

Government of Madras
HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 887, 16th July 1919

Government Oriental Manuscripts Library

Recording report on the working of the —, Madras, for the triennium 1916-17 to 1918-19.

ORIGINAL

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READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. R. LITTLEHAILES, M.A., Acting Director of Public Instruction.

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

Dated—the 18th June 1919.

No.—5548-19 (Current).

I have the honour to submit herewith for the information of Government three copies of my Proceedings Dis. No. 3865-19, dated 14th June 1919, reviewing the report on the working of the Oriental Manuscripts Library during the triennium 1916-17 to 1918-19.

ENCLOSURES

(1)

*Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction Dis. No. 3865,
dated 14th June 1919.*

Read—the following paper :—

Letter—from M.R.Ry. S. KUPPUSWAMI SASTRI Avargal, M.A., Curator, Government Oriental Manuscripts Library.

To—the Director of Public Instruction.

Dated—Madras, the 12th May 1919.

No.—75.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the working of the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, during the triennium 1916-17 to 1918-19.

2. STAFF.—P. Dakshinamurti Sastri, the sub. *pro tem.* Telugu Pandit copyist of the library, resigned the post owing to ill-health with effect from 28th September 1918 and G. Subbaramayya was appointed to the place on 10th December 1918. T. Narayana Ayyar, clerk, District Munsif's Court, Arni, has been appointed as sub. *pro tem.* clerk in this library in the vacancy caused by the death on 31st October 1918 of T. Ramanuja Rao, the permanent incumbent of the post. Advantage has been taken of the absence on long leave of V. Prabhakara Sastri, Telugu Pandit, of the temporary section to appoint an Oriya Pandit to assist in the examination of Oriya manuscripts of the Ganjam district.

3. CONTINGENT EXPENSES.—As mentioned in the last triennial report, the owners of manuscripts have been most unwilling to sell their manuscripts and therefore the amount expended on purchase is very varying and not considerable. Increased expenditure on transcription in all the three years was necessitated by the transcription of a large number of manuscripts received on loan. Since the beginning of the last official year the binding work of the library has been undertaken by the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras, and hence very little amount was spent under that item in 1918-19. The increase under minor contingencies during this year is due largely to the rise in prices and wages. The operations of a section of the temporary party in the Ganjam district have led to an increased expenditure under *honoraria* paid to the Oriya Pandit engaged as a local helper for examining the libraries there.

4. VISITORS AND BOOKS CONSULTED BY THEM.—The popularity of the library was well-maintained. Although there is large variation in the number of visitors to the library in the three years under report, there is no appreciable fall in the average per year as compared to that of the previous triennium. The number of manuscripts consulted has risen on the whole in spite of the decrease in the last of the three years of the triennium, which, however, did not fall below that in 1916-17. The attention of the visitors centred chiefly on books relating to poetry, religion, philosophy and language. In spite of the heavy work in the copying section owing to the transcription of a large number of manuscripts for the library and in spite of some requests for the supply of copies having been declined, not less than 133 works containing about 207,747 granthas as against 216,507 granthas in the previous triennium were copied out and in most cases compared and sent to scholars and institutions, among whom may be mentioned Mr. F. W. Thomas of the India Office Library, London, Dr. Caland of Holland (through the last-named gentleman), Sri Raja Sri A. V. Jagga Rao Bahadur Garu, Zamindar of Sermahomedpuram, Dr. Ganganath Jha, Principal of the Benares Sanskrit College, the Curator for the Publication of Manuscripts, Triavandrum, the Mysore Oriental Library, etc.

5. TOURS FOR THE COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS.—The special touring party engaged in the systematic search for and acquisition of manuscripts for the library, after finishing the Godāvāri district in 1915-16, took up the Kistna district at the beginning of the triennium. Before this was finished, the party was called upon to examine the manuscripts of the Tanjore Palace Library where they had to spend not less than 6 months. The party was then divided into two sections of which one was engaged in the Kistna, Vizagapatam and Ganjam districts and the other in the Malabar district and in Cochin. Roughly speaking the party was able to visit, in these places, 296 villages, examine 41,162 manuscripts in 576 private libraries and select 3,806 manuscripts for acquisition, of which 2,427 manuscripts were received on loan, or for purchase or as presentation. The Kistna district did not yield good results while Vizagapatam and Ganjam yielded better. Malabar and Cochin are rich in valuable collections of manuscripts and gave to the Library a large number of rare and important works.

