

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 77

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated 26 - 2 - 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
26th February 1862.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 6D Memorial from KHATHOONA BEGUM; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Triplicane, 3rd January 1862.

I herewith beg to submit to the Governor in Council, according to the regulation, three copies of a Memorial to the address of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India; and humbly hope that one of such copies will be forwarded to him as early as practicable.

Meanwhile I am led to believe that if His Excellency the Governor in Council be condescendingly pleased to take into consideration the truth and reasonableness of my claim, which is stated in the Memorial, there is a great probability, that His Excellency the Governor will be disposed to recommend my case for the liberal consideration of that noble Gentleman; for it is well known that the British Government is ever ready to do justice and kindness to all who deserve them.

Ordered that one copy of the Memorial be forwarded to the Government Agent at Chepauk for his report.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

17th January 1862.

No. 62. 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 7th February 1862, No. 107.

I have the honor to report, agreeably to Government Endorsement of the 17th January 1862, (no number) on a Memorial* addressed by one Khathoona Begum to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, and dated Triplicane, 23rd December 1861.

* Herewith returned.

2. Memorialist states that her late mother, called Tahera Begum, was in receipt, till her death, of a stipend of Rupees 50, a portion of which would, according to custom, have been continued to Memorialist, had she not been unjustly blamed for a fraud committed by her Uncle, one Fige Ally Khan, at a time when Memorialist was a child, and her mother insane. She prays that she may be absolved from that unjust blame, and allowed to receive a portion of her mother's stipend.

3. With regard to this statement, I beg to remark, in the first place, that it is founded on a falsehood. Memorialist is not the third in descent from the original Stipendiary, but the fourth. The first holder of the stipend was one Hyder Yar Khan, who received a stipend of Rupees 150 per mensem. On his death, Government was pleased, as an act of favor and charity, to continue two-thirds of his stipend to his widow and on her death, a further continuation of one-third was granted to his niece, Tahera Begum, mother of Memorialist (Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 69, 17th February 1852.)

4. I need not remark that the custom of continuing stipends as above, on which Memorialist founds her claim, arose from the kind consideration of Government, not from any right on the part of the Stipendiary, but it is evident from the foregoing statement that even had it been otherwise, Memorialist would have no claim. The three generations terminated with Memorialist's mother. Memorialist's statement to the contrary, in the first sentence of her Memorial, is the reverse of the fact.

Secondly, the fraud committed by Memorialist's Uncle Fige Ally Khan had no connexion whatsoever with the question of her mother's stipend. It will be seen by the Extract Minutes of Consultation quoted above (No. 69, 17th February 1852,) that the two questions are perfectly distinct and separate, and were decided by Government on totally different grounds. In paragraph 5 of that Extract Minutes of Consultation, Government remarks that it has lost more than Rupees 7,000 by the first holder of the stipend, declines to deprive the third holder of it (Memorialist's mother;) but directs that care be taken that it lapse wholly at her demise. In paragraph 6, Government directs that *another* stipend, which had been obtained by the fraud above attri-

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buted to Fige Ally Khan, shall cease, the fraud having been discovered, but no further notice is taken of the fraud, nor has Memorialist or any one else, ever in any way suffered for it. Memorialist has not been deprived of anything for any reason whatever. She is not in receipt of any stipend, simply because she has no claim to any.

No. 62. ORDER THEREON, 26th February 1862, No. 77.

Ordered that the Memorial of Khathoona Begum and the report of the Government Agent at Chepauk thereon, be forwarded to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India with the opinion of Government that the Memorialist has no claim whatever to a portion of her mother's stipend which she prays may be allowed to her.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge

TO

THE RIGHT HONORABLE
SIR CHARLES WOOD, G. C. B.,
Secretary of State for India.

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

The Humble Memorial of
KHATHOONA BEGUM.

