Educational (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 230

DATED 5-4-98.

INDEXED. RR-RR

[Despatch Abstract.]

Permitting the Trustees of the Brecks Memorial school, Cotacamund to withdraw the Concession of half fees allowed to Muhammadans under the Madras Educational Rules; & approving, with remarks, the Constitution of a boarding house in Connection with the school.

4-5164

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Fic 810 of 98 631 5/10/98
" 899 of 98
" 1477/98 to 765 9/12/98

150 2 Dep^t to 687 7/10/99

Educational (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 183

DESPATCHED - 9 FEB 1898

H.M. & H.E. The Governor

Grant in aid Code Part 938/98

From

The Dir. of Pub. Instruction,
Madras.

Order

No. 1224.

The Brooks Memorial School Trustees, Ootac^d, want to raise the rates of fees, & abolish the Concession of half fees allowed to Muhammedans. The Director does not object to the proposal being given a trial; Submitted it may be accepted.

2. The Trustees also want the Head Master to establish a boarding house; he agrees, provided the rent of the large house which must be taken, be guaranteed ~~viz~~ for 2 years; viz Rs. 2400.

3. This is only reasonable,

Dated	9th February 1898.
Received	10.2.98
Registered	
Enclosures	~~two~~ 5
Spare copies	

UNDER SEC^Y TO GOV^T 10 FEB 98

SUBJECT.

Ootacamund, Brooks' Memorial High School.

Submitting for orders two letters from the Honorary Secy. to the trustees of the ____ requestig sanction for raising the scale of fees levied in the school and applying for a loan of Rs. 2400 for the establishment of a boarding house.

BACK PAPERS.

BACK PA[illegible]

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1049	: 14-12-97 Coll Fund	
	938	: 30-12-91 Coll	
		and grant-in-aid code for 1897-98	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

4.

The Bonnie School is a small thing in itself & only a "nest egg"; but the respects of Odessa and of Cape Town are such that future policy requires that this 'nest egg' shd be maintained, & this 'nest' fostered in the interest of Europeans.

I think, therefore, the proposed raising of fees shd be allowed.

The proposal to add [illegible] a Boarding House, superintended by the Head Master is also an obviously good one. It is requested that Govt will guarantee a 3 years rent, viz R2400. The Director speaks of this as a loan of R2400, but it is not that. It is almost certain that, though R2400 is guaranteed, the Hostel will pay its way & nothing will have to be paid in performance of the guarantee. In the revised Code now before us it is proposed that

Under the "Other & Special" Ch. III para 2 restricts Govt orphanages & homes for destitute European children, grants to provide residences for teachers or pupils. But this doesn't bind Govt, which if it wishes can promise a contingent grant for next year to take the form of a guarantee of Rs. 2400 or if it is thought that half the guarantee shd be provided locally, 1200 Rs. As a matter, I hesitate to differ from a recommendation

16.2.98

[illegible] grant of this sort of boarding houses attached to educational institutions shd be given, & although this revised code will not come into force till 99/00, I do not see, as I have noted on other papers now in circulation, why this aid shd not be given also now. The proposed guarantee is a small matter, but will probably have a great effect. I think it shd be allowed.

JG
29/3/98

I cordially endorse the views of the Hon. Min.

Govt. A.G.H.
30.3.98

Ebs 4 b.P.S
Tis no 1224
9-2-98

Trustees held at the Collectors Office on
Wednesday, 10th November 1897 at 3. P. M.

Present.
J. H. A. Tremenheere Esqre J.P.S. President.
The Revd. C. H. Malden M. A. Vice President.
George Hammett Esqre C. J. C.
L. C. Hodgson Esqre Head Teacher
S. V. Edgar Esqre Honry: Secretary.

The advisability of raising the school fees was then discussed and it was

Resolved that the Honorary Secretary be requested to take steps for obtaining the necessary Sanction for raising the school fees to the scale suggested by the Head Teacher.

(True copy)
Sydney V. Edgar
Hon. Sec.