Besides the abovementioned manuscripts the party examined, with a view to ascertaining their value, not less than 20,000 manuscripts in Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Pali, Hindi, Persian, Arabic and Urdu languages of the Tanjore Palace Library and prepared separate slips with interesting notes about the works contained therein in respect of most of them. These are now utilized, under the orders of the Government of Madras, by the Tanjore Maharaja Sarfoji's Saraswathi Mahal Library committee in connexion with the preparation of an up-to-date catalogue of that library.

6. COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS.—A large number of manuscripts were acquired by purchase and as free gift in the Kistna and the Vizagapatam districts but owners of manuscripts in Ganjam, Malabar and Cochin would only lend their manuscripts for taking copies while many of them would not even do this outside their own houses. In such cases local arrangements had to be made for getting the manuscripts copied at Parlākīmedī, Mandasa, Dharakota, Tiruvannallur, etc. The manuscripts of Natyasastra and its commentary Abhinava Bharati, a commentary on the Arthasastra, some new rhetorical and grammatical works of Bhoja are a few among the rare and important manuscripts acquired during the triennium. The total number of manuscripts acquired during this period was 1,922 as against 2,434 of the previous triennium. This decrease was due partly to the unwillingness of owners in the districts of Ganjam and Malabar and in Cochin to sell or to give in presentation their manuscripts and partly to the increased cost of transcription and the comparison of most of the transcribed manuscripts. It will be seen from statement IV that the number of manuscripts transcribed was nearly half the total number of manuscripts acquired in each of the three years. As many as 853 works were acquired by transcription and 76 by restoration; and of these 590 manuscripts have been compared with their originals. In addition to this, 36 manuscripts were compared with second copies to note down corrections and readings. The number of manuscripts acquired by purchase and received in presentation were the largest in 1916-17 and in 1917-18 when the Kistna and the Vizagapatam districts were visited. The

permanent copyists of the Library have copied 21 pages in Sanskrit, 921 pages in Tamil and 812 pages in Telugu besides attending to the preparation of the Descriptive catalogues. The Sanskrit manuscripts acquired formed more than half the total number of acquisitions. The large increase in the Telugu and the Malayalam manuscripts acquired in 1917-18 is due to the activities of the temporary section in the Telugu districts of Kistna and Vizagapatam and in Malabar and Cochin respectively. It will be seen from statement V that manuscripts bearing on Religion, Poetry, Philosophy and Science were the largest in number; and these are mostly the subjects that received the greatest attention from visitors.

7. DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUES.—A. SANSKRIT MANUSCRIPTS.—During this triennium 2,110 slips from No. 11967 containing descriptions of as many works were revised and sent to the press; and 2,801 pages commencing from page 7687 of the descriptive catalogue and containing descriptions of 2,626 works as against 2,339 of the last triennium were completely printed. The table and contents of all these 2,804 pages were prepared and printed and the whole matter has been issued in five volumes XX to XXIV. The printing of the Descriptive Catalogue of the Sanskrit Manuscripts in the library arranged according to the subject-matter is now finished, but as the first part of the first volume was issued in 1901 and the 24th volume was issued in 1919, all the manuscripts acquired from 1901 to 1919 were not included in the Descriptive Catalogue, the manuscripts acquired since 1910 having been described in the Triennial Catalogues published after that date. Those manuscripts whose subjects had been dealt with in the Descriptive Catalogue volumes already issued at the date of their acquisition were not included in the above-mentioned 24 volumes. Besides these, new works bearing on subjects which had been dealt with in the volumes already published were discovered in the course of the revision of the slips. All these works will be examined and descriptive slips prepared; and they will be published in a volume. An author index and an index of 14,076 works described in the 20 volumes will be prepared and they will go into yet another volume.

B. TAMIL MANUSCRIPTS.—Four hundred and thirty-three descriptive slips relating to as many works were sent to the press during this triennium; and 229 pages containing the description of 296 works as against 451 works of the previous triennium were completely printed. The decrease in the number printed is partly due to the large number of Triennial Catalogue slips that have also to be printed during the triennium.

C. TELUGU MANUSCRIPTS.—Three hundred and seventeen descriptive slips relating to Telugu manuscripts were sent to the press and 380 pages containing descriptions of 247 works have been completely printed. These will be published as the first part of the second volume dealing with the works bearing on 'Sringara Prabandhas' after the necessary index and contents are prepared and printed.

