Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 753 W

DATED 15th March 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Kumbakonam Hostel. Pros: Educational Dept. sanctioning with remarks a Grant of Rs. 25,000 towards the — ; Court to S.E. V Circle for information.

[P.W. 24. 5,000—25-11-96.]

TE 18/3/97

Indexed. 17/20/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Public works (1897) Department.

Current No: 2464

Government {1897} of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

Recd. 8. 3. } 1897. *Enclosures*

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G.O., No. 97, 18th February 1897.

NB 753 M of 15.3.97

Communicated to the Inspectors V circle for information.

15/3/97

S.S. V circle

16/3/97

FEBRUARY.

Kumbakonam Hostel.

Sanctioning a grant of Rs. 25,000 towards the — scheme on the condition that provision is made from the beginning for the kitchen and dining accommodation of students of all castes; requesting the Collector of Tanjore to acquire under the Act the site selected for the hostel; and agreeing that the management of the hostel should be vested in a registered association and calling for the necessary memorandum and articles of association.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following paper :—

G.O., Mis. No. 872, Educational, dated 14th November 1895.

Order—Mis. No. 872, Educational, dated 14th November 1895.

The Government views the scheme for the establishment of a students' hostel at Kumbakónam with favour; but desires, before passing definite orders thereon, to be furnished with a plan of the proposed building and to be informed as to (1) the exact amount of the Jubilee Fund which will be available for erecting it, (2) what fees the students will pay, (3) what the expenditure on feeding, &c., will probably amount to, and (4) how the cost of repairs to the building is to be met. Apparently, the building, which is estimated to cost Rs. 49,000, will provide accommodation for some seventy students only. Exact information on this head should also be supplied.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

Read—also the following paper :—

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., Director of Public Instruction, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 8th December 1896, No. 13221.

With reference to G.O., No. 872, Educational, dated 14th November 1895, I have the honour to submit the enclosed letter of the 13th ultimo from the Secretary to the Kumbakónam Hostel Committee, with plans and estimates prepared under the supervision of Mr. A. Chatterton, of the College of Engineering.

2. The assets of the Jubilee Fund amount to Rs. 34,708, and taking credit for a special grant of Rs. 25,000 from Government, the committee calculates the total receipts at Rs. 59,708, of which it proposes to spend Rs. 50,380 on the hostel buildings and to have a reserve fund of about Rs. 9,328 to be utilized gradually in improving or extending the accommodation; but, for some years to come, the interest on the fund will be appropriated towards defraying a portion of the cost of the establishment. It will be observed, from the statement of expenditure appended to paragraph 11, that only a sum of Rs. 100 has been provided for minor repairs.

3. The committee considers it desirable to secure a piece of ground—the only cheap site in the neighbourhood of the college—and hopes that Government will see its way to purchase the land under the Land Acquisition Act. A sum of Rs. 2,000 is provided in the estimate as the cost of the site. This building has been designed to accommodate 88 students. Each compartment will serve as a sleeping room and a study combined, and will be provided with a book-shelf and a cupboard combined, a table and a chair. Though the structural character of the hostel does not admit of

the students being locked up for the night, some system of ensuring that all the residents are in the hostel at night will be adopted. In a mofussil station a restriction of this kind seems less necessary than in Madras. The committee has not drawn up any special rules for the maintenance of discipline, being of opinion that undue harshness in regulating life in a hostel might defeat the ends proposed in establishing such institutions. No express provision has been made for bathing accommodation in view of the proximity of the Cauvery. Some provision should be made for oil-baths.

4. The committee proposes to levy a fee of Rs. 9½ per mensem from each boarder and pay Rs. 7 out of it to the contractor for feeding purposes and for supplying the requisites for hot and oil baths. The apothecary in charge of the municipal hospital will look after the health of the boarders, but these are required to make their own arrangements for coffee, lighting and washing. In view of the absence of any provision as to the source from which the cost of medicines has to be met, I would suggest that the word "medicines" be inserted after "coffee" at the close of paragraph 10.

5. The cost of the proposed establishment is Rs. 612 annually and that of boarding forty students at Rs. 7 each for nine months only is Rs. 2,520, while the fees payable by them would aggregate Rs. 3,420. The balance of income, *plus* the interest on the reserve fund, will be utilized for medical attendance, lighting, contingencies, repairs and taxes.

6. As Government would have nothing to do with the direct management of the Victoria Students' Hostel, the committee's request that Government may take over the hostel at Kumbakónam is out of the question. The direct management of the institution may be entrusted to a committee consisting of—

The Principal, Government College.
,, Headmaster, Town High School } or representatives of these two schools.
,, ,, Native High School }
,, Sub-Collector.
,, Sub-Judge.

The association should be registered under the Indian Companies Act VI of 1882 as has been done in the case of the Victoria Students' Hostel.

7. In consideration of the inadequacy of the Jubilee Fund to meet all requirements, I would strongly recommend that a special grant of Rs. 25,000, which is approximately one-half of the total estimated outlay on the hostel buildings, be sanctioned towards this hostel. The favour of early orders is requested, as the institution has to be registered in time to enable the managing committee to draw the building grant before the close of the current official year.

Enclosure.

From J. B. BILDERBECK, Esq., Secretary to the Hostel Executive Committee, to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, dated Kumbakónam, 13th November 1896.

I have the honour to submit, for the consideration and approval of Government, the proposals of the Executive Committee * which was appointed by a general meeting of subscribers to the Tanjore Jubilee Fund (held at Tanjore on 27th July 1895) to carry out a resolution passed at the same meeting that the said fund should be utilized "in establishing a Students' Hostel for all classes of students in connection with the Kumbakónam College."

* Collector of Tanjore,
Principal of the Kumbakónam College, } *ex-officio.*
Messrs. K. Kalyanasundram Aiyar.
,, S. Seshayya.
,, P. Thambiswami Mudaliar.

2. This letter supplies all the information called for in G.O., No. 872, dated 14th November 1895. As already stated in my letter to you of the 22nd July 1896, the delay in submitting these proposals was in great measure unavoidable. In continuation, I may here add that, though most of the plans for the hostel buildings were ready in August, the estimates were not received till September.

