

(1) Number of pages 16.

(2) Date of repair 9. 5. 72.

(3) Initials of the Referencer \_\_\_\_\_

# TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

*Revenue* DEPARTMENT

|          |            |       |
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| G.O. No. | 921        | Press |
| B.P. No. |            | Mis.  |
| Dated    | 3. 3. 1877 | 197   |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
3rd March 1877.*

No. 124. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th February 1877, No. 605:—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 16th December 1876, No. 3,195.

Read also the following letter from R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 6th January 1877, No. 26:—

In reply to Board's Proceedings, dated December 16th, 1876, No. 3,195, I have the honor to state that, in my opinion, the management of the Bobbili Estate should be left, as at present, in the hands of the Rani. This course was adopted on my recommendation in 1870, when the adoption of the present minor was contemplated. The Government then passed an order to the effect that the Rani might continue to manage the estate as long as she did so satisfactorily and conformed to the views of the Collector and Government with regard to the education of the minor. Nothing has occurred since to lead me to alter my opinion. It is true that the Diwan has since died, but he has been succeeded by a man who has, on former occasions, acted in that capacity during the temporary absence of the deceased Diwan. The estate is particularly well-managed, and I do not see why some of the credit of this good management should not be given to the Rani. Should there be any mismanagement in time to come it will be open to Government, as it always has been, to step in and protect the interests of the minor. From the above it will be seen that I differ from Mr. Goodrich in this matter, although I entirely agree with him in thinking that, if the course I now recommend be not adopted, the only alternative would be to place a Covenanted officer of some standing in direct charge of the estate.

2. With regard to the education of the minor, I ascertained from the Rani, with whom I yesterday had an interview, that she would much prefer having an English private tutor for the education of her son. She is willing to pay him a salary of Rupees 500 per mensem should a suitable person be procurable. As the estate can well afford it, I see no reason why her wishes should not be consulted on this subject. The minor might from time to time visit Waltair. The Rani, like other mothers with an only son, objects to his going to reside at a distance from her. I have had a private communication from the Rajah of Venkatagerry, the minor's natural father, to the same effect. I am much pleased with what I have seen of the minor. He has benefited by the teaching of his tutor, and is a manly boy with considerable character.

3. The companionship of a gentleman of active habits is what will best complete his education. It is more important that he should learn to speak English like a gentleman (not the maty-boy English and corresponding manners which seem to be so often acquired), and know how to behave himself in the society of his equals and of Europeans, than that he should acquire a knowledge of certain facts in history and geography to be forgotten as soon as he becomes his own master. In the selection, therefore, of his private tutor a gentlemanly position and active habits should be more regarded than scholastic acquirements.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 to 3.—Petitions.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.—Letter from Rani with translation.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
3rd March 1877.*

In their Order, dated 7th August last, No. 1,049, Government decided not to interfere in the management of the Bobbili Estate, but directed the Court of Wards to procure from the Collector a statement from his personal knowledge of the acquirements and disposition of the young chief; a change in the method of the minor's education was also to be courteously suggested to the Rani.

2. The death of the Diwan of the Bobbili Estate occurred a few days after the Order was passed, and Mr. Goodrich, the Acting Collector, in laying before Government, through the Board, the Rani's wishes as to the future management of the estate, replied to the Government Order read above. The Rani wished to be left quite unfettered in the management of her estate, whilst Mr. Goodrich recommended that the Court of Wards should administer it, a Special Assistant being appointed to the charge of the Bobbili and Salur Estates, which would form a compact division. Meanwhile the Rani had addressed the Court by telegram, and the consideration of the above proposals was deferred pending receipt of her representations and an expression of opinion by the Rajah of Pittapur, with whom the Collector of the Godavery District was directed to communicate on the subject.

3. In the petitions subsequently received from the Rani she strongly deprecated any interference with the administration of her estate, which she declared herself perfectly competent to manage without assistance, and strongly objected to her adopted son being removed from the district, but expressed herself willing to appoint a European tutor and to permit the minor to reside occasionally at Waltair. The Court thought it desirable to consult Mr. Melville on the subject before addressing Government; he is of opinion that the estate should be left in the hands of the Rani as at present, the management being perfectly satisfactory. With regard to the minor's education, the Rani is desirous that an English private tutor should be selected, a salary of Rupees 500 per mensem being offered. The minor is described as a manly boy with considerable character, but is kept too secluded by his mother.

