

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

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G.O. No. 620, 1st July 1913.

Government College, Kumbakonam.

Recording report on the working of the — for the academic year 1912-13.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper:—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Sir ALFRED BOURNE, D.Sc., F.R.S., K.C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction, Madras.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—the 17th June 1913.
No.—Ref on Cur. 3290/13.

I have the honour to submit for the information of Government a copy of my Proceedings R.C. No. 3290/13, dated 4th June 1913, reviewing the report on the working of the Kumbakonam College during the academical year 1912-13.

ENCLOSURE.

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, R. Cur. No. 3290/13,
dated 4th June 1913.

Read—the following paper:—

Letter—from J. A. YATES, Esq., M.A., Principal, Kumbakonam College.
To—the Director of Public Instruction.
Dated—the 12th April 1913.
No.—C, 124/13.

I have the honour to report on the working of the Kumbakonam College during the year 1912-13.

2. *Staff*.—M.R.Ry. A. Chakravarti, M.A., L.T., sub. *pro tem* lecturer in Philosophy, was transferred to the Rajahmundry College and he was relieved on the afternoon of 1st July. M.R.Ry. L. A. Ganapati Aiyar, B.A., succeeded him and he took charge of his appointment on the forenoon of the 19th July.

M.R.Ry. T. E. Srinivasacharyar, Sanskrit pandit, retired from service with effect from the 16th July. M.R.Ry. Bhattanatha Swamin, who was the Sanskrit pandit in Mrs. A. V. N. College, Vizagapatam, was appointed sub. *pro tem* Sanskrit pandit. He joined his appointment on the forenoon of the 19th August.

Under the scheme sanctioned by Government for the grading of pandits and munshis in arts colleges, you were pleased to reappoint the Tamil and the Sanskrit pandits of this College, M.R.Ry. M. V. Ramanujachariar and M.R.Ry. Bhattanatha Swamin, respectively, on Rs. 60—3—75 with effect from 1st March 1913 (Proceedings C. No. 1423/13, dated 17th February 1913).

3. *Strength and attendance*.—The year began with 18 students on the rolls in the fourth-year class, 66 in the second-year class and 7 in the first-year class, but the net strength of the college on the 31st March last (including all the admissions and excluding all the withdrawals during the year) was 181 distributed as follows:—fourth-year class 18, third-year class 9, second-year class 72 and the first-year class 82. The average number on the rolls and the average daily attendance were 179 and 162 respectively. Out of 27 students in the two B.A. classes together, 6 studied in group I, 7 in group IV, and 14 in group V. There were 58 students in group I and 96 in group III of the two intermediate classes taken together. Five subjects were taught under the latter group, viz., (i) Ancient History, (ii) Modern History, (iii) Logic, (iv) Sanskrit and (v) Tamil. The numbers studying them respectively were 89, 91, 62, 24 and 22.

4. *Classification of students*.—One hundred and sixty nine students were Brahmans, ten were non-Brahman caste Hindus, one was an Indian Christian and one was a Muhammadan. The great majority of the students, as usual, belonged to the Tanjore district. Six students, three each, came from South Arcot and Trichinopoly, two came from Madura and one from South Malabar. Distributed according to wealth 159 students were of the middle class, and 7 and 15 were of richer and poorer classes respectively. Classified according to the occupation of their parents, 86 students

were the sons of landholders, 75 were the sons of officials including pleaders, eleven of traders, and five of petty officials. One was the son of a musician and three were the sons of mendicants.

5. *Accommodation and equipment*.—The new laboratory buildings, the foundation for which was laid in summer 1911, have not yet been completed. It is hoped that the Public Works Department will be able to hand over the buildings in July next when the college reopens after the summer vacation, or at any rate the main buildings with fixtures. The new gymnasium shed and the five courts were completed during the year. The second thatched temporary shed, referred to in the previous year's report, was also improved during the year with a tiled roof. Three new class rooms which were in course of construction last year were completed and handed over just in time for the holding of the recent Intermediate Examination in Arts for which they were found very convenient. The unsightly thatched roof over the verandah in front of the office room was removed and a terraced portico was constructed.

The newly acquired additional play-ground was levelled and rendered fit for a foot-ball ground only a couple of months ago. The compound wall to the north of this ground is still in an incomplete state and the wall to the east of it has not yet been started. This has been a source of very great inconvenience as it is impossible to prevent cattle and men from freely trespassing into the compound and spoiling the play-grounds. The Public Works Department has been addressed more than once with a view to the construction of this wall being pushed through.