MOST HUMBLY SHOWETH,

That your Memorialists' own Mother the late Tahera Begum, who received a Monthly Pension of 50 Rupees from the Government died, upwards of 9 years ago; but on her death it pleased Doctor Balfour then the Carnatic Paymaster, to discontinue the *whole* Pension without allowing your Memorialist a single cash from the same, notwithstanding her being the *only* daughter of the deceased Lady, with whom ended the *second generation* only; whilst the practice adhered to generally by the Government, in granting Pensions to such persons sanctions it to three generations, which will terminate at your Memorialists' own instance with her life. Her humble Petitions to Government to that effect never obtained their favorable consideration; but what they resolved thereon is this, that the Government would not allow your Memorialist any portion from the lapsed Pension of her deceased Mother, for the reason of her (the deceased) having defrauded the Government by false representation for drawing a Separate Pension of 28 Rupees that had been granted to her, for her late husband's Services. The matters of fact which led the Government to charge thus her Mother are these; That your Memorialist's Father the late Malavee Baker Sahib was Moofly Sudr Ameen for the Zillah of Cuddapah, and immediately on his death, in the year 1825, your Memorialist's Mother became *deranged* in mind and disordered in understanding; so she continued to her death; which the annexed *document* in Vernacular language, translated in English, will testify. But as your Memorialist's Father had several children from other wives, amongst whom her Mother was the principal and more respectable, and the Head of his large Family, your Memorialist's Uncle, the late Fige Ally Khan, under whose care and management her Mother was, on account of her derangement placed, had Petitioned the Government in her Mother's name for a Pension in right of her (your Memorialist's) Father's *good and Signal* services, which were perhaps recommended by the *Judges of the Sudder Court*; consequently the Government had been touched with compassion, and granted a Pension of 28 Rupees, in 1825, in the name of your Memorialist's Mother, for the support of her father's numerous orphan children and large family, whose distress and misery were fully represented to Government by her Uncle only; the contents of which Petition, it is evident indeed, your Memorialist's Mother was perfectly disqualified, by her insanity, to dictate personally, or to understand at all; nor was your Memorialist also capable to do so, for she was then quite young of four years old. Notwithstanding all these considerations, which strongly and satisfactorily demonstrate the innocence of her Mother, Doctor Balfour, whom to give a reasonable contradiction had been esteemed an unpardonable insolence, took these matters of fact and circumstancing or thinking them after *his own* manner, unkindly concluded, in the year 1851, that the above Pension of 28 Rupees had been acquired by your Memorialist's Mother thro' unfair and fraudulent ways; whilst those just and charitable Gentlemen who were his predecessors in the office judged it otherwise; consequently he was so unmerciful as to recommend the Government to punish her poor deranged Mother with stopping at once the said Pension of 28 Rupees; which the Government did accordingly. This is not all, but also after her death, he, as it seems, included your Memorialist in the above fault, (if it may be called so), which indeed neither her Mother, on account of unsoundness of mind and understanding, nor *she herself*, owing to the *Minority*, was capable to commit, and as a penalty to your Memorialist also, it pleased the Government, through the suggestion of Doctor Balfour, to refuse her any portion whatever from the Pension of 50 Rupees of her deceased Mother.

Under these circumstances, your Memorialist most humbly presumes to say that several cases of actual fraud, committed even by the Male Pensioners, have been decided on reasonable punishment, suggested by those gentlemen who preceded Doctor Balfour in the Office. The Government afterwards allowed not only such Pensioners the continuance of their respective Pensions probably little reduced, as punishment for the fraud, but after their death pensioned also to their families; whereas the punishment inflicted, under the suggestion of this official, on your Memorialist's Mother, and subsequently on her also, for the abovementioned assumed instance, is indeed incomparably severe, and extremely prejudicial to your Memorialist. Now among the other points of consideration for your Excellency, there are some instances of actual fraud, that attracted the notice of the other retired Carnatic Paymasters, and the punishment thereon suggested by them; your Memorialist therefore makes herself understood by the following examples. One Mahomed Tajooddeen continued defrauding the Government for 20 years, not informing them of the death of his sister, and drawing as usually her Pension which was included in his own, being the head of that family; for which he has been punished, and yet continues enjoying his own portion in the same. Khather Hussan Ally Khan and others committed similar fraud, concealing the

نقل مطابق اصل

مستشهده خاتونه بيگم استشهاده ميكنند و كواه صدق ميطلبند از انكه وقتي از مرحومه مادرم طاهره بيگم صاحب
زوجه مولوي محمد باقر صاحب نفتي كرده داشته اند بر نيمغي كه مرحومه مادرم بعد رحلت
والدم مغفور بمدراس آزند و از ان زمان تا حيات او شان عواس باخته و جنون زده
بودند يا نه اميد كه واقفان احوال مادرم از شهادت خویش برين اظهار بمضمون كسر ميم
لا كتموا الشهاده ماجور خواهند شد مورخه دوم اكتوبر ۱۲۹۱ عيسويه