17th November 1897

From

The Honorary Secretary to the Trustees of
The Brooks Memorial High School
Ootacamund

To

The Director of Public Instruction
Madras

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
22 NOV 97
MADRAS

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith extract from the Proceedings of the Trustees at a meeting held on the 10th of November

The present scale of fees at Brooks' School is as follows:—

Classes 2 and 1 and infants	Rs. 1.8.0	per mensem
" 3 and 4 (Primary School)	. 3.0.0	per mensem
Forms III, II, and I (Middle School)	. 4.0.0	"
Forms VI, V, and IV (High School)	. 5.0.0	"

Mahomedans Half fees.

In accordance with the Trustees Resolution I have referred the question of raising the fees to the Head Master, who is of opinion that the following increased scale might be substituted for the present one.

Form VI	Rs. 7.0.0	High School.
" V	. 6.8.0	
" IV	. 6.0.0	
" III	. 5.0.0	Middle School
" II	. 4.8.0	
" I	. 4.0.0	

Class 4 and downwards Rs. 3.0.0.
Mahomedans to pay full fees.

raising of the fees to th[illegible], Bangalore and other institutions, would not materially injure the numerical strength of the School, and that parents, who now send their boys there, would easily be able to afford the slight additional increase.

I am desired by the Trustees to point out that the additional income, which they believe would thus accrue to the School, would enable them to engage a better qualified Subordinate Staff of teachers, and to obtain better examination results for the School.

I am also desired to point out, with reference to the proposal to place Mahomedan boys on a similar footing to other classes, that the Mahomedans of Ootacamund are a rich community and that the Trustees are of opinion that they are well able to pay full fees for the education of their sons and the Trustees believe that they would be willing to pay them.

I have, therefore, the honour to request that the increased scale of fees proposed by the Trustees may be sanctioned.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant

Sydney V. Edge.

Honorary Secretary Breeks'
Memorial High School.

Re Hony Secy. &c
Trustees of The Bucks
Memorial High Sch.,
Dolgy.

Encl.

Regr., for the reasons given
to sanction the increased rate of
fees proposed by the Trustees.

Enclosure I.

Extract from the Proceedings of a Meeting of the Trustees held at the Collector's Office on Wednesday, November 10th 1897 at 3. P. M.

Present
J. H. A. Tremenheere Esqre. J. P. C. S. President.
The Revd. C. H. Malden. M. A. Vice President.
George Hamnett Esqre. C. E.
L. C. Hodgson Esqre. Head Master.
S. V. Edge Esqre. Hony. Secretary.

The question of establishing a boarding-house in connection with the school having been discussed it was

Resolved that the Honorary Secretary be requested to address the Director of Public Instruction asking that a sum of £ 2400 might be guaranteed in payment of rent for a period of one year in order that a boarding-house might be started by the Head Master.

(True copy)
Sydney V. Edge
Hon. Sec.

Extract from H. E. the Governor's Speech at the Prize Giving 7th September 1897. —

"I would now the other Land venture to repeat the suggestion which I myself made last year and to which the Head Master in his address again referred at considerable length, viz. that a boarding house should be established in connection with the school. There is no expedient I can think of that is more likely to promote the general efficiency of the school and at the same time to meet the difficulty of want of funds under which it is now labouring. I am sure that a school of this class must be largely required in the Madras Presidency and it is likely, as the Head Master has said, that when Ooty is more closely connected with the low country by the Railway, there would be a still greater desire on the part of European and Eurasian parents to send their children to a school on the hills. They cannot do so really with efficiency unless there be a boarding house attached to the School and under school discipline. I will earnestly beg them to consider this suggestion. . . . . .

. . . . .

"I will conclude my remarks by repeating the regrets which I feel, and which I am sure, you will all feel at the somewhat alarming report made by the Headmaster as to the position of the school. I am sure that it fills already [illegible] in Scotland Place in the Educa-

System of the Presidency, and I think, that under good and liberal management, it ought in the future, to fill a still more important place. I hope that in the Course of the next year we shall not only hear that the present difficulties of the school have been removed, but that the measures which have been adopted, will improve its real value, and efficiency as an educational institution, with the object that I have already described of providing teaching for the families of European and Eurasian inhabitants of the Madras Presidency.

