M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 44 Press Mis.

Dated 1 - 2 - ~~15~~ 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 5. From Major R. S. WILSON, Government Agent at Chepauk and Paymaster of Carnatic Stipends; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 17th January 1862, No. 35.

* G. O., No. 89, dated 26th Feb. 1860.
" " 131, dated 8th March 1860.
" " 2,150, " 26th July 1861.
" " 2,829, " 18th Oct. "
" " 3,015, " 15th Nov. "

I have the honor with reference to Government Orders noted in the margin,* to submit the following Report on the present state of Her Highness Nabob Khyre-oo-Nissa Begum's affairs.

2. Her Highness was married to the late Nabob of the Carnatic in the year 1848, and from that time till 1858 Her Highness had no control whatsoever over her household, she received an allowance of Rupees 1,000 per mensem as Pin-money, but her servants were paid, and her household managed on all points, by the Nabob's Dewan.

3. In 1858, about three years after the Nabob's death, Government was pleased to entrust Her Highness with the management of her own affairs, and desired her monthly stipend of Rupees 9,350 to be paid into her own hands, Government also paid to Her Highness the sum of Rupees 1,73,755-3-6 (one hundred and seventy-three thousand, seven hundred and fifty-five, Annas three and Pice six) being the arrears of salary due to Her Highness. Out of this sum Her Highness undertook to discharge the debts of Enayut-oo-Nissa Begum her mother-in-law, and also all her own debts.

4. The result is very unsatisfactory. Her Highness has never furnished any account of the manner in which the abovementioned sum of Rupees 1,73,755 has been expended, though repeatedly and earnestly requested to do so, and there are strong reasons for believing that it has been at least in part, misapplied. She has moreover contracted debts to the amount of certainly not less than a lakh of Rupees, but probably of more.

5. Under the above circumstances it appears absolutely necessary that Government should take steps for the regulation of Her Highness' affairs, and I beg to submit my decided opinion that the only step now open to Government in the matter is the removal, to such extent as may be necessary, of the exemption at present enjoyed by Her Highness from the Courts of Law.

6. I am aware that this is a step which Government will not take unless absolutely compelled to do so. I therefore beg to submit the following reasons for considering the measure recommended the only one which can be taken.

7. The derangement of Her Highness' affairs is by no means a subject lately brought to notice, on the contrary immediately on Her Highness' affairs being put into her own hands, it began to appear that Her Highness was unable or unwilling to keep them in proper order. Innumerable complaints were laid before Government, and brought to the Chepauk Agency, by persons who could not obtain from Her Highness payment of their just claims and much time and trouble have been taken by this Agency in bringing these claims to Her Highness' notice, and requesting a settlement of them. A mere list of the letters written to Her Highness on the subject would form a document of considerable length.

8. Of by far the greater number of these communications, Her Highness has never condescended even to acknowledge the receipt, in no one instance has she settled the claim in a satisfactory manner. On one occasion Government having been induced with regard to one claim to remove Her Highness' exemption from the Courts, Her Highness pledged herself, in event of her immunity being restored, to liquidate her debts by instalments of Rupess 1,500 per mensem. The immunity was restored, and Her Highness kept her pledge *for one month and for one month only*.

9. The cause of this conduct on Her Highness' part, is, I venture to think, sufficiently obvious to any one acquainted with Native character. Her Highness has fallen into an error to

which her countrymen are extremely prone. She has mistaken kindness for weakness and presumed accordingly, because Government has carried courteous consideration for Her Highness' feelings to an extreme. Her Highness has formed an erroneous estimate of its power and Her own importance. The view she takes, is, not that Government extends to her out of regard to her rank and sex an immunity which protects her from being plundered or insulted by fraudulent or spiteful claims, but that she is by position above all Law, that it is her privilege to deal with her creditors according to her own good pleasure and that Government whatever it may *say* will never *do* anything contrary to the wishes of a person of her rank.

