

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

439

Press

~~MIS.~~

Dated

7-10-1861

Not to be folded or roughly handled

27/1/31

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
7th October 1861.*

No. 15. Read the following letter from W. M. CADELL, Esq., Government Agent at Tanjore ;
to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, Political
Department, dated Vallam, 17th September 1861.

1. I have the honor to reply to the Order of Government of the 14th August last, calling
upon me to report on the allegations contained in paras. 3 and 4 of Mr. Norton's Memorial of the
2nd August, and also on the result of the trial of the nine sepoy committed to the Criminal Court
on the charge of being implicated in the robbery at the Palace.

2. With regard to the assertion made in para. 3 of Mr. Norton's Memorial, I have the
honor to state that I have been unable to ascertain that any such abstraction of property as is
alleged has taken place; doubtless at the time of the Rajah's death there was a large amount
of property scattered about in the different Departments, and also in the private apartments of
the Palace; but the prompt measures taken by Mr. Forbes to secure the former, must have
rendered any very great loss or abstraction impracticable. With the exception of the more im-
portant of the State jewels, I believe that no official or regular lists of the jewels were even kept,
and though the accounts of each Department were, for the most part, kept with great care and
scrupulosity, it would have been impossible to frame lists from these documents without a vast
amount of time and labor. As I am therefore given to understand the Commissioners made lists
of the articles they happened to find in each Department, and though it is just possible that in
the numerous receptacles and store rooms in the Palace some few things may have escaped
notice, there is no reason whatever to believe that the lists as now existing contain any thing
but a true and faithful account of the property as found and catalogued by the Commissioners.
I may, however, take this opportunity of informing Government that, in the re-delivery of the
property left in the custody of the late Sirkele and which is now being received by the present
acting Sirkele, the articles specified in the accompanying list have been found.

3. In respect to the allegation made by the Agent of the ladies in para. 4, I have already
observed that I am not aware of any lists having ever been kept in the Rajah's life time and none
were, I believe, delivered to the Commissioners. The list referred to by Mr. Norton as being in
my possession is merely a Mahratta translation of that prepared by Mr. Forbes and all of which
lists are now forthcoming not only in triplicate but quadruplicate.

4. Of the nine sepoy who were committed by me to the Criminal Court, four have been
sentenced as follows:—

Seven years' imprisonment with hard labor in irons, and 1,000 Rupees fine each; three
of them also to receive 100 lashes.

Two Prisoners to seven years' imprisonment with hard labor in irons, and to receive 100
lashes; and three were released.

5. Besides these, an old pensioned Cavalry Sepoy has been sentenced to one year's im-
prisonment and 500 Rupees fine on account of his very advanced age. I have written to the
Officer in charge of Pensioners at Trichinopoly for the Descriptive Roll and Certificate of this
man, and will forward them to Government so soon as received. I presume it will be their
pleasure that the pension be cancelled.

alleged

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
7th October 1861.

List of the property found on the 22nd August 1861 by the Officiating Sirkele in a desk kept in the southern room of the upstairs of Rattina Sabha in the Palace of Tanjore.

Description of Property.	Estimated value.			Total.		
	RS.	AS.	P.	RS.	AS.	P.
A parcel containing 10 diamonds...	444	8	0			
Do. do. 37 do. ...	442	12	0			
Do. do. 20 do. ...	177	10	0			
Do. do. 5 do. ...	260	5	0			
Do. do. 6 do. ...	306	4	0			
Old full Rupees...	97	0	0			
Current full Rupees...	109	0	0			
309 Do. half do. ...	199	8	0			
2 Do. quarter do. ...	0	8	0			
4 Silver Ink stands ...	50	3	9			
1 Iron key with golden handle and silver chain ...	7	0	0			
1 Silver pencil...	1	15	0			
Spectacles...	3	0	0			
Face plate of the lock of a desk ...	0	1	10			
Property found by the said Officer on the 24th August 1861 in a leather box kept in the above said room				2,099	11	7
Jewels set with precious stones...	194	0	0			
Golden jewels ...	86	6	0			
Silver do. ...	142	12	0			
Precious stones. ...	26	4	0			
Property found by the said Officer on the 9th August 1861 in a box kept inside the Jamadar khana.				449	6	0
Current silver coins...	59	12	0			
Uncurrent do. do. ...	1	4	0			
Current copper do. ...	0	13	1			
Uncurrent do. do. ...	0	2	0			
Property found by the Officer on the above said date in a box kept outside the apartment.				61	15	1
Uncurrent silver coins...	7	14	3			
Do. Copper...	0	0	4			
				7	14	7
				2,618	15	3

TANJORE, GOVERNMENT AGENT'S OFFICE,
Tallam, 17th September 1861.

