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Educational (1904) Department.

ORDINARY ~~MS.~~ Press

G.O., No. 311

DATED 21-5-1904

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Prehistoric antiquities.

Informing Mr. R. Bruce Foote that the Government are prepared in modification of the proposal already made to offer a sum of Rs. 15000 for his Collection of ~~—~~, and requesting him, with remarks, to ~~state if~~ intimate his decision as to whether he will accept this offer.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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21-5-04

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Statement of difference or dispute between Robert Bruce Foote and the Secretary of State for India as to the price to be paid under the agreement, dated the 14th November 1898, by the Secretary of State to Robert Bruce Foote for his collection of Indian prehistoric implements and other things included in the said agreement between the said parties.

1. The Government of Madras acting for the Secretary of State on the 12th April 1904 offered the said Mr. Robert Bruce Foote the sum of Rs. 9,300 in full payment for the collection and a copy of the telegram conveying the said offer is appended: but Mr. Bruce Foote by his letter of the 14th April 1904 (a copy of which is also appended) rejected the said offer. On this the Government in view of a speedy and final settlement of the matter and to avoid the delay of an arbitration wrote Mr. Bruce Foote the letter, dated 21st May 1904 (copy appended), in which they offered Mr. Bruce Foote Rs. 15,000 for the said collection. But Mr. Bruce Foote declined this modified offer in his letter, dated Mount Pleasant, Ootacamund, the 23rd May of 1904 (copy appended), on the ground that "he considered the offer far below the value of his specimens", and stated that he was "prepared to submit the question of the value to arbitration".

2. The question referred to the arbitrators appointed under the agreement hereinbefore recited is what is a "fair and reasonable price" for the said collection.

OOTACAMUND,
24th June 1904.

H. D. TAYLOR,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

ENCLOSURES.

AGREEMENT made the fourteenth day of November One thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight BETWEEN ROBERT BRUCE FOOTE of Ivy Cottage Yercaud of the one part and THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA IN COUNCIL (hereinafter called the Secretary of State) of the other part;

WHEREAS the said Robert Bruce Foote has a collection of Indian prehistoric implements and other things and is about to compile and publish an illustrated catalogue raisonné thereof;

AND WHEREAS the said Robert Bruce Foote has applied to the Secretary of State through the Government of Madras for the grant of a sum of six hundred rupees to assist the said Robert Bruce Foote in compiling and publishing such catalogue raisonné which grant the Secretary of State has agreed and consented to make to the said Robert Bruce Foote on condition of his entering into such an agreement as is hereinafter contained.

NOW THESE PRESENTS WITNESS that in consideration of the sum of six hundred rupees by the Secretary of State paid to the said Robert Bruce Foote on or before the execution of these presents (the receipt whereof the said Robert Bruce Foote doth hereby admit and acknowledge) he the said Robert Bruce Foote doth hereby for himself his executors and administrators agree with the Secretary of State his successors and assigns in manner following that is to say:—

(1) THAT he the said Robert Bruce Foote will within two years from the date of these presents compile and publish at his own expense a catalogue raisonné of his said collection of Indian prehistoric implements and other things.

(2) THAT he, the said Robert Bruce Foote will forthwith after the publication of such catalogue raisonné offer for sale to the Secretary of State through the Government of Madras at a fair and reasonable price the said collection of the said Robert Bruce Foote of Indian prehistoric implements and other things such offer to be accepted or refused by the Government of Madras on behalf of the Secretary of State within three calendar months after such offer shall have been made and that during such period of three calendar months the said Robert Bruce Foote shall not sell or offer to sell his said collection or any part thereof to any person or persons other than the Secretary of State.

(3) IN case any difference or dispute shall arise between the said Robert Bruce Foote and the Secretary of State as to the price to be paid by the Secretary of State to the said Robert Bruce Foote for his said collection of Indian prehistoric implements and other things such difference or dispute shall be referred in writing for decision to two indifferent persons as arbitrators one to be appointed by each of the parties in difference and who shall before entering upon the question referred to them appoint an umpire to decide the difference or question in dispute referred to such arbitrators in case of their disagreeing thereon and the decision in writing of such arbitrators or as the case may be of such umpire shall be final and conclusive and altogether binding upon the parties hereto and shall not be open or subject to question or dispute upon any ground whatsoever.

(4) IN case either of the said parties hereto shall refuse or neglect for three calendar months after such difference or dispute shall have arisen to appoint an arbitrator as hereinbefore provided then and in that case it shall be lawful for the other party hereto to appoint an arbitrator on behalf of the party so refusing or neglecting and the arbitrator so appointed shall in all respects have the like powers as if he had been appointed by the party hereto so refusing or neglecting to appoint an arbitrator.

(5) THAT the said Robert Bruce Foote will at the expense of the Secretary of State compile a catalogue of the prehistoric antiquities in the Madras Government Museum and in case such sale as is mentioned in clause (3) hereof shall be effected but not otherwise such last-mentioned catalogue shall be compiled and published by him as a supplement to the catalogue raisonné hereinbefore mentioned.

(6) THAT in case such sale as aforesaid shall be effected the said Robert Bruce Foote shall be at liberty from time to time and at any time during the making and pending the completion of the illustrated volume of notes which is to follow the publication of the said catalogue raisonné of his said collection of Indian implements and other things to see consult and refer to the said collection of Indian prehistoric implements and other things which shall have been so purchased by the Secretary of State and to figure any specimen in such collection that he may require to illustrate in the said volume of notes.

IN WITNESS whereof the said Robert Bruce Foote has hereunto set his hand the day and year first above written.

SIGNED by the above-named ROBERT BRUCE FOOTE in the presence of
(Signed) EDGAR THURSTON.
(„) H. J. FANNELL, Captain, R.A.

R. BRUCE FOOTE.

Telegram from A. G. CARDEW, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Educational Department, to R. BRUCE FOOTE, Esq., dated 12th April 1904, No. 38.

Your letter twenty-fifth ultimo. Government is prepared to give rupees nine thousand three hundred for your collection, being Seton-Karr's valuation. Please wire whether you accept offer.

From R. BRUCE FOOTE, Esq., F.G.S., F.M.U., to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras Club, Madras, 14th April 1904.

I have the honour to acknowledge your telegram of the 12th instant which followed me here from Yercaud. In reply I beg to decline your offer of Rs. 9,300 made on the strength of Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation of my collection of prehistoric and proto-historic antiquities.

My own valuation of the collection is four thousand pounds sterling (£4,000). It is the work of forty one years and contains many hundreds of specimens of many classes which are absolutely unique and therefore of very high value. Many are also of high value geologically as well archæologically.

Statement of difference or dispute between Robert Bruce Foote and the Secretary of State for India as to the price to be paid by the Secretary of State to Robert Bruce Foote for his collection of Indian prehistoric implements and other things ~~referred~~ included in the said agreement bet. ~~the~~ said parties.

~~1. The said collection is the collection described in detail in the appended catalogue prepared (and signed!) by ~~the said~~ the said Mr Robert Bruce Foote & submitted to Govt as a ~~complete~~ list of the said collection~~

~~2~~ The Govt of Madras, acting for the ~~said~~ Secretary of State, offered ~~Robert~~ the said Mr ~~Bruce Foote the sum of Rs 15,000~~ for the collection in ~~the~~ letter No 311 Edl Mis. dated Ootacamund ~~Ex~~ the 21st of May 1904 under the hand of their Secretary in the Edl Dept.

3. Robert Bruce Foote declined this modified offer in his letter dated Mount Pleasant Ooty the 23rd of May 1904 (copy appended) on

under the Agreement of the 7th Nov 1898 ~~bet the said Secy of S~~ ~~& the said Robt Bruce Foote~~

pursuant to ~~an agreement~~ ~~with para~~ 4 of the agreement entered into on the 4th Nov. 1898 between the Secretary of State and the said R. B. Foote

Note
We are not bound by the catalogue & we therefore better not restrict our rights. We are entitled to the whole collection whether catalogued or not. Quite
G. T.

On the 12th April 04 Govt offered the said Mr Bruce Foote ~~(in)~~ the sum of Rs 9300 in full pay for the collection & a copy of

Should the figure (which was independently of arbitration) be adopted — or should the figure be placed at the original offer of Rs 9300?
collection?
J.H.S.
7.6.04

The letter conveying the said offer is appended: but ~~the~~ Mr Bruce Foote by his letter of the 14th April 04 (a copy of wh. is also appended) rejected the said offer. On the the Govt. in view of a speedy & final settlement & to avoid the delay of an arbitration of the matter wrote to B. F. the letter of 21 May 1904 (copy appended) in whi. the Govt offered Mr ~~Foote~~ Bruce R 15000 for the said collection. But Mr the ground that as he considered the offer far below the value of his specimens", and stated that he was "prepared to submit the question of the value to arbitration".

Hg 7.6.4

2. The question referred to the arbitrators appointed under the Agreement hereinbefore recited is what is a "fair & reasonable price" for the ~~said~~ collection

8/6

(2 In letter of 14th April declining the offer of R9300 Mr B. Foote places the value of his collection at £4000 sterling. Should this be quoted?

HS Ag 7.6.04)

Letter—Mis. No. 311, Educational, dated 21st May 1904, to R. Bruce-Foote, Esq., F.G.S., F.M.U., care of Colonel Teversham, Mount Pleasant, Ootacamund.

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to inform you that, after further careful consideration of the various arguments advanced by you in reference to the value of your collection of prehistoric antiquities, the Government are prepared in modification of the proposal made to you in the telegram of the 12th April last to offer you a sum of Rs. 15,000 (Rupees fifteen thousand only) in full and final settlement of your claim without proceeding to arbitration. His Excellency trusts that this offer may be satisfactory to you.

2. I am also directed to state that, should you be unwilling to accept the present offer, the stipulations in the agreement with the Secretary of State as to arbitration will take effect; and I am accordingly to request that you will be good enough to intimate to Government your decision in the matter within seven days from the receipt by you of this letter so that this long-pending matter may be brought to a settlement without further delay.

H. D. TAYLOR,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

From R. BRUCE-FOOTE, Esq., F.G.S., F.M.U., to the Secretary to Government, Educational department, dated Ootacamund, 23rd May 1904.

In reply to your letter of the 21st instant, Mis. No. 311, offering me Rs. 15,000 for my collection of prehistoric and proto-historic Indian antiquities, I have the honour to inform you that I cannot accept that offer as I consider it far below the real value of my specimens. I am prepared therefore to submit the question of the value to arbitration and beg to nominate Mr. E. S. Stevenson, Deputy Inspector-General, Madras Police, as my arbitrator. Mr. Stevenson is resident at Yercaud and can thus easily meet the arbitrator chosen by Government.

I am leaving this to-day on my return to Yercaud.

Government {1904} of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd.	} 1904.	*Enclosures*	
Regd.		*Spare copies*	

G.O., No. 311, 21st May 1904.

MAY.

Prehistoric Antiquities.

Informing Mr. R. Bruce-Foote that the Government are prepared in modification of the proposal already made to offer a sum of Rs. 15,000 for his collection of —, and requesting him to state whether he accepts this offer.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers:—

From H. W. SETON-KARR, Esq., Care of Messrs. Cook & Son, Cairo, Egypt, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated 29th January 1904.

I have the honour to inform you that I have spent four days at Yercaud, and have examined carefully Mr. Bruce-Foote's collection of antiquities. I might have done it in less time, only Mr. Foote wished to be present, as he was able to give me some details and interesting particulars (which are in the list he has prepared) which do not effect the value except in so far as it correlates one object with another with localities, dates, etc.

2. Many of Mr. Foote's stone implements and some of the fractured pottery depend partly for their value and interest on being associated with other objects of the same date and locality, as is the case in other "comparative" collections.

3. As prehistoric antiquities have no fixed market price, in order to arrive at some idea of the value of Mr. Foote's collection, it becomes necessary to compare it with other collections of similar character which have been acquired by Corporations or other public bodies.

4. I have also taken into account the value of different series of objects when they are offered for sale by dealers from whom I have often purchased similar ones, or exchanged them, such as Fenton, Somerby of Kew, Laurence of Wandsworth, etc., besides the antiquity dealers at Cairo, Kench, Luxor, and other places in Egypt.

5. These objects thus acquired become more valuable when they take their place in a comparative collection as for instance those of Canon Greenwell acquired by Dr. Sturge, the Stopes, Knowles, Allen-Brown collections and the Ducie collection of stone implements and that of Sir J. Evans at Hemel Hempstead, and the national collections of ancient stone implements at Stockholm, Lille, Washington, Philadelphia, London (Bloomsbury), St. Germain en Laye at Paris and the Collegio Romano at Rome and many others with which I am well acquainted.

6. I have taken into account the increased value which small series of implements acquire when thus properly arranged and exposed in large museums. Last year I donated Indian implements to 133 museums and institutions, and even in the great Egyptian Museum at Cairo, which is intended to contain exclusively Egyptian things, the prehistoric part of which (implements only) I arranged last year for the Director-General, a series of Indian implements has acquired added value when placed for comparison by the side of those from the Desert plateau. I only mention this to show that, as the Science of Prehistoric Archæology is a new one, Mr. Foote's collection will have a greater value when placed in the Madras Museum than it now has.

