

Educational. (1896) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 310

Dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 1896

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[Despatch Abstract.]

CONNEMARA PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Approving, subject to certain emendations, the rules for the

# BACK PAPERS.

| 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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ORDINARY, MS.

Ed. DEPARTMENT.  
G.O., DATED 19-5-96.  
No. 310

INDEXED.

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Approving, Subject  
of certain emendations,  
the rules for the  
Convenencia Public  
Library.

BACK PAPER, No.

OF 189

FURTHER PAPER, No.

OF 189

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED  
189, No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH  
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—

- A — Copy in full.
- B — Not to be copied.
- P — Copy abstract only.
- Q — Copy heading only.

No. 11, 3

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM,

Pantheon Road, Egmore,

Madras, 21<sup>st</sup> February 1896.

From

EDGAR THURSTON, Esq.,

SUPERINTENDENT,

Government Museum,

Madras,

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,  
Educational Department.

SIR,

S.O. No. 597. Public.  
dated 16<sup>th</sup> August 1894.

In para 16 of the Report of the Committee,  
which was appointed by Government to frame  
definite proposals as to the management of "the  
New Buildings in the Museum Compound", the  
Committee expressed its opinion that "the Library  
should be open on Sundays, but should be closed  
on one day in each week — say, Friday — for the  
purpose of cleaning, and to give a weekly holiday  
to the staff. The same rule should be applied to  
the Museum and Technical Institute Building."

2. I now have the honour to recommend  
that Government should give effect to this  
proposal, which received my support in Committee.

3. As bearing on the subject of Museum opening  
I may quote the following —

2  
"Next Sunday will be Museum Sunday - the fourth arranged by the Sunday Society. On that day special sermons or discourses will be given by many leading men in London and the provinces, in support of the Society's object, viz. the opening of museums, art galleries, libraries, and gardens on Sundays. The cause is a righteous one, and deserves every support. A number of special exhibitions will be held in the afternoon of Sunday, and these, together with the museums and other places of interest which will be open, make a fairly extensive list of institutions opened in the manner advocated by the Society. The list clearly indicates that the public opinion of the country is really on the side of a rational observance of the weekly day of rest." (Nature, October 31, 1895.)

"The Manchester Museum was opened to the public last Sunday afternoon. The attendance was considered satisfactory. Some five hundred visitors entering." (Nature, November 21, 1895.)

4. The Indian Museum, Calcutta, has I may mention, for long been opened to the public

3  
public on Sundays, being closed on two week-days - Thursday and Friday - for the purposes of cleaning and giving a rest to the staff.  
5. In the event of the Museum being opened on Sundays, the Clerk's office and Taxidermist Department would be closed on Sundays, as at present.  
6. In conclusion, I would suggest that, as the hours of attendance of the gallery - attendants are very long, the Museum should, in future, be opened to the public at 7 a.m. instead of 6.30 a.m. The change of time would I am satisfied, not be inconvenient to the general public, and would be an advantage to the staff.

I have the honour to be  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
Edgar Thurston  
Superintendent  
Government Museum

From. Edgar Thurston Esq.

Superintendent, Government Museum.



Enclosures: Nil.

Dated. 21<sup>st</sup> February 1896.

Despatched. 21<sup>st</sup> February 1896.

Received 21.2.96  
22.2.96  
No.

Subject

Recommending, with remarks, the opinion of the Committee, appointed to frame definite proposals as to the management of the new Building in the Museum Compound, that the Library as well as the Museum & Technical Institute Buildings should be open on Sundays and closed on one day in the week, say, Friday, for the weekly holiday to the staff; and suggesting that the Museum should in future be opened to the public at 7 a.m. instead of 6.30 a.m.

Connemara Public Library

Vide my No 143, dated 21<sup>st</sup> February '96.

1. [The use of the Library is restricted to the purposes of research and reference]. The Library is kept open on every day of the week, except Friday, and any day appointed by authority, of which a week's notice shall be given by notification in the Fort Saint George Gazette, and by placards in the Library.
2. The hours, during which the Library is open throughout the year, are from seven in the morning till five in the evening.
3. No person under sixteen years of age (by appearance) is admissible, except with a special order from the Principal Librarian.
4. Readers will be admitted to the Library on condition that they are cleanly in person and apparel.
5. Persons desirous of using the Library shall enter their names and addresses legibly in a book, which is kept for the purpose. Such signature shall be taken as an acknowledgment that the person agrees to conform to the rules of the Library.