Although the construction of quarters for the Principal of the College has been abandoned, the land acquired for this purpose has been ordered to be reserved as an additional recreation ground for the college or as a site for possible future extensions (*vide* G.O. No. 1080, Educational, dated 9th December 1912, communicated with your Proceedings Dis. No. 8349, dated the 12th idem).

A wall has been built from the college gate to the boundary of the hostel land. At the gate a lodge has been built which will be occupied by the groundman of the college. It is hoped that trespassers into the tank will be checked by this arrangement.

The two English lecture rooms were provided with 106 dual desks at a cost of Rs. 3,600, the library was provided with five additional glass cases at a cost of Rs. 450 and four of the old rooms were fitted with punkabs.

6. *Library*.—The number of books issued from the library during the year (including books and periodicals issued for temporary use during class and library hours which amounted to 2,875) was 9,516 against 8,440 in the previous year. The number of volumes added to the library during the year was 495 and the total number of books in the library at the end of the year was 7,418.

The revised card catalogue was completed during the year: sectional catalogues and a general alphabetical catalogue are in course of preparation. A list of old and worn books and of bound magazines that it is unnecessary to keep has been made. The furniture of the library is insufficient and unsuited for the purposes of large classes in library hours. Modifications and additions will be made next year. The staff have willingly lent their services in the work of cataloguing. I hope the new catalogue will in consequence be uniform and workmanlike.

7. *The tutorial system and discipline*.—The tutorial system continued to work well and the discipline of the college was satisfactory.

8. *University examinations*.—The results of the Intermediate and the B.A. Degree Examinations of 1911-12 are appended. Thirty-five candidates, 15 in group I and 20 in group III, were examined for the Intermediate Examination in Arts, of whom 20 passed with six in the first class, four of the latter belonging to group I. Eleven students gained distinction in English, three in Mathematics, four in Physics, six in Chemistry and one in Ancient History. For the B.A. Degree Examination, 22 were examined in Part I, English Language Division, of whom 12 passed with four in the second class. In the Second Language Division 10 out of ten passed in Sanskrit and 7 out of 11, in Tamil. Ten candidates each in Mathematics and History were examined and five in the former with two second classes and six in the latter with five second classes, were successful.

The number of students sent up for the Intermediate Examination in Arts during the year under report was 26 in group I and 46 in group III. The number sent up for the B.A. Degree Examination was 18.

9. *College examinations.*—The promotion of students to the second and fourth year classes was based chiefly upon the results of the periodical class examinations and those of the annual examination held at the close of the academic year. The number of students in the first-year class at the beginning of the year under report, who failed to secure promotion to the second-year class was six out of 34 in group I and seven out of 48 in group III.

10. *Scholarships and prizes.*—The Edward Bird Scholarship continued to be held during the year by P. S. Krishnaswami of the fourth-year class.

K. Vasudevan of the senior Intermediate class was a Government scholarship-holder throughout the year.

The Subrahmanyan scholarships were held by the following students:—

S. Minakshisundaram, senior B.A. class.
V. Narasinga Rau, junior B.A. class.
M. Venkatachalam, senior Intermediate class.
R. Venkatachari, junior Intermediate class.

The Morris medal and the Beauchamp and Muppanar's prizes were awarded to the following students:—

Morris Medal R. Swaminathan.

Beauchamp and Muppanar's prizes in—

Mathematics S. Krishnaswami.
History B. Rajagopalan.
English Composition K. G. Tiruvengadathan.

11. *Athletics and sports.*—The opening balance of the athletic club was Rs. 136-6-8. The receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 678-9-11 and Rs. 680-10-1 respectively. The closing balance was Rs. 134-6-6.

The former football ground was levelled, cleaned and rolled, and is now a very good hockey ground. Hockey was started in July last and has become very popular. The football ground was only recently handed over; consequently regular practice was not possible. Still some work remains to put the ground into really good order: this will be possible with the next rains. Fives, played with the hard ball, was popular; the four new courts were well built according to designs suggested by the College Athletic Committee. Matches in hockey and football have been played.

Tennis was played regularly on two courts: a third is to be provided by the Public Works Department in the place of one taken for temporary sheds. The courts were improved this year: tarred tatties and fences were placed round the senior court. New football goal-posts were purchased and the uprights provided with masonry sockets. A new departure was made in getting all the athletic materials, goal-nets, footballs, tennis balls, etc., direct from England whereby a very great saving was effected and an ample supply was possible.

The college sent representatives to the Tanjore District sports, but no practice beforehand had been possible, because the college grounds were under repair, levelling, draining, etc. It is hoped that the district sports will be held this year on the college grounds.

