

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 308

Press

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Dated

9-12-1913

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
9th October 1863.

No. 22. Read the following Petition:—

TO THE HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS IN COUNCIL, FORT SAINT GEORGE.

&c., &c., &c.
The humble petition of RUTHNAMAH,
widow of VEERASAWMY MOODEL-
LIAR, deceased, Physician of the Carnatic
Sircar, residing at Permal Moodelly Street,
Poodeopakum.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

That petitioner is widow of Veerasawmy Moodelliar, late a Physician in the Carnatic Sircar.
That after her husband's demise, the Sircar conferred a joint pension in the names of peti-
tioner and her only son—the latter having died a premature death, petitioner was sunk in sorrow
not knowing what to do.

That immediately after, petitioner's husband's brothers took advantage of her condition by
an action at Law, setting up a certain family claim—this will be evidenced by the Carnatic Com-
missioner's Office Records, now in Government Agent's Office.

That eventually a Decree was obtained in their favor; and a Warrant was taken out against
petitioner, for non-payment of costs; and she concealed herself for many months to escape arrest.

That subsequently a compromise having been effected, petitioner's husband's brothers *them-
selves* strove to get her the undrawn pension in the Government Agent's Office. The eldest of
them addressed Dr. Balfour for continuance of her pension, and was desired by that Officer to
produce evidence of identification. He having died, one of his brothers attended the Office for
some months, but, unfortunately he too breathed the last; then the next surviving brother acted
as Vakeel, and he also like the others having departed this life before any final decision, petitioner
was thus deprived of all the male members of her family.

That petitioner thereafter sent a cousin of her's as Vakeel; but after a protracted inquiry Dr.
Balfour gave an endorsement A, herein enclosed. The case was then appealed to Major R. S.
Wilson on the ground that petitioner is entitled to continuance of her pension according to *Sir
Charles Trevelyan's Minute, which lays down that, if identification be established and good cause
shown*, the pension can be re-issued. There have been numerous instances in the present Govern-
ment Agent's time, most of which have occurred so far back as 1856.

That as the Government Agent declines* to re-open the case, petitioner humbly craves the
interference of Government in getting her
pension with arrears, as she is quite help-
less. For which act of charity petitioner, as in
duty bound, shall ever pray.

* Vide bottom of page 2, Petition B.

POODEOPAKUM, 20th July 1863.

A.

No. 2829 of 1861.

Petitioner has never left Madras, and now after an interval of several years applies.
Petitioner should have stated her claim within 2 years.
Any stipend that may be her due, lapsed by being left undrawn for two years.

GOVERNMENT AGENT'S OFFICE,
10th August 1861.

(Signed) G. BALFOUR,
Government Agent at Chepauk.

To Ruthnamah.

B.

No. 1877 of 1863.

To
R. S. WILSON, Esq.,
Government Agent at Chepauk.

HONORED SIR,

With due respect and submission, I beg to bring to your honor's notice, that I am the widow
of Veerasawmy Moodelliar who was attached to the Nabob's Sircar as a Physician; subsequent

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to whose death a joint pension was granted in the names of myself and my only son Rajaruthnum Moodelliar, who were in the receipt of the grant for some years; my son having died 4 years ago, I was left quite destitute and sunk in sorrow. In the meanwhile and under such despicable circumstances with no relation who could support me, my husband's brothers commenced a law suit against me, as will be proved by the records of the Carnatic Commissioner's Office, and after a lengthened trial, they having succeeded in getting a Decree in their favor, took out a Warrant of arrest for non-payment of the costs, to escape which, I was under concealment near the residence of Aroonachellum Moodelliar, Interpreter in the Government Solicitor's Office, till such time as a compromise was effected between us.

2. Immediately afterwards I applied to Dr. Balfour, the late Government Agent, through my brother-in-law. That gentleman ordered production of respectable witnesses, which was accordingly done by the evidence of (1) the Proprietor of the Royal Hotel, and (2) a respectable Officer of Her Highness Nabob Kyree-un-Nissa Begum, and (3) Coopoo Row, present Record Officer of your honor's office, and (4) many Carnatic stipendiaries, besides the Mahazur or general petition, the end of all of which was to prove my identity, which if proved, Dr. Balfour said he would issue my stipend. But on the contrary the enclosed endorsement was given, which I send by my Vakeel Andypa Moodelliar.

3. As the above will elucidate to your honor the unsurmountable obstacle which prevented my having applied for re-issue of stipend within two years, I, a poor helpless widow, respectfully solicit your honor will condescend to pity my poor widowed condition, and according to the Minute laid down by Sir Charles Trevelyan order the re-issue of my petty stipend with arrears. For which act of charity, I shall ever pray to the Almighty to confer on you long life and prosperity.

Poonoobak, 25th July 1862.

× Mark of RUTHNAMAH.

This matter has been decided. I decline to re-open it.

28th July 1862.

(Signed) R. S. WILSON.

No. 1,877 of 1863.

Referred to the Agent at Chepauk.

The Government wish to be informed when the petitioner's husband died, whether the petitioner's statement of her having been involved in a law suit and having been in hiding to escape execution of a decree is true, and if so, when this occurred, and when her brothers-in-law applied for her pension, and whether petitioner has ever actually drawn her pension, and what is its amount.

By order,

Fort Saint George,

6th August 1863.

(Signed) W. H. KERR.

Dy. Secy. to Government.

No. 247.

Report called for by Government Endorsement, No. 1,877, dated 6th August 1863, on the Petition of one "Ruthnamah."

I. Petitioner's husband died 19th August 1853.

II. Petitioner, after her husband's death, *was* involved in a law suit, and *was* in hiding to escape execution of a decree.

2. The law suit occurred in October 1853, and petitioner's concealment continued for about three years after that date.

III. Petitioner's brothers-in-law applied (as her Vakeels) for issue of her pension, in September 1860.

IV. Petitioner has never actually drawn her pension.

V. The amount of her pension is Rupees 3-8 per mensem.

The pension originally granted (G. O. No. 230, dated 19th March 1857) was Rupees 7, for petitioner and her son. The son however had died before the grant of pension, though his

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decease, having occurred at a distance from Madras, was not known in this office. The pension having been granted for the support of two persons, half of it lapses on the death of one of them. Petitioner therefore, if she be the person she claims to be, is entitled to a pension of Rupees 3-8 per mensem, with arrears from the date of grant, that is from 1st March 1857 to 31st August 1863, Rupees 273.

GOVERNMENT AGENT'S OFFICE,

11th September 1863.

(Signed) R. S. WILSON,

Government Agent, Chepauk.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George.

No. 23.

ORDER THEREON, 9th October 1863, No. 308.

The Governor in Council is pleased, under the explanation given by Ruthnamah of the cause of the delay in the submission of her claim, and on condition that the Agent satisfies himself of her identity, to authorize the payment to her of her pension of Rupees 3-8 per mensem with arrears from the 1st March 1857.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,

Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

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