7. In judging of the value of collections of stone implements and other objects, it is usual to take into account the expense that has been incurred by the collector. For instance when I returned from Somaliland with stone implements I was paid by the British Museum according to the cost of the expedition. Similarly when I discovered the lost Flint mines of Egypt, the Corporation of Liverpool acquired the results for £250 including right of publication (Spool Museums Bulletin). Similarly the Melbourne Museum (New South Wales) acquired 60 Somali implements on the same basis of computation and so on in the case of others. Last year I sold 100 Indian implements with some Egyptian selected implements from the Fayûm thrown in for £100, and on another occasion 70 Somali ones for £80 (eighty). Generally in the case of *first-class* implements one pound per implement was the price. On the other hand Indian implements have been sold by Laurence, the dealer, for from 1*s.* to 5*s.* each, and I lately purchased 700 polished axes from the Banda district U. Provinces, for As. 2 to As. 3 each. The British Museum paid me £70 for 60 Somaliland implements. The Cairo Museum paid £30 for 8 exceptionally fine Egyptian flint implements to an Arab—sacrificial knives of the early dynasties. I have preferred of late years to donate implements to museums, though previously they had to pay their share of expenses of collection.

8. In Mr. Foote's case however the method of computation by the cost of discovery cannot be applied, as he was not put to any expense so far as I know, being at the time engaged in survey work and the collecting of these things considered as extra and personal.

It must be remembered that Mr. Foote was the first to discover and bring to notice ancient stone implements of the palæolithic type in India.

9. I found that Mr. Foote has practically completed the list and that nearly all objects are numbered, and he says the rest will shortly be completed before he leaves. The numbers are clearly and indelibly painted and the pages of the catalogue I saw well done. About a dozen pieces of pottery are in a more or less perfect condition, a few others can be partly reconstituted and the remaining numerous fragments have been chosen on account of the ancient patterns, shapes, and decorations they represent. The shell bangles are in fragments and are interesting and rare. I am not however placing a high value on the pottery, shell ornaments, beads or iron. All are numbered like the implements (over 6,000) and many are probably within the historic period. The number of objects hardly gives a correct idea as many are fragmentary, and they vary much in value. The *stone* implements including cores and minute flakes number *about* 3,650. In this number I include all stone implements in the house (and two mealing plates outside) with the exception of a drawerful of foreign implements (from France, England, etc.), in the upstairs room; and a small drawerful of Indian implements worth about £2 which Mr. Foote discovered last February near Bellary and which are therefore not in the collection properly.

10. I am of opinion, therefore, taking everything into consideration that the collection is worth to the Madras Museum not more than six hundred and twenty pounds sterling (£620), and that in giving that sum the Government will be acting in a fair, not to say generous, manner; of this sum I should place £475 (four hundred and seventy-five pounds) for stone implements and £145 (one hundred and forty-five pounds) to the other objects. I consider that if the collection were taken out of the country it would lose in value and would not be worth so much; and if it were put up to auction at Christies in London it would not bring more than £170 and probably less, but that is no true criterion of the value.

Telegram from the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, to R. Bruce-Foote, Esq., dated 3rd February 1904, No. 17.

Your letter, dated tenth January. Can you now send check list of collection as examined by [Mr.] Seton-Karr?

Telegram from the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, to R. Bruce-Foote, Esq., dated 16th February 1904, No. 23.

Please reply Government telegram third February.

Telegram from R. Bruce-Foote, Esq., Yercaud, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated 27th February 1904.

Your telegram, yesterday. Am moving house, cannot find former wire. Please repeat if urgent.

Telegram from the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, to R. Bruce-Foote, Esq., Yercaud, dated 29th February 1904, No. 26.

Your telegram, 27th. Government telegram, third February, was as follows: Begins—Your letter, dated 10th January. Can you now send check list of collection as examined by Seton-Karr?—Ends.

Telegram from the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, to R. Bruce-Foote, Esq., Yercaud, dated 12th March 1904, No. 28.

Government telegram, twenty-ninth February. When may reply to Government telegram, third February, be expected?

Telegram from R. BRUCE-FOOTE, Esq., Yercaud, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated 14th March 1904.

Sending check list, sixteenth, just completing revision after change of residence.

Reference No. 151, Educational, dated 25th March 1904.

The undersigned is directed to request Mr. Bruce-Foote to state whether the check list of Mr. Bruce-Foote's collection of pre-historics and proto-historics, which was received from him on the 19th instant apparently with reference to his telegram of the 14th instant, is a complete list of the collections seen and reported on by Mr. Seton-Karr or not. To enable Mr. Bruce Foote to answer this enquiry, he will be furnished with the * accompanying extract from Mr. Seton-Karr's report. As the list received from Mr. Bruce-Foote was not signed or dated, it is not clear whether it is a complete list or only an instalment.

* Paragraph 9.

A. G. CARDEW,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

From R. BRUCE-FOOTE, Esq., F.G.S., F.M.U., Yercaud, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated 25th March 1904.

I have the honour to forward herewith two short supplements to the check list of my collection of Indian pre-historic and proto-historic antiquities which I transmitted to you last week, also a few pages requiring insertion in the positions shown by their page numbers in the lists sent.

2. The delay in finishing the check list was due to two causes—the first being that I was and still am much out of health and the second that as I was compelled to change my residence to this place, a distance of two miles, a period of close upon six weeks was occupied in packing up my collection and unpacking it after I had got it over here. By the move the collection was entirely disarranged and has not yet been got into perfect order again, so that references to special subjects, many of which were necessary for the revision of the check list, were difficult to make and required much time. I could not begin the packing of the collection till after it had been seen by Mr. Seton-Karr. Mr. Seton-Karr went through the collection as closely as was possible in the short time at his command. I showed him every thing and he missed seeing only three specimens of great interest which happened to have been put out of the way.

3. It was a pleasure to show him my gatherings, for he knows a great deal about palæoliths having collected far and wide over the world. He has also a fair knowledge of neolithic stone implements but has not devoted much time or study to prehistoric pottery.

4. Going through the collection with him and the revision which I have since given it has greatly raised my estimate of the scientific value appertaining to it and I feel very far from anxious to part with it, at any rate till I have had time to work it out thoroughly. A difficulty arises about this that I am unable to remain in India at present to complete that work.

5. I am so much out of health that I must make a change and go to Europe in the course of the summer and the only way to carry on the work will be for me to take the specimens to be described and figured with me to England as it will be impossible for me to deal with them in the time remaining before I must leave.

6. I consider that the carrying out of the work I proposed last year is a matter of far greater importance to archæological science than the present sale of the collection to no matter whom.

Telegram from A. G. CARDEW, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Educational Department, to R. BRUCE-FOOTE, Esq., dated 12th April 1904, No. 38.

Your letter twenty-fifth ultimo. Government is prepared to give rupees nine thousand three hundred for your collection, being Seton-Karr's valuation. Please wire whether you accept offer.

From R. BRUCE-FOOTE, Esq., F.G.S., F.M.U., to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras Club, Madras, 14th April 1904.

I have the honour to acknowledge your telegram of the 12th instant which followed me here from Yercaud. In reply I beg to decline your offer of Rs. 9,300 made on the strength of Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation of my collection of prehistoric and proto-historic antiquities.

My own valuation of the collection is four thousand pounds sterling (£4,000). It is the work of forty one years and contains many hundreds of specimens of many classes which are absolutely unique and therefore of very high value. Many are also of high value geologically as well archæologically.

Memorandum No. 194, Educational, dated 16th April 1904.

As the price of Mr. Bruce-Foote's "collection of Indian prehistoric implements and other things" is now in dispute the matter has under Mr. Bruce-Foote's agreement with the Secretary of State, dated 14th November 1898, to be "referred in writing for decision to two indifferent persons as arbitrators"—one to be appointed by Mr. Bruce-Foote and the other by Government as representing the Secretary of State. Mr. Bruce-Foote is therefore requested to be so good as to state what person he would appoint as his arbitrator.

2. Meanwhile, Mr. Bruce-Foote is informed with reference to his letter of the 25th ultimo that the Government cannot assent to any part of the collection being removed from India.

(By Order.)

A. G. CARDEW,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To R. Bruce Foote, Esq.

From R. BRUCE-FOOTE, Esq., F.M.U., F.G.S., M. MAL. SOCY., A.V.I., ETC., to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 22nd April 1904.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Memorandum No. 194, dated 16th April 1904, and in reply to state as follows.

2. In the first place I have to point out that Mr. Seton-Karr cannot be regarded as an arbitrator on its behalf by Government under clause (3) of the agreement of 14th November 1898, since it is essential that the "two indifferent persons" contemplated by it should be afforded opportunities of exchanging their views before making an award; or referring any disagreement between them to their "umpire". It cannot be said that any dispute as to the value of my collection had arisen at the time when I permitted Mr. Seton-Karr to inspect it.

3. If it has now become necessary that recourse should be had to the arbitration clause I have the honour to request that I may be given the name of the "indifferent person" whom Government proposes to nominate.

4. I have also the honour to request that I may be informed whether in the event of my desiring to name as my arbitrator any gentleman in the service of the Government either of Madras, or of India, I am at liberty to inform him that he is free to act in the matter as an "indifferent person".

5. I assume that each party is bound to appoint as an arbitrator a person who is qualified to give an opinion on the subject matter in dispute.

6. In conclusion I would mention that I have already requested a well-qualified gentleman to be my arbitrator and am awaiting his reply to my proposal.

LETTER—No. 311, Educational, dated 21st May 1904, to R. Bruce-Foote, Esq., F.G.S., care of Colonel Teversham, Mount Pleasant, Ootacamund.

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to inform you that, after further careful consideration of the various arguments advanced by you in reference to the value of your collection of prehistoric antiquities, the Government are prepared in modification of the proposal made to you in the telegram of the 12th April last to offer you a sum of Rs. 15,000 (Rupees fifteen thousand only) in full and final settlement of your claim without proceeding to arbitration. His Excellency trusts that this offer may be satisfactory to you.

2. I am also directed to state that, should you be unwilling to accept the present offer, the stipulations in the agreement with the Secretary of State as to arbitration will take effect; and I am accordingly to request that you will be good enough to intimate to Government your decision in the matter within seven days from the receipt by you of this letter so that this long-pending matter may be brought to a settlement without further delay.

H. D. TAYLOR,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Mad. V. A. Rajavelu.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 311, EDUCATIONAL, DATED 21ST MAY 1904.

[SUBJECT.—*Mr. Bruce Foote's Collection of Pre-historic Antiquities.*]

Demi-official from H. W. Seton-Karr, Esq., to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Connemara Hotel, 22nd January 1904.

Yours received, containing copy of Proceedings of Government, No. 38, Educational. I leave to-night for Arkonam where I sleep and go on to Salem to-morrow and probably get on Sunday morning (if not Saturday night) to Yercaud. I shall stay at Yercaud until I have made a proper examination, however long it takes. I am glad he has completed the catalogue. I am not sure if I shall come back from Salem to *Madras*, but expect to go from Arkonam to several places on the line to examine the geological conditions. I shall go to Cuddapah (care of Collector) eventually and thence Bombay (care of Thomas Cook & Son, 13 Esplanade). I expect to leave Bombay in about 4 (or 5) weeks by P. & O. for Egypt (care of T. Cook, Cairo). I shall take pleasure in sending you my report on the collection as soon as I have completed it.

P.S.—I shall always be glad to do anything to help your department or the museum with reference to exchanges with European museums or any other way if I can do so without putting myself to much expense and my address at home is 31, Lingfield Road, Wimbledon, S.W. London.

This demi-official may be submitted for the perusal of the Honourable Member.

P. T. THARYAN—23-1-04.

A. GALLETTI—25-1-04.
A. G. CARDEW—25-1-04.

Thanks.

G. S. F[ORBES]—26-1-04.

From Mr. H. W. Seton-Karr, dated 29th January 1904.

Mr. Seton-Karr states that he spent four days at Yercaud and that during this period he made a careful examination of Mr. Bruce Foote's collection of pre-historic antiquities. He values the collection at £ 620 or Rs. 9,300 and thinks that in giving that sum Government would be acting "in a fair, not to say generous, manner". He also thinks that if sold in London the collection would not bring more than £170—probably less.

2. Mr. Bruce Foote however expects £4,000—*vide* Mr. Thurston's letter on page 4 of G.O., No. 95, Educational, dated 3rd March 1903. As might be expected Mr. Thurston considered that this sum was very high.

3. It is submitted that nothing can be done till Mr. Bruce Foote completes his catalogue—Mr. Seton-Karr says he has nearly completed it—and offers the collection for sale to Government. Under the agreement of 1898 if there is any difference between Mr. Foote and Government as to the price to be paid, the matter has to be referred to two arbitrators, one appointed by Government and the other by Mr. Bruce Foote. Further action therefore depends on Mr. Bruce Foote's offer.

4. The file may be submitted to Honourable Member and on return ordered to lie over for the present. The question of the payment to Mr. Seton-Karr has been separately dealt with.

P. T. Tharyan—29-1-04.

The Government has now got an impartial opinion as to the value of the collection. It would not fetch more than £170, if put up at Christie's, and £620 would be a fair, not to say generous, price to offer for it. Mr. Bruce Foote's figure, £4,000, may therefore be regarded as merely the exuberance of a sanguine disposition, and it would evidently not be fair to offer more than £620 of the tax-payers' money for the collection.