10. I make the above statement on the following grounds:

Having been informed when I took charge of this Agency, that Her Highness was a person of weak character, and altogether in the hands of her servants, and that it was to this circumstance Her Highness' indebtedness might be attributed, it appeared to me that the best plan would be to induce Her Highness to appoint some one respectable person to manage Her Highness' affairs, who would be responsible both to Her Highness and to Government; that Her Highness' present debts were put in course of liquidation; and that no further debts were contracted in Her Highness' name. I entered into correspondence with Her Highness with this view and for a considerable time met with nothing but evasion—a circumstance which I trust will be accepted by Government, as my excuse for not having sooner furnished this Report; at last every evasion being exhausted, Her Highness desired me to meet her at the Wallajah Baugh, and there told me, in an interview which lasted for a very considerable period, that it was altogether a mistake to suppose that she was in the hands of her servants, that on the contrary she managed her own affairs altogether herself and was herself alone responsible for them, that it was true that she had promised to allot Rupees 1,500 per mensem for the liquidation of her debts, but that circumstances had occurred which made it inconvenient for her to keep her word, that as to the payment of her debts, she would take the matter into her consideration, and see what sum she could allot for that purpose without inconvenience, and when she had settled that point, she would let me know.

11. The above interview took place about a month ago; but I have not yet heard from Her Highness on the subject, and even had I done so, I should not the less think it necessary to submit to Government my present recommendation.

12. I think so, because, in the first place, Her Highness throughout the interview showed a complete misconception of her true position towards Government. She openly assumed that Government was making of her a request which it rested with her to grant or refuse, and that by taking the matter into consideration at all, she laid Government under an obligation which would justify her in making some counter claim. Secondly, the experience of the last three years shows that promises made by Her Highness are worthless. Thirdly, even supposing that Her Highness allotted a sum to be deducted from her monthly stipend for the liquidation of her debts, and adhered to her promise, such a measure would be altogether delusive so long as Her Highness retains the power of contracting fresh debts; for there can be no doubt that she would make use of that power, and incur fresh liabilities as fast as, or faster than her old ones were liquidated. Fourthly, Her Highness took no notice whatsoever of the claims made as to the sum of Rupees 1,73,755 above mentioned. Fifthly, supposing Government approve of a portion of Her Highness' stipend being appropriated for the liquidation of her debts, the question arises, by whom is the sum so appropriated to be administered? Government has always refused to interfere in such matters directly or indirectly, but if the person is to be named by Her Highness, the money will, of course, be paid, not to the real creditors, but to false creditors, acting in collusion with Her Highness.

13. For the above reasons, I consider the removal, so far as required, of Her Highness' exemption, not only the best but the only course to be pursued, and I am at a loss to conceive how, under the circumstances, the step can be objected to with any show of reason. It has been shown that all other means have been tried and have failed, and it is obvious that the measure

entails on Her Highness no inconvenience from which she cannot escape by the simple expedien of paying her debts. There can be no doubt that if Her Highness is convinced of the determination of Government to act as recommended, she will take steps to settle the claims against her. As soon as she does so, the immunity may be restored, and retained so long as Her Highness conduct continues to be regulated by common sence and common honesty.

14. The reasons above given appear to me fully sufficient to justify my recommendation, but I think it right to add the following remarks:

Her Highness enjoys from Government an ample stipend; she has no family; her father is dead; her mother is provided for by Government; the whole of her stipend therefore is available for her own use. Under these circumstances it is natural to ask how she comes to be in debt. The reason is too well known. Her Highness has involved herself by a career of the grossest profligacy, the money of which she defrauds her creditors is lavished upon those who minister to her pleasures. Her principal servant was a few years ago a Private in the late Nabob's Body Guard. He and his family are now wealthy, whilst numbers of Her Highness' other servants have been discharged without fault, and cannot even obtain payment of their arrears of wages. This is the use which Her Highness makes of the stipend and immunity afforded her by Government.

