M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-19.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1005 Press ~~Mis.~~

293-294

Dated 16th April 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 14th April 1869.

No. 293. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th February 1869, No. 905 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 5th January 1869, No. 19.

I HAVE the honor to enclose copy of a letter from the Acting Sub-Collector, dated 13th November 1868, No. 273, with reference to the Board's Endorsement on Petition No. 1,121 of 1868, herewith returned.

2. The petitioner named Comara Venkatakristnama Raz, son of Vejella Comara Venkatapati Raz, is a descendant of the late Gudlur Zemindar, and claims an allowance from Government for his maintenance.

From Board,	dated	17th Sep.	1818.	
To do.	,,	26th ,,	1845,	No. 61.
From do.	,,	30th Oct. ,,	,,	92.
To do.	,,	31st Dec. ,,	,,	94.
From do.	,,	26th Feb.	1846,	,, 108.
Govt. Order,	,,	21st March ,,	,,	326.
From Board	,,	16th April ,,		
Do.	,,	11th May ,,		

3. The correspondence noted marginally has taken place on the subject of the allowance enjoyed by the petitioner's father and grandfather.

4. From Mr. Bishop's letter of 1845, the Board will observe that the pension of 100 Pagodas allowed to Comara Kristnama Raz was divided amongst four widows of the family during the period he remained as State prisoner in Arcot.

5. On the release of Comara Kristnama Raz, the widows in question having failed to give him a share in the pension alluded to, a separate pension of Rupees 150 per mensem was allowed to him in 1818—*Vide* Board's letter of the 17th September 1818.

6. On the demise of the said Comara Kristnama Raz, the pension of Rupees 150 per month was, in 1846, reduced to Rupees 100, and continued as a life grant to his son, Vejella Comara Venkatapati Raz, the father of the petitioner under consideration.

7. The petitioner's father died in 1852.

8. With reference to the remarks in paragraph 5 of the accompanying copy of the Acting Sub-Collector's letter, I beg to recommend the petitioner's claim for favorable consideration, although the Government have, in their Order of the 11th February 1868, No. 382, declined to continue the pension of a collateral member of the family descended from one of the four widows referred to by adoption.

9. Should my proposal be approved, I would instruct the Sub-Collector to explain to the petitioner and the other members of the family the necessity for their exerting themselves and bringing up their children to earn their own livelihood, as the indulgence will be discontinued on the death of the petitioner, and will be only granted so long as his behaviour is satisfactory.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Acting Sub-Collector, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Ramapatam, 13th November 1868, No. 273.

I HAVE the honor to return Board's petition No. 1,121 of 1868, forwarded with your docket, No. 3,219, dated 17th September last, and to report as follows :—

2. On receipt of your docket, I sent for the petitioner, Venkatakristnama Raz, and took from him a brief statement which I now enclose, and also perused the various papers which he

produced before me in support of his petition. Some of these papers bear date as far back as the commencement of the present century, but most of them are utterly irrelevant in respect of the present claim, except in so far as they prove the former respectability and influential position of the petitioner's family.

3. Among the papers, however, were two transcripts, of which I now enclose, and which show clearly the state of petitioner's case. The first of these papers purports to be a copy of a letter from Mr. Bishop, the Collector of Nellore, to Mr. Pycroft, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 26th September 1845. This contains a brief history of petitioner's family, and was written on the occasion of petitioner's father, Venkatapati Raz, claiming from the Government the continuance of the allowance previously enjoyed by his family.

