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GO. NO. - 1306 5th October 1918

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Tanjore Palace Library

Directing the Publication in the Fort St
George Gazette of notification vesting
the - and its endowment in the
Treasurer of Charitable Endowments
and another settling a Scheme for
their administration.

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Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION).

G.O. No. 1306, 5 October 1918

Tanjore Palace Library

Directing the publication in the Fort St. George Gazette of a notification vesting the — and its endowment in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments and another settling a scheme for their administration.

READ—the following papers.

I

Memorandum No. 2745-2, Home (Education), dated the 14th August 1916.

The Director of Public Instruction is requested to arrange that the temporary search party for the acquisition of oriental manuscripts sanctioned in G.O. No. 1096, Educational, dated the 18th September 1914, should pay an early visit to Tanjore in order to catalogue and value the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library. The Director should submit to Government a report on the results of the party's visit.

2. The party should be instructed to show separately manuscripts which are of literary and critical value from those of which copies already exist in the Oriental Manuscripts Library and those which have already been critically edited and published.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

II

Memorandum No. 5343-1, Public, dated the 4th November 1916.

The Curator, Madras Record Office, is permitted to visit Tanjore to inspect the books in the Palace Library. The duration of the visit should not exceed a week.

To the Curator, Madras Record Office.
" Accountant-General.

L. DAVIDSON,
Acting Chief Secretary.

III

Memorandum No. 2745-5, Home (Education), dated the 12th November 1916.

In continuation of Memorandum No. 2745-2, Home (Education), dated the 14th August 1916, the Director of Public Instruction is requested to arrange for the compilation of a catalogue of the European works in the Tanjore Palace Library by M.R. Ry. M. Ramakrishna Kavi, special assistant to the temporary search party for the acquisition of oriental manuscripts, on completion of the work connected with the cataloguing of the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts in the library.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

IV

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—Madras, the 19th January 1917.

No.—R.C. 6840/16.

With reference to the reminder, dated the 10th January 1917, calling for an early reply to the memorandum of Government No. 2745-2, dated 14th August 1916, I have the honour to submit for the information of Government the enclosed copy of letter R.C. No. 104 of 1916, dated 18th instant, from the Curator, Oriental Manuscripts

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Library, which furnishes the information required with regard to the steps taken for cataloguing and valuing the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library.

Letter—from the Curator, Government Oriental Manuscripts Library.
To—the Director of Public Instruction.
Dated—Madras, the 18th January 1917.
No.—R.C. 104 of 1916.

With reference to the reminder, dated the 15th January 1917, to your Proceedings R.C. No. 6840, dated the 25th August 1916, requiring me to report on the results of the temporary search party's visit to the Tanjore Palace Library to catalogue and value the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts in that library, I have the honour to state that the examination of all the manuscripts is not yet completed and that the required report will be submitted on completion of the work, as directed in your proceedings quoted above. Meanwhile, I may inform you that the search party, as already reported in my letter R.C. No. 104, dated the 2nd October 1916, left for Tanjore on 28th September 1916 and commenced the work of examination from the beginning of October 1916. By the end of December 1916, the party had examined 3,788 Sanskrit works, 693 Telugu works and 1,048 Tamil works contained in about 2,826 Sanskrit, 693 Telugu and 710 Tamil cadjan volumes. At the beginning of January 1917 there still remained for examination about 1,000 Sanskrit and 130 Tamil cadjan volumes in addition to about 10,000 Sanskrit and 800 Marathi paper volumes. Besides these, there are about 5,000 volumes of European books to be catalogued as per your proceedings R.C. No. 6840, dated 7th December 1916. I may observe here that the examination of paper manuscripts may proceed faster than that of the cadjan manuscripts, and that all the needed steps have been taken to finish the remaining work as expeditiously as possible.

V

Memorandum No. 2745/16-8, Home (Education), dated the 25th January 1917.

In modification of Memorandum No. 2745-5, Home (Education), dated the 12th November 1916, the Director of Public Instruction is informed that, as Mr. Dodwell has made a valuation of the English as well as the European works in the Tanjore Palace Library, the compilation of a catalogue for the latter works need not be made by M.R.Ry. M. Ramakrishna Kavi. The Director is requested to issue instructions to the temporary search party for the acquisition of oriental manuscripts to treat the remaining work of cataloguing and valuing the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts in the library as very urgent.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

VI

Memorandum No. 2745/16-9, Home (Education), dated the 8th February 1917.

In continuation of Memorandum No. 2745/16-8, dated the 25th January 1917, the Director of Public Instruction is requested to instruct M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur A. C. Pranatartihara Ayyar Avargal, B.A., I.S.O., Registrar of Books, to proceed to Tanjore to assist the temporary search party for the acquisition of oriental manuscripts in the work of cataloguing and valuing the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

VII

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.
To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.
Dated—Madras, the 7th March 1917.
No.—R.C. 6840/16.

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 2745/16-9, dated the 8th February 1917, I have the honour to report that under my instructions M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur A. C. Pranatartihara Ayyar Avargal, Registrar of Books, proceeded to Tanjore to assist the temporary search party working in the Palace Library there and took charge of his duties on the 22nd ultimo. In his notes just submitted to me regarding the nature of the work done by the party there and still to be done and the condition of the manuscripts found in the library, he suggests the desirability of some experts in music and medicine being deputed to examine and value the manuscripts on those

subjects, of which, it is stated, there is a considerable collection in the library. He further adds that there are French and German books and books in other non-Indian languages which have also to be examined by competent men. An extract from his notes is given below:—

A considerable collection of the manuscripts relates to music and medicine and their examination by experts appears to be desirable. I would suggest Mr. C. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar of Mylapore for the former and either Dr. P. S. Chandrasekhar or Pandit Vaidyaratna Gopala Acharlu for the latter.

The French and German books and books in other languages not specified above have also to be examined by competent men.

I have the honour to request that you will be so good as to obtain the orders of Government on the suggestions contained in the above extract.

2. The Registrar has come back to Madras on the 6th instant to attend the meetings of the Senate on the 9th and of the Text Book Committee on the 15th and I intend instructing him to rejoin his special duty at Tanjore as soon as he is free.

VIII

Memorandum No. 2745/16-10, Home (Education), dated the 20th March 1917.

With reference to his letter R.C. No. 6840 of 1916, dated the 7th March 1917, the Director of Public Instruction is informed that the Government do not consider it necessary to engage experts for the examination of manuscripts relating to music and medicine, as only an approximate valuation of the books is required which can be done by the Registrar of Books himself with the help of such local gentlemen interested in these subjects as he may deem fit to consult. Similarly a rough valuation of the Marathi books can doubtless be made with the help of the Marathi knowing gentlemen in Tanjore.

2. The Director is requested to issue instructions to the temporary search party not to proceed with the compilation of the catalogue of the works in as detailed a manner as in the case of the catalogues of the Registrar of Books; the sort of catalogue required is one that will enable the Registrar of Books or other librarian to arrive at an approximate value of the contents of the library, and that can be compiled in the short time that remains before the disposal by sale or otherwise of the library.

3. The suggestion that the Registrar of Books and the Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library should go down to Tanjore in April next for the purpose of valuing the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts on the basis of the catalogue which is expected to be complete by that time is approved. In the meantime, however, the Government consider that, in view of the urgency of the matter, the Registrar of Books should again proceed to Tanjore immediately and in advance and begin the valuation. The Director is requested to instruct him accordingly.

E. A. HARVEY,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

IX

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.
To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.
Dated—Madras, the 30th March 1917.
No.—Ref. on Cur. 6840/16.

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 2745/16-10, dated 20th instant, I have the honour to report that on receipt of the said memorandum I issued instructions to the Registrar of Books to proceed immediately to Tanjore and begin the work of valuation. But that officer having reported that he could conveniently assist the Curator and his special assistant who had been called up to Madras in the work of valuation for a few days before proceeding again to Tanjore, I was about to address Government again on the subject when I received the enclosed letter from the Curator, Oriental Manuscripts Library, requesting that, in the circumstances explained therein, he may be permitted to remain in Madras and complete the work of valuation here with the assistance of his special assistant and the librarian in his office. I see no objection to the arrangement suggested by the Curator

which I beg to request will meet with the very early approval of Government. Meanwhile, I am instructing the Registrar of Books to defer his departure to Tanjore until further orders.

ENCLOSURE

Letter—from M.R.Ry. S. KUPPUSWAMI SASTRIGAL AVARGAL, M.A., Curator, Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.

To—the Director of Public Instruction.

Dated—the 26th/27th March 1917.

No.—R.C. 104 of 1916.

With reference to your Proceedings R.C. No. 6840 of 1916, dated 21st March 1917, I have the honour to state that, in obedience to the orders conveyed therein, I am quite ready to proceed to Tanjore as early as possible after the closing of the Presidency College on the 4th proximo and do what I am directed to do. In the meanwhile I feel it to be my duty to request that you will be good enough to reconsider the orders contained in the above-mentioned proceedings in the light of the facts and circumstances explained below; for the catalogue slips prepared by the search party working at Tanjore could in no sense be said to be really like the catalogues of the Registrar of Books; and it is my honest belief that neither the Registrar of Books nor I could materially benefit the interest of public work in any manner by proceeding at this stage to Tanjore and staying there for some days at the cost of public funds, as the remaining portion of the work relating to the valuation of the Tanjore Palace Library manuscripts could be satisfactorily and expeditiously done only here at the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library where all the facilities for the necessary references exist. I would also specially request that this communication may be treated as very urgent, and that orders thereon may be issued so as to reach me not later than the 2nd proximo.

2. It may be remembered that, as instructed by you through a demi-official from Mr. H. J. Allen, Principal of the Presidency College, I submitted to you on the 18th March 1916 a note embodying my views regarding the preliminary cataloguing and valuation of the manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library with a view to their acquisition by Government. In paragraph 3 of that note was fully explained the proposed scheme for cataloguing and valuation. In pursuance of the suggestions contained in that note, I was directed in your Proceedings R.C. No. 6840, dated 25th August 1916, to send the search party to Tanjore in order to catalogue and value the manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library and to submit, at the end, a report on the results of the party's visit. Paragraph 2 of the said proceedings contains definite instructions as to how the cataloguing and valuation should be done, exactly on the lines indicated in my note above referred to. As a result of the said proceedings, the search party commenced its work at the Tanjore Palace Library in the beginning of October 1916 in accordance with a definite scheme formulated by me. This scheme was entirely based on the suggestions contained in my note submitted to you on the 18th March 1916 and on the instructions contained in paragraph 2 of your Proceedings R.C. No. 6840, dated 25th August 1916. The catalogue slips prepared by the search party in accordance with this scheme are exactly such, and no more nor less, as would meet the requirements indicated in the last six lines of paragraph 1 of your Proceedings R.C. No. 6840 of 1916, dated 21st March 1917. It will be clearly made out from the enclosed statement that the catalogue prepared by the search party in accordance with the above-mentioned scheme has very little in common with the catalogues of the Registrar of Books except that both may be called catalogues. Among the fifteen headings required to be given in the party's catalogue, Nos. 1, 2, 7 and 15 were long ago given up as they were found unnecessary by experience. No. 14 is given only in certain cases and Nos. 6 to 14 are invariably omitted in the case of all the manuscripts containing well known printed works. The remaining items are absolutely necessary for an equitable and adequate, though approximate, valuation of the manuscripts in question. I hope these details will clearly show that the search party's catalogue is in no sense unnecessarily elaborate and the scheme on which it is based does not require alteration in any material respect.

3. The party was all along doing its work at Tanjore most carefully, systematically, and regularly, every member working on all office days from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and some working even on holidays. The party has already finished the cataloguing of 5,343 cadjan manuscripts which comprise 838 Tamil manuscripts, 708 Telugu works including a few Canarese works, and 3,797 Sanskrit works, as also of about 7,900 Sanskrit manuscripts in paper representing various subjects including *medicine and music*. The cataloguing work that remains to be done relates to about 2,538 Sanskrit manuscripts in paper many of which are comparatively easier and less important and to about 1,130 other paper manuscripts, of which 1,000 represent Marathi, about 100 represent mostly Sanskrit works in the form of deranged loose leaves and about 30 represent Persian, Urdu, Bengali, Uriya and Burmese. It may be mentioned here that many of the 1,000 Marathi manuscripts contain Tamil and Telugu works written in Marathi script. I hope all this remaining work relating to cataloguing could be finished about the 22nd proximo.

4. From the very commencement of the party's work at Tanjore and more particularly after the receipt of your Proceedings R.C. No. 6840 of 1916, dated 26th January 1917, every possible precaution was taken to expedite the work. From my Special Assistant's reports ending with his note dated 13th March 1917, I was in a position to gather that the most important part of the party's work was nearing completion and that there was not much scope for the Registrar of Books

proceeded to Tanjore in compliance with your Proceedings R.C. No. 6840 of 1916, dated 12th March 1917, to render any material assistance to the search party in its work at Tanjore. The party had got ready the major portion of the catalogue slips containing all the necessary details about the literary, philosophical, religious, historical or scientific worth of the manuscripts in their extent in granthas, etc. With the help of these particulars contained in the catalogue slips a reasonable and equitable money value should be fixed. And this portion of the work should be done here at the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library with the aid of the Registrar and the permanent staff. In these circumstances, I directed my special assistant to be instant to go to Madras with all the catalogue slips that were ready, after instructing members of the party to attend to the remaining portion of the cataloguing work.

The special assistant accordingly came here on the 19th instant and immediately commenced to settle certain preliminary details and commenced valuation here at the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library with the special assistant and the librarian. Just at this time your Proceedings R.C. No. 6840 of 1916, dated 21st March 1917, was received on the 21st instant.

The Registrar of Books now proposes to assist me here for some days and then to proceed to Tanjore for the valuation of the Marathi manuscripts and those in music and medicine. The Sanskrit manuscripts in music and medicine have already been dealt with and are awaiting consideration for valuation here at Madras. The valuation work cannot be done satisfactorily only at the library here, as the money value of each work has to be determined from the point of view of Government and with special reference to the contents of the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library at Madras. All the necessary particulars regarding the manuscripts are given in the catalogue slips and there will be therefore no necessity in this connexion for any further reference at the Tanjore Palace Library. On the other hand, if the work of valuation should be done at Tanjore, the officers therein engaged will feel considerably hampered on account of the absence of the necessary facilities for referring to the records in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and for consulting its permanent staff. Further the manuscripts in music and medicine do not require any separate and special treatment as the Registrar of Books seems to think and they have been dealt with by the party in the usual course. Nor do I see any necessity for making any special arrangement for dealing with the Marathi manuscripts as the special assistant has already been instructed to arrange for getting ready at a very early date the catalogue slips relating thereto.

5. If I am allowed to proceed with the work of valuation at Madras in accordance with the arrangements I had already made prior to the receipt of your Proceedings R.C. No. 6840 of 1916, dated 21st March 1917, I hope I shall be in a position to submit a brief report and the statement embodying the money value arrived at, so as to reach you not later than the last day of April 1917. Though I fully realize that this matter should be treated as *very urgent*, I am not in a position to express any hope that this work could be finished before the end of April, seeing that about 17,000 catalogue slips have to be scrutinized in this connexion. If it should be insisted that the work of valuation should be done at Tanjore, I am afraid that, for want of necessary facilities for the required references, there will be much unnecessary delay, which easily be avoided by doing the same work at the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras. After submitting the brief report and the statement embodying the money value arrived at, it will be very useful if arrangements could be made to print and publish the catalogue prepared by the search party along with a report drawing attention to the important features. Nearly two months' further time will be required for this latter item of work and I shall make the needed arrangements for printing and publishing the said catalogue after April, if you permit me to do so.

6. In conclusion, I beg leave to request that orders on this communication may be urgently passed and sent so as to reach me not later than the 2nd proximo.

Details in the catalogue slips prepared by the search party.

1. Serial number.
2. Number and page in the Burnell's catalogue.
3. Name of the works.
4. Subject matter.
5. Name of the author.
6. Extent in subject matter.
7. Substance.
8. Script.
9. Page, line and number of letters and granthas.
10. Condition of the manuscript.
11. Importance of the work or manuscript.
12. Whether available in print or not.
13. How many copies exist in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.
14. Any extracts if necessary.
15. General remarks.

Details in the catalogues of the Registrar of Books.

1. Serial number.
2. Author.
3. Title.
4. Brief subject (including the age of the book).
5. Number of pages.
6. Publisher and place of publication.
7. Date given in the title-page with the name of the era.
8. Date of issue from the press or of publication.
9. Size.
10. Edition.
11. Price.
12. Printer and place of printing.

X

Memorandum No. 2743-16-11, Home (Education), dated 4th April 1917

In the circumstances explained in the letter from the Curator, Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, R.C. No. 404, dated the 27th March 1917, the Director of Public Instruction is informed in modification of Memorandum No. 2745-16-11, dated the 20th March 1917, that the Government have no objection to the Curator Registrar of Books remaining in Madras to complete the work of valuating manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library.

E. A. HARVEY,
Acting Secretary to Government

To the Director of Public Instruction.

XI

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. B. VENKATAPATI RAJU, Vizagapatam,
To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.
Dated—the 28th April 1917.

I invite your kind attention to the communication of Mr. K. V. Lakshmanam, editor-in-chief of the Telugu Encyclopædia, regarding the Tanjore Palace Library published in "New India", dated 29th March 1917.

2. He says a peripatetic party is cataloguing and estimating the value of the manuscripts in the Tanjore library. If so may I take it that the Government proposes to acquire for the Oriental Manuscripts Library in Madras as it will be a great boon. Otherwise if the manuscripts are to be sold to persons outside India, we have to take steps to prevent such mishap to the country.

3. I shall feel thankful if you will be pleased to enlighten me in the matter.

XII

Letter—from the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO Avargal,
Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.
To—the Hon'ble Mr. B. VENKATAPATI RAJU, Vizagapatam.
Dated—Ootacamund, the 3rd May 1917.
No.—150-B/1.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 28th April 1917, regarding the acquisition of the manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library which will receive due attention.

XIII

Letter—from the Curator, Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.
To—the Director of Public Instruction.
Dated—the 30th April 1917.
No.—R.C. 104 of 1916.

With reference to your proceedings R.C. No. 6840, dated 25th August 1916, I have the honour to report as follows on the results of the temporary party's visit to Tanjore, in order to catalogue and value the manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library.

2. *The period of the work under report, the staff, engaged therein and outside help.*—In pursuance of the proceedings above referred to the search party commenced its work at the Tanjore Palace Library in the beginning of October 1916 and after finishing the work of cataloguing in accordance with the scheme explained in my note dated the 18th March 1917, submitted through Mr. H. J. Allen, Principal of the Presidency College, and in my letter R.C. No. 104 of 1916, dated 27th March 1917, the party returned to Madras by 20th April 1917 as already reported in my letter R.C. No. 104 of 1916, dated 23rd April 1917. The valuation of the Tanjore Palace Library manuscripts was carried on by the party here at Madras, under my guidance and supervision and with the assistance of the permanent staff of the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library on the basis of the particulars contained in 20,254 catalogue slips, which the party had already prepared at the Tanjore Palace Library after carefully examining each of the 20,254 manuscripts to which the slips relate. Towards the concluding stage of this work, the Registrar of Books, Madras, was required in Director's Proceedings R.C. No. 6840 of 1916, dated 12th February 1917, to proceed to Tanjore and assist the search party in the work now reported on.

