M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 86 Press Mis

Dated 4 - 3 - 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 3. Read the following letter from W. M. CADELL, Esq., Government Agent, Tanjore; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Vallam, 15th February 1862, No. 47.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government, under date the 13th ultimo, No. 11, I have the honor to state that no suit whatever has been instituted against Her Highness M. Avusahiba in the District Munsiff's Court at Tanjore as Mr. Norton's letter would seem to shew, but one for the sum of Rupees 12,567-9-5 including interest, and alleged to be due on account of money lent to His late Highness the Rájá during his life time, and also to M. Avusahiba after His Highness' death, has been brought in the Civil Court at Kumbakonam by one Gópál Rau Subhánji Mahadie, a distant relation of the Rájá.

2. In his Plaint, a copy of which was obtained by me from the Civil Judge, that individual states that, previous to His late Highness' death, he had on three different occasions lent to him Rupees 3,138-14;* that after his death, he (Plaintiff) paid Rupees 1,620† in liquidation of a debt which His Highness owed to another party, and further that he paid the sum of Rupees 2,231‡ to M. Avusahiba. It is for the recovery of these sums with interest at 12 per cent. per annum, and amounting, in the aggregate, to Rupees 12,567-9-5, that he has brought the suit alluded to, I have further been informed by Mr. Beauchamp that the Plaint was presented in the Court on the 24th December last but only filed on the 1st instant, and that no process has yet been issued thereon. M. Avusahiba denies all knowledge of the transactions alluded to in the Plaint, and disclaims any liability on her part to discharge the alleged debt. It also does not appear that this party preferred his alleged claim before the late Commissioner, Mr. Phillips, who had been specially deputed to investigate and settle all claims against the late Rájá.

* On January 7th 1853, Rupees 1,048 14
,, October 29th ,, ,, 1,214 0
,, August 25th ,, ,, 881 0
3,138 14.

† On July 29th 1856.
‡ On December 1st 1855.

3. Mr. Norton's letter on the subject, it will, however, be seen, is dated the 6th December last, while the Plaint in question was presented only on the 24th idem as mentioned above, and it is therefore not clear whether it is this suit to which that Gentleman refers or not.

4. I beg further to report, for the information of Government, that suits have been brought in the District Munsiff's Court at Tanjore by certain parties against 8 of the new Bayisahibs or the junior widows of His late Highness for the recovery of the price of provisions supplied to them, the particulars of which, however, are not yet before me. I am, however, given to understand that claims to the extent of Rupees 60,000 on account of servants' wages and also Rupees 12,000 on account of provisions supplied are stated to be outstanding against these Ladies, and although endeavors are being made with a view to the adjustment thereof, it seems inevitable that several of these alleged claims will be made matters of litigation in the Civil Courts.

5. It would perhaps be not out of place here to observe that these 8 Ladies form one of the different parties into which the widows of His late Highness have been divided. They originally belonged to the party consisting of the 12 Ladies including and headed by the senior widow M. Kámáksshiambá báyisáhibá, and even now their interests are professedly identical with those of the senior widow, at least so far as they are at one regarding any efforts that may be making for the recovery of the property of the late Ráj. The breach between the 8 Ladies referred to and the others took place in the year 1858, and when, under the circumstances detailed in Mr. Phillips' letter dated 18th October 1858, No. 326, paragraphs 5 to 17, the jewels belonging to all the 15 new Bayisahibs were, with the consent of these 8 only, removed by their Agent from their place of custody. In consequence of this proceeding, the usual allowances for their maintenance, were, as the Government are aware, stopped by Mr. Phillips since that time and up to April 1860 and the accumulation of debts above mentioned, appears to have arisen during that period and in consequence of such stoppage. The arrears of the allowances which had been so stopped, were, however, afterwards paid by Mr. Phillips in one lump in April 1860, after deducting therefrom the proportion of the assumed value of

the jewels belonging to the other 6 new Bayisahibs, and these outstanding claims might then have been adjusted therefrom by the 8 Ladies; this, however, would appear not to have been done.

No. 4. ORDER THEREON, 4th March 1862, No. 86.

The Government Agent will inform Her Highness Avoo Sahiba through her Agent, that the law does not allow her any exemption from the jurisdiction of the ordinary tribunals of the country, and the Government can therefore grant her none. Should any suits be instituted against her, she must take her own measures for defending herself. She need not of course appear in person, but may employ a Vakeel.

2. Mr. Ballard will make a similar intimation to such of the junior widows of the Rajah as are referred to in paragraph 4 of Mr. Cadell's letter, and will warn them that if they will not take themselves to the allowance made to them by Government, but incur debts, they must take the consequences of their imprudence, and must not expect the interposition of Government in their behalf.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Political Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Government Agent at Tanjore.
(Recd entd 15th Feby 1862 No 47)

Order thereon 4th ~~February~~ March 1862 No 86

The Govt. Agent will inform Her Highness Avoo Sahiba thro' her Agent, that the law does not allow her any exemption from the jurisdiction of the ordinary tribunals of the country, and the Govt. can therefore grant her none. Should any suits be instituted against her she must ~~therefore~~ take her own measures for defending herself. She need not of course appear in person but may employ a Vakeel.

2. Mr Ballard will make a similar intimation to such of the Junior widows of the Rajah as are referred to in para: 4 of Mr Cadell's letter, and will warn them that if they will not limit themselves to the allowance made to them by Govt, but incur debts, they must take the consequences of their imprudence, and must not expect the interposition of Govt. in their behalf.

To the Govt. Agent at Tanjore Despd 4th

23-9-13

10-2-46

Pol. 1862. *Department*

No. 86.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated 4 March 1862

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