15. The above facts are notorious throughout Madras, and have given great scandal to the family of the late Nabob and the Mahomedan community generally. The measure recommended so far from appearing harsh to these persons would be highly popular as tending to check a scandal peculiarly offensive to them.

No. 6. From Major R. S. WILSON, Government Agent at Chepauk and Paymaster of Carnatic Stipends; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 23rd January 1862, No. 50.

I have the honor to report that on the 10th instant, Her Highness Khyre-oo-Nissa Begum forwarded to me a letter stating that she had paid a number of her creditors, and deprecating the removal by Government of her immunity from the Courts. A bundle of considerable size wrapped up in a cloth was forwarded along with the letter, and was stated to contain the receipts of the persons who had been paid.

2. I replied that a full report on Her Highness' affairs was then under consideration by Government; and that until the views of Government were known, I must decline to address it again on the subject. I therefore returned the bundle unopened.

3. Her Highness has now again written to me, enclosing a letter addressed to His Excellency the Governor in Council, and a bundle which appears to be the same as that above-mentioned, which is also addressed to His Excellency.

4. The letter I herewith forward, as I do not consider myself empowered to do otherwise. The bundle I have returned for reasons which I will give in a separate communication.

5. I beg to add that I have no doubt the object of Her Highness' communication is simply to postpone a settlement of her affairs. It is not necessary to point out that even, supposing the contents of the bundle to be authentic receipts, their production is no answer to the claims of *other* creditors. If Her Highness is really willing to do what is right, it is extremely easy for her to prove it. Let her send for and settle some of the very large number of claims recorded against her in this Office, and it will then be evident that Her Highness is at last animated by a different spirit to that which has hitherto actuated her. The experience of the last three years fully justifies me in recommending that no attention be paid to any *professions* which Her Highness may make. If Her Highness will give any *proof* that she is in earnest, I will with great pleasure bring it to the notice of Government.

No. 7. ORDER THEREON, 1st February 1862, No. 44.

It is observed that in their Order of the 21st February 1860, Political Department, No. 89, the Government, when granting leave to Meer Gholam Mohcuddin Hoossain to sue Her High-

ness Kyre-oo-Nissa Begum, stated that they would be prepared to grant similar permission to any of Her Highness' creditors who might apply to them, and might show a good primâ-facie case, and the Assistant Agent was desired to make this generally known to the parties who were said to be petitioning him daily for the interference of Government.

2. It does not appear therefore that any thing more is necessary in the matter of Major Wilson's letter of the 17th ultimo, than to follow the course already indicated. The Agent will inform Her Highness' creditors accordingly and will forward applications from any of them whose claims may seem to him to have a fair show of foundation, when permission will, at once, be given.

3. Major Wilson will apprize the Begum of this Order, in reference to her Memorial of the 22nd January 1862. It is clear, as remarked by the Agent, that, even although some persons may have been paid, there yet remain a large number whose claims have not been satisfied. It is evident too that Her Highness has no real intention of settling these demands unless compelled. Fifteen hundred Rupees is but a small proportion to assign out of a monthly stipend of Rupees 9,350, and this payment, inconsiderable as it is, has, by her own showing, been made for only three months.

4. It does not appear that the Begum has furnished the list of the Nabob's mother's dependants chargeable on her for which she has been frequently called.

5. The Government have repeatedly declared that they will not interfere with Her Highness' debts. They will allow their Agent to assist her with his advice if she be really desirous of extricating herself honorably from her embarrassments; but they will do no more. They cannot, however, deny her creditors the only mode of obtaining the liquidation of their claims—nor permit Her Highness to use, as a means of defrauding those parties, the protection that was meant for very different purposes. The permission to sue, which will be granted, will not involve the payment of any claims which will not be fully established by due course of law, and which she should not herself have satisfied without such constraint, and for any expense or discredit to which she may thereby be subjected she has only to thank herself.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Political Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Read the following letter from Surgeon Major Edward G. Balfour. Government Stipendiary at Chepauk and Paymaster of Carnatic Stipends to T. Pycroft, Esqre, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 14th January 1861, No. 60.