3. *Funds available.*—On the 31st ultimo, the Jubilee Fund consisted of Rs. 26,000 in Government of India 3½ per cent. paper and Rs. 6,446-12-0 in cash. If the paper be realized at current prices and the interest that has accrued but remains unpaid be added, the fund may be said to stand at Rs. 34,700 approximately. To this sum should be added the liberal grant of Rs. 25,000, which, it is understood, Government is prepared to contribute in aid of the hostel scheme. The marginal table presents the financial position of the Executive Committee.

	Rs.	A.	P.
1. Realized value of Rs. 26,000 Government paper at 102.	26,520	0	0
2. Unpaid interest less income-tax	1,741	13	2
3. Cash	6,446	12	0
Total ..	34,708	9	2
Government grant	25,000	0	0
Grand total ..	59,708	9	2

4. *Appropriation of these funds.*—The following table shows how the committee proposes to deal with these funds :—

	Rs.
1. Hostel building	37,500
2. Kitchen and dining rooms	2,520
3. Latrine	650
4. Superintendent's house	4,710
5. Furnishing hostel	2,000
6. Cost of site	2,000
7. Constructing two wells	200
8. Miscellaneous	800
Total ..	50,380
Balance, about ..	9,320

The surplus available it is proposed to invest in Government paper. This will be held as a *Reserve Fund* to be utilized, when the hostel attains popularity and becomes a financial success, in improving or extending the accommodation. For some years to come, the interest on the fund will serve to meet more than half the cost of the proposed establishment.

5. *Site for Hostel.*—The committee is of opinion that, as the college grounds, in their present extent, provide inadequate space for tennis and badminton courts, and a cricket and football field, it would be advisable to acquire a site outside the grounds but near the college. It happens that there is a piece of ground adjacent to the college compound which, if it could be acquired, would serve the committee's purpose. In view of the inferior character of its soil, this land offers the only cheap site in the neighbourhood of the college. Mr. Oliver, the Receiver to the Tanjore palace estate—to which estate the land in question belongs—estimates its extent as 3 acres, 82 cents, and its value at Rs. 2,000. The land being trust property, it can be purchased only under the Land Acquisition Act, and the committee hopes that, as the acquisition of the land will supply an urgent want by adding considerably to the play-ground accommodation of the college, and will, at the same time, secure a healthy environment for the hostel, Government will see its way to purchasing the land, the cost of the purchase being debited to the Government grant in aid of the hostel.

6. *Buildings.*—(i) Plans and estimates of the various buildings proposed have been prepared under the supervision of Professor A. Chatterton of the Civil Engineering College.

(ii) These plans and estimates are submitted with this letter, being forwarded, under separate cover, by parcel-post.

(iii) It will be seen from the plan of the hostel that the building has been designed to accommodate *88* students *nominally*, as there are *ten* rooms in the upper story and *twelve* on the ground floor, each of which is divided by movable partitions into *four* apartments. Each apartment will serve as a sleeping room and a study combined. As the cubical capacity of the rooms is 20 × 16 × 10 cubic feet (or a little more in the case of the upper rooms) and as all the apartments open on to a verandah,

a superficial area of 10 × 8 square feet for each apartment will provide amply for the needs of a student. As the partitions are 7½ feet in height, a fair degree of privacy is ensured. To each apartment access will be obtained by its own door, all the doors being provided with venetian shutters and having an opening over them for light and ventilation.

The central room upstairs will be used as a library and writing room, and, between certain fixed hours, as a place for meetings and general intercourse.

No express provision has been made for bathing accommodation ; for, if the site proposed is acquired, the hostel building will be not more than a stone's throw from the river Cauvery. Moreover, besides the two wells that it is proposed to sink, there is on the ground a small tank which can easily be enlarged and deepened when earth is required for the hostel basement, and which will serve the purpose of a swimming bath. Arrangements for the periodical oil baths will be made in the kitchen buildings.

It will be observed that the structural character of the hostel does not admit of the students being locked in for the night. A building in which it would be possible *effectively* to lock in the residents would, if it is to be structurally adapted to the conditions of life and climate in this country, cost much more money than the committee has at its disposal. Moreover, such building was not thought necessary in this town.

(iv) The kitchen and dining rooms and also the latrine from separate buildings, which, if funds permit, will be connected with the main building by inexpensive covered passages.

(v) The Superintendent's house will be placed as near the hostel as convenience may demand.

7. *Furniture.*—Each apartment will be provided with a book-shelf and cup-board combined, a table and one chair. Beds and lamps are to be supplied by students themselves. At first starting, the common room will be furnished as economically as possible. This room as well as the passages and verandahs will be lighted at the expense of the general funds of the hostel.

8. *Admissions.*—Under the resolution of the general meeting of subscribers referred to in paragraph 1, the hostel is open to all classes of students. The committee believes that, for some time to come, only members of the Brahmin community will apply for admission, but special arrangements must of course be made for other castes, as occasion arises. Moreover, the committee is of opinion that if, in any year, the number of applications for admission from students of the college is below the number of rooms available, it will not be inconsistent with the resolution referred to to grant admission to brothers or near relations of residents in the hostel, should they be studying at one of the schools in the town. The committee does not propose to lay down any rules governing admissions, as, in this matter, full discretionary powers should be vested in the controlling authority.

9. *Administration.*—(i) The domestic administration it is proposed to vest in a Superintendent, who will ordinarily be a member of the staff of the college. The Superintendent will have an allowance of Rs. 25 a month and a house-rent free. All the hostel servants will be placed under his orders, and he will be required to supervise the boarding and lodging arrangements and to be responsible for good order and discipline.

(ii) The boarding of the students will be placed in the hands of a contractor who will also supply the requisites for hot and oil baths. The contractor will be required to supply meals at regular hours according to a bill of fare approved by competent judges. The food supplied and the quality of the cooking will be periodically inspected by the Superintendent and reported on to the controlling authority.

(iii) The health of the boarders and the sanitary arrangements generally will be looked after by the Apothecary in charge of the Municipal Hospital who will

submit a weekly report to the controlling authority. He will be paid an honorarium of Rs. 100 for the year; but this sum will be increased when the revenues of the Hostel will admit of more liberal payment.

