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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 168	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated 6.2.	1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

6/10/26

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
6th February 1869.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 58. From the Reverend T. FOULKES, Chaplain of Vepery, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Landon's Gardens, 26th January 1869.

I have the honor to bring to your notice, for the information of Government, that in the course of my collation of the works of Kalidasa in the Madras Collection of M.SS., I have met with several M.SS. in which the 'Bana' book-worm was actively at work in considerable numbers when I opened the books, and I am still continually meeting with them.

2. Several of the palmyra-leaf books which I have had occasion to use have been so much injured by this destructive insect, as to make them useless except for comparison with more perfect copies of the works ; and I believe that a considerable number of other M.SS. are in the same condition.

3. While I believe that a great deal of this destruction may have taken place a long time ago, before the additional care which has been bestowed upon them during the last few years, and that some of the older M.SS. may have been in a dilapidated condition when they were first purchased, I also believe that the greatest part of the injury to which I refer is of comparatively late date, and that extensive damage is going on at the present moment.

4. I trust, therefore, that I may not be out of place in respectfully suggesting, for the consideration of Government, whether some means may not be taken for the preservation of this unrivalled collection of Indian M.SS. from the further inroads of this insect, pending the arrangements that may be made for their custody in the new Public Library.

No. 59. From W. S. LILLY, Esq., Acting Under Secretary to Government, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Fort Saint George, 1st February 1869.

I have the honor to inform you that, as directed by you verbally, I have personally examined the condition of the Oriental M.SS., regarding which Mr. Foulkes has addressed Government in his letter of the 26th ultimo.

2. I quite agree with Mr. Foulkes that no time ought to be lost in devising measures for checking the ravages which insects are at present making in this valuable collection, said to be the largest in the world, and containing the only known copies of works of considerable importance to Orientalists and Philologists. There would seem to be good grounds for apprehending irreparable damage if steps be not at once taken to arrest the destruction which is at present in active progress, and to remedy, as far as may be possible, the mischief induced by years of neglect.

3. I would suggest the appointment of a Committee to report on the actual state of the collection, the measures requisite for its present preservation, and the best means of eventually bestowing it, so as to ensure its safe keeping and easy accessibility to scholars who may desire to consult it. The Director of Public Instruction, under whose charge the M.SS. nominally are, might perhaps be named President of the Committee, and the Reverend Mr. Foulks who has taken a lively interest in the condition of these literary treasures, the worth of which he is probably better able to appreciate than any other person in Madras, would doubtless gladly afford his valuable assistance as a member of it.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department.
6th February 1869.

No. 60. ORDER THEREON, 6th February 1869, No. 168.

In his letter of the 26th ultimo, the Reverend Mr. Foulkes represented to Government the ravages which have been made by insects in the valuable collection of Oriental M.SS. now deposited in the Book Depot. The Acting Under Secretary to Government, after personally examining the collection and conferring with Mr. Foulkes, recommends the appointment of a Committee to inquire and report on the best means of preventing further destruction, and repairing as far as may be the consequences of years of neglect.

2. His Excellency in Council is pleased to approve of Mr. Lilly's suggestion, and to appoint as a Committee, for the special purpose above described, the gentlemen marginally noted. The thanks of Government are due to the Reverend Mr. Foulkes for bringing the subject to their notice.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To E. B. Powell, Esq., c. s. i.
„ Reverend T. Foulkes.
„ W. S. Lilly, Esq.
„ J. Pickford, Esq., B. A.

Cont. of 1869 *Annals*.

PUBLIC.

To

E. R. POWELL, Esq., C. S. I.
&c., &c., &c.

Dated February, 6th.

Recd.

Ind.

G. O., 6th February 1869, No. 168.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 58—60.

. Appointing a Committee to inquire and report on the best means of preventing the further destruction by insects of the Oriental M.SS. deposited in the Book Depot.

5.N.

To The Honble. N. S. Ellis, C. B.
Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort Saint George.

Sir

I have the honor to bring to your notice for the information of Government, that in the course of my collation of the books of Kālidāsa in the Madras Collection of MSS., I have met with several MSS. in which the 'Bāna' book-worm was actively at work in considerable numbers when I opened the books, and I am still continually meeting with them.

2. Several of the Saubha palm-leaf books which I have had occasion to use have been so much injured by this destructive insect, as to make them useless except for comparison with more perfect copies of the works: and I believe that a considerable number of other MSS. are in the same condition.

