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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Rubbie DEPARTMENT.

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Dated	2-3	1938.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
2nd March 1868.

No. 7. Read the following letter from the President of the Madras Central Committee for the late Paris Exhibition, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 25th February 1868.

I have the honor to transmit a report received from Major Michael, late Commissioner for Madras to the Paris Exhibition.

From Major J. MICHAEL, late Commissioner for Madras to the Paris Exhibition, to the President of the Madras Central Committee for the late Paris Exhibition; dated Madras, 20th February 1868.

In reporting my return to Madras, and with reference to my letter, dated Paris, 14th July 1867, notifying certain awards of Medals and Honorable Mentions to contributors from the Madras presidency, I have the honor to state that up to the time of my leaving Paris, few rewards had been distributed at all, and none had been delivered to Dr. Forbes Watson, Chief Commissioner for India, so that I was unable to bring the medals or diplomas with me. Dr. Watson promised, however, to send them to me here as soon as he receives them.

2. The following are the awards given in the published official lists, to which the Madras presidency can wholly, or in part, lay claim :—

- 1 *Grand Prix*.
- 3 Gold Medals.
- 3 Silver do.
- 9 Bronze do.
- 13 Honorable Mentions.

3. The *Grand Prix* was given to "British India" collectively for the cultivation of cotton, of which a large proportion of exhibits were from the Madras presidency.

In the same manner gold medals were awarded collectively to "India," and not to individuals, for carpets and for teas, a silver medal for silks, and a bronze medal for rich embroidery and laces.

This novel and somewhat unsatisfactory system, adopted by some of the Juries, of giving collective awards to towns and countries, where exhibitors of the same articles were numerous, was not confined to India; Manchester, and other large manufacturing towns in Europe having been similarly treated where the task of selection was difficult.

4. A detailed list of the above awards here follows :—

EXTRACTS FROM THE LISTS OF AWARDS OFFICIALLY PUBLISHED.

<i>Grand Prix.</i>		
1. British India	...	Cultivation of Cotton.
<i>Gold Medals.</i>		
1. British India...	...	Carpets (including Mats.)
2. F. J. V. Minchin...	...	Sugar.
3. { Districts of Assam, Cachar, Dehra } { Dhoon, Kumaon, Punjab, and Neil- } { gherry Hills. }		Teas.
<i>Silver Medals.</i>		
1. Producers of Indian Silks		
2. Government of Madras...	...	Cereals.
3. Captain J. Mitchell...	...	Stuffed Fishes.
<i>Bronze Medals.</i>		
1. Indian collection...	...	Rich Embroidery and Laces.
2. { Mysore, hors concours, classed } { in the rank of Bronze Me- } { dals. }		Collection of Woods.
3. Madras Government...	...	Arrowroot and Tapioca.
4. James Ouchterlony...	...	Neilgherry Coffee.
5. McFarlane...	...	Shervaroy Coffee.
6. Cocq...	...	Tinnevelly Coffee.

7. W. Maylor...	...	Wynaad Coffee.
8. Adderly Estate	...	Tinnevelly Coffee.
9. Captain Taylor...	...	Coorg Coffee.
<i>Honorable Mention.</i>		
1. His Highness the Rajah of Travancore.	Fruits (painted) in Ivory.	
2. Pestonjee Drouit, Madras...	Models of Fruit.	
3. Mr. Deschamps	Furniture.	
4. Bangalore, Mysore	Women's Cotton cloths.	
5. Peddapuram, Madras	Fans.	
6. Chittledroog, Mysore	Women's Cotton cloths.	
7. Ellore, Madras	Fans of Palmyra leaf.	
8. Mysore Exhibition	Fans.	
9. Exhibition of Arms (including Hyderabad)...	Arms.	
10. Madras Presidency, hors concours, classed in the rank of Honorable Mention...	Collection of Woods.	
11. J. Hayes	Sugar.	
12. The Deputy Supt., Mysore	Do.	
13. Local Committee, Madras	Arrack.	

I was told, a few days before leaving, by M. Michel Chevalier, one of the Imperial Commissioners, that it had been decided to award an extra *Grand Prix* to Mr. Markham for the successful introduction of the Chinchona tree on the Neilgherries, and that Mr. McIvor's services in cultivating it would also receive recognition.

5. I trust also to be able to report shortly that a recommendation has been carried out, concerning service medals on certain of the gentlemen of this presidency, who rendered valuable service in forming our collection of exhibits.