8. TRIENNIAL CATALOGUE.—IN THE SANSKRIT PART.—Two hundred and eighty-two slips of volume II and 633 slips of volume III relating to as many manuscripts were sent to the press and 499 pages of volume II and 532 pages of volume III containing descriptions of 881 and 406 manuscripts respectively as against 1,388 numbers in the previous triennium were completely printed. The decrease in the Triennial Catalogue numbers thus printed has been made up for by the increased Descriptive Catalogue slips printed during the triennium.

IN THE TAMIL PART.—Ninety-six slips of volume II relating to as many manuscripts were sent to the press and 472 pages containing descriptions of 143 manuscripts were printed as against 123 numbers in the previous triennium.

IN THE TELUGU PART.—Seventy-four slips of volume II relating to as many manuscripts were sent to the press and 197 pages of this volume containing description of 79 manuscripts were printed against 117 numbers of the previous triennium. A table of contents arranged according to subject-matter, an index of authors, a general index and an introduction were prepared and added to each of the three parts. An alphabetical list of the Malayalam, Kanarese and Hindustani manuscripts acquired during the previous triennium was also prepared with information regarding author, extent, condition of manuscripts, etc., and was printed as the fourth part. Thus the second volume consisting of six books was published. In the third volume there are

still about 300 Sanskrit, 100 Tamil and 300 Telugu slips to be prepared and passed through the press before its final issue. As these relate mostly to the manuscripts acquired in the financial year just closed, they had necessarily to be dealt with for the preparation of this Triennial Catalogue after March last. The work will, however, be pushed on as rapidly as possible and this volume of the catalogue also will be issued at an early date.

9. DISTRIBUTION OF CATALOGUES.—The Tamil and the Telugu parts of the second volume of the Triennial Catalogue and the second volume of the Descriptive Catalogue of the manuscripts which were published during the triennium under report were distributed to the scholars and institutions as per sanctioned lists which have been revised so as to be brought up to date. In this way 161 copies of the Telugu part, 145 copies of the Tamil part and 145 copies of the Tamil descriptive catalogue together with 26 copies of the Sanskrit part were despatched. The volumes that are intended for scholars and institutions in Europe and America have not been sent on account of the insecure conditions brought about by war. They will be sent as normal conditions prevail.

10. PUBLICATIONS OF MANUSCRIPTS.—In the present circumstances of the library and with the existing staff, every member of which is otherwise fully occupied, no progress could possibly be shown, as already represented by me, under the head of Publication of Manuscripts. In pursuance of paragraph 3 of the Director's Proceedings No. Dis 6941, dated 9th November 1918, separate proposals are being submitted for organizing a publication section of the library with a view to a regular and systematic publication of the numerous valuable and important works contained therein. And this publication section, if sanctioned and properly equipped, will be in a position to bring within the easy access of the public many an important literary treasure now deposited and preserved in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library.

11. PRESERVATION OF MANUSCRIPTS.—The manuscripts of the library were as usual taken out and dusted and replaced in their shelves. In this way 439 shelves were cleaned and about 9,000 manuscripts placed therein were dusted, 734 palm-leaf manuscripts have been coated with naphtha oil. Three hundred and thirty-nine volumes in 1916-17, 449 volumes in 1917-18 and 432 volumes in 1918-19 of paper manuscripts and printed books were got bound. Although a number of injured manuscripts were restored, this work of restoration did not progress as much as it should. This was mainly due to the pressure of work in the copying section on account of the transcription of new manuscripts received on loan from owners who insist on their return within the shortest possible period. In accordance with the proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction R.C. No. 1343, dated 1st April 1916, the local records included in the Mackenzie collection were specially attended to and the injured manuscripts in Malayalam, Kanarese and Tamil languages were completely restored. Those in Telugu which are by far the largest in number are now being copied and the work will be completed as soon as possible.

12. PRINTED BOOKS.—As many as 930 volumes of printed books were added to the library during the triennium and the bulk of them were purchased although there were also valuable presentations. A list of these books is not appended to this report as it unnecessarily adds to the volume of the report without corresponding advantage, either in the matter of judging the work of the library or by way of supplying information to the public.