۱ امير نمودند شفا دستخان بهادر كه در نيجاي بيگم مرحومه تا حيات مجنونه بودند

۲ ايضاً حسين علي كه مشار اليها از زمان خود در مدراس تاحيات مسلوب الحواس بودند

۳ ايضاً محمد شهاب الدين كه اظهار مستشهده بر جنون مادر خویش راست است

۴ ايضاً غلام ابو الحسن كه اظهار صدر بر جنون بي بي مرحومه راست است

۵ ايضاً غلام رضا بدری كه در نيجاي بيگم مرحومه تا حيات مجنونه بودند

۶ ايضاً غلام علي زمان خان كه اظهار صدر بر جنون بي بي مرحومه راست است

۷ ايضاً محمد سعيد كه اظهار صدر بر جنون بي بي مرحومه راست است

۸ ايضاً حيدر حسين نيراري كه از سي سال آخر عمر بي بي مرحومه مجنونه بودند

۹ ايضاً محمد نور الدين حسين كه اظهار صدر بر سلب حواس بي بي مرحومه راست است

۱۰ ايضاً حيدر علي كه اظهار صدر بر سلب حواس بي بي مرحومه راست است

۱۱ ايضاً مير محمود علي خان كه در نيجاي بيگم مرحومه جنون زده بودند

۱۲ ايضاً درزاكرم علي كه اظهار بالا بر احوال مرحومه راست است

۱۳ ايضاً حسين علي كبي بي مرحومه از زمان وقفيست اينجا نب تازند كي مجنونه بودند

۱۴ ايضاً محي الدين حسين جدی كه بيگم مرحومه جنون زده بودند بنده واقفست

۱۵ ايضاً مرتضى حسين مكری كه اظهار مستشهده بر جنون مادر خویش راست است

deaths of some pensioned members of their respective families, and receiving as usually their lapsed Pensions which were included in their own; but on the detection thereof they perhaps have been punished with reasonably moderate reduction of their own Pensions—One Ghoolam Jeelance Khan forms another instance of the kind, he was charged, proved, and punished; but after his death his widow has been pensioned. Among the female parts of these Pensioners, Moobarakoon Nisa Begum, and Fatanah Begum &c., stand under the same conviction forfeiting perhaps an insignificant part of their Pension for it. There are many parallel examples which, for brevity sake, are omitted, *Instar Omnium*. Hence your Excellency will kindly observe that even disregarding the insanity of your Memorialist's Mother, if the fraud with which her Mother is charged, be taken for granted to have been actually committed by her, and that the punishment she had suffered for it, by forfeiting the Pension of 28 Rupees, and receiving the other one of 50 Rupees only, it may be fairly and reasonably urged that this 50 Rupees should have not wholly, on her death, discontinued to your Memorialist, and that such discontinuance is indeed incompatible to the principles of Justice, and is perhaps unprecedented one; for your Memorialist's innocence of the fraud, for which her insane Mother was punished, is as unquestionable as her minority to commit it; beyond all her sex naturally expects more leniency and kindness, than the male Pensioners, some of whom, as stated above, were proved of their faults, and punished moderately, but their families on their death have been generously Pensioned. How hard and lamentable is the fate of your Memorialist! she suffers such a severe punishment as absolute exclusion from enjoying even the minimum of the Pension; whilst to the greatest part of it she is so justly and practically entitled. Oh none of those Gentlemen, who have retired rendering their services, with kindness and justice, as the Carnatic Paymasters, did occupy the office on the death of your unfortunate Memorialist's Mother! she perished in an unblessed time indeed! had any one of them retained that function on her demise, your Memorialist would not be, in all probability, dealt so unmercifully.

Further your Excellency will observe that the Government have been, as late as the last one or two years, pleased to grant Pension on the demise of the heads of several families to their respective relations, both of female and male kinds; such as Fatamah Begum; who after having 2 grown up sons to support her, has been favored with a Pension, as a portion from what was enjoyed by her husband, the late Rajah Hoosain Khan Juddee. Similarly, Kader Beebee, and Fatamah Beebee enjoy Pensions, on account of their husband, the late Meer Abbas Ally, on whom devolved the Pension by reason of his Father the late Meerza Husson Khan who had, at certain salary, served the former Nabobs of the Carnatic. What may be exemplified the next is the case of one late Khader Hoosain a Pensioner, on whose demise his three sons and two daughter's have been kindly pensioned from the deceased's stipend, which underwent a moderate reduction as usually, and was portioned amongst his children. Enough what has been said on the occasion, as instances of the late's date, waiving, for brevity, many others of similar import; all of which bear for them the political grade of 3d generation in their respective families, on the score of the Government Pensions; which your Memorialist long solicits for, as she like the above persons stands under the same grade; namely the 3d generation in her family—examples of such Pensions as granted to persons, classed under the 4th generation in their own families, would have been also produced, had they carried with them such numerical worth as the instances of the 3rd generation.