2. The first step, however, still seems to be to get hold of the list. As the Honourable Member, in his letter of the 30th December, explained to Mr. Bruce Foote exactly what the Government wanted as regards this list or catalogue, perhaps the Honourable Member would like, now that another month has elapsed to ask Mr. Bruce Foote whether he can now favour us with a sight of the list, or should a wire be sent him saying: "Your letter, dated tenth January. Can you now send check list of collection?".

A. G. Cardew—1-2-04.

The value of the collection to us is not quite the same thing as the market value. Mr. Bruce Foote of course may refuse to sell; while, on the other hand, it is very important that the collection should be secured for the museum. It is in some portions, as I understand, unique; or at any rate Government would not be able to secure the same specimens perhaps for many years. It is valuable as illustrating the pre-historic condition of India. Personally I should approve of Government's going as far as £1,000. But the first thing is to get the check list. Please telegraph as you suggest adding "as examined by (Mr.) Seton-Karr".

G. S. F[orbes]—3-2-04.

Issue.

A.G.C.—3-2-04.

[Telegram No. 17, dated 3rd February 1904.]

Send reminder telegram to Mr. Bruce Foote.

A.G.C.—26-2-04.

[Telegram No. 23, dated 26th February 1904.]

Telegram from Mr. Bruce Foote, dated 27th February 1904.

Mr Foote says he cannot find the former telegram of 3rd instant and desires it to be repeated to him. This must apparently be now done and a draft telegram is placed below for approval.

P.T.T.—29-2-04.

Issue.

A. Galletti—29-2-04.

[Telegram No. 26, dated 29th February 1904.]

Wire reminder.

A.G.C.—12-3-04.

[Telegram No. 28, dated 12th March 1904.]

Telegram from Mr. Bruce Foote, dated 14th March 1904.

Mr. Bruce Foote says that he would send the check-list on the 16th instant. The file may lie over till then.

K.K.M.—15-3-04.

P. T. Tharyan—15-3-04.

A. Galletti—15-3-04.

Mr. Bruce Foote's check-list of his collection was on Saturday received by registered post, but without covering letter or signature. It includes 4,131 exhibits, and in some cases, *e.g.*, 1,565 and 2,783, one number covers a large number of specimens, so that the total number of specimens is more than 4,131, and may amount to 4,400 or 4,500. But Mr. Seton-Karr's report, dated 29th January 1904, said that there were altogether over 6,000 exhibits, and from the unconcluded appearance of the list, it looks as though there might be more to follow. No further communication has been yet received. However the list is a long step in the right direction, and it may be possible now to make an offer to Mr. Bruce Foote for his collection. It will be seen from the report of Mr. Seton-Karr that he considers the collection would not fetch more than £170, if put up at Christie's, and that £620 "would be a fair, not to say generous, price to offer for it." Thus the market value is £170, while Mr. Seton-Karr considers that *to this Government* it is worth £620. The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes had noted that personally he would approve of Government going as far as £1,000. It is a matter for consideration whether this Government would be justified in offering a sum which is over 60 per cent. in excess of what the expert, specially selected to value this collection, tells us would be a "fair, not to say generous, price to offer for it."

A. G. Cardew—21-3-04.

I did not hope to find this also still on hand.

2. You must find out from Mr. Bruce Foote if this is a complete list. And tell him what Mr. Seton-Karr says as to the number of articles he saw and reported on. The price is not yet in question.

J. T[homson]—22-3-04.

The draft placed below is submitted for approval. If the sub-numbers in the check-list are counted, the total comes to nearly 6,400*. Should any mention be therefore made in the draft, of the number of articles as seen by Mr. Seton-Karr?

* This might have been ascertained before the note went to Honourable Member.
A.G.C.

P.T.T.—24-3-04.

A.G.—24-3-04.

A.G.C.—25-3-04.

[Memorandum No. 151, Educational, dated 25th March 1904.]

From Mr. Bruce Foote, dated 25th March 1904.

Mr. Bruce Foote wrote this letter before receipt of the Government reference of the 25th instant, but it is not likely he will write again in reply to that reference. The check-list with its supplements appears now to be complete.

2. The question now is what should be our next step. Should we wait till he offers the collection for sale or should he be asked to make an offer? If we wait he may perhaps never make the offer although under the agreement of 1898 he has to make it as soon as the catalogue has been finished.

3. In the letter to Mr. Foote No. 96, dated 28th September 1903, Government promised to print the catalogue at its own cost if it decides to buy the collection. The question of printing does not, therefore, arise at present.

P. T. Tharyan—29-3-04.

If Mr. Foote is to be taken literally it looks as if he wouldn't sell his collection till he gets a promise of a contribution for his book.

A. Galletti—30-3-04.

Government has spent Rs. 450 in getting the collection valued by Mr. Seton-Karr and Rs. 600 in paying Mr. Bruce Foote for a catalogue raisonné which he has never produced. He now intimates his intention of removing the whole or a part of the collection to Europe.

Government has an absolute option to buy the collection at a fair price.

2. I think we should wire to Mr. Foote the sum which Government is prepared to give for the collection, presumably to be based on Mr. Seten-Karr's valuation, and ask whether he accepts it. If he demurs, I think Government should object to any part of the collection being removed from Yercaud, pending the reference to arbitration which is provided for in the agreement of 14th November 1898. A

3. It would probably be unwise to give Mr. Bruce Foote any money for a new work unless and until his health is assured. My information is that he is in a very shaky state, drops asleep over his work, and so on. Mr. Thurston told me he was breaking up.

A. G. Cardew—31-3-04.

A. This, I think, is so. The question is the amount to be offered and that apparently should be Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation—£600.

2. Will Financial say if it can find that money, and will my Honourable Colleagues say if that is to be the amount offered?

J. T[homson]—31-3-04.

The file is circulated first in order that it may be settled whether £620 is the sum to be offered to Mr. Bruce Foote for his collection of prehistorics. When the sum is decided, the Financial Department will be asked whether it can be found, but it may be mentioned that the provision of this money was discussed with Financial when the budget was being framed, and it was then ascertained that it would probably be possible to find the money out of the special grant of 10 lakhs promised by the Government of India.

A.G.C.—31-3-04.

I agree to £620.

G. S[tokes]—2-4-04.

I agree.

A[mpthill]—7-4-04.

The file may be forwarded to Financial u.o. for favour of very early information whether the sum of £620 could be found, if it is accepted by Mr. Bruce Foote.

A.G.C.—7-4-04.

To the Financial Department.

Financial Department.

We have 6 lakhs loose under 45. Civil Works and the Rs. (620 × 15 =) 9,300 required could be allotted therefrom without appreciably disturbing any future distribution of that grant.

C. M. Schmidt—7-4-04.

The above would be the best way of finding the money.

M. Hammick—8-4-04.

Yes.

J. T[homson]—9-4-04.

To the Educational Department.

Educational Department.

Please draft telegram now to Mr. Bruce Foote.

A. G. Cardew—11-4-04.

A draft telegram is placed below for approval.

2. It seems unnecessary to tell Mr. Bruce Foote now that, if he does not accept the offer, the agreement of 1898 will be enforced.

Quite unnecessary.

A.G.C.

P. T. Tharyan—11-4-04.

A. Galletti—12-4-04.

A.G.C.—12-4-04.

[Telegram No. 38, dated 12th April 1904.]

From Mr. Bruce Foote, dated 14th April 1904.

Mr. Bruce Foote declines the offer of Rs. 9,300 made to him in the telegram of the 12th instant and says that his own valuation is £4,000 or Rs. 60,000. Under the agreement of 1898 the matter should now be referred to two arbitrators for decision and Mr. Foote may therefore be requested to name an arbitrator to act for him. Meanwhile, he may be told that Government cannot assent to any part of the collection being removed from India.

P.T.T.—15-4-04.

Put up a draft (from orders *) to Mr. Bruce Foote telling the Government cannot assent to any part of the collection being removed from India, and requesting him, with reference to the agreement, to state what name he would suggest as an arbiter (quote wording of the agreement).

A.G.C.—15-4-04.

* See Honourable Member's note dated 31st March 1904, on last page.

A.G.C.

The draft placed below is submitted for approval.

P.T.T.—15-4-04.

A.G.C.—15-4-04.

J. T[homson]—15-4-04.

Passed by Honourable Member. Issue. Address Madras Club and send copy to Yercaud.

A.G.C.—16-4-04.

[Memorandum No. 194, dated 16th April 1904.]

Addressed to Madras Club. Copy sent to Yercaud.

From Mr. Bruce Foote, dated 22nd April 1904.

Mr. Bruce Foote says in the first place that Mr. Seton-Karr cannot be regarded as an arbitrator on behalf of Government under clause 3 of the agreement of 14th November 1898. It is submitted that although, taking advantage of Mr. Seton-Karr's presence in India, Government requested him to value Mr. Bruce Foote's collection of pre-historic antiquities and although Government made an offer for the collection based on the valuation put on it by Mr. Seton-Karr it was not intended that he (Mr. Seton-Karr) should be an arbitrator under clause 3 of the agreement.

H. D. Taylor.

2. Mr. Bruce Foote next desires to know the name of the person whom Government is going to appoint as its arbitrator. Mr Bruce Foote apparently wants this information so as to enable him to select a person different from the Government arbitrator to act as his arbitrator. It is however not a very easy matter to find a suitable person now to act as Government arbitrator. Mr. Thurston is away on leave and will not be back before January next year and it does not appear that Mr. Henderson of the Madras Christian College who is acting for him is competent to act as arbitrator. Mr. J. H. Marshall, Director-General of Archæology, may perhaps be requested through the Government of India to undertake the task. Otherwise Mr. Seton-Karr will have to be asked. He seems to be in Egypt now. Mr. Thurston said in his demi-official to the Honourable Member on page 6 of the notes in G.O., No. 95, Educational, dated 3rd March 1903, that Mr. Marshall was much more competent than himself for this work.

3. Mr. Bruce Foote's next request is that, if he nominates a Government officer as his arbitrator, he should be at liberty to inform him that he (the selected person) may act in the matter as an "indifferent person". It is submitted that there is no objection to his doing so, but if Mr. Marshall is selected as the Government arbitrator Mr. Bruce Foote will have to be informed that he cannot have him.

4. Mr. Bruce Foote next assumes that each party is bound to appoint as an arbitrator a person who is qualified to give an opinion on the subject-matter in dispute. It is submitted that there seems to be no doubt that this is the intention.

P. T. Tharyan—26-4-04.

If Mr. Foote wants Mr. Marshall to be his arbitrator and can get him, would it not be reasonable to let him have him? Mr. Foote should have an answer at once? His queries might be answered in the affirmative, and he might be told that the Government propose to ask for the loan of Mr. Marshall's services.

A. Galletti—27-4-04.

H. D. Taylor—27-4-04.

Wire Mr. Marshall: "Mr. Bruce Foote declines the offer made by Government for his collection of pre-historics and Government and he have now to appoint each an arbitrator and they an umpire. Government knows no fit person here. Will you please arbitrate for Government as, in the words of the contract, an "indifferent person"? Or will you inform Government of any one fit to be arbitrator?"

J. T[homson]—29-4-04.

Telegram to issue—ordinary.

H. D. Taylor—29-4-04.

Telegram issued—ordinary.

N.L.R.—29-4-04.

[No 47 dated 29th April 1904.]

Telegram from the Director-General of Archæology, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Educational Department, dated 3rd *May* 1904.

Your telegram 47. Willing to act as arbitrator but cannot visit Madras until ensuing winter. Letter follows.

In reply to telegram No. 47, dated the 29th ultimo, Mr. Marshall says that he is willing to act as arbitrator but cannot visit Madras until ensuing winter; and that letter follows. The Secretary has marked the telegram for the Honourable Member.

N.L.R.—4-5-04.

P. T. Tharyan—4-5-04.

Await letter?

A. Galletti—4-5-04.

Yes. The letter may be awaited as it will give further details. Meanwhile Mr. Bruce-Foote is expecting early orders in the matter.

H. D. Taylor—4-5-04.

Mr. Marshall's letter referred to above has not yet been received. For orders as to whether this should still be awaited or as to whether the file should be submitted to Honourable Member. Mr. Bruce-Foote is expecting early orders on his letter.

N.L.R.—10-5-04.

P.T.T.—11-5-04.

A.G.—11-5-04.

Submitted to Honourable Member. Mr. Marshall's letter has not yet been received though daily expected. He cannot himself visit Madras to act as Government arbitrator till the cold weather. His letter would probably—if the matter be considered urgent—give the names of some other person qualified at once to act in that capacity. Mr. Bruce-Foote wishes to proceed to Europe at once. Should the whole question be again deferred till his return? It has been hanging fire for a long time.

H.D.T.—12-5-04.

Put in box for next Council.

G. S. F[orbes]—13-5-04.

Demi-official from R. Bruce-Foote, Esq., F.M.U., F.G.S., to the Hon'ble Mr. Forbes, I.C.S., dated Ootacamund, 20*th May* 1904.

Knowing how many things must occupy your attention I have set down as a reminder for your use my objections to Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation of my collection of antiquities, a valuation I cannot but regard as most unfair and ill-founded judging by the extract from his report which has been furnished to me.

2. What he may have said about the Palæolithic part of my treasures, I have not been allowed to know but I cannot help suspecting that even here in the only part of the subject in which he can claim to pose as an expert he has failed to realize the high geological value of some of the specimens specially those from the old alluvium of the Sabarmati river in Gujarat which excited great interest at the British Association meeting in 1894 at Oxford where I exhibited them.

3. I must not tresspass further on your valuable time to-day.

Notes on Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation of my collection of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Indian Antiquities.