1898
Edl. Dept.
2
Proc. No. 183

Ootacamund
17th November 1897

From
The Honorary Secretary to the Trustees of
The Breeks Memorial High School
Ootacamund

To
The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras

Sir,

I have the honour to submit herewith the following papers

1. Extract from the Proceedings of the Trustees at a meeting held on the 10th November 1897.
2. Reports of the Head Master of the School for the last two years.
3. Extracts from His Excellency the Governors Speech delivered at the School prize-giving on the 7th Sept. 1897

I have the honour, with reference to the Resolution of the Trustees, to request that consideration may be given to the proposed establishment of a boarding-house in connection with this School, and to express the hope that, as the Trustees wish, if possible, to open a boarding house at the beginning of next year, a decision may be communicated at an early date.

As will be seen, the Trustees are of opinion that a sum of Rs. 2,400/. would be required to guarantee the rent of a suitable house for a year, and they believe that such a house would be available in the immediate neighbourhood of the School. Mr. Hodgson, the Head Master, has

expressed his willingness to take charge of the boarding-house and to reside in it, so that boarders would be under his personal supervision. The Trustees and the Head Master are of opinion that twelve boarders could be obtained to commence with, and that numbers would soon increase when the boarding-house had been fairly established. Within the last few months several parents, who on leaving the station have had to withdraw their sons, have stated that, had there been a boarding-house they would have been only too glad to have kept their sons in the School. There have been also applications for the admission of boys, who have however, not come to the School solely for the reason that there was no boarding accomodation for them.

A Government grant-in-aid would probably only be required for one year from the first of January next, the Trustees and the Head Master being of opinion that a boarding-house would soon become self-supporting. The whole guarantee, or a proportion, would be returned at the end of the first year, if profits accrued

At the annual prize-distribution of the School in 1896, His Excellency, the Governor, strongly urged upon the Trustees the desirability of having a boarding-house in connection with the School. Owing, however, to lack of funds the Trustees have not been able to give effect to His Excellency's suggestions. Now, however, that His Excellency has this year reiterated his desire to see such an institution

established, the Trustees feel that they should take all possible measures to carry out His Excellency's suggestions. They are the more willing to do so, as they gathered from His Excellency's remarks, that on their formulating a scheme for submission to Government, Government would be prepared to give every assistance in its power.

In making application for a grant of Rs. 2,400 to enable the Trustees to guarantee the rent of a suitable boarding-house for a period of one year, I have the honor to point out that the only endowment of the School, is some Rs. 70/. per mensem derived from house-rent. It is improbable that an appeal to the public would meet with satisfactory response in a place where there are already so many institutions dependent on public charity.

As the Trustees would regard any assistance from Government rather in the light of a loan than an absolute grant they have the more confidence in obtaining a favourable consideration of the present application.

I have the honor in conclusion to state that I shall be happy to furnish any further information that may be required.

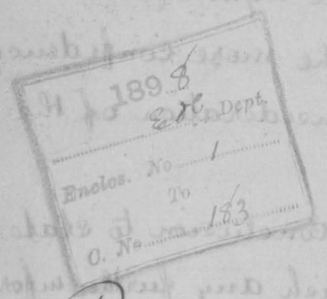
I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant.

Sydney V. Edgar.

Honorary Secretary Breeks
Memorial High School

R.s. Rno. 14903/97.

The Hony. Secy. to
Trustees of The Breeks
Memorial High School
Ooty.



Reg^ng to grant a loan of
Rs 2400 toward the establishment
of a boarding house.

CURRENT No. 183 & 96

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Madras, ~~9th February~~ 1893

No. 1224.

