

Public (1896) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 590-91

Dated 6th June 1896.

[Despatch Abstract.]

READERS FOR THE BLIND.

Forwarding to the Government of India, for transmission to the Secretary of State, three Hindustani---submitted by the Madras Auxiliary Bible Society for presentation to Her Majesty the Queen Empress.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
CR 31 of 86							

[G.]
[9]
4,000-78-1-10

Current No.

DEPARTMENT.

From

The Secretary to the
Madras Bible Society.

No.

Dated 8.4.96

Received 8/4.96

Registered 9/4.96

Enclosures 2 letters and 3 books.

SUBJECT.

Enclosing copies of two letters
from Mr C. F. McCarter and
forwarding certain books for
the Blind, to be presented
to Her Majesty the Queen Empress.

D.O. 8/13 April 1896

with letter 3 books

My dear Duncan.

Done 13/4/96 Please glance

over the enclosed D.O.

from the Secy of the Madras

Bible Society and the

books sent herewith,

and let me know if

any far results mentioned

in the statements in the

last paragraph of the

letter have been achieved.

Yours faithfully

8/4.96

W.D.

W.D.

104 A

13-4-6

10
14-70
No. 282

DEPARTMENT.

From

The Hon'ble Dr. D. Duncan

Madras

No.

Dated 18th April 1896

Received 20 ————

Registered 20 ————

Enclosures D.O. No 250 with 2000
red

SUBJECT.

See Ann. Ling report on inspecting
three books for the Blind prepared
on the Braille system —

Ind 55A

Dem.

2511/26

True copy
S.W.O.
8/4/96.

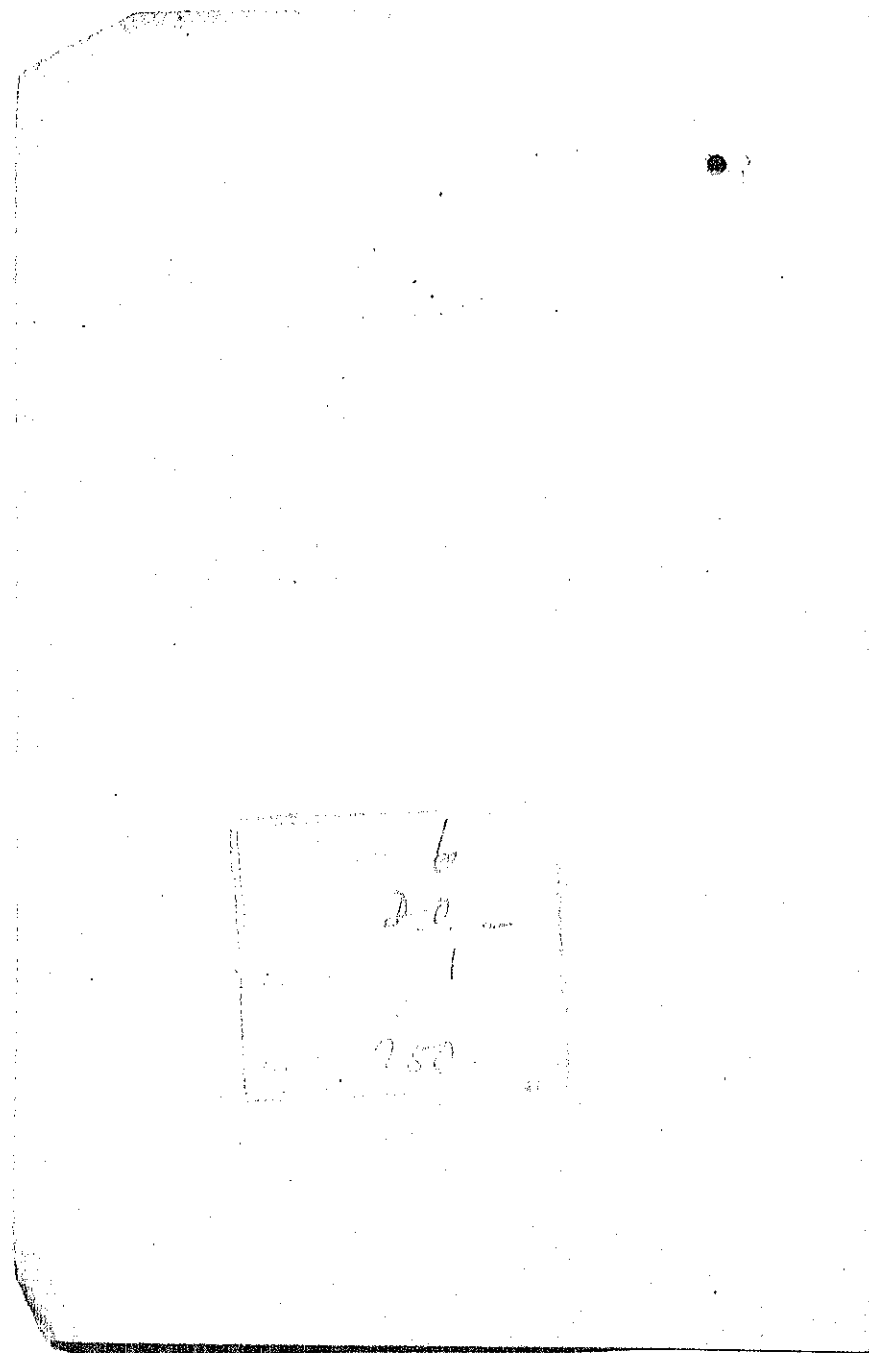
Government House
Madras.
13th March.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of this date. H. E. the Governor is of opinion that the most convenient & usual course will be for you to forward the volumes to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, for submission to Her Majesty, through the usual channels. & in doing so please quote this letter & also the one written by me the other day to the Rev. Mr. Knowles under instructions from H. E. the Governor.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/ C. J. Macartie



