Political (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 479

Dated 22nd July 1895.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

V.RY. KRISHNASWAMI MAHADIK RAO SAHIB OF TANJORE

Referring --, with reference to his petition praying that the sum of Rupees 30-1-0 which has been withheld may be paid to him as a pension, to the previous orders in his case, and informing him that further petitions on the subject will receive no notice.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O	No.	Department.	Date.

ORIGINAL No. 871

(1895) DEPARTMENT.

From C. J. Rae Cartledge I.C.S.

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE

RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR,

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY

TO GOVERNMENT,

CHIEF SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

3 JUL 1895

Dated 2nd July 1895.

Received

Rep 247

ENCLOSURE 2.

Subject.

TRANSFERS a petition from V. Rg. Krishnasami Venkadik Rao Sahib, forwarding a memorial addressed to His Excellency the Governor and praying that Rs 30-4-0, which has been withheld, may be ordered to be paid to him as a pension and arrangements may be made for the liquidation of his debts.

M.O. written to 5/7.

G.O. 469 5-5-86 Mis Ryts

Circ WS

Complete to see Rep 247

Is Money Order?

469: 5-5-86.
533: 7-8-85 S.C.
1245: 20-2-85 S.C.
340: 28-6-78 S.C.
233: 27-4-78 S.C.
705: 5-12-59 S.C.
912: 6-10-86.
~~369~~ 369: 28-5-88.
973: 5-11-86
Circ 469. Lodged 10/5/90.

H.E. the Governor.

Mis

Order dy 22nd July 1895 No 479

The petitioner is referred to previous orders in his case which are final. Further petitions on the subject will receive no notice

C.S.
14-7-95

ORDERED 21/7/95

27 JUL 95

The petitioner (2) in Mis appeal to 247

Note Please see G.O. 369/28-5-88 + the note thereon

C.S.
14-7

Petition from V. Ry. Kristnasamie Mahadik Rao Saheb, Tanjore Fort.

Dated 1st July 1895.

Transferred to the Chief Secretary to Government for disposal.

(By Order.)

Private Secretary.

Government House,
Ootacamund.
2nd July 1895.

C.S. Dish no 2 -

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD WENLOCK, GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Fort Saint George.

The humble memorial of V. Ry. Kristnasamy Mahadik Row Saheb, Consort of the late S. Brahannayaki Boyi Amnee Saheb, Niece of Rajah Sivajee and grand-daughter, by his Dowager Ranee, of Rajah Serfojee, a faithful friend and ally of the British Government.

My Lord,

I beg with due respect to lay my hard case before Your Lordship with the confidence of obtaining relief happening to know Your Lordship's sentiments, expressed in Your Lordship's speech, delivered on the occasion of an address of welcome by a deputation from the Madras Mahajana Sabha, on the 10th March 1891, in which Your Lordship assures that Your Lordship would do the best Your Lordship could for the classes and communities in this country and that Your Lordship would spare no efforts to bring about anything that might improve the condition of those around Your Lordship.

RAGHOJI MAHADIK.

- Mama Saheb (Senior).
  - Tiyagaraja Mahadik.
    - H. H. Pudma Boyi Saheb (married Rajah Sivajee).
  - Nagumma Amnee.
    - H. H. Jijamba Boyi Saheb (married Rajah Sivajee).
- Mama Saheb (Junior) (married great grand-daughter of RAJAH BAVA SAHEB VI).
  - Govindasami Mahadik.
    - H. H. Kamatchi-amba Boyi Saheb (married Rajah Sivajee).
  - Gopalasami Mahadik.
  - Mathusami Mahadik.
    - V. Ry. Kristna. sami Mahadik Row Saheb (Memorialist).
- Sulutchana Boyi (married RAJAH TULJAJI IX).
  - RAJAH SERFOJEE XI.
    - Yemuna Boyi Saheb (Senior Ranee).
      - Rajumma Boyi Amnee Raja Saheb.
        - S. Brahannayaki Boyi Amnee Sheb (Memorialist's wife).
    - Ahilya Boyi Saheb (Junior Ranee).
      - RAJAH SIVAJEE XII.
      - Sulutchana Boyi Amnee Raja Saheb.
        - H. H. Sythumba Boyi Saheb (married Rajah Sivajee).