From

THE HONOURABLE MR. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc. LL.D.,
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Madras,

To

The Secretary to Government,
Educational Department.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit for the orders of Government two letters from the Honorary Secretary to the Trustees of the Breeks' Memorial High School, Ootacamund, dated 17th November last requesting sanction for the raising of the rates of fees levied in the school and applying for a guarantee of Rs.2400 to help them towards the establishment of a boarding house

2. With regard to the former, I beg to state that I see no objection to the raising of the fees, but I fear that the removal of the concession of half fees allowed to Muhammadans may lead to discontent among the members of that community. As, however, the trustees, the Chairman of the Municipal Council, and the Inspector all seem to think that the concession may be withdrawn in view of the fact that the Muhammadans of Ootacamund who make use of the school are wealthy, the proposal may be given a trial.

3. As to the loan of Rs.2400 applied for by the trustees, I am not sure whether, in the present state of the finances, Government will be able to see its way to grant it. It cannot be given out of any savings in this Department, even if the Grant-in-Aid Code permitted. I asked the Chairman, Municipal Council, Ootacamund, whether the Council could comply with the request, but it has expressed its inability to do so. I need not point out that the

object

Ed. Cor.
22 1,000—1-7-97

object for which the money is required is one which is deserving of support.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

D Duncan

Director of Public Instruction.

[G / 24]
₹500 - 1-2-98.

Ed DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. , dated 189 .

Again G.O., No. , dated 189 .

Current No. 183 of 1898, dated 9th Feb, from the D.P.I.

" " " 189 , " , "

" " " 189 , " , "

ORDER. W.P. 230 & 5-4-98

mis

The Govt is pleased in view of the special circumstances of the case to permit the Trustees of the Brooks memorial School to withdraw the concession of half fees allowed to Muhammadans under art 7, ch IV, of the Madras Educational Rules the Trustees are at liberty to raise the fees.

2. The Govt is also pleased to guarantee a grant of Rs 2400 towards the rent of the boarding house which it is proposed to open in connection with the School.

2. The Govt is also ~~pleased~~ to approve of the institution of a boarding house in connection with the school, to be managed by the Head master; & is prepared to ~~give a~~ guarantee ~~towards the rent of the~~ building ~~and~~ a sum not to exceed 24 the guarantee for the terms to be settled by the Director

The D.P.I - 9th Feb
Director 11 Feb
24 & 25th 14/2/98.

(from orders) the Trustees for one year in Note. renting a suitable building, 2400 Rs. & It has already been stated in the order on the application for building grant by the young men's christian Association that the alterations in the G.in a.Code re. grants to hostels should come into force this year.

When given for copying 5/4
When copied
When examined
When signed
} 189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No 189 . DATED

CURRENT 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 IN ORIGINAL.							

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

PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR · MADRAS ·

GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Madras
13th Febry 1898.

My dear Tremenheere,

I will you please read the enclosed & then let me have them back? H. Excellency would like to see the order which it is proposed to issue in the matter, before final disposal.

Yours sincerely,

[illegible]

Enclosure II.

Encls (2) to D.P.I's letter No. 1224 9-2-98

To

A. R. WINTERTON, Esq.,

Honorary Secretary,

Breeks' Memorial High School,

Ootacamund.

Sir,

I have the honour to present the report on the work of the Breeks' Memorial High School for the past ten months. I am unable to review a longer period as it was not till November 1st of last year that I took over the charge of the school from the late Head Master the Rev. E. S. Burgess.

When I came here at the end of last year the number of pupils on the rolls was 34 of whom 27 were European and Eurasian, and the remaining 7 Mahomedans. The number on the rolls is now 76, divided as follows: Europeans and Eurasians 54, Mahomedans 22. It will be seen from this statement that there are now practically only two classes of boys in the school, viz.: (i) European and Eurasian and (ii) Mahomedan. The Hindoos, who at one time attended the school in large numbers, have of late years, as far as I have been able to discover from former records, discontinued their attendance altogether. The reason of this appears to be partly that the fees here are slightly higher than those charged at many other schools and colleges in the Presidency, and partly that the Hindoos prefer the plains to the hills. On the other hand, the number of European boys is on the increase. I am aware that, according to the Trust Deed, the school was founded for Europeans, Eurasians and the better

class of natives, and, if any of the natives attended the school, I should be the last person to advise any measure that would deprive them of the benefit of it; but as they have for some time preferred to be educated elsewhere and as the greater number of the boys attending the school now are European, it seems to me that it would be useless to attempt to win back the former class, and that our efforts should rather be directed towards making the school as attractive as possible to the latter. With this object in view I have suggested and the Trustees have agreed that we should no longer provide instruction in the Vernacular, which nobody learns, and that the teaching staff should be, if possible, entirely European. If this were the case, and were generally known to be the case I believe that European parents, recognising as they do that there are few schools in Southern India that have the advantages of such a climate as that of Ootacamund, would send their sons to this school in larger numbers.

