

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following papers :—

From H. B. GRIGG, Esq., M.A., Director of Public Instruction, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 1st October 1884, No. 7161.

I have the honor to submit the report on the progress of the School of Arts for the official year 1883-84, together with my review thereof.

ENCLOSURES.

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, dated 18th September 1884, No. 6898.

Read the following letter from the Superintendent, School of Arts, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Madras, 19th July 1884, No. 687 :—

I have the honor to submit the annual reports * on the progress and position of the school for the year 1883-84.

* With (3) enclosures.

2. *Artistic Branch.*—The average attendance during the year has been 96, being the same as that of last year. In 1881 and 1882 the attendance was 76 and 73.

Eight students having passed the examination in free hand, obtaining scholarships of 5, 7½ and 10 rupees per month. The total number of apprentices holding scholarships at the end of the year was 21.

The principal work in this branch during the year has been ornamental terracotta for the Post office, Senate House, and the Ameer Mahal; and stained glass windows for the Post office, Military Orphan Asylum and Public Works building.

The ceiling of the Durbar hall at Hyderabad was painted by some of the students.

It has been usual to include this class of work under the head "Industrial." The distinction seems to have been made that a student when painting a group of still life is "artistic," but when decorating a vase, "industrial."

I have ventured to depart from this custom from an impression that at least as much artistic knowledge is required in the latter as in the former class of work.

I have appended to this report a prospectus of a revised course of instruction which I would recommend for the school.

I would suggest that for the first division the fees should remain as at present, 8 annas per mensem, but that a large percentage of free students should be allowed. For the second division the scale of fees I have fixed for the present is as follows :—

Elementary, 3 rupees; advanced, 5 rupees; painting and modelling from life, 8 rupees per mensem.

The fees obtained would enable me to increase the number of paid apprentices in the first division employed in decorative work.

Unless an inducement of a scholarship of this kind is held out, very few students will remain at the school after passing through the elementary course.

3. *Industrial or (Manufacturing) Branch.*—A considerable amount of work for the telegraph, commissariat, medical and stationery departments has been executed during the year.

Most of the work can now be turned out at a much quicker rate by the substitution of machine power for manual labor.

This has been necessitated by the increased demand.

There is no doubt that the school has proved that the greater part of Government and domestic requirements in pottery can be supplied in the country without importation.

To effect this it is only necessary for private enterprise and capital to profit by the experience and knowledge gained by the school.

When it appears that private enterprise is ready to step in, and when the condition of the school permits (at present most of the apprentices are paid from the profits of manufacture), I think it would be highly advisable to dispense with this branch of the school.

I should mention that, until felspar and quartz of a purer kind than that which is now used can be obtained, there is little hope of producing porcelain or any very fine ware.

These important ingredients in a good potting body are, I believe, plentiful enough in Southern India, but from want of exact information as to the localities they have not yet been obtained by the school, except in a very impure state.

Very fine specimens are in the school collection and (I am told) in museums, but the information with regard to the locality is always too indefinite.

4. *Accounts.*—The expenditure for the past year has been as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Disbursements	40,463	1	0			
Liabilities	2,277	3	11			
Superintendent, drawing master, scholarships and teachers	5,097	9	9			
Superintendent—expenses for tour to Bombay, Calcutta and Benares	653	10	7			
Receipts on sales	32,929	0	0	48,491	9	3
Fees from pupils	237	0	0			
Amount due from Government (paid in but remaining undrawn)	2,861	14	3			
Amount from Government	14,151	4	4			
Outstandings	4,319	3	4			
Stock and stock materials	5,820	10	3			
Cash in Bank	5,525	0	3			
				65,844	0	5
Credit	17,352	7	2			

The credit balance is smaller than that of last year which was Rs. 19,987-8-10, but the Government contribution is considerably less, Rs. 14,151-4-4, against Rs. 20,045-14-9.

The fact that the selling rates have been reduced, accounts for the apparent slight decrease in the receipts on sales, Rs. 32,929, against Rs. 33,010.

It is, I believe, the first year in the history of the school in which any sums paid in have remained undrawn.

* From the school funds.

The amount expended* on improvements to the school buildings amounted to Rupees 1,054-15-6.

I have already submitted to Government a report on the condition of the school buildings and the inefficiency of the teaching staff.

SCHOOL OF ARTS, MADRAS.

The course of instruction is divided as follows:—

Division I.—In this division it is intended to give goldsmiths, wood-carvers, decorators and others an opportunity of studying the best examples of oriental design, and to develop decorative design especially in its application to pottery and to plastic decoration.