4. As you will learn from Mr. Bishop's letter, the petitioner's ancestors were Zemindars of Gudlur (a domain of some extent including, as I am informed, about forty villages). In the time of Pedda Narrain Raz, (brother to the great-grandfather of the present Petitioner, Venkatakristnama Raz,) the Zemindary, for some reason which does not appear, was resumed by the Nabob. It was, however, apparently restored to the family, and ultimately came into the possession of the present petitioner's grandfather. He was again deprived of it, and made a State prisoner. A pension of 100 Pagodas monthly was, however, allowed to the family, and in this petitioner's grandfather after his release had a share. The allowance was continued by Mr. Travers, the Collector, who also granted the family some lands rent free. Mr. Travers's proceedings were subsequently confirmed by the Government, (8th November 1825,) but only on the understanding that the grant would not be continued beyond the lives of the then incumbents. The petitioner's grandfather died in 1840, and thereupon his adopted son, (father of present claimant,) presented the petition which was the subject of Mr. Bishop's report. From the second of the papers in petitioner's possession, alluded to by me above, and which purports to be a translation of Board's Proceedings, dated 25th February 1846, it appears that a reduced allowance of Rupees 100 was granted to Petitioner's father for the term of his life. The father died in 1852, and it is the continuance of his pension that is now sought for by petitioner. The petitioner tells me, (*vide* his statement) that he has, since his father's death, frequently sent Arzies to the Government, and I think it to be extremely probable that final orders on his claim were passed long since, and, though he says that such have never reached him, they may be forthcoming in the records of the Nelloro District or of the Government Office.

5. From the circumstances as briefly related above, it would appear that petitioner has no legal claim on the English Government, and indeed little claim of any kind; for the present reduced position of the family is due to the policy of the Nabob's Circar, and not to any action that has been taken since the English came into possession of the country. However, (in the words of Mr. Bishop,) the family are "respectable and respected;" their caste (Kshtriya) and rank preclude them from having recourse, for their support, to any ordinary occupation; and they are living in a state of the most abject poverty. For the subsistence of some fifteen persons, whom the family includes, the only property available consists of some three or four topes and a small extent of puttah land, the profits from which are very petty. For the rest they are entirely dependant upon the bounty of those among their neighbours, who recognise a claim upon them, arising from the position and influence of the ancestors of the family. If the Government are disposed to entertain considerations of a like nature, I am led to believe from what I hear that the family are worthy of the benevolence of the Government.

6. With regard to the question put by Government in their Endorsement as to the reason why the Sub-Collector in his Endorsement, dated 18th March 1867, stated that the Revenue authorities had nothing to do with the matter, I respectfully submit, that from the above account of the case, it would seem that the petition is not one that could properly have been entertained, in the first instance, by a Subordinate Officer.

Enclosure No. 2.—Petition

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th April 1869.

The Board resolve to submit these papers for the orders of Government.

2. The petitioner is the present representative of an ancient family of Rachawars, who once held the Zemindary of Gudlur, but who had been ejected from it before the British Government obtained possession of the country.

3. Petitioner's father, V. Comara Venkatapati Raz, drew a pension of Rupees 100 a-month, granted by the Government of India in 1846, on the understanding that the allowance should not extend beyond the period of his natural life. He died in 1852, and his son, the petitioner, states that he has been applying for the means of subsistence ever since, but without getting any final order on the subject.

Extract Minutes Consultation, 28th April 1846, No. 489.

4. In Government Order, 11th February 1868, No. 382, the Government refused to continue another pension belonging to the same family which had been granted for life; but the pensioner in that case was only a subordinate member of the family.

5. The petitioner is the chief member of an ancient family which was once of great dignity, but is now reduced to the most abject poverty. Their caste and pride have hitherto prevented them from earning a livelihood, and though this disposition is not one to be encouraged, yet the Board consider the case should receive charitable consideration, and they will be glad if Government can give the petitioner some small allowance.

No. 294. Order thereon, 14th April 1869, No. 1,009.

Miscellaneous.

The Government observe that when the pension of Rupees 100 was granted to petitioner's father, it was expressly provided that it should not extend beyond his own life: they are unable, therefore, to accede to the Board's recommendation.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant-General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated April, 14th.

Recd.

Read

G. O., 14th April 1869, No. 1,009.

APRIL.

Nos. 293-294.

Zemindary pension of the late V. C. Venkatapati Raz, of Nellore District.—Its continuance in the name of his son, declined.

No. 905.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 11th February 1869.

Read the following letter from J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 5th January 1869, No. 19:—

I HAVE the honor to enclose copy of a letter from the Acting Sub-Collector, dated 13th November 1868, No. 273, with reference to the Board's Endorsement on Petition No. 1,121 of 1868, herewith returned.

