February 1860, No. 63.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

17.2.60

Reported to England
24th and 25th February
"Nos 10 and 11 of 1860

19—14

C/Feb
123 "

10 Feby 1860.
Received 1860
Department

From
The Commissioner
Tanjore

To The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George

Dated 27th January 1860.
Rec'd 30

No 708

No 53.

Reporting that the Collr of the Tanjore family have been seriously harassed by Chetty-aunts and that he has used a part of those which are removable for the purposes of the marriage of the late Raja's daughter.

No 63— 3 Feby/60.
J. L. Accountant