This of course does not affect the Mahomedans who attend the school and will I hope continue to do so, in considerable force. These are to a great extent a separate section and are under the control of Munshi Syed Fakruddeen; but if any of them pass a certain standard they are promoted into the 3rd class and take their place among the other boys of the school without any distinction as to race. It happens this year that a Mahomedan boy gains the prize for being at the head of the 3rd class.

With regard to the examination results there is little to record. No boys were sent up for the Matriculation and only three for the Lower Secondary, of whom one passed and was placed in the 2nd class. I anticipate better results this year; but one cannot expect great success in examination in so short a time from a school

that has been for a considerable period on the decline; and I hope the large increase in the number of pupils that there has been since last year will be a sufficient proof that the school is beginning to prosper again, and that it will be understood by all that some time must elapse before really satisfactory results in the public examinations can be looked for.

The mention of the Matriculation suggests the question that has been put to me more than once, "Is it worth while to maintain this school as a High School?" It has been urged that, as no candidate from this school has passed the Matriculation for the last two or three years, and only one is being sent up for it this year, it is not advisable to maintain it as a High School any longer. My own opinion is altogether opposed to this view. The school has in the past been fairly successful in the Matriculation, as will be seen by the following figures: 3 passed in 1885, 2 in 1886, 4 in 1887 and 5 in 1888, and I have every reason to believe that it will be equally successful in the future. Like most schools it has had its ups and downs, and this accounts for its failure in the last few years. If the school has passed as many as 5 boys in the Matriculation in previous years and is at all likely to pass as many in years to come it seems to me to compare very favourably with other schools in the Presidency judging from the fact that out of 110 schools who passed candidates in the Matriculation last year 31 passed only 5 or less and 36 passed only 3 or less.

I will now turn to the changes I have attempted to introduce into the teaching of the school. In the first place I have done away with the "one Teacher one class" system which prevailed here under the late Head Master. Under this system the Head Master took the highest division in all subjects,

the 1st Assistant took the next division in all subjects and so on. This system seems to me to have many disadvantages, the principal of which are that each master cannot be expected to be sufficiently acquainted with all the subjects to be able to teach them thoroughly, and that boys grow idle and inattentive if they are taught all day long and every day by the same man. As things are now, each master takes the different classes in turn in the subjects he is best qualified to teach.

Another matter to which I have paid special attention is the teaching of Latin. In a school like this Latin takes the place of a Vernacular language, and is consequently one of the subjects which a boy must take up at the Matriculation. When I came here I found that boys at the top of the school knew little or no Latin. I was told that they did not begin Latin till they were about 14. This seemed to me entirely wrong. The learning of Latin Grammar, which is almost entirely an exercise of memory, should be begun when a boy is quite young, when his faculty of memory is strongest, so that when he begins to develope his powers of comprehension he may be aided in translation and composition by a thorough knowledge of declensions and conjugations, &c., and not hampered, as is so often the case, in his Cæsar and Ovid by his ignorance of the commonest grammatical forms. Acting upon this belief I have introduced Latin lessons in all the classes from the 3rd upwards, and I hope that when the little boys in that class reach the upper secondary department they will have their Latin grammar at their fingers' ends.

Turning to science, another weak point in the school, I have, thanks to the Director of Public Instruction and the Chairman of the Municipality, been enabled to obtain the necessary funds to purchase a supply of Chemical and Physical apparatus which has lately arrived from England and is now in use. I have to thank the Municipality also for having had the school put into proper repair, the walls coloured, the windows mended, &c.