Sub-divisions are devoted to instruction in wood and copper-plate engraving and to architectural drawing.

Division II embraces the usual course for the study of painting:—Elementary and advanced drawing, from flat examples, casts, and from nature; painting in monochrome and color from casts and still life; drawing, painting and modelling from the life, and from the antique, &c.

The following is the full course in Division I:—

Section I.—

- Free-hand drawing from the flat.
- Flowers, foliage, &c., from casts and from nature.
- Geometry.
- Model drawing.

All students must pass section I (a) before proceeding to any other.

Section II.—

- Perspective.
- Architectural drawing from measurement.
- Free-hand sketches of architectural details in perspective.

This section is especially intended for those students preparing for draughtsmen for the Archaeological Survey, &c.

No student can proceed to section II before passing section I—*a, c* and *d*.

Section III (Pottery).—

- Painted decoration for ornamental ware, tiles, &c.
- Modelling plants, fruits, &c., from casts and from nature.
- Modelling from drawings, photographs, &c.
- Ornamental design for terracotta.

Sections IV—V.—Woodcarving and metal work—

- Copying ornament from good examples.
- Original design.
- Execution of design.

Section VI.—Wall decoration.—

- Painting flowers and plants from casts and from nature.
- Copying designs from good examples.
- Original design.
- Execution of design.

Section VII.—Wood and copper-plate engraving and etching.

In each of these sections those students who acquire sufficient proficiency may be allowed to proceed to the study of the figure with reference to design.

Changes in Staff.—Mr. Chisholm, who officiated as Superintendent, proceeded to Europe on furlough in April 1883, and Captain Simpson had charge of the institution till 21st January 1884, when the newly-appointed Superintendent, Mr. E. B. Havell, assumed charge of the school. Mr. Rea of the Archaeological department was temporarily employed after Mr. Chisholm's departure for Europe to assist in supplying architectural and art designs to the school for works in connection with the public buildings of this presidency, and for private orders. Mr. Jupe, the drawing master, to whom a salary of Rs. 100 was paid by Government, died in May 1883, but his place was not filled up during the year. The amount drawn for him was, however, utilized temporarily in raising the contingent allowance to the school from Rs. 600 to 700.

2. *Attendance.*—There were 147 pupils on rolls at the close of the year against 106 on the 31st March 1883. The increase, which is nearly 40 per cent., is a certain sign of the growing popularity of the school. Of the pupils, 30 were girls—all of European or Eurasian parentage. A revised scale of establishment for the school was sanctioned by Government in their Order dated 19th August 1884, No. 485.

3. *Nationality of the Pupils.*—Sudras (78) and Europeans and East Indians (55) formed the bulk of the attendance. Native Christians and Muhammadans were represented by four pupils each, while the Brahman and Vaisya element was not represented at all. The absence of Brahmans, who are pressing into the other professional and technical institutions, is worthy of note. It can hardly be doubted that so soon as the Brahmans are assured, from experience, that decorative art promises a good *modus vivendi*, they too will claim admittance—a consummation much to be wished.

4. The distribution of pupils according to social condition places a third of the pupils under the poorer classes, having an income of less than Rs. 200 a year. This is significant, showing that the school is resorted to by the poorer classes with the ultimate view of securing a living by practising the arts now taught. The branches of art taught will, it is hoped, be gradually extended, so that the institution may be made to serve the development of all the industrial arts having for their end the construction and decoration of the chief articles, whether of metal, wood, stone or clay, required by the exigencies of modern life in this country. This is the Director thinks, the proper function of this school, whilst arts connected with the production of raw materials might perhaps be dealt with in the sister institution at Saidápet as well as those falling strictly under the head of "Agriculture."

5. Of the pupils, 89 were children of officials and 29 of traders, while 23 were of the artisan class.

6. *Artistic Department.*—The average attendance was the same as in the preceding year, viz., 96. The total number of apprentices holding scholarships has risen to 21, including eight students who, on passing the examination in free-hand, were admitted to scholarships. The Superintendent has furnished no information regarding the number of examinations held during the year, or the number and nature of certificates awarded. He is requested to supply the omission. The principal work done during the year in this branch of the institution is given

by the Superintendent. The Government will be addressed separately on the Superintendent's proposals to revise the course of instruction and the rules relating to fees and stipendiaryships. The scheme seems to demand being worked out in more detail.