Accordingly that officer paid a visit to the Tanjore Palace Library and stopping there for a few days acquainted himself with the progress of the party's work there. I had also the benefit of his presence and suggestions at the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library here when I considered and settled with my staff the general principles of valuation at its initial stage and at its final stage when the money value of the various classes of works was fixed. In the cataloguing and valuation of the Mahratti manuscripts and of the few Arabic, Persian and Urdu manuscripts, assistance to the needed extent was received respectively from Mr. K. V. Lakshmana Rao, M.A., of Madras, who is Diwan of the Munugala Estate, Hyderabad, and Mahratti scholar and Mr. Tuljaram Rao, who is a Marathi pandit on the Tanjore Palace Library staff, and from Mr. Muhammad Dostagir, who is a munshi in Arabic, Persian and Urdu at Tanjore.

3. *The statements of valuation explained.*—The results of this valuation are embodied in the three statements A, B and C herewith submitted. Statement A shows separately under different languages and subjects, the number of manuscripts considered to be deserving of individual appraisal with the total money value for each head and the number of manuscripts not deserving of any individual appraisal but covered by the money value fixed for the collection as a whole. Statement B sets forth in detail the classification for valuation purposes, of the various works according to their intrinsic merits along with the rates of money value per one thousand granthas adopted for each class. Statement C gives the number of manuscripts in each of the classes recognized in statement B, along with the total amount of estimated price for each class. From these statements it will be made out that the valuation of the manuscripts rests chiefly on three considerations, viz. :—

- (1) The intrinsic merits of the works ;
- (2) their availability in print ; and
- (3) the existence of the corresponding manuscripts in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library.

On these considerations, three main classes are recognized for purposes of valuation. Unpublished works which are rare and important are assigned to the first class, unprinted works of less importance to the second, and to the third such of the printed works as would justify individual appraisal for one special reason or other. The non-existence or existence of a few or many corresponding manuscripts the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library serves to determine the varying grades of value in each of these classes. A few works which are small in extent and rare and good but would not admit of equitable appraisal on the *grantha* extent are allowed to carry special money values. In a few cases 25 per cent of the face value has been allowed extra, for rarity, antiquity, calligraphic excellence, good condition and other remarkable features. The money rates allowed for each class are for one thousand *granthas* each *grantha* consisting of 32 syllables. These rates are fixed chiefly from the point of view of the local Government and after duly considering the rates normally allowed in Indian manuscript libraries. I believe that the rates are perfectly equitable and cannot be said to be in any way extravagant or illiberal.

4. *The money value arrived at for all the manuscripts excluding almirahs Rs. 57,000 and including almirahs Rs. 62,000.*—Thus it will be observed that out of a total number of 20,254 manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library, 6,527 manuscripts are deserving of individual appraisal and carry a total value of Rs. 31,263-8-0, which in round figures may be put down as Rs. 31,000. The collection as a whole including the 13,727 manuscripts which do not admit of individual appraisal deserves a separate consideration of a substantial nature, particularly in view of the labour and cost involved in collection, preservation and restoration and in view of the fact that even the large portion of the collection that has already been made available to the public in printed books can never fail to have a special importance and value, comparatively diminished as it may be to the world of scholars for critical research in various branches of oriental knowledge. I would therefore assign Rs. 16,000 to the collection as a whole. This amount of Rs. 16,000 represents about 50 per cent

the total value arrived at on individual appraisal and would cover all the 13,727 manuscripts which are not individually appraised. Among the paper manuscripts many contain a good number of fine illustrations, mostly descriptive of the contents inside. These illustrations exhibit an important stage in the development of indigenous drawing and painting and many of them bear eloquent testimony to a high degree of artistic beauty and skill. There are approximately about 2,076 such illustrations in all and they deserve to carry on the whole a special value of Rs. 10,000. Further the almirahs which accommodate the manuscripts at the Tanjore Palace Library, about fifteen of a big size and eight of a comparatively smaller size, would appear to be deserving of a total value of Rs. 5,000. Thus it will be observed that the money value of the whole collection of manuscripts at the Tanjore Palace Library would work up to Rs. 62,000 including the amount of Rs. 5,000 assigned to the almirahs :—

	In round figures.
	RS.
The total money value arrived at on individual appraisal	31,000
The value assigned to the collection as a whole including 13,727 manuscripts not deserving of individual appraisal	16,000
The value assigned to about 2,076 illustrations contained in various paper manuscripts	10,000
The almirahs accommodating the manuscripts about 15 of a big size, and about 8 of a comparatively smaller size	5,000
Total	62,000

I may be permitted to observe here that during the long period of nearly four decades that has elapsed since the publication of Doctor Burnell's catalogue in the year 1880 a good number of enthusiastic scholars and publishers in and outside India have with admirable zeal brought into existence good printed editions many of them being also scholarly and accurate, of many an important manuscripts in oriental languages. This fact in particular and the other fact also no less significant, viz., the provision that has been made in important centres like the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library at Madras, for a sustained and systematic activity in the direction of collecting, preserving and restoring the useful and valuable manuscript treasures of India, have tended to a considerable depreciation in value of even the Tanjore Palace manuscript collection which is widely believed to be one of the richest collections in South India. If these facts and details explained in paragraphs 3 and 4 supra be borne in mind nobody will have reason to be surprised that the total money value of the manuscript collection as now estimated has fallen below even a tenth or a fifteenth part of what might have been assigned to it in the days of Doctor Burnell or in earlier times.

5. *Statement D.*—Statement D will represent an alphabetically arranged list of the manuscript works in the Tanjore Palace Library, grouped under different languages and appropriate heads of subjects, with the names of authors and suitable remarks regarding noteworthy points. It is also proposed to include in this statement a short account of the history and importance of the Tanjore Palace manuscript collection, the defects and merits of the existing catalogues of the collection and the important features of the party's catalogue now prepared as also a brief notice of such of the manuscripts as are typically remarkable and particularly interesting. The preparation of this statement will soon be commenced and I hope it would be got ready by the end of June next. In this connexion I may state that it would be highly advantageous to the world of scholars to arrange for separately printing this Statement D and distributing a copy to each of the scholars on the Government list of free distribution. And I shall approach you in due course, with a separate request to this effect when the Statement D will be submitted.

6. I may also inform you in this connexion that the search party which has been engaged in the Tanjore Palace library since October last will soon resume its regular work of search and collection in different areas, in accordance with its original programme.

ENCLOSURES

STATEMENT A.—Manuscripts individually appraised in each language and subject and their money value.

Language.	Subject.	Total number of manuscripts in each subject.	Number of manuscripts considered to be deserving of individual appraisal.	Total amount of estimated price of such manuscripts.	Number of manuscripts not deserving of individual appraisal but covered by the price fixed for the collection as a whole.
Sanskrit ..	(a) Vedic literature	584	60	514 0	524
	(b) Kalpasutras and Prayoga	1,317	1,317	1,843 8	380
	(c) Itihasa	963	113	849 8	850
	(d) Purana	1,076	268	1,337 8	808
	(e) Dharmasastra	1,399	444	2,990 0	955
	(f) Grammar	577	97	863 0	480
	(g) Sankhya and Yoga	43	14	17 0	29
	(h) Nyaya and Vaisesika	442	174	1,539 8	268
	(i) Mimamsa	181	50	1,321 0	131
	(j) Vedanta	1,011	312	2,162 8	699
	(k) Kosa	284	92	542 8	192
	(l) Kavya	1,031	241	1,408 8	790
	(m) Nataka	336	81	362 0	255
	(n) Alankara including Kamasasra	201	63	448 0	138
	(o) Sangita and Natya	285	225	762 0	60
	(p) Jyantisia	372	158	813 0	214
	(q) Vaidya	228	153	1,009 0	75
	(r) Silpa	29	32	190 8	7
	(s) Agama	143	102	689 0	41
	(t) Mantra	1,390	233	772 0	1,157
Tamil ..	(u) Vrata	1,063	59	104 8	1,004
	(v) Stotra	3,215	252	431 0	2,963
	(w) Arthasastra	33	13	99 0	20
	(x) Natural History	54	46	613 8	8
	(y) Miscellaneous	17	9	14 0	8
	Total ..	16,664	4,608	21,696 0	12,056
Telugu ..	(a) Itihasa	77	15	155 0	62
	(b) Purana	114	40	359 0	74
	(c) Dharmasastra	27	5	56 0	22
	(d) Grammar	53	16	123 0	37
	(e) Nyaya	2	1	5 0	..
	(f) Vedanta	134	43	124 8	91
	(g) Kosa	47	1	7 0	46
	(h) Kavya	385	112	386 8	273
	(i) Nataka	40	32	39 8	8
	(j) Alankara	10	1	4 0	9
	(k) Sangita	2	2	10 0	..
	(l) Astrology	42	12	23 0	30
Marathi ..	(m) Medicine	148	117	691 8	31
	(n) Stotra	170	20	176 8	150
	Total ..	1,250	417	2,160 8	883
Pali ..	Itihasa and Purana	175	21	199 8	154
	Vyakarna	24	18	62 8	6
	Vedanta	21	10	47 6	11
	Kosa	4	1	3 0	3
	Kavya	245	108	536 8	137
	Nataka	215	141	348 8	74
	Sangita	13	9	19 0	4
	Miscellaneous	9	3	2 0	6
Hindi ..	Total ..	706	311	1,218 8	395
	Itihasa	345	176	2,002 0	169
	Purana	182	157	1,370 8	25
	Vedanta	469	346	926 8	123
	Kavya	156	100	239 0	56
	Nataka	219	168	264 8	51
	Kosa	8	8	66 0	..
	Miscellaneous	209	199	611 0	10
Persian ..	Total ..	1,588	1,154	6,079 8	434
	Itihasa	1	1	25 0	..
	Purana	11	9	9 0	2
	Vedanta	27	23	71 0	4
	Kavya	5	2	2 0	3
	Nataka	2	2	2 0	..
	Kosa	..	..	..	..
	Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..
Urdu ..	Total ..	46	37	109 0	9
	Itihasa	1	1	25 0	..
	Purana	11	9	9 0	2
	Vedanta	27	23	71 0	4
	Kavya	5	2	2 0	3
	Nataka	2	2	2 0	..
	Kosa	..	..	..	..
	Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..
Arabic ..	Total ..	46	37	109 0	9
	Itihasa	1	1	25 0	..
	Purana	11	9	9 0	2
	Vedanta	27	23	71 0	4
	Kavya	5	2	2 0	3
	Nataka	2	2	2 0	..
	Kosa	..	..	..	..
	Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..
Grand total ..		20,254	5,527	31,263 8	13,727

STATEMENT B.—Classes of manuscripts and their rates of price per 1,000 granthas.

		Per 1,000 granthas.	
		RS.	A.
I.	(a) Rare and important works which are <i>not yet printed</i> and <i>not represented by any manuscript</i> in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.	5	0
	(b) Rare and important works which are <i>not yet printed</i> and <i>not represented by more than two manuscripts</i> in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.	4	0.
	(c) Important works which are <i>not yet printed</i> and deserve to be acquired though represented by <i>more than two manuscripts</i> in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.	3	0
	(d) <i>Works of a special character.</i> —Books which are <i>small</i> in extent but <i>very rare</i> and would not be <i>equitably appraised on grantha extent</i> . Each book should be estimated on its individual merits under special rates.	...	
II.	Works which though <i>comparatively of less importance</i> are <i>not yet printed</i> and are <i>not represented by manuscripts</i> in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.	(a)	4 0
		(b)	3 0
		(c)	2 0
III.	(a) Important works, which, though <i>already printed</i> , are <i>not represented by any manuscripts</i> in the Oriental Manuscripts Library, and deserve to be acquired.	2	0
	(b) Important works, which though <i>already printed</i> and represented by <i>one or more manuscripts</i> in the Oriental Manuscripts Library, still deserve to be acquired as furnishing useful materials for research or collation.	1	8
IV.	Other manuscripts for which no separate price need be fixed, and which will be covered by the consideration to be offered for the manuscripts collection as a whole.	...	

N.B.—Twenty-five per cent to be added in special cases for rarity, antiquity, calligraphic excellence, good condition and other remarkable features.

STATEMENT C.—Estimated price for each of the classes recognized in statement B.

Classes of works for valuation purposes.	Number of works deserving of individual appraisal.	Amount of estimated price of such manuscript in each class.	
		RS.	A.
I. (a) Rare and important works which are not yet printed and not represented by any manuscript in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.	542	5,971	8
(b) Rare and important works which are not yet printed and not represented by more than two manuscripts in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.	179	2,769	0
(c) Important works which are not yet printed and deserve to be acquired though represented by more than two manuscripts in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.	97	1,522	0
(d) <i>Works of a special character.</i> —Books which are small in extent but very rare and would not be equitably appraised on grantha extent.	1,136	2,880	0
II.—Works which though comparatively of less importance are not yet printed and are not represented by more than two manuscripts in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.	4,004	15,046	0
III. (a) Important works which though already printed are not represented by any manuscript in the Oriental Manuscripts Library and deserve to be acquired.	255	1,776	0
(b) Important works, which, though already printed and represented by one or more manuscripts in the Oriental Manuscripts Library, still deserve to be acquired as furnishing useful materials for research or collation.	314	1,299	0
Total ...	6,527	31,263	8

R.O. No. 6840 of 1916, dated 10th May 1917.

Submitted to Government with reference to their memorandum No. 2745-2, dated the 14th August 1916.

2. Since the matter in question is, at present, the acquisition of the library, the Curator is being asked not to proceed with Statement D referred to in paragraph 5 of his report until orders of Government requiring its preparation are received.

J. H. STONE,
Director of Public Instruction.

To the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

XIV

Memorandum No. 2745/16-14, Home (Education), dated 13th August 1917.

In continuation of telegram No. 385, dated the 8th August 1917, conveying the approval of the Government to the arrangements proposed for the maintenance of the Tanjore Palace Library, the Collector of Tanjore is requested to submit an official report to Government after all the details have been settled in consultation with the parties concerned and a definite scheme for the management of the library has been formulated.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Tanjore.

XV

Letter—from C. G. MACKAY, Esq., I.C.S., Registrar, High Court.
To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department
Dated—Madras, the 17th April 1918.
No.—R.O.C. 1256.

I am directed to forward for the orders of Government a letter No. 747, dated the 1st April 1918, from the Subordinate Judge, Tanjore, with its enclosures, viz., four applications submitted by the interpleading defendants in Original Suit No. 26 of 1912 (The Tanjore Palace Estate Suit) praying that the Tanjore Palace Library and an Endowment fund may be vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments.

ENCLOSURES

(1)

Letter—from M.R.Ry. S. RANGANADA MUDALIYAR AVARGAL, B.A., B.L., Subordinate Judge, Tanjore.
To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department (through the District Judge, Tanjore).
Dated—the 1st April 1918.
No.—747.

I have the honour to forward herewith applications as detailed in the margin by the interpleading defendants in Original Suit No. 26 of 1912 (The Tanjore Palace Estate Suit) praying for orders of Government vesting in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments the Saraswati Mahal Library and as an Endowment thereto Government Promissory Notes of the face value of a lakh of rupees described more fully in the applications.

2. The parties presented these applications as an enclosure to their petitions interlocutory applications Nos. 73, 82, 83, 84 and 85 of 1918 in which they stated that all the parties to the suit are agreed:—

(1) that the Tanjore Palace Library which is item 1 of schedule H of the plaint in the suit shall be constituted a public library in trust for the public;

(2) that for the upkeep and efficient management of the library a sum of one lakh of rupees shall be endowed from the funds of the Tanjore Palace Estate in the hands of the Receiver appointed by the Court in the above suit and that the amount should be paid by the allotment of the 5½ per cent war loan bonds of 1920 of the face value of one lakh of rupees;

(3) that every one of the parties relinquishes his claim or right whatever it is to the library and to the sum of one lakh of rupees allotted as above;

(4) that the aforesaid two items—the library and the amount of one lakh of rupees—shall at once be removed from the matters for decision in the suit and may be declared to be no longer the property of any of the parties to the suit;

(5) that necessary application may be made to the Court with a prayer to give effect to the above, and

(6) that effect may be given to this agreement forthwith without awaiting the adjudication of the suit itself;

(7) that the library shall be named "The Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal";

(8) that the library shall be located in the Tanjore Palace with the permission of Government and that it shall never be removed from there;

(9) that the library and the endowment therefor be vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, Madras, appointed under Act VI of 1890;

(10) that application be made by the petitioners to the Government of Madras for such vesting under the provisions of Act VI of 1890.

(11) that Government be requested to frame a scheme under the Act for the management of the library and its endowment;

(12) that in framing such a scheme Government be requested to make it part of the scheme to have a Board of Trustees consisting of five members as follows:—

(1) The Collector of Tanjore (Ex officio).

(2) The District Judge of Tanjore (Ex officio).

(3) An adult male member of the family of the successful claimant or claimants in Original Suit No. 26 of 1912 aforesaid to be nominated by Government.

(4) & (5) Two non-official Hindu residents of the Tanjore district outside the family of No. 3 above to be nominated, one by Government and the other by No. 3 above;

and prayed for orders for recording their agreement and passing orders in terms of it so far as it related to the suit.

3. The compromise being properly proved or admitted, an order has been made that it be recorded and that it will be embodied in the final decree, and in so far as these terms cover the subject matter of the suit the decree will be in conformity with the terms of the razi nama. I therefore request that the orders of Government might be obtained upon the application and communicated to me.

(2)

Letter—from M.R.Ry. Sivajiraja and others, defendants in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 (The Tanjore Palace Estate Suit).

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department (through the Subordinate Judge of Tanjore).

Dated—the 14th October 1917.

We, the undersigned, have the honour to submit this application under sections 4 and 5 of the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 and to request that Government will be pleased to vest in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments the Tanjore Palace Library and the Government securities belonging to it as described in detail in the enclosed schedules.

2. The Tanjore Palace Library is part of the property belonging to the Tanjore Palace Estate regarding the succession to which an interpleader suit—O.S. No. 26 of 1912—is now being tried by the Subordinate Court of Tanjore. The whole estate including this library is now in the management of the Receiver appointed by the Court pending disposal of the suit.

3. We are the defendants in the suit interpleading against one another. The library abovementioned is a large and valuable one. And it is eminently fit to be preserved and maintained as a public library in trust for the public. Speedy steps have to be taken for its preservation and upkeep as the pending litigation may take long before the final court of appeal adjudicates on it. In view of all these circumstances we have by mutual consent agreed each to relinquish his claims whatever it is to this item of property in the suit and to constitute it a public trust forthwith. As an endowment of funds is necessary for the upkeep of the library we have also agreed that out of the funds of the estate in the hands of the Receiver a sum of one lakh of rupees should be set apart for the purpose, our claim to the same being also relinquished likewise.

