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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Enr 31-3-1860

G.O. No.	662	Press
		Mis.
129-130		
Dated	30-3-	1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
for the month of March 1860.*

No. 129. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department, dated 21st March 1860, No. 415:—

Furnishing copy of the Home Despatch on the Reports of the Director of Public Instruction for 1857-8 and 1858-9, and observing that the information called for respecting the Establishment of the Civil Engineering School, will be supplied by the Department of Public Works. } (Vide Public Proceedings from 21st to 31st March 1860, Nos. 9-10.)

No. 130. ORDER THEREON, 30th March 1860, No. 662.

Ordered to be communicated to the Director of Public Instruction with a request that he will submit at an early date a report of the kind required in paragraph 9 of the Despatch from the Secretary of State regarding the Civil Engineering College.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India, to his Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated India Office, London, 2nd February 1860, No. 2.

Educational.

1. Your letter dated 29th April (No. 28,) 1859, forwarding the Report of the Director of Public Instruction in your Presidency for 1857-58, with your Minute thereon, has been considered by me in Council, in connexion with the statistical information furnished in the Report of the previous year, and with the "Administration" Report of the Director for 1858-59.

2. The general impression which I have received from these documents as to the administration of the Department is very favorable; and though the results hitherto attained are comparatively small, there appears to me to be a prospect that, under the able and judicious management of Mr. Arbuthnot, steady progress will be made in all branches of your educational operations.

3. The number of candidates for admission into the University of Madras, which was brought into operation during the period under review, is decidedly encouraging; and it is creditable to find that no fewer than eight students of the Presidency College obtained the degree of B.A. at the examination for degrees in February last.

4. The Presidency College seems to be working in a very satisfactory manner: the attainments of the students in mathematics continue to be very favorably spoken of; and in those branches of study in which defects were most apparent in 1856-57, the reports of the Examiners show a decided improvement, indicating, it may be hoped, a corresponding advance in the preliminary training of the students. It is, as Mr. Arbuthnot observes, a ground of encouragement, that youths educated in the Provinces are beginning to resort to the College, and that the College classes are no longer exclusively dependent on the junior department of the same institution for the supply of students.

5. The several classes of Government schools in the Provinces, comprising the Provincial, Zillah, and Talook schools, exhibit a progressive increase in the aggregate number of pupils; and, notwithstanding the deficiency of properly qualified masters experienced in your Presidency, in common with other parts of India, seem to share in the general advance made in the Department of Education.

6. The Normal School at Madras is, perhaps, the most thoroughly satisfactory branch of the operations of the department. It has already sent out a considerable number of trained teachers, several of whom have been employed to organize vernacular training schools in the Mofussil. The number of Normal students of all grades in the Madras School has progressively increased from 40 in 1856-57 to 54 in 1857-58, and 78 in 1858-59, and the total number in training throughout the Presidency, in Government and in private institutions, is not less than one hundred and fifty-three.

7. The account given of the establishment and progress of schools in the Hill Tracts of Orissa has been read by me with much interest. The difficulties attending their establishment, arising from the nature of the country, and the ignorance and prejudice of the people, called for great patience and sound judgment on the part of the Superintendent, and Captain Macdonald deserves great credit for the way in which apprehensions have been allayed, and for the progress which has been made. The number of pupils in the several schools is not indeed, positively, large; but, bearing in mind the state of ignorance, superstition, and barbarism in which the people of this tract have so lately lived, it is assuredly matter for great congratulation, that at the close of 1857-58 there were so many as 289 children of the Khond and Oorya inhabitants of these wild hills brought systematically under instruction, of however humble a character.

8. In considering the scheme of studies for adoption in the several classes of schools, throughout the Presidency, an object of which Her Majesty's Government have already expressed their approval, it was necessary to decide in what classes of schools and to what extent the study

of English was to be given. The different officers consulted seem to be fully sensible of the extreme importance of the pupils being thoroughly instructed in their own vernacular language, and were disposed on this account to confine the study of English in the Talook schools to the higher classes. The feeling in favour of the study of English seems, however, to be as strong in your Presidency as it is in some districts of Bengal; and as a means of securing attendance at the schools, it has been arranged that all the classes, except the lowest, shall receive instruction in the English language. This concession was probably necessary; and strictly limited as it is, both as to the time to be given to the study, and as to the nature of the instruction imparted, Her Majesty's Government do not apprehend that it will unduly interfere with the vernacular studies of the pupils.

9. As regards institutions for professional or special instruction, Her Majesty's Government await detailed information respecting the establishment of the Civil Engineering School, and in the meantime they regret that it has been necessary, on financial grounds, to form the institution on a less comprehensive plan than was originally contemplated.

10. The accounts of the Medical College are not so favourable as they have been in former years. The best mode of attracting students to the College, and the proposed abolition of the distinctions with regard to birth, in the several grades of the medical service for which candidates are trained at the College, were noticed in my Despatch dated 28th July (No. 4,) 1859, paragraphs 8 to 12, and I await your further proceedings on the subject.

11. Her Majesty's Government have not failed to notice the increased interest in the cause of education which has been evinced by portions of the Native community, in donations for the permanent endowment of prizes and scholarships at the Presidency Colleges, and also in the establishment of schools by the Rajah Tondiman and the Zemindar of Vizianagram, and they trust that these examples will be followed by others. I would suggest that the list of donors of a similar character should be published in the Government and District Gazettes.

12. The Rules for Grants-in-aid, which have been carefully revised during the year under review, appear to Her Majesty's Government to provide for the due appropriation of these funds, and I concur in the remarks of the Government of India, in paragraph 10 of their letter to your Government, of the 28th May 1859, that the funds appear to have been "carefully and systematically administered."

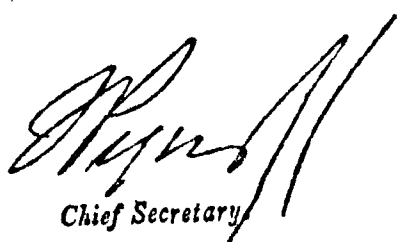
ORDER THEREON, 21st March 1860, No. 415.

A copy of this Despatch will be furnished to the Acting Director of Public Instruction, who will, in reference to the suggestion contained in the last clause of paragraph 11, submit annually with his general report a list of such donors for publication in the Government and District Gazettes.

2. The information called for in paragraph 9 will be supplied by the Department of Public Works.

3. With reference to paragraph 10, it is observed that, in forwarding with their Despatch from this Department of the 24th ultimo, No. 12, the report of the Principal of the Medical College and the report of the Annual Examination of the Primary Medical School for the year 1858-59, the Government adverted to the discussions that had taken place in the Military Department in October last, in connection with the constitution of the Subordinate branch of the Medical Service. The further proceedings on this question will be reported to the Home Government in the Military Department.

(True Extract.)


Chief Secretary

To the Acting Director of Public Instruction.

„ Public Works Department.

„ Military Department.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

30 March 1860 M^{rs}
S. J. G. G. G. G. G.
H. 755.

Pro: Charles G. G.
in the Public Office

March 21st }
Received 1860

H. 415.

Transcribing copy of
the House Report of the Di-
rector of Public Instruction
for 1859-60 & 1858-59
and observing that the
information called for
respecting the State
ment of the said in-
struction should be
re-specified by the
Dept of Public Instr.

March 30. 1860

With the same

H. 662.

Ordered to be examined
in the Public Office with a view
to the establishment of the
said that the said in-
struction should be
re-specified by the
Dept of Public Instr.

March 21st }
30 March 1860

March 21st

Copy to the Director of Public Instruction
H. 662.