I have the honor to report to the Honorable the Governor in Council with reference to the order of Government as per Proceedings of Govt dated 14th November 1860 No. 674. margin that Her Highness in the letter of this date, Copy of which is subjoined, has intimated that she has instituted a prosecution for perjury against Munik Chund and that Her Highness will allot about Rs. 15 00 per mensem, (Rupees 1800 - Rupees 300), for the liquidation of the debts against her.

2 I have the honor to submit that the sum proposed, viz. 1/6 of her allowance seems to me as large as could be allotted by Her Highness, if sufficient by the Honorable the Governor in Council, I would ask Her Highness to oblige me with a monthly list not later than the 25th of each month of all wage

Solicitor will be requested to report whether such is the case.

2 The Government are glad to learn that Her Highness has proposed to allot a sum of 1,500 Rupees per annum out of her allowance for the payment of the debts due by her. There is no objection to the Agent receiving from Her Highness a list by the 25th of each month of all claims settled in the preceding month, but it must be distinctly understood that the Government will not in any way mix themselves up with Her Highness' debts.

(True Extract)
(signed) T. Pycroft
Chief Secretary

(True Copy)
To the Government Agent
at Chepauk
" Government Solicitor

Edward Balfour
Government Agent

D. F. Carthage.

No 2150 of 1861

From Hakim Ghulam Hussain Khan, and Hakim Ghulam Hussain Khan Deceased
& Her late Highness
Enquiry after heirs Report
Settlement of the late Debts
& the Casualties

Dated 18th
Recd 19th } July 1861

Recapitulate the circumstances under which the late Debts were made the Servants & Establishment of her Highness Dependants on her Death, upon H. H. Chair &c heirs &c appointed a Committee to see that the various Pensioners will

regularly paid out of that Lady's increased allowance. - Complains that they with many others have been Deprived by H. H.ᵉ Rani the Queen Regent who has appropriated their pension to herself. - Requests that they may be restored to their pensions &c &c

2150

Forwarded to the Government Agent at Chepauk who will report what claims the Petitioners really have upon H. H. Rani the Queen Regent

The attention of the Agent is directed to the concluding sentences of the 3rd para of this Ord.ᵉ dated 21st February 1860.

He will report to what extent Her Highness has complied with the instructions therein communicated to her, & will furnish without delay, (if it has not already been despatched) the list called for in the closing sentence. -

G. N. H.

No 2059 of 1861

From Lakshmi Bibi Sahiba a resident of Rajahmundry

Dated 1 / Rec.ᵈ 10 } July 1861

Reiterates the statement of her unfortunate circumstances as set forth in her Petition &c. &c. & prays that Government will be pleased to take such further measures for the recovery of her pension as to Government may seem proper

Disp.ᵈ 29th Ult.ᵒ

No 2059

Petitioner is referred to the order of Government dated 8th June 1861 on her Petition No 1559 of 1861. She is informed that her claim is finally rejected.

H. V. M.
Ag: Dy: Secy: to Govt.

For 31st July }
26th July 1861. }

Petition

No. 2829 of 1841 2/30th } 1841.
Rec'd 5th Oct

From Shaw Roollah Saib,
Coolsoom Sahiba and
others the servants and
Dependants of His High-
ness the late Nabob
of Carnatic —

Complain that
although numerous ap-
plications have been
made to Her Highness
Khiroonnisah Begum
to pay up the arrears
of their pay standing
for a long time, yet
she has not paid to
them
your signnep'd letter —

I have the honor to be
Your Highness most obedient
servant

R.S. Wilson
Govt Sgt
Chetpauk

for

D/26th Jan 1981

them, but she has appropriated the whole sum of her allowance for her own use.

Pray orders therefore to the Government Agent to deduct from her allowance and pay them the arrears of their salary.—

For St. Saint George
18th October 1861.