4. To give effect to our agreement we have filed an application in the Subordinate Court of Tanjore in the above suit under Order XXIII, Rule 3 of the Civil Procedure Code, requesting the Court to remove the aforesaid two items of property—the library and a lakh of rupees—from the scope of the suit, to declare them not to be the property of any of us and to exclude the same from the decree to be passed in the suit.

5. A sum of about three lakhs of rupees has been recently invested by the Receiver in 5½ per cent war bonds of 1920. We have requested the Subordinate Judge to allot out of these bonds of the face value of one lakh of rupees.

6. It is the express wish of us all that the following form part of the conditions of the trust and the endowment and shall be given effect to:—

(1) The library shall be called the "Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal."

(2) It shall be located in the Tanjore Palace with the permission of Government.

(3) It shall never be removed from there.

(4) The scheme framed under the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 shall provide for a board of trustees consisting of five members as follows:—

(1) The Collector of Tanjore (Ex officio).

(2) The District Judge of Tanjore (Ex officio).

(3) An adult male member of the family of the successful claimant or claimants in Original Suit No. 26 of 1912 aforesaid to be nominated by Government.

(4 & 5) Two non-official Hindu residents of the Tanjore district outside the family of No. 3 above, one to be nominated by Government and the other by No. 3 above.

SCHEDULES.

I

The Tanjore Palace Library which is included as item 1 of schedule H of the plaint in Original Suit No. 26 of 1912 on the file of the Subordinate Court of Tanjore. All the books, manuscripts, etc., and the furniture appertaining to the same.

II

Particulars of the 5½ per cent war bonds are given below:—

Stock No. 017484 of 5½ per cent war bonds of 1920—face value Rs. 1,50,000—out of this one lakh of rupees.

XVI

Memorandum No. 2745/16-18, Home (Education), dated 25th April 1918.

Copies of letter from the Registrar, High Court, Madras, No. 1256, dated the 17th April 1918, with its enclosures on the subject of vesting in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments the Tanjore Palace Library and an endowment fund for its maintenance are forwarded to the Collector of Tanjore and to the Government Solicitor, Madras. The Government Solicitor is requested to prepare the draft notifications for vesting the properties in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments and for settling a scheme for their administration and submit them to Government in duplicate at a very early date; and the Collector will furnish him with the materials necessary for the purpose.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Tanjore.
Government Solicitor, Madras.

XVII

Letter—from H. BRIGHTWELL, Esq., Government Solicitor, Madras.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 12th September 1918.

No.—1019.

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 2745/16-18, dated the 25th April 1918, and in continuation of my reply, dated 27th August 1918, to a reminder issued by Government I beg to send herewith as required two draft notifications in duplicate one for vesting the library and the endowment in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, and the other a draft scheme for the administration thereof for the approval of Government.

2. The Collector and Government Agent, Tanjore, reports that no immovable property is to be vested in the Treasurer and that as regards the library he says that "in any case I presume a catalogue of the books in the library is not to be published as a schedule to the notification. A complete catalogue does not exist and it will take a very long time indeed to prepare one". The description of the library as given in schedule A is all, I presume, that can with any certainty under the circumstances be had.

3. As desired by the Collector of Tanjore I send herewith two original applications one by defendants 1 to 3, 5 to 11 and 18 to 24 and the other by the fourth defendant together with a certified copy of the Sub-Judge's order in I.A. No. 73 of 1918 in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 on the file of the Subordinate Court of Tanjore. The sample application sent to me with the Government memorandum is also returned herewith.

4. The delay in replying to the reference is owing to the fact that replies from the Collector of Tanjore have only just been received.

ENCLOSURE

IN THE COURT OF THE SUBORDINATE JUDGE OF TANJORE.

PRESENT:

M.R.Ry. S. RUNGANADA MUDALIYAR AVARGAL, B.A., B.L., *Subordinate Judge.**Monday the twenty-fifth day of March One-thousand nine hundred and eighteen.*

I.A. No. 73 of 1918 in O.S. No. 26 of 1912.

- (1) Ry. Sivaji Raha Sahib, (2) Ry. Pratapasingha Raja Sahib, (3) Srimat Chota Raha Sahib Mohitai alias Chimma Sahib, (4) Ry. Vijaya Aiyaswaryanandhaji, (5) Ry. Vimalanandhaji Sahib, (6) T. A. Raghava Sahib, (7) Ry. Sivahari Kumaranandhaji Sahib, (8) Minor Skandanandhaji Sahib represented by seventh petitioner as next-friend, (9) Ry. Sivabhadranandhaji Sahib alias Das Sahib, (10) Ry. Bhaganandhaji Sahib alias Vasudeva Sahib by authorized agent T. A. Raghava Sahib, (11) Ry. Pratapa Singha Rao alias Bhan Sahib of Satara, (12) Ry. Poornanandha Mahdigai Rao Sahib, (13) Ry. Nagaraja Madigai Rao Sahib, (14) Ry. Hari Rudra Mana Rao Ingilai Rao Sahib, (15) Hari Rao Mohitai Rao Sahib, (16) Atmaram Mohitai Rao Sahib, (17) Ramachandra Survai Rao Sahib, (18) Sirdar Narayana Rao alias Rao Sahib Bhosle of Gwalior. (Defendants (1) to (3), (5) to (11), (14) and (18) to (24)). *Petitioners.*

APPLICATION, dated 13th March 1918, under Order XXIII, rule 3, Code of Civil Procedure, praying that the court will be pleased to record the agreement entered into between the parties and to pass a decree in terms thereof so far as it relates to suit regarding item 1 of plaint H schedule.

This application coming on this day before me in the presence of Mr. K. S. Viraraghava Achariyar, vakil for petitioners (1) and (2), Mr. V. R. Rajagopala Achariyar, vakil for third petitioner, Mr. A. Narasimha Achariyar, vakil for petitioners (4) and (6) to (10), Mr. K. P. Subramanya Ayyar, vakil for twelfth petitioner, and Mr. K. Anantarama Ayyar, vakil for eighteenth petitioner and petitioners (5), and (13) to (17) having signed this petition, and (the fourteenth defendant's) eleventh petitioner's agent having signed this compromise, the Court made the following.

Order.

Seindia Sahib claiming to be the legal representative of twelfth defendant proves sixteenth defendant's consent as legal representative. Another claimant as legal representative of twelfth defendant Rajaram Mohite by vakil Mr. T. S. Krishnamurti Ayyar admits compromise. The compromise is proved against the absent defendants and legal representatives. The vakils of defendants (1) to (3), (4), (5), (7) to (11), (15), (16) and (24) are present and admits compromise; (1) and (2) and (14) and (15) defendants consent also as legal representative of twelfth defendant. The compromise is therefore recorded and will be embodied in the final decree and in so far as it concerns the subject matter of the suit the decree will be in conformity with the terms herein.

Pronounced in open Court this 25th day of March 1918.

Order—No. 1306, Home (Education), dated 5th October 1918.

The following notifications will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* :—

NOTIFICATIONS

I

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS ACT, 1890, AND IN THE MATTER OF THE TANJORE MAHARAJA SERFOJI'S SARASWATI MAHAL ENDOWMENT AT TANJORE.

Whereas application has been made to the Government of Madras by many of the parties to Original Suit No. 26 of 1912 on the file of the Court of the Subordinate Judge at Tanjore representing that the defendants in the said suit are interpleading against one another and whereas they represented to the said Government inter alia that the succession to the Tanjore Palace Library was one of the matters for decision in the suit and that it was eminently fit that the said library should be preserved and maintained as a public library in trust for the public and whereas it was further represented that a petition under Order XXIII, rule 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure, had been filed in the said Court to remove out of the subject matter of

the suit the said library and one lakh of rupees to provide for its upkeep and whereas the said Government are satisfied that the said petition has been properly proved or admitted by the parties and that an order as prayed for has been passed and issued by the said Court:

Now it is hereby notified that the Governor of Fort St. George in Council in exercise of the powers conferred by section 4 of the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, doth hereby order and direct that the movable property described in schedule A hereto annexed and the 5½ per cent war bonds described in schedule B now in the hands of the Receiver appointed by the said Court in the said suit shall as and from the date of publication of this notification vest in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments for the territories subject to the Government of Madras and be held by him and his successors (subject to the provisions of the said Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, and to any rules which may from time to time be framed thereunder by the Governor-General of India in Council) upon trust for the purposes and subject to the conditions set forth in a scheme under section 5 of the said Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, for the administration of the said 'The Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal' Endowment at Tanjore.

Schedule A.

The Tanjore Palace Library contained in Saraswati Mahal in the Tanjore palace which is bounded on the west by the open yard in front of 'Serfoji's Statue Hall', on the north by the covered passage from the 'Sarat Mahal' yard, to the Statue Hall yard, on the east by the open yard and 'cloisters' in front of the 'Maharaja Sabah' and on the south by the Jirathkhana rooms under the 'Arsenal Tower' and consist of all the books manuscripts the shelves and almirahs in which they are kept and preserved and all other things and articles of furniture appertaining thereto.

Schedule B.

One lakh of rupees part of stock No. 017484 of 5½ per cent war bonds of 1920 of the face value of Rs. 1,50,000.

II

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS ACT, 1890, AND IN THE MATTER OF THE TANJORE MAHARAJA SERFOJI'S SARASWATI MAHAL ENDOWMENT AT TANJORE.

It is hereby notified that the Governor of Fort St. George in Council in exercise of the powers conferred by section 5 of the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, has settled the scheme set forth in the schedule hereto for the administration of 'the Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal' Endowment and the 5½ per cent war bonds of 1920 vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments by notification No. 148, dated the 6th day of October 1918, and that such scheme shall come into operation on the 1st day of November 1918.

The scheme above referred to.

- (1) The library shall be called 'the Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal.'
- (2) It shall be located in the Tanjore palace and shall on no account be removed from there.
- (3) The administration of the movable property and 5½ per cent war bonds of 1920 vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments of Madras by notification No. 148, dated the 5th day of October 1918, shall be vested in a committee consisting of five members:—
 - (a) The Collector of Tanjore for the time being.
 - (b) The District and Sessions Judge of Tanjore for the time being.
 - (c) An adult male member of the family of the successful claimant or claimants in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 on the file of the Court of the Subordinate Judge of Tanjore to be nominated by the Government of Madras.
 - (d) One non-official Hindu resident of the Tanjore district who shall be the Secretary to the Committee to be nominated by the Government of Madras.
 - (e) One non-official Hindu resident of the Tanjore district to be nominated by No. (c).
- (4) The nominations referred to in clause (3) above shall be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and the date of such publication shall be the date of commencement subject to clause (6) hereof of the office of such nominated members.
- (5) The first nominations under rule 3 shall be made and notified on or before the 1st day of December 1918.
- (6) The first committee shall commence to hold office on and after the 1st day of December 1918.
- (7) Subject to death or resignation each of the nominated members other than the member of the family referred to in clause 3 (c) shall hold office for five years but they are eligible to be re-nominated. The member referred to in clause 3 (c) shall hold office for life.
- (8) On the happening of a vacancy in the committee the Secretary shall report the fact within seven days of such occurrence to the Government of Madras where the nomination is to be made by the said Government and to the member referred to in clause 3 (c) where the nomination is to be made by him. The remaining members shall carry on the administration till the vacancy is filled up.

(9) If the member referred to in clause 3 (c) fails for any reason whatsoever to fill up the vacancy of the member referred to in clause 3 (c) within three months of the Secretary's said report the then existing members of the said committee shall report the fact to the said Government who shall then fill up the vacancy.

(10) The members of the committee shall meet to transact business at least once in every month or at such other times as they shall decide.

(11) The committee shall maintain proper accounts.

(12) The committee shall annually prepare and pass a budget for the income and expenditure of each official year (1st April to the following 31st March). The budget shall be passed before the commencement of the official year to which it relates.

(13) Early in the month of May of each year the committee shall submit a report to the Government of Madras on the administration of the library and its endowment during the previous official year.

(14) The said Government may at their pleasure require the accounts of the committee to be audited once a year by a competent auditor.

(15) The income from and out of the said endowment shall be handed over as often as it is realized by the said Treasurer of Charitable Endowments to the said committee. The said income shall be utilized in the administration preservation or development of the said library.

(16) The said committee shall from time to time frame rules not inconsistent with any of the provisions of this scheme with regard to the following matters:—

(i) to regulate the procedure and transaction of business at meetings of the said committee,

(ii) for the maintenance of and mode of keeping accounts minute books forms returns and other similar papers and documents,

(iii) to regulate the manner in which the income shall be utilized, and

(iv) generally to regulate all matters connected with the administration of the endowment provided always that such rules shall not come into force until they shall have been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

(17) All interest on the said endowment that may not be required for the purpose of the said Mahal shall be accumulated and such accumulations shall from time to time be invested in the securities of the Government of India and be added to the corpus of the endowment.

2. The Collector of Tanjore is requested to submit, at an early date, the names of the persons who may, in his opinion, be appointed as members of the Committee under clause (3) of the scheme.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Tanjore, with a catalogue of English books returned.

" Director of Public Instruction.
" Accountant-General.
" Superintendent, Government Press.
" Local and Municipal (Legislative) Department.
" Public (Financial) Department.
" Public (Political) Department.
" Home (Miscellaneous) Department.
" " (Judicial) Department.

Editors' Table (Order only).

Order only.

[SUBJECT.—*Tanjore Palace Library.*]

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Demi-official—from T. E. MOIR, Esq., I.C.S., Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

To—the Hon'ble Mr. C. G. TODHUNTER, I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Public Department.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 20th July 1916.

During his visit to Tanjore in December last His Excellency paid a visit to the Tanjore Palace Library and his attention was drawn to the fact that when the litigation of which it forms a part of the subject matter ends it would pass into private hands and that there would be considerable risk of its being sold for what it may fetch and being dispersed. Should that contingency arise, it may be advisable for Government to purchase the library not merely in order to prevent this interesting and well-known collection from being broken up but also because the Sanskrit and vernacular section may contain a number of manuscripts of great value which, if dispersed, would no longer be accessible to scholars. Should the question of purchase by Government come under consideration, a valuation would be necessary and difficulties would probably be avoided if, when the time came, such valuation were already available.

2. Under His Excellency's instructions I have therefore made some preliminary inquiries and I am now to send you copies of the following correspondence:—

(1) A letter to the Director of Public Instruction, dated 9th February 1916.

(2) A letter to Mr. Dodwell of the same date.

(3) Reply from Mr. Dodwell, which is undated, received on 13th February 1916.

(4) A note by Professor Kuppuswami Sastri, dated 18th March 1916, handed to me by Mr. Stone.

(5) A letter to Mr. Wood, dated 8th May 1916.

(6) Mr. Wood's reply, dated 14th July 1916.

3. This correspondence explains itself and I am now to suggest that, if the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew agrees, a copy of the catalogue of the English books might be procured and sent to Mr. Dodwell with a view to securing a valuation of the English books in the library.

4. I have also to suggest that the proposals contained in Mr. Wood's letter as regards valuation of the manuscripts by the peripatetic party might be considered. His Excellency is unable to say how far the peripatetic party is competent to form a critical appreciation or a valuation of these manuscripts. But apart from the desirability of keeping this collection intact, if it can be purchased for a reasonable sum, it may ultimately be found that there is no reason why Government should purchase copies of works which have already been critically edited and published or of the works of numerous authors which are neither of literary nor critical value and whose only title to consideration lies in the fact that they are written in Sanskrit.

5. His Excellency would be glad if the future of the library might now be considered in all its bearings and would like to see the papers when this examination had been carried out.

ENCLOSURES

(1)

Demi-official—from T. E. MOIR, Esq., I.C.S., Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

To—the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

Dated—the 9th February 1916.

You will remember that I discussed the question of the establishment of a University of oriental languages at Tanjore with you some time ago, in which connexion the ultimate fate of the Tanjore Palace Library arose. I understand that His Excellency has since mentioned the subject to you and I am now to ask that, if you see no objection, you will kindly ask the Honorary Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library (Professor S. Kuppuswami Sastri) if he will be so good as to submit his recommendations for

(1) the cataloguing

(2) the valuation

of the Tanjore library as far as the vernacular and manuscript portion of it is concerned.

Please note that it is not proposed to take any action at present, and Professor Kuppuswami Sastri's views are for the moment only required as to the manner in which he considers such a task should be undertaken.

(2)

Demi-official—from T. E. MOIR, Esq., I.C.S., Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

To—H. DODWELL, Esq., Curator, Madras Record Office.

Dated—the 9th February 1916.

There is, as possibly you are aware, at Tanjore a library housed in the Tanjore Palace buildings. It was founded between 1798-1824 in the time of Raja Sarabhoji who was a great collector of books. It consists of two parts—

(1) A collection of books—mainly English I understand—which were sent out to him at various times from Europe, and

(2) a collection of Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts.

The library does not belong to Government and its future destiny depends on a civil suit which is at present being contested by different members of the family. The question of acquiring it on behalf of Government may come up at some time and that will presuppose a valuation. His Excellency would be much obliged if you would give your suggestions as to the lines on which the cataloguing and the valuation of the printed books in the library if undertaken should be carried out.

I enclose an extract from a note referring to the library.

Sub-Enclosure

The library is an object of considerable interest from a philological point of view and contains a valuable collection of Sanskrit books. These have been catalogued by Dr. Burnell and are estimated to have cost its collectors over £10,000 though there are really no data for this estimate. In the preface to the catalogue that writer says that the manuscripts are the result of perhaps 300 years' collection by the Nayaks and the Mahratta kings. There are some quaint old illustrated works of botany and natural history, by the use of which Raja Sarabhoji is said to have been taught these branches of science. There is a skeleton of the human body, specially constructed in ivory, with the object (it is said) of enabling the Raja to learn anatomy, without undergoing ceremonial defilement. The large collection of old English books is not without interest, from the point of view of the book collector and student of eighteenth century literature. It is an interesting fact that the Raja is believed to have written his name in his own hand in every volume. Sarabhoji's personality, as far as it can be divined from the Palace and the Schwartz Church, must have been an attractive one in some ways.

(3)

Demi-official—from H. DODWELL, Esq., Curator, Record Office, Madras.

To—T. E. MOIR, Esq., I.C.S., Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

About the printed books in the Tanjore library—I myself know something about 18th century-book prices, but the available information about the number and contents of the library seems too scanty for me to offer any opinion at present about what ought to be done about valuing and cataloguing. If the suggestion meets with His Excellency's approval, I will very readily go down to Tanjore and have a look at the collection.

(4)

Note regarding the cataloguing and estimation of the manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library by M.R.Ry. S. Kuppuswami Sastri, Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philology, Presidency College, Madras, dated 18th March 1916.