3. While I believe that a great deal of this destruction may have taken place a long time ago, before the additional care which has been bestowed upon them during the last few years, and that some of the older MSS. may have been in a dilapidated condition when they were first

purchased, I also believe that the greatest
part of the injury to which I refer is of
comparatively late date, and that extensive
damage is going on at the present moment.

It is therefore that I may
be out of place in respectfully sug-
gesting for the consideration of Government
whether some means may not be taken
for the preservation of this unrivalled
collection of Indian MSS. from the further
vicissitudes of this insect, pending the ar-
rangements that may be made for their
study in the Public Library.

I have the honor to be,

Sirs,

Your most obedient servant,

Thos. Foulkes

Captain of Vespers

London's Gardens,

26th. January 1869.

From
W. S. Lilly Esq.
Acting Under Secy to Government.
of

The Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George—

Sr,

I have the honor to inform you that as directed by you verbally I have personally examined the condition of the Oriental MSS. regarding which Mr. Finches has addressed Government in his letter of the 26th ultimo.

I quite agree with Mr. Tonkin that no time ought to be lost in devising measures for checking the ravages which insects are at present making in this valuable collection, said to be the largest in the world, and containing the only known copies of works of considerable importance to Orientalists and Philologists. There would seem to be good grounds for apprehending irreparable damage if steps be not at once taken to arrest the destruction which is at present in

active

Ans 14 August 1985-86.

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Public Body

Dear Mr. Southwick
Brooklyn

No. 168.

2/26/66
1/27/67
Jans

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Having to notice that
 some of the Mrs's under
 lie get from the library
 are being charged &
 cannot suggest that
 after the labor of power
 the destruction

active progress and to remedy as far as
may be possible the mischief induced
by years of neglect.

3. I would suggest the appoint-
ment of a Committee to report on the actual
~~present~~ state of the collection, the
measures requisite for its present
preservation and the best means of
eventually bestowing it so as to ensure
its safe keeping and easy accessibility
to scholars who may desire to consult
it. The Director of Public Instruction
under whose charge the M.S.S. nominally
are might perhaps be named President
of the Committee, and the Revd Mr.
Foulkes who has taken a lively
interest in the condition of these literary
treasures, the worth of which he is probably
better able to appreciate than any
other person in London, would doubtless
gladly afford his valuable assistance
as a member of it.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedt servant

W. H. L. G.

Asst. Secy. Secy.

W. H. L. G.
15 Feb. 1869

1884 59.

Recd 16 Feb 1869

134

Public Department,

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter

From the Rev J. Foulkes — (Recd enter 26th January 1869)

From Mr H. S. Lilly —
Of Under Secy to Govt — (Recd enter 1st February 1869)

Order thereon N. 168. 6 Feb 1869.

In his letter of the 26th instant the Rev Mr Foulkes represented to Government the ravages which have been made by insects in the valuable collection of Oriental M.S.S. now deposited in the Book Dept. The Under Secretary to Government, after personally examining the Collection and conferring with Mr Foulkes, recommends the appointment of a Committee to inquire and report on the best means of preventing further destruction, and repairing as far as may be the consequences of years of neglect.

2

His Excellency in Council

is

11/5/69
No 192
Report on the condition of the Oriental Manuscripts in the Library attached to the Office of the Secretary of Public Instruction

Public M.S. Dept
From Mr H. S. Lilly
Of Under Secy to Govt

is pleased to approve of Mr. Lilly's sug-
-gestion, and to appoint as a committee
for the special purpose above
described, the gentlemen marginally
noted. The thanks of Government
are due to the Rev. Mr. Foulkes for
bringing the subject to their
notice.

E. B. Powell Esq. C.S.I.
Director of Public Instruction.
The Rev. J. Foulkes
W. S. Lilly Esq.
J. Pickford Esq. B.A.
Professor of Sanskrit.

dep 11/2 { E. B. Powell Esq. C.S.I.
Rev. J. Foulkes
W. S. Lilly Esq.
J. Pickford Esq. B.A.

7
Feb 16 1869

Govt. of 1869, 20 and 1869,
Pueblo.

To
E. B. Powell Esq: C. S. J.
Jas.

Dated Feb 6th }
Recd. 1869, No. 168.

Nos. 58 - 60.

Appointing a Committee
to inquire & report on
the best means of the
raising the frontier Sta.
lineation by means of
the Oriental & S. S. at
points in the North
Sept 1869.