4. The Court concur in Mr. Melville's opinion that their intervention is not necessary under existing circumstances; should it become so hereafter, action can be taken. The selection of a tutor is a difficult matter, the salary offered should suffice to command the services of a gentleman of education, but it is not easy to find one who will devote himself to the work with earnestness and discretion, and is possessed of the requisite knowledge of native character and manners. As the estate has not been committed to the Court's charge, however, it is presumed that the necessary steps will be taken by the Collector under the direct orders of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,  
*Acting Sub-Secretary.*

No. 125. ORDER THEREON, 3rd March 1877, No. 921.

Miscellaneous.

The Government have already decided that the Bobbili Zamindary should not be brought under the Court of Wards,

so long as the Rani's management is satisfactory.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
3rd March 1877.*

2. In regard to the English tutor for the minor, which the Board refer for the instructions of Government, the Board will consult the Director of Public Instruction.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,  
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Petitions Nos. 2,256, 2,487, and 2,714 of 1876.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Pittapur Zemindar's reply.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed)

C. A. GALTON,  
Acting Sub-Secretary.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 2,739.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COURT OF WARDS, dated 3rd November 1876.

Read the following letter from H. St. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Court of Wards, dated 23rd October 1876, No.

THE Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 13th instant and unnumbered, have reached me. I am uncertain, from the wording of the first paragraph, whether it is desired that I should consult H. H. the Maharajah of Vizianagrum in the matter.

2. If desired, I will do so, observing absolute secrecy. If it were to become known by any means that their hereditary enemy had been consulted on matters relating to the administration of Bobbili, all Bobbili, from the Rani to the lowest dweller in the estate, would resent the reference as an outrage unprovoked and unbearable. It would become a point of honor with all to ensure the breakdown of any system so recommended. I do not say that this feudal feeling is justifiable; I know that it subsists.

3. In a less degree, the admission of Pittapur to the discussion would appear distasteful to the Bobbili people and abominable to the Rani. She is, as the Board are aware, so actively hostile to the Venkatagiri people, that neither the Rajah nor any of his people would be allowed to visit Bobbili, although, as the Court are probably aware, the attempt was made some two years ago to induce her to allow him to visit the Minor (his natural, hereditary son). Pittapur are on good terms with Venkatagiri, and for the reason alone they are held as enemies of Bobbili.

4. Pending the receipt of orders, I have placed the Proceedings of 13th instant among my confidential papers.

THE Court are willing to accept Mr. Goodrich's opinion and would on no account run any risk of giving offence to the Rani. So far as the consultation with the Maharajah is concerned, the Collector will consider the Proceedings under reference as cancelled.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed)

C. A. GALTON,  
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.

Exd. W. H. French.

No. 2,571.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th October 1876.

Read the following papers:—

From H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Vizianagram, 12th September 1876, No. 1,369.

In continuation of my letter of the 29th ultimo, No. 1,331, I have the honor to report that I visited Bobbili last week and had an interview with the Rani, in order that I might lay before Government, through the Board, her personal wishes as to the future management of the estate as well as my own recommendations.

2. The Orders of Government bearing on the question directly are: Revenue Department, No. 2,695, dated 26th November 1868, No. 1,432, dated 9th September 1870, No. 571, dated 29th March 1871, No. 651, dated 5th April 1871, No. 1,049, dated 7th August 1876.

3. First, as to the Rani's wishes. She desires to represent that she has since her husband's death, eight years ago, taken a large share of the work of administering, taking advice in important matters from her Diwan. She repeated to me the arguments set forth in her Vakil's letter, copy whereof is enclosed. On being pressed to name any person of her establishment whom she would nominate as Diwan, if the position should be ordered to be filled, she named Damira Appayya, whom I believe to be a highly respectable man; he is the brother-in-law of the late Diwan. The Lady, however, was distinctly anxious that no Diwan should be appointed.