(Signed) W. M. CADELL,

Government Agent

No. 16.

ORDER THEREON, 7th October 1861, No. 439.

To be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

Exd. T. O'Connor,

Tanjore Government Agent's Office
Tallam 17th September 1861

to

W. M. Cadell Esquire

Government Agent at Tanjore

to

J. Percost Esquire

Chief Secretary to Government
Political Department

Sir,

I have the honor to reply to the order of Government of the 14th August last, calling upon me to report on the allegations contained in para 2 & 4 of Mr. Norton's Memorial of the 23rd August, and also on the result of the trial of the 9 Sepoys committed to the Criminal Court on the charge of being implicated in the robbery at the Palace.

With regard to the assertion made in para 3 of Mr. Norton's Memorial, I have the honor to state that I have been unable to ascertain that any such abstraction of property as is alleged

alleged has taken place; - doubtless at the time of the Rajah's death there was a large amount of property scattered about in the different Departments, and also in the private apartments of the Palace, but the prompt measures taken by Mr. Forbes to secure the former must have rendered any very great loss or abstraction impracticable. With the exception of the more important of the State Jewels,

I believe that no official or regular Lists of the jewels were ever kept, and though the Accounts of each Department were, for the most part, kept with great care and scrupulousity, it would have been impossible to frame Lists from these documents without a vast amount of time and labor. As I ~~think~~ ^{was}

am therefore given to understand the ~~dearly wrong~~ ^{the} Commissioners made Lists of Articles they ~~possessed~~ ^{examined} happened to find in each Department ~~who checked~~ ^{they} and though it is just possible that ~~who checked~~ ^{they}

the merely took what was ~~present~~ ^{present}

the numerous prospectuses and storerooms in the Palace some few things may have escaped notice, there is no reason whatever to believe that the Lists as now existing contain anything but a true and faithful account of the property as found and catalogued by the Commissioners. I may, however, take this opportunity of informing Government that, in the delivery of the property left in the custody of the late Sikre and which is now being received by the present acting Sikre, the articles specified in the accompanying List have been found.

3 In respect to the allegation made by the Agent of the Ladies in part, I have already observed that I am not aware of any Lists having ever been kept in the Rajah's life time and none were, I believe, delivered to the Commissioners. The List referred to by Mr. Norton as being in my possession is merely a Mahatta translation of

note these were no mistake in the accompanying list

of that prepared by Mr. Forbes and all
of which Lists are now forthcoming not
only in triplicate but quadruplicate

4 Of the 9 Sepoys who were com-
mitted by me to the Criminal Court
& have been sentenced as follows:-

7 years imprisonment with hard
labor in irons & 1000 Rs. fine each
3 of them also to receive 100 lashes

2 Prisoners to 7 years imprisonment with
hard labor in irons & to receive 100 lashes
and 3 were released.

3 Besides these, an old Pensioned
Cavalry Sepoy has been sentenced to 1 year's im-
prisonment and 200 rupees fine on account
of his very advanced age. I have written
to the officer in charge of Prisoners at
Trichinopoly for the descriptive roll and
Certificate of this man and will for-
ward them to Government as soon as re-
ceived. I presume it will be their
pleasure that the Pension be cancelled.

1. August 1861

Political Department
1861

From

The Government Agent

to

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George

Dated 17th September 1861
No. 253

No. 442 Enc. 1.

As requested in G.O. dated 17th Sept 1861
Regarding an action
allegations made by
Mr. Norton in his memo-
rial ^{of 15th Sept} also on the
result of the trial of
the Sepoys committed
to the Court in the
Palace robbery case.

With an order

No. 439-7th Oct. 1861.

Recd

Will

Yr

C2507
R27.
Govt 28-11
No 4 Oct 1861

15-16