The teaching staff is at the present moment the same as when I first came here. In May an additional master, Mr. A. Parsons, was appointed, but as he held no teachers' certificate and consequently could not obtain the half salary grant, he left after only a month's service. Another master will be appointed in his place shortly. I must thank all my assistants for the energy they have shown during the past ten months.

The school Library has been increased by 35 books and now contains 235 volumes. This is a very small number for a High School, and the proportion of boys' books on the shelves is small; but there is great difficulty in obtaining funds with which to buy more books.

Out of doors the boys have not been neglected. Twice a week they are instructed in gymnastics by Sergt.-Major Kirkby, and the same number of afternoons in the week is set aside for cricket and football when it is possible to find a ground to play on. The great want of the school is a recreation ground. In the off season we can of course use the Hobart Park; and previous to April we played cricket or football there regularly, and occasionally had a friendly match against a local team, in which I am glad to say that the boys acquitted themselves very creditably; but during the season the ground is so much used by others that we are obliged to give up our games till the cold weather sets in. This is very hard lines as the boys are keen on outdoor exercise, and some of them show considerable promise in this respect.

I must apologise for the length of my report; but as this is the first opportunity I have had of speaking publicly about the school I have thought it best to state as plainly as possible what changes I have endeavoured to introduce into the school and the measures I propose to carry out for its future government. I think I may say that the school now decidedly shows signs of life, and that it ought before very long to take its proper place as the chief educational institution on the Nilgiris.

In conclusion I must tender my best thanks to the Trustees and to you, Sir, for the interest you have shewn in the school, and also to H. E. the Governor, H. E. Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke and many others who have subscribed so liberally towards the Prize Fund.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

L. C. HODGSON, B.A.,

Christ's College, Cambridge,

Head Master.

BREEKS' MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL,

September 1896.

List of Subscribers to the Prize Fund.

His Excellency the Governor.
His Excellency Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke.
The Hon'ble H. W. Bliss.
The Hon'ble T. Gross.
Rev. C. H. L. Wright.
Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel H. D. Cook.
General Baker.
Colonel Liardet.
Mrs. Price.
Mrs. McIvor.
S. A. Walker, Esq.
A. M. Jones, Esq.
G. Hamnett, Esq., C.I.E.
Major Kekewich.
A. S. Cowdell, Esq.
Captain Bingham.
P. Thompson, Esq.
J. Boesinger, Esq.
Messrs. Spencer & Co.
The Honorary Secretary.
The Head Master.

LAWRENCE ASYLUM PRESS—OOTY BRANCH.

Enclosure III.

To

S. V. EDGE, Esq.,
Honorary Secretary,
Breeks' Memorial High School,
Ootacamund.

Sir,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Breeks' Memorial High School. This report is the second that has been issued since I became connected with the school, and deals with a period of twelve months.

In the first place, I have to record a slight increase in the number of boys attending the school. Last year there were 76, this year there are 82. The increase it is true is small, but as I believe that under existing circumstances the maximum strength can hardly rise much above 80, there is no reason to be dissatisfied with an addition of only six boys. Of the 82 boys now on the rolls, 49 are Europeans and Eurasians, 28 Mahomedans, while there are 3 Hindus, 1 Badaga and 1 Parsee.

In my last report I mentioned that the natives appeared to have deserted the school altogether; it would seem now that a re-action has begun to set in; for in addition to the fact that there are now 4 Native Students in the school, I have been given to understand that many Natives of Ootacamund would gladly send their sons to Breeks' School if the fees were lower. Now I do not for a moment wish to see a return to the state of affairs to which Mr. Moss,

189... Dept.
Enclos. No.
To
G. No.

a former Head Master, so wisely put an end in 1888, *viz.*: the existence of a section, as he described it, "drawn for the most part from the lowest classes of the native population;" but there are several reasons in favour of a proposal that has been made, and which has met with the approval of the Inspector of Schools, that natives of the better class should be admitted into the higher Forms of the school at favourable rates. Firstly the Trust Deed distinctly states that the school shall be open to "the more respectable native inhabitants of the place;" Secondly the higher Forms are under present circumstances but poorly attended, the average being seldom more than four boys to each Form; Thirdly, it seems rather hard that respectable natives should be excluded from the only High School in the station because the fees, compared with those charged at High Schools elsewhere, are somewhat high. My own view of the matter is that, while there is no necessity to make any concession in favour of natives in the Primary and Lower Secondary Departments, as there are other Primary and Lower Secondary Schools in the town, their admission at reduced rates into the Upper Secondary School would benefit us by filling our somewhat empty classes, and them by opening to them the doors of the only High School in Ootacamund.

