W.R.O. 4—77,000—6-5-30

(1) Number of pages 12

(2) Date of repair 7-6-30

(3) Initials of the Reformer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1273 Press Mis.

279-280

Dated 31-7- 1930

S/c

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 279. Read the following letter from E. B. POWELL, Esq., M.A., C.S.I., Director of Public Instruction, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 15th July 1874, No. 1190 :—

Referring to paragraph 1 of my letter, No. 944, of the 4th ultimo, on which G. O., Financial Department, No. 987, of the 12th idem was passed, I have the honor to submit a Report, No. 36, of the 24th idem, furnished by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, North Coimbatore, on Mr. Rice's Caste Girls' School at Coimbatore.

2. The school is evidently very badly managed, and should, in my opinion, receive aid only under the Results system. It no doubt owes its origin not to any real demand for female education in the town, but to the influence of Mr. Rice, and a desire on his part to spread education.

3. It will be seen that the Honorable V. Ramiengar and the Deputy Inspector were opposed to the admission of dancing girls into the school; these gentlemen are, however, imbued with European ideas, and I still doubt if the admission of dancing girls forms an obstacle to the progress of the school.

From A. CACHAPESWARIA, Deputy Inspector of Schools, North Coimbatore, to T. MARDEN, Esq., Inspector of Schools, 5th Division, dated Coimbatore, 24th June 1874, No. 36.

I have the honor to submit the Report called for in Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, No. 943, of the 4th instant.

2. I inspected Mr. Rice's Caste Girls' School at Coimbatore on the 22nd instant. It is a lower class school. There were 111 girls on the roll, but only 40 in actual attendance. Telugu was the only language taught. They were divided into four classes as under :—

	On the Roll.	Present during the Examination.
The 4th or the highest class	4	1
3rd	21	7
2nd	19	9
1st	67	23
	111	40

Class IV.—Average age of girls, ten years.—The one that was present in the 4th class was a "dancing girl," and the three absentees were Bramins, whose names were only nominally on the roll, they having never attended the school even a single day during the last six months. I carefully examined the register of attendance from January to June. The lessons taught were Telugu Second Book ninety-one pages, and four simple rules in Arithmetic. The girl passed fairly in all the subjects, viz., reading, explanation,, dictation, and arithmetic.

The Headmaster said that copy writing of all the classes had been discontinued since January last.

Class III.—Average age of Girls, nine years.—Out of the seven that were present in the 3rd class, six were "dancing girls" and one a Bramin. Of the fourteen absentees, only two were of the "dancing girl's" caste, the rest being all family girls, eleven Bramins and one Sudra. I can say that the absentees of this class also were but nominally on the roll, regard being had to the continued absence of six girls for six months, of four girls for five months, of two girls for four months, of one for three months, and another (a dancing girl) for one month. The lessons were

Telugu First Book fifty-two pages, and simple Addition. Reading, dictation and arithmetic were fair, but none of the seven girls present could give the meanings of words.

Class II.—Average age of girls, eight years.—Out of the nine present in the 2nd class, seven were dancing girls and two Bramins. Of the ten absentees, nine were Bramins, and one a dancing girl. Even in this class I have to notice the continued absence of three girls for six months, of two for five months, of one for three months, of one for two months, and of the rest (including a dancing girl) during the current month. Their lessons were Telugu First Book (1) thirty pages reading only, and (2) eight pages meanings of words, and Notation in Arithmetic. This class passed fairly in all the subjects.

Class I.—Average age of girls, six years.—The 1st class may be called purely elementary, the girls learning the Telugu *Alphabet* only. I asked them to name the letters pointed out by me and more than three-fourths of them answered well.

Of the twenty-three present in this class, seven were Bramins and eight Sudras, all aged between six and seven. Of the forty-four absentees, twenty-four were Bramins, twelve Sudras, and eight dancing girls. Of these, five girls were recently admitted, six were absent for six months, two for five months, eight for four months, and four for three months, a few for two months, and the most of the rest during the current month.