2. The petitioner named Comara Venkatakristnama Raz, son of Vejella Comara Venkatapati Raz, is a descendant of the late Gudlur Zemindar, and claims an allowance from Government for his maintenance.

From Board, dated 17th Sep. 1818.			
To Board, dated 26th Sep. 1845, No. 61.			
From do.	,,	30th Oct ,,	,, 92.
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From Board ,,		16th April ,,	
Do.	,,	11th May ,,	

3. The correspondence noted marginally has taken place on the subject of the allowance enjoyed by the petitioner's father and grandfather.

4. From Mr. Bishop's letter of 1845, the Board will observe that the pension of 100 Pagodas, allowed to Comara Kristnama Raz, was divided amongst four widows of the family during the period he remained as State prisoner in Arcot.

5. On the release of Comara Kristnama Raz, the widows in question having failed to give him a share in the pension alluded to, a separate pension of Rupees 150 per mensem was allowed to him in 1818—Vide Board's letter of the 17th September 1818.

6. On the demise of the said Comara Kristnama Raz, the pension of Rupees 150 per month was, in 1846, reduced to Rupees 100, and continued as a life grant to his son, Vejella Comara Venkatapati Raz, the father of the petitioner under consideration.

7. The petitioner's father died in 1852.

8. With reference to the remarks in paragraph 5 of the accompanying copy of the Acting Sub-Collector's letter, I beg to recommend the petitioner's claim for favorable consideration, although the Government have, in their Order of the 11th February 1868, No. 382, declined to continue the pension of a collateral member of the family descended from one of the four widows referred to by adoption.

9. Should my proposal be approved, I would instruct the Sub-Collector to explain to the petitioner and the other members of the family the necessity for their exerting themselves and bringing up their children to earn their own livelihood, as the indulgence will be discontinued on the death of the petitioner, and will be only granted so long as his behaviour is satisfactory.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. C. HUGHESDON, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Ramapatam, 13th November 1868, No. 273.

I HAVE the honor to return Board's Petition No. 1,121 of 1868, forwarded with your Docket, No. 3,219, dated 17th September last, and to report as follows:—

2. On receipt of your Docket, I sent for the petitioner, Venkatakristnama Raz, and took from him a brief statement which I now enclose, and also perused the various papers which he produced before me in support of his petition. Some of these papers bear date as far back as the commencement of the present century, but most of them are utterly irrelevant in respect of the present claim, except in so far as they prove the former respectability and influential position of the petitioner's family.

3. Among the papers, however, were two transcripts of which I now enclose, and which show clearly the state of petitioner's case. The first of these papers purports to be a copy of a letter from Mr. Bishop, the Collector of Nellore, to Mr. Pycroft, Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 26th September 1845. This contains a brief history of petitioner's family, and was written on the occasion of petitioner's father, Venkatapati Raz, claiming from the Government the continuance of the allowance previously enjoyed by his family.

4. As you will learn from Mr. Bishop's letter, the petitioner's ancestors were Zemindars of Gudlur (a domain of some extent including, as I am informed, about forty villages). In the time of Pedda Narrain Raz, (brother to the great grandfather of the present petitioner, Venkata-kristnama Raz,) the Zemindary, for some reason which does not appear, was resumed by the Nabob. It was, however, apparently restored to the family, and ultimately came into the possession of the present petitioner's grandfather. He was again deprived of it, and made a State prisoner. A pension of 100 Pagodas monthly was, however, allowed to the family, and in this petitioner's grandfather after his release had a share. The allowance was continued by Mr. Travers, the Collector, who also granted the family some lands rent free. Mr. Travers's proceedings were subsequently confirmed by the Government, (8th November 1825,) but only on the understanding that the grant would not be continued beyond the lives of the then incumbents. The petitioner's grandfather died in 1840, and thereupon his adopted son, (father of present claimant,) presented the petition which was the subject of Mr. Bishop's report. From the second of the papers in petitioner's possession, alluded to by me above, and which purports to be a translation of Board's Proceedings, dated 26th February 1846, it appears that a reduced allowance of Rupees 100 was granted to petitioner's father for the term of his life. The father died in 1852, and it is the continuance of his pension that is now sought for by petitioner. The petitioner tells me, (*vide* his statement,) that he has, since his father's death, frequently sent Arzies to the Government, and I think it to be extremely probable that final orders on his claim were passed long since, and, though he says that such have never reached him, they may be forthcoming in the records of the Nellore District or of the Government Office.