(iv) The Committee does not propose to draw up any special rules for the maintenance of discipline. Hostels are brand-new institutions in this country, and time alone can demonstrate the lines along which they should be worked. Any undue harshness in regulating life in a Hostel might defeat the ends proposed in establishing such institutions. Gentlemanly behaviour will of course be insisted on; slovenly and dirty habits and irregularities of conduct will, as far as possible, be checked; and the Superintendent will probably be required to call over the roll of residents in the Hostel at some hour in the evening. Healthy conditions of life, regular hours, and, above all, effective and sympathetic supervision, the Committee believes, will produce much better results on the moral character of students than severity of rules and regulations to which it may not be always possible to give effect.

10. *Fees to be paid.*—The question as to the amount of fee to be paid by students has received very careful consideration. So far as this Presidency is concerned, no satisfactory evidence is available to justify an assumption that a Hostel can be worked at a profit or even as a self-supporting institution. Moreover, it is utterly impossible to foresee what degree of popularity Hostels may attain in the student world. On the other hand, one important consideration stands out clearly to guide the Committee to a decision in fixing the amount of fee payble. It is evident that the fee chargeable at the Hostel should not much exceed the charges payable for board and lodging in a private house or a hotel in this town. Keeping in view, therefore, these local rates and also the rates payable at certain *hostels* in Tanjore and Trichinopoly, the Committee is of opinion that a fee of Rs. 9½ a month may be levied at first starting. If it is found that the Hostel grows in popularity, this rate of fee can be raised. A system of differential rates might be adopted (1) for the more favourably situated rooms, and (2) in cases in which two or more members of a family reside in the Hostel. For this fee of Rs. 9½ a student will have a separate apartment, three meals a day, his oil or hot baths, and medical advice. On the other hand, he will be required to make his own arrangements for his coffee, lighting and washing.

11. *Receipts and Expenditure.*—(i) The following tables present the estimated receipts and expenditure:—

Receipts.

		Rs.
1.	Interest Rs. 9,000 Government 3½ per cent., income-tax not deducted	315
2.	Fees payable by 40 boarders for nine months at Rs. 9½ *per mensem*	3,420
	Total ..	3,735

Expenditure.

		Rs.	Rs.
1.	Establishment—		
	Superintendent at Rs. 25	300	
	One peon at Rs. 6	72	
	One night watch at Rs. 4	48	
	Two scavengers at Rs. 5 each	120	
	Two sweepers at Rs. 3 each	72	
			612
2.	Boarding 40 students at Rs. 7 each for nine months		2,520
3.	Medical attendance		100
4.	Lighting		90
5.	Contingencies		100
6.	Minor repairs		100
7.	Municipal taxes		40
	Total ..		3,562
	Balance ..		173

(ii) The Committee has somewhat arbitrarily postulated a strength of *40* boarders for the purpose of estimating receipts and expenditure. This number is nearly half the total number of students in the college (1) who are living in hotels, (2) who are boarding with friends and relatives, or (3) whose parents have taken house accommodation in Kumbakónam for the sake of the education of their children. It will be seen that the Committee has not allowed itself to take over-sanguine views of the prospects of the Hostel, and has been careful to avoid a scale of expenditure which errs on the side of extravagance. If the Hostel prove attractive and its numbers grow, its financial position must necessarily improve, and this will admit of a more liberal scale of expenditure.

(iii) The amount received from fees has been calculated for a period of *9* months, as this nearly represents the length of time for which students will be in residence.

(iv) A rate of Rs. 7 per head has been put down as payable to the contractor for board, &c. As this sum is somewhat higher than the usual charge in one of the small local hotels in which about *20* people get their meals, the rate allowed should enable the contractor to cater to the satisfaction of the boarders and to make a profit for himself.

12. *General Management.*—Paragraphs 9—11 embody what the Committee would propose in reference to the administration of the Hostel, should the affairs of the institution remain under the general management of the Committee. However, inasmuch as the Hostel is to be attached to a Government College and the building will stand on land belonging to Government, if the Committee's proposal in regard to the site selected be adopted, the Committee believes that the welfare of the Hostel would be best secured, if Government were to take over the Hostel, and, treating it as an appendage to the Government College, place it under the management of the Principal as Warden. The Committee hopes that Government will give this matter its early and favourable consideration. Pending the receipt of the resolution of Government on this subject, the Committee does not think it advisable to submit any alternative proposals as to the general management and control of the Hostel.

Order—No. 97, Educational, dated 18th February 1897.

The plans appear to be suitable, except that of the kitchen and dining-house which provides accommodation for students of one caste only. The committee may be right in thinking that at first only students of the Brahman community will resort to the hostel; but, if the Government is to give a grant towards the scheme, kitchen and dining accommodation for students of all castes must be provided from the beginning. The committee should revise its proposals accordingly and submit an amended plan for the approval of Government.

2. Subject to these conditions, His Excellency in Council is pleased to sanction a grant, not exceeding Rs. 25,000, towards the hostel scheme. The amount will be paid during the year 1897–98.

3. The committee has chosen as a suitable site for the hostel the land belonging to the Tanjore palace estate, lying adjacent to the college compound and measuring about 3 acres and 82 cents, and the committee requests that, as the property is trust property, Government may acquire it under the Act, the cost of acquiring it, estimated at Rs. 2,000, being debited to the grant-in-aid to the hostel. The Government accepts this suggestion and resolves to request the Collector of Tanjore to take early steps for the acquisition. Orders on the question of the adjustment of the cost will be passed subsequently.

4. As regards the management of the hostel, the Government agrees with the Director of Public Instruction that, as in the case of the Madras Students' hostels, the most suitable plan is to vest it in a registered association. The committee should

therefore, at their early convenience, take steps to prepare the necessary memorandum and articles of association and forward them for the approval of Government. The Government will have no objection to the committee appointing the Principal of the college as warden of the hostel.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction, with plans and estimates.
" Collector of Tanjore.
" Financial Department.
" Public Works Department.

Exd. A Raitt.

Public Works Department.

Government {1897} of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

Recd.	} 1897.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

G.O., No. 97, 18th February 1897.

Order thereon No 7534 W/15.3.97
Communicated to the
Supts: Engineer V circle
for information
(True extract)
for S.D.E.