6  
The Library.

3. Readers may not write upon, damage, or make any mark upon any book, manuscript, or map, belonging to the Library. 9 B.M.

7. Readers may not lay the paper, on which they are writing, on any book, manuscript, or map. 10 B.M.

8. Copying extracts from books is permitted, but ink must not be used. No tracing is allowed to be made without express permission from the Principal Librarian. 11 B.M.

9. Silence must be strictly observed in the Library. 12 B.M.

10. Any reader, taking a book or other property out of the Library, will be dealt with according to law. 14 B.M.

11. Tickets, on which readers shall write applications for books, shall be kept in the Library. No reader shall remove a book, manuscript, or map from a shelf himself, but shall apply to the Librarian with a ticket. 24

12. Readers, before leaving the Library, must restore any books, manuscripts, or maps which they have received, and must reclaim

and get back the tickets by which they obtained them. Readers are held responsible for such books, manuscripts, or maps, until the tickets have been redelivered to them.

13. Readers shall be responsible for any damage or injury done to the books issued to them, or other property belonging to the Library, and shall be required to replace such books or other property damaged or injured, or pay the value thereof. If one book of a set is injured, whole set shall be replaced. 15

14. Cases of Incivility, of undue delay in supply of books, or other failure in the service, should be immediately reported to the Senior Librarian present. 17 B.M.

15. Readers desirous of proposing books for addition to the Library shall do so by writing the same in the proposal book, which will be kept in the Library for the purpose. 14

16. Sticks and umbrellas must be left at the door. 16

17. The attendants will not be permitted to receive a gratuity of any kind. 17

18. Any infringement of the rules is

the privilege of admission to the Library  
to forfeiture. W B M.

No. 155

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM,

Pantheon Road, Egmore,

Madras, 24 February 1896.

From

EDGAR THURSTON, Esq.,

SUPERINTENDENT,

Government Museum,

Madras,

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,  
Educational Department

SIR,

I have the honour to forward  
herewith, for the consideration of Government  
(a) rules for the Connemara Public Library,  
based on the draft rules contained in G.O. 1859  
Public, dated 16<sup>th</sup> August 1894, and on the rules in  
force in the Reading Room of the British Museum  
(b) a form of application for books, in use at the  
British Museum, with slight modifications (for  
favour of return, as I only possess the copy sent  
herewith).

2. The British Museum rule with  
regard to age is that "no person under seven  
one years of age is admissible, except under a  
special order from the Trustees". In the draft  
rules published in the G.O. referred to above, it  
laid

laid down that "persons under fourteen years  
of age (by appearance) shall not be admitted  
to the Library. The decision in such cases  
shall rest with the Librarian. Fourteen seems,  
however, to me, rather young, and I have  
therefore recommended (Rule 3) sixteen as  
the minimum age.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant

Edgar Thurston

Superintendent,

Government Museum.

Educational (1896) Department.

From

Edgar Thurston Esq.

Superintendent, Government Museum.

No 155.

Enclosures - 2.

Dated. 24<sup>th</sup> February } 1896

Despatched. 24<sup>th</sup> February

Received  
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS  
24 FEB 1896

Subject.

Forwarding for the Consideration of Government:-

(a) Rules for the Commemara Public Library;

(b) a form of application for books for use at the British Museum, with slight modification (for purpose of return);

and recommending that the minimum age of a person for admission to the Library should be sixteen.

1,000-5-11-95

Ed DEPARTMENT

C. Nos 237 & 251 of 96.

This is rather an untidy note. It should have been copied before being submitted to H. M. S. A. S. H. 12.5.96

FOR ORDERS.

In go. 597 Public Lib. Society  
16.8.94  
Committee was asked for its  
opinion on certain rules (printed  
in that go.) wh. had already  
been commented upon in the report of  
the Committee on the management  
of the library which is also printed  
in that go. The Lib. Soc.  
replied in its letter in go. 547 Pub.  
7.5.95

but by an apparent oversight no  
orders were passed in Public Dep. 75  
M. Thurston now comes up again  
with a partly new set of rules.

Es. It should be omitted

MS - JS

With Cuo. 251 Mr. Thurston  
submits for the approval of Govt  
rules for the working of the  
Commemara Public Library.