2829.

Forwarded to the Government Agent at Chepauk in continuation of the Endorsement of Government upon No 2150 of 1861 dated July 26th 1861.

Disp. 18th

W. S. W.
Ag. Dy. Secy. to Govt

Wdk

No 25 of 1862

Government Agent's office
15th January 1862

Major R. S. Wilson
Government Agent at Chepauk

To Her Highness Nabob
Shyrcoon Nissa Begum Sahiba

Your Highness'

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Highness' letter of the 10th Instant, and in reply to inform your Highness that the question of your Highness' debts having been submitted to Government, nothing can be done in the matter till the decision of Government is known.

I have the honor to return, unopened, the packet which was sent along with your Highness' letter.

I have the honor to be
Your Highness most obedient
servant

R. S. Wilson
Govt Agt
Chepauk

To,

His Excellency
The Honorable the Governor
in Council- Fort St. George
&c — &c — &c

Your Excellency-

With utmost regret and sorrow I humbly request permission to lay forward my distressed circumstance for your kind information, expecting your Excellency would with a light of justice peruse it through and through and form a favorable opinion about the arrangement.

That on the first occasion when I received my arrears of 1855 from the Government, I adjusted the arrears in all payable for the said year and the receipts thereof marked No 1 are herein enclosed for your kind perusal- On the second occasion when another amount for 1854 was granted to me by the Government, I contracted only a sum of 22,000 and odd Rupees to redeem my jewels which were about to be sold in auction, but the remainder part of the amount Rupees 63,425 was disbursed in arrears of the servants, the receipts of which marked No 2 are enclosed-

This

This is a fact should be well remembered that except 22,000 and odd Rupees not a single pie was extracted by me out of the amount paid for 1864 in lieu of which I paid monthly Rupees 1500 out of my own stipend and communicated the same for the information of Government, in reply of which, thanks were returned, the copy of which is herein enclosed. I adjusted the arrears according to my promise for three months without any intermission and forwarded the receipts thereof every month to the Government Agent for his information, but in the mean while Manikehmud sued against me in the Supreme Court and received a judgement for the amount due by me, in order to defend the case I had to undergo a great deal of expense and get him punished for his infidelity. By this occasion the disbursement of the arrears was somewhat interrupted and delayed.

Notwithstanding the disbursement of this vast sum, the persons who have a claim for such a great amount of money is the reason that my husband His Highness the late Nabob of the Carnatic had often a habit to draw a sum of about 2000 or 3000 Rupees as debt every month from me and used

to enter it on his Dustur Khas records, if your Excellency call upon it the truth of which shall be brought to light. There gone the salaries of some depended on the said sum taken by my husband was unpaid, as it was not refunded by any one.

Among those persons who preferred complaints against me some of them have received half, one third, and one fourth from the arrears due to them, and now there are very few who have received nothing. The receipts of those whose accounts were adjusted by me had been forwarded to the Government Agent for his inspection, but he returned the same without making a perusal with his letter, the copy of which is herein enclosed. I was even ready to liquidate the same, but suddenly my stipend was stopped although I forwarded a list of the servants (as I was requested) in the month of December last and promised regularly the payment of Rupees 1500 monthly in arrears without intermission, yet from the period of 4 months my receipt is not granted by which I and my servants are exposed to very serious difficulties.

Now I solemnly profess, of course I was at rest and in a very happy

happy state while my husband His Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic was alive and I had an immagination that the Government in consideration of my widowship and without protection will have me on the very same footing and even twofold of it

Further I wish to represent that during the lifetime of my husband I received thousands of Rupees (except 1200 Rs of my Stipend) for the celebration of birth-day and Fatiha ceremonies and for my other important expenses &c, which are now incurred on the said 9,000 and odd Rupees and nothing will be diminished from my ancient expenses- moreover I am now subjected to an extra expence monthly for the payment of Income Tax viz: Rs 374-

While such are the affairs it will be quite impossible for me to make any further arrangement to pay more than 1500 Rupees- and if I at all endeavour to accomplish it, I will be under the painful necessity of dispensing with my poor and old expedient servants, by which I am sure that they would intrude on your Excellency's auspicious time by submitting various complaints.

