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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <i>652</i>	Press ☒ Mis.
<i>196-97</i>	
Dated <i>9-3-</i>	<i>1872.</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department,
9th March 1872.*

No. 196. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India in the North-Western Provinces, Public Works Department, dated Allahabad, 2nd February 1872, No. 185 of 1872:—

RESOLUTION.

Annual Report of Thomason College for 1870-71.

Read again—

The annual Report of the Examination of the Thomason College, Roorkee for 1869-70.

Read ditto ditto, for 1870-71.

OBSERVATIONS.—There has been a considerable increase of the outturn of students during the past year over 1870; but with reference to the expected new supply from the Home College, it does not seem to the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor desirable for the present to increase the number of English Students. It is satisfactory that the cost to Government per student has been decreased from Rupees 551-2-1 to Rupees 494-5-8, but the appended account should classify more in detail the charges and receipts, so as to show in a comprehensive tabular form exactly how the calculation is arrived at. The result however indicates that, while its benefits are being increasingly taken advantage of, the usefulness of the College is augmented without a proportionate increase of expense.

2. The subject of the number of students to be guaranteed employment in Government service will be referred to the Government of India.

3. In regard to the Principal's remarks concerning an additional Assistant Principal competent to instruct in Army signalling, Captain Lang will have already seen His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's opinion on this subject, and His Honour is of opinion that Roorkee should maintain its Civil Engineering character, and that it would not be desirable to form the Establishment into a Staff College.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor quite approves of the policy of the Principal in raising the Entrance test for the Engineer Classes by adding Elementary Statics and the elements of plan drawing; and in making Mensuration and Elementary Geometry additions to the test for Upper Subordinates. Captain Lang's attention is drawn to the orders of the Government of India, as communicated in their Resolution of the 12th January 1871, (paragraph 3), sent to the Principal with docket from this Government, No. 478-A., dated 3rd February 1871, in which the previous lowering of the standard of Entrance Examination was objected to as being without sanction. Sir William Muir considers that the period of ten months is not ordinarily sufficient time for turning a soldier into an Overseer, and he would be glad to see a smaller number of better quality of this class turned out of the College. Both the time for study should be increased, and the test for entrance raised. The Provincial Public Works is to be largely extended in these Provinces, and His Honour would be glad to find the class of Native Upper Subordinates expanded and improved, as has been the case with that of the Lower Subordinates.

5. It is observed that the rules of the College admit of ten stipends or scholarships for the Lower Subordinate Class of Rupees 10 each, and forty of Rupees 5 each; but the Principal states that these stipends vary from Rupees 10 to Rupees

4, which requires explanation unless the modification has been sanctioned which should be stated, the orders being quoted. His Honour considers that the tuition fees and the charges for house-rent might, with advantage, be raised, and the Principal should submit proposals with these objects in view.

6. The Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor is quite in accord with Captain Lang in respect of his remarks to the effect that a practical Engineer cannot be expected from any College, and orders have already issued so far as the Public Works Department within the North-Western Provinces is concerned, that young Engineers and Subordinates should be posted as probationers with good practical Engineers before they are entrusted with work in their own charge as subordinates. The remarks of the Government of India in paragraph 4 of the Resolution above quoted are commended to the attention of the Principal on this subject. But it is difficult to carry out in all cases orders of this nature, as the establishment of the Public Works Department is a working establishment in which there is little or no provision made for those who have to learn or those who have to teach. But His Honour considers that if the Roorkee College is to compete with that of Cooper's Hill, the standard as regards Engineers should be brought to the same level. Sir William Muir is glad to observe that Captain Lang has already done much in raising the tests for entrance, and he is of opinion that, as regards Mathematics, the Entrance tests might be raised for the Upper Subordinates, while he agrees with the Principal in thinking that the magnitude of the engineering projects now prepared by the Engineer Students might properly give way to a further course of reading and theoretical instruction.

7. The Lieutenant-Governor desires to express his special interest in the preparation of text books in the vernacular of a scientific character, and His Honour begs that the manuscript of the elementary work on Physics, which Lieutenant Beauchamp proposes to write, may be submitted for the approval of Government when completed. The compilation of such works should be encouraged by every means in the power of Government.

8. As the Government of India have (No. 1,428-E.G., dated 12th December 1871) declined to allow of any expansion of the College, the proposal of the increase of the Officer's Surveying Class, from 10 to 20, will not be carried out.

9. The subject of the supply of candidates for lower subordinates is, the Lieutenant-Governor is aware, surrounded with difficulties. There is no doubt the well-practised and cunning artificer is seldom of a class likely to devote time to the study of the scientific principles of his trade; but the experiment of giving such men as can be obtained their course of theoretic training in the College preparatory to a practical course in the Canal Workshops is important and should be carried on, the results being carefully watched.