Should it be decided that the Tanjore Palace Library should be acquired by the Madras Government, it would be necessary to arrange first, as a preliminary step, to prepare a catalogue of all the books in the library and to estimate the price to be paid with a view to acquisition. The library consists of two sections, one containing printed books and the other manuscripts in various languages, many of the latter being in Sanskrit, Telugu and Tamil, and probably some in Prakrit and some in Marathi, Kanarese, Malayalam, Arabic, Persian and Urdu.

2. The preliminary work of cataloguing the manuscripts in the various languages will chiefly comprise, in the case of each manuscript an indication of the script and the condition of the manuscript, of the name and the author of the work and of its extent in chapters and granthas, as also a brief description, so far as may be necessary and practicable, of the subject-matter of the work and of its literary, historical, scientific, philosophical or religious value. There is already a catalogue prepared and published by Dr. Burnell in 1880, which deals with 12,376 Sanskrit manuscripts representing the greater portion of the Sanskrit manuscripts in the library. The remaining manuscripts in Sanskrit which are not included in Dr. Burnell's catalogue and all the manuscripts in languages other than Sanskrit have to be examined and catalogued for the first time on the lines indicated above.

Further, more than thirty years have elapsed since Dr. Burnell's catalogue was published. I have reasons to believe that adequate attention has not been paid to the preservation of these manuscripts and some of them included in Dr. Burnell's catalogue might have been partially or wholly lost since its publication. Some of the entries in this catalogue are inaccurate, while many of them are inadequate for a fair and equitable valuation of the manuscripts. In these circumstances, it will be necessary to verify each of the entries in Dr. Burnell's catalogue with the corresponding manuscript, in respect of name, extent, author, subject and value.

3. In estimating the price to be paid for the manuscripts, the European or American point of view cannot be adopted, as this will be found to be wholly incompatible with the standard of economy that would be acceptable to the local Government. Nor would it be reasonable to treat all these manuscripts simply as so many curios and to ignore their intrinsic literary value. The intrinsic value of each of the manuscripts as representing certain work relating to certain branch of literature should be necessarily considered. The collection, as a whole, will have a value of its own. In this connexion, it will also be necessary to keep in view that the Government already possess a rich and valuable collection of manuscripts in the Oriental Manuscripts Library at Madras, in all the languages of the manuscripts in the Palace Library at Tanjore.

Apart from the consideration of the value of the collection as a whole, different rates of price will have to be adopted for different classes of manuscripts, in accordance with their importance, age, present condition and other circumstances. And for purposes of estimation

the manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library will have to be classified under the following heads, in a descending order of value:—

(a) rare and important works which are not yet printed and not represented by any manuscript in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library at Madras;

(b) rare and important works which are not yet printed and not represented by more than two manuscripts in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library;

(c) important works which are not yet printed and deserve to be acquired though represented by more than two manuscripts in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library;

(d) important works which, though already printed, are not represented by any manuscript in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library and deserve to be acquired;

(e) important works which, though already printed and represented by one or more manuscripts in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, still deserve to be acquired as furnishing useful material for research or collation;

(f) works which, though comparatively unimportant, are not yet printed and not represented by any manuscript in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library;

(g) other manuscripts for which no separate price need be fixed and which will be covered by the consideration to be offered for the manuscript collection as a whole.

4. All the items of work indicated above in respect of the preliminary cataloguing and estimation of the manuscripts in question could be efficiently and satisfactorily done only by a staff possessing sufficient experience in this kind of work and adequate proficiency in the languages of the manuscripts. Considerations of economy may stand in the way of entertaining a special establishment for this purpose and it will be very difficult to secure the temporary services of duly qualified men for the short period that may be required for this work. It would therefore be expedient and desirable to entrust the whole of the work relating to the preliminary cataloguing and estimation of the manuscripts in the Palace Library at Tanjore, to the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library at Madras, whose staff has been efficiently doing for many years past, under its Curator, similar kinds of work. When the Government decide upon taking definite action in this matter, the Curator of the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library may be instructed to arrange for having this preliminary work of cataloguing and estimation done by the peripatetic party working under his guidance and control as forming a section of the library. If the Government approve of the suggested arrangement, the said party will be asked to take up this work ere long, at some convenient stage in the course of its tour. The whole work could be done within a period of about six months. The party consists of members duly qualified to do efficiently all the work relating to the manuscripts in Sanskrit, Prakrit, Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese and Malayalam. The work relating to the manuscripts in Marathi, Arabic, Persian and Urdu, if any, could be done by temporarily securing, for some reasonable honoraria, the services of men proficient in these languages; and a special additional provision of Rs. 500 (five hundred), for honoraria to specialists in languages other than Sanskrit and Dravidian, may be made in the amount allotted for the work of the peripatetic party. All the other incidental charges in this connexion could be met from the allotment for the work of the party. Here, it may be observed that the whole of the party need not be engaged in this work at the Tanjore Palace Library for all the six months and such of the members of the party as may finish their work earlier at the Tanjore Palace Library will be required to continue the party's main work of search for manuscripts in accordance with its regular programme.

5. In conclusion, I would also suggest that the best way of preserving the valuable collection of manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library and making it useful to the world of scholars and research students is to acquire and amalgamate it with the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library at Madras.

(5)

Demi-official—from T. E. MOIR, Esq., I.C.S., Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

To—R. B. WOOD, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 8th May 1916.

The question of the future of the Tanjore Palace Library has for some time been engaging the attention of His Excellency. It is understood that the ownership of it is at present the subject-matter of a civil suit and when that point has been decided it is possible that the owner may simply dispose of it to the best advantage. For sentimental reasons it would be a pity if such a well-known collection were dispersed and it is possible that a number of valuable manuscripts might pass into private hands and no longer readily be available to the scholar or research worker.

2. If the collection is to be preserved acquisition by Government may prove to be the only course. In that case Government would require to know what the value of the collection is and as it is desirable to have matters in train before the disposal of the suit His Excellency has instituted inquiries as to the manner in which a valuation could best be made. As regards English books that portion of the library would give little trouble. All that is required is a catalogue giving in each case the author, the publisher, the edition and such details as would interest a bibliophile. With the aid of "Current Prices" it would not be difficult to arrive at an approximate valuation of the printed books. Some would have a special value as first editions or as rare editions, the rest would in themselves only have the value of second-hand copies.

3. The manuscript portion of the library presents far greater difficulties and on this point Professor Kuppaswami Sastri has been consulted through the Director of Public Instruction. I attach copy of his note. It will be seen that he proposes to utilise the services of the peripatetic party which is at present conducting a search for manuscripts throughout the Presidency. Professor Kuppaswami Sastri proposes to ignore the work laboriously carried out by Dr. Burnell the results of which are incorporated in his "Classified Index to the Sanskrit Manuscripts in the Palace of Tanjore, 1880". Professor Kuppaswami Sastri states that Dr. Burnell's catalogue of Sanskrit Manuscripts is not complete, though from the introduction apparently Dr. Burnell considered it to be so. It is pretty certain that as far as it goes the work of Dr. Burnell may be regarded as sufficiently authoritative for all purposes and it is also obvious from his catalogue that the number of manuscripts the loss of which would be matter for concern is distinctly limited, and the expense which Professor Kuppaswami Sastri's proposal would entail in arriving at a valuation of the manuscripts might be out of all proportion to their intrinsic worth. It is understood that a considerable amount of cataloguing has been carried out by the Librarian of Sanskrit manuscripts on the basis of Dr. Burnell's catalogue and of vernacular manuscripts presumably according to his own ideas. Possibly his work has also extended to printed books.

4. I am to ask therefore if you would be so good as to let me know for His Excellency's information what material in the shape of catalogues or indexes is available in addition to Dr. Burnell's work and how far a valuation of the library could be based on an examination of the material so provided. Dr. Burnell in the introduction to his work refers to the huge masses of rubbish buried in the library and there is no reason why Government should pay for rubbish or be solicitous for its preservation but it no doubt contains a certain number of manuscripts, etc., the acquisition of which would be desirable and if the catalogues and indexes are reasonably complete it should be possible to select them by their aid. His Excellency is aware that apart from issuing general directions it will not be possible for you to give much personal attention to this matter, but possibly Mr. Narayana Ayyar if interested in the subject could undertake to have the question examined and as a first step report on the completeness and value of the catalogues, etc., now available.

(6)

Demi-official—from R. B. Wood, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.

To—T. E. MOIR, Esq., I.C.S., Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

Dated—the 14th July 1916.

With reference to your letter dated 8th May 1916, regarding the Tanjore Palace Library, I have consulted the Library Committee and the Librarian; and Mr. Narayana Ayyar, my Personal Assistant, has also gone into the existing catalogues in the library and given me valuable assistance. I enclose copy of a statement showing all the different catalogues existing, which he prepared.

2. The works may be divided as under:—

English	...	1873 (4,499 volumes).
Other European languages	...	742 volumes.
Music	...	254 volumes.
Tamil	...	836 manuscripts—cadjan.
Telugu	...	708 manuscripts—
Marathi	...	about 1,000 manuscripts paper in 245 bundles.
Persian, etc.	...	29 manuscripts—paper.
Sanskrit	...	9,058 manuscripts—paper
	...	3,318 manuscripts—cadjan
	...	1,117 manuscripts—paper
	...	150 manuscripts—cadjan

Indexed by Dr. Burnell.
Not indexed by Dr. Burnell.

3. Dealing with these in detail, we have the following indexes:—

English.—Manuscript catalogues complete, giving name of author and work, number of volumes, date and place of publication; the number of the edition has not been noted.
Other European languages.—Forty-three works (104 volumes) have similarly been catalogued.

Music.—No catalogue exists.

Tamil.—A complete manuscript catalogue in Tamil dated 1884 prepared by a former librarian exists. It shows serial number, names of book and author, number of leaves, complete or incomplete, number of manuscripts and condition. The present librarian has prepared a catalogue on the basis of this one, giving more detailed information and noting what manuscripts are missing.

Telugu.—A manuscript catalogue in Telugu, prepared in 1884, similar to the Tamil one, is available.

Marathi.—An old catalogue in Nagari character and embracing works in all the oriental languages in the library contains a list of the Marathi manuscripts. It gives the name of the work, author, and subject, but the manuscripts are not numbered. The present librarian has catalogued some 115 of these manuscripts.

Persian.—There is a manuscript catalogue in Tamil of 34 Persian, Arabic and Hindustani works at the end of the Telugu catalogue.

Sanskrit.—The printed *classified index* of Dr. Burnell gives details of the script, condition of manuscripts, name and author of works, extent in chapters and in granthas and a description

of the subject matter, and covers 9,058 paper manuscripts and 3,318 cadjan manuscripts. There are also two subsidiary indexes prepared by the present librarian, one showing the bundle in which the manuscripts are to be found, and another giving Dr. Burnell's alphabetical list of subjects in Devanagari character. The librarian has also prepared a further catalogue of all these 9,058 paper manuscripts showing further particulars of the age of the manuscripts and the names of the writers. He also notes what manuscripts are missing (about 107 altogether) and what other manuscripts are in the different bundles which Dr. Burnell overlooked.

4. In 1884 a manuscript list of the 3,318 cadjan manuscripts indexed by Dr. Burnell was drawn up and this shows the then state of the cadjan manuscripts. The present librarian has recently verified about 10 per cent of these manuscripts and finds the catalogue may be relied upon.

He has further catalogued 867 manuscripts out of the remaining 1,117 paper manuscripts; no list at all exists of the 150 cadjan manuscripts left unindexed by Dr. Burnell. These paper manuscripts belong to the section of hymnology and appear to be excerpts from the puranas and older works, and are believed to be of little value.

5. The total number of manuscripts in the library is thus about 16,215, of which 12,376 have been dealt with in Dr. Burnell's classified index; and this index has been brought up to date by subsequent librarians. Further nearly all the other manuscripts have been catalogued at one time or another, and the Tamil and Telugu manuscript catalogues and possibly the Marathi are complete. There is therefore no case made out for re-cataloguing the library; and only a few bundles of Sanskrit manuscripts, possibly the Marathi manuscripts, and most of the European works excluding the English have to be catalogued.

6. The Committee considered that while the existing catalogues are almost adequate, the peripatetic party might very well complete the different lacunae, and that this party was the only body which could hope to appraise the value of the different works. The party consists of experts, who have got a wide knowledge of manuscripts and will be able to recognise a valuable work from a worthless one almost at sight. They should preferably work in Tanjore in the library, scrutinizing the catalogues, item by item, noting the value of each work in a subsidiary list, and calling for and examining in detail any work when necessary. I think it is quite clear that no valuation can be done on an index or a catalogue outside of the library, and though the experts can usually, perhaps, state the value of a manuscript from its description in the catalogue alone, yet the number of manuscripts they will want to refer to in original and perhaps read through, must be large.

7. The appraisalment of the manuscripts of the library will be better done by them than any one else, since the members of this body spend their time in looking for and buying manuscripts, and no expert could speak with greater authority on the rarity of any particular manuscript and its market value. They ought indeed to have so many data of past purchases as to be in a position to prove the validity of their figures if challenged. The classes suggested by Prof. S. Kuppaswami Sastri as a likely basis of valuation may also prove useful, though I think, he presses a great deal too far the test of whether manuscripts are already in the Government Oriental Library. I cannot say I care for his seven classes, and I observe that he does not venture to give any cash value to each class. I presume that the worthless manuscripts may be taken as worth 1 or 2 annas.

8. The Committee think that if the peripatetic party came to Tanjore and worked in the library with the catalogues available, they would do their work very quickly. The party has to be paid whether it is working on private collections of manuscripts in villages or on the Palace collections; and their work on the Palace collection is likely to be more fruitful in results than most of their work.

9. The Committee particularly ask me to suggest that Government might be pleased to copy important manuscripts for the Government Oriental Library instead of buying them up out of the library. I apprehend however that Government has no intention of buying up individual manuscripts, and the whole object of completing the catalogues and appraising the works is to obtain data as to the probable cost if we had to face the alternative of buying the library or allowing it to be broken up and scattered, and to ascertain if there are enough important manuscripts to justify Government taking any steps to preserve the library as a whole.

10. To sum up then. One of the spare manuscript catalogues of the English books B could be sent up to you at once; and the European works could be catalogued in a similar way by the librarian and a copy sent to you.

The Marathi manuscripts perhaps and some of the Sanskrit manuscripts certainly still remain to be catalogued; and this could be done pretty quickly by members of the peripatetic party.

The majority of the Sanskrit manuscripts and all the Tamil, Telugu and Persian have been catalogued, and these catalogues have been brought up to date and can be relied upon by the peripatetic party as a basis for their appraisalment. The valuation of the manuscripts would appear to be a work especially suitable to this party of expert scholars, and it will be done most easily and rapidly in Tanjore. The market value of the important books should be based on the purchases already made in the open market by them; but the worthless manuscripts should be rigidly marked down to their true value of 1 or 2 annas only and rules suitable to stay any fancy valuing should be framed.

Sub-Enclosure
Tanjore Palace Library.

Particulars of works.		Number of works.		Whether catalogues exist and of what sort.
Language.	Printed or paper or cadjan manuscripts.	In works or bundles.	In volumes or individual manuscripts.	
English	Printed books.	1,873 works.	4,499 volumes.	There are two old manuscript catalogues and two recent manuscript copies of them. They give number, names of author and work, number of volumes, date and place of publication.* Forty-three works in 104 volumes have been catalogued in the English catalogues above mentioned. One large and one smaller book case believed to contain the other 638 volumes not catalogued. No catalogue exists except for 4 numbers (included in the English catalogue above). A complete manuscript list in Tamil said to have been prepared by a former librarian Konkaneswara Ayyar is available. Date about 1884. It shows serial number, names of book, and author, subject, number of leaves, complete or incomplete, number of manuscripts and condition. The present librarian Ramaswami Sastri has prepared another catalogue which shows the present condition of manuscripts, gives more detailed information and indicates which manuscripts in the old list are missing. A manuscript catalogue in Telugu prepared by Konkaneswara Ayyar, in 1884, giving the same information as his Tamil catalogue is available. An old catalogue written all but the last few pages in Nagari character and embracing works in all oriental languages in the library, contains a list of Marathi manuscripts. It gives the name of work, its author, subject, but does not assign a number to each manuscript nor give the number of sheets. The present librarian whose knowledge of Marathi is limited has done some work and catalogued about 115 manuscripts in 35 bundles. A manuscript list in Tamil of 34 Persian, Arabic and what is called Hindustani but is, I suppose, Urdu works is found at the end of the Telugu catalogue mentioned above. Of the first dozen of these it professes to give the age of the manuscripts as well. There is the printed classified index of Dr. Burnell, which includes both cadjan and paper manuscripts. The present librarian has prepared two subsidiary indexes to it, one showing the bundles in which the manuscripts are to be found, another giving Dr. Burnell's alphabetical index of subjects in Devanagari character for facility of reference. Besides these he has prepared a fresh catalogue in seven volumes of all these paper manuscripts which shows the present condition of the manuscripts and gives, where available, particulars about the age of the manuscripts and the writer. It further shows which numbers in Dr. Burnell's classified index are missing from the library shelves, and what manuscripts there are in the bundles which have been omitted in the classified index. Lacunae in the classified index are also indicated.†
Other European languages.	Do. . . .	..	742 volumes.	
Music	Do. . . .	..	254 volumes.	
Tamil	Cadjan manuscripts.	..	836 manuscripts.	
Telugu	Cadjan manuscripts.	..	708	These are included in Dr. Burnell's classified index. In 1884 (i.e. 4 years after the date of the classified index) a manuscript list of these cadjan manuscripts was prepared showing the then state of the manuscripts and it is available. The present librarian has just commenced a fresh catalogue of these cadjan manuscripts. It is pretty full so far as it goes but deals only with two sections (subjects) out of 26 or so sections. The present librarian has catalogued 867 manuscripts in 32 bundles. The catalogue is in one of the seven volumes mentioned above against indexed paper manuscripts. There remain 18 bundles containing approximately 250 manuscripts. No catalogue exists and none has been attempted yet.
Marathi (or what is, strictly speaking, incorrectly styled Prakrit).	Paper manuscripts.	245 bundles.	About 1,000 manuscripts.	
Persian and other manuscripts.	Paper manuscripts.	..	29	
Sanskrit Manuscripts. Indexed Manuscripts (i.e., manuscripts included in Dr. Burnell's classified index).	Paper	..	9,058	
	Cadjan	..	3,318	
Unindexed manuscripts (i.e., not included in Dr. Burnell's classified index).	Paper	50 bundles.	About 1,117	
	Cadjan	..	150	

* The number of the edition is not given.

† Another subsidiary index, viz., a numerical one is a great desideratum. I have shown to the librarian how it can be easily compiled.

Extract from the demi-official of the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, dated the 21st July 1916, addressed to Mr. Todhunter.

I send herewith Dr. Burnell's* "classified index to the Sanskrit manuscripts in the Palace of Tanjore" as you may require it in dealing with the file on the subject.

This is for Public, I think.

