

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st February 1871.*

No. 252. Read the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 23rd January 1871:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tanjore, to the Acting Secretary to the Court of Wards, dated Tanjore, 2nd December 1870, No. 441:—

I HAVE the honour to submit the report called for in Government Order, dated 28th October 1870, No. 1,655, having just had a personal interview and a long conversation with the proprietrix of the Kapistalum estate.

2. The widow of the late Kapistalum Muppanar is stated to be twenty-two years of age, but she looks fully thirty. In the course of the conversation I have had with her, I have come to the conclusion that, so far as an uneducated native female is capable of managing a large estate, she is qualified to do so. She seems to be a particularly intelligent woman, and to know what are the evils which a female manager of a large estate in her position ought carefully to guard against.

3. It will perhaps be considered that the opinion which I am now expressing does not accord with my former recommendation that this estate should be taken under the charge of the Court of Wards, but the circumstances under which I submitted that recommendation were very peculiar.

4. In consequence of the late proprietor having become insane, the estate was placed under my charge by the Civil Court under the provisions of Act XXXV. of 1858. A very few days after this had been done, the Muppanar committed suicide most suddenly; thus leaving his property, both movable and immovable, which was very considerable, in a state of the greatest confusion, and amidst a circle of hungry relatives and servants. Had I then made over charge of the whole estate to his young son, half-dead as she was by the severe blow which she had received by the sudden death of her husband, it would have afforded a wide opening for a general plunder. Indeed, the character of her mother-in-law, which is well known to the Court of Wards, was alone a sufficient warning against my doing so under the then existing circumstances.

6. Now, however, everything is different, and has been placed in complete order, and no one knows this better than the widow herself. The more valuable portion of the movable property, which, in pursuance with the commission of the Civil Court, had been promptly secured, sealed up, and placed by me under a strong Police guard, has been catalogued and removed to the Huzur Treasury for safe custody; such goods and chattels as were deteriorating have been disposed of to the best advantage; the unwieldy establishment of servants and agents which the late proprietor had, during his madness, very largely increased, has been reduced and placed on an efficient footing; and with regard to the landed property, an improved system of management has been introduced.

7. Under these circumstances I think the Kapistalum estate may now be handed over to the proprietrix with every chance of her managing it in an efficient manner, and I beg to recommend that such a course be adopted.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to Government Order, 23th October 1870, No. 1,655.

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21st February 1871.

2. As the state of confusion in which the estate was left by the sudden death of the Muppanar, which was the chief reason for taking charge of it, has now ceased, and as the widow is intelligent, and seems to be capable of managing the estate, the Court resolve to recommend to Government that the estate be handed over to her.

No. 253. ORDER THEREON, 21st February 1871, No. 329.

Miscellaneous.

UNDER the circumstances stated by the Collector, the Government authorize the Court of Wards to direct the release of the Kapistalum estate to the widow of the late proprietor as his next heir and competent for its management.

(True Extract.)

695.
Secretary to Government.

To the Court of Wards,
,, the Accountant-General.

10-11-26
22-11-27

24

22-11-26
695-3-71

15-11-26
20-8-26
6-12-35-11

Code of 118713

REVENUE.

THE COURT OF WARDS.

Sec. Sec. Sec.

Dated February 21st 1871

Recd. 22nd

G. O., 21st February 1871, No. 329.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 252-253.

Kapistalam estate in Tanjore District—
Court of Wards directed to release it to the widow
of the late proprietor as the best heir competent
for its management.

Page 4

Revenue Department.

No. 329.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 21st Feb. 1871.

Read the following letter Pro: of

The Board of Revenue

Recommending to make
over Kapistalam estate in
Tanjore District to widow
of late proprietor.

(H.E. 23rd January 1871)

Under the cir-

cumstances stated by
the Collector, the Go-
vernment authorize the

Court of Wards to
direct the release of
the Kapistalam estate
to the widow of the
late proprietor— as

See

695-3-71
11-3-1871

her next heir and
competent for its man-
agement.

A.D.

14 To the Court of Wards Dec. 21 Feb
b. The Accountant General Dec. 23 Feb

This is surely all
wrong! Is not the
next heir a child
the daughter of
the gentleman who
committed suicide
and of this lady
his widow. The
widow cannot be
manager or guardian
for her daughter.
If the estate is given
into the sole charge
of this widow to the
exclusion of the
previous widow her
mother in law, the
Collectors should be
directed that an
amiable arrangement
should be made for the
subsistence & maintenance
of the mother in law
who remains there.

S. J. H. B.

to make the sum
aid of the lawyers.

N.

Not by Rev. Sec. action
Remarks.

By Hindu law a widow
succeeds to her husband's
property before a daughter.
L. K.

Handwritten notes in the left margin:
Hewetson's
letter to the
Collector of South Arcot
dated 15th February 1871
over the Board of Revenue
for the purpose of
obtaining a copy of the
letter.

Handwritten note in the left margin:
On 21 Feb 1871. No. 252

Handwritten signature:
W. Hudleston

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st February 1871.*

No. 254. Read the following letter from the Collector of South Arcot, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Killay, 15th February 1871, No. 15:—

In reference to the Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, under date 16th January, No. 80, with orders thereon of the same date, I have the honour to submit copies of the correspondence therein called for.

No. 255. ORDER THEREON, 21st February 1871, No. 330.

Miscellaneous.

THE sick leave granted to Mr. Hewetson, Deputy-Collector of South Arcot, under date 18th October 1870, is extended retrospectively to 1st September 1870, on which date that officer came under medical treatment. The Government authorize the Accountant-General to pass Mr. Hewetson's pay for the interval from 16th August 1870, when the Collector relieved him of his duties, to 1st September.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of South Arcot.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Handwritten note at the bottom left:
228 Jan 71 R 30 Feb 71 R 17 22