FEBRUARY.

To
The Supts. Engineer V circle

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(iii) It will be seen from the plan of the hostel that the building has been designed to accommodate *88* students *nominally*, as there are *ten* rooms in the upper story and *twelve* on the ground floor, each of which is divided by movable partitions into *four* apartments. Each apartment will serve as a sleeping room and a study combined. As the cubical capacity of the rooms is 20 × 16 × 10 cubic feet (or a little more in the case of the upper rooms) and as all the apartments open on to a verandah, a superficial area of 10 × 8 square feet for each apartment will provide amply for the needs of a student. As the partitions are 7½ feet in height, a fair degree of privacy is ensured. To each apartment access will be obtained by its own door, all the doors being provided with venetian shutters and having an opening over them for light and ventilation.

The central room upstairs will be used as a library and writing room, and, between certain fixed hours, as a place for meetings and general intercourse.

No express provision has been made for bathing accommodation ; for, if the site proposed is acquired, the hostel building will be not more than a stone's throw from the river Cauvery. Moreover, besides the two wells that it is proposed to sink, there is on the ground a small tank which can easily be enlarged and deepened when earth is required for the hostel basement, and which will serve the purpose of a swimming bath. Arrangements for the periodical oil baths will be made in the kitchen buildings.

It will be observed that the structural character of the hostel does not admit of the students being locked in for the night. A building in which it would be possible *effectively* to lock in the residents would, if it is to be structurally adapted to the conditions of life and climate in this country, cost much more money than the committee has at its disposal. Moreover, such building was not thought necessary in this town.

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submit a weekly report to the controlling authority. He will be paid an honorarium of Rs. 100 for the year; but this sum will be increased when the revenues of the Hostel will admit of more liberal payment.

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Superintendent at Rs. 25	300	
One peon at Rs. 6	72	
One night watch at Rs. 4	48	
Two scavengers at Rs. 5 each	120	
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2. Boarding 40 students at Rs. 7 each for nine months		2,520
3. Medical attendance		100
4. Lighting		90
5. Contingencies		100
6. Minor repairs		100
7. Municipal taxes		40
Total ..		3,562
Balance ..		173

(ii) The Committee has somewhat arbitrarily postulated a strength of *40* boarders for the purpose of estimating receipts and expenditure. This number is nearly half the total number of students in the college (1) who are living in hotels, (2) who are boarding with friends and relatives, or (3) whose parents have taken house accommodation in Kumbakónam for the sake of the education of their children. It will be seen that the Committee has not allowed itself to take over-sanguine views of the prospects of the Hostel, and has been careful to avoid a scale of expenditure which errs on the side of extravagance. If the Hostel prove attractive and its numbers grow, its financial position must necessarily improve, and this will admit of a more liberal scale of expenditure.

(iii) The amount received from fees has been calculated for a period of *9* months, as this nearly represents the length of time for which students will be in residence.

(iv) A rate of Rs. 7 per head has been put down as payable to the contractor for board, &c. As this sum is somewhat higher than the usual charge in one of the small local hotels in which about *20* people get their meals, the rate allowed should enable the contractor to cater to the satisfaction of the boarders and to make a profit for himself.

12. *General Management.*—Paragraphs 9—11 embody what the Committee would propose in reference to the administration of the Hostel, should the affairs of the institution remain under the general management of the Committee. However, inasmuch as the Hostel is to be attached to a Government College and the building will stand on land belonging to Government, if the Committee's proposal in regard to the site selected be adopted, the Committee believes that the welfare of the Hostel would be best secured, if Government were to take over the Hostel, and, treating it as an appendage to the Government College, place it under the management of the Principal as Warden. The Committee hopes that Government will give this matter its early and favourable consideration. Pending the receipt of the resolution of Government on this subject, the Committee does not think it advisable to submit any alternative proposals as to the general management and control of the Hostel.

Order—No. 97, Educational, dated 18th February 1897.

The plans appear to be suitable, except that of the kitchen and dining-house which provides accommodation for students of one caste only. The committee may be right in thinking that at first only students of the Brahman community will resort to the hostel; but, if the Government is to give a grant towards the scheme, kitchen and dining accommodation for students of all castes must be provided from the beginning. The committee should revise its proposals accordingly and submit an amended plan for the approval of Government.

2. Subject to these conditions, His Excellency in Council is pleased to sanction a grant, not exceeding Rs. 25,000, towards the hostel scheme. The amount will be paid during the year 1897–98.

3. The committee has chosen as a suitable site for the hostel the land belonging to the Tanjore palace estate, lying adjacent to the college compound and measuring about 3 acres and 82 cents, and the committee requests that, as the property is trust property, Government may acquire it under the Act, the cost of acquiring it, estimated at Rs. 2,000, being debited to the grant-in-aid to the hostel. The Government accepts this suggestion and resolves to request the Collector of Tanjore to take early steps for the acquisition. Orders on the question of the adjustment of the cost will be passed subsequently.

4. As regards the management of the hostel, the Government agrees with the Director of Public Instruction that, as in the case of the Madras Students' hostels, the most suitable plan is to vest it in a registered association. The committee should

therefore, at their early convenience, take steps to prepare the necessary memorandum and articles of association and forward them for the approval of Government. The Government will have no objection to the committee appointing the Principal of the college as warden of the hostel.

(True Extract.)

G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction, with plans and estimates.
" Collector of Tanjore.
" Financial Department.
" Public Works Department.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Government {1897} of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

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OW 2464(97)

G.O., No. 97, 18th February 1897.

FEBRUARY.

Kumbakonam Hostel.

Sanctioning a grant of Rs. 25,000 towards the — scheme on the condition that provision is made from the beginning for the kitchen and dining accommodation of students of all castes; requesting the Collector of Tanjore to acquire under the Act the site selected for the hostel; and agreeing that the management of the hostel should be vested in a registered association and calling for the necessary memorandum and articles of association.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following paper :—

G.O., Mis. No. 872, Educational, dated 14th November 1895.

Order—Mis. No. 872, Educational, dated 14th November 1895.