C. G. TODHUNTER—21-7-16.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

The demi-official correspondence in the note file relates to a proposal to acquire for the Government certain old English books and vernacular manuscripts now in the Tanjore Palace Library. Submitted that the subject appears to be one to be

dealt with in the Educational Department which deals with matters relating to public libraries and the Oriental Manuscripts Library—vide G.O. No. 1096, Educational, dated 18th September 1914, and the notes recorded in G.O. No. 743, Educational, dated 13th August 1913. For orders whether the papers may accordingly be passed on to Educational.

G.M.—22-7-16.

C.P.K.—22-7-16.

E. A. HARVEY—24-7-16.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Attention is requested to the portion marked **A** on page 1 ante. It is submitted that Mr. Wood may first be requested demi-officially to send the spare manuscripts catalogue of the English books and to get catalogued the European works and to send copy of this also—vide portion marked **B** on page 5 ante.

2. As regards the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts attention is solicited to paragraph 8 of Mr. Wood's letter on page 6 ante and paragraph 4 of Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor's demi-official on page 1 ante. It is submitted the suggestions contained therein may be accepted and the work of the cataloguing and valuation* of these entrusted to the temporary search party sanctioned in G.O. No. 1096, Educational, dated 18th September 1914. The continuance of this party for a further period of one year has been sanctioned in

* The valuation fixed by the party may be scrutinized by the committee of experts appointed under paragraph 4 of G.O. 1096, Educational, 18th September 1914.

C.R.—9-8-16.

G.O. No. 1245, dated 19th November 1915. There seems to be no other agency fit to carry out this work.

3. Two drafts are submitted for approval. They may be circulated to Honourable Member (Public).

S.N.P.—5-8-16.

T.K.—7-8-16.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—9-8-16.

Drafts for approval.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—11-8-16.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—11-8-16.

P[ENTLAND]—12-8-16.

Issue.

P.R.—14-8-16.

[Demi-official No. 2745-1, Home (Education), dated 14th August 1916.]

[Memorandum No. 2745-2, Home (Education), dated 14th August 1916.]

Demi-official— from the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR
Avargal, C.I.E., Secretary to Government, Home (Education)
Department.

To—R. B. Wood, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.

Dated—the 14th August 1916.

No.—2745-1 Edl.

Referring to your letter to Mr. Moir, dated the 14th July 1916, regarding the Tanjore Palace library, I am to state that action is being taken separately on the suggestion contained in paragraph 8 of your letter regarding the cataloguing and valuation of manuscripts by the peripatetic party.

I am to request you to forward for reference one of the spare manuscript catalogues of the English books and to arrange for cataloguing in a similar way the European works and to send a copy of that catalogue when it is ready.

Please see paragraph 2 of demi-official No. 2745-1, Home (Education), dated the 14th August 1916, to Mr. Wood and portion marked A on page 1 ante. A copy of the catalogue of the English books in the Tanjore Palace Library has been received. It is submitted it may be sent demi-officially to Mr. Dodwell. Draft submitted for approval.

S.N.P.—10-10-16.

T.K.—10-10-16.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—11-10-16.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—14-10-16.

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, c.i.e., Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

To—H. DODWELL, Esq., Curator, Madras Record Office.

Dated—the 16th October 1916.

No.—2745-3.

Referring to your reply to Mr. Moir's demi-official, dated the 9th February 1916, regarding the Tanjore Palace library, I am to send you a copy of the catalogue of the English books in that library and to request you to forward to me at an early date a valuation of these books.

Demi-official—from H. DODWELL, Esq., Curator, Madras Record Office.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, c.i.e., Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 20th October 1916.

I have gone through the catalogue of the English books in the Tanjore Palace library, and have observed some (though not many) items which may be of some value if their condition is good. I do not think however that I can furnish any valuation without inspecting the books themselves. That may take two or three days. I propose that the Chief Secretary be requested to sanction my proceeding to Tanjore for that purpose.

Public Department, Public section, may be requested to sanction Mr. Dodwell's proceeding to Tanjore for two or three days as desired by him.

S.N.P.—22-10-16.

T.K.—23-10-16.

C.R.—24-10-16.

P.R.—26-10-16.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

The Chief Secretary, as head of the department for the Madras Record Office, (No. 12 under class A in paragraph 1 of G.O. No. 391, Financial, dated the 10th September 1910) may, under article 58 of the Civil Service Regulations, perhaps allow Mr. Dodwell to proceed to Tanjore. For a precedent please see Memorandum No. 4756-1, Public, dated 25th August 1911.

A draft memorandum is submitted for approval. After its issue the case may be returned to Home (Education).

T.M.R.—1-11-16.

S.D.S.—2-11-16.

Permission may be accorded. Draft for approval.

L. E. KERSHAW—3-11-16.

L. DAVIDSON—4-11-16.

[Memorandum to Curator, No. 5343-1, dated 4th November 1916.]

Demi-official—from J. R. HUGGINS, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, c.i.e., Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 26th October 1916.

Please refer to your demi-official No. 2745-1, dated the 14th August last to Wood asking for a catalogue of the European works in the Tanjore Palace library. I have not been able to find a man with sufficient knowledge of the European languages to compile a catalogue.

The temporary search party for the acquisition of Oriental Manuscripts is now at work cataloguing and valuing the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts in the library, and the Curator of the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library says his special assistant Mr. M. Ramakrishna Kavi can prepare the catalogue of European works after finishing the examination of the manuscripts in the Oriental languages.

If you see no objection, will you kindly write to the Director of Public Instruction to issue the necessary orders to the Curator in regard to the compilation of this catalogue.

Please see demi-official from the Collector of Tanjore above. A draft official memorandum to the Director of Public Instruction is submitted for approval.

S.N.P.—10-11-16.

T.K.—10-11-16.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—11-11-16.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—12-11-16.

[Official Memorandum No. 2745-5, dated the 12th November 1916.]

Demi-official—from H. DODWELL, Esq., Curator, Madras Record Office.

To—the Hon'ble Mr. L. DAVIDSON, c.s.i., I.C.S., Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Dated—the 15th November 1916.

With reference to Memorandum No. 5343-1, Public, dated the 4th instant, I beg to report that I am leaving for Tanjore this evening.

Demi-official—from H. DODWELL, Esq., Curator, Madras Record Office.

To—the Hon'ble Mr. L. DAVIDSON, c.s.i., I.C.S., Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Dated—the 18th November 1916.

I beg to report my arrival this morning from Tanjore by boatmail.

Demi-official—from H. DODWELL, Esq., Curator, Madras Record Office.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, c.i.e., Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 23rd November 1916.

I inspected the European books in the Tanjore Palace Library on the 16th and 17th instant. The collection includes few books of interest or value, the great bulk consisting of grammars, novels, verse, law-books and medical works printed about the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th centuries. It appears to have been formed largely by the purchase of books in possession of Europeans resident at Tanjore about that time.

With certain exceptions, these cannot be valued at more than a nominal rate—I should say five volumes to the rupee would be fair enough. The exceptions consist almost entirely of works relating to India and include the Asiatic Annual Register, a set of Orme (1803 and 1805), Pennant's view, Blacker's Maratha war, Raffles' Java, Salmond's Review, Rennell's Memoir, Scott's Memoir of Bradut Cawn, Moore's Narrative, Rumphins' Herbarium amboinense (1750 fol.) Dow's History (ed. 1768); Kirkpatrick's Nepal (1811) with various other works of the same period. These exceptions comprise 121 volumes, and I consider their value to be approximately Rs. 1,125. The English, etc., collection is reported to contain 5,524 volumes; of these 29 are Persian, and I did not examine them, 254 are music, and I do not think are valuable in any way. There remain 5,120 volumes which as stated above I think may be valued at five volumes to the rupee. This would give as the total value of the collection Rs. 2,149. I should think Rupees 2,000 a fair offer.

The catalogue is returned under separate cover.

Please see the demi-official of the 16th October 1916 on page 8 ante. The valuation of the English books in the Tanjore Palace Library has now been obtained.

2. This may lie over till receipt of the replies to the memoranda.

S.N.P.—25-11-16.

T.K.—25-11-16.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—27-11-16.

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR AVARGAL, C.I.E., Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 10th January 1917.

No.—4/1916.

Please see the enclosed. His Excellency as you no doubt are aware considers it of great importance that this library should not be dispersed.

2. The immediately necessary thing seems to be to get the examination of the books completed as soon as possible. Apparently the Assistant Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library will not complete the oriental part of it single-handed in the time. If my proposal about Pranartihara Ayyar is accepted he might be deputed to go to Tanjore and assist in the work.

3. Dodwell has already been down about the English books. Davidson says there will be no difficulty in his being deputed for further work. I do not know how much he has done so far. He would probably need some assistance also.

4. Perhaps you will find an early opportunity of discussing the matter with His Excellency.

ENCLOSURE

Demi-official—from E. H. WALLACE, I.C.S., District Judge, Tanjore.

To—the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

Dated—the 8th January 1917.

I am writing to bring to the notice of Government, through you, that the question of what Government intends to do with reference to the Tanjore Palace Library is now really urgent. The Palace Estate suit will, I expect, be concluded and judgment pronounced probably before next vacation, i.e., April or May. The moment judgment is pronounced the successful litigant will have it in his power to move the Court to hand over to him the whole estate, including the Palace Library, and if it is handed over to him, he may at once proceed and dispose of it and scatter it. Government is not a party to the suit, and consequently will have no locus standi to apply to the Court for any order staying delivery of the estate to the successful claimant. Government ought therefore I think to decide as soon as possible what it intends to do. The Assistant Curator who is now working under your orders in the library cataloguing it will not have nearly finished his work before the judgment in the suit is pronounced. It will be a great pity and loss if the library is dispersed before Government has finally been able to decide what manuscripts and books it wishes to acquire and retain and what may be left. Personally I would like to see the library left intact as it is, but that it would probably mean the acquisition of the whole of it. The Assistant Curator is not, I gather, going to deal with the English part of the library and some competent person ought to go through that portion also and note what is really valuable. If you agree with me, I would like you to impress on Government the urgency of the matter. Even a temporary order to stay the disposal of the library may require legislation, and as the Acquisition Acts stand at present, they will not apply to such a case.

If you think of coming down to look into the matter here, I shall be very glad to put you up.

Demi-official—from E. H. WALLACE, I.C.S., District Judge, Tanjore.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR AVARGAL, C.I.E., Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 13th January 1917.

I am anxious to write to you about the Tanjore Palace Library. I am not sure if Government realises that the Palace estate suit, in which this library is part of the estate, will be decided probably in the course of the next few months. I expect judgment to be pronounced before the vacation by the Sub-Judge who is trying the suit. On judgment being pronounced, the successful litigant will be able to move the court to hand over the library to him, and unless he is stayed

on the application of some other party to the suit, he may dispose of and disperse this unique and valuable collection. Government is not a party to the suit and will not have any locus standi to apply for a stay of execution.

I am not sure if Government has made up its mind what it intends to do regarding the library. I am writing to point out that, if not, the matter is now urgent and should be no longer delayed. No adequate examination of the library and proper appraisal of its contents has yet been made. The Assistant Curator who is now working at the manuscripts will take many months more to finish that work and he is not, I think, competent to appraise the large collection of old European books, many of which seems to me to be of considerable value and interest.

I think that if it can be done, Government should forbid the disposal and dispersal of this library until it has been able to decide how much of it ought to be retained and acquired in the public interest. I have written a short time ago to Mr. Stone on the subject, but as he has gone to Delhi, I understand, I fear the matter may be delayed too long.

So I am writing to you to see if Government may be moved in the matter.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Please see Mr. Stone's demi-official on page 10 ante. He states that the immediate action which has to be taken is to get the examination of the books completed at a very early date. As regards the *English books* in the library Mr. Dodwell has already valued them at Rs. 2,000—please see Demi-official on page 9 ante. As regards the *Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts* the work of cataloguing and valuing them, as well as the cataloguing of the European works, has been entrusted to the temporary search party; but Mr. Stone states that the Assistant Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library who is in charge of the work will not be able to complete it in time single-handed. He therefore proposes that Mr.

May be agreed to.

P.R.—16-1-17.

Pranartihara Ayyar, whom he has recommended for the post of Registrar of Books, might, if appointed to that post, be deputed to go to Tanjore.

There remains then only the other "*European*" works, which Mr. Dodwell has not apparently dealt with. It has been arranged that these also should be examined by Mr. Ramakrishna Kavi of the peripatetic party. In the face of Mr. Wallace's opinion on this point, it may not be desirable to entrust this work to Mr. Ramakrishna Kavi. The alternative seems to be to ask Mr. Dodwell to do that work also. The Chief Secretary seems to agree to this. The work here consists of (i) compilation of a catalogue and (ii) valuation of the works. The second part may probably be easily done by Mr. Dodwell; but as regards the preparation of the catalogue, the Collector is unable to arrange for it and the peripatetic party cannot do it in time. Mr. Dodwell may, it is submitted, be asked to arrange for this also. If this is approved, work connected with the oriental manuscripts and the European works will be pushed on simultaneously and time saved. We may ask these agencies to treat the matter as specially urgent.

Yes.

P.R.—16-1-17.

S.N.P.—12-1-17.

T.K.—15-1-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—15-1-17.

Will Public please say if it agrees?

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—16-1-17.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

Mr. Dodwell has already valued the English books in the Tanjore Palace Library. It is proposed now to entrust to him the work of compiling a catalogue of the other European books in the library and valuing them. Chief Secretary has said

that there will be no difficulty in deputing Mr. Dodwell for this work. Submitted that no objection need be taken to the proposal, if Mr. Dodwell consents to do the work.

T.M.R.—16-1-17.

S.D.S.—16-1-17.

The compilation of a catalogue will probably take some time and it will mean that Mr. Dodwell will have to remain in Tanjore possibly to the detriment of his other work. I think before we agree to Mr. Dodwell being put on this job we should know how long he is likely to be employed on it.

L. E. KERSHAW—17-1-17.

By all means clear this point up. When Mr. Stone mentioned the matter to me the other day, I thought it was only a matter of a week or two at the outside. We certainly need not object to this or even a little longer, if Mr. Dodwell assures us that he can arrange satisfactorily for the disposal of Record office work. Possibly a series of week end visits would furnish the necessary personal supervision on the spot.

L. DAVIDSON—17-1-17.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Please put up a draft demi-official to Mr. Dodwell.

C.R.—17-1-17.

A draft demi-official to Mr. Dodwell is submitted.

2. With reference to the Secretary's orders on page 11 ante, orders may issue after Mr. Pranatartihara Ayyar's appointment has been sanctioned.

S.N.P.—18-1-17.

T.K.—18-1-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—19-1-17.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—20-1-17.

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, C.I.E., Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

To—H. DODWELL, Esq., Curator, Madras Record Office.

Dated—the 20th January 1917.

No.—2745-7/1916.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your demi-official of the 23rd November 1916. I am to say that it is now proposed to entrust to you the work of compiling a catalogue of all the European works in the Tanjore Palace Library (other than the English books already examined and valued by you at Rs. 2,000) and of estimating their value. I am to inquire what time this is likely to occupy you, for how many days you are likely to be absent from Madras on this account, and whether you can satisfactorily arrange for the disposal of your Record office work during such absence.

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated the 19th January 1917, R.C. No. 6840.

From the letter of the Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library on page 2, current file, it will appear that about 1,000 Sanskrit and 130 Tamil kadjan volumes as well as about 10,000 Sanskrit and 800 Mahratti paper volumes in the Tanjore Palace Library remained still to be examined at the beginning of January 1917, by the temporary search party for the acquisition of oriental manuscripts.

2. The case may lie over for the present.

S.N.P.—22-1-17.

T.K.—22-1-17.

The remaining kadjan volumes alone (1,130) will take a month to finish at the rate at which progress had been made till now. The party will have then to examine 10,800 paper volumes. As suggested in the note dated 12th January 1917 on page 11 supra, the Director of Public Instruction may be asked to treat the matter as very urgent.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—22-1-17.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—23-1-17.

Demi-official—from H. DODWELL, Esq., Curator, Madras Record Office.
To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, C.I.E., Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.
Dated—Madras, the 22nd January 1917.

With reference to your demi-official No. 2745/16-7 of the 20th instant, I fear my letter of November 23rd left you under a misapprehension. When I visited Tanjore, I examined all the books in European languages and my 2,000 rupees (I believe) covers them as well as English books. Very few of the books in French, German, etc., are of the least value. I cannot lay hands on a copy of the letter in which I furnished you with my valuation; but if by some chance I omitted these books in my calculation, I would suggest that they be valued at the same rate as the other miscellaneous books.

Please see Mr. Dodwell's demi-official above. As the valuation of Rupees

2,000 given by Mr. Dodwell above includes English as well as European works, no cataloguing or valuation of the latter works is required. The catalogue

was required at this stage mainly for the purpose of valuation.

2. In modification of memorandum No. 2745-5, dated 12th November 1916, the Director of Public Instruction may be informed that no catalogue of the European works need be made by M.R.Ry. M. Ramakrishna Kavi. The Director of Public Instruction may also be asked to direct the temporary search party to treat the balance of the work of cataloguing and valuing the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts as very urgent—vide page 12 ante.

Yes.

P.R.—25-1-17.

3. A draft memorandum is submitted. After issue the file may perhaps be circulated for the information of His Excellency.

S.N.P.—24-1-17.

T.K.—24-1-17.

Please issue and resubmit.

C.R.—24-1-17.

P.R.—25-1-17.

[Memorandum No. 2745/16-8, dated 25th January 1917.]

The file may now be circulated to His Excellency the Governor for information—vide Secretary's order ante.

S.N.P.—26-1-17.

T.K.—26-1-17.

C.R.—26-1-17.

For perusal.

P.R.—26-1-17.

P[ENTLAND]—28-1-17.

1306, Home (Edu.)—4

Please see Secretary's orders on page 11 ante and paragraph 2 of this department's note on page 12 ante. The order appointing Mr. A. C. Pranatartihara Ayyar has issued. A draft memorandum to the Director of Public Instruction is submitted.

S.N.P.—7-2-17.

T.K.—7-2-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—7-2-17.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—8-2-17.

[Memorandum No. 2745/16-9, dated 8th February 1917.]

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 7th March 1917, R.C. No. 6840.

The Registrar of Books, who was instructed by the Director of Public Instruction with reference to Memorandum No. 2745/16-9, dated 8th February 1917, to assist the temporary search party working in the Tanjore Palace Library, took charge of his duties on the 22nd February last and returned to Madras on the 6th March. The Registrar considers it desirable that the 'considerable collection' of the manuscripts relating to music and medicine should be examined by experts in these subjects and suggests Mr. C. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar of Mylapore for the former and either Dr. P. S. Chandrasekar or Pandit Gopalacharlu for the latter. The Director of Public Instruction submits the suggestion for the orders of Government.

2. As the cataloguing of the manuscripts is required mainly for the purpose of valuation which will be more or less approximate, it is doubtful whether it is necessary to depute specialists from Madras for the purpose and whether it would not be possible for the Registrar of Books to arrange to do it with the help of local specialists on these subjects of whom there should be many in Tanjore or Tiruvādi (near Tanjore).