One very strong series in my collection which Mr. Seton-Karr in his ignorance utterly undervalues is that including mostly minute objects such as simple and worked flakes, small knives, lancets, drills, piercers and delicate saws made of Chert, Ghalcedony and agate and more rarely jasper. These are very remarkable for their elegant shapes and the very lovely colors shown by many. The cores or nuclei from which these delicate flakes have been struck off are also many of them objects of great beauty of color. Lord Ampthill was specially struck by the beauty of the flakes when he saw my series and my friend Mr. Henry, the present President of the Anthropological Institute, and Curator of the famous Pith-Rivers Collection at Oxford, on our meeting in 1903, asked me as his very first question, "Have you any Pygmy Implements"? and was greatly interested to hear that I had a fine series of them.

2. Mr. Seton-Karr's idea that antique pottery is not of value shows how absolutely ignorant he is on the subject. No one values broken specimens as highly as entire and perfect ones but when the latter are not obtainable, fragments showing much of the shapes or decorative patterns previously unknown acquire a high value and are eagerly collected by connoisseur and will frequently be found figured in Archæological works of the highest importance, *e.g.*, to mention only a few recent ones—the annual reports of the Athens School of Archæology and of the Egypt and Palestine Explorations and of many explorations going on in America.

3. Very many of my specimens show forms and decoration as yet undescribed and unfigured, some with a strikingly Greek facies. As many of them are of great intrinsic beauty of form and color, to despise them because fragmentary shows to my mind a total want of artistic appreciation and a great want of common sense as well. Look at the many fragments of Mycenæon, later Greek and Etrusean pottery thought worthy of exhibition in the British Museum and other State collections Look also at specimens of older (?) and zuder type the ancient British pottery published by Canon Greenwell in his famous work on ancient British interments. Lastly look at the plates in Dr. Ferdin and Keller's "Lake Dwellings of Switzerland" which show the pottery of that truly prehistoric period, much of its fragmentary. I could easily amplify this list tenfold without exhausting the subject.

4. His contempt for my series of shell pendants, bangles, beads and other objects made of similar material (several hundreds in number) because the bangles found by me *not in graves but in habitation sites* are broken is simply childish. Of course, the bangles are broken for till broken the wearers, presumably women, would not have discarded them, but as many of the fragments are quite large enough to show the patterns which, in many cases, are highly decorative they are worthy of great attention and as such are of high value. No such collection has ever been got together before. The Madras and Bangalore Museums can only boast of a couple of plain specimens apiece derived from early iron age graves.

5. The collections of beads and bangles are both unique for they contain very numerous examples not to be seen elsewhere and many are of great intrinsic beauty. The remarks made on the shell bangles apply equally to the glass and paste ones, they are found only as fragments because they continued in use as long as they remained unbroken.

6. These articles of ornament and the pottery which belongs to at least four periods will fill many gaps in the chronological series now being formed by the labours of officers of the Archæological Survey and of students such as myself.

7. I have included no specimens of recent pottery in my collection. Is it likely that I who have studied Indian pottery most lovingly for the last 23 years should have fallen into the mistake of confounding recent vessels with antiques, the two being as a rule remarkable for their dissimilarity in material, shape and color and have gathered them together indiscriminately into my collection as prehistoric and protohistoric.

8. Mr. Seton-Karr who is remarkably ignorant of Indian ceramics himself has jumped at a totally unfounded conclusion and tried thereby to depreciate the value of my collection as a whole.

9. The sum offered me on the strength of Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation is but little over half of what the collection has cost me out-pocket up to date.

Order in Council.

Mr. Bruce Foote will be offered a sum of Rs. 15,000 in final settlement without arbitration.

Failing acceptance of the offer the matter must go to arbitration at once.

H. D. Taylor—20-5-04.

A draft letter to Mr. Bruce Foote is put up for approval. I have written officially and not demi-officially in view of the letter in G.O., No. 38, dated 19th January 1904. I think perhaps Mr. Bruce Foote might have preferred a demi-official.

There is no real difference in effect.

G. S. F[orbes].

2. It is observed that the first offer of Rs. 9,300 was refused by Mr. Bruce Foote on 14th April 1904 and clause (4) of the agreement provides for the provision of arbitration within three months from date of disagreement. I think, however, that the date of disagreement, should the present offer be refused, will date from the time of refusal of the revised offer.

H.D.T.—20-5-04.

The draft will do very well. I have made a slight alteration. Copy should go to Financial Department.

G. S. F[orbes]—20-5-04.

(Mr. Bruce Foote is at Colonel Teversham's Mount Pleasant.)

G.S.F.

Issue; send for my signature very urgently and despatch by special peon to Mr. Bruce Foote at Mount Pleasant.

H.D.T.—20-5-04.

[Letter No. 311, Educational, dated 21st May 1904.]

---

c/o Collector. Cuddapah. 29-1-04

12

Cuo 180

address till Feb 12 c/o Cook & Son
13 Esplanade. Bombay.
then c/o Cook & Son. Cairo. Egypt.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
29 JAN 1904
LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

Sir

I have the honour to inform you that I have spent four days at Yercaud, & have examined carefully Mr Bruce Foote's collection of antiquities. I might have done it in less time, only Mr Foote wished to be present, as he was able to give me some details and interesting particulars (which are in the list he has prepared) which do not affect the value except in so far as it correlates one object with another with localities, dates &c.

Many of Mr Foote's stone implements and some of the fractured pottery ~~depart~~ depend partly for their value and interest on being associated with other objects of the same date and locality, as is the case in other "comparative" Collections.

So far the collection may be regarded as unique

As prehistoric antiquities have no fixed market price, in order to arrive at some idea of the value of Mr Foote's collection it becomes necessary to compare it with other collections of similar character, which have been acquired by Corporations or other Public Bodies.

I have also taken into account the value of different series of objects when they are offered for sale by dealers from whom I have often purchased similar ones, or exchanged them, such as Fenton, Sowerby of Kew, Laurence of Wandsworth, &c, besides the antiquity dealers at Cairo, Keneh, Luxor, and other places in Egypt.

These objects thus acquired become more valuable when they take their place in a comparative collection as for instance those of Canon Greenwell acquired by Dr. Sturge, the Slopes, Knowles, Allen-Brown collections and the Ducie Collection of stone implements & that of Sir J. Evans at Hemel Hempstead, and the National collections of ancient Stone Implements at Stockholm, Lille, Washington, Philadelphia, London (Bloomsbury), St. Germain en Laye at Paris and the Collegio Romano at Rome & many others with which I am well acquainted.

I have taken into account the increased value which small series of implements acquire when thus properly arranged and exposed in Large Museums.

Last year I donated Indian Implements to one hundred and thirty three Museums and institutions, and even in the great Egyptian Museum at Cairo which is

intended to contain exclusively Egyptian things, the prehistoric part of which (implements only) I arranged last year for the Director General, a series of Indian Implements has acquired added value when placed for comparison by the side of those from the Desert plateau. I only mention this to show that, as the Science of Prehistoric Archaeology is a new one, Mr Footes collection will have a greater value when placed in the Madras Museum than it now has.

In judging of the value of collections of stone implements and other objects, it is usual to take into account the expense that has been incurred by the collector. For instance when I returned from Somaliland with stone Implements I was paid by the British Museum according to the cost of the Expedition. Similarly when I discovered the lost Flint-mines of Egypt, the Corporation of Liverpool acquired the results for 250£ including right of publication (Lpool. Museums Bulletin). Similarly the Melbourne Museum (N.S.W.) acquired 60 Somali Implements on the same basis of computation & so on in the case of others. Last year I sold 100 Indian Implements with some Egyptian selected implements from the Fayum thrown in for 100£, & on another occasion 70 Somali ones for 80£ (eighty). Generally in the case of first class implements one pound per implement was the price. On the other hand Indian Implements have been sold by Laurence the dealer for from $^{s}1/$ to $^{s}5/$.

and I lately purchased 700 polished axes from the Banda District U. Provinces for 2 to 3 annas each. The British Museum paid me 70£ for 60 Somaliland Implements. The Cairo Museum paid 30£ for 8 exceptionally fine Egyptian flint implements to an arab — sacrificial knives of the early dynasties. I have preferred of late years to donate implements to museums, though previously they had to pay their share of expenses of collection.

In Mr Foote's case however the method of computation by the cost of discovery cannot be applied, as he was not put to any expense so far as I know, being at the time engaged in survey work and the collecting of these things considered as extra and personal.

It must be remembered that Mr Foote was the first to discover and bring to notice ancient stone Implements of the paleolithic type in India.

[I found that Mr Foote has practically completed the list & that nearly all objects are numbered, & he says the rest will shortly be completed before he leaves. The numbers are clearly and ? indelibly painted and the pages of the catalogue I saw, well done. About a dozen pieces of pottery are in a more or less perfect condition, a few others can be partly reconstituted and the remaining numerous fragments have been chosen on account of the ancient patterns, shapes, and decorations they represent. The shell bangles are in fragments & are interesting & rare. I am not however placing a high value on the pottery, shell ornaments, beads or iron. All are numbered like the implements (over 6000) & many are probably within the historic period. The number of objects hardly gives a correct idea as many are fragmentary, & they vary much in value. The stone implements including cores & minute flakes number about 3650.

2) In this number I include all stone implements in the house (and two mealing plates outside) with the exception of a drawerful of foreign implements (from France England &c) in the upstairs room; and a small drawerful of Indian Implements worth about 2£ which Mr Foote discovered last Feb near Bellary and which are therefore not in the Collection properly.]

I am of opinion, therefore, taking everything into consideration that the Collection is worth to the Madras Museum not more than six hundred and twenty pounds sterling (620£), & that in giving that sum the Government will be acting in a fair not to say generous manner; of this sum I should place 475£ (four hundred and seventy-five pounds) for Stone Implements and 145£ (one hundred and forty five pounds) to the other objects. I consider that if the Collection were taken out of the country it would lose in value and would not be worth so much; and if it were put up to auction at Christies in London it would not bring more than 170£ and probably less, but that is no true criterion of the value —

I am Sir
your obedient servant
H. W. Seton-Karr

To
A. G. Cardew Esq. Education Dept. Madras.

6

7.

3 4P

~~Copy of~~ Telegram to Mr Bruc
Foote
— d/ 3.2.04

Despatched
3.2.04

your letter dated tenth January. Can you now send check lis of Collection as examined by [Mr] Seton-Karr.

No. 23 d/ 26.2.04.

Telegram deferred to Mr. Bruce Foote

Despd
26/2/4

Please reply Government telegram third February

AG/26.2.04

Cno 342

16

Code. Class. } Off

INDIAN TELEGRAPHS. Monthly Number. 19762

4

To (Office) Madras Fort George				From (Office) Yercaud	
Words. 27.	Day. 27	Hour. 13	Minute. 42	Official Instructions.	} Off
To (Person) Secretary to Govt Educational Dept.				From* (Person) Bruce foote.	

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL 28 FEB 1904 SECRETARIAT

Your telegram yesterday
am moving house
Cannot find former
wire please repeat if
urgent.

64 Word Form.

F. C. 2.

MADRAS 27-2-04

Recd. from LN.
At Hrs. Mts. by

Sent to LN.
At Hrs. Mts. by

Telegraph Master.

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* In foreign telegrams the *Person from*, if telegraphed, should be written after, but separated from the text.

B G P—No 140 T—3 7 1903—400000

Educational Departt

No. 26 d/ 29 2/4

Telegram

68

To Yercaud

To R. Bruce Foote Esq:

Despd
29/2/4

Your telegram 27th. Government telegram third February was as follows. Begins. Your letter d/ 10th January. Can you now send check list of collection as examined by Seton. Karr. Ends.

29.2.4

29/2/4

196

Educational deptt.

Telegram 28 of 12-3-4.
7

Despd
12/3/4

To Yercaud
To R. Bruce Foote Esqr.

~~Your telegram 27th.~~

Govt. telegram twenty-ninth February when may reply to Govt telegram third Feby. be expected.

A. G. C.
12-3-4.

[E./1]
1,000—5-12-02.

19

Educational (1904) Department.

CURRENT No. 473

From

[Name] R. B. Foot

[Designation]

[Station]

No.

Dated 190 .

Enclosures

Received 14 . 3 1904

Registered 14 . 3 . 1904

SUBJECT.

Stating that he would send Check list by the 16th instant

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

17.

Educational Department

CURRENT No. 473 3/8

Date of receipt - 14. 3. 04.

INDIAN TELEGRAPHS.

Code Class. P.

Monthly Number. 80

To (Office) Ms. Ft St George

14 MAR 1904

From (Office) Yercaud

Words.	Day.	Hour.	Minute.	Official Instructions.
22	14	13	14S	

To (Person) Secy Educational Deptt.

From (Person) R. B. Foote.

sending check list sixteenth
just completing revision
after change of residence

32 Word Form.

MADRAS FORT 14-3-04

F.C.I.

Recd. from LN. At Hrs. Mts. by

Sent to LN. At Hrs. Mts by

H.L. for
Telegraph Master.

O G P.—No 308 T—19 11 1900—2000000.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

12]
0-7-10.03.

D AGAIN G.O., No. , dated 190 .

" " , " 190 .

D ALSO :—

180 , From ~~the~~ Mr. H. W. Seton-Karr , No. , dated 29 - 1 - 1904

473 " " " R. Bruce Foote , " , " 14 - 3 - 1904

" " , " , " 190 .