13. ACCOMMODATION AND EQUIPMENT.—After a personal inspection of the Library premises by the Deputy Director of Public Instruction, the Director in his Proceedings C. No. 5442/17, dated 6th July 1917, called for plans and estimates for providing additional accommodation required by the library and for the installation of electric lights and fans in the library room. After consulting the Superintendent, Government Museum, in accordance with the orders of the Director as to how the library should be constructed so as to be of use for museum purposes, should it be eventually vacated by the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, plans for providing an additional room for the library at the Government Museum at an estimated cost of Rs. 13,800 were submitted. As regards the estimates for the installation of electric lights and fans, the Electrical Inspector to the Government stated that in view of the

then existing difficulty in procuring and the excessive price of electrical materials and on the presumption of the apparent absence of urgent necessity, the installation might be postponed. In Director's Proceedings R.C. No. 5442 of 1917, dated 14th August 1918, the Director informed the Curator that the question of installing electric lights and fans should lie over and that the Director was in correspondence with the Executive Engineer, North Presidency division, for providing additional accommodation to the library by utilizing the lecture theatre at the Government Museum. Accordingly the Director approved an estimate for Rs. 1,285 for making the necessary alterations to the lecture theatre. The work has been put into execution although it has not yet been completed. I must submit here that the library room continues to be unsuitable for efficient work for want of light and air and that the shelf accommodation for the manuscripts is now inadequate on account of the additions made to it in recent years.

14. GENERAL.—Besides the improvement to accommodation above referred to, the library requires early attention in regard to certain main and essential particulars. The publication section should be so organized as to place on a systematic basis the printing of important and rare manuscripts which are collected after so much expert labour and expenditure of money. The establishment of the library will also have to be considerably strengthened in order to enable it to cope with the additional work now thrown on it by the activities of the temporary section.

(2)

Statement No. I.—Details of charges incurred in the collection and preservation of manuscripts.

	1916-17.	1916-17 Total.	1917-18.	1917-18 Total.	1918-19.	1918-19 Total.
COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS.						
Purchase of manuscripts	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Transcription of manuscripts	103 7 0	3,713 1 7	876 8 0	3,492 4 0	155 8 0	4,016 11 10
PRESERVATION OF MANUSCRIPTS.						
Binding charges	286 6 0	..	346 5 0	..	3 2 0	..
Prevention of damage by book- worms	29 2 6	..	10 2 0	..	32 10 0	..
Purchase of printed books	420 6 6	..	643 7 3	..	804 15 0	..
Honoraria	15 0 0	..	6 0 0	..	93 15 2	..
Minor contingencies	335 8 3	1,086 2 3	639 12 5	1,644 11 0	800 15 1	1,735 9 3
Total	..	4,799 3 10	..	5,136 15 0	..	5,793 5 1

Statement No. II.

	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.
Number of readers	1,021	798	584	615	474	1,433
Number of visitors who came to copy and examine manuscripts	872	663	1,471	807	1,661	320
Number of visitors who came to assist persons engaged in comparing also of others	16	16	7	40	77	..
Total	1,908	1,397	2,062	1,462	2,212	1,753

Statement No. III.—Number of manuscripts consulted.

	Sanskrit.			Telugu.			Tamil.			Persian, Arabic and Hindustani.			Malayalam.			Kannara.			Marathi.			Total.
1916-17.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	Total.
Art	35	109	144	5	2	7	12	12	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	175
Biography	2	..	2	1	12	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Drama	33	89	122	14	2	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	140
Fiction	6	..	6	29	..	29	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66
History	12	2	14	18	12	30	13	13	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78
Language	93	68	161	79	32	111	27	22	49	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	322
Law	14	4	18	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Local records	6	..	6	36	43	79	29	34	63	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150
Medicine	11	4	15	43	10	63	21	18	39	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	112
Philosophy	73	118	191	9	3	12	20	28	48	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	251
Poetry and Prose	121	155	276	19	162	348	105	110	215	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	728
Religion	166	201	607	5	1	6	28	22	50	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	141
Science	48	23	71	10	10	29	24	17	41	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	49
Vedic Literature	28	20	48	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Miscellaneous	40	2	42	16	6	22	9	8	17	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	688	1,095	1,783	473	285	758	285	286	575	7	..	..	7	5	2	7	11	11	22	31	..	3,183
1917-18.																						324
Art	86	190	276	6	33	39	9	3	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Biography	1	..	1	2	9	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	91
Drama	21	53	74	5	10	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	203
Fiction	21	80	101	42	8	50	16	7	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	94
History	14	..	14	27	19	45	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	311
Language	106	106	226	39	18	62	27	5	32	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Law	10	3	13	1	1	4	5	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	270
Local records	24	37	61	110	74	184	153	149	307	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	567
Medicine	28	81	109	6	10	16	28	20	48	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	173
Philosophy	121	194	317	149	121	270	61	73	134	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	733
Poetry and Prose	123	619	742	10	18	28	30	32	62	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	836
Religion	209	363	205	13	20	33	29	28	57	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	280
Science	159	120	279	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	225
Vedic Literature	67	104	171	9	14	23	11	16	27	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	944	1,735	2,679	493	468	951	407	403	810	1	6	7	5	2	7	11	11	22	29	231	..	4,517

R—denotes manuscripts read. C—denotes manuscripts copied and compared.
T—denotes the total number of the previous columns.