10. The questions brought forward by the Principal in paragraphs 45, 47, 50, 53, and 54, must be subjects for consideration when an answer is obtained from the Government of India as to the future of the College. So also with regard to the Mess-house, paragraph 44, and the new model-room (paragraph 60). His Honour observes that there is no report on the working of the Central Instrument Depot, which should be in a future report.

11. The proper repair of the College Barracks (paragraph 61) has already received consideration in the Public Works Department.

12. His Honour has already recognized the success which attended Colonel Medley's administration of the College, and the Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that the flourishing condition which the College attained under him will be maintained under Captain Lang, who has shown in his management of the past year a lively interest in the welfare of the Establishment.

13. The acknowledgments of the Government are also due to the Assistant Principals:—

Lieutenant C. Beauchamp, R.E., who, during the absence of Dr. M. Thompson, officiated as Professor of Experimental Science;

Lieutenant Pulford, R.E., who has, in addition to his other duties, found time for the preparation of a "Treatise on Drawing" for the use of the College;

Lieutenant A. Cunningham, whose labours in the Officer's Surveying Class in addition to his other duties, His Honour fully appreciates; also to Mr. Elliott, Professor of Mathematics, a new edition of whose valuable work on "Applied Mathematics" will, it is hoped, soon appear; and Mr. Scotland, Professor of Drawing, to whose skill as a teacher in his department the Principal testifies.

14. The Lieutenant-Governor notices also, with satisfaction, the zeal and ability with which the subordinate staff of the College have performed their duties.

15. The question of Mr. Johnston's salary (paragraph 74) has been separately dealt with.

16. A separate reference concerning the want of sanction for the establishment of the College (paragraph 76) should be submitted to His Honour in this department.

17. The Lieutenant-Governor notices, with great pleasure, the high attainments of some of the second-year students of the Engineer classes especially Lieutenant Graves, R.A., and Mr. Scotland (educated by the Rev. R. Maddock, Mussoorie). His Honour has already expressed his sorrow at the untimely end of Lieutenant Buller just as he had achieved an honourable position at the final examination. The Lieutenant-Governor is also glad to find that in the person of Bhagut Singh, of the Government College, Lahore, a Native student has been able successfully to compete for one of the guaranteed appointments in the Government Service; and that Sheonath, B.A., has also passed the test. His Honour hopes that this class will become increasingly popular and successful.

18. Among the first-year Engineer students, the Lieutenant-Governor congratulates Mr. W. Willcocks (of Bishop's School, Mussoorie,) on the high position he holds.

19. Of the Upper Subordinates, the Lieutenant-Governor trusts that the high marks obtained by—

Private Calnan, 2-60th Rifles.

Ditto Doyle, 20th Hussars.

Mr. J. Calvert, educated at Peter's College, Agra.

Ditto Pagan, 38th Regiment.

Kedarnath Banerjee.

Gunner H. St. Aubyn, C-16th, R.A.

will prove a guarantee of their advancement in the Public Works Department.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th March 1872.*

20. The Lieutenant-Governor reads with much pleasure of the general good conduct of the students during the time.

21. Finally, the Lieutenant-Governor would be glad to see appended to future reports a more detailed account of receipts and charges for education, the latter of which amount to in the past year Rupees 1,19,733; and also a fuller statement of the recreation, library, and other funds, which are in existence at the College.

ORDER—Ordered that the foregoing, with Principal's Report, be forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, for information.

Secretary to Govt., Bombay P. W. D.
Ditto, Madras, ditto.
Ditto, Bengal, ditto.
Ditto, Punjab, ditto.
Ditto, Oudh, ditto.
Ditto, Central Provinces, P. W. D.
Ditto, to Agent, G. G. Central India, P. W. D.
Ditto, ditto, Rajpootana, ditto.
Supd. Engrs. 1st, 2nd, 3rd Circles, Buildings
and Roads Branch, North-Western Provinces.

Also that copies be forwarded to the
Principal and Visitor, Thompson College
and to the Officers marginally noted
for information; and to the Secretary
to this Government in the General De-
partment; and to the Director of Public
Instruction, North-Western Provinces.

ALEX. FRASER, Colonel, R.E.,
Operating Secretary.

No. 197.

ORDER THEREON, 9th March 1872, No. 632.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 29.

Communicated to the Principal of the
Civil Engineering College.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Principal of the Civil Engineering College.

P. W. 189.

No 890.

From.

The Secretary to the
Genl. South. Rail.
Provinces.

Dated 2nd } February 1872
Recd 20th }

No 185.

Forwarding a
copy of orders on the
Annual Report of the
Thameson College, Roorkee,
for 1870-71-

No 652. 9th March 72

With an order

College

Communicated to the Principal of the Engineering

No 652.

With

To
Mr C. H. College

Order 12-3/72

Order 12-3/72

Chapman

Book of 1572. Home.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Principal of the
Civil Engineering College

229th March 1852

No. 196 & 197

Thomas Cole, Ran. Lee.

Annual Report of the Thomas M.
College, Rock Hill for 1870/71.
Sent to the Principal of
the F. L. College.