3. As regards the suggestion of the Registrar that the French and German books and books in other languages should be examined by competent men, attention is solicited to Mr. Dodwell's demi-official on page 13 ante, in which he has stated that he has already examined all the books in European languages and that his estimate of Rs. 2,000 covers these as well as English books. No action appears therefore to be necessary on this suggestion.

T.K.—9-3-17.

E.A.H.—12-3-17.

The Registrar need not bother himself about European books.

As for Indian books, we cannot engage specialists (probably with fees) for the purposes of mere rough valuation. The Registrar might consult, if he desires, specialists. This can perhaps be easily done if he takes a list of the books, of the value of which he is in doubt, to some of those who have interested themselves in those arts and has a talk with them. We may inform the Director of Public Instruction accordingly.

C.R.—10-3-17.

To the Director of Public Instruction for favour of remarks. I am inclined to agree with the Registrar's note. We know nothing about the fees, if any, which these experts are likely to charge; nor whether their adhibition will retard or accelerate the progress of valuation; we must look to the urgency of the case which is getting rather acute.

Probably the Registrar of Books will be able to make a rough estimate in time with the help of local experts, and I think he may be told to do so.

I also am disposed to think that when the library does, if ever, come on the market, it will be the wisest and cheapest course in the long run to offer a lump sum and buy up the library as a whole; after which detailed cataloguing can be undertaken. It is not unlikely that the owner might welcome such an arrangement.

The Director of Public Instruction is requested to state whether he supports the Registrar of Books' suggestion.

E. A. HARVEY—12-3-17.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

I think that the office-note above is probably right as regards the employment of specialists.

2. So far the cataloguing of the Sanskrit and other books has been going on in a very elaborate way and they seem to have done nothing in the direction of valuing.

3. I was intending to address Government again but I can say what I meant to here. Mr. A. C. Pranatartihara Ayyar tells me that there are about 1,000 Mahratti books which apparently have not been touched and no one now working is competent to say anything about them. Their value might perhaps be estimated on an average or if Government think something more accurate necessary Rao Bahadar S. Sankara Rao, Retired Professor of Kumbakōnam College, is at Kumbakōnam and would no doubt do the work for a small fee. He is reputed a good Mahratti scholar.

4. The Presidency College closes early in April and the Registrar of Books suggests that he and the Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library should then go down to Tanjore and value the Sanskrit and vernacular books on the basis of the catalogues that will by then presumably be completed.

5. Meanwhile the search party on the spot might be told that they need not catalogue the rest of the books in so detailed a manner as is necessary for the Registrar of Books' catalogues, but only examine them just enough for the purpose of settling a lump sum that might safely be offered for the library.

J. H. STONE—13-3-17.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Director of Public Instruction's

I agree.

E.A.H.—20-3-17.

note supra, it seems sufficient if an approximate valuation of the Mahratti books is made by the temporary search party now at Tanjore in consultation, if necessary, with the Mahratti-knowing gentlemen of whom there are many at Tanjore. It does not seem necessary to have an accurate valuation made of these books and to depute Mr. T. Sankara Rao for the purpose as suggested by Mr. Stone.

2. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Director's note, there seems no objection to the Registrar of Books and the Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library going over to Tanjore in April next for the purpose of valuing the Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts on the basis of the catalogue which is expected to be complete by that time. It is, however, for consideration whether in view of the urgency of the matter and as the main object is to arrive at an approximate value which might be safely offered for the books in the library, the Registrar of Books may not again go down to Tanjore in the meantime and start with the valuation of the books.

E.A.H.—20-3-17.

3. The Director of Public Instruction's suggestion in paragraph 5 supra may be approved.

4. In connexion with the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew's tour to Tanjore early in April, the case may perhaps be circulated to him for information after issue of orders on paragraphs 1 to 3 above.

Yes.

E.A.H.—20-3-17.

S.N.P.—16-3-17.

T.K.—16-3-17.

Please draft on these lines for Secretary's approval.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—17-3-17.

A draft memorandum is submitted for approval.

T.K.—18-3-17.

C.R.—19-3-17.

I think the draft is right. Clean copy please.

E. A. HARVEY—20-3-17.

Clean copy submitted.

T.K.—20-3-17.

Issue.

The case will be submitted to Sir Alexander Cardew after issue.

E.A.H.—20-3-17.

[Memorandum No. 2745-16-10, dated 20th March 1917.]

Submitted that the file may be circulated to the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew, K.C.S.I., for perusal in connection with his tour to Tanjore early in April.

T.K.—23-3-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—23-3-17.

Submitted.

E.A.H.—26-3-17.

From the Director of Public Instruction, R.O.C. No. 6840/16, dated the 30th March 1917.

Please see the letter from the Curator, Oriental Manuscripts Library, on pages 4-5, current file, in which he states that himself and the Registrar of Books, instead of going to Tanjore to value the manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library, should remain in Madras and do the work there with the help of the reference books in the Oriental Manuscript Library and requests permission to do so. The Director of Public Instruction sees no objection to this course. Submitted that, in the circumstances explained, the Registrar of Books and the Curator, Oriental Manuscript Library, may be permitted to remain in Madras and complete the work of valuation.

2. A draft memorandum is submitted for approval.

E.A.H.—4-4-17.

3. After its issue the file may be submitted to the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew, K.C.S.I.

P.R.—4-4-17.

T.K.—4-4-17.

C.R.—4-4-17.

Issue.

If the Curator can get out his valuation report by the end of this month, it is a result as satisfactory as could be wished; the search party seems to have worked well, and there is evidently no need for any one to go down to Tanjore.

E.A.H.—4-4-17.

[Memorandum No. 2745-11, dated 4th April 1917.]

Returned with thanks after perusal.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—10-4-17.

From the Hon'ble Mr. B. Venkatapati Raju, dated 28th April 1917.

To be acknowledged first.

C.R.—1-5-17.

A draft letter of acknowledgment is submitted for approval.

P.R.—2-5-17.

C.R.—3-5-17.

[Letter No. 150 B-1, dated the 3rd May 1917.]

Please see the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor's demi-official on pages 1 and 2 ante. The cataloguing and valuing of the manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace library is undertaken with a view to their being purchased by the Government, should such a course be found necessary on the termination of the litigation of which it forms a part of the subject matter. The *Madras Mail* has already stated this fact in its issue of the 23rd March 1917. Submitted that the Hon'ble Mr. Venkatapati Raju may be informed accordingly. A draft demi-official is submitted for approval.

2. In paragraph 5 of his letter on page 5 of current file, the Curator of the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library promised to submit a brief report and the statement embodying the money value arrived at so as to reach the Director of Public Instruction not later than the last day of April 1917. This has not yet been received.

P.R.—10-5-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—14-5-17.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—15-5-17.

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO AVARGAL, Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

To—the Hon'ble Mr. B. VENKATAPATI RAJU, Vizagapatam.

Dated—the 16th May 1917.

No.—240 B-1.

In reply to your letter, dated 28th April 1917, I am directed to state that the work of cataloguing and valuing the manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace library has been undertaken only with a view to considering whether they could be purchased by the Government, should such a course be found necessary and feasible.

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 10th May 1917, R.O.C. No. 6840/16.

Please see page 7 ante in which the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew and His Excellency the Governor approved of the arrangements suggested for the valuation of the European works and the oriental manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library. The former were valued at Rs. 2,000 by Mr. H. Dodwell, Curator of the Madras Record office, and the latter by the temporary search party for the acquisition of Sanskrit manuscripts with the co-operation of M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur A. C. Pranatarthi Ayyar, Registrar of Books, and under the supervision of M.R.Ry. S. Kuppuswami Sastri, Curator, Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras. The principle adopted in the valuation of the manuscripts is explained in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Curator's letter on pages 3-4 of the current file.

2. The following statement shows in one view the result of the valuation:—

Language.	Total number of manuscripts.	Number deserving of individual valuation.	Number not deserving of individual valuation.	Price of manuscripts in column (3).
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Sanskrit	16,664	4,603	12,066	Rs. 21,696 0 0
Tamil	1,250	417	833	2,160 8 0
Telugu	706	311	395	1,218 8 0
Mahratti	1,583	1,164	434	6,079 8 0
Pali	1	1	..	25 0 0
Hindi	11	9	2	9 0 0
Persian	27	23	4	71 0 0
Urdu	5	2	3	2 0 0
Arabic	2	2	..	2 0 0
Total	20,254	6,527	* 13,727	31,263 8 0
<i>Add—</i>				
The value of * 13,727 manuscripts not deserving of individual valuation in column (4) above				16,000 0 0
The value of about 2,076 illustrations contained in the above..				10,000 0 0
The value of 23 almirahs				5,000 0 0
Grand total				62,263 8 0
Or				62,000 0 0
				in round figures.

The value of the whole library of European works and oriental manuscripts is thus Rs. 64,000.

3. As regards the preparation of an alphabetical list of the manuscripts in the manner suggested in paragraph 5 of the Curator's letter on page 5, current file, it is submitted that no such list is required for the present. If the library is eventually acquired by the Government, the question of preparing such a list may be considered then. The Director of Public Instruction is asking the Curator not to proceed with the preparation of the list and no further action in the matter is necessary.

4. The file may be submitted to His Excellency the Governor with reference to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor's demi-official on pages 1 and 2 ante.

P.R.—18-5-17.

T.K.—21-5-17.

The valuation seems to have been done carefully and it does not appear to err on the side of extravagance. The agency employed for the purpose of valuation has had experience in this direction and is therefore competent to do the work. If, as estimated by the party and the Curator, there are 6,527 important manuscripts, the value placed on them, which does not exceed Rs. 5 each on the average, does not seem much. The estimates in other respects also may be accepted. If this valuation is approved, the question then is what steps, if any, should be taken to acquire the library. The matter is under litigation and the Collector may be consulted as to how and when the Government should act, if acquisition is decided upon.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—24-5-17.

The library has been valued. The valuation appears to be fair. His Excellency for information.

The Collector may be asked to report at what stage the litigation is and the best means of acquiring the library in case it be decided to acquire it on behalf of Government.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—26-5-17.

I agree.

P[ENTLAND]—29-5-17.

Draft demi-official.

R.R.—30-5-17.

Draft demi-official submitted.

P.R.—30-5-17.

T.K.—1-6-17.

C.R.—1-6-17.

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO Avargal, Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

To—J. R. HUGGINS, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.

Dated—the 5th/6th June 1917.

No.—2745-B-12.

Please refer to the correspondence ending with your demi-official of the 26th October 1916 to the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur P. Rajagopala Achariyar regarding the Tanjore Palace library. The library has since been completely valued and I am desired to inquire at what stage the litigation is and what will be the best means of acquiring the library in case it be decided to acquire it on behalf of Government.

Demi-official—from J. R. HUGGINS, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO Avargal, Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 18th July 1917.

Your demi-official No. 2745-B-12, dated 6th June 1917. The evidence in the Tanjore Palace Interpleader Suit O.S. No. 26 of 1912 has all been taken and the Sub-Judge is now hearing arguments.

2. As to the best way of acquiring the library it is obviously impossible to acquire it from any of the parties until the suit is decided or to negotiate with them.

3. It has been suggested that we should apply the provisions of the Ancient Monuments Act. The only sections of the Act which could possibly apply are 17, 18 and 19. It is very doubtful if section 18 or 19 would apply. There is no particular reason why the library should remain in Tanjore except that the people of Tanjore desire it. The interest in the library is derived from the library itself not from its location in Tanjore. Section 17 would apply, but it does not help us to acquire it.

4. It might be possible to acquire it by negotiation with the successful litigant after the trial is over. As however the suit is hardly likely to end in the Subordinate Judge's Court, we should probably have to wait till the final decision to get a clear title.

5. At present however there is a good chance of the litigants arriving at an agreement as to the future of the library. Some of the vakils concerned in the case conferred with Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar and it was suggested that the parties should agree to apply to the Sub-Court to exclude the library from the scope of the suit, to set apart an endowment of about a lakh of rupees for the maintenance of the library and to apply to Government under section 6 of the Charitable Endowments Act, VI of 1890, to settle a scheme for the administration of the library. I enclose a draft of the proposed agreement and application to the Court. Some such agreement as this I am sure would be the best solution, as it would preserve the library, keep it in Tanjore as the people desire and save all expense to Government. Government would only have to give the use of the library room in the palace. If Government consider that such an arrangement is desirable, I will use every effort to promote it. If the parties should finally be unwilling to endow the library I suggest that Government might make an allowance for its upkeep.

ENCLOSURES

(1)

A AGREEMENT entered into this day of 1917, between

WHEREAS Mr. S. Sundaram Ayyar, of us, has, in his capacity as Receiver of the Tanjore Palace Estate, instituted an interpleader suit to have the question of title to the said estate decided and the said suit is now pending in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 on the file of the Sub-Court at Tanjore and whereas all the parties to the said suit, in whomsoever amongst them the title to the estate may be ultimately found to be, are desirous and are agreed amongst themselves that item 1 of schedule H to the plaint in that suit, to wit, the library should be constituted a public library on the following conditions: namely—

(1) that the said library shall be called the 'Tanjore Saraswati Mahal',

(2) that it shall be located in the Palace at Tanjore and never removed from there,

(3) that for the upkeep and efficient management of the said library a sum of one lakh of rupees shall be set apart as an endowment out of the estate funds in the hands of the Receiver appointed by the Tanjore Sub-Court in the said O.S. No. 26 of 1912,

(4) that the library and the funds allotted for it shall be vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, Madras, and

(5) that applications shall forthwith be made by all the parties (a) to the court to exclude the said item from the scope of the suit and (b) to the Government of Madras to take the necessary steps under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890.

This agreement witnesseth that in consideration of each and everyone of them relinquishing his rights, whatever they may be, to the said item and agreeing to its being constituted a public library on the terms and conditions herein set forth and in consideration of their agreeing also to the Receiver allotting out of the Government of India 5½ per cent war bonds in which the estate funds are now invested bonds of the face value of one lakh of rupees, as a permanent endowment for the upkeep and efficient management of the said library, the parties agree (i) that the said item 1 of schedule H to the plaint in O.S. 26/1912 may be excluded from the scope of the said suit, (ii) that the same may be constituted a public library to be called the 'Tanjore Saraswati Mahal' and to be located in the palace at Tanjore and never removed from that palace, (iii) that out of the estate funds now in the hands of the Receiver appointed in the said suit a sum of one lakh in the shape of 5½ per cent war bonds of that face value shall be set apart as an endowment for the upkeep and efficient management of the said library, (iv) that the parties shall all and severally apply to the Court to exclude the said item 1 of schedule H from the scope of the suit and to authorise the Receiver so to allot war bonds to the face value of one lakh of rupees free from all claim on the part of any of them, (v) that the said library and the funds allotted as hereinbefore provided, for its upkeep and management shall be vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, Madras, and (vi) that a scheme for the management of the library may be framed by the Government of Madras under the Charitable Endowments Act, and the parties further agree that they shall forthwith apply to the Government of Madras to take the necessary steps under the last mentioned Act.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have signed this agreement.

(2)

IN THE SUBORDINATE JUDGE'S COURT AT TANJORE.

O. S. No. 26 of 1912.

S. Sundaram Ayyar Plaintiff.
V. Ry. Sivaji Raja Saheb and others Defendants.

Petition under Civil Procedure Code.

As, out of the several items of property comprised in the schedules to the plaint in the above suit the parties are desirous that item 1 of schedule H, viz., the library, should forthwith be constituted a public library to be located in the Tanjore Palace and to avoid all delay arising from the uncertainty of title to the said item pending the ultimate decision of this litigation, all the parties to the suit have agreed jointly to take the necessary steps to constitute it a public library, it is hereby prayed that the said item may be excluded from the scope of the suit.

Please see Mr. Huggins's demi-official on pages 18 and 19 ante. He states that the litigation in which the Tanjore Palace library is involved will take time to come to a final decision to get a clear title and that when that time comes it might be possible to acquire the library by private negotiation with the successful litigant.

2. In the meanwhile, he inquires whether he may promote an arrangement for the maintenance of the library at Tanjore itself from the estate funds in the manner indicated in paragraph 5 of his letter. It may be observed that the Government's decision to acquire the library was based on the apprehension that at the end of the litigation "it would pass into private hands and that there would be considerable risk of its being sold for what it may fetch and being dispersed" with the result that the manuscripts would no longer be accessible to scholars. If the arrangement now proposed by Mr. Huggins comes to fruition, the library will be safe at Tanjore. It would not then be necessary for the interference of the Government in the matter. It is therefore for consideration whether the Government may give their assent to Mr. Huggins's promoting the proposed scheme for the maintenance of the library.

3. As regards Mr. Huggins's suggestion for the grant of an allowance for the maintenance of the library in case the parties are unwilling to endow it, it is submitted that in the absence of information as to the extent of the liability involved, no undertaking can be given whether any allowance will be sanctioned by the Government for the purpose. In any case there seems no urgency at present for giving any such undertaking and the Government may wait and see whether the litigants are willing to endow the library or not. Orders are solicited whether Mr. Huggins may be replied to on the above lines.

P.R.—27-7-17.

T.K.—27-7-17.

Please add the further correspondence received to-day and note thereon urgently if necessary.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—30-7-17.

Letter—from J. R. HUGGINS, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO AVARGAL, Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—Camp Mayavaram, the 27th July 1917.

In continuation of my demi-official of 18th July 1917 regarding the Palace library I write to say that on the evening of the 25th an informal conference was held of the vakils representing the various parties to the suit. At that conference a fresh agreement was drawn up; the terms of the agreement were that—

- (1) that the Palace library should be withdrawn from the schedule of the plaint;
- (2) that the library should be constituted a public library under the name of "The Tanjore Maharaja Serforji's Saraswathi Mahal";

(3) that with the permission of Government it should be located in the Palace at Tanjore and never removed therefrom;

(4) that one lakh of rupees should be set apart for its endowment from the estate funds now in the hands of the Receiver;

(5) that Government should be addressed to take the necessary steps under the Charitable Endowments Act.

It was also agreed that it should be part of the scheme to be framed that a board of five trustees should be appointed to administer the property consisting of the following members:—

- (1) The Collector of Tanjore.
- (2) The District Judge, Tanjore.
- (3) An adult male member of the family of the successful claimant or claimants to be nominated by Government.
- (4) & (5) Two other non-official Hindu residents of the Tanjore district outside the family of the successful claimant to be nominated—one by Government, and the other by No. (3) above.

The proposed agreement appears to me a satisfactory solution of the question of the future of the library. It differs from the previous proposed agreement mentioned in my demi-official of 18th July 1917 in two points. One is the name to be given to the library. This was altered at the desire of two of the claimants who wished to connect the library with the name of its founder. The other point is that it lays down the composition of the board of trustees who are to administer the property. This condition was inserted owing to the not unreasonable desire expressed by some of the claimants that the successful claimant's family should have a substantial share in the management of the trust property. To fulfil this wish it was agreed by all parties that one member of the successful claimant's family should always be a trustee and that that member should have the power of nominating one of the other trustees.

