

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1907.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 305, 20th May 1907.

Indian Educational Service.

Directing that the application from Mr. J. R. Cunningham, Professor of English, Pachai appa's College, Madras, for appointment to the — be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

Government of Madras.

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G.O., No. 305, 20th May 1907.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

I

Letter—from J. R. CUNNINGHAM, Esq., M.A., Professor of English, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras.
To—the Director of Public Instruction.
Dated—26th March 1907.

I beg to enclose a formal application for appointment to the Indian Educational Service. As I wish the application to extend to the Indian Educational Service in general, and not merely to the Madras Presidency, I ask you to be good enough to forward it to the Secretary of State through the Government of India. This request is in accordance with instructions received from the India Office.

2. In case you may desire, in forwarding the application, to comment on my suitability for appointment, I beg to refer you for such information as you may desire to Mr. Yates and Mr. Mayhew, of your own service, who are familiar with my work. Testimonials from Mr. Yates and Mr. Drew as Principals of the College are amongst the six annexed to my application.

3. I have communicated to the Trustees of the College the fact of this application.

ENCLOSURES.

(1)

Form of application for appointment to the Indian Educational Service.

1. Candidate's name in full and address, and name, nationality and profession of father.	John Richard Cunningham, Magdala, Taylor's Road, Kilpauk, Madras. Son of John Cunningham, Physician, Campbeltown, Argyllshire; Scotsman.
2. Date of birth	18th February 1876.
3. In what school or schools educated (give dates).	Up to 1888—Educated privately. 1888–1891—Campbeltown Grammar School. 1892—West of Scotland Technical College (Allen Glen's School, Athenaeum).
4. Particulars of University career distinctions and degrees (give dates).	1892–1895—St. Andrews University. 1892–1893—Headed Entrance Examination and gained First Bursary. 1893–1894—First place, class examinations, Natural Philosophy; second place, Mathematics, Honours class. 1894–1895—First place, equal with another, class examinations, Logic and Psychology; Second place, Honours class, Physics. April 1895—Passed last Examination for M.A. Degree.
5. Particulars of qualification in theory and practice of teaching, and any other Special subject (give dates).	August 1905 to date of application occupied as Professor of English in Pachaiyappa's College, Madras, with supervision and control of Upper English classes in Pachaiyappa's High School (see Testimonials produced).
6. How occupied since completion of course of study (with dates), with full particulars of experience as a teacher.	Went to Germany (April 1895) to pursue a course of study which was interrupted in the autumn of the same year. Autumn 1895—Entered into Indenture (three years) as Apprentice-at-Law. " 1898—Passed qualifying examination as a solicitor. " 1898—Summer 1905—Continuously engaged in the practice of Law (See Testimonial produced). July 1905—Sailed to take up the teaching appointment which I now hold (see above).
7. Qualifications, if any, as regards athletics (This question need not be answered except by candidates for teaching posts).	
8. References (Names and addresses).	(1) John Adam, Esq., M.A., B.Sc., 23, Janza Road, Hampstead, London, N.W., Professor of Education in the University of London, and former President of the Educational Institute of Scotland. (2) John A. Third, Esq., M.A., D.Sc., Spier House, Beith, Ayrshire. (3) W. S. McCormick, Esq., LL.D., formerly Professor of English Literature in the University of St. Andrews, now Secretary of the Carnegie Trust, Carnegie Trust Offices, Hanover Street, Edinburgh.

Copies of six testimonials are sent herewith.

26th March 1907.

J. R. CUNNINGHAM.
305 Ed. —2

(2)

ABSTRACT OF TESTIMONIALS IN FAVOUR OF MR. J. R. CUNNINGHAM, M.A.

- I. *School*, 1892.—Dr. Third, Headmaster.
- II. *University*, 1892-1895.—Dr. Donaldson, Principal.
- III. *Law*, 1895-1905.—Messrs. Laing & Harley.
- IV. *Literature*.—Dr. McCormick, Professor of English Literature, St. Andrews.
- V. } *Teaching*, 1905-1907.—{ J. A. Yates, Principal of Pachaiyappa's College, 1905-1906.
- VI. } { E. Drew, Principal of Pachaiyappa's College, 1906-1907.

SPIER'S SCHOOL, BEITH, Ayrshire.
25th January 1905.

