

Educational (1896) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 553-4

DATED 11-9-96

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Renewing the application made to
the G.O. that Mr. Thurston, Supt.
of the ^{Central} ~~Govt.~~ Museum, Madras, may be
appointed Librarian of the ^{Connemara} Free
Library & granted a personal
allowance of Rs 200 a month
therefor.

Printed in No 2537/1-5-97

10

199

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	CA ^o -1508/96						

Current No. 846

No. 965

8p

FROM

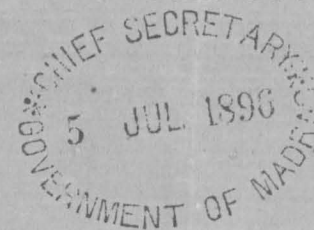
J. P. HEWETT, Esq., C.I.E.,

Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Home Department.
Books.



Simla, the 29 June 1896.

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 95 (Education) of the 20th February 1896, recommending the grant to Mr. Thurston, Superintendent of the Government Central Museum, Madras, of a personal allowance of Rs. 200 a month in consideration of the additional work and responsibility which will devolve on him if, as is proposed, he is appointed Principal Librarian of the "Connemara Free Library." Mr. Thurston is in receipt of a salary of Rs. 800 as Superintendent of the Government Central Museum.

2. It is observed that Mr. Thurston's abilities and personal characteristics have rendered his retention in his post as Superintendent of the Government Museum, Madras, so important that the Governor in Council would have been prepared, had the necessity for such a course arisen, to propose an increase in his substantive pay rather than lose his services, and that the allowance which it is now proposed to give him, and which will not necessarily be continued to his successor, will therefore effect two objects, in that it will afford Mr. Thurston an inducement to remain in his present appointment, and at the same time provide a Librarian for the Connemara Free Library.

3. In reply I am to say, with reference to the latter argument, that the Government of India think that it would be better to consider the question whether an allowance should be given to Mr. Thurston for undertaking the duties of Librarian at the Connemara Free Library on its own merits and apart from any question whether his salary would, in order to induce him to remain in the post of Superintendent of the Government Central Museum, have to be raised above the maximum sanctioned by the Secretary of State.

4. The proposal to give to Mr. Thurston for his services as a Librarian a salary of Rs. 200 a month, to be paid by Government, has led to an examination of the practice followed elsewhere in regard to the support given by Government to public libraries; and I am to say that, while the circumstances of the libraries in places such as Calcutta, Allahabad and Bombay vary considerably, and are doubtless not identical with those obtaining in Madras, the arrangements at present in force clearly indicate a general recognition of the principle that the maintenance of public libraries should be provided mainly from municipal grants and contributions by the public. This principle is one which seems to the Government of India to be a very proper one and they would therefore be obliged if the Madras Government would reconsider the proposal to grant the Librarian a monthly allowance paid wholly by the Government, and would endeavour to arrange that the Municipality and the public should contribute towards the up-keep of the institution and to the Librarian's salary. If an arrangement of this

Reg. No. 100
being applied
Rs. 200 per
month
being applied
Rs. 100, per
month
being applied
Rs. 100, per
month

nature is made, and if the management of the library, constituted on the above basis, is entrusted to a representative committee, it would be within the power of the Government of Madras to make a grant-in-aid towards the maintenance of the library and the Government of India would have no objection to Mr. Thurston, if appointed to be Librarian, being allowed to receive an allowance to be assigned to him by the committee.

5. Regarding the amount of the allowance proposed by the Government of Madras, I am to say that the sum of Rs. 200 a month would appear to have been arrived at more with reference to the desirability of raising Mr. Thurston's salary than upon a consideration of what would be an adequate remuneration to him for undertaking the post of Librarian. The Librarians in the libraries in Calcutta, Bombay and Allahabad, which appear most nearly to correspond with the Con-nemara Free Library, receive salaries which, as a rule, do not exceed Rs. 100; and I am to suggest that the Madras Government might consider whether the services of a competent Librarian could not be secured for Rs. 100, of which part at least would be met, as elsewhere, from private subscriptions.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. P. Hewett.

Secretary to the Government of India.

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Educational Dept.
Current No 846

From
Govt. of India
(Home)

No 965

Dated 29/6

Recd 5/7

Regd 8/7

End - 6 S.Cs.

Suggesting, with reference to the proposal to grant Mr Thurston Rs 200 a month for his services as principal librarian, Connemara Free Library, that the Madras Govt might reconsider whether the services of a competent librarian could not be secured for Rs 100 a month.

Est. 94-95: 20-2-96
Pub 872: 19-10-95
Est. 33-34: 21-1-93
-u-916: 4-12-95

[G.
25 A.]
1,000-21-3-96.