2. I beg with due submission to state that as to my ancestry, and my relationship with the several Rajahs and Ranees of Tanjore, the genealogical table, *ut supra*, will speak for me better than I can do for myself, as it does not become me, My Lord, to blow my own trumpet, that the late Rajah maintained me in great affluence, dignity and comfort and his treatment towards me was similar to that accorded to his nephews and his son-in-law, Ry. Sukharam Sahib, that it was we that formed the late Rajah's immediate retinue on all important occasions, that the

allowances to our family under different denominations were nearly as much as were granted to the said personages, say, about Rs 300 per mensem, to prove which there are records still available in the Government Agency Office. Whereas Mr. Phillips, an officer commissioned to settle our Raj, has apportioned only Rs. 121 to our family. Under what hypothesis he got hold of this figure God knows. However, it has become a thing of the past; and man is liable to err. With all that he has done us great good by granting the said sum of Rs. 121 to our family conjointly, in the name of my wife, as the chief member of the family. Nevertheless, it is to be regretted, that after my wife's death, which occurred on the 18th November 1877, one half of even that small grant of Rs 121 was ordered to be conferred upon my three sons in equal shares viewing them as the second generation and leaving me quite in the cold. Then I had no other alternative than to humbly apply to the authorities for a reconsideration of my case. But all my efforts were fruitless for more than half a dozen years. Subsequently in 1885 the then Political Agent, having kindly weighed the soundness of my arguments, supported by our worthy Serkele, recommended my case to Government and they sanctioned only a fourth of the said sum of Rs. 121, reserving the other fourth, *i. e.* Rs. 30-4-0, the grant of which I now respectfully solicit more as a matter of grace than as a matter of right.

3 I beg now with Your Lordship's permission to verify that the pension of Rs. 121, when originally granted, was in all probability intended by Mr. Phillips to our family collectively and not to my wife individually. In other words it was meant for the support of my wife, myself and my children as long as all or one of us should survive. My Lord, I submit that in the List, as per margin, of Mr. Phillips, in which my wife, myself and my children are ranked as 6th in one Line, Your Lordship will observe that all have got separate pensions save myself. Why? Because Rs. 121 given to my wife is by implication for me also. Supposing it is not so, what should he (Mr. Phillips) have done? He must have placed me somewhere in the above list setting some figure, which he thought fit, opposite to my name. Moreover there are separate pensions to the Rajah's daughter (4th) and her husband (7th); why were the Rajah's niece (6th) and her husband (myself 6th) not allowed the same privilege? Children of ladies of the Rajah's Seraglio have pensions even during their mother's

List A.—of the immediate members of the family of Sivajee, late Rajah of Tanjore.

	Names.	Amount of pension per mensem.	Remarks.
1.	The mother of the late Rajah ...	1,400	Died.
2.	His Senior Ranee ...	1,000	Died.
3.	His Junior Ranees, each ...	800	Only 7 out of 17 are alive.
4.	His daughter ...	3,000	Died.
5.	His 2 Sisters, each ...	282	Both died.
6.	His niece, her husband and children A. B. ...	121 683	A—My wife (died) B—Myself (Petitioner) Now receives 1,500.
7.	His son-in-law ...	260	All died.
8.	His 3 nephews, each ...	150	Only 12 out of 42 ladies survive.
9.	Rajah Sivajee's Seraglio, each female ...		
10.	Rajah Serfojee's Seraglio 15 persons ...	2,460	All died.
11.	The family of Tukkojee a former Rajah of Tanjore ...	300	The case of this family bears analogy, for the most part, to that of the Petitioner.

lifetime; why were my children lost sight of? Furthermore my father as well as my brother (belonging to List B of Rajah's other relations) had individual pension granted them; why was I not taken along with them in the List B at least? My Lord, I therefore submit that that pension, to be sure, was meant for our family collectively and that our case is somewhat similar to that of Sukhwar Boyi Amnee (No. 11) belonging to the family of Tukkoji a former Rajah of Tanjore.

4. I beg here Your Lordship's pardon for the free expression of my thoughts, for, liberty of conscience is the noble right of man; and that is the local representative of Her Majesty's Government, Political Agent as he is called, under whose presidency Government have placed us, upon whose favour or frown our prospects depend and for whose fair representation Government look for, does not like to transmit our petition of grievances to Government, if he sees that it has once been disposed of by them, and thus prevents me, so to speak, from endeavouring to have my tale of sorrow and suffering listened to by the impartial Government who, blessed they be, have given us license to fight for justice. I submit that I appealed from time to time to Government, through the then Government Agents, for the redress of my grievances and that one of the Agents treated my petition with unconcern, another swept out all my privileges with a stroke of his pen, a third pooh-poohed and ignored my petition and a fourth washed the matter off his hands saying that I should not moot the matter again. My Lord, that my memorials should receive such scant courtesy at the hands of the local representatives of the benign British Government who, it is well known throughout the length and breadth of the country, have at heart the comfort and contentment of the relations and dependents of the fallen Royal Dynasties, is I fancy to be attributed more to my misfortune than anything else.