4. Secondly, as to the minor and his interests. [I beg that my remarks now submitted may be accepted in reply to the reference contained in Proceedings of the Board, Miscellaneous No. 7,265, dated 25th ultimo, passed on the Proceedings last in date recited in paragraph 2 *supra*.] He is in his fourteenth year, a handsome, healthy boy; he was fond of riding and of field sports, but has been almost confined to the Fort by his mother since last November when the Diwan left Bobbili for Madras; he is not allowed to see any person whatever without her special leave. I learnt incidentally that neither my Sheristadar nor any other of the Government officials has ever seen him except during his interviews with me on the three or four occasions on which I have visited Bobbili. The boy is beginning to chafe at his exclusion. His tutor, Singarachari, is a clever man and a skilful teacher, and has taught this pupil diligently. He is now reading the subjects taught in the 3rd class of a school. I thought his knowledge of English had certainly fallen off since the middle of March when I was at Bobbili last, and this I attribute to his tutor having more frequently been denied access to him since the illness of the Diwan. The tutor has been employed a good deal by the Rani to translate papers and conduct correspondence, and made such employment a ground for requesting an increase of pay. I have told him that the consideration of this request must be deferred until other matters are definitely settled, and I think it will be well if he generally confine himself to his proper duties. I have very frequently urged that a visit to Waltair should be paid by the minor. The family has a good house there, and there are no difficulties in the way. I have on every occasion however been met by some frivolous excuse on the Rani's part. I will arrange that he pay the place a visit in November if the prevalence of cholera does not still constitute an argument

1876.  
Court of Wards,  
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 3RD NOVEMBER 1876, No. 2,739.

Encl.

Rev. 2  
1335/17

Received

NOVEMBER.

No. 2,739.

Bobbili Estate—in Vizagapatam District.—  
Cancelling portion of Proceedings of Court of  
Wards, 13th October 1876, No. 2,571, direct-  
ing Collector to consult His Highness the Maha-  
rajah of Vizianagram in regard to future man-  
agement of —.

against it. I believe that if the minor be left in the uncontrolled custody of the Rani, he will be practically a prisoner in the harem as long as she can keep him there.

5. The Rani has the good fortune to succeed several excellent landlords in the previous Zemindars of Bobbili, and it will be observed that the Collector reported that she was "capable of managing her estate as she will have the assistance of Inuganti Sitaramaswami Garu, Diwan of the late Rajah," on which report the order cited above of 26th November 1868 was passed. She was then twenty years old, and necessarily little known to the Collector, and I think the Board will not doubt that the management in which they and the Government expressed confidence was that of the Diwan, an excellent man in all the relations of life. He was second cousin to the late Zemindar. It is his administration which endured until last November when, already an invalid, he left for Madras. Much has been in the Rani's hands since then, and some extravagant grants have been made to her own female attendants.

6. The Velamas are proverbial for an overweening sense of their own importance and for a Chinese exclusiveness. I had an opportunity of observing that these faults are conspicuous in this Lady's case when (last March) I presented her with the medal sent graciously by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales for her acceptance. She stoutly maintained for a long time that the Agent alone should enter the Fort; and the admission to the Durbar of my Head Assistant Sheristadar, the Manager of my Court, and the Taluq Magistrate was scouted. Nothing could be sent to do honor to the gift or the giver. I need not add that the lamented Diwan was greatly distressed at the obstinacy of the Lady which for a long time he could not overcome. [Eventually I procured all the elephants in Durbar tappings to escort the medal from my camp to the Durbar-room in the Fort and made the presentation to the minor (acting on his mother's behalf), all the principal persons then in Bobbili attending.] I have concluded, not without inquiry from such as could inform me, but without listening to any mere gossip, that the Rani's management might be expected to result in loss to the estate as well as to the character of its future possession.

7. There seem to be four possible courses of action: (1) to accede to the Rani's request and give her the management absolutely, leaving things as they are. This course I have above deprecated; (2) to advise the Rani in the appointment of a Diwan, leaving matters as they stand. This would leave to Government the discredit of any possible failure, and the estate is one which, though rich, thanks to its seldom failing water-supply would not be easily managed by any one not well acquainted with the people and with local usages and not cordially supported from the Fort; (3) to advise the Rani in the appointment of a Diwan bringing the estate under the Court of Wards. The two previous courses would result in the succession of the minor at 18, and I think this third course less advisable than either of them, inasmuch as it would leave the estate three years longer in female hands; (4) to appoint an officer of special local knowledge and experience of the charge of encumbered estates to manage the zemindari, leaving ample allowances to the Rani and her private lands which are worth, I believe, Rupees 2,000 per mensem. The estate would then be brought under the Court of Wards, and administered by the Special Assistant to their Agent for the next seven years.

