

1. Name
2. Date of issue
3. Initials of Receiver
M.R.O. 1-30,000-16-10-20

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1606	Press Mis.
Dated	23-10-	19-1871

Not to be folded or roughly handled

23rd October 1871.

No. 127. Read the following letter from G. S. FORBES, Esq., to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 2nd October 1871:—

I have explained to the other members of the Exhibition Committee the reasons which preclude my acting with them. I now beg to submit the same explanation to His Excellency the Governor in Council, with the request that my connexion with the Committee may be formally dissolved.

2. The object of the Commissioners of the Art Exhibition is to illustrate the progress of art (including, of necessity, the higher branches of industry) from year to year, and the Indian Committees are charged with the collection of specimens of Hindoo and Mahomedan Art in its progressive state. But Hindoo and Mahomedan Art properly so called ceased to progress, and have almost ceased to exist, since the arts and industries of Europe became known and appreciated in India; nothing beyond imitation can henceforward be looked for. The truth of this position is shown by the absence of market demand for the productions of Indian art and industry (and to this rule there are very rare and limited exceptions); and, secondly, by the preference shown by persons of wealth and position for English jewelry, cutlery, calico, harness, and for French clocks, mirrors, pictures, and the like. The reply of the Indian Government to the appeal of the Commissioners, I venture to think, should have been an explanation of the condition of India in respect of native art.

3. The course pursued by the Committee in the collection of specimen seems also open to objection. Pressure, light as it may be, is put upon the Collectors, and through them upon Tahsildars and other officials, and under these influences articles are produced, which would not otherwise come into existence, and which do not truly illustrate the natural progress or exercise of the art to which they belong.

4. Purchase in the bazaar or the shop seems to me the only legitimate process for collecting.

5. I will not trouble Government with any further observations on this subject, having said, I think, sufficient to show that I cannot take a willing part in the labours of the Committee.

No. 128. ORDER THEREON, 23rd October 1871, No. 1606.

The Governor in Council accepts the resignation of the appointment of member of the Exhibition Committee tendered by Mr. G. S. Forbes, and resolves to appoint to the vacancy Mr. George Thornhill, Member of the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R. E.,
Acting Joint Secretary, P. W. D.,
for Chief Secretary.

To G. S. Forbes, Esq.
„ G. Thornhill, Esq.
„ the Members of the Committee for the International Exhibition.

Exd. J. Wright.

The Chief Secretary to Government

Sir,
I have explained to the other members of the Exhibition Committee the reasons which preclude my noting with them. I now beg to submit the same explanation to His Excellency the Governor in Council with the request that my connection with the same may be formally dissolved.

The object of the commissioners of the Art Exhibition is to illustrate the progress of Art (including, for necessity, the higher branches of industry) from year to year, and the Indian Committees are charged with the Collection of specimens of Hindu and Mahomedan Art in its progressive state. But Hindu and Mahomedan Art properly so called ceased to progress and has almost ceased to exist, since the

Cat. of 1871

PUBLIC.

To
G. S. FORBES, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 23rd.

Recd.

Encl.

H. O., 23rd October 1871, No. 1606.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 127-128.

Acceptance of the resignation of the appointment
of Mr. G. S. Forbes, and appointing Mr. George
Thorne, Member of the Board of Revenue, to the

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tation can, henceforward, be
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of native art.

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the shop seems to me the only
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servations on this subject have
said I think sufficient to show
that I cannot take a willing
part in the labors of the
Committee

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most Obedt. Servant

Agarwal
D. H. C.

C. O. Fisher

Wm. Parker Esq
of New York
in custody of the Hon. Secy
of State

[Handwritten signature]

of member
by the
of the
member

of the

Having been in
 receipt the resignation of the
 members of the Institution
 by the 21st of June - and on
 to the vacancy Mr. George
 Mendenhall was sent. After

[illegible]

Court of 1871 Madras.

Public

G. S. Forbes Esq.

Dated Oct 23

Read

Encl.

G. O. 23 Oct. 1871, No. 120

Nos. 120.

Accepting the resignation of
the appointee of members
of the Rehabilitation Committee
induced by Mr. G. S. Forbes,
and appointing Mr. George
Thornhill, member of the
Board of Revenue, to the
vacancy.