6. Before I left Paris a large portion of the Indian contributions had been sold by Mr. Dowleams, Commissioner for Bengal, who was specially entrusted by the Secretary of State with the sales of the exhibits of all the presidencies; but at the close of the exposition, there were still a great many articles unsold, and these, I believe, Mr. Dowleams intends selling by auction in London.

It will be some little time before he will be able to render an account of the sale proceeds, and until then I shall not be in a position to state the precise sum that has been thus recovered.

7. It was not to be expected that anything could be realized for the collection of raw products, cereals, pulses, fibres, &c., &c., which cost a tolerably large proportion of the money laid out here, as they were of no intrinsic value. I, therefore, in common with my brother Commissioners from the other presidencies, placed our contributions at the disposal of those Commissioners of Foreign countries, who were desirous of making collections for Museums. They were left in the care of Mr. Dowleams, who remained in charge of the sales, and before I left Paris selections from them had been made for the Museums of Vienna, Berlin, and St. Petersburg. I further took upon myself the responsibility, which I trust will be approved, of requesting Mr. Dowleams to place also at the disposal of Museums any articles of interest, such as models of implements, specimens of ropes, salts, Native musical instruments, and numerous other trifles remaining unsold at the close of the Exhibition, which, if put up to public auction, would probably realize only a few *sous*, and be lost to public interest.

8. I will now enumerate the purchases which I made from articles exhibited in the exposition, and as I was not aware of the extent of the funds which would be made available to me by Government for the purpose, and as I was anxious not to exceed the amount recovered by sales, I made my purchases with the strictest regard to economy.

Firstly.—As a lasting memorial of the part played by Madras in the Great World's Show, I selected the four large *Fayence* vases, on pedestals, exhibited by Messrs. Minton & Co., (Gold Medal) of Stoke-upon-Trent, which stood in the Park at the grand entrance to the building. They

were universally admired for their workmanship, colouring, and glazing, and although costing a comparatively small sum, £88, are more effective and suited for out-of-door purposes than some of their large majolica vases, which could not have been purchased at four times that price. They will serve as suitable ornaments to the space round the band-stand at the People's Park.

I may mention that a precisely similar set of vases was ordered by the Viceroy of Egypt from Messrs. Minton & Co.

Secondly.—Having been associated as a Juror with Mr. Minton Campbell, of the Firm of Minton & Co., I took the opportunity of enlisting his interest in the wants of our Madras School of Arts, and he kindly undertook to select for me, at their works at Stoke-upon-Trent, a collection of other articles of porcelain, majolica, &c., such as will be useful as models to Dr. Hunter's pupils in point of shape, colouring, quality, &c. To this is to be added a selection from their beautifully varied encaustic and other tiles for floors and walls; and Mr. Campbell was further liberal enough to offer to supply me, free of cost, with a collection of specimens of the various clays, &c., in use at their works.

Thirdly.—There was a small collection of terra-cotta pottery exhibited by the Hampshire Clay Company, Bishop's Waltham, which gained Honorable mention for its purity of design and excellence of workmanship. The patterns are principally Etruscan, and would be, I think, easily copied by Dr. Hunter's pupils in the School of Arts, and by the Arcot potters. I, therefore, at the close of the Exhibition, made an offer of £20 for the whole collection, packed and delivered in London, which was accepted, and I have heard of their being shipped on board the *Palmyra*.

Fourthly.—The use of terra-cotta, as a building material, has of late made great strides, especially in England, and Messrs. M. H. Blanchard & Co. (Silver Medal) being distinguished exhibitors in the exposition, I visited their works in Blackfriar's Road and made a selection of their most useful objects, such as can be re-produced in the Madras School of Arts. Mr. Blanchard made me up a case containing 30 specimens of balustrades, ornamental columns, and terminals; corbel and cornice work, &c., &c.; all of which may be, I think, turned to good account in making public and other buildings in India somewhat more ornamental. It was satisfactory to me to find subsequently that the Bishop's Waltham Company, and Messrs. Blanchard were both favorably mentioned by the Reporter of the Terra-cotta Jury, Class 65, (Mr. Henry Cole, C. B.) in the following words:—

“The most extensive show of terra-cottas is made by the English. In the Machinery Gallery, Messrs. Blanchard (successors to Messrs. Coade, in Blackfriar's Road,) exhibited various architectural details, especially two noble columns of Godfrey Syke's design, which have been engraved in the Illustrated London News, Vol. 49, page 305. These are built upon a basement made by Mr. Blashfield, of Stainford. There is not much to choose between the qualities of these samples of terra-cotta—both good. Blanchard's are variously and agreeably tinted by the “firing,” while Blashfield's affect a monotony of tint.

“The most extensive use of terra-cotta, however, is in the boiler-house for generating the steam necessary to move the British machinery.

