

1871

REVENUE

MS. Goro 1341 REVENUE 5-8-1871

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th August 1871.*

No. 35. Read the following letter from Rajah VELUGOTI KUMARA YATCHAMA NAIDU BAHADUR, C.S.I., Punch Hazar Mansubdar, Rajah of Vencatagherry, to His Excellency the Right Honourable Lord FRANCIS NAPIER BARON NAPIER, K.T., Governor of Madras, etc., etc., dated Vencatagherry, 26th July 1871:—

I much regret to learn from the Proceedings of the Government, dated 15th instant, that I am refusing to commit my son, whom I gave in adoption to the Rancee of Bobbili, to her care.

2. Had my explanation on the subject in question been received as soon as the complaint was lodged with you, your Lordship would have been able to see the justice on both sides. I am not a little sorry to see that no such chance has befallen me.

3. Part of my explanation is afforded in my letter to the Collector, dated 9th instant, in reply to his of the 7th idem, touching the subject. But as your Lordship had not the opportunity to peruse that letter at least, I here bring to your favourable notice the main points. I beg that your Lordship will kindly excuse the trouble thus given.

4. I gave my son in adoption to the Rancee of Bobbili not with a view to appropriate to myself the Rancee's property, but as a favour, inasmuch as the Rancee is of the same family as I am, and considered it a blessing to her State to have adopted my son, and thus have a patron.

5. It is easily understood that it is totally futile for the adopted son to remain with his natural father.

6. As it is unavoidable that the adopted son should sometime or other go to Bobbili, there can be no reason for me, who have more regard for his welfare, to oppose his proceeding, while I think it safe to him, and advancing his interests, to join the Bobbili people with good understanding.

7. At the commencement the Vakeel, Sreenivasarao, came to me on behalf of the Bobbili Rancee, and requested me to give in adoption my third son to her. But I did not grant his request, seeing that I should have to part with my son and send him to a distant place, while he is so young. But after some time the said Vakeel called on me again, and informed me in the presence of Joopalli Dharma-nayaungar and my Dewan that the Dewan of the Bobbili Rancee would come and make himself familiar with the boy asked for, and then I agreed to his proposal and sent a memorandum to the Rancee, informing her that I had much pleasure in giving my son to the Rancee, seeing that the Dewan promised to come with the requisite retinue, and make himself familiar with the child, and take him to Bobbili. In reply, I was informed that my letter had been received through the Vakeel Sreenivasarao, and that it had been thought fit that the Rancee, together with the Dewan and others, should start thence for the intended purpose. The very fact the Rancee expressed her desire to come to this place, and to make herself acquainted with the boy, though I had required the Dewan only to come here to get into an acquaintance with him, shows that she had agreed to take the child.

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with her after cultivating a thorough acquaintance and disabusing the child of his shyness. Accordingly they both came here and made preparations to adopt my son. On sending word to her Dewan, through Tankasala Kristniah and Bandarupalli Bhairava Sastri, that she might at first get herself familiarized with the boy, and then adopt and take him to her State, she said in reply, through her Dewan, that she would take the boy with her, only after cultivating a thorough acquaintance with him, but that no time should be lost in celebrating the ceremony of adoption, stating that Palgunamasam (month) being the last month of the year, and the month next to that being Chytrai, and that Vysokhamasam being marked by Kattira, and Jestam by Gooru Moodham, and Ashadhamasam being Soonia Masam, are considered unfavourable to any happy celebrations as the adoption, and therefore insisted upon a speedy celebration, fixing the 11th day of Ashadha Sudham for it. So the ceremony of adoption was performed. I was also trying my best frankly to make my son familiar with the Ranee, taking him to her for his meals, etc., considering that it would be safe that he should so become quite familiar with her. It can be clearly understood from her letter to me that I have been trying all the possible means to send him with her. From Mr. Modavaram Vencatasamy Naidu's letter to me it is clear that, during his conversation at Madras with the Dewan of Bobbili, the Dewan earnestly expressed his desire to acquaint himself with the boy, and then take him to Bobbili, and that he did not wish to be hasty in the matter, and that he highly regretted that, though it is long since they arrived at Vencatagherri, unforeseen accidents, such as the prevalence of cholera, thwarted their designs, and that I laid no obstacles in the way.

8. I can say that my son has slightly become familiar with the Ranee through my own exertions; but unfortunately he had an attack of "measles" and "looseness of bowels," and consequently he became very weak, and these are well known to the Ranee and her Dewan. Notwithstanding this, thinking that the rainy season was approaching, and that therefore no delay was to be made, I made up arrangements with them to the effect that I should send the young Rajah with the adoptive mother, and follow him as far as Naidupett, and that the Ranee should see for two or three stages if he could comfortably and with ease be taken, and that if she could not meet his convenience and comfort, she should be pleased to send him back to Vencatagherri, that I might send him sometime afterwards. I held a conversation on the subject with the Bobbili Dewan in the presence of the Deputy-Collector, who had then come here on his tour of inspection, and the Dewan has told me that my arrangements were good, and that there could be no benefit in taking the child, if he should even then be averse to his going to Bobbili.

9. An auspicious day was fixed and arrangements were made for the journey. I made over to the Ranee the cloths, ornaments, the elephant, horses, and their silver ornaments, which I presented to my son, and they are even now with her. I wrote a letter to the Ranee requesting the necessary and ordinary clothes, etc., to be sent; but she misconstrued its contents and wrote to me, in answer, a letter rejecting my request; this may suffice to show that she is still in possession of the property aforesaid.