The vakils will have of course to obtain the consent of their clients to the proposal and in some cases obtain special powers to sign for their clients, but they were of opinion that there would be no difficulty in the matter.

The agreement cannot, however, be carried out unless Government is willing to allow the use of the present library building in the palace for the use of the library and to order that the board of trustees as proposed should form part of the scheme.

In my opinion the offer is a generous one and one worthy of acceptance, and if Government agree I would request that Government may be pleased to signify their consent as early as possible and if possible by wire.

I enclose a copy of the agreement and other connected papers.

ENCLOSURES

(1)

The following were present at the Conference:—

Vakils.

- Mr. K. C. Appaswami Ayyar representing 1st and 2nd defendants.
" G. S. Ramachandra Ayyar representing 1st and 2nd defendants.
" Rao Sahib Gandhi Venkatramayya representing 12th defendant.
" S. Varada Achariyar representing 15th defendant.
The Hon'ble Mr. S. Srinivasa Ayyangar, Advocate-General, representing 3rd defendant.
Mr. P. R. Natesa Ayyar representing 1st and 2nd defendants.
" V. R. Rajagopala Achariyar representing 3rd defendant.
" S. Ramaswami Ayyar representing 3rd defendant.
" Phansalker representing 13th and 14th defendants.
" A. Narasimha Achariyar representing 4th to 11th defendants.
" K. Anantarama Ayyar representing 24th defendant.
" P. N. Subrahmanya Ayyar representing 15th defendant.
" K. S. Viraraghava Achariyar representing 1st and 2nd defendants.
" P. V. Krishnaswami Ayyar representing 17th to 21st defendants.
" K. Natarajan representing 1st and 2nd defendants.
" K. P. Subrahmanya Ayyar representing 18th defendant.
" S. Vaidyanathaswami Ayyar representing 16th defendant.
" P. V. Naganatha Sastri representing 4th, 5th and 7th to 11th defendants.
" Gardhe representing 15th defendant.
" Srikhante representing Agent of 15th defendant.

Defendants.

- Defendant No. 1. V. Ry. Sivaji Rajah Sahib.
" 2. " Pratapasimha Rajah Sahib.
" 23. " Ramachandra Surve Rao Sahib.
" 21. " Hari Sahib Mohite.

(2)

Minutes of the Conference.

A conference of the parties and their vakils in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 on the file of the Tanjore Sub-Court was held in the Tanjore Collector's office in the afternoon of Wednesday, the 25th July.

2. The vakils for all the parties except the 6th defendant who is ex parte in the suit were present. The defendants Nos. 1, 2, 21 and 23 were also present in person. The Hon'ble the Advocate-General, who represents the 3rd defendant, was also present.

These were also present—

E. H. Wallace, Esq., I.C.S., District Judge.

J. R. Huggins, Esq., I.C.S., Collector.

R. Narayana Ayyar, Esq., I.C.S., Headquarters Sub-Collector.

3. There was a consensus of opinion amongst all the parties that the Tanjore Palace Library should be removed from the scope of the pending interpleader suit, O.S. No. 26 of 1912, and that the parties should give up each his claim, whatever it is, to this item of property.

4. The parties should sign an agreement relinquishing their claim and constituting the library a public trust.

5. They also agree to the sub-court removing one lakh of rupees out of the funds of the estate in the hands of the receiver out of the scope of this suit. This fund is to be endowed for the upkeep of the library.

6. The parties to the suit should make an application to the Court to record their agreement and to remove the properties—the library and a lakh of rupees—from the suit.

7. The parties are also to make an application to Government under the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 to vest the endowment in charge of the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments and settle a scheme.

8. As regards this scheme for management it was the express desire of the parties that the successful party should be effectively represented on the board of trustees and that to this end the board should consist of five members as follows:—

(1) The Collector of Tanjore, ex officio.

(2) The District Judge, Tanjore, ex officio.

(3) An adult male member of the family of the successful claimant or claimants to the Tanjore Palace Estate in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 to be nominated by Government.

(4) & (5) Two non-official Hindu residents of the Tanjore district outside the family of the successful claimant or claimants in O.S. No. 26 of 1912—one to be nominated by Government, and the other by No. (3) above.

9. There was some discussion as to the name to be given to the institution. It was finally resolved that it should be styled "The Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswathi Mahal."

10. It was also resolved that the library should be located in the Tanjore Palace and not removed therefrom.

11. It was agreed that necessary agreements and other papers should be drawn up and the signatures of the parties obtained at an early date.

(3)

AGREEMENT entered into this day of 1917 between

WHEREAS Mr. S. Sundaram Ayyar of us has, in his capacity as receiver of the Tanjore Palace Estate, instituted an interpleader suit to have the question of title to the said estate decided and the said suit is now pending in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 on the file of the Sub-Court at Tanjore, and whereas all the parties to the said suit, in whomsoever amongst them the title to the estate may be ultimately found to be, are desirous and are agreed amongst themselves that item 1 of Schedule H to the plaint in that suit, to wit, the library should be constituted a public library on the following conditions, namely—

(1) that the said library shall be called the "Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswathi Mahal,"

(2) that it shall with the permission of Government be located in the palace at Tanjore and never removed from there,

(3) that for the upkeep and efficient management of the said library a sum of one lakh of rupees shall be set apart as an endowment out of the estate funds in the hands of the receiver appointed by the Tanjore Sub-Court in the said O.S. No. 26 of 1912,

(4) that the library and the funds allotted for it shall be vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, Madras, and

(5) that applications shall forthwith be made by all the parties (a) to the Court to exclude the said item from the scope of the suit and (b) to the Government of Madras to take the necessary steps under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890.

This agreement witnesseth that in consideration of each and every one of them relinquishing his rights, whatever they may be, to the said item and agreeing to its being constituted a public library on the terms and conditions herein set forth and in consideration of their agreeing also to the receiver allotting out of the Government of India 5½ per cent war bonds in which the estate funds are now invested bonds of the face value of one lakh of rupees as a permanent endowment for the upkeep and efficient management of the said library, the parties agree (i) that the said item 1 of Schedule H to the plaint in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 may be excluded from the scope of the said suit, (ii) that the same may be constituted a public library to be called the "Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswathi Mahal" and to be located in the palace at Tanjore and never removed from that place, (iii) that out of the estate funds now in the hands of the receiver appointed in the said suit a sum of one lakh in the shape of 5½ per cent war bonds of that face value shall be set apart as an endowment for the upkeep and efficient management of the said library, (iv) that the parties shall all and severally apply to the Court to exclude the said item 1 of Schedule H from the scope of suit and to authorise the receiver so to allot war bonds to the face value of one lakh of rupees free from all claim on the part of any of them, (v) that the said library and the funds allotted as hereinbefore provided for its upkeep and management shall be vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, Madras, (vi) that a scheme for the management of the library may be framed by the Government of Madras under the Charitable Endowments Act, and (vii) that it shall be a part of the scheme to be framed under the Act, that a board of five trustees consisting of the following gentlemen shall be appointed to administer the property:—

(1) The Collector of Tanjore, ex officio.

(2) The District Judge of Tanjore, ex officio.

(3) An adult male member of the family of the successful claimant or claimants to the Tanjore Palace Estate in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 to be nominated by Government.

(4) & (5) Two other non-official Hindu residents of the Tanjore district outside the family of the successful claimant or claimants to be nominated—one by the Government, and the other by No. (3) above.

And the parties further agree that they shall forthwith apply to the Government of Madras to take the necessary steps under the last mentioned Act.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have signed this agreement.

(4)

IN THE SUBORDINATE JUDGE'S COURT AT TANJORE.

O.S. No. 26 of 1912.

S. Sundaram Ayyar ... Plaintiff.

v.

Ry. Sivaji Raja Sahib and others ... Defendants.

Petition under Civil Procedure Code.

As, out of the several items of properties comprised in the schedules to the plaint in the above suit, the parties are desirous that item 1 of Schedule H, namely, the library, should forthwith be constituted a public library to be located in the Tanjore Palace and that war bonds of the face value of one lakh of rupees in the hands of the receiver should be endowed for the library free from the claims of all the parties, and to avoid all delay arising from the uncertainty of title to the said item pending the ultimate decision of this litigation, all the parties to the suit have agreed jointly to take the necessary steps to constitute it a public library, it is hereby prayed that the said item may be excluded from the scope of the suit and that directions be given to the receiver to allot war bonds of the face value of one lakh of rupees as an endowment to the library and to place the same at the disposal of the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, Madras.

Please see the communication ante. The arrangement for the maintenance of the Tanjore Palace Library proposed therein appears to be suitable and, as already pointed out in paragraph 2 of the office-note on page 20 ante, the interference of Government in the matter appears to be no longer necessary. It is for consideration whether the Government may signify their consent to the proposal.

2. The Political Department may be consulted as to whether they find any objection to the course suggested, especially with regard to the proposal to allow the use of the present library building in the palace for the use of the library. If the

Government decide not to acquire the library and incorporate it with the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, it appears that the questions relating to it may appropriately be dealt with in the Political Department rather than in Home (Education). That department may be requested to state whether they will accept transfer of the papers to them for disposal.

3. The Collector has asked for orders as early as possible and if possible by wire.

P.R.—31-7-17.

The arrangement agreed upon by the parties may be accepted by Government with the concurrence of Political.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—31-7-17.

To Political (u.o.) for favour of remarks.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—31-7-17.

PUBLIC (POLITICAL) DEPARTMENT.

The question of the acquisition of the Tanjore Palace Library for Government has been under discussion in Political since 1907. In paragraph 7 of the Government Agent's letter, dated 15th April 1907, in G.O. No. 506, Political, dated 8th October 1907, he suggested the advisability of negotiating with the Ranis for the purchase of the library by Government. Attention is also invited to paragraph 2 of (the Hon'ble) Mr. Davidson's remarks, dated 30th October 1906, on page 5 of G.O. No. 506, Political, dated 8th October 1907, and paragraphs 5 to 17 of the late Mr. Swaminatha Ayyar's note, dated 21st March 1907, on pages 6-8 *ibid.*, and paragraphs 24-29 on pages 7-8 of notes to Government Order *ibid.*

The questions raised in G.O. No. 506, Political, dated 8th October 1907, including the library were referred to the Advocate-General (The Hon'ble Sir C. Sankaran Nayar) who concluded, with reference to the library, that the Ranis had power to convert or alienate the library under certain conditions, but had no power to sell—vide page 15 of G.O. No. 506, Political, dated 8th October 1907.

Sir Gabriel Stokes noted that if there was any danger of the library being broken up or made away with, the Government *must* acquire it—page 9 of notes to G.O. No. 506, Political, dated 8th October 1907. Accordingly in paragraph 4 of that Government Order the Government Agent was asked to report whether the **II** library or the manuscripts might be brought under section 17 of the Ancient Monuments Act.

2. The Government Agent (Mr. Bedford) reported that section 17 would not be applicable then, but that the manuscripts might be held to fall under section 18 (1) of the Ancient Monuments Act, in which case, compulsory purchase could be effected under section 19. Pending his further report his letter was recorded in G.O. No. 603, Political, dated 12th December 1907.

Attention is invited to the notes to G.O. No. 603, Political, dated 12th December 1907, and the notes in G.O. No. 218, Political, dated 7th May 1909. They contain the opinion of Professor Macdonnell of Oxford on the value of the library.

It was decided in Council that it was desirable that Government should, if possible, acquire the library—vide page 4 of notes in G.O. No. 218, Political, dated 7th May 1909. His Excellency Sir Arthur Lawley thought it inadvisable to propose to the Ranis personally that they should dispose of the library to Government—page 5 of notes to the Government Order. The Government Agent was therefore directed to approach the Ranis. The Ranis were not, however, willing to part with the **IV** library. In this connexion Mr. (now Sir J. N.) Atkinson wrote that the question of legislation to acquire the library for Government should be considered, after the death of the Ranis—vide page 7 of notes to G.O. No. 218, Political, dated 7th May 1909. Sir Arthur Lawley noted that the Government could take no immediate action then.

3. The question of the library was referred to the Advocate-General (Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar). In his opinion, dated 29th October 1908, on page 23 of G.O. No. 218, Political, dated 7th May 1909, he said that the receiver should be **I** instructed to move the District Court to direct the sale of the library, as was done in the case of certain jewels.

But in paragraph 2 of the Government Order it was decided that no action should be taken as regards the library.

4. In paragraph 5 of the Government Agent's letter, dated 27th November 1912, on page 4 of G.O. No. 65, Political, dated 6th February 1913, he suggested that the civil court might be moved to give the temporary care of the library to the Madras Museum—please see also paragraph 4 of office-note on page 6 of notes to G.O. No. 65, Political, dated 6th February 1913, and paragraph 2 of Mr. Slater's and the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew's notes on page 11 *ibid.* In paragraph 6 of the Order Government decided that the library should remain in Tanjore.

5. To summarize, four methods of keeping the library intact, have been considered:—

(1) As suggested by Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar, to move the District Court to have the library sold (to be bought by Government)—vide **I** above.

This opinion was expressed when the Ranis were alive. Now the private property of the late Raja of Tanjore is in dispute in court.

(2) To apply the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act—vide **II** on page 24 *supra*. Mr. Bedford said in 1907 that section 17 was not then applicable, but that sections 18 and 19 might. Mr. Huggins now says the reverse, viz., that sections 18 and 19 would not be applicable but that section 17 might.

In G.O. No. 231, Political, dated 19th May 1917, the Government directed that certain items of property should be brought under section 18 of the Act and it was done.

(3) As described on page 20 *et seq.* *supra* to come to an arrangement with the possible claimants to remove the library from the interpleader suit and to set apart a lakh of rupees from the estate for its maintenance. The parties have agreed to this course.

(4) If this is unsuccessful, to pass an Act acquiring the library for Government as suggested by Sir John Atkinson—vide **IV** on page 24 *supra*.

6. Submitted that Political may agree to the course suggested by Education, namely, No. (3) in paragraph 5 *supra*.

Orders may issue in Home (Education).

C.A.S.—2-8-17.

A.J.J.—3-8-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—4-8-17.

His Excellency the Governor will, of course, see.

F. J. RICHARDS—4-8-17.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Public (Political) agrees to the arrangement proposed by Mr. Huggins in his To issue after receipt of orders from His Excellency. *demiofficial* on pages 20-21 *ante*. The following telegram may be despatched to Mr Huggins.

R.R.—6-8-17.

"No. 385. Your *demiofficial* [dated the] 27th July. Arrangements proposed for [the] maintenance [of the] Tanjore Palace library approved."

2. For orders as to circulation to His Excellency the Governor with reference to Political's note above.

P.R.—4-8-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—5-8-17.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—6-8-17.

A satisfactory arrangement. I should like Sir Alexander Cardew to see, please.

P[ENTLAND]—6-8-17.

An excellent scheme, I think.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—7-8-17.

Issue telegram and call for an official report.

2. Examine also the request to place a part of the palace building library.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—8-8-17.

The telegram to the Collector of Tanjore has issued. A draft memorandum to the Collector is also submitted for approval.

2. The question of allowing the use of the present library building was specially referred to the Political Department for remarks and their silence on the point has been taken to mean consent in the telegram issued to the Collector. That department may again be consulted whether there is any objection to the present library building being used for that purpose in future also. The file may go to that department after issue of the memorandum.

P.R.—9-8-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—10-8-17.

The chief point for consideration will be whether this request will disturb the arrangements already arrived at for the utilization of the palace buildings. If it does, the departments concerned will be consulted.

The draft memorandum put up will have to issue here and then the file may be forwarded to Political.

[Memorandum No. 2745/16-14, dated 13th August 1917.]

R.R.—11-8-17.

PUBLIC (POLITICAL) DEPARTMENT.

The library is in a separate hall and is in charge of the Palace Estate Receiver—vide item 51 on page 11 of G.O. No. 622, Political, dated the 13th November 1913.

In the allocation made in G.O. No. 238, Public (Political), dated the 30th May 1917, the hall which, at present, forms the library has not been interfered with.

2. No objection need be raised in Political to the continuance of the library in the same hall. The Government Agent seems to have no objection to the continuance of the present habitation.

3. The file may be returned to Home (Education) through the Public Works Department who have charge of the palace buildings.

C.A.S.—15-8-17.

A.J.J.—16-8-17.

R. H. COURTENAY—17-8-17.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Submitted that this department may agree with paragraph 2 of the Public (Political) Department note above and return the file to Home (Education).

D.M.—1-9-17.

R.R.—24-8-17.

R.A.K.—27-8-17.

R.K.—28-8-17.

D. MARSHALL—1-9-17.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

The report and the scheme called for from the Collector of Tanjore may be awaited. In the meanwhile the papers will be printed up.

P.R.—3-9-17.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—3-9-17.

Please.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—4-9-17.

Demi-official—from J. R. HUGGINS, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Tanjore.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO Avargal, Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 8th January 1918.

No.—R.O.C. 28/Agy.

Please refer to correspondence ending with Government Memorandum No. 2745/16-4, Home (Education) Department, dated 13th August last, regarding the arrangements proposed for the maintenance of the Tanjore Palace Library.

2. In pursuance of the agreement arrived at at the conference with the parties in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 on the 25th July last an application to the Court was drawn up under Order XXIII, Rule 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure embodying the terms of the agreement and praying that the library and the proposed endowment be removed at once from the scope of the matters to be decided in the suit. An application to Government under sections 4 and 5 of the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 was also drawn up embodying the scheme for the management of the library as decided on at the conference. I forward herewith copies of the two applications. It was proposed that the signatures of all the defendants should be obtained to both applications and that both should be presented to the court which was to forward the application to Government.

3. Every one of the defendants has signed the two applications with the exception of one, viz., the Gwalior claimant. He is the 24th defendant in the suit. His name is Sirdar Narayana Rao alias Rao Sahib Bhonsle, son of Sirdar Kondaji Rao alias Bhau Sahib Bhonsle; his address is Sirdar Rao Sahib Bhonsle, care of Sirdar Mama Sahib Bhonsle, Patankar's Bazaar, Lashker, Gwalior. For a long time no reply was to be got from him. He then wired to his Vakil, Mr. K. Anantarama Ayyar, M.A., B.L., Government Pleader, that he was sorry he could not comply with the request to sign the applications sent to him. Mr. Anantarama Ayyar learnt from a relative of his client that the latter was withholding his consent by the advice of the Maharaja though he was himself not opposed to the arrangements. Mr. Anantarama Ayyar wrote a strong letter to his client and sent his relative to meet him at Gwalior and explain matters. In reply the Sirdar writes to say that though he was himself perfectly willing to sign the applications his wishes were overruled by his "elders and patrons." The reason advanced is that "a voluntary gift of such a valuable library with an endowment for its upkeep would have real value of its own if the gift is made and announced after the claims of the different owners have been settled: when nobody has a perfect right to say that a thing belongs or does not belong to him his benevolence under such circumstances is a matter of no consequence and would necessarily not redound to his credit as it would if with the assured ownership he makes a free gift of it." This of course is a quixotic view. But he makes it plain that should he act otherwise he would incur the displeasure of his patron, the Maharaja. I forward a copy of his letter for the information of Government.