While the number on the rolls is fairly satisfactory I am not altogether pleased with the average daily attendance, which is 72. This is a matter to which I wish to call the attention of parents. Regular daily attendance is a most important factor in school discipline, and I would beg all parents, and especially those of the Mahomedan pupils to see that their sons do not stay away from school for any other reason than illness.

I have to record some changes in the teaching staff. Mr. Lakshminarayana Iyer left in December and his place was taken in January by Mr. Sidney Smith, from the Cathedral High School, Bombay; and in January also Mr. Kelly was appointed to the post vacated by Mr. Parsons the previous June. I am sorry to have to add that Mr. Sidney Smith resigned his post last month. While on the subject of changes I must not omit to mention that Mr. Winterton resigned the Honorary Secretaryship in November last. To you, Sir, who have succeeded him, I have to express my thanks for the very warm interest you have taken in the school.

Mr. T. T. Logan, Inspector of Schools, paid his usual visit of inspection on May 10th. His opinion of the progress made since last year is on the whole a favourable one. He expressed satisfaction at the financial condition of the school, the increase of 10 in the numbers since the previous inspection, and at the enlargement of the Library; and he ended his remarks with the words "The school is improving the pupils were cleanly dressed and generally well-behaved; discipline and tone left nothing to be desired."

There were two points on which Mr. Logan did not express satisfaction, and with these I wish to deal more fully. With regard to the teaching staff he wrote: "the general educational qualifications of the subordinate staff are not up to the mark: a graduate in Science or Mathematics should have been introduced;" and in criticising the results of the Public Examinations he said "only one lad appeared for the Matriculation and failed. Of six boys who went up for the Lower Secondary, only one passed and that in the second class, a very poor result." I have mentioned these two points toge-

ther because I cannot help feeling that had the first cause for complaint, for which I am not responsible, been removed in time, the second, for which I am held chiefly responsible, would not have existed. The subjects in which our Matriculation candidate failed were Science, Mathematics and General Knowledge; and it was in Arithmetic that most of the Lower Secondary boys succumbed. Had a graduate in Science or Mathematics been introduced when Mr. Parsons left in June 1896, we should have had some chance in the examinations. As it was nobody at all was appointed from June to January, so that for the six months immediately preceding the examinations, which are held in December, the teaching staff was not sufficient to cope with the work that had to be got through. This state of affairs was not only injurious to last year's examinations, but has had the effect of making this year's candidates much more backward than they should be. Even now we are working at a disadvantage as we have no graduate nor even F. A. on the subordinate staff, and I fear we are not likely to have one unless a considerably higher salary than is now paid can be offered.

Turning to the financial condition of the School, which the Inspector describes as 'a success,' I would draw your attention to the financial statement annexed to this Report, in which the figures for the last two years are compared. It will be seen that the receipts from fees are this year very much increased; while the cost to the Municipality is little more than half what it was last year. This is certainly satisfactory, but at the same time I fear somewhat deceptive. The expenses since January of this year have largely increased; we have an additional master and a writer to swell the account; and whereas last year all the Masters drew a half

grant from Government, this year one draws only a quarter grant and another no grant at all. This makes me fear that when the accounts are made up next year the cost to the management will be heavy. Thus, although the financial position for the year under review is satisfactory, the financial prospects are gloomy. On the one hand we want more money in order to support a properly qualified staff of Assistant Masters, for it has been abundantly proved during the last year that European and Eurasian teachers with the necessary qualifications are few and therefore expensive; on the other hand the Municipal Council has been recommended to consider whether it had not better dissociate itself altogether from the school as far as finances are concerned. It is evident then that the very existence of the Breeks' Memorial School is threatened unless some means are found of increasing its income.