“The colonnaded temples in India furnished exactly the type of structure wanted for both house and shaft, and the British boiler-house was designed upon Syud Oosman's tomb of the fifteenth century at Ahmedabad; but Italian terra-cotta, and not Hindoo details, were used for the sake of economy, in order that they might be employed hereafter in England. In the chimney shaft are used good moulded brick by the Bishop's Waltham Company, who show the excellence of their clay in some pottery in the building.”

Fifthly.—I found myself in rather a difficult position when endeavoring to make a selection of jewellery to serve as patterns for the Trichinopoly Gold and Silver Smiths, calculated to lead them to produce articles suited to the wants and demands of Europeans in India. In solid work, so long as they adhere to their own Native designs, and in the matter of filigree work, they have little or nothing to learn from their European competitors. Castellani of Rome exhibited a beautiful collection of gold ornaments of ancient design, worn by the Italian peasants, but as the whole had been taken for the South Kensington Museum, I placed myself in the hands of Mr. Phillips, Senior, of Messrs. Phillips Brothers (Gold Medal) of Cockspur Street, London, who have perhaps an

2. The Governor in Council approves of the manner in which Major Michael disposed of the collection of raw products, cereals, pulses, fibres, &c., by placing them at the disposal of those Commissioners of Foreign countries who were desirous of making collections for Museums.

3. The selection for purchase of articles exhibited appears to have been made by Major Michael with much judgment and taste.

4. The four large Fayence vases will, on arrival, be made over to the Municipal Commissioners, with a view to their being placed in the People's Park.

5. The collection of articles of porcelain, majolica, encaustic tiles, and the specimens of clays obtained from Messrs. Minton & Co., and the collections of terracotta pottery from the Hampshire Clay Company, and from Messrs. Blanchard & Co., will, as suggested by Major Michael, be sent to Dr. Hunter for the use of the School of Arts.

6. The specimens of jewellery will be sent to the Collector of Trichinopoly, who will make them available, under proper restrictions, as designs to the jewellers of that town.

7. The collection of lace patterns will be made over in equal portions to the Mission Schools of Travancore and Tinnevely.

8. The two ice-machines will be forwarded to the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, with a view to their being tried, and to Dr. Mackenzie furnishing a report as to their suitability for use in European hospitals.

9. A copy of Major Michael's report will be transmitted, with reference to paragraphs 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, to the Residents of Travancore and Hyderabad.

10. The Governor in Council desires that Major Michael will accept the thanks of the Government for the very able manner in which he has performed the duty assigned to him as the representative of the Government at the Paris Exhibition.

(True Extract).

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Madras Central Committee for the late Paris Exhibition.
To Major J. Michael.

To the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras.

„ Superintendent of the School of Industrial Arts.

„ Collector of Trichinopoly.

„ Do. of Tinnevely.

„ Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.

„ Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

„ Do. at Hyderabad.

*To the Honorable R. S. Ellis Esq.
Chief Secretary*

Sir,

*I have the honor to transmit with
a report received from Major
Michael, late Commissioner for
Madras to the Paris Exhibition
and return.*

Yours

John Lubbock Esq.

President of the

Paris Exhibition

Madras

25 Feb 1868.

*Madras }
25 Feb 1868.*

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From

President to the Committee
for Paris Exhibition

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Forwards a report from
the Commission for
Madras to the Paris Ex-
hibition.

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PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the
 President of the Madras Central Committee
 for the late Paris Exhibition.
 / 25 Feb 1868.
 Order thereon. 20 March 1868 N: 275

The Governor in Council
 has read with much in-
 terest Major Michael's report
 on the result of the Madras
 contributions to the Paris
 Exhibition and is gratified
 to learn that this Presidency
 may fairly be considered
 entitled to a considerable
 share of the awards assigned
 to British India.

2. The Governor in Council
 approves of the manner in
 which Major Michael dis-
 posed of the collection of
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and Tinnivelly.

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10. The Governor in Council
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considers that Major
Michael ^{will accept} is deserving of
the thanks of the Govern-
ment for the very able
manner in which he has
performed the duty assigned
to him as the representative
of the Government at the
Paris Exhibition.

*To the Presdt. of the Madras Centl Comtee
for the Fair Arts Exhibition.
Major Michael
Munro Commr. for the Govt of Madras*

Supt. of the School of Industrial Art.

Collector of Michinipoly

" " Sinnerelly

Insp Genl Indian Medl Dept.

Presd. of Travancore & Cochin

7. 8.

Vol. 1868. Department.

No. 275

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated *2^d March* 1868.

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