M.R.O. 1—32,000—16-10-23.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 331 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 22-7-~~19~~ 1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 49. Read the following letter from Surgeon Major EDWARD G. BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepauk, and Paymaster of Carnatic Stipends; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 15th July 1861, No. 844.

I have the honor to submit to His Excellency the Governor in Council, that on the 8th June 1860, Mohyed Deen Bee complained, by petition, that her husband Carnatic Stipendiary, No. 4,094, Kifayat Khan Bahadur was not supporting her, and, on the Order in Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 1,482, dated 20th October 1858, I endeavoured to effect some arrangement.

2. I regret to mention that on the 6th November 1860, he wrote that he had divorced his wife, seemingly either irritated by her having complained or in the hope of getting rid of her demand.

3. Carnatic Stipendiary, No. 4,094, Kifayat Khan Bahadur, whose pension is Rupees 35 per mensem, was a Darogah of the Pension Office in the Army Department. He had only 19 years service, but was stipended as a sick man.

4. However objectionable it may be in general to take up the cause of a divorced wife, yet with the facilities for divorcing wives which the Mahomedan law allows, it does not seem to me proper, even as a precedent, to permit a husband to declare his wife divorced in the midst of an unsettled claim against him for her maintenance.

5. In the view that I take of the case, I beg to recommend that half of the stipend of Kifayat Khan Bahadur, *viz.*, Rupees 17-8-0 be allowed to be drawn by his divorced wife, Mohyed Deen Bee, during the life of Kifayat Khan Bahadur; or his stipend be suspended until he make arrangements for her maintenance.

6. I however ask the favor of the Order of Government on this subject, which I recognize to be a very difficult one.

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No. 50. ORDER THEREON, 22nd July 1861, No. 331.

The Government desire that the Agent will take a statement in writing from Kifayat Khan Bahadoor, to show why he has divorced his wife, and what provision he will make for her. He should also endeavour to ascertain the true facts of the case from respectable Mussulmen, who are acquainted with the parties.

2. Under any circumstances the Government do not think it would be proper to give the woman so large a proportion of the stipend as one-half.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Political Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Read letter from the Govt. Agent
at Chittoor.

(Dated 15th July 1861. No. 844)

Order thereon 22nd July 1861 No. 331.

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To Govt. Agent at Chittoor dispatched 23d

Political 1861 Dept.

No. 331.

Pro. of the Madras Govt.

Dated 22nd July 1861