I have known Mr. John Richard Cunningham for the last fifteen years, my knowledge of him commencing when he was my pupil in Campbeltown Grammar School. He left the school as Dux and afterwards entered upon a distinguished career at St. Andrews University by gaining the first bursary. He has since had a legal training in Edinburgh which has further developed his powers, and added to his already extensive knowledge. He informs me that he intends to become an applicant for a post in the Indian Educational Service, and I wish strongly to urge the favourable consideration of his claims.

He is a man of really brilliant parts, resourceful and original. If given a chance in any post requiring tact, energy, alertness, force of character, and power of initiation, he would be certain greatly to distinguish himself. Breadth of view, sanity, acuteness and quickness of judgment, as well as ability to master details, he possesses in a marked degree. Added to this, he has a distinct faculty of expression, founded on natural aptitude, an unusually wide and discriminating knowledge of literature. It may not be amiss also to mention that he possesses the saving gifts of humour and good temper. He would not be afraid of hard work or of some roughness of life. His character is one to be completely depended on in all circumstances. He is obviously a gentleman, possessing by training and instinct, in full development all the qualities connoted by the term. I believe that he requires only a fitting opportunity to display effectively his more than ordinary talents and to perform valuable services.

J. A. THIRD, M.A., D.Sc.,
*Examiner for Degrees in English Literature in
the University of Aberdeen, Headmaster
of Spier's School, Beith, Ayrshire, late
Assistant Professor in the University of
Aberdeen.*

(3)

THE UNIVERSITY, ST. ANDREWS, R.B.
18th April 1902.

Mr. John R. Cunningham was a distinguished student of this University. In 1892 he headed the list in the open competition for bursaries. He took a high place in the classes of English Literature, Logic and French, but he specially distinguished himself in Science showing great ability in Chemistry, Natural Philosophy and Mathematics.

He was equally at home in the practical work of these Sciences, as in the theory.

JAMES DONALDSON,
Principal of the University of St. Andrews.

(4)

47, QUEEN STREET, EDINBURGH,
8th June 1905.

Mr. John Richard Cunningham, M.A., entered our employment in the Autumn of 1897 to gain further legal experience, and qualify himself for the practice of his profession. He was very highly recommended to us by Messrs. C. & D. Mactaggart, Solicitors of Campbeltown, under whom he served his apprenticeship, and we have no hesitation in continuing the recommendation in the same spirit.

Mr. Cunningham has gone through the various departments of our office, and has given satisfaction in all. He has attended to matters of importance for us, requiring legal capacity and sound judgment in their management, and has carried them through in such a way as to gain our complete confidence.

Mr. Cunningham's abilities are conspicuous to the point of brilliancy: we have formed the highest opinion of his discretion and his character, and have trusted him without reserve.

We regret exceedingly that he is leaving us to take up an appointment abroad.

LAING & HARLEY, W.S.,
Law Agents, and Conveyancers.

(5)

MONSERRATE, CINTRA, PORTUGAL,
8th April 1905.

I have just learned that Mr. J. R. Cunningham, M.A., is offering himself as a candidate for the post of Professor of English Language and Literature in Pachaiyappa's College, Madras: and, so far as I can judge of the requirements of this post, I feel every confidence in recommending his claims.

Mr. Cunningham was an excellent student at St. Andrews University, when I was Professor of English there, and although circumstances have led him for some years into the subject of law, I know he has throughout kept up his interest in literature and language.

I regard him as a man of genuine culture whose sympathies would make him an interesting and effective teacher. Should the Trustees wish further details regarding Mr. Cunningham's qualifications, I shall be glad to give them, so far as in my power, on my return to Scotland on 18th instant.

W. S. McCORMICK, LL.D.,
*Secretary to the Carnegie Trust, late Professor of
English in the University of St. Andrews.*

(6)

PACHAIYAPPA'S COLLEGE, MADRAS,
9th March 1906.

Mr. J. R. Cunningham has been Professor of English in Pachaiyappa's College since last August. It gives me the greatest pleasure in the capacity of Principal to testify to my very great appreciation of his work. Mr. Cunningham starts with the best qualification for a professor—a thorough knowledge of his subject. He has his soul in his work: his greatest interest lies in the study of English Literature and Language. He has the further great qualification of infinite carefulness in the preparation of his lectures. His work is very thorough and scholarly. In a very short time he has grasped most accurately the state of English education in the college classes and has adapted himself very quickly to the conditions. While giving the students all and more than they want for the examinations he has set himself against the use of cram-books of the type generally used by students. In his lectures, by his thoroughness in detail and gift for comparative treatment of literature he is managing to inspire his students with a desire for thoroughness and intelligent understanding of what they study. In Composition I consider him an admirable teacher. He has diagnosed the faults of students, vagueness in the use of words, and vagueness in consequence and irrelevance of thought, and has endeavoured successfully to apply suitable remedies.