The first sentence of this is taken  
from the British Museum Reading Room Rules.  
Rule 1. ~~As the library is~~  
~~intended to be mainly a reading~~  
~~room, it may perhaps be well~~  
~~to clearly mention the fact~~  
~~average general reader. It may be omitted~~  
~~in the rule?~~

The proposal to close the  
Library on Fridays may be  
approved. It is in accordance  
with the recommendation of the  
Committee formed to make  
definite proposals for the  
management of the Commemara Library  
vide para 16 of the report in G.O.  
no 597 Public & 16<sup>th</sup> August 1894.

Rule 2. This provides that  
the library shall be open from  
7 am. to 5 pm. In the rules con-

13  
tained in G.O. no. 597 Public,  
& 16<sup>th</sup> Aug '94, the hours are  
from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Committee  
already referred to recommended  
that the hour of opening should  
be 6.30 a.m. throughout the  
year and that the hour of closing  
should be 5.30 p.m. from October 1<sup>st</sup>  
to 31<sup>st</sup> March and 6 p.m. from  
April 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> (vide  
para 16 of the report printed in G.O.  
no 597 Public & 16<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1894.)

The Madras Literary Society, whose  
remarks on the draft rules  
were invited in para 2 of the  
above G.O., recommended the  
adoption of the suggestion of the  
Committee as regards the hours  
of opening and closing and  
H.M.S. agreed to it. (vide note  
under cover of G.O. no. 345 Public  
& 7<sup>th</sup> May 1895 - marked with red  
tape.) Mr. Thurston now says this  
gives the gallery attendants too long a  
day, & proposes 7-5. No one is  
~~anxious to begin reading much before~~  
~~the hour of the Committee?~~

Rule 3. The age of admission  
to the library is fixed at 14  
in the draft rules. Mr. Thurston  
would

### FOR ORDERS.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

THE HON'BLE MR. H. W. BLISS, C.I.E.

THE HON'BLE MR. J. GROSE, C.I.E.

I think perhaps it will be  
better that the library & museum  
should not be open all day long on  
Sundays - from noon to the usual  
hours of closing, according to the  
time of year, should be enough  
on Sundays - JG

I do not see the object of this.  
The buildings are to be closed for  
the whole of one day in the week  
- say Friday. Why not they not be  
open all Sunday? JG

30/4/96

seven<sup>am</sup> & ought not to be encouraged  
if they are. Submitted that Mr.  
Thurston's suggestion may be approved.  
H.W. Yes but the hours of closing  
at 5.30 to 6 p.m. as settled  
in 1894 JG

14  
Final orders upon the point are  
solicited. The library is not in-  
tended for the use of boys reading  
for exam<sup>s</sup>.

I think the age shd be fixed  
at 16. Young fellows are  
much more advanced (in a  
library way) in this  
country than in England. JG

I still think 18 is quite young enough  
but people into the public library as  
readers JG

The difference might be  
split - + 1) fixed as the age JG

30/4/96

would raise it to 16. The Literary  
Society thought it should not  
be less than 18. The Hon. Mr.  
Grose, noting on the Lit. Society's  
suggestion, thought the age might  
be fixed at 16; but the Hon.  
Mr. Bliss thought 18 preferable.  
(vide notes under cover of G.O. <sup>347 Pub</sup>  
7-5-96)

~~The age of admission to the~~  
Birmingham Free Library and  
the Mitchell Public Library, Glasgow,  
is 14; the age of admission to  
the Free Library at Newcastle-  
upon-Tyne is 16. No age of ad-  
mission seems to be prescribed  
for the Plymouth and Manor  
of Aston Libraries.

The age of admission to the  
Reading Room of the British  
Museum is 21; but this Reading  
Room does not appear to a Reading  
Library like the others. It seems  
to be mainly intended for research  
by scholars & all are not  
freely admitted into it. (vide  
nos 3 & 4 of the rules of the Reading  
Room under cover of G.O. no. 912 Pub  
& 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1894.)

Mr. Thurston's suggestion to fix  
the age at 16 may be accepted?

15  
Rule 4. This corresponds to Rule 8 in the draft rules in G.O. no. 597 Pub. & 16<sup>th</sup> Aug. 94. The Lit. Society suggested - and the Hon. Mr. Grose agreed with it - that the words "properly dressed" should be substituted for the word 'apparel'. This suggestion may be adopted?