5. From the circumstances as briefly related above, it would appear that petitioner has no legal claim on the English Government, and indeed little claim of any kind; for the present reduced position of the family is due to the policy of the Nabob's Circar, and not to any action that has been taken since the English came into possession of the country. However, (in the words of Mr. Bishop,) the family are "respectable and respected;" their caste (Kshtriya) and rank preclude them from having recourse, for their support, to any ordinary occupation; and they are living in a state of the most abject poverty. For the subsistence of some fifteen persons, whom the family includes, the only property available consists of some three or four topes and a small extent of puttah land, the profits from which are very petty. For the rest they are entirely dependant upon the bounty of those among their neighbours, who recognise a claim upon them, arising from the position and influence of the ancestors of the family. If the Government are disposed to entertain considerations of a like nature, I am led to believe from what I hear that the family are worthy of the benevolence of the Government.

6. With regard to the question put by Government in their Endorsement as to the reason why the Sub-Collector in his Endorsement, dated 18th March 1867, stated that the Revenue authorities had nothing to do with the matter, I respectfully submit, that from the above account of the case, it would seem that the petition is not one that could properly have been entertained, in the first instance, by a Subordinate Officer.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. W. B. DYKES,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Petition.

THE Board resolve to submit these papers for the orders of Government.

2. The petitioner is the present representative of an ancient family of Rachawars, who once held the Zemindary of Gudlur, but who had been ejected from it before the British Government obtained possession of the country.

3. Petitioner's father, V. Comara Venkatapati Raz, drew a pension of Rupees 100 a-month, granted by the Government of India in 1846, on the understanding that the allowance should not extend beyond the period of his natural life. He died in 1852, and his son, the petitioner, states that he has been applying for the means of subsistence ever since, but without getting any final order on the subject.

4. In Government Order, 11th February 1868, No. 382, the Government refused to continue another pension belonging to the same family which had been granted for life, but the pensioner in that case was only a subordinate member of the family.

5. The petitioner is the chief member of an ancient family which was once of great dignity, but is now reduced to the most abject poverty. Their caste and pride have hitherto prevented them from earning a livelihood, and though this disposition is not one to be encouraged, yet the Board consider the case should receive charitable consideration, and they will be glad if Government can give the petitioner some small allowance.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Rev. Dept.,
with petition.

Copy to the Collector of Nellore.

Extracts Minutes Consultation, 28th April 1846, No. 489.

Exd. F. R Bantleman.

Revenue Department

No. 1009.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 12th April 1869.

Read the following Report of the Board of Revenue

Remuneding grant of Allowance to Comora Venkatanarasima Razu of Kattalinaikapalle Rs. 100 per mensem

R. O. 11th February 1869. Nos. 905

Government are of opinion that under the circumstances stated in the Petitioners petition it was expressly provided that the allowance should not extend beyond his own life, they are unable therefore to accede to the Board's recommendation

Revenue Dept.

131 No. 516.

BOARD OF REVENUE, MADRAS.

1869.

PROCEEDINGS, 11TH FEBRUARY 1869, No. 905.

Read 17-2-69

Received 18-2-69

Encl. P.C.

FEBRUARY.

No. 905.

Sent 1009-12 April 69

Allowance—to Petitioner in No. 1,121 of 1868, son of V. C. Venkatapati Rax, who drew a pension of 100 Rupees per mensem in Nellore District,—Grant of, recommended to Government.

293.

Pro No. 10-dd 1.9.1818

i 6-7 d 8.11-2s

ii 6-15 d 4.3.46

iii 26.37 d 1-5-46

iv 201-19 dd 11.2.68