As a colleague, I cannot speak too highly of him. He has been most useful in giving practical suggestions in matters of business that concern the college. He has helped me in discussing methods of teaching English in the high school and has readily attended High School Masters' meetings. The rapidity with which he got a grip of things quite strange was striking. He has carried on the good tradition of harmony between the members of the staff, also that of friendly feeling for the students.

He is very popular with the students with whom he has always been ready to talk outside the lecture room, and out of hours. He interests himself in their outside pursuits—literary and athletic.

I have written this testimonial for Mr. Cunningham now, as I am leaving the college to take up another appointment, and wish while still Principal to record my gratitude for his services to the college.

J. A. YATES,
*Formerly Principal, Pachaiyappa's College,
Madras, now Inspector of Schools, Indian
Educational Service, Madras Presidency.*

(7)

PACHAIYAPPA'S COLLEGE, MADRAS,
5th March 1907.

I have much pleasure in bearing witness to the excellent work done by Mr. J. R. Cunningham, M.A., in Pachaiyappa's College, Madras.

Mr. Cunningham arrived in Madras in August 1905 and immediately took charge of the junior classes who were to appear for the public examinations—the First in Arts and the B.A. degree—in the following year. One result of Mr. Cunningham's teaching can be seen in the fact that the percentage of passes of students sent up from this college for the B.A. examination rose from 34 in 1905 to 51 in 1906, and in the F.A. examination from 44 to 63—some of his pupils standing very high upon the lists. Furthermore, it is well known that the efficient teaching of English as a spoken and written language is the chief requisite of every college in India. Hence the strength of the college has, since Mr. Cunningham's arrival, risen from under 300 to nearly 430, a large number of students joining for the English branches alone.

The reasons for Mr. Cunningham's success as a teacher are not far to seek. He is a man who possesses very remarkable literary gifts. Every lover of Scott must admire the fine insight which Mr. Cunningham displays in his critical study of the *Bride of Lamnarmoor* written in a style rarely found in the publications of the Indian Educational press. The same unusual grasp and power of expression are seen in his discussions of some of Browning's poems. And his scholarly and carefully-prepared lectures on Shakespearian Drama are widely appreciated by the students of Madras.

But though Mr. Cunningham has imagination, and this is the secret of the attraction which his pupils feel, it is tempered by a logic and a soberness of thought which makes him almost an ideal teacher in India to-day. The discipline which he brings to bear on the exuberance of the Oriental mind and its characteristic methods of expression has produced excellent results in the field of English Composition, to the teaching of which Mr. Cunningham naturally attaches the greatest importance and for which he has made special arrangements. Indeed there is no department on which he does not spend himself with a thoroughness and an enthusiasm which would be impossible except for a man in love with his work. Inspired himself with a high ideal of his profession, he is a most inspiring teacher, and the happy relations which exist between himself and his students are good to see. As examiner in the different public examinations he is the power for good with his fellow examiners and throughout the University which only a gentleman and a scholar can be.

Finally it only remains for me to say that personally I have a very high regard for Mr. Cunningham both as a colleague and a friend. The present flourishing condition of the college, as I have already said, is largely due to his efficient teaching, and to his co-operation in all that concerns the welfare of the students under our care.

ERIC DREW, M.A.,
*Principal and Professor of Philosophy,
Pachaiyappa's College, and Chairman of
the Board of Examiners in Mental Science
in the University of Madras.*

II

Endorsement by the Hon'ble Mr. T. T. Logan, Acting Director of Public Instruction, N. Dis. on C.L. No. 26/07, dated 12th April 1907.

Submitted to Government.

Order—No. 305, Educational, dated 20th May 1907.

Mr. Cunningham's application will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

[Here enter Despatch No. 5, Educational, dated 20th May 1907.]

(True Extract.)

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

To the Director of Public Instruction.

No. 306.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

From

H. D. TAYLOR, Esq., I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Educational Department,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME DEPARTMENT.

Dated Ootacamund, the 20th May 1907.

Sir,

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copy of a despatch addressed to the Secretary of State, forwarding an application from Mr. J. R. Cunningham, Professor of English, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras, for appointment to the Indian Educational Service.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

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

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 305, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
20TH MAY 1907.