In his speech at the prize giving last year, His Excellency the Governor suggested the establishment of a Boarding House in connection with the School. I believe that if this could be done it would after a few years be a means of adding to the income of the school. That such a house is wanted cannot be denied. We are constantly losing boys, and many boys who would come here do not do so, because there is no boarding accommodation for them. When the railway is extended to Ootacamund many English parents will wish to send their sons here, but they will not do so if they have to board them in private houses, for it must be remembered that a private house is a very different thing to a boarding house. If you admit boys into your home they become members of your family and school discipline is impossible. And I may mention in passing that this is why I have always refused to receive boarders

myself. But I feel sure that a Boarding House established by the Trustees of the school and conducted on the principle of an English Public School would very quickly be as full as it could hold, and though a large sum would have to be either collected or borrowed to start it, the profits would in a few years be large enough not only to pay off the debt but to increase the income of the school.

During this year a scholarship has been added to the school through the generosity of Mrs. McIvor who has given a sum that is sufficient to defray the tuition fees of one boy for one year. An examination was held at Easter in which Mr. Maddox, Headmaster of Lawrence Asylum, kindly acted as Chief Examiner, and on the result of this examination the scholarship was awarded to Thomas Burrows. I take this opportunity of expressing my best thanks to Mrs. McIvor for her kind gift, and to Mr. Maddox and Mr. Edge for setting papers in this examination. Our thanks are due also to Mrs. Reynolds for a present of over a hundred books to the Library. We have now 348 books on the shelves, compared with 235 last year; and, I am glad to say the boys read them much more than they used to. A reading room is now being started, but is at present only in its infancy. Some additional Gymnastic apparatus has been set up this year, and great interest has been taken in out-door games. Cricket matches have been played against Lawrence Asylum and St. Joseph's School, Coonoor; and the School XI also entered for the Local League competition. Some old boys of the school who subscribed for and presented us with some cricket material have our heartiest thanks. Football is at present in full swing, and matches are arranged against the town and our natural rivals the Lovedale boys.

In March an Athletic Meeting was held which the keen competition among the boys, the interest taken in it by all classes of the community, the liberal contributions of many friends of the school towards prizes and the glorious weather unquestionably rendered a great success. I hope the Sports will become an annual institution and will be equally successful in future years.

I cannot bring my report to an end without alluding again to the very grave position of the school. There are many people who would be sorry to see it closed, or reduced to a Secondary School, but it is very much to be feared that such will be its fate unless something is done. Its real difficulty is this, that it is constituted on the lines of High Schools for native boys, and the fact appears to have been overlooked that the scale of salaries which is sufficient to secure highly qualified native teachers in native schools is not high enough to attract properly qualified European or Eurasian Masters who all admit are necessary for a school of this kind.

It remains for me to thank on behalf of the Trustees H. E. the Governor, Sir Henry Bliss, The Hon'ble Mr. J. Grose and many others for their liberal subscriptions to the Prize Fund.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

L. C. HODGSON, B.A.,
Christ's College, Cambridge,
Head Master.

BREEKS' MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL,
September 1897.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO THE PRIZES.

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J. Boesinger, Esq.
Messrs. Spencer & Co.
The Hon. Secretary.
The Head Master.

Receipts for 1895-96 and 1896-97.

Particulars.	1895-96.			1896-97.		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
School fees	1,523	15	0	2,595	12	0
Government Grants ...	3,013	0	0	3,210	0	10
Endowments	870	0	0	875	0	0
Municipal Funds ...	1,591	8	6	841	0	8
Total...	6,998	7	6	7,521	13	6

Charges for 1895-96 and 1896-97.

Particulars.	1895-96.			1896-97.		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Establishment	6,366	12	7	6,750	13	4
Furniture & Apparatus	161	0	0	485	14	3
Repairs and Upkeep ...	146	14	3	40	5	2
Contingencies	69	13	0	102	1	2
Miscellaneous	253	15	8	142	11	7
Total...	6,998	7	6	7,521	13	6


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