4. The negotiations that bade fair in August last to succeed without a hitch have thus received a check from an unexpected quarter. The Sub-Judge has heard arguments in the suit and is writing his judgment but is not expected to pronounce it before March next. I think one more effort should be made if possible to secure the adhesion of this solitary defendant who stands out. I venture to recommend therefore that Government should use its influence to induce His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior to withdraw his objection to his dependant the Sirdar Rao Sahib Bhonsle surrendering his rights to the library.

ENCLOSURES

(1)

Letter—from R. D. BHONSLE, Gwalior.

To—M.R.Ry. K. Anantarama Ayyar Avargal, Government pleader, Tanjore.

Dated—the 22nd December 1917.

I am in receipt of your letter dated the 11th instant and I am very much thankful to you for your putting the matter so plainly in all its phases. I for one have always been acting under your advice in all matters connected with my case and I need not say that I shall be the last person to shrink from answering to the plain call of duty which you have so vividly depicted in your letter.

2. I am sorry, however, that in this matter my wishes have been overruled and I have therefore to be guided by the opinions of the elders and patrons who have always been my well-wishers. The matter was again put up and discussed and they stick to their opinion that a voluntary gift of such a valuable library with an endowment for its upkeep would have real value of its own if the gift is made and announced after the claims of the different owners have been settled. When nobody has a perfect right to say that a thing belongs or does not belong to him his benevolence, under such circumstances, is a matter of no consequence and would necessarily not redound to his credit as it would if with the assured ownership he makes a free gift of it.

3. The view has definitely been settled and I am therefore sorry that I am not in a position to add anything more to what I have stated in my telegraphic reply to the Collector.

4. I can assure you, however, that I personally am in complete accord with the forcible suggestion you have made, but you will kindly make an allowance for me of my position who has to depend upon the good-will of his well-wishers to enable him to bear in part the expenses of the litigation. I am as it were on the horns of a dilemma. I cannot displease you who although thousands of miles away have been advocating my cause, nor can I displease my neighbourly patrons and well-wishers whom I have to meet every day. You have been very kind to me heretofore and I am sure you can gauge the awkwardness of my position and continue the same sort of friendly regard which I have up till now been experiencing at your hands and which I cherish I will have ever after.

5. Knowing the public spirit which had been actuating your actions in the matter, I had been trying all along to induce my well-wishers to change their opinion but as I found myself unable to do so I intended to send you definite instructions by wire, but family circumstances and the illness of my son culminating in his sad death prevented me from doing this earlier.

6. Trusting that you will kindly excuse me for the delay which was due to the two reasons above alluded to.

(2)

IN THE SUBORDINATE COURT OF TANJORE.

(O.S. No. 26 of 1912.)

S. Sundaram Ayyar Plaintiff.
V. Ry. Sivaji Raja Saheb and others Defendants.

APPLICATION under Order XXIII, rule 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure put in by all the parties to the suit.

The applicants state as follows—

(1) That all the parties to the suit are agreed—

(a) that the Tanjore Palace library which is item 1 of schedule H of the plaint in the suit shall be constituted a public library in trust for the public;

(b) that for the upkeep and efficient management of the library a sum of one lakh of rupees shall be endowed from the funds of the Tanjore Palace estate in the hands of the receiver appointed by the court in the above suit, and that the amount should be paid by the allotment of the 5½ per cent War Loan bonds of 1920 of the face value of one lakh of rupees;

(c) that every one of the parties relinquishes his claim or right whatever it is to the library and to the sum of one lakh of rupees allotted as above;

(d) that the aforesaid two items—the library and the amount of one lakh of rupees—shall at once be removed from the matters for decision in the suit and may be declared no longer the property of any of the parties to the suit;

(e) that necessary application may be made to the court with a prayer to give effect to the above; and

(f) that effect may be given to this agreement forthwith without awaiting the adjudication of the suit itself.

(2) The petitioners are also further agreed that the constitution of the public library as aforesaid shall be subject to the following conditions:—

(a) The library shall be named "The Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswathi Mahal";

(b) that the library shall be located in the Tanjore Palace with the permission of Government and that it shall never be removed from there;

(c) that the library and the endowment therefor be vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, Madras, appointed under Act VI of 1890;

(d) that application be made by the petitioners to the Government of Madras for such vesting under the provisions of Act VI of 1890;

(e) that Government be requested to frame a scheme under the Act for the management of the library and its endowment;

(f) that in framing such a scheme Government be requested to make it part of the scheme to have a Board of Trustees consisting of five members as follows:—

(1) The Collector of Tanjore—Ex officio.

(2) The District Judge of Tanjore—Ex officio.

(3) An adult male member of the family of the successful claimant or claimants in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 aforesaid to be nominated by Government.

(4) and (5) Two non-official Hindu residents of the Tanjore district outside the family of No. (3) above to be nominated one by Government and the other by No. (3) above.

(3) The petitioners therefore pray that the court may be pleased to pass orders as follows:—

(a) recording this agreement and passing orders in terms thereof so far as they relate to the suit;

(b) removing item No. 1 of schedule H of the plaint and 5½ per cent War Bonds of 1920 of the face value of one lakh of rupees from the matters to be decided in the suit, declaring that they are no longer the property of any of the parties to the suit and embodying this agreement in the decree that may be passed in the suit;

(c) giving necessary directions to the Receiver to give effect to the above by endorsing or assigning the War Bonds to the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments as soon as the orders of Government are obtained on the application under Act VI of 1890 mentioned in paragraph 2 (d) above; and

(d) passing such other orders as may be deemed fit by the court in the circumstances of the case.

(3)

Application—from V.Ry. Sivaji Raja Sahib Avargal and others of Tanjore.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 8th January 1918.

We, the undersigned, have the honour to submit this application under sections 4 and 5 of the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 and to request that Government will be pleased to vest in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, the Tanjore Palace Library and the Government securities belonging to it as described in detail in the enclosed schedules.

2. The Tanjore Palace Library is part of the property belonging to the Tanjore Palace estate regarding the succession to which an interpleader suit—O.S. No. 26 of 1912—is now being tried by the Subordinate Court of Tanjore. The whole estate including this library is now in the management of the Receiver appointed by the court pending disposal of the suit.

3. We are the defendants in the suit interpleading against one another. The library abovementioned is a large and valuable one. And it is eminently fit to be preserved and maintained as a public library in trust for the public. Speedy steps have to be taken for its preservation and upkeep as the pending litigation may take long before the final court of appeal adjudicates on it. In view of all these circumstances we have by mutual consent agreed each to relinquish his claim, whatever it is, to this item of property in the suit and to constitute it a public trust forthwith. As an endowment of funds is necessary for the upkeep of the library we have also agreed that out of the funds of the estate in the hands of the Receiver a sum of one lakh of rupees should be set apart for the purpose, our claim to the same being also relinquished likewise.

4. To give effect to an agreement we have filed an application in the Subordinate Court of Tanjore in the above suit under Order XXIII, rule 3 of the Civil Procedure Code, requesting the court to remove the aforesaid two items of property—the library and a lakh of rupees—from the scope of the suit, to declare them not to be the property of any of us and to exclude the same from the decree to be passed in the suit.

5. A sum of about 3 lakhs of rupees has been recently invested by the Receiver in 5½ per cent War Bonds of 1920; we have requested the Subordinate Judge to allot out of these bonds of the face value of one lakh of rupees.

6. It is the express wish of us all that the following form part of the conditions of the trust and the endowment and shall be given effect to:—

(1) The library shall be called "The Tanjore Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswathi Mahal."

(2) It shall be located in the Tanjore Palace with the permission of Government.

(3) It shall never be removed from there.

(4) The scheme framed under the Charitable Endowments Act VI of 1890 shall provide for a Board of Trustees consisting of five members as follows:—

(i) The Collector of Tanjore—Ex officio.

(ii) The District Judge of Tanjore—Ex officio.

(iii) An adult male member of the family of the successful claimant or claimants in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 aforesaid, to be nominated by Government.

(iv) and (v) Two non-official Hindu residents of the Tanjore district outside the family of No. (iii) above, one to be nominated by Government and the other by No. (iii) above.

SCHEDULE I.

The Tanjore Palace Library which is included as item 1 of schedule H of the plaint in O.S. No. 26 of 1912 on the file of the Subordinate Court of Tanjore—all the books, manuscripts, etc., and the furniture appertaining to the same.

SCHEDULE II.

Particulars of the 5½ per cent war bonds.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Please see Mr. Huggins' demi-official on pages 27 ante. If, as stated therein, the Maharaja of Gwalior is standing in the way of Rao Sahib Bhonsle's giving his assent to the scheme for the management of the Tanjore Palace library at this stage, it seems worth while for this Government to address the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore, (the Hon'ble Mr. Oswald Vivian Bosanquet, C.S.I., C.I.E.) and request him to intervene and use his good offices on behalf of this Government in persuading the Maharaja to allow the latter's dependant Rao Sahib Bhonsle to give his assent to the scheme. The Agent may be furnished with the papers received with Mr. Huggins' demi-official and he may also be informed of the importance of the library and the likelihood of its being lost to the public if timely arrangements are not made for its maintenance. Orders are solicited whether the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India may be addressed demi-officially. It is possible that the Maharaja may say that he has no hand in the matter. Political may be consulted.

P.R.—11-1-18.

C.R.—16-1-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—17-1-18.

I saw Mr. Narayana Ayyar recently. He thinks that the negotiations should be completed before the judgement is pronounced.

Draft a demi-official to the Agent to the Governor-General, Indore, and consult Political.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—18-1-18.

A draft demi-official is submitted. If approved it may be sent to Public (Political) for acceptance.

P.D.—21-1-18.

C.R.—22-1-18.

C.R.—23-1-18.

R.R.—24-1-18.

PUBLIC (POLITICAL) DEPARTMENT.

The proposed demi-official reference to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India may, it is submitted, be accepted in Political.

V.P.E.M.—25-1-18.

A.J.G.—25-1-18.

F. J. RICHARDS—28-1-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

For orders as to circulation to His Excellency the Governor.

C.R.—29-1-18.

R.R.—30-1-18.

P[ENTLAND]—1-2-18.

Issue.

R.R.—2-2-18.

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO AVARGAL, Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

To—the Hon'ble Mr. O. V. BOSANQUET, C.S.I., C.I.E., Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore.

Dated—the 2nd February 1918.

No.—2745-B./16-17.

You are probably aware that since the death of Sivaji, the last Raja of Tanjore in 1855, the private properties of the Raja have been in the enjoyment of his widows and under the management of a "receiver" appointed by the District Court of Tanjore. The widows of the Raja died one after another; the last died on the 3rd May 1912. The receiver thereupon filed an interpleader suit (26 of 1912) in the Subordinate Judge's Court of Tanjore for the purpose of obtaining a decision as to whom he should hand over the properties. The suit is now pending in that court.

2. The properties include a library founded between 1798-1824 in the time of Raja Serfojee who was a great Collector of books. It consists of old English books and a valuable collection of rare Sanskrit and vernacular manuscripts and is of considerable interest from a philological point of view. It is also well known to oriental scholars and its value is considerable. The ownership of this library like the rest of the properties forms the subject-matter of the suit referred to above. When that point is decided, the library would pass into private hands and there is considerable risk of its being sold for what it may fetch and being dispersed.

3. With a view to prevent the disruption of such a well-known and interesting collection of books, and lest the manuscripts should fall into private hands and be no longer accessible to scholars and research workers, the Government were anxious to effect its purchase. They made a rough valuation of it and were considering the best means for its acquisition. In the meanwhile, it was brought to their notice that the parties to the suit had come to an agreement among themselves regarding its future management in the manner described in the accompanying application to the court. As the interest of the Government in the library went no further than its maintenance intact for the benefit of scholars and others interested in it, they readily fell in with the scheme suggested by the litigants.

4. It will, however, be seen from Mr. Huggins' demi-official, dated the 8th January 1918 (copy enclosed), that the scheme for the management of the library is likely to fall through for want of the assent of a single individual, Rao Sahib Bhonsle, a defendant in the suit and that the latter is a dependant on the Maharaja of Gwalior who largely controls his actions and decisions and that it is therefore in the power of the Maharaja to secure the assent of Rao Sahib Bhonsle to the scheme referred to. The scheme itself is a most satisfactory solution of the difficulty and the Government are anxious that it should be successfully piloted through the court and brought into operation at an early date. I am accordingly desirous by His Excellency the Governor in Council to solicit your good offices on behalf of this Government and to request you to use your influence with the Maharaja, explain to him the advantages of his intervention in the matter and persuade him to influence Rao Sahib Bhonsle to agree to the scheme.

5. As the judgment in the suit is likely to be pronounced shortly and as it is of the utmost importance that some arrangement or other for the maintenance of the library should be completed before that event, I am to request that the matter may receive your early attention and that this Government may be favoured with a reply as early as practicable.

Telegram—from the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 14th February 1918.

No.—488-D.

Your demi-official 2745-B./16-17, Education, February 2nd, Tanjore library. Have instructed Resident, Gwalior see what can be done.

Telegram—from the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, Indore.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 15th March 1918.

No.—840-D.

Continuation my 488-D., February 14th, Tanjore Library. Resident, Gwalior, reports that Rao Sahib Bhonsle has wired, Government prosecutor, Tanjore, begins—"respecting 1306, Home (Edn.)—9

library please apply to court on my behalf saying I join agreement already arrived at between rest of parties namely that library be constituted a public one in trust for public and that one lakh of rupees be set aside from the properties in question as an endowment—ends." Resident adds that no indication that Bhonsle's previous reluctance was due to Maharaja Scindia who on scheme being explained to him has used his influence on behalf of it.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Please see the telegram from the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India above. The following telegram may, it is submitted, be sent to the Collector of Tanjore :—

Telegram—from the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.
To—the Collector of Tanjore.
Dated—the 15th March 1918.
No.—69.

Reference correspondence ending [with] your demi-official R.O.C. No. 28/Agy., dated 8th January 1918, regarding Tanjore Palace library. Resident Gwalior reports that Rao Sahib Bhonsle has wired Government Pleader, Tanjore, begins—"respecting library please apply to court on my behalf saying I join agreement already arrived at between rest of parties namely that library be constituted a public one in trust for public and that one lakh of rupees be set aside from the properties in question as an endowment—ends." Please submit official report after settling details.

After issue, the file may be submitted to His Excellency the Governor for perusal of the Agent's reply.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—15-3-18.

Issue and then submit to His Excellency.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU—15-3-18.

P[ENTLAND]—20-3-18.

From the Registrar, High Court, dated 17th April 1918, R.O.C. No. 1256.

The matter of the Tanjore Palace library has now reached that stage in which the library and the endowment of Rs. 1,00,000 for its maintenance have to be vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments and a scheme for its management has to be settled. The application made for the purpose by the persons concerned is not quite in order. According to the opinion of the Advocate-General printed on page 3 of notes to G.O. No. 1150 M., dated the 31st May 1907, there should be two distinct applications—one for vesting the properties in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments and the other for settling a scheme for their administration. There have also been cases in public where single applications have been accepted.

2. It is therefore submitted that the letter of the Registrar, High Court, with its enclosures may be forwarded to the Collector of Tanjore and he may be requested to submit draft notifications prepared in consultation with the Government Solicitor, Madras.

3. A draft memorandum is submitted for approval.

P.R.—20-4-18.

C.R.—20-4-18.

[Memorandum No. 2745/16-18, dated 25th April 1918.]

Demi-official—from Sir E. D. MACLAGAN, K.C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education (General).
To—the Hon'ble Mr. L. DAVIDSON, C.S.I., I.C.S., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.
Dated—Simla, the 28th May 1918.
No.—177-Genl.

It appears from a paragraph which appeared in the Advocate of India, Bombay, of the 7th May 1918, that the Tanjore Palace library has been presented to the Public and has been

endowed with a fund of a lakh of rupees. I am desired to request you to be so good as to furnish me for the information of the Government of India with such particulars as are available about the contents, the management and the endowment of the institution.

PUBLIC (POLITICAL) DEPARTMENT.

The file on the subject of the presentation of the Tanjore Palace library to the public is pending in Home (Education).

Submitted that the current may be transferred to that department.

V.P.E.—6-6-18.

A.J.J.—28-5-18.

D. N. STRATHIE—6-6-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

The following draft reply is suggested :—

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO AVARGAL, Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Education) Department.

To—the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education (General).

Dated—Ootacamund, the 14th June 1918.

No.—1198 B-1.

- (1) Statement of contents according to existing catalogues.
- (2) Letter from Mr. Dodwell, 23rd November 1916.
- (3) Letter from the Curator, Oriental Manuscripts Library R.C. 104/16, 30th April 1917.
- (4) Letter from the Subordinate Judge of Tanjore, 747, 1st April 1918.
- (5) An application, 21st October 1917, from one of the parties.

With reference to your Demi-official No. 177-Genl., dated 28th May 1918, I am to enclose copies of the marginally-noted papers relating to Tanjore Palace library and to state that the draft notifications vesting the property in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments are under preparation by the Government Solicitor.

P.R.—10-6-18.

We should send India a copy of the statement on page 6 supra and also a copy of Mr. Dodwell's letter, dated 23rd November 1916, on page 9 ante. The former gives in one view a rough idea of the contents as disclosed by the catalogues existing. The latter gives an idea of the *European* books which are excluded from the Curator's report on pages 6 to 10 of current file. I have included the above two also in the list of papers to be sent to India.

Draft demi-official for approval.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—11-6-18.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—13-6-18.

P[ENTLAND]—14-6-18.

Issue.

R.R.—14-6-18.

From the Government Solicitor, dated the 12th September 1918, No. 1019.

The draft notifications appear to be alright and conform to the conditions laid down in the applications submitted to Government. The description of the library given in the schedule is all that is possible.

2. In the second notification framing a scheme for the management of the endowment, the date from which the scheme is to come into operation, the date of first nomination of certain members and the date of the first meeting of the committee have to be specified. It does not appear from the papers that judgment in the main suit has been delivered. Till the successful claimant is known, it will not be possible to constitute a committee of management as laid down in the scheme. It is for orders whether a reference may be made to the Collector of Tanjore as to the final result of the suit and the date from which the scheme can come into effect. There is however no objection to the immediate publication of the draft notification vesting the property in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments.

It is understood it has been.

C.R.—2-10-18.

N.K.—30-9-18.

We may fix the 1st December as the date from which the scheme will come into force and the committee constituted. The Collector will submit his recommendations before that date. Both the notifications may therefore issue at once.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—2-10-18.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—2-10-18.

P[ENTLAND]—3-10-18.

Issue.

R.R.—5-10-18.

[G.O. No. 1306, Home (Education), dated 5th October 1918.]

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