Ref. 157 dt 25 3 4

~~ORDER~~ No. , dated 190 .

mis

The undersigned is directed to request Mr. Bruce Foote ~~[illegible]~~ to state whether ~~[illegible]~~ the checklist of Mr. Bruce Foote's collection of pre-histories and proto-histories, which was recd. from on the 19th instant, ~~is apparently~~ ~~submitted~~ with reference to his telegram of the 14th instant ~~read above, bears no date nor signature. He will be requested to state whether it is a~~ is a complete list of the collections seen and reported on by Mr. Seton-Karr or not.

To enable Mr. Bruce Foote to answer this enquiry, he will be furnished with the accompanying extract[×] from Mr. Seton-Karr's report. As th

Kk
24.3

Bty
24/3/4

Despd. with Extract
25/3/4

...ce Foote Esq:
Yercaud.

× passages on p. 4-5 marked in red ink square brackets
RRL.

list recd: from Mr Bruce Foote was not signed or dated, if it is, ~~therefore~~, not clear whether it is a complete list, or only an instalment.

25.3.04

~~It is observed that~~ the checklist of Mr. Bruce Foote's collection of prehistorics and proto historics [illegible] with reference to his letter of the 14th [illegible]

[illegible]

To enable Mr Bruce Foote [illegible]

Cno 571 ·

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
28 MAR 1904
LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

108

The Rookery, Yercaud
25 March 1904

To
The Secretary to Government
Education Department
Fort St. George,

Sir,
I have the honor to forward herewith two short supplements to the Check List of my collection of Indian Prehistoric and Protohistoric Antiquities which I transmitted to you last week; also a few pages requiring insertion in the positions shown by their page numbers in the lists sent.—

The delay in finishing the Check List was due to two causes, the first being that I was and still am much out of health and the second that as I was compelled to change my residence to this place, a distance of two miles, a period of close upon six weeks was occupied in packing up my collection and unpacking it after I had got it over here.— By the move the collection was entirely disarranged and has not yet been got into perfect order again so that refences to special subjects, many of which were necessary for the revision of the Check List, were difficult to make and required much time. I could not begin the packing of the Collection till after it had been seen by Mr. Seton Karr.— Mr. Seton Karr went through the

Collection

collection as closely as was possible in the short time at his command.. I showed him every thing and he missed seeing only three specimens of great interest which happened to have been put out of the way.--

It was a pleasure to show him my gatherings for he knows a great deal about palæoliths having collected far and wide over the world.. He has also a fair knowledge of Neolithic stone implements but has not devoted much time or study to prehistoric pottery.

Going through the collection with him and and the revision which I have since given it has greatly raised my estimate of the Scientific value appertaining to it and I feel very far from anxious to part with it, at any rate till I have had time to work it out thoroughly.. A difficulty arises about this that I am unable to remain in India at present to complete that work.

I am so much out of health that I must make a change and go to Europe in the course of the summer and the only way to carry on the work will be for me to take the specimens to be described and figured with me to England as it will be impossible for me to deal with them in the time remaining before I must leave.

I consider that the carrying out of the work I proposed last year is a matter of far greater importance

to archæological science than the present sale of the collection no matter whom.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your obedient servant
R. Bruce Foote
F. G. S. F. M. U.

Educational Departt 24

12P

Telegram no. 38 g 12-4-04

From Secretary to Govt. Edl Departt
To R Bruce Foote Esq:

Despd
12/4/4

No 38. Your letter twentyfifth ultimo. Government ~~offers you~~ is prepared to give rupees nine thousand three ~~[illegible]~~ hundred ~~six hundred and twenty pounds~~ for ~~the~~ your collection. ~~this~~ being ~~the~~ Seton-Karr's valuation ~~fixed by Seton-Karr~~. Please wire whether you accept ~~this~~ offer.

BJ
11/4/4

AG 12.4.04

26

27

Circ 693

925

13P

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, 15 APR 1904 LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

Madras Club
Madras

14th April 1904

To The Secretary to Government of Madras
Education Department

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your Telegram of the 12th Inst. which followed me here from Yercaud. In reply I beg to decline your Offer of Nine thousand three hundred Rupees made on the strength of Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation of my collection of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Antiquities.

My own valuation of the collection is Four thousand Pounds sterling. £4000. It is the work of forty one years and contains many hundreds of specimens of many classes which are absolutely unique and therefore of very high value. Many are also of high value geologically as well archaeologically.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your obedient servant
R. Bruce Foote F.G.S. F.M.U.

[E. / 5a]
250—12-11-03.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Memorandum No. 194 / 16-4-4

READ the following paper: —

Cno 693.

As the price of Mr. Bruce Foote's "collection of Indian prehistoric implements and other things" is now in dispute the matter has under Mr. Bruce Foote's agreement with the Secretary of State dt 14th November 1898 to be "referred in writing for decision to two indifferent persons as arbitrators" one to be appointed by Mr. Bruce Foote and ~~another~~ the other by Govt. as representing the Secretary of State. Mr. Bruce Foote is therefore requested to be so good as to state what person he would appoint as his arbitrator.

2. Meanwhile Mr. ~~Bruce~~ Bruce Foote is informed with reference to his letter

30

of the 25th ultimo that the Govt. cannot assent to any part of the collection being removed from India.

A.G.J.
15.4.04

Pd
16/4/4

H
16.4.04

Cno 693.

As the price of Mr. Bruce Foote's "Collection of Indian prehistoric implements and other things" is now in dispute the matter has under Mr. Foote's agreement with the Secretary of State dt 14th November 1898 to be "referred in writing for decision to two indifferent persons as arbitrators" one to be appointed by Mr. Bruce Foote and the other by Govt. as representing the Secretary of State. Mr. Foote is therefore requested to be so good as to state what person he would appoint as his arbitrator.

To

R. Bruce Foote Esqr.

2 copies Despd
one to the M. Club
& the other to Yercaud 16/4/4

Cno 753

31

"Restfort"
Chetput Station
Madras
22d. April 1904

ASSISTT. SECY TO GOVT.
25 APR. 1904
LOCAL MUNL EDL & LEG DEPTTS.

27

13

To The Secretary to Government
Educational Department
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Memo No. 194/16.4.04 and in reply to state as follows

2. In the first place I have to point out that Mr. Seton-Karr cannot be regarded as an arbitrator on its behalf by Government under clause 3 of the Agreement of 14th. Novr. 1898, since it is essential that the "two indifferent persons" contemplated by it should be afforded opportunities of exchanging their views before making an award; or referring any dis-agreement between them to their "umpire". It cannot be said that any dispute as to the value of my collection had arisen at the time when I permitted Mr. Seton-Karr to inspect it.-

3. If it has now become necessary that recourse should be had to the Arbitration clause I have the honor to request that I may be given the name of the "indifferent person" whom Government proposes to nominate

4. I have also the honor to request that I may be informed whether in the event of my desiring to name as my arbitrator any gentleman

gentleman in the service of the Government either of Madras, or of India, I am at liberty to inform him that he is free to act in the matter as an "indifferent person". –

5. I assume that each party is bound to appoint as an arbitrator a person who is qualified to give an opinion on the subject matter in dispute.

6. In conclusion I would mention that ~~I have~~ I have already requested a well qualified gentleman to be my arbitrator and am awaiting his reply to my proposal.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your obedient Servant
R. Bruce Foote
Fellow of the Madras University
F.G.S. M. Mal. Socy. A.V.S. &c

~~E~~ Educational Departt

Notes connected with G.O. No 311 ~~dt~~ Edl dt 21-5-04
~~D.O. R. no 9~~

18 286

[Subject:- Mr. Bruce Foote's colln. of pre-historic antiquities.]

Connemara Hotel
22 – 1 – 04.

D.O. from Wm. Acton Ward Esq: dt to the Secretary to Govt. Edl. Departt

Dear Mr. Cardew

Yours received, containing copy of Proc. Gov. No 38. Educational. I leave tonight for Arconum ~~tonight~~ where I sleep & go on to Salem tomorrow & probably out on Sunday morning (if not Sat. night) to Yercaud. I shall stay at Yercaud until I have made a proper examination, however long it takes. I am glad he has completed the catalogue. I am not

~~[illegible]~~ 2

Sure if I shall come
back from Salem to
Madras, but expect
to go from Arconum
to several places on the
line to examine the
geological conditions.
I shall go to Cuddapah
(c/o Collector) eventually
& thence Bombay (c/o Thos.
Cook & Son. 13 Esplanade)
I expect to leave Bombay in about 4 (or 5)
weeks by P. & O. for Egypt (c/o T. Cook. Cairo)
I shall take pleasure
in sending you my
report on the
Collection as soon as
I have completed it,
& by to return

yours faithfully
H. W. Seton-Karr.

P.S. I shall always be glad to do anything to help your department in the Museum with reference to exchanges with European Museums or any other way if I can do so without putting myself to much expense & my address at home is 31 Lingfield Road. Wimbledon. S.W. London.

~~[illegible]~~ 3

29

Page 53 of Current file

D.O. from Mr. Seton-Karr dt 22-1-04.

This D.O. may be submitted for the perusal of the H'ble M.

[illegible]
23/1/4

1st M
25.1.4

H M

AGJ 25.1.04

Thanks
[illegible] /1/04

AGJ 26.1.04.

From Mr. Seton-Karr dt 29-1-04

Mr. Seton-Karr states that he spent four days at Yercaud and that during this period he made a careful examination of Mr. Bruce-Foote's collection of prehistoric antiquities. He values the collection at £620 or Rs 9,300 and thinks that in giving that sum Govt. would be acting "in a fair not to say generous manner". He also thinks that if sold in London the Collection would not bring more than £170 — probably less.

2. Mr. Bruce Foote however expects £4,000 — vide Mr. Thurston's letter on page 4 of G.O. No 95 Edl dt 3rd March 1903. As might be expected Mr. Thurston considered ~~[illegible] D.O. of the 21st January however~~ that this sum was very high ~~and Mr. Seton-Karr has confirmed his own views~~

3. It is submitted that nothing can ~~now~~ be done till Mr. Bruce Foote completes his catalogue & Mr. Seton

~~[illegible]~~ 4.

Karr says he has nearly completed it – and offers the Collection for sale to Govt. Under the agreement of 1898 if there is any differences between Mr. Foote & Govt. as to the price to be paid, the matter ~~[illegible]~~ has to be referred to two arbitrators, one appointed by Govt. and the other by Mr. Bruce-Foote. ~~Now Govt. has already had its arbitration in Mr. Seton Karr.~~ Further action therefore depends on Mr. Bruce Foote's offer.

4. The file may ~~therefore~~ be submitted to Hm. and, on return, ordered to lie over for the present. The question of the payment to Mr. Seton Karr is separately dealt with in the linked file.

29/1/4

The Govt. has now got an impartial opinion as to the value of the collection. It would not fetch more than £170, if put up at Christie's, and £620 would be a fair, not to say generous, price to offer for it. Mr. Bruce Foote's figure, £4000, may, therefore, be regarded as merely the exuberance of a sanguine disposition, & it would evidently not be fair to offer more than £620 of the tax-payers' money for the collection.

The first step, however, still seems to be to get hold of the List. As the Honble Member, in his Letter of the 30th Decr., explained to Mr. Bruce Foote exactly what the Govt. wanted as regards this List or Catalogue, perhaps the Honble Member would like, now that another month has elapsed to ask Mr. Bruce

5

Foote whether he can now favour us with a sight of the List. Or should a wire be sent him saying:

"Your letter dated tenth January can you now send check list ~~[illegible]~~ of collection" –

See also linked file.

1.2.04.

Hm.

The value of the collection to us is not quite the same thing as the market value. Mr. Bruce Foote of course may refuse to sell; while on the other hand it is very important that the collection shd. be secured for the Museum. It is in some portions, as I understand, unique; or at any rate Govt. wd. not be able to secure the same specimens perhaps for many years. It is valuable as illustrating the prehistoric condition of India. Personally I shd approve of Govt's going as far as £1000. But the first thing is to get the check list. Please telegraph as you suggest adding "as examined by (Mr.) Seton Karr."

3/2

Tel from Madras
Madras
Educl.

Issue.
3.2.04

[Telegram no 17 dt 3-2-04]

Send Reminder Telegram (as below) to Mr. Bruce Foote. 26.2.04

6

[Telegram No 23 d/ 26-2-04.]

Telegram from Mr. Bruce Foote d/ 27-2-04.

Mr. Foote says he cannot find the former telegram of the 3rd instant and desires it to be repeated to him. This must apparently be now done and a draft telegram is placed below for approval.

Issue
AHG 2/4

PJJ
29/2/4

Desp
29/2/4

[Telegram No 26 d/ 29-2-04.]

~~[illegible]~~ wire reminder :–

~~[illegible]~~ [Telegram No. 28 d/ 12.3.04].

Government telegram twenty ninth February when may reply to Government telegram third February be expected.

AHG
12.3.04

Telegram from Mr. Bruce Foote. d/ 14.3.04.

Mr Bruce Foote says that he would send the Check list on the 16th instant. The file may lie over till then.

p. 17 of the Current file.

M 15.3

KKm
15.3.04

PJJ
15/3/4

H.M.