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10. From the foregoing circumstances your Lordship will be clearly convinced that I made all the necessary preparations for sending my son, but threw no obstacles in the way.

11. While I have thus fixed the 22nd of June as the day of the journey, and made the necessary preparations for it, and sent part of the luggage to Naidupett, I received, on 2nd sudden, a letter from the Ranee, Naidupett, on the 20th, informing me of the prevalence of cholera there in the village of Yakasiri, and I thereupon sent the very letter to the Ranee, and resolved to send them through Cada-goontah and Gudur, but unfortunately I received, at 12 o'clock of the same night, intelligence as to the prevalence of the cholera in this direction also in the villages of Candali, Chemidide, Tippavarappad, and Chennai. These being the only two roads I acquainted the Ranee with the state of things, and having requested her to postpone the journey, till things should get better, she was much displeased, and using harsh words went away abruptly.

12. Concealing the truth of the case the Ranee spreads the report that I opposed the proceeding of her adopted son with her. When the Deputy-Collector had come here, having been sent down by the Collector to speak on the subject, he saw the aforesaid communications. There is no objection on my part to send my son as early as possible to Bobbili. But after the departure of the Ranee the boy had one day stomach ache, looseness of bowels, vomittings, and an attack of fever for three successive days, and he felt doubly weak, having previously had measles. Had this occurred on his way, he would doubtless have suffered much. I have also informed the Collector that the present state of the bodily health of my child might be ascertained from the Doctor.

13. Although the arrangements made for the welfare of the children are not based on their inclinations, in certain cases their mothers are made to accompany them, when they are sent afar for the sake of education. I am not in a position to do so; but, however, as I see that he is physically weak, and as it would be dangerous for him to change the climate at present, I should like to keep him with me for a year at least, and improve his health, and then send him to Bobbili, with the necessary people. It ought not to be considered that I am not able to provide for his education during this short interval.

14. From these circumstances your Lordship will clearly see that I am in no way indisposed to commit the child to the care of the Ranee, and that I was quite inclined, and shall always be inclined to do so. I should deem it a great misfortune on my part if the Government who govern my State, as well as the Ranee's with equal justice, should consider it wrong of me to wish to keep my son with me for a year, when they peruse this letter and see the grounds for his not being sent.

15. While it is natural for those possessed of physical strength and mature in years to have a particular liking to their native country in a weak state, I trust that your Lordship will not consider that my request on the subject is unjust, and that the obstinate claim of the Ranee in urging to send at once her adopted son, whose short absence is in no way prejudicial to her interests, is just.

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5th August 1871.*

No. 36.

ORDER THEREON, 5th August 1871, No. 1,341.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government accept the assurance of the Rajah of Vencatagherry, that he is sincerely desirous of sending his son to his adoptive mother without unnecessary delay; but with every consideration due to the feelings and wishes of the Rajah, they are unable to recognize that the proposed postponement of the departure of the boy to his future home for so long a period as a year, is either necessary or reasonable.

2. The Rance of Bobbili has by adoption placed the Rajah's son in a most intimate relation to herself, and in a highly advantageous position, and she is entitled to expect that no avoidable hindrance to his assumption of that position shall be offered.

3. The Government are of opinion that the earliest opportunity, consistent with due regard to his health, should be sought for his joining the Rance.

4. The Collector of Nellore will convey this expression of the views of Government to the Rajah.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. DEC. SCOTT, Captain, R.E.,
Under-Secy., P.W.D.,
for Secy. to Govt.

To the Collector of Nellore.
,, the Board of Revenue.

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[The page contains dense handwritten Devanagari script, which appears to be bleed-through from the reverse side of the leaf.]

Handwritten text in Devanagari script, likely from a manuscript.

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय ॥ श्रीकृष्णाय नमः ॥
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 शिष्यं त्वत्पुत्रं त्वया मे वक्ष्यसे ॥ कुरुक्षेत्रे
 युद्धे मया दृष्टं त्वत्पुत्रं धर्मधरात्मजम् ॥
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PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 5th August 1871.

Read the following letter from the

H. E. 26th July 1871.

Submitting explanation relative to the proposed postponement of the departure of his son to the Prince of Bobbili, his adopted mother.

accept the assurance of — that he

The Govt. ^{accept the} ~~assurance of~~ ^{is willing} ~~to believe that~~ the Rajah of Venkatagiri is sincerely desirous of sending his son to his adoptive without unnecessary

with every consideration due to the feelings & wishes of the Rajah they are unable to recognize that the

~~The~~ proposed postponement of ~~his~~ departure to his future home ^{for a period of} ~~for a year~~



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35-36

சென்னை அரசாங்கம்
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2. The Rani of Bobbili
has by adoption placed the
Rajah's son in a most
intimate relation to herself,
and in a highly advan-
-taged position, and she
is entitled to expect that
no avoidable hindrance
to his assumption of that
position shall be offered.

3. The Gov^t are of
the opinion that ^{the} ~~a very~~ earliest
consultation with the Rani and the
Rajah should be sought

for the purpose of the
Rani.

4. The Collector of Nellore

will convey this expression
of the views of Gov^t to the
Rajah.

L.A.

To the Collector of Nellore & District
the Board of Revenue & District

Sep 1886

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Departure of the 6th
Hapels on 1st to the north
The town of Belmuth

Chapman
100

MA/16