Statement No. III.—Number of manuscripts consulted—cont.

—	Sanskrit.			Telugu.			Tamil.			Persian, Arabic and Hindustani.			Malayalam.			Kannara.			Marathi.			English.	Total.
1918-19.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.	R.	C.	T.		Total.
Art	32	64	96	24	12	36	11	5	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	148
Biography	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Drama	118	8	126	4	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	132
Fiction	21	21	29	13	42	30	6	36	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	99
History	1	..	1	35	3	38	29	20	49	1	..	..	1	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	6
Language	93	60	143	34	54	88	30	15	45	..	..	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	281
Law	17	28	45	..	..	12	12	24	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	..	74
Local Records	..	..	..	59	1	60	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
Medicine	31	3	34	21	16	37	60	36	96	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	5	..	173
Philosophy	135	87	222	7	9	16	63	79	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	410	320	974
Poetry and Prose	411	109	520	179	100	279	95	46	142	1	..	1	..	..	18	19	32	..	..	..	..	..	974
Politics	3	31	34	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
Religion	197	368	505	6	2	8	48	32	80	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	3	1	4	..	599
Science	84	55	139	21	10	31	47	36	83	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	253
Vedic Literature	31	43	74	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	78
Miscellaneous	41	21	62	19	18	37	46	26	65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	166	
Total	1,194	828	2,022	441	238	679	465	247	712	2	1	3	5	1	5	15	21	36	..	25	12	37	3,494

R—denotes manuscripts read. C—denotes manuscripts copied and compared.
T—denotes the total number of the previous columns.

Statement No. III.—Number of manuscripts consulted—cont.

Language.	1916-17.			1917-18.			1918-19.		
	Number of manuscripts read.	Number of manuscripts copied or compared.	Total.	Number of manuscripts read.	Number of manuscripts copied or compared.	Total.	Number of manuscripts read.	Number of manuscripts copied or compared.	Total.
Sanskrit	658	1,095	1,753	944	1,735	2,679	1,194	828	2,022
Telugu	473	285	758	493	468	961	441	238	679
Tamil	289	285	575	403	810	1,213	465	247	712
Persian, Arabic and Hindustani	7	7	14	6	7	13	2	1	3
Malayalam	5	2	7	5	2	7	5	..	5
Kannara	11	11	22	11	11	22	15	21	36
Marathi	31	..	31	29	2	31	..	12	37
English	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,504	1,679	3,183	1,890	2,627	4,517	2,147	1,347	3,494
Similar figures for the years	1913-14.			1914-15.			1915-16.		
	1,313	1,721	3,034	1,447	1,256	2,703	1,586	2,224	3,810

Statement No. IV.—Manuscript works acquired, arranged according to the number of acquisition.

	Sanskrit.	Tamil and Telugu manuscripts.	Telugu.	Kannara.	Malayalam.	Persian, Arabic and Hindustani.	Marathi.	Hindi.	Oriya.	Total.
1916-17.										
Transcription	306	4	42	..	15	..	..	..	..	367
Restoration	..	30	3	17	2	..	..	..	..	52
Purchase	60	32	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	101
Presentation	271	8	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	278
Total	637	69	68	17	17	..	..	..	..	798
1917-18.										
Transcription	193	1	29	..	33	..	..	..	..	256
Restoration	..	8	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	12
Purchase	64	3	113	..	..	..	..	5	..	185
Presentation	155	4	67	..	..	..	..	..	..	226
Total	412	16	209	4	33	..	..	5	..	679
1918-19.										
Transcription	155	12	35	..	19	..	..	..	9	230
Restoration	..	8	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	12
Purchase	63	13	12	..	..	..	..	1	..	89
Presentation	61	51	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	114
Total	269	84	62	1	19	..	..	1	9	445
Total for the triennium	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,922
Similar figures for—										
1913-14	807	33	89	..	..	..	..	..	..	924
1914-15	311	159	13	..	..	..	..	1	..	524
1915-16	608	224	102	6	36	..	..	..	..	976
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,424

Statement No. V.—Manuscript works acquired during the year 1916—19 arranged according to subject-matter.