8. The estate lies compactly on the banks of two large affluents of the Nagavalli; it marches with Salur, and the two zemindaris together are estimated to cover about

600 square miles with a population of a quarter of a million. I have already reported to the Board the unsatisfactory situation of Salur. Were the minor a young man of intelligence and energy, the care of an embarrassed estate might be entrusted to him with the hope that his efforts would set matters right, but the Salur minor possesses neither quality and a continuance of his wardship to the age of 25 will be desirable in the interests of the estate and of the young man. The management of two such estates might be entrusted to an officer of Sub-Collector's standing in my anticipation with the best results. Among other benefits my Senior Assistant's Division, which is now, I believe, the largest in the Presidency with the exception of that under my Special Assistant Agent, would be much more easily looked after.

9. Such allowances as should amount to Rupees 1,200 per mensem (over and above the necessary deduction) would secure an officer of twelve years' standing for the appointment. The late Diwan of Bobbili received Rupees 1,000, and the late Diwan of Salur Rupees 200 I believe. I append a statement of the estimated rental of the estates and a map. I should advise that, if my recommendation be adapted, the officer appointed travel three months of each year with the Bobbili Minor.

P.S.—With reference to the map which is enclosed, I have to observe that the Salur estate occupies nearly the whole of the block of territory colored as "Minor Zemindari lying west of Bobbili between Parvatipur on the north-east and Hill Panchipenta on the south-west."

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Translation of Arzi.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Statement.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Sketch map.

Telegram from the Rani of Bobbili, to the Board of Revenue, dated 18th September 1876.

As I will soon present you a petition with several important matters on the Collector's report for the management of my Bobbili estate and my son's education, I pray you to pass final orders on perusing the report and my petition.

The Court will postpone the consideration of the Collector's proposals until the representations which the Rani promises to make are received. Mr. Goodrich will request the Rani to submit her suggestions as soon as she conveniently can. Meanwhile the Court would like to be informed of the views of the Maharajah of Vizianagram.

2. The Collector of Godavery will also be requested to ascertain the opinion of the Rajah of Pittapur who is a relative of the Bobbili family.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,  
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.  
" the Collector of the Godavery District.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th February 1877.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 16th December 1876, No. 3,195.

Read also the following letter from R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 6th January 1877, No. 26:—

In reply to Board's Proceedings, dated December 16th, 1876, No. 3,195, I have the honor to state that, in my opinion, the management of the Bobbili Estate should be left, as at present, in the hands of the Ranee. This course was adopted on my recommendation in 1870 when the adoption of the present minor was contemplated. The Government then passed an order to the effect that the Ranee might continue to manage the estate as long as she did so satisfactorily and conformed to the views of the Collector and Government with regard to the education of the minor. Nothing has occurred since to lead me to alter my opinion. It is true that the Diwan has since died, but he has been succeeded by a man who has, on former occasions, acted in that capacity during the temporary absence of the deceased Diwan. The estate is particularly well managed, and I do not see why some of the credit of this good management should not be given to the Ranee. Should there be any mismanagement in time to come it will be open to Government, as it always has been, to step in and protect the interests of the minor. From the above it will be seen that I differ from Mr. Goodrich in this matter, although I entirely agree with him in thinking that, if the course I now recommend be not adopted, the only alternative would be to place a Covenanted officer of some standing in direct charge of the estate.

2. With regard to the education of the minor, I ascertained from the Ranee, with whom I yesterday had an interview, that she would much prefer having an English private tutor for the education of her son. She is willing to pay him a salary of Rupees 500 per mensem should a suitable person be procurable. As the estate can well afford it, I see no reason why her wishes should not be consulted on this subject. The minor might from time to time visit Waltair. The Ranee, like other mothers with an only son, objects to his going to reside at a distance from her. I have had a private communication from the Rajah of Venkatagerry, the minor's natural father, to the same effect. I am much pleased with what I have seen of the minor. He has benefited by the teaching of his tutor, and is a manly boy with considerable character.