With regard to the reasons I have described I will adjust in the said amount without any failure the arrears payable to the persons, and forward their receipts thereof to the Government Agent for his inspection as I promised, which was approved and thanks were returned by the Government- In case of the breach of this arrangement without any further hesitation the Government might at once issue an order to the Agent at Chepauk to take the sum of 1500 Rupees from my stipend and disburse it at his own office until the liquidation of the whole arrears-

In conclusion I request your Excellency that an early order may be communicated to the Government Agent for the payment of all my Stipend from which I shall disburse 6000 Rupees at 1,500 Rupees per month and shall deem it necessary to clear their arrears and continue the same course till it is fully accomplished-

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency
Your most faithfully

Madras
22nd January 1862.

Elephanta Agency Office
23rd January 1862

Dear Sir

With reference to my official letter of this date No. 50, Para 4, I beg to explain that I have returned the Begum's petition, because had I received and opened it, it would have been in her power to have asserted one of the causes of the

[illegible] Affairs of Her Highness Shyre-oo-Nissa Begum adi widow of the late Nabob, and recommend reasons stated that exemption from the jurisdiction of the Courts Law now enjoyed that Lady under Act XXXVII of 1858 be drawn.

I have no doubt that Her Highness is capable of such an accusation; and in dealing with her it is necessary to be extremely cautious.

If the documents are required by Court, I will request H. H. to send them to me by some trustworthy person, with a list. I shall compare the contents with the list in the baskets

present, and make him sign a certificate that to that effect.

I am
Dear Sir
Your Obt Servant
R. M. Wilson

To
T. Pycroft Esqr

affairs of Her Highness
Shyre-oo-Nissa Begum
Sadi widow of the late
Nabob, and recommends
for reasons stated that
the exemption from the
jurisdiction of the Courts
of Law now enjoyed
by that Lady under
Act XXXVII of 1858 be
withdrawn.

For

Telegraph Agency
Office 28th Sept/62

My dear Mr Pyecroft

I enclose three notes - one from Mr Whitewide to Dr Balfour, one from Dr Balfour to Khype-oo. Nissa Begum, and one from Dr Balfour to Mr Whitewide -

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from of yours of Her Highness Khype-oo. Nissa Begum Khadi widow of the late Nabob, and recommends for reasons stated that the exemption from the jurisdiction of the Courts of Law now enjoyed by that Lady under Act XXXVII of 1858 be withdrawn.

For

The authority for suspending the Begum's stipend is ~~same~~ not so good as I thought it was. There is no order for suspending her stipend but several for securing her exemption fm the Courts - viz

24th Sept. 1859, No. 559,
32 Nov. " " 689
619th Dec. " " 736

James Lindsay
H. Wilson

16

4th

2035/

affairs of Her Highness Khyre-oo-Nissa Begum Shadi widow of the late Nabob, and recommends for reasons stated that the exemption from the jurisdiction of the Courts of Law now enjoyed by that Lady under Act XXXVII of 1858 be withdrawn.

For

Cir 22d July 1861 Rd 26th

17

Political Departt.

Memorandum

From the Govt Agent at Chepauk / Dated 17 Janry 1862 No 35/

The Govt. Agent at Chepauk reports on the affairs of Her Highness Khyre-oo-Nissa Begum Shadi widow of the late Nabob, and recommends for reasons stated that the resumption from the jurisdiction of the Courts of Law now enjoyed by that Lady under Act XXXVII of 1858 be withdrawn.

I concur in the opinion herein given

For

2. For a long time past, the Govt. have been overwhelmed with petitions from the credi=tors and servants of this Begum, imploring that she may be required to settle their claims. These have been repeated=ly pressed on the Begum by the Agent, but with=out the least result.