Mr. Bruce Foote's Check-list of his Collection

7

(3)

~~[illegible]~~ was on Saturday recd. by regd. post, but without covering letter or signature. It includes 4131 exhibits, & in some cases – e.g. 1565 & 2783, one number covers a large number of specimens – so that the total No. of specimens is more than 4131, & may amount to 4400 or 4500. But Mr. Seton Karr's report – d. 29.1.04, said that there were altogether over 6000 exhibits, & from the unconcluded appearance of the list, it looks as tho' there might be more to follow. No further communicn. has been yet recd. However the List is a long step in the right direction, & it may be possible now to make an offer to Mr Bruce Foote for his collection. It will be seen fr. the report of Mr. Seton Karr that he considers the collection wd. not fetch more than £170, if put up at Christie's, & that £620 "would be a fair, not to say generous, price to offer for it". Thus the market value is £170, while Mr. Seton Karr considers that to this Govt. it is worth £620. The Honble Mr. Forbes had noted that personally he would approve of Govt. going as far as £1000. It is a matter for consideration whether this Govt. would be justified in offering a sum which is over 60 per cent. in excess of what the expert, specially selected to value this Collection, tells us would be a "fair, not to say generous price to offer for it".

AGl 21.3.04

~~H.M.~~

I did not hope to find this also still on hand.

You must find out from Mr B.F. if this is a complete list. And tell him what Mr Seton Karr says as to the number of articles he saw & reported on. (The price is not yet in question)

h
22.3.04

Please draft accordingly. AGl 23.3.04

The draft placed below is submitted for approval. If the sub-numbers in the Check list are counted the total comes to nearly 6400.× Should any mention be therefore made in the ~~order~~ draft, of the number of articles as seen by Mr. Seton-Karr?

× This might have been ascertained before the Note went to H.M.
AGl

PH
24/3/4

AGl 25.3.04

[Memo: No 151 d/ 25-3-04.]

From Mr. Bruce Foote d/ 25-3-04.

Mr. Bruce Foote wrote this letter (pages 21-23 of the current file) before receipt of the Govt. reference of the 25th instant (pages 19 & 20 of the file), but it is not likely he will write again in reply to that reference. The check list with its supplements appears now to be complete.

2. The question now is what should be our next step. Should we wait till he offers the collection for sale or should he be asked to make an offer? If we wait he may perhaps never make the offer altog. under the agreement of 1898 he has to make it as soon as the catalogue has been finished. S.

D. + 3. In the letter to Mr. Foote No 96 d/ 28th September 1903 Govt. promised to print the catalogue at its own cost if it decides to buy the collection. The question of printing does not therefore arise at present. +

PM
29/3/4
If Mr Foote is to be taken literally it looks as if ~~any~~ he wouldn't sell his collection till he gets a promise of a contribution &c for his book. i.e. Rs 5032

For orders.

Govt. has spent Rs. 450 in getting the Collection valued by Mr. Seton Karr + Rs. 600 in paying Mr Bruce Foote for a Catalogue raisonné which he has never produced. He now intimates his intention of removing the whole or a part of the Collection to Europe.

S Govt. has an absolute option to buy the Collection at a fair price.

A. I think we should wire to Mr. Foote the sum wh. Govt. is prepared to give for the Collection, presumably to be based on Mr. Seton Karr's valuation, & ask whether he accepts it. If he demurs, I think Govt. should object to any part of the collection being removed from Yercaud, pending the reference to

S arbitration wh. is provided for in the agreement of 14th Nov. 1898.

It would probly. be unwise to give Mr. Bruce Foote any money for a new work unless & until his health is assured. My informn. is that he is in a very shaky state, drops asleep over his work, & so on. Mr. Thurston told me he was breaking up.

AG 31.3.04

H.M.

A. This, I think, is so. The question is the amount to be offered & that apparently should be Mr S.K.'s Valuation R620

Will Financial say if it can find that money & [illegible] the Collr. Say if that is to be the amount offered?

H 31.3.04

11

The file is circd. first in order that it may be settled whether £620 is the sum to be offered to Mr. Bruce Foote for his Colln. of Prehistorics. When the sum is decided, the Finl. Dept. will be asked whether it can be found, but it may be mentioned that the provision of this money was discussed with Finl. when the Budget was being framed & it was then ascertained that it ~~will~~ would probably be possible to find the money out of ~~savings~~ the special grant 10 lakhs promised by the Govt. of India.

AG
31.3.04.

Hon: Mr. Stokes C.S.I.

H.E. the Govr.

I agree to £620.

H
2/4/4.

I agree

A
7-4-04

The file may be forwarded to Finl. u.o. for favour of very early informn. whether the sum of £620 could be found, if it is accepted by Mr Bruce Foote.

AG
4.04

Finl. u.o.

Financial DEPT.
U. O. No. 459R
Dated 7-4-1904

U.O. no 153 ~~D~~ S Desp 4/4
7-4-04.

Financial Dept

C.S.

We have 6 lakhs lose under 45 Civil Works and the Rs (620 × 15=) 9300 required could be allotted therefrom without appreciably disturbing any future ~~allocation~~ distribution of that grant.

7-4-04

+ The above would be the best way of finding the money.

8 iv. 04

9. 4. 04

Noted in the Claims Register
11/4

To E.D.C.

9. iv. 04

Please draft telegram now to Mr. Bruce Foote.

A.G.L. 11-4-04

A draft telegram is placed below for approval.

B.J.
11/4/4

It seems unnecessary to tell Mr. Bruce Foote now that if he does not accept the offer the agreement of 1898 will be enforced.

Quite unnecessary.
A.G.L.

Recd B.J. 12.4.4

A.G.L. 12.4.04

[Telegram no 38 d/ 12-4-04.]

From Mr. Bruce Foote d/ 14-4-04

Mr. Bruce Foote declines the offer of Rs 9300 made to him in the telegram of the 12th instant and says ~~that~~ his own valuation is £4000 or Rs 60000. Under the agreement of 1898 the matter should now be referred to two arbitrators for decision & ~~he may~~ Mr. Foote may therefore be requested to ~~appoint~~ name an arbitrator to act for him. Meanwhile he may be told that Govt. cannot assent to any part of the Collection being removed from India. ~~The draft placed below is submitted for approval~~

B.J.
15/4/4

See H.M.'s Note d. 31.3.04 on last p. but one
A.G.L.

Put up a draft (from orders ˣ) to Mr. Bruce Foote — telling him Govt. cannot ~~[illegible]~~ assent to any pt. of the

coll^n. being removed
f. India, & requesting
him with ref to
the Agmt, to state
~~to whose as arbiter~~ what
name he w^d suggest
as an arbiter ~~to~~
~~[illegible]~~ (quote wording
of the Agreent)

BJ

Mr. Bruce Foote declines the offer of

The draft placed below is submitted for approval.

BJ
15/4/4

HM.

AGJ 15.4.04

Passed by HM - Issue. Address Madras Club. & send copy to Yercaud.

AGJ 16.4.04

[Memo: No 194 dt 16-4-04]
+ addressed to Madras Club - Copy sent to Yercaud. +

From Mr. Bruce Foote dt 22-4-04

Mr. Bruce Foote says in the first place that Mr. Seton-Karr ~~should~~ cannot be regarded as

---

as an arbitrator on behalf of Govt. under clause 3 of the agreement of 14th November 1898. It is submitted that although taking advantage of Mr. Seton-Karr's presence in India, Govt.* requested him to value Mr. Bruce Foote's collection of prehistoric antiquities and although Govt. made an offer for the collection† based on the valuation put on it by Mr. Seton-Karr, it was not intended that he (Mr. Seton Karr) should be an arbitrator under clause 3 of the Agreement.

8.

D.

HOL.

* D.O. on page 23 of the notes in G.O. No 38 dt 19-1-04

† Telegram on page 25 of the Current file.

2. Mr. Bruce Foote next desires to know the name of the person whom Govt. is going to appoint as ~~an~~ its arbitrator. Mr. Bruce Foote apparently wants this information so as to enable him to select a person different from the Govt. Arbitrator to act as his Arbitrator. It is however not a very easy matter to find a suitable person now to act as Govt. Arbitrator. Mr. Thurston is away on leave & will not be back before January next year & it does not appear that Mr. Henderson of the Madras Christian College who is acting for him ~~will~~ is ~~be~~ competent to act as arbitrator. Mr. J.H. Marshall Director-General of Archaeology may perhaps be requested through the Govt. of India to undertake the task. Mr. Thurston said in his D.O. to the Hon'ble member on page 6 of the notes in G.O. No 95 Edl dt 3rd March 1903 that Mr. Marshall was much more competent than himself for this work.

Otherwise Mr. Seton-Karr will have to be asked. He seems to be in Egypt now.

O.

3. Mr. Bruce Foote's next request is that ~~he~~ if he nominates a Govt. officer as his Arbitrator the

should be at liberty to inform him (the selected person) that he may act in the matter as an "indifferent person". It is submitted that there is no objection to his doing so ~~[illegible]~~, but if Mr. Marshall is selected as the Govt. Arbitrator Mr. Bruce Foote will have to be informed that he cannot have him.

4. Mr. Bruce Foote next assumes that each party is bound to appoint as an arbitrator a person who is qualified to give an opinion on the subject matter in dispute. It is submitted ~~that~~ there seems to be no doubt that this is the intention. ~~[illegible]~~

If Mr Foote wants Mr Marshall to be his arbitrator and can get him, would it not be reasonable to let him have him? Mr Foote should have an answer at once? his queries might be answered in the affirmative, and he might be told that ~~the~~ the Govt. propose to ask for the loan of Mr Marshall's services.

PJ
26/4/4

H.M.

Lec. 4

Ky 27.4.4

HDS
27.4.04

Wire Mr Marshall:

Mr Bruce Foote declines the offer made by Government for his collection of Prehistorics and Govt and he have now to appoint each an arbitrator and they an umpire. Govt knows no fit person here

---

814

EN

Code Class. 48

INDIAN TELEGRAPHS. Monthly Number.

To (Office) Oty

From (Office)

Words. 52 Day. 3. Hour. 18 Minute. 58

Official Instructions.

To (Person) Madras Edn

From (Person) Archaeology

4-MAY.1904

Your telegram 47 willing to act as arbitrator but cannot visit Madras until ensuing winter letter follows.

Recd. from LN. Sent to LN.

At Hrs Mts. by Hrs. Mts. by

OOTACAMUND 4-5-04

Telegraph Master.

EN

F.C.I.

Will you please arbitrate for Government as, in the words of the contract, an "indifferent person"? Or will you inform Govt. of any one fit to be arbitrator.

~~29 [illegible] Telegram to issue – ordinary.~~

H.D.S.
29.4.04.

Telegram issued – ordinary.

N.A.R.
29/4/04

~~[Tel. No. 47 dt. 29. 4. 04.]~~
(H.E., Telegram in full)

Telegram from Mr. Marshall, dt 3-5-04.

In reply to telegram No. 47 dated the 29th ultimo, Mr. Marshall says that he is willing to act as arbitrator but cannot visit Madras until ensuing winter and that letter follows. ~~I request orders as to whether this file should lie over pending receipt of the letter referred to or as to whether it should go at first to H.M. and H.E. for information.~~ The Secretary has marked the telegram for the Hon.

N.A.R.
4/5/4

Await letter?

P.H.
4/5/4

Yes. The letter may be awaited as it will give fuller details. Meanwhile Sir Bruce Forth is expecting early orders in the matter

H.D.S.
4-5-04

Mr. Marshall's letter

still awaited or as to whether the file should be submitted to H.M. Mr. Bruce Foote is expecting early orders [illegible] letter.

N.G.D.
16/5/4

[illegible] 11-5-04

P.S.J.
11/5/4

Submitted to H.M. Mr. Marshall's letter has not yet been received though daily expected. He cannot himself [illegible] [illegible] to act as arbitrator till the cold weather. His letter renders [illegible] [illegible] that the matter be considered urgent — [illegible] the services of some other person qualified as [illegible] to act in this capacity — as Mr Bruce Foote wishes to proceed to Europe at once. Should the whole question [illegible] again deferred till his return? It has been hanging fire for a long time.

H.W.S.
12. 5. 04

Put in box for next Council

G.F. 13/5

H.S.
13-5-04

[illegible] Council to be circulated.
H.
20/5/04

20/40

S.

Memorandum relative to the Sale of my collection of Prehistorics

It was in November 1898 that I entered into an Agreement with the Government of Madras, when I offered them the first refusal of my collection of Prehistorics, to complete my Catalogue raisonné of the same and furthermore to make a Catalogue raisonné of the Museum both to be done within two years. In consideration of this they advanced me the sum of Rs500 towards the expenses of printing and publishing the catalogue of my own collections.

When I agreed to make the Catalogue of the Museum Collection I was under the impression that it consisted only of the 2 or 300 specimens then on show and I estimated that three weeks would suffice

[illegible]

amply to accomplish that task. I began the preparation of this Catalogue immediately because I was in Madras at the time but I soon found the collection was vastly more extensive than had appeared as thousands more of specimens were produced from stores all unknown to me. Having undertaken ~~the task~~ the task however I persevered without repudiating it as I should have done in my own interest. – The unknown of specimens which were thus produced were principally examples of both figurines and utensils forming part of the great collection made by the late James Wilkinson Breeks, when, as Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills, he made a very successful exploration of a large number of Cairns and barrows situated on the plateau.

No list of the specimens or account of

their State as left at the time of his death was found in the Archives of the Museum, but when this unknown part of the Collection came under my notice it was contained in several large and two or three small "open" cases full of broken pottery of sorts, with any amount of dust, cobwebs and fat spiders, not at all a pleasant mess to handle!