It is gratifying to report that after some two years of inadequate provision of games the college is in a fair way to be equipped with as great a variety of games and as good a ground as any college in Southern India. There is ample enthusiasm among the students: next year the committee hope to organize this enthusiasm in a permanent form by grouping students and holding inter-group competitions. For my part, I do not think there is anything in college life that lends itself more to the development of character, or brings the staff and the students more together than games. The Athletic committee was reconstituted during the year. In addition to the five members of the college staff on the committee the captains and the vice captains of the respective games were appointed members of the committee and they

had a free share in the management of its affairs. M.R.Ry. K. C. Subrahmanya Aiyar, M.A., L.T., as Honorary Athletic Secretary and Treasurer, took the greatest interest in the development of the college athletics: I am most grateful to him.

12. *Finance.*—The receipts for the year 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 16,975-1-6, and the charges during the same period were Rs. 52,363-13-8. The net expenditure, deducting receipts, was Rs. 35,388-12-2 and the net cost per student was Rs. 197 against Rs. 175 in the previous year.

13. *Hostel.*—The average strength of the hostel during the year was 36 against 43 in the previous year. The average monthly rate of boarding fees, exclusive of room rent, was Rs. 9-15-2 and Rs. 10-3-8 for the Smartha and the Vaishnava sections respectively. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 3,931-13-7 and the charges, Rs. 3,815-3-4.

M.R.Ry. S. V. Venkateswara Aiyar, M.A., L.T., continued to be the Sub-Warden throughout the year. I am very much indebted to him for his continued careful supervision and the interest he took in the working of the hostel. The success of the hostel depends mostly on the Sub-Warden, I think. The hostel has worked successfully this year and the credit is due to M.R.Ry. Venkateswara Aiyar. The compound, which was formerly more or less a wilderness, is now neat; thanks to the interest the Sub-Warden takes in the garden. Discipline was good: badminton was played and the hostel Literary Society met as usual under the guidance of the Sub-Warden.

14. *College Literary Society.*—Although the number of members who joined the society was limited, the work done by the society during the year was of a more substantial character, greater enthusiasm and interest were displayed among the members. Five meetings, exclusive of the business meetings of the society, were held at two of which lectures were delivered by the members of the college staff; and at the remaining meetings, which were presided over by a member of the staff, papers on subjects of general interest were read by one of the members and discussed by the others present. The work done by the society during the year was, on the whole, satisfactory.

15. *General.*—The service books were brought up to 31st March last and an inventory of valuable stock has been maintained.

In conclusion, the college work showed vitality, I think. The year was one of progress all round. The credit of this is mainly due to the members of the staff who co-operated most heartily in all matters that concerned the College. I have much pleasure in recording my appreciation of their help.

APPENDIX.

RESULTS of the Intermediate Examination in Arts and the B.A. Degree Examination, 1911-12.

	Number examined.	Number passed.				Per- centage for 1909.	Per- centage for 1910-11.	Per- centage for 1911-12.
		I class.	II class.	III class.	Total.			
<i>Intermediate Examination in Arts..</i>								
Group I	15	4	5	..	9	54	58	57
" III	20	2	9	..	11			
<i>B.A. Degree examination.</i>								
I English Language Division.	22	..	4	8	12	85	54	54
II Second Language Division—								
Tamil	11	..	2	5	7	100	91	62
Sanskrit	10	..	8	2	10	85	94	100
<i>Science Division—</i>								
Mathematics	10	..	2	3	5	45	59	50
History	10	..	5	1	6	100	55	60
Philosophy	1	..	..	..	..	100	66	..

STATEMENT showing the number examined, passed, and failed in the several divisions of the Intermediate Examination in Arts.

Divisions.	Number.			
	Examined.	Passed.	Gained distinction.	Failed.
English	35	20	11	15
Tamil Composition	17	14	1	3
Sanskrit Translation	18	17	1	1
Mathematics	16	12	3	4
Physics	15	12	4	3
Chemistry	15	13	6	2
Ancient History	20	16	1	4
Modern History	20	13	1	7
Logic	20	15	1	5

R. Cur. No. 3290/13, dated 4th June 1913.

Recorded.

2. The report, which is as usual clear and interesting, contains evidence of good work in all departments of the College, and the Principal and the staff deserve to be congratulated on its continued efficiency.

A. G. BOURNE,
Director of Public Instruction.

To the Principal, Kumbakonam College,
with spare copies.
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" Inspector of Schools, 8th Circle.
" Assistant Inspector of Schools, Tanjore district.
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Recorded.

(True Extract.)

W. FRANCIS,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
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