3. She draws the Princely income of Rs. 9,350 per mensem - and in 1858 & 1859 ~~Lacs~~ ar=rears of allowances to the amount of Rupees 1,73,755 were paid her, on which occasion she was urged to pay her debts, and the debts of her mother-in-law Enayet-oo-Nissa Begum which

which she had taken upon herself. This large sum has been squan=dered, and the debts remain unpaid.

4. Some time since the Soucar Manick chund obtained the permis=sion of the Govt. to sue her for his claim in the Supreme Court. He did so, and got a verdict but not being content to trust to the goodness of his cause - which was strong enough - he thought to eke it out by a little perjury - for this he was prosecuted - con=victed and is now, I believe, undergoing his sentence in the Peni=tentiary.

5. The Begum leads a most shameful life

life - one of the lowest sensuality - and is wholly given up to unworthy favorites to the scandal of all respectable Mahometans -

6. I would recommend that the Agents advice be followed - Nothing else will have any effect on this depraved woman - The consent of Govt. must be given separately for each action that has to be brought - so that they may cease giving permission at any time when they see that she is thoroughly frightened and will set about paying her debts in earnest.

19

Political Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Read the following letters from the Government Agent at Chapanâ.

Revenue 17th & 23d January 1862 Nos. 38 & 42.

Order thereon 1st February 1862 No. 44

It is observed that in their order of the 21st February 1860 Political Department No. 89. the Government, when granting leave to Meer Ghulam Mohieuddin Hobdaire to sue Her Highness Fyze-oon Nissa Begum, stated that they would be prepared to grant similar permission to any of Her Highness' Creditors who might apply to them, and might show a good prima facie case, and the Assistant Agent was desired to make this generally known to the parties who were said to be petitioning him daily for the interference of Government.

2. It does not appear therefore that any thing more is necessary in the matter of Major Wilson's letter of the 17th ultimo than to follow the course already indicated. The Agent will inform Her Highness' Creditors accordingly and will forward applications from any of them whose claims may seem to him to have a fair show of foundation, when permission will at once be given.

3 Major Wilson will apprize the Begum of this Order in reference to her Memorial of the 22nd January 1862. It is clear as remarked by the Agent, that, even although some persons may have been paid, there yet remain a large number whose claims have not been satisfied. It is evident too that Her Highness has no real intention of settling these demands unless compelled. Fifteen hundred rupees is but a small proportion to assign out of a monthly Stipend of Rs: 9350 and this payment, inconsiderable as it is, has by her own showing been made for only three months.

4. It does not appear that the Begum has furnished the list of the Nabob's mother's dependants chargable on her for which she has been frequently called.

5. The Government have repeatedly declared that they will not interfere with Her Highness' debts. They will allow their Agent to assist her with his advice if she be really desirous of extricating herself honorably from her embarrassments but they will do no more. They cannot however, deny her creditors the only mode of obtaining the liquidation of their claims nor permit Her Highness to use as a means of defrauding those parties the protection that was granted for very different purposes. The permission to sue which will be granted will not involve the payment of any claims which will not be fully established by due course of law and which she should herself have satisfied without such constraint, and for any reproach or discredit to which she may thereby be subjected she has only to thank herself.

JP

To the Govt. Agent at Chepauk. dtd. 1st Feby.

Endsd

Pol = Department 1862.

No. 44

Proceedings of the Madras

Government.

Dated 1 February 62.

Copy & enclosures of Report of the checque agent respecting the debt of Her Highness Tajore vaw Nijoo Begum.

2916.] Madras—Printed at the Government

1862

Pol Dep. Nos. 1-2
21/2/60
29-30
27/3/60

Endorsement Nos. 1250
26/7/61
28-29
18/10/61
3015
15/11/61

Pol Dep. Nos. 21-22
27/3/58
17+18
5 c 7-3/5/59