Rules 5, 11, 13, 15, 16 & 17 correspond respectively to Rules 7, 9, 12, 14, 16 & 17 of the rules contained in G.O. no. 597 Pub. & 16<sup>th</sup> Aug. 94 & may be approved?

Rules 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14 & 18 correspond respectively to Rules 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17 & 16 of the rules of the Reading Room of the British Museum (vide G.O. no. 912 Pub. & 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1894) and may be approved?

The first sentence of Rule 8 corresponds to the first sentence of Rule 11 contained in G.O. 597 Pub. 16-8-94

The Lit. Society considered that there should be some guarantee of respectability of the readers and suggested the introduction of a printed card of application supported by

Yes JG M

In Rule 11 the words "for whom" should be inserted between "applying" & "to"

1 JG M

1 JG M

16  
Final orders are solicited. A somewhat similar rule is in force in the British Museum, but the two places are of different date. It is also in force in the lending Dept. of some free libraries at home.

It is a matter of opinion. I adhere to mine and I am sure JG

Seen - Bad character won't want to come to such a place JG 30/4/96

I don't think there is any need for them to be mentioned in the rules JG M

JG 1

Yes - The argument for keeping such institutions open on Sunday is even stronger here than in England. See note above as to the hours of opening on Sundays JG

by two residents of Madras who pay municipal taxes amounting to Rs 25 per annum. The Hon. Mr. Bliss agreed with the Society but the Hon. Mr. Grose thought that any rule about cards of application was at first unnecessary.

~~The rules of the various free libraries in Great Britain show that such a condition as is proposed by the Society is in force only in the Lending Dept. in the case of borrowers of books for home reading.~~

It is therefore respectfully submitted that this condition does not seem to be necessary for a Reading Library.

In the rules drawn up by Mr. Thurston no mention is made of the Catalogues of the library.

The form of application for books or 'tickets' submitted by Mr. Thurston may be approved.

Mr. Thurston's proposal in Cno 237 to open the museum on Sundays and to close it on Fridays as it is proposed to do in the case of the Connemara Public Library may be approved.

There

There appears to be no objection to open the museum in future at 7 a.m. instead of at 6.30 a.m. but it may be considered whether the hour of opening of the library and that of the museum should not be the same.

Mr. Thurstant wishes for such orders on this file as he wants the rules to be settled as soon as the library is open.

## Rules of the

Commemora Public Lib

They are to be opened at the same hour.

MS 20/4/96 (For orders)

H.M. & the Hon. Mr. Bliss C.P.E.

Circulated to H.C. the Gov. as

for the Hon. Mr. Bliss C.P.E.

Resubmitted to the Hon. Mr. Bliss with reference to the notes of the Hon. Mr. Bliss.

The papers will be submitted to the Gov. when the points on which the Hon. Mr. Bliss's disage are known

MS 28/4/96

See in

MS 30/4/96

Ed. DEPARTMENT

C. No. 5

237 & 251 of 1896

FOR ORDERS.

Submitted to H.E. the Governor.

A.M. differs -

(i) as to whether the library should be open all day long on Sundays, even if it is closed all day on Fridays,

(ii) as to the minimum age at which readers should be admitted to it,

(iii) as to whether it is or is not necessary to require that readers should obtain some written guarantee of respectability before being admitted to the library.

MS 25/96

MS 1/5/96

I should leave it open all day on Sundays.

A.S.H.

I should make it 19 years

A.S.H.

I do not think this is necessary. If it should be found necessary, a rule might then be made.

A.S.H.

12.5.96

Charles 237 + 251. (Q)

Rules for the Connemara

Public Library

From \_\_\_\_\_  
FOR ORDERS.

~~H. M.~~ H. M. Gibson

Hon. Mr. H. W. Bliss, Clk. —

When given for copying \_\_\_\_\_  
 When copied \_\_\_\_\_  
 When examined \_\_\_\_\_  
 When signed \_\_\_\_\_

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.  
189

DATED \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT No

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

### ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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IN ORIGINAL.

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Soft & Central Museum } Deposited  
(with a ticket returned) 20/5/96  
20/5

26.5-36 ✓

21-12-11 ✓

30/7/28 pw

25/4/17 ✓

6-1-19 ✓

8-1-21 ✓

18-10-21 18 ✓

11.2.25 ✓

11.12.26 ✓

3/12/31 ✓

26 8/92 R+H(S-1)

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