

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th May 1868.*

No. 75. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Educational Department:—

Requesting that Mr. Chisholm may be instructed to prepare a design for an addition to the present Museum buildings, with a view to the establishment of a public library in connection with that Institution. (Here enter 21st April 1868, No. 151.)

No. 76. ORDER THEREON, 4th May 1868, No. 1,385.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 9.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, who will call upon Mr. Chisholm for the design required by Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

not be desirable to make a new building for the purpose indicated altogether separate and independent. A library ought to be associated with some place possessing already the motives and materials of study.

3. The motives for building a public library must, I presume, be apparent to all.

The Government is in possession of a very valuable collection of Oriental manuscripts, which it is desirable to lodge and preserve and make accessible to students.

Instructions have been received from the Supreme Government, to the effect that copies of all works printed in the Presidency are to be registered and retained as public property.

There is already at the Museum the basis of a collection of works of a miscellaneous character, which it is very desirable to expand and improve in the general interest of letters.

The Government ought not, in my humble judgment, to be satisfied with accumulating the books which may be hereafter printed in the Presidency. The collection ought also to have a retrospective character. A considerable bibliographical interest would be attached to a complete collection of the early works both in the Vernacular and Foreign languages published by the various Missionary bodies in the 16th and 17th centuries, as well as of those of a more recent date.

The books printed in past times in the Native languages by independent Native agencies would not fail to have some curiosity and value.

Many manuscript works, written on leaves which are now scattered throughout the country and exposed to carelessness and decay, would probably be brought in and saved, if there was a proper place and a proper authority for the reception of such objects.

Read the following :—

No. 61. MINUTE by His Excellency the PRESIDENT, dated 5th April 1868.
In a Minute, dated November 28th, 1867, I proposed that a public library should be erected in connection with the new University buildings. It has since been represented to me by Mr. Arbuthnot that it might be more expedient to associate such an institution with the Museum than with the Senate House, and I cannot but admit that there are good reasons for this view of the question.

2. The projected site for the University buildings is no doubt convenient for a public library. It is quiet, healthy, cheerful, adjacent to two of the principal Educational establishments, not remote from others, and accessible to the general public. A library in connection with the Senate House must, however, be placed in some degree under the control of the University body, and we have no guarantee that their views and regulations would be conformable to the sentiments of the Government, or the general community. From such a combination embarrassments and controversies might arise, which it would be desirable to avoid. It may also be remarked that the library building, if placed in connection with the new Senate House, must be made in harmony with a structure of an expensive and ornamental character. The site of the Museum, though not in all respects as convenient as that of the Senate House, is not objectionable; the Museum is under direct Government control, it is visited by a great number of persons, and the building is one which can be cheaply and easily added to. I think that the balance of advantages is on the side of the Museum, and there appears to be no other alternative. It would not be desirable to make a new building for the purpose indicated altogether separate and independent. A library ought to be associated with some place possessing already the motives and materials of study.

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Many manuscript works, written on leaves which are now scattered throughout the country and exposed to carelessness and decay, would probably be brought in and saved, if there was a proper place and a proper authority for the reception of such objects.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Educational Department.

21st April 1868.

The Government owe it to their own character as a civilized administration, and to the studious classes of the Capital, to provide at least one place in which books of a solid and useful character generally, and especially such as have a particular interest for India, may be made continually and gratuitously accessible.

4. Under these impressions, I submit the following proposals:—

(1). That Mr. Chisholm be instructed to prepare a design for an addition to the present Museum building, containing two large rooms for books, a room for manuscripts, two reading rooms, and two rooms for the accommodation of Librarians.

(2). That an appropriation be made of Rupees 250 per mensem from the present date for the purchase of books and manuscripts at the discretion of the Director of Public Instruction, until a responsible Librarian shall be nominated.

(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 62.

ORDER THEREON, 21st April 1868, No. 151.

The Governor in Council directs that Mr. Chisholm be instructed to prepare a design for an addition to the present Museum building, which shall consist of two large rooms for books, a room for manuscripts, two reading rooms, and two rooms for the accommodation of Librarians. An annual appropriation will be made from the Budget provision, under the heading "Education, Science, and Art," for the purpose of purchasing books and manuscripts, which for the current year will be fixed at Rupees 3000. These purchases will be made at the discretion of the Director of Public Instruction, until a responsible Librarian shall be nominated.

(True Extract)

H. Napier
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department. ✓

- „ Director of Public Instruction.
- „ Superintendent, Government Central Museum.
- „ Accountant General.
- „ Examiner of Claims.

Exd. J. T. Koch.

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Consent of the

Superintendent of

the 2nd Div., with

will call upon

Mr. Chisholm for

the design and

by April -

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*For the Public Works Department
1st May 1868*

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No 21 1868 Dept
Prov of Govt of May
No 1596
Mr. McMillan Esq
Educational Dept

27th } April 68
No 29 }
No 151
No 1385 - 4th May 68

Requesting that
Mr. Christensen may be
instructed to prepare
a design for an addi-
tion to the present mu-
seum buildings with
a view to the establish-
ment of a public library
in connection with that in-
stitution. With an Order

No 5 176

To the Public Works Department.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Superintendent, Government Central Museum.
" Accountant General.
" Examiner of Claims.

Self

No 1385

Commander
Supt Engineering
the 2nd Bn, with
with call upon
Mr. Christensen for
the design and
by April -

Exd. J. T. Loch.

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