Consequently your Memorialist having been condemned to lose the right for the Pension in question, she humbly appeals her unfortunately ill judged case to your Excellency, in full confidence that true justice will be done, and that such condemnation against her, and also against her insane Mother, will not stand good and reasonable in your Excellency's sound and unerring judgment, and generous opinion, as the nonage of one, and the insanity of the other, proved by the annexed document, are the real facts which carry a full and sufficient belief of their innocence to mind. However, Honorable Sir, your Memorialist has passed, as contented as possible, the last 9 or 10 years, since the death of her Mother, whose monthly Pension of 50 Rupees was almost all spent for her maintenance only. In short she should not omit to mention that her husband, who is unemployed, and also not a Pensioner, has supported her hitherto, according to his small means, that also hardly available during such a time as the present. But in consequence of his continued ill health for the last two years, and also having no means or income to live upon, she is impelled by the *Res Augusta Domi* thus to entreat Your Honor for the Pension in question, which is in fact the bounty of our Most Gracious, and most liberal, Sovereign the Queen Victoria; consequently your Memorialist flatters herself, and entertains the most sanguine hope that your Excellency's known goodness of heart, combined with characteristic judgment, will incline you to take particular concern in the case of your unfortunate Memorialist, who is a Lady belongs to a respectable Family, but depressed in Adversity at present, and to be compassionately pleased to pass an order to grant your Memorialist some reasonable portion from the wholly discontinued Pension of 50 Rupees, which was enjoyed by her insane and innocent Mother the late Tahera Begum. For which act of justice and Kindness, Your Memorialist as in duty bound,—

SHALL EVER PRAY,

A True Translation of the Document.

The writer hereof Khathona Begum, applies hereby for an evidnce to such persons as have been acquainted with her Mother the late Tahera Begum widow, of the late Malavee Baker Sahib who was Moofy Sudr Anieen for the Zillah of Cuddapah, to the following effect, that her Mother soon after the death of her (the applicants) father, arrived at Madras, and that since that time up to the end of her life, she was deranged in mind, and disordered in understanding. Is this fact true or not? It is hoped that those who have been aware of it will attest herein in obeying the sacred text of the Holy Uleoran, which ordains "Ye do not conceal evidence." By so doing they shall meet the Divine Blessings as prescribed. Dated 2d September 1851.

1. Sealed; Shafatust Khan Bahader attesting that the deceased Lady was seen here insane till her death.
2. Sealed; Hoossain Ally affirming that the Lady above alluded to was, since her arrival at Madras till her death, disordered in understanding.
3. Sealed; Mahomed Shabahooddeen, affirming the truth of the statement made by the applicant about the insanity of her Mother.
4. Sealed; Ghoolam Abboolhussan, attesting that the above statement as to the insanity of the deceased Lady is true.
5. Sealed; Ghoolam Raja Bidry affirming that the deceased Lady was seen here insane till her death.
6. Sealed; Ghoolam Ally Zaman Khan attesting that the above statement as to the insanity of the deceased is true.
7. Sealed; Mahomed Saheed affirming that the above statement as to the insanity of the deceased is true.
8. Sealed; Hyder Hoossain Hazaree stating that the deceased Lady was deranged in the latter 30 years of her life.
9. Sealed; Mahomed Nooruddeen Hossain testifying the above statement on the disordered understanding of the deceased Lady.
10. Sealed; Ghoolam Hyder Ally declaring that the above statement as to the disordered understanding of the deceased Lady is unquestionable.
11. Sealed; Meer Mahamood Ally Khan affirming that the deceased Begum was ever unright in mind during her residence in Madras.
12. Sealed; Meerzah Akrum Ally, attesting that the above statement as to the ill-health of the mind of the deceased is true.
13. Sealed; Hoossain Ally declaring that since my knowledge of the deceased Lady I affirm she was insane till her death.
14. Sealed; Mahedeen Hoossainjuddy I know that the deceased Begum was struggling with insanity.
15. Sealed; Moortaza Hoossain Meckree affirming the truth of the statement of the applicant about the insanity of her mother.

Recd. L. to Secy. 27th Dec 1851
27th Dec 1851

Political Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT

Read the following papers:

Memorial from Khathona Begum, Dated 23rd December 1851)

Report thereon by the Court Agent at Chelapauk — 7th Febry. 1852. No 107)

Order thereon 26 Febry/52. No 44.

Pl. for L. to Secy. 27th Dec 1851
No 3 of 1852
Recd. L. to Secy. 27th Dec 1851

W. M.

W. M.

Ordered that the Memorial of Khathona Begum & the report of the Court Agent at Chelapauk thereon be forwarded to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State.

State for India, with
the opinion of ~~the~~
Govt. that the Memo-
rialist has no claim
whatever to a portion
of her mother's stipend
which she prays may
be allowed to her.

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