I. say that the arrangements we recognize the principle that the business of public libraries should be paid mainly from municipal grants & contributions from the public. The municipality cannot make any grant under the law, & would not if they

of contributions from FOR ORDERS. active are called for the Library cases to be free. Free Libraries common. They are regarded by Government as a proper object of public funds. In my opinion a Library is wanted in the address. is committed to this view. I

of no standing order which will save us from establishing such an business or spending Provincial apart. As regards the expediency making Mr Thurston Librarian giving him an allowance for work, I have no doubt. The building is almost a part of the museum, & some rooms in it used for Museum purposes

Thurston will have other besides that of keeping the books. The building is a very valuable one & is used for the wants of the Public in more ways than that of reading. In these circumstances, I think it should be held that we cannot favour to arrange that the municipality & the public should contribute towards the upkeep of the building & to the Librarian's salary, or

Noted under No. 553-52 of 11-9-1896.
Subject.
From the Secretary India No 965, dated 29th June 1896.
C. No. 846 of 1896

Educ. DEPARTMENT

Search for information about other public libraries has unfortunately delayed the disposal of this paper.

India apparently objects on principle to Govt. paying the whole cost of the Connemara Library.

When it was built it was intended to be a free public library supported by Govt. alone. (The papers showing this are in the file about Vict. Pech. Inst. Council's proposals regarding Pech. Bldg. It is still with H.E. the Governor.)

If India's view is accepted all these intentions will have to be altered. No information can be obtained about the libraries at Calcutta, Allahabad & Bombay referred to by India, but they appear to be on quite a different footing. If the idea that the Connemara

Library is to be partly supported by others than Govt. is accepted there remains the difficulty as to whence aid is to be raised. The Munl Commr. of Madras are debarred from subscribing by ^{Madras} Act I of 1884 sec. 33. Govt. cannot, with dignity, send round the hat every year for casual subscriptions, & if a fee for the use of the library is charged the whole idea of its foundation will disappear, as it will no longer be a free library.

To entrust the management of the library to a representative committee now would be to ^{allow} the committee to spend Govt. money, which appears to be open to objection.

A more conclusive answer could be given to India if this Govt. one in possession of exact information as to the constitution of the Allahabad ^{also} Bombay & Calcutta libraries, & if directed, this will be called for.

W.F. 4.8.96 Of course if deemed necessary, the Govt. must certainly will not set 100 a month in the way of private subscriptions to the Public Library ~~unavoidable~~.

Additional allowance to Mr. Thurston as Librarian of Coimbatore Public Library.

FOR ORDERS.

H. M. & Co.

Committee "an institution which has already cost £2000 & will in future cost much more. I don't think any good will be gained by writing to get information about the libraries at Allahabad, Bombay & Calcutta.

12/8/96
M 13/8/96

The Hon. Mr. Price says the Municipality cannot make any contribution under the law. I would suggest the propriety of a private under Section 33 (c) of the City of Madras Municipal Act, 1884. A library might, I think, be held to be "conducive to public convenience". But, I should like it to be understood to the M.C. Council over the course of the library. I think the Govt. of India should be addressed as proposed by Hon. Mr. Thurston.

4.8.96
I agree with H.M. but it would be wise to give the M.C. control over the Library even if they could & would devote funds to it. I am pretty sure they could. I have lately decided that Municipality (M.C.) should have a library & certainly be controlled. 15/8/96



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

15th Aug. 1896

Dear Mr. Price,
I have explained to His Excellency that the papers about Technical Education are still here but he has omitted to cancel his note. To save delay I send the paper on as it is.

Yours sincerely
H. A. Heath

[G.
25 A.]
1,000-21-3-96.

Allowance to Mr. Thurston
for charge of Conremara
Free library. -

C. No. 846

Edu. DEPARTMENT

1. Hon. Mr. G. J. G. G.

2. Hon. Mr. G. J. G. G.

H.E. the Governor.

FOR ORDERS.

Hon. Members

I may add to what the Hon.
Mr. G. J. G. G. has said that the Council
cannot afford to spend money
on a public library - It has not
enough money to carry out its own
proper sanitary duties -

H.E.

20/8/96

Very well. The Govt. of India, should now, I think,
be written to as ordered.

H.E.

26.8.96

Resubmitted to Hon. Mr. G. J. G. G. with
ref. to H.E. the Governor's note dated
15.8.96.

17/8/96

18/8/96

Resubmitted to H.E. the Governor with
ref. to H. Members' remarks dated
20.8.96.

The Govt. of India may will, if so
directed, be now addressed as ordered.

17/8/96

24/8/96

Draft submitted for approval
27-8-96

W. Francis 28-8-96

J. F. Price 28-8-96

H.E. Minister in Mrs. J. G. J. 1-9-96

C. 25/8/96

1/4

FOR ORDERS.

H. M.

[G.]
24.
1,00 15-11-95.

Honble Mr. G. C. S. S.

Edue. DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Allowance to Mr. Thurston
as Librarian Connemara Rec. Library.

Again G.O., dated 20th Feb

1896, No. 94-5. Eduel.

Again G.O., dated

189, No.

Current No. 96

of 1896, dated

, from Govt. of India.

, 189, "

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, 189

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(Mr. being on a matter of routine.)

ORDER. No. 553 of 11 September 1896.