5. I beg further to submit that the abovesaid last decision, communicated in July 1890, by the then Political Agent, viz, that I should not moot the matter again, discouraged me to a certain extent and the consequence was, that it occurred to me, that I should try to manage within the handful of money fallen to my lot and I did try my utmost accordingly for four consecutive years. But with no avail. Why? Being highborn and highbred and having all along, that is until the demise of my wife, led a life in a princely style, hence having been accustomed only to comforts of life it has been impossible for me to succeed in my attempt. Nay, my indebtedness, which will be accounted for further on, and my costly living, as the prices of victuals nowadays are high, also come across my attempts. || My Lord, I am therefore under the painful necessity of reopening the subject of my grievances although I know that my case has already been finally disposed of. But let it not be for a moment supposed that I am unnecessarily importuning Government. My Lord, I lay myself at the mercy of Government for these reasons, to wit, that the object of the arrangement as well as of the allotment of Mr. Phillips, so far as our family is concerned, was not in my humble opinion well pondered upon by the authorities, nor were they inquisitive enough to ascertain who I am and how far my cries are deserving of consideration and whether or not there are records to substantiate my statement. ||

6. I beg humbly to add that my income being quite inadequate and incompatible with my mode of life and rank and having had other extra expenses that pressed hard upon me, such as childbirth, marriages, nuptials, &c. &c., I was

obliged to turn my attention towards the gradual disposal of my property, consisting of lands, buildings, jewels and other valuables, cattle, conveyances &c. &c, worth about a lakh of Rupees. After the whole property was exhausted, I was compelled by necessity to raise loans, from time to time, which by degrees, now amount to 5000 Rs., exclusive of interest, and my creditors, being famaliar with my status in life, during the late Rajah's time, and having golden dreams of my future, being under the impression that Government would one day or other better my condition in life, neither hesitated to lend me money whenever demanded, nor did they press me for their dues. It is only since of late that they have been losing their patience in the matter and that in consequence I have been urged the more to humbly call upon the generous Government for favour of a propitious glance at the tragic circumstances, which can be better imagined than described, of one who has been degraded from a princely to a plebian state and who has been kept aloof from commanding comfort and respectability which Her Majesty desired that we should enjoy.—Vide Despatch from the Secretary of State for India, dated 23rd October 1862 para 2—My Lord, had it not been for my indebtedness, had it not been for that fixed indigency in which I have been dragging my wretched existence and had it not been for the withholding of the grant of Rs. 30-4-0, which forms the complement as it were of Rs. 121, and which I justly and reasonably deserve, I would not, I assure Your Lordship, have ventured to submit this petition being sensible that the authorities have already left me adrift by making a disposal on my former petitions in an unrelenting manner.

7. I beg with due reverence to set forth for the information of Your Lordship my past and present condition in life, as briefly as possible, for, I have already tired Your Lordship's patience with the foregoing facts of my case. I submit that during the life time of Rajah Sivajee I was in my prime of life, when I was fed sumptuously, clothed richly, furnished with jewelry, supplied with cattle and conveyances, together with fodder and forage therefor, the Physician, who attended on me when sick, was remunerated, the establishment of my servants was paid for, to be brief, my well-being was looked upon with gladness and my ill-being with sadness. This being the case, is it reasonable for one to think that our family was entitled only for Rs. 121 a month? While a servant of the Rajah had a monthly pension of Rs. 150 granted him, while a concubine of the Rajah got a pension of Rs. 150 monthly, while an offspring of Rajah Serfojee's Seraglio pensioned Rs. 445 once a month, can any one suppose that a niece of the late Rajah, nay, the grand-daughter of Rajah Serfojee, by his Dowager Ranee, deserved only Rs. 121? While thus we were tasting the bitter fruits of Mr. Phillips' arrangement, even that sum was curtailed, as aforesaid, subsequent to my wife's decease. Now, my Lord, at this declining age of mine, when I have to enjoy ease and comfort, I have been undergoing hardship. In short, I submit that I have been devoid of even the necessaries of life in the place of luxuries of life I once had. Things being so, I beg leave to ask whether it is just and proper that the proposal of the then Governor-General in Council should be overlooked, namely, "That the Government of Madras will provide that no person of the Rajah's family shall be placed in a worse condition, so far as stipend can secure this, than heretofore."—Vide letter from the Government of India to the Government of Madras, dated 8th September 1856, No. 4,644, para 11.—My Lord, allow me to rehearse that it has been noted down, in para 14 of the letter above quoted, that "The heirs and relations of Tanjore pensioners will know exactly what to expect and will see before

them the time when they must take their place amongst the people of India and rely upon their own exertions." My Lord, I submit that this is a warning intended to my heirs and relations, whereas, I am afraid, that it will affect me, sooner or later, just when I am on my way to the grave. My Lord, I therefore entertain a sanguine hope that during the short time that I am to live I will be enabled to live consistently with my rank and dignity.