The contents of these cases had evidently undergone rough treatment and nearly every thing was in a much broken condition. – It occupied me for many days merely to look through these masses of fragments, but I succeeded in rescuing between 5 and 600 specimens worthy of preservation. These were mostly figurines of men and women, many also of quadrupeds birds and reptiles. – With them were models of artifacts and a great variety of vessels (mostly broken) for both funereal and domestic pu[illegible]ses. –

their State as left at the time of his death was found in the Archives of the Museum, but when this unknown part of the Collection came under my notice it was contained in several large and two or three small "open" cases full of broken pottery of sorts, with any amount of dust, cobwebs and fat spiders, not at all a pleasant mess to handle! —

The contents of these cases had evidently undergone rough treatment and nearly every thing was in a much-broken condition. — It occupied me for many days merely to look through these masses of fragments, but I succeeded in rescuing between 5 and 600 specimens worthy of preservation. These were mostly figurines of men and women, many also of quadrupeds birds and reptiles. — With them were models of Artifacts and a great variety of vessels (mostly broken) for both funereal and domestic purposes. —

The number of fragments showing no determinable shape and no patterns of artistic value which I examined separately prior to rejecting them amounted to many thousands.

The whole of the Brooks collection, the bronzes and a few metallic objects excepted, was found to be coated, thickly or thinly, with a film of red or brown mud which had to be washed off with great care because of the soft and easily injured nature of the surface of the earthenware. - This operation I found it advisable to perform myself on about 650 specimens of the Brooks collection rather than entrust the handling of them to the clumsy gallery attendant. - The washing revealed many delicate features of the specimens previously unseen and greatly enhanced their beauty and artistic value

I washed also a very large number of specimens from other districts and gave a bath of dilute acid to scores of lime - Encrusted specimens followed by a second bath to remove the acid.-

What with these preliminary preparations followed by the arranging numbering and cataloguing between 15 and 1600 specimens, correcting a great number of proofs and superintending the photography, or drawing, of 250 specimens which were figured, fully 7 months out of the two years were occupied over the Museum Catalogue and I certainly think I had a right to be credited with those 7 months when the delays that arose in the completion of my Catalogue are being animadverted upon. and as time has a money value it is clear that I made Government a very handsome present, far greater indeed than the mere return of the books advanced to me in 1898.-

The money value I set upon those seven

months of hard work is at lowest 500£, for which I never thought of asking any quid-pro-quo but did in return expect to treated with friendly courtesy, whereas I have received nothing but studied and gratuitous discourtesy since Mr. Cardew succeeded to Mr. Hammick in the Education Dept.

The published Museum Catalogue met with a most friendly reception by the leading antiquaries and Prehistoricists in England who showed me marked attention and courtesy when I was at home in 1902 because of the said Catalogue!–

Similarly I received much gratifying Complimentary acknowledgement from men of the highest position and culture in India amongst whom I may mention H.E. Lord Ampthill and Sir Henry Winterbotham K.C.S.I. – – The Catalogue can therefore only be regarded as having added to the to the reputation of the Museum in its Archæological Branch.

The preparation of my own Catalogue was at a stand still excepting so far as I could work by deputy at re-numbering my specimens which I had to set about immediately as I found it absolutely necessary the original arrangement of my collection being chronological in the order of sequence of the several sites as I discovered them.

As the collection had grown to be so large a one it became absolutely essential to adopt a geographical arrangement starting from the extreme South of the Peninsula.–

It was when carrying out the re-numbering that I first thoroughly realized how greatly I was being hampered by want of space in which to lay out and arrange the great number of specimens to be dealt with.– Could I have commanded a large gallery in which the specimens could have been allowed to remain undisturbed till all the sorting and classifying was completed and the double numbering accomplished my work would have been diminished by at least three fourths and the saving of time have been equally great. — As it was all the intrinsically valuable specimens had to be put away every evening in cabinets and drawers secure from meddlesome hands. Unfortunately such an ideal working gallery was impossible, even tho' I felt the need of it most keenly.

As the specimens exceeded 6000 in number any reasonable person will admit, I think, that I had a very large task to overtake in the time stipulated for, if only the classifying & re-numbering was to be tackled — but it must be remembered that a very large number of the specimens demanded close comparison and study involving much research and this of necessity considerable expenditure of time.–

A Specimen from a new locality would very often throw fresh and unexpected light on the real purpose for which an implement or utensil had been used and render it desirable to shift its place in the general arrangement thus involving a lot of renumbering often very difficult and laborious to carry out.

Expert assistance was a thing not procurable and there was no time to train an assistant to become such an Expert even to a very limited degree. I had to procure my assistants from among the young ladies and Gentlemen residents on the Shevaroys and tho' several I employed at different times helped me very loyally in the work generally and specially in the final numbering in oil colors they did not acquire the familiarity with the forms and purposes for which implements and utensils were produced which was requisite for them to be of material assistance except in the purely mechanical work.-

The numbering of the specimens in oil colors is by no means an easy task as it requires a beautifully neat touch especially when the figures have to be painted on small objects like true "pygmy implements", drill-heads, or small cores and flakes or beads while the smaller the figures to be painted the more difficult they are to do, especially when the numbers run up to four figures with a sub-number of two or three more figures as was frequently the case.

A minor cause of hinderance but yet deserving of notice as it probably will not have struck persons who have never been engaged upon work of this nature

[illegible]

was the necessity of carrying on the descriptive part of the Catalogue in bright daylight only, as in dull weather it is impossible to recognize properly delicate shades of color.- As continuous dull weather often abounds during both rainy seasons the completion of such descriptive work had often to be postponed for considerable periods.- The recognition and proper determination of the many, often very delicate, shades of color noticeable in "pygmy implements" and other small neolithic objects, and notably in antique pottery, glass and paste beads and bangles is most essential to make the Catalogue a trust-worthy record.-

Excessively damp weather also proved a great hinderance by preventing the building up of broken earthenware vessels, and by causing various vessels successfully built up in former years to collapse into heaps of fragments which will have to be built up again at the expense of weeks of labour.

No cement that I have come across, and I have tried many, has proved strong enough for the building up of fragmentary pottery of heavy character. Each vessel of such character must be supported, for a time at least, on a frame difficult to contrive and still more difficult to procure in the absence of any intelligent mechanics.

I have so far said nothing about what has really been the chiefest hinderance to the progress of my catalogue work – namely ill-health at frequent intervals and failing bodily strength resulting from it.– That these two conditions are likely to affect a man as he gets old is, I take it, a fact contemplated by the compulsory retirement from the service of Officials who have attained the age of 55.– If therefore a man high up in the sixties is affected by ill health and hindered thereby from completing work that he had volunteered to do for Government within a specified time, I cannot but think his failure should not be visited upon him with a discourteous refusal of assistance that had been previously promised and the granting of which would have greatly aided the completion of the delayed work.– Such refusal argues to my mind a thoroughly unsympathetic disposition actuated by a very sorry kind of Christianity utterly wanting in consideration for the troubles of other people. If my ill health had been the result of intemperance, or an evil life, I could understand my receiving small consideration but my ill health has been due solely to the effects of gout which is an inherited complaint. This in my case has affected a very vital internal organ giving rise to periodical severe attacks of neuralgia and what is even a greater trouble a chronic necessity of getting up frequently in the night which causes much insomnia with its various distressing sequelae. – The weakness, which is unfortunately incurable, affects me also much in the daytime.. My friend Mr. Thurston, himself a medical man, was well aware of my trouble and made provision accordingly when I was working in the Museum Gallery but for which I could not have carried out the Prehistoric Catalogue..

This bodily weakness was a main reason for my wishing to purchase the many antiquarian books required out of the subvention promised me by Government, as I cannot study continuously for any length of time except in my own house where only I can have my books and specimens around me.—

D. By the churlish refusal even to discuss the subject of the subvention I was thrown on my beam ends and debarred from purchasing the works that I wanted so greatly to finish off my Catalogue as I pointed out in my reply to Mr. Cardew's letter but he persisted in demanding possession of my

Catalogue which he had no right to till the sale of the collection was fait accompli. As things have turned out I am very glad I stuck to my Catalogue for the arbitration he proposes I regard as dishonest and insulting and will never agree to.. The valuation of a very large and valuable and unique scientific collection by a man who by his own showing knows nothing about half the objects under consideration cannot be taken seriously. To pit the opinion of an amateur, for Mr. Seton-Karr is really no more than that, against that of an expert of large experience (which I distinctly claim to be after 41 years study in both the cabinet and the field of the Prehistorics of Southern and Western India) strikes me as distinctly absurd, and the resultant offer of Rs 4300., which I naturally refused, deserved to be stigmatized as a very silly one.– I fear Mr. Thomson was annoyed at my saying this but I meant my remark not to apply to Government but to the childish valuation made by Mr. Seton-Karr which had grossly misled them.

The formation of my collection involved many thousands of miles of travelling over very great part of Southern and Western India. This with the literary work bestowed on my catalogue and the M.S. of my forthcoming book has already cost me more than £1000. out of pocket, which it is not unreasonable that I should try to recoup myself and that as hundreds of the specimens have a high intrinsic value I should ask a price for them that is commensurate with that value.

Nobody could have regretted the delays that happened to the completion of the Catalogue work more than I did for I have long been wishing to get it out of hand

in order that I may take some complete 7.
rest from work which I have not had for
many years and stand greatly in need of.

The long & quite unforeseen hinderance to the work arising from my having to visit England in the Spring of 1902 was most unwelcome, but inevitable on account of my wife's health, demanding an immediate change of climate and her being too ill to travel alone. She got much worse after her arrival at home so much so, that I could not return till the end of October. Altho' the catalogue work was at a stand still for the time being, yet I employed my time in England to much advantage prehistorically, by studying the great collections in the British Museum and at Oxford afresh. In the former case under the guidance of Mr. C. H. Reade, the Keeper & Keeper also of the great Ethnological Gallery.. In the latter case I had the pleasure of having the additions lately made to the great Pit Rivers Collection pointed out to me by my friend Mr. Henry Balfour, the Curator, and present President of the Anthropological Institute. –

At the Ashmolean Museum I met Mr. Arthur Evans, the distinguished explorer of Knossos, who very kindly showed me the Egyptian prehistorics in the Museum also the Mycenean treasures it, and furthermore examined and gave me his opinion of certain fragments of very remarkable red pottery I had obtained in Kathiawar. He decided they were not-greek in origin tho' remarkably un-indian in appearance and nature of their material. They must be regarded as of a new type of earthenware for India and are of great interest.

Thro' the kindness of Prof. Sollas F.R.S. the distinguished Geologist, I got to know Dr. Edward Tylor, the great Anthropologist, from whom I had received a very appreciative letter acknowledging a copy of the Madras Museum Prehistoric Catalogue that I had sent him from India.– He gave me a very warm reception and we talked for several hours about things prehistoric.–

At Oxford too I had, through Prof Sollas' kindness, the pleasure of being introduced to Mr. Montgomery Bell, an ardent prehistoricist, and of going through his celebrated collection of British palaeoliths and Eoliths; a very great treat in its way.–

In London I had the great pleasure of being introduced by Dr. Flinders Petrie F.R.S. to his fine Egyptian Collection in the University College rooms.– Among the Egyptian Prehistorics many have a strong affinity with Indian types. An acquaintance with the former was therefore a matter of the greatest interest and importance to me.–

I returned to India thro France on purpose to visit the great Prehistoric Collection at St. Germain en Laye (near Paris) one of the finest in the world.– There I made a very loving study of palaeolithic and neolithic series from which I gained much important information bearing on my Indian work but procurable only by personal inspection

Since my return to India I have finished my Catalogue and also prepared a check list of the Collection for the Education Dept. but many interruptions came to delay my progress, four of them being requests from the Public Works Dept. to visit and report on the four dam-sites at Hospet, on the Tungabhadra, Daida on the Kistna, Seccamur on the Cauvery, and Tonday on the Bhowani. These and a request of the Government of India to write a long series of Geological Articles for the Imperial Gazetteer I did not see my way to refuse tho' I would gladly have refused the last task as I wanted to avoid writing work as much as possible. A lot of University work also fell to my lot

I undertook this and a visit to report on the supposed Coal discovery in Banganapalle State because the subvention promised by the Secretary of State had by Ld. Curzon's action been made intangible, and I was in need of funds with which to carry on my prehistoric work generally.

The idea of completing my Catalogue raisonné and of publishing it was strong in my mind when I made my agreement to that Effect with Govt. in 98, but as the work progressed I found that a Catalogue would be the most cumbrous possible form in which to embody the many facts and speculations founded on them I want to lay before the Archæological public. Since I began my Catalogue I have seen several of other collections and now believe that no form of publication would be more likely to repel all but a few enthusiasts living within reach of the collection in its final resting place.

As this view only gained strength the more my work advanced I proposed in a letter to Mr. Hammick written early in 1903 to give up the idea of publishing the catalogue and instead to expand largely and illustrate more fully the volume of Notes on the Collection I had all along intended to publish and thus render it a far more valuable and interesting work. This proposal I understood to be accepted and have therefore abandoned the idea of printing the catalogue.