The Govt. of India will be addressed.
(from orders)

Letter No. 554.

To the Sec. to Govt. of I. (Home Dep.)

Dated 17/9/96

Sir

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 965 dated 29th June 1896 conveying the views of the Govt. of India upon the proposal in my letter of the 20th Feb. last that Mr. Thurston, Supt. of the Govt. Central Museum, Madras, should be granted a personal allowance of Rs. 200 a month in consideration of the extra work & responsibility which would thereby devolve upon him.

2. It is stated in your letter that the Govt. of India considers

Note
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appointed Librarian of the
Connemara Rec. Library, &
should be

that the arrangements now in force in the Calcutta, Allahabad & Bombay Libraries indicate a general recognition of the principle that the maintenance of public libraries should be provided mainly from Municipal Grants & contributions from the general public, & that this principle is a very proper one, & it is requested that the Govt. will endeavour to arrange that the Madras Municipality & the public should contribute towards the upkeep of the Connemara Free Library and the salary of its Librarian. It is further suggested that a ~~competent~~ ~~the question of granting Mr. Thurston an allowance as Librarian~~ should be considered apart from the subject of the raising of his salary in order to induce him to continue to hold his present post, & that the amount the services of a competent Librarian could probably be secured for Rs 100 a month instead of the Rs 200 which it was proposed to grant.

3. In reply I am to say that although the Govt. is not in possession of accurate information regarding the constitution of the libraries in

FROM ORDERS.

C. S.

& that the management of the institution should be handed over to a representative (and apparently non-official) Committee

(an opinion which is still held by H.E. the Govt. in C.)

Calcutta, Allahabad & Bombay it is ~~not~~ ^{not} that three institutions are on an entirely different footing to the Connemara Free Library & that principles which apply to this management have but a limited application in the case of the ~~Connemara~~ ^{Free} Library. ^{in Madras.} The Connemara Library was the outcome of the deliberate opinion of the Govt. of ~~that~~ ^{the} time, that a public and free library was a great want in Madras, & a want which, in accordance with the principles obtaining in the foremost states in other continents, might & should with propriety be supplied from State Funds. The position that the Library was to be a public Govt. Library & free to all classes has been maintained from the first inception of the undertaking, & the building which it occupies has been erected at great cost from Govt. funds alone, & the greater ^{whole} of the books ~~which it is filled~~ ^{which it contains} are the

property of Govt. The building
itself forms ^{an} ~~part~~ continuation of the Govt.
Central Museum, & some of the
rooms ^{of the block in which the library is} ~~are~~ at present
actually occupied by portions of
the collections belonging to ~~the~~ the Museum
H.E. the G. in C.
is accordingly extremely unwilling
to entrust the management of
an institution founded & established
under such circumstances as those
& consisting of valuable Govt. property
located in a costly Govt. building
to any non official committee,
or to abandon the position which has
been deliberately adopted, position that
the Comemora library ^{is} to be
a Govt. library.

4. With regard to the suggest-
ion that the Madras Municipality & the
public should be called upon to
contribute to the upkeep of the
library I am to say that under
sec. 33 of Madras Act I of 1884 ~~it~~
the Municipal Commissioners are
^{not permitted} ~~precluded~~ by law from ^{to make} making any
grant for such a purpose, & that
were the law so amended as
such a contribution permissible

~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~
it is ⁱⁿ ~~is~~ in the opinion
of H.E. in C. be ~~advisable~~
~~that~~ ~~the~~ not improbable that
the Commissioners ^{will} ~~will~~ decline
to grant funds for towards an
institution in the control of
which they had no share, &
~~that~~ The Commissioners suffer,
moreover, from continued
chronic financial troubles, &
are at present quite unable to
provide funds for carrying out
improvements in the City which
are ^{very} ~~most~~ urgently called for,
they ^{could} ~~could~~ in this Govt's opinion
be acting with doubtful wisdom
were they to direct to the main-
tenance of a library ^{the} ~~the~~ money
which is ^{might} ~~might~~ with ^{immediate} ~~more~~ ad-
vantage to the population under
their charge be expended upon
schemes for drainage & water supply schemes.

5. ^{Contributions} ~~Subscriptions~~ from the
public could only ^{be effectively} ~~be~~ raised
by charging a fee for the use
of the library, & this measure
while ^{probably} ~~probably~~ bring in

press the hope that in the
 circumstances now explained
 the G.G. in C. may be
 able to see his way to with-
 drawing the objections which
 have been put forward to
 the grant of sanction to it.

W 27 8.96 18/8/96

Resubmitted to Hon W. Prose
 with reference to the
 Governor's observation regarding
 para 4.

W 27 8.96 18/8/96

given for copying 14/9
 copied 14/9
 examined 14/9
 signed 14/9 } 1896

AIN G.O., No. 189 DATED

ENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
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19/9

20.8.09

21-7-14 BT

11-12-26

26.7.28 PN

272 RH/86

26.8.92 RH/S-1

11655 RH/S2