The Government views the scheme for the establishment of a students' hostel at Kumbakónam with favour; but desires, before passing definite orders thereon, to be furnished with a plan of the proposed building and to be informed as to (1) the exact amount of the Jubilee Fund which will be available for erecting it, (2) what fees the students will pay, (3) what the expenditure on feeding, &c., will probably amount to, and (4) how the cost of repairs to the building is to be met. Apparently, the building, which is estimated to cost Rs. 49,000, will provide accommodation for some seventy students only. Exact information on this head should also be supplied.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

Read—also the following paper :—

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., Director of Public Instruction, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 8th December 1896, No. 13221.

With reference to G.O., No. 872, Educational, dated 14th November 1895, I have the honour to submit the enclosed letter of the 13th ultimo from the Secretary to the Kumbakónam Hostel Committee, with plans and estimates prepared under the supervision of Mr. A. Chatterton, of the College of Engineering.

2. The assets of the Jubilee Fund amount to Rs. 34,708, and taking credit for a special grant of Rs. 25,000 from Government, the committee calculates the total receipts at Rs. 59,708, of which it proposes to spend Rs. 50,380 on the hostel buildings and to have a reserve fund of about Rs. 9,328 to be utilized gradually in improving or extending the accommodation; but, for some years to come, the interest on the fund will be appropriated towards defraying a portion of the cost of the establishment. It will be observed, from the statement of expenditure appended to paragraph 11, that only a sum of Rs. 100 has been provided for minor repairs.

3. The committee considers it desirable to secure a piece of ground—the only cheap site in the neighbourhood of the college—and hopes that Government will see its way to purchase the land under the Land Acquisition Act. A sum of Rs. 2,000 is provided in the estimate as the cost of the site. This building has been designed to accommodate 88 students. Each compartment will serve as a sleeping room and a study combined, and will be provided with a book-shelf and a cupboard combined, a table and a chair. Though the structural character of the hostel does not admit of

the students being locked up for the night, some system of ensuring that all the residents are in the hostel at night will be adopted. In a mofussil station a restriction of this kind seems less necessary than in Madras. The committee has not drawn up any special rules for the maintenance of discipline, being of opinion that undue harshness in regulating life in a hostel might defeat the ends proposed in establishing such institutions. No express provision has been made for bathing accommodation in view of the proximity of the Cauvery. Some provision should be made for oil-baths.

4. The committee proposes to levy a fee of Rs. 9½ per mensem from each boarder and pay Rs. 7 out of it to the contractor for feeding purposes and for supplying the requisites for hot and oil baths. The apothecary in charge of the municipal hospital will look after the health of the boarders, but these are required to make their own arrangements for coffee, lighting and washing. In view of the absence of any provision as to the source from which the cost of medicines has to be met, I would suggest that the word "medicines" be inserted after "coffee" at the close of paragraph 10.

5. The cost of the proposed establishment is Rs. 612 annually and that of boarding forty students at Rs. 7 each for nine months only is Rs. 2,520, while the fees payable by them would aggregate Rs. 3,420. The balance of income, *plus* the interest on the reserve fund, will be utilized for medical attendance, lighting, contingencies, repairs and taxes.

6. As Government would have nothing to do with the direct management of the Victoria Students' Hostel, the committee's request that Government may take over the hostel at Kumbakónam is out of the question. The direct management of the institution may be entrusted to a committee consisting of—

The Principal, Government College.
,, Headmaster, Town High School / Native High School } or representatives of these two schools.
,, Sub-Collector.
,, Sub-Judge.

The association should be registered under the Indian Companies Act VI of 1882 as has been done in the case of the Victoria Students' Hostel.

7. In consideration of the inadequacy of the Jubilee Fund to meet all requirements, I would strongly recommend that a special grant of Rs. 25,000, which is approximately one-half of the total estimated outlay on the hostel buildings, be sanctioned towards this hostel. The favour of early orders is requested, as the institution has to be registered in time to enable the managing committee to draw the building grant before the close of the current official year.

Enclosure.

From J. B. BILDERBECK, Esq., Secretary to the Hostel Executive Committee, to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, dated Kumbakónam, 13th November 1896.

I have the honour to submit, for the consideration and approval of Government, the proposals of the Executive Committee* which was appointed by a general meeting of subscribers to the Tanjore Jubilee Fund (held at Tanjore on 27th July 1895) to carry out a resolution passed at the same meeting that the said fund should be utilized "in establishing a Students' Hostel for all classes of students in connection with the Kumbakónam College."

* Collector of Tanjore, / Principal of the Kumbakónam College, } *ex-officio.*
Messrs. K. Kalyanasundram Aiyar.
,, S. Seshayya.
,, P. Thambiswami Mudaliar.

2. This letter supplies all the information called for in G.O., No. 872, dated 14th November 1895. As already stated in my letter to you of the 22nd July 1896, the delay in submitting these proposals was in great measure unavoidable. In continuation, I may here add that, though most of the plans for the hostel buildings were ready in August, the estimates were not received till September.

3. *Funds available.*— On the 31st ultimo, the Jubilee Fund consisted of Rs. 26,000 in Government of India 3½ per cent. paper and Rs. 6,446–12–0 in cash. If the paper be realized at current prices and the interest that has accrued but remains unpaid be added, the fund may be said to stand at Rs. 34,700 approximately. To this sum should be added the liberal grant of Rs. 25,000, which, it is understood, Government is prepared to contribute in aid of the hostel scheme. The marginal table presents the financial position of the Executive Committee.

	Rs.	A.	P.
1. Realized value of Rs. 26,000 Government paper at 102.	26,520	0	0
2. Unpaid interest less income-tax	1,741	13	2
3. Cash	6,446	12	0
Total ..	34,708	9	2
Government grant	25,000	0	0
Grand total ..	59,708	9	2

4. *Appropriation of these funds.*—The following table shows how the committee proposes to deal with these funds :—

	Rs.
1. Hostel building	37,500
2. Kitchen and dining rooms	2,520
3. Latrine	650
4. Superintendent's house	4,710
5. Furnishing hostel	2,000
6. Cost of site	2,000
7. Constructing two wells	200
8. Miscellaneous	800
Total ..	50,380
Balance, about ..	9,320

The surplus available it is proposed to invest in Government paper. This will be held as a *Reserve Fund* to be utilized, when the hostel attains popularity and becomes a financial success, in improving or extending the accommodation. For some years to come, the interest on the fund will serve to meet more than half the cost of the proposed establishment.