8. I beg in conclusion to respectfully state that the fact, that it was only during the time of Rajah Serfojee, my grand-father-in-law, that a permanent footing was secured in Tanjore by the British nation to whom the said Rajah voluntarily entrusted the administration of the revenues of Tanjore, agreeing to receive one fifth of the net revenues, under the Treaty of 1799, the fact that assurances were made, sometime after the death of Rajah Sivajee, by Her Majesty's representatives, in their correspondence, connected with the Tanjore Royal House, in respect of dealing with kindness and liberality with the royal relations in general, and with those forming part and parcel of the Rajah's household in particular, and the fact, that the sum total of the monthly income, during the late Rajah's time was about Rs. 85,000, which, after his decease, under Mr. Phillips' settlement, was reduced to Rs. 45,000, and which again, by casualties from year to year, has for the present dwindled down to nearly Rs. 15,000, have to be borne in mind in granting my entreaties, namely, to have the grace to order the grant of the fourth part of Rs. 121, which has been withheld, so that the object of Mr. Phillips' arrangement may be carried out, and arrange for the liquidation of my debts, which stands at the bottom of all evil consequences, such as loss of honour, respect, comfort, and what not, so that to relieve a Royal Blood from subjecting himself to the evil effects of debts. My Lord, what I pray for is nothing but a drop in the ocean of saving that has been effected since the demise of Rajah Sivajee with whom ended the Tanjore Raj, in whose name we earn our bread, and whom the British nation have succeeded taking upon themselves the responsibility to shield and shelter his kith and kin.

With my prayers to the Almighty God for Your Lordship's long life and prosperity,

I beg leave to Remain,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient Servant.

Tanjore
1st July 1895

"The National Press" TANJORE.

Enc: Jud
No 63.

Sirkeli's office, Tanjore
despatched 8th May 1895.

From

K. Govinda Rau
Sirkeli Government Agency
Tanjore.

To V. Ry. Krishnasami Mahadik
Rao Sahib
Tanjore.

Sir,

With reference to your petition to the Government Agent dated 8th December 1894 I have the honor to inform you that he has passed the following endorsement "I find it impossible to move in the matter in the way petitioners desires. The matter has been under consideration several times with the same result."

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

/Signed/ K. Govinda Rau
Sirkele.

(True Copy)

1/7/95

1895
Polit. Dept.
Enclos. No. 1
To
C. No. 891

Tanjore Fort

1st July 1895

From

V. Ry. Thistnasami Mahadek
Rao Saheb, Consort of the late
S. Brahamayaki Boyi Ammal
Saheb, Niece of His Highness
the late Sivaji Maharajah of
Tanjore.

To

The Private Secretary
to His Excellency the Governor
of Madras. Coldacamund.

Sir,

I beg to forward herewith a Memorial to His Excellency and request you will be good enough to perure the same and represent my poor case to His Excellency in the way it deserves.

I beg to inform you that I requested the Government Agent to submit the said Memorial to His Excellency, all our correspondence having as a matter of form to pass through him. But he refrains from doing so because he says, in his endorsement & communicated to me through the Sirkele Government Agency,

& Vide, the enclosed letter Dis 63 of the 8th May 1895.

that "the matter has been under consideration several times with the same result". Permit me to allege that had the matter been properly considered it would not have met with the same result — nor would I have ventured to press the authorities with solicitations; please note the last lines of paras 5 and 6 in the accompanying memorial.

I therefore humbly hope and trust that the Government of Madras, impartial and benignant as they are, will not allow my just & Memorial, which merits special recognition at their hands, to subject itself to the same fate and will not deny me justice. Here it behoves me to say that instances are not few to show that his Excellency the Right Honourable Lord Wenlock has always been anxious that his administration should be characterised by justice, truth and advancement.

I shall be highly thankful to you if you will kindly obtain relief for me, for which I am entitled, by arranging to have my memorial favourably considered.

Begging to be excused for the intrusion;

I remain
Sir
Your most obd.t Servt.

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed
} 189

READ AGAIN G.O., No. DATED
189 ,

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	A A A A A A A
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.	
STATEMENT WITH DITTO.	
PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.	

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only