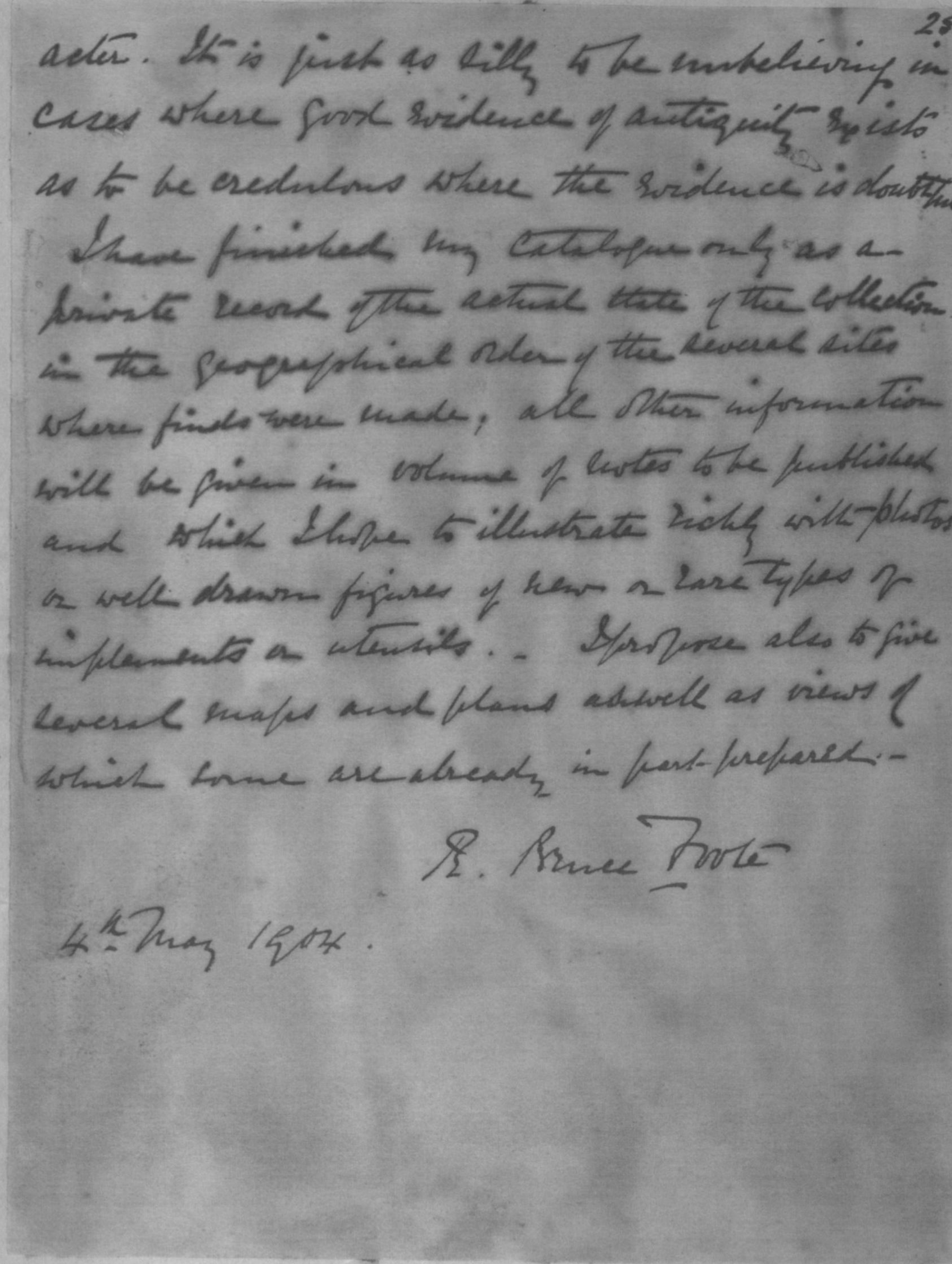
On the strength of Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation of my collection made after much too brief an inspection of it, for him to have been able to form a correct idea of its wealth, Govt. offered me the paltry sum of 9300 Rs, far less than what it cost me to get it together. Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation is worthless for he attaches practically no value to the ceramic section of it — he despises pottery unless the specimens be perfect and entire! In the absence of entire vessels however fragments which show characteristic decorative patterns & allow of fair approximate recognition of their forms are of high value in the eyes of of the greatest specialists as Flinders Petrie, Arthur Evans, D. G. Hogarth, Ernest Gardner, Canon Greenwell, A. C. Haddon, Dr Robert Munro in England, Professor W. H. Holmes and F. H. Cushing in America and Ferdinand Keller in Switzerland to enumerate only a very few Archæologists of the highest reputation.–

Personally I attach the highest value to finds of ancient pottery and believe that they will do far more to extend our knowledge of the distribution of prehistoric and protohistoric peoples than any other class of artifacts.– The fine collection of old pottery in the Madras Museum is very valuable but I regard mine as much more so for the study of ancient civilization over a much larger area, for much the greater part of it was procured not by the excavation of old graves, as were the former, but from the ruins of old sites where it had been buried in the debris of the habitations.– The variety of objects found in these old sites is far greater than that procured from the old graves.– That many of them should be broken was only to be expected as the old people were but likely to throw away perfect utensils but very many of them are sufficiently perfect to show what their form was when entire. The variety of form and colors the old potters indulged in was very great and many of the forms made very elegant. The great variety of these is often shown by sherds where no complete example has survived.

My collection contains specimens of pottery of at least four ages beginning with the neolithic era..

Mr. Seton-Karr's contention that shell ornaments, bangles, pendants and beads are not worthy of attention because most of the specimens of the bangles are broken is equally childish. Entire specimens are not found simply because the wearers would not discard their ornaments while unbroken.— The series is absolutely unique and shows a great deal of artistic taste.

My beads and bangles are in nearly all cases most certainly genuine antiques and there is no sense in rejecting scornfully those that are found in bona fide association with neolithic, early iron-age artifacts of well determined chara



acter. It is just as silly to be unbelieving in cases where good evidence of antiquity exists as to be credulous where the evidence is doubtful.

I have finished my Catalogue only as a private record of the actual state of the collection in the geographical order of the several sites where finds were made; all other information will be given in volume of notes to be published and which I hope to illustrate richly with photos or well drawn figures of new or rare types of implements or utensils. – I propose also to give several maps and plans as well as views of which some are already in part prepared. –

R. Bruce Foote

4th May 1904.

Mount Pleasant
Ooty
Wd 20th May 1904

Dear Mr. Forbes,

Knowing how many things must occupy your attention I have set down as a remin for your use my objections to Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation my collection of Antiquities. a valuation I cannot but regard as most unfair and ill founded judging by the Extract from his report which has been furnished to me.

What he may have said about the Palaeolithic part of my treasures I have not been allowed to know but I cannot help suspecting that even here in the only part of the subject in which he can claim to pose as an expert he has failed to realize the high geological value of some the specimens specially those from the old Alluvium of the Sabarmati river in Gujarat which excited great interest at the British Association meeting in 1894 at Oxford where I exhibited them. I must not trespass further on your valuable time today.

Yours sincerely
R. Bruce Foote

14P 66

Notes on Mr. Seton-Karr's Valuation of my Collection of Prehistoric and Proto-historic Indian Antiquities

One very strong series in my collection which Mr. Seton-Karr in his ignorance utterly undervalues is that including mostly minute objects such as simple and worked flakes, small knives, lancets, drills, piercers and delicate saws made of chert, Chalcedony and agate and more rarely jasper. These are very remarkable for their elegant shapes and the very lovely colors shown by many.–

The cores or nuclei from which these delicate flakes have been struck off are also many of them objects of great beauty of color.

Lord Ampthill was specially struck by the beauty of the flakes when he saw my series and my friend Mr. Henry, the present President of the Anthropological Institute and Curator of the famous Pitt-Rivers Collection at Oxford, on our meeting in 1903, asked me as his very first question, "Have you any Pygmy Implements"? and was greatly interested to hear that I had a fine series of them.

Mr. Seton-Karr's idea that Antique pottery is not of value shows how absolutely ignorant he is on the subject.. No one values broken specimens as highly as entire and perfect ones but when the latter are not obtainable, fragments showing much of the of the shapes or decorative patterns previously unknown acquire a high value and are eagerly collected by connoiseurs and will frequently be found figured in Archæological works of the highest importance e.g. to mention only a few recent ones - the Annual Reports of the Athens School of Archæology and of the Egypt and

Palestine Explorations, & of many Explorations going on in America.—

Very many of my specimens show forms and decorations as yet undescribed and unfigured, some with a strikingly Greek facies.. As many of them are of great intrinsic beauty of form and color to despise them because fragmentary shows to my mind a total want of artistic appreciation and a great want of common sense as well.— Look at the many fragments of Mycenaean, Later Greek and Etruscan pottery thought worthy of exhibition in the British Museum and other state collections.— Look also at specimens of older(?) and ruder type the ancient British pottery published by Canon Greenwell in his famous work on ancient British interments Lastly look at the plates in Dr. Ferdinand Keller's "Lake Dwellings of Switzerland" which show the pottery of that truly prehistoric period, much of its fragmentary.– I could easily amplify this list tenfold without exhausting the subject.–

His contempt for my series of shell pendants, bangles, beads and other objects made of similar material (several hundreds in number) because the bangles found by me not in graves but in habitation sites are broken is simply childish.. Of course the bangles are broken ~~for~~ till broken the wearers, presumably women would not have discarded them, but as many of the fragments are quite large enough to show the patterns which in many cases are highly decorative they are worthy of great attention and as such are of high value.– No such collection has ever been got together before.– The Madras and Bangalore Museums can only boast of a couple of plain specimens apiece derived from early iron age graves.

The collections of beads and bangles are both unique for they contain very numerous examples not to be seen elsewhere and many are of great intrinsic beauty. The remarks made on the shell bangles apply equally to the glass and paste ones, they are found only as fragments because they continued in use as long as they remained unbroken.

These articles of ornament and the pottery which belongs to at least four periods will fill many gaps in the chronological series now being formed by the labours of Officers of the Archaeological Survey and of students such as myself.-

I have included no specimens of recent pottery in my collection.

Is it likely that I who have

studied Indian pottery most lovingly for the last 23 years should have fallen into the mistake of confounding recent vessels with Antiques, the two being as a rule remarkable for their dissimilarity in material, shape and color and have gathered them together indiscriminately into my collection as prehistoric and protohistoric.–

Mr. Seton-Karr who is remarkably ignorant of Indian Ceramics himself has jumped at a totally unfounded conclusion and tried thereby to depreciate the value of my collection as a whole.–

The sum offered me on the strength of Mr. Seton-Karr's valuation is but little over half of what the collection has cost me out-pocket up to date.

R. Bruce Foote

Ooty
20th May 1904

[E. & L. / 7]
250—4-1-02.

COUNCIL. Educational DEPARTMENT.

Date 20th. May 1904.

SUBJECT.

Mr. Bruce Foote's Collection of Prehistoric antiquities.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

Mr Bruce Foote can be offered a sum of R15000 (~~£1000~~) in final settlement ~~without~~ in lieu of arbitration.

Failing acceptance of the offer the matter must go to arbitration at once.

HR
20.5.04

A Draft letter to Mr Bruce Foote is put up for approval. I have written officially and not semi-officially in view of the letter on page 15 of notes [illegible] 15.1.04 that perhaps Mr B. Foote might have preferred a D.O.

There is no real difference in effect
S.F.

It is observed that the first offer of Rs 5300 was refused by Mr B. Foote on 14.4.04 and clause 4 of the agreement provides for the proviso of arbitration within 3 months from date of disagreement. I think however that the date of disagreement should the present offer be refused is to date from the time of refusal of the revised offer.

H.D.S.
20-5-04

The draft will do very well. I have made a slight alteration. Copy shd. go to Finl. Dpt.

S.F.
20/5

(Mr Bruce Foot is at Col Trevesham's Mount Pleasant)
S.F.

Issued & sent for signature [illegible] & despatched by special peon to Mr Bruce Foote at Mount Pleasant
H.D.S.
20.5.04

[Letter no 311 Estt dd 21-5-04.]

Letter No. 311 Mis d/ 21-5-04
~~D.O. No. 86 d/ 21-5-04~~

* Doubtful – [illegible] – [illegible] in [illegible].

To R. Bruce Foote Esq. 20/5
F.G.S. ~~[illegible]~~
c/o Col. Teverlaw
Mount Pleasant
Coonoor

Sir,

I am directed ~~[illegible]~~ H.E. the Gov.-in-C. to inform you that after further careful consideration of the ~~various arguments~~ ? various arguments advanced by you in reference to the value of your collection of prehistoric antiquities, the Govt. ~~the~~ are prepared in modification of the proposal made to you in the ~~letter~~ telegram of the 14th April last to offer you a sum of R 15000 (Rupees fifteen thousand only) in full & final settlement of your claim without recourse to arbitration. H.E. trusts that this offer may be satisfactory to you.

2. I am also directed to state that, should you be unwilling to accept the present offer, ~~the matter will have to be referred to arbitration before two "indifferent persons", one to be appointed by you, and one by the Government as provided for in the agreement.~~ the stipulations in the agreement with the S. of S. as to arbitration will take effect; and I am accordingly to

3. request that you will be good enough to intimate to Govt. your decision in the matter within seven days from the receipt by you of this letter ~~[illegible]~~, so that there may be no [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ without further delay.

I have &c.
20/5/04

R. Bruce Foote Esq. F.G.S. } Despd 21/5/4

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N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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Q = Copy heading only.

17