5. *Site for Hostel.*—The committee is of opinion that, as the college grounds, in their present extent, provide inadequate space for tennis and badminton courts, and a cricket and football field, it would be advisable to acquire a site outside the grounds but near the college. It happens that there is a piece of ground adjacent to the college compound which, if it could be acquired, would serve the committee's purpose. In view of the inferior character of its soil, this land offers the only cheap site in the neighbourhood of the college. Mr. Oliver, the Receiver to the Tanjore palace estate—to which estate the land in question belongs—estimates its extent as 3 acres, 82 cents, and its value at Rs. 2,000. The land being trust property, it can be purchased only under the Land Acquisition Act, and the committee hopes that, as the acquisition of the land will supply an urgent want by adding considerably to the play-ground accommodation of the college, and will, at the same time, secure a healthy environment for the hostel, Government will see its way to purchasing the land, the cost of the purchase being debited to the Government grant in aid of the hostel.

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Read—again the following paper :—

G.O., Mis. No. 872, Educational, dated 14th November 1895.

Order—Mis. No. 872, Educational, dated 14th November 1895.

The Government views the scheme for the establishment of a students' hostel at Kumbakónam with favour; but desires, before passing definite orders thereon, to be furnished with a plan of the proposed building and to be informed as to (1) the exact amount of the Jubilee Fund which will be available for erecting it, (2) what fees the students will pay, (3) what the expenditure on feeding, &c., will probably amount to, and (4) how the cost of repairs to the building is to be met. Apparently, the building, which is estimated to cost Rs. 49,000, will provide accommodation for some seventy students only. Exact information on this head should also be supplied.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

Read—also the following paper :—

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., Director of Public Instruction, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 8th December 1896, No. 13221.

With reference to G.O., No. 872, Educational, dated 14th November 1895, I have the honour to submit the enclosed letter of the 13th ultimo from the Secretary to the Kumbakónam Hostel Committee, with plans and estimates prepared under the supervision of Mr. A. Chatterton, of the College of Engineering.

2. The assets of the Jubilee Fund amount to Rs. 34,708, and taking credit for a special grant of Rs. 25,000 from Government, the committee calculates the total receipts at Rs. 59,708, of which it proposes to spend Rs. 50,380 on the hostel buildings and to have a reserve fund of about Rs. 9,328 to be utilized gradually in improving or extending the accommodation; but, for some years to come, the interest on the fund will be appropriated towards defraying a portion of the cost of the establishment. It will be observed, from the statement of expenditure appended to paragraph 11, that only a sum of Rs. 100 has been provided for minor repairs.

3. The committee considers it desirable to secure a piece of ground—the only cheap site in the neighbourhood of the college—and hopes that Government will see its way to purchase the land under the Land Acquisition Act. A sum of Rs. 2,000 is provided in the estimate as the cost of the site. This building has been designed to accommodate 88 students. Each compartment will serve as a sleeping room and a study combined, and will be provided with a book-shelf and a cupboard combined, a table and a chair. Though the structural character of the hostel does not admit of

the students being locked up for the night, some system of ensuring that all the residents are in the hostel at night will be adopted. In a mofussil station a restriction of this kind seems less necessary than in Madras. The committee has not drawn up any special rules for the maintenance of discipline, being of opinion that undue harshness in regulating life in a hostel might defeat the ends proposed in establishing such institutions. No express provision has been made for bathing accommodation in view of the proximity of the Cauvery. Some provision should be made for oil-baths.

4. The committee proposes to levy a fee of Rs. 9½ per mensem from each boarder and pay Rs. 7 out of it to the contractor for feeding purposes and for supplying the requisites for hot and oil baths. The apothecary in charge of the municipal hospital will look after the health of the boarders, but these are required to make their own arrangements for coffee, lighting and washing. In view of the absence of any provision as to the source from which the cost of medicines has to be met, I would suggest that the word "medicines" be inserted after "coffee" at the close of paragraph 10.

5. The cost of the proposed establishment is Rs. 612 annually and that of boarding forty students at Rs. 7 each for nine months only is Rs. 2,520, while the fees payable by them would aggregate Rs. 3,420. The balance of income, *plus* the interest on the reserve fund, will be utilized for medical attendance, lighting, contingencies, repairs and taxes.

6. As Government would have nothing to do with the direct management of the Victoria Students' Hostel, the committee's request that Government may take over the hostel at Kumbakónam is out of the question. The direct management of the institution may be entrusted to a committee consisting of—

The Principal, Government College.
,, Headmaster, Town High School / Native High School } or representatives of these two schools.
,, Sub-Collector.
,, Sub-Judge.

The association should be registered under the Indian Companies Act VI of 1882 as has been done in the case of the Victoria Students' Hostel.

7. In consideration of the inadequacy of the Jubilee Fund to meet all requirements, I would strongly recommend that a special grant of Rs. 25,000, which is approximately one-half of the total estimated outlay on the hostel buildings, be sanctioned towards this hostel. The favour of early orders is requested, as the institution has to be registered in time to enable the managing committee to draw the building grant before the close of the current official year.

Enclosure.

From J. B. BILDERBECK, Esq., Secretary to the Hostel Executive Committee, to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, dated Kumbakónam, 13th November 1896.

I have the honour to submit, for the consideration and approval of Government, the proposals of the Executive Committee* which was appointed by a general meeting of subscribers to the Tanjore Jubilee Fund (held at Tanjore on 27th July 1895) to carry out a resolution passed at the same meeting that the said fund should be utilized "in establishing a Students' Hostel for all classes of students in connection with the Kumbakónam College."

* Collector of Tanjore, / Principal of the Kumbakónam College, } *ex-officio.*
Messrs. K. Kalyanasundram Aiyar.
,, S. Seshayya.
,, P. Thambiswami Mudaliar.

2. This letter supplies all the information called for in G.O., No. 872, dated 14th November 1895. As already stated in my letter to you of the 22nd July 1896, the delay in submitting these proposals was in great measure unavoidable. In continuation, I may here add that, though most of the plans for the hostel buildings were ready in August, the estimates were not received till September.