" 18th June 1874.
* " Twenty-six girls out of 107 is poor attendance ; 54 are on the roll who never attend. I suggested that non-attendance should be struck off, 24th March last."

The names of all the above absentees ought to have been long ago struck off the roll—*vide* copy* of the Collector's remark on the Visitor's Book of the School.

Most of the girls that attend the school are of the " dancing girl's" class. The girls marked as absent for several months on the roll are all family girls. I am under the impression that this falling off chiefly in the number of family girls is due to the admission of dancing girls. I concur with the Honorable V. Ramiengar in his remark on the Visitor's Book, copy of which is given in the margin.

" 26th October 1872.
" Two things strike me as being objectionable. The admission of the children of dancing girls is wrong. Let the school be open to all *castes* by all means, but do not let us confound the question of castes with that of the admission of those who have no status in society. A parent would not tolerate his child exchanging a word or associating in any way in his own house with a boy or girl belonging to the 'dancing girl's' class, and it wont do to ignore this in a Public School."

It is the education of the family girls that need encouragement, and not that of the dancing girls.

Mr. Rice having been transferred Sub-Collector of North Arcot, the irregularity of attendance and the falling off in the numbers may partly be attributed to his absence from Coimbatore.

I understand that the reading books had been supplied gratis to the girls till November last.

The school which was established in July 1872 is managed by a Committee consisting of Mr. Rice, the President, and several Native gentlemen of the town.

The school is held in a fine, new, spacious building worth nearly 2,000 Rupees, erected on purpose by means of subscriptions. It is nearly in the centre of that portion of the town where the natives dwell.

The girls pay no school fee.

There are two teachers, one on 12 Rupees, the other on 7 Rupees, both uncertificated. There is besides a peon on 4 Rupees, and a sweeper on 8 Annas a month. The sum of 23½ Rupees is paid out of the monthly subscriptions, amounting nearly to 35 Rupees.

The following is the list of the School furniture :—

1 Black Board.
1 Table.
1 Chair.
10 Benches.

No. 280. ORDER THEREON, 31st July 1874, No. 1272.

The Government consider that, under the circumstances reported, there is no ground for aiding the school in question otherwise than on the Results system, and this will be done in future.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction, with original enclosure returned.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No. 1190.

From

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

To

THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Fort Saint George.

SIR,

Referring to para. 1 of my letter, No. 944 of the 4th ultimo, on which Government Order, Financial Department, No 987 of the 12th idem was passed, I have the honor to submit a Report,* No. 36 of the 24th idem, furnished by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, North Coimbatore, on Mr. Rice's Caste Girls' School at Coimbatore.

* Requested to be returned.

2. The school is evidently very badly managed, and should in my opinion receive aid only under the Results' system. It no doubt owes its origin, not to any real demand for female education in the town, but to the influence of Mr. Rice and a desire on his part to spread education.

3. It will be seen that the Honorable V. Ramiengar and the Deputy Inspector were opposed to the admission of dancing girls into the school; these gentlemen are however, imbued with European ideas, and I still doubt if the admission of dancing girls forms an obstacle to the progress of the school.

Office of the Director of Public Instruction,
MADRAS, 15*th July* 1874.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Director of Public Instruction.

1872.

Educl Despch

1874.

From

The Director of Public Instruction,

To

The Acting Chief Secretary to
Government,
Fort Saint George.

Dated 15th July 1874.

Received 17 — — 9[th]

No. 1190.

No. 149

Sending with remarks, &c., report on the Caste Girls' School, Coimbatore.

Educational 1874 Progs.

Female.

To,

The Director of Public Instruction.

G. O. 31st July, 1874. No. 1272

Nos. 279 - 280.

Caste Girls' School Coimbatore.

The Director informed that under the circumstances reported Govt. consider that there is no ground for aiding the school in question otherwise than on the Results system which will be done in future.