[SUBJECT.—*Application from Mr. J. R. Cunningham, Professor of English, Pachaiyappa's College, for appointment to the Indian Educational Service.*]

From the Director of Public Instruction, No. 26, dated 12th April 1907.

Mr. Cunningham wishes his application to extend to the Indian Educational Service in general, and not merely to the Madras Presidency.

2. It is for consideration whether the application should be forwarded to the Secretary of State direct or through the Government of India as desired by Mr. Cunningham. In 1905 Mr. Yates' application was forwarded direct to the Secretary of State and a copy of the despatch was sent to the Government of India—*vide* G.O., Nos. 407 and 408, Educational, dated 14th June 1905.

3. It is also for consideration whether the application should be recommended. The Director of Public Instruction (Hon'ble Mr. Logan) does not make any recommendation.

T. KANAKASUNDARAM PILLAI—22-4-07.

If this is to be sent to the Secretary of State, the Director's opinion would be valuable. He might be asked to state what he thinks of Mr. Cunningham.

C. A. SOUTER—23-4-07.

Referred to Director of Public Instruction who will be requested to furnish his opinion of Mr. J. R. Cunningham under separate confidential cover.

H. D. TAYLOR—24-4-07.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

I am submitting my opinion of Mr. J. R. Cunningham under separate confidential cover.

T. T. LOGAN—25-4-07.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Please see Director of Public Instruction's letter in confidential cover. Mr. Cunningham is 31 years of age, and would therefore have only 24 years to serve before retirement if appointed to the Indian Educational Service, but Mr. Yates appears to have been 32 years of age on appointment.

2. The application may be forwarded to the Secretary of State direct, and copy may go to the Government of India as in Mr. Yates' case. It appears unnecessary to recommend Mr. Cunningham specially for an appointment in Madras. We are applying for two more Inspectors of Schools, but at present no vacancy exists.

H. D. TAYLOR—25-4-07.

Mr. Logan spoke to me about Mr. Cunningham very favourably. He is said to be particularly strong in the teaching of English: and from his University honours he appears to be an all-round highly-educated man. All-round men are specially useful in the Educational Service.

He may be strongly recommended to the Secretary of State.

G. S. F[ORBES]—27-4-07.

I agree. He seems exceptionally qualified.

M. H[AMMICK]—27-4-07.

I agree.

A. L[AWLEY]—1-5-07.

Please draft.

H. D. TAYLOR—2-5-07.

The drafts placed below are submitted for approval.

T.K.—3-5-07.

Retype despatch and submit to Secretary.

C. A. SOUTER—5-5-07.

Retyped and submitted to Secretary.

T.K.—3-5-07.

H. D. TAYLOR—3-5-07.

G. S. F[ORBES]—8-5-07.

M. H[AMMICK]—11-5-07.

A. L[AWLEY]—13-5-07.

Print please *to-day* if possible; if not by Council on Friday.

H. D. TAYLOR—14-5-07.

[G.O., No. 305, Educational, dated 20th May 1907.]

C.No.900, From the Director of Public Instruction, No.26, d/12th April 1907.

ORDER:-
P.S.

305 d/ 20-5-07

Mr. Cunningham's application will be forwarded to the Secretary of State for India.

T.K.
3-5-07.

C.A.S.
3-5-07.

1400

4.5.07

Letter :-

To

The Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India.

Sir,

We have the honour to forward an application from Mr. John Richard Cunningham, Professor of English, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras City, for appointment to the Indian Educational service. Our acting Director of Public Instruction, ~~the Honourable Mr. T. T. Logan~~, has a high opinion of Mr. Cunningham's attainments. We share this opinion and consider that a man of Mr. Cunningham's high general education would be a very useful

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useful member of the Educational service.

We strongly recommend Mr. Cunningham's application for your favourable consideration and would observe that he does not limit his application for employment to the Madras Presidency.

We have etc.

T.K.
3-5-07.

C.A.S.
3-5-07.

402
3-5-07

(Copy to the Secy. Home Dept.)

402
2.17

57

Letter:-

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India,
Home Department.

Sir,

I am directed to forward for the
information of the Government of India,
copy of a Despatch addressed to the
Secretary of State, forwarding an appli-
cation from Mr. J. F. Cunningham, Professor
of English, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras
for appointment to the Indian Educational
service.

I have etc.

T.K.
3-5-07.

C.A.S.
3-5-07.

Despatched
27/5/07