3. *Funds available.*—On the 31st ultimo, the Jubilee Fund consisted of Rs. 26,000 in Government of India 3½ per cent. paper and Rs. 6,446-12-0 in cash. If the paper be realized at current prices and the interest that has accrued but remains unpaid be added, the fund may be said to stand at Rs. 34,700 approximately. To this sum should be added the liberal grant of Rs. 25,000, which, it is understood, Government is prepared to contribute in aid of the hostel scheme. The marginal table presents the financial position of the Executive Committee.

	Rs.	A.	P.
1. Realized value of Rs. 26,000 Government paper at 102.	26,520	0	0
2. Unpaid interest less income-tax	1,741	13	2
3. Cash	6,446	12	0
Total ..	34,708	9	2
Government grant	25,000	0	0
Grand total ..	59,708	9	2

4. *Appropriation of these funds.*—The following table shows how the committee proposes to deal with these funds :—

	Rs.
1. Hostel building	37,500
2. Kitchen and dining rooms	2,520
3. Latrine	650
4. Superintendent's house	4,710
5. Furnishing hostel	2,000
6. Cost of site	2,000
7. Constructing two wells	200
8. Miscellaneous	800
Total ..	50,380
Balance, about ..	9,320

The surplus available it is proposed to invest in Government paper. This will be held as a *Reserve Fund* to be utilized, when the hostel attains popularity and becomes a financial success, in improving or extending the accommodation. For some years to come, the interest on the fund will serve to meet more than half the cost of the proposed establishment.

5. *Site for Hostel.*—The committee is of opinion that, as the college grounds, in their present extent, provide inadequate space for tennis and badminton courts, and a cricket and football field, it would be advisable to acquire a site outside the grounds but near the college. It happens that there is a piece of ground adjacent to the college compound which, if it could be acquired, would serve the committee's purpose. In view of the inferior character of its soil, this land offers the only cheap site in the neighbourhood of the college. Mr. Oliver, the Receiver to the Tanjore palace estate—to which estate the land in question belongs—estimates its extent as 3 acres, 82 cents, and its value at Rs. 2,000. The land being trust property, it can be purchased only under the Land Acquisition Act, and the committee hopes that, as the acquisition of the land will supply an urgent want by adding considerably to the play-ground accommodation of the college, and will, at the same time, secure a healthy environment for the hostel, Government will see its way to purchasing the land, the cost of the purchase being debited to the Government grant in aid of the hostel.

6. *Buildings.*—(i) Plans and estimates of the various buildings proposed have been prepared under the supervision of Professor A. Chatterton of the Civil Engineering College.

(ii) These plans and estimates are submitted with this letter, being forwarded, under separate cover, by parcel-post.

(iii) It will be seen from the plan of the hostel that the building has been designed to accommodate *88* students *nominally*, as there are *ten* rooms in the upper story and *twelve* on the ground floor, each of which is divided by movable partitions into *four* apartments. Each apartment will serve as a sleeping room and a study combined. As the cubical capacity of the rooms is 20 × 16 × 10 cubic feet (or a little more in the case of the upper rooms) and as all the apartments open on to a verandah,

a superficial area of 10 × 8 square feet for each apartment will provide amply for the needs of a student. As the partitions are 7½ feet in height, a fair degree of privacy is ensured. To each apartment access will be obtained by its own door, all the doors being provided with venetian shutters and having an opening over them for light and ventilation.

The central room upstairs will be used as a library and writing room, and, between certain fixed hours, as a place for meetings and general intercourse.

No express provision has been made for bathing accommodation ; for, if the site proposed is acquired, the hostel building will be not more than a stone's throw from the river Cauvery. Moreover, besides the two wells that it is proposed to sink, there is on the ground a small tank which can easily be enlarged and deepened when earth is required for the hostel basement, and which will serve the purpose of a swimming bath. Arrangements for the periodical oil baths will be made in the kitchen buildings.

It will be observed that the structural character of the hostel does not admit of the students being locked in for the night. A building in which it would be possible *effectively* to lock in the residents would, if it is to be structurally adapted to the conditions of life and climate in this country, cost much more money than the committee has at its disposal. Moreover, such building was not thought necessary in this town.

(iv) The kitchen and dining rooms and also the latrine from separate buildings, which, if funds permit, will be connected with the main building by inexpensive covered passages.

(v) The Superintendent's house will be placed as near the hostel as convenience may demand.

7. *Furniture.*—Each apartment will be provided with a book-shelf and cup-board combined, a table and one chair. Beds and lamps are to be supplied by students themselves. At first starting, the common room will be furnished as economically as possible. This room as well as the passages and verandahs will be lighted at the expense of the general funds of the hostel.

8. *Admissions.*—Under the resolution of the general meeting of subscribers referred to in paragraph 1, the hostel is open to all classes of students. The committee believes that, for some time to come, only members of the Brahmin community will apply for admission, but special arrangements must of course be made for other castes, as occasion arises. Moreover, the committee is of opinion that if, in any year, the number of applications for admission from students of the college is below the number of rooms available, it will not be inconsistent with the resolution referred to to grant admission to brothers or near relations of residents in the hostel, should they be studying at one of the schools in the town. The committee does not propose to lay down any rules governing admissions, as, in this matter, full discretionary powers should be vested in the controlling authority.

9. *Administration.*—(i) The domestic administration it is proposed to vest in a Superintendent, who will ordinarily be a member of the staff of the college. The Superintendent will have an allowance of Rs. 25 a month and a house-rent free. All the hostel servants will be placed under his orders, and he will be required to supervise the boarding and lodging arrangements and to be responsible for good order and discipline.

(ii) The boarding of the students will be placed in the hands of a contractor who will also supply the requisites for hot and oil baths. The contractor will be required to supply meals at regular hours according to a bill of fare approved by competent judges. The food supplied and the quality of the cooking will be periodically inspected by the Superintendent and reported on to the controlling authority.

(iii) The health of the boarders and the sanitary arrangements generally will be looked after by the Apothecary in charge of the Municipal Hospital who will

submit a weekly report to the controlling authority. He will be paid an honorarium of Rs. 100 for the year; but this sum will be increased when the revenues of the Hostel will admit of more liberal payment.