3. The companionship of a gentleman of active habits is what will best complete his education. It is more important that he should learn to speak English like a gentleman (not the maty-boy English and corresponding manners which seem to be so often acquired), and know how to behave himself in the society of his equals and of Europeans, than that he should acquire a knowledge of certain facts in history and geography to be forgotten as soon as he becomes his own master. In the selection, therefore, of his private tutor a gentlemanly position and active habits should be more regarded than scholastic acquirements.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 to 3.—Petitions.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.—Letter from Ranee with translation.

1876.

BOARD of REVENUE,  
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 13TH OCTOBER 1876, No. 2,571.

Received

1876-10-27

1876-10-27

Encl.

OCTOBER

No. 2,571.

Bobbili Estate—in Vizagapatam District.—  
Postponing consideration of Collector's proposal  
for future management of—until the Rani's  
petition is received; and requesting to be infor-  
med of the views of the Maharajah of Viza-  
napatnam and the Rajah of Pittapur on the  
subject.

In their Order, dated 7th August last, No. 1,049, Government decided not to interfere in the management of the Bobbili Estate, but directed the Court of Wards to procure from the Collector a statement from his personal knowledge of the acquirements and disposition of the young chief; a change in the method of the minor's education was also to be courteously suggested to the Ranees.

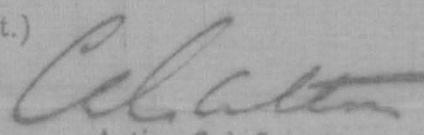
2. The death of the Diwan of the Bobbili Estate occurred a few days after the order was passed, and Mr. Goodrich, the Acting Collector, in laying before Government, through the Board, the Ranees' wishes as to the future management of the estate, replied to the Government Order read above. The Ranees wished to be left quite unfettered in the management of her estate, whilst Mr. Goodrich recommended that the Court of Wards should administer it, a Special Assistant being appointed to the charge of the Bobbili and Salur Estates, which would form a compact division. Meanwhile the

Ranees had addressed the Court by telegram, and the consideration of the above proposals was deferred pending receipt of her representations and an expression of opinion by the Rajah of Pittapur with whom the Collector of the Godavery District was directed to communicate on the subject.

3. In the petitions subsequently received from the Ranees she strongly deprecated any interference with the administration of her estate which she declared herself perfectly competent to manage without assistance, and strongly objected to her adopted son being removed from the district, but expressed herself willing to appoint a European tutor and to permit the minor to reside occasionally at Waltair. The Court thought it desirable to consult Mr. Melville on the subject before addressing Government; he is of opinion that the estate should be left in the hands of the Ranees as at present, the management being perfectly satisfactory. With regard to the minor's education, the Ranees are desirous that an English private tutor should be selected, a salary of Rupees 500 per mensem being offered. The minor is described as a manly boy with considerable character, but is kept too secluded by his mother.

4. The Court concur in Mr. Melville's opinion that their intervention is not necessary under existing circumstances; should it become so hereafter, action can be taken. The selection of a tutor is a difficult matter, the salary offered should suffice to command the services of a gentleman of education, but it is not easy to find one who will devote himself to the work with earnestness and discretion, and is possessed of the requisite knowledge of native character and manners. As the estate has not been committed to the Court's charge, however, it is presumed that the necessary steps will be taken by the Collector under the direct orders of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

  
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with letter from

Ranees and three petitions to be returned, and copies of Board's

Proceedings, dated 13th October 1876, No. 2,571; 3rd Novem-

ber 1876, No. 2,739; and 16th December 1876, No. 3,195.

Copy to the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.

„ to the Collector of the Godavery District.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

Board of Revenue,  
MADRAS. 11<sup>th</sup> 1830

PROCEEDINGS, 13TH FEBRUARY 1877, No. 605.

May 217 (Jul 17)

x Sec 4 Act 8

Received

19 February

FEBRUARY.  
No. 605.

*Boboli Estate*—in Vizianagaram District.—Concurring in Collector's opinion that intervention of Court of Wards in management of — is not necessary for the present, and passing remarks regarding selection of a tutor for the young Zemindar.