

(No. 102.)



1876.

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H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

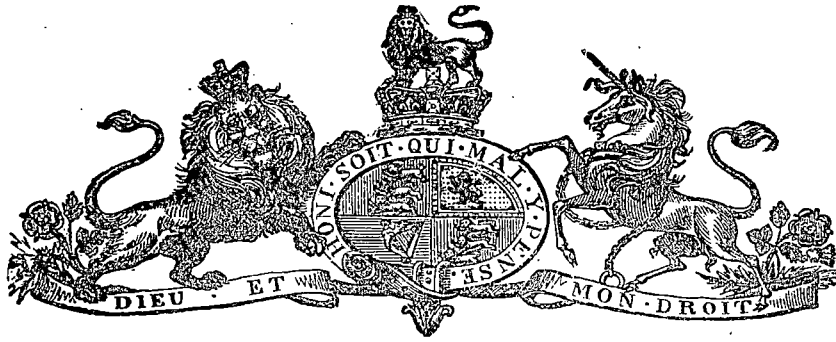
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MRS. DANDRIDGE.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

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Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Secretary, September 21, 1876, and ordered  
by the House to be printed.



Hobart Town, 5th June, 1876.

SIR,

THE allowance made to me for the maintenance of "Lallah Rookh" having ceased upon her death, thereby diminishing my slender means, I venture to submit my position to the generous consideration of the Government, in the hope that some aid may be still afforded to me.

I base my request on the following grounds:—

That my late husband, to whom until his death was intrusted the care and maintenance of the surviving Aborigines, was for many years in the Civil Service of the Government, but always with a small salary, and therefore had not the means of saving sufficient money to make an adequate provision for his family; that after he was placed on a pension he was rendered still less capable of doing so.

That, although the Aborigines were nominally placed in his care, I, as his wife, had to share equally with him the trouble and anxiety connected with them; and therefore the domestic arrangements fell exclusively upon me.

That the turbulence of some of the half-castes, and the occasional outbreaks of the others (especially when under the influence of drink), at times placed me in serious danger, which was evidenced by the confession at a subsequent time of a man who was in league with them—that my having fainted saved my life on one occasion when a plan had been laid to rob the stores; and that I was always more or less exposed to similar dangers.

That when "Lallah" became the sole survivor, and an inmate of my own house, I had to bear with very much that was painful and disagreeable, and to perform many services in her illnesses which were injurious to my own health.

That by the death of "Lallah" a serious increase has been made to my difficulties in consequence of my being suddenly left without the allowance for her support, and with a larger house and at other greater expenses than would be necessary or suitable for myself and family.

That my case cannot be made a precedent, it being the only one that can ever occur.

I trust that the reasons I have brought before you may induce the Government to view my appeal in a favourable light.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.*

M. DANDRIDGE.

*Colonial Secretary's Office, 18th July, 1876.*

MADAM,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th ultimo, requesting that, for the reasons adduced, some aid might still be afforded to you, the protectress of the last Aborigine, the late Trucanini.

I have brought the subject of your communication under the consideration of my colleagues; and it now rests with me to inform you that the Cabinet do not feel warranted in complying with your request, there being no funds at their disposal authorised by Parliament which could be devoted to this object.

I have, &c.

*Mrs. DANDRIDGE, Macquarie-street.*

(Signed)

GEORGE GILMORE.