(iv) The Committee does not propose to draw up any special rules for the maintenance of discipline. Hostels are brand-new institutions in this country, and time alone can demonstrate the lines along which they should be worked. Any undue harshness in regulating life in a Hostel might defeat the ends proposed in establishing such institutions. Gentlemanly behaviour will of course be insisted on; slovenly and dirty habits and irregularities of conduct will, as far as possible, be checked; and the Superintendent will probably be required to call over the roll of residents in the Hostel at some hour in the evening. Healthy conditions of life, regular hours, and, above all, effective and sympathetic supervision, the Committee believes, will produce much better results on the moral character of students than severity of rules and regulations to which it may not be always possible to give effect.

10. *Fees to be paid.*—The question as to the amount of fee to be paid by students has received very careful consideration. So far as this Presidency is concerned, no satisfactory evidence is available to justify an assumption that a Hostel can be worked at a profit or even as a self-supporting institution. Moreover, it is utterly impossible to foresee what degree of popularity Hostels may attain in the student world. On the other hand, one important consideration stands out clearly to guide the Committee to a decision in fixing the amount of fee payble. It is evident that the fee chargeable at the Hostel should not much exceed the charges payable for board and lodging in a private house or a hotel in this town. Keeping in view, therefore, these local rates and also the rates payable at certain *hostels* in Tanjore and Trichinopoly, the Committee is of opinion that a fee of Rs. $9\frac{1}{2}$ a month may be levied at first starting. If it is found that the Hostel grows in popularity, this rate of fee can be raised. A system of differential rates might be adopted (1) for the more favourably situated rooms, and (2) in cases in which two or more members of a family reside in the Hostel. For this fee of Rs. $9\frac{1}{2}$ a student will have a separate apartment, three meals a day, his oil or hot baths, and medical advice. On the other hand, he will be required to make his own arrangements for his coffee, lighting and washing.

11. *Receipts and Expenditure.*—(i) The following tables present the estimated receipts and expenditure:—

Receipts.

	Rs.
1. Interest Rs. 9,000 Government $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., income-tax not deducted	315
2. Fees payable by 40 boarders for nine months at Rs. $9\frac{1}{2}$ *per mensem*	3,420
Total ..	3,735

Expenditure.

	Rs.	Rs.
1. Establishment—		
Superintendent at Rs. 25	300	
One peon at Rs. 6	72	
One night watch at Rs. 4	48	
Two scavengers at Rs. 5 each	120	
Two sweepers at Rs. 3 each	72	
		612
2. Boarding 40 students at Rs. 7 each for nine months		2,520
3. Medical attendance		100
4. Lighting		90
5. Contingencies		100
6. Minor repairs		100
7. Municipal taxes		40
Total ..		3,562
Balance ..		173

(ii) The Committee has somewhat arbitrarily postulated a strength of *40* boarders for the purpose of estimating receipts and expenditure. This number is nearly half the total number of students in the college (1) who are living in hotels, (2) who are boarding with friends and relatives, or (3) whose parents have taken house accommodation in Kumbakónam for the sake of the education of their children. It will be seen that the Committee has not allowed itself to take over-sanguine views of the prospects of the Hostel, and has been careful to avoid a scale of expenditure which errs on the side of extravagance. If the Hostel prove attractive and its numbers grow, its financial position must necessarily improve, and this will admit of a more liberal scale of expenditure.

(iii) The amount received from fees has been calculated for a period of *9* months, as this nearly represents the length of time for which students will be in residence.

(iv) A rate of Rs. *7* per head has been put down as payable to the contractor for board, &c. As this sum is somewhat higher than the usual charge in one of the small local hotels in which about *20* people get their meals, the rate allowed should enable the contractor to cater to the satisfaction of the boarders and to make a profit for himself.

12. *General Management.*—Paragraphs 9—11 embody what the Committee would propose in reference to the administration of the Hostel, should the affairs of the institution remain under the general management of the Committee. However, inasmuch as the Hostel is to be attached to a Government College and the building will stand on land belonging to Government, if the Committee's proposal in regard to the site selected be adopted, the Committee believes that the welfare of the Hostel would be best secured, if Government were to take over the Hostel, and, treating it as an appendage to the Government College, place it under the management of the Principal as Warden. The Committee hopes that Government will give this matter its early and favourable consideration. Pending the receipt of the resolution of Government on this subject, the Committee does not think it advisable to submit any alternative proposals as to the general management and control of the Hostel.

Order—No. 97, Educational, dated 18th February 1897.

The plans appear to be suitable, except that of the kitchen and dining-house which provides accommodation for students of one caste only. The committee may be right in thinking that at first only students of the Brahman community will resort to the hostel; but, if the Government is to give a grant towards the scheme, kitchen and dining accommodation for students of all castes must be provided from the beginning. The committee should revise its proposals accordingly and submit an amended plan for the approval of Government.

2. Subject to these conditions, His Excellency in Council is pleased to sanction a grant, not exceeding Rs. 25,000, towards the hostel scheme. The amount will be paid during the year 1897–98.

3. The committee has chosen as a suitable site for the hostel the land belonging to the Tanjore palace estate, lying adjacent to the college compound and measuring about 3 acres and 82 cents, and the committee requests that, as the property is trust property, Government may acquire it under the Act, the cost of acquiring it, estimated at Rs. 2,000, being debited to the grant-in-aid to the hostel. The Government accepts this suggestion and resolves to request the Collector of Tanjore to take early steps for the acquisition. Orders on the question of the adjustment of the cost will be passed subsequently.

4. As regards the management of the hostel, the Government agrees with the Director of Public Instruction that, as in the case of the Madras Students' hostels, the most suitable plan is to vest it in a registered association. The committee should

therefore, at their early convenience, take steps to prepare the necessary memorandum and articles of association and forward them for the approval of Government. The Government will have no objection to the committee appointing the Principal of the college as warden of the hostel.

(True Extract.)

G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction, with plans and estimates.
" Collector of Tanjore.
" Financial Department.
" Public Works Department.

Exd. A. Raitt.