7. *Industrial Branch.*—The outturn of work in this branch was considerable, and the demands of the Telegraph, Commissariat, Medical and Stationery departments were met. The Superintendent is of opinion that this branch of the school may be dispensed with when private enterprise is ready to step in. Whether this view is correct it is not necessary to discuss here, as the time is clearly far distant when private agency can be relied on, but the Director would observe that the tendency in Europe seems to be in an opposite direction to that suggested, if he understands Mr. Havell's remarks correctly. The great principle generally admitted seems to be that the industrial arts to be taught successfully must be taught by a constant combination of practice in details, with a more abstract and theoretical teaching after the manner pursued, for example, in the technical institutions in Saxony. It is, however, hardly necessary to add that manufactures should not be carried on a larger scale than is necessary to give the pupils ample opportunities for practical work. The Superintendent observes that there is little hope of producing porcelain or any very fine ware, unless felspar and quartz of a purer kind than those now obtained and used can be had. He points out that, judging from the specimens he has seen, if exact information of the localities from which they were obtained could be secured, good material might be obtained. It is advisable that he should address the Geological department on the subject. Possibly an effective means of obtaining good materials would be to issue from time to time a notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette* calling for tenders with samples, or to offer rewards for good samples in quantity.

8. *Finance.*—The sale-proceeds of the manufactures of the school and fees realized from pupils amounted together to Rs. 33,166 against Rs. 33,022-12-4 in the preceding year. There has been a diminution in the amount of Government grant. It is satisfactory to note that the amount of outstandings has fallen. The credit balance in favor of the school at the close of the year was Rs. 17,352-7-2, against Rs. 19,987-9-10 at its beginning, the decrease being accounted for by the Government contribution having been less than in the previous year owing to changes in staff and also by the fact that the selling rates have been reduced, to which is due the slight decrease in the receipts from sales, taking them separately from fees.

9. *Buildings.*—A sum of Rs. 1,055 was expended from the school funds on improvements to the school building. The Government have been addressed regarding the urgent repairs the school-house is in need of.

10. *Library.*—The condition of the library has not been noticed.

11. *Museum.*—The Superintendent has not reported on the condition of the museum and the number of visitors during the year. The preparation of a catalogue of the present collection, if not already begun, might be taken in hand with advantage. Efforts should be made to secure good specimens of Indian art by purchase or otherwise.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. B. GRIGG,
Director of Public Instruction.

To the Superintendent, School of Arts.

- „ Principals of First-grade Colleges and Civil Engineering College.
- „ Inspectors of Schools.
- „ Inspectress of Girls' Schools.
- „ Principal, School of Agriculture.
- „ Principal, Government Normal School, Madras.

From E. B. HAVELL, Esq., Superintendent, School of Arts, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Madras, 6th October 1884, No. 806.

With reference to your Proceedings, No. 6898, dated 18th September 1884, I have the honor to forward the following particulars asked for—

2. *Examinations.*—Five examinations were held during the year and the following certificates were awarded:—

2nd Grade.									
Free-hand drawing ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Chalk drawing from the round ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Free-hand drawing from models ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Chalk drawing from models ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Linear Geometry ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
									16

1st Grade.

Sepia drawing from the round ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Chalk drawing from models in outline ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Mechanical drawing from measurement ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Free-hand drawing from examples ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Linear Geometry ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Free-hand drawing from models in outline ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
									25

3. *Museum.*—The total number of visitors during the year was 42,378.

4. The new building was completed and the casts, &c., arranged in it.

5. The majority of the examples in the museum are unsuitable, but I hope additions will shortly be made which will be exceedingly valuable, the Government having sanctioned the purchase of electrotypes from the India Museum to the value of 1,000 rupees.

6. *Library.*—The library is in fair condition. Arrangements will be made giving greater facilities for students or visitors who wish to make use of the books, drawings or photographs. A new catalogue will be prepared for the purpose.

No. 7271.

Endorsement on the above.

Submitted to Government in continuation of the report forwarded with letter No. 7161, dated 10th October 1884.

MADRAS,
6th October 1884.

(Signed) H. B. GRIGG,
Director of Public Instruction.

ORDER—dated 16th October 1884, No. 640, Educational.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

H. B. Grigg
Ag. Asst. Secy. to Govt.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

- „ President, Committee of Management, School of Arts.
 - „ Accountant-General.
 - „ Public Works department.
- The Editor's table.

Exd. W. H. French.

P.W.C. 9035

Govt. of (1884) Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.



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No 2693. Wap 3^d Nov 1884

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30.10.84

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Issued

Recd. 29.10.84

Encl.

G.O., 16th October 1884, No. 640.

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No 2693. Wap 3^d Nov 1884

OCTOBER.

School of Arts, Madras.

Recording the review of the Director of Public Instruction on the School of Arts' report for 1883-84.

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13.11.84

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