Subject-matter.	Sanskrit.	Tamil.	Telugu.	Malayalam.	Kannada.	Persian.	Hindi.	Oriya.	Total.
1916-17.									
Art	15	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	19
Biography	4	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	7
Drama	30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30
Fiction	3	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	13
History	2	8	4	2	9	..	..	..	25
Language	52	4	5	1	..	..	..	..	61
Law	18	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	21
Medicine	6	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	11
Philosophy	99	25	6	..	..	..	..	..	130
Poetry and Prose	68	22	29	2	3	..	..	..	124
Politics	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Religion	201	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	203
Science	115	7	7	2	..	..	..	..	131
Vedic Literature	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	637	69	58	17	17	..	..	..	798
1917-18.									
Art	20	..	6	1	..	..	..	..	27
Biography	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	8
Drama	17	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	22
Fiction	6	28	..	..	..	..	..	..	34
History	3	5	1	1	1	..	..	..	11
Language	27	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	33
Law	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Medicine	8	..	6	15	..	..	..	..	30
Philosophy	55	2	12	..	..	..	..	..	72
Poetry and Prose	50	1	90	2	2	..	4	..	149
Politics	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	5
Religion	144	8	30	..	..	..	1	..	183
Science	43	..	7	7	..	..	..	..	57
Vedic Literature	19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Miscellaneous	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	4
Total	412	16	209	33	4	..	5	..	679
1918-19.									
Art	22	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	24
Biography	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Drama	22	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	23
Fiction	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
History	3	2	3	..	1	..	..	..	9
Language	13	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	18
Law	14	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	16
Medicine	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4
Philosophy	56	53	3	..	..	..	..	..	112
Poetry and Prose	57	1	45	3	..	..	..	9	115
Politics	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Religion	51	10	1	2	..	..	1	..	65
Science	21	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	27
Vedic Literature	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Miscellaneous	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Total	269	84	62	19	1	..	1	9	446

Dis. No. 3865, dated 14th June 1919.

Recorded.

2. The report contains evidence of the library's activity in various directions and the work done by the Temporary Search Party during the triennium, the most important of which consisted of the examination and valuation under the special orders of Government of the large number of manuscripts in the Tanjore Palace Library and those in the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Kistna, Malabar and Cochin.

3. There was a fall in the number of manuscripts acquired during the triennium. The decrease has been explained in paragraph 6 of the report.

4. The Acting Director notes with satisfaction the completion of the printing of the Descriptive Catalogue of Sanskrit Manuscripts and the progress made with regard to the cataloguing of the Manuscripts in Tamil and Telugu. He trusts that the latter work will be pushed on as rapidly as possible.

5. The Curator's proposals recently received regarding the publication of all the Manuscripts in the library are being examined.

His proposals for the strengthening of the library establishment are awaited.

6. The Curator's remarks under 'accommodation and equipment' are noted. Pending however the transfer of the library to the new buildings of the University Library, expensive proposals for improving the accommodation of the library cannot be entertained.

R. LITTLEHAILES,
Acting Director of Public Instruction.

To the Curator, Oriental Manuscripts Library.

" Principals, First Grade Colleges, Teachers' College, Saidapet and Training College, Rajahmundry.
" Superintendent of Sanskrit Schools for information.
" other Directors of Public Instruction for information.
Government (with C.L.).

Order—No. 887, Home (Education), dated 16th July 1919.

Recorded.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

" Assistant Archaeological Superintendent for Epigraphy.
" Home Department (Miscellaneous Sections).
Editors' Table.

Home (Eden) DEPARTMENT.

Gout. Oriental Manuscripts Library.

Recording report on the working of the
- Madras, for the triennium 1916-17 to 1918-19.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____, dated _____ 191 .

” ” ” ” ” 191 .

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 1239B From the B. P. I., C. No. 5548/19 dated 18-6-1919.

” ” ***** ” ” ***** ” ***** ” ***** 191

” ” ” ” ” ” 191

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No. 887, dated 16-7-1918

Recorded.

24.6.19
25.6.19

CA
17:02
5

July 7/19
31

To the B. P. I. ✓
 " " A. A. S. for Epigraphy ✓
 " " Home Dept. (Miscellaneous Section)

421

on return book

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A circular ink stamp from the U.S. Department of Commerce. The text "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE" is curved along the top and right edges. The date "14 JUL 1912" is stamped in the center. The words "RECEIVED" and "MAIL" are faintly visible at the bottom.

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