recd copy
J. W. D.
8/4/96

Government House,
Quindiy,
4th March 1896.

Dear Mr. Knowles,

A. E. the Governor is much obliged for he is much interested in your account of what has been done by yourself & others for the Blind since the date of your last conversation with His Excellency.

He congratulates you on the progress made and particularly upon the ingenuity of your typewriting invention which he trusts you may be able to develop successfully. If a suitably bound copy of the Hindustani Primer can reach him in time His Excellency will have much pleasure in forwarding it to Her Majesty thro' the proper channel.

A. E. the Governor regrets

that your proposal to inaugurate in England a Society for the Eastern or Indian Blind should have reached him so immediately before his departure from these shores as to render it absolutely impossible for him to give to your idea, the consideration it deserves. At present the scheme is in the inchoate stage and although details may be left to be filled in later on, the broad principles on which the future Society is to be founded must be thoroughly thrashed out & detailed before he can either accept the Presidency or recommend Royalty to do so. The only suggestion you have made so far is that the future Society must have a Christian basis. This alone is a most debatable question & A. E. the Governor is not at all sure what precise meaning you intend to apply to this phrase.

While feeling it his duty to indicate the practical doubts and difficulties which surround the inception of such an undertaking as you propose A. E. fully sympathizes with your benevolent ideas and is far from desiring to discourage you. All he would say is let your principles fixed & thoroughly discussed & your best way of making a practical start would, in his opinion, be by putting yourself into communication with some of the great English Societies for the Blind.

Believe me,

Yours truly

(Signed) F. J. McCarrie

D.O. 250

Auxiliary Bible Society,

MEMORIAL HALL,

Madras, 8 April 1896

8. APR. 1896

The Chief Secretary
to Government,
Fort St. George.

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to enclose copies of two letters from Mr. C. F. Mc Gartie, the one to the Rev. J. Knowles & the other to this office. From these documents you will gather that the Rev. J. Knowles, who has adapted the Braille system for the Blind, to the Indian languages, desires the favour of being allowed to present, through the usual Government channel, to Her Majesty the Queen Empress a copy each of our Hindustani Primers & the book of Jonah for the Blind.

I send to your address a parcel containing these books & we shall be

glad if you will be so kind as to arrange for its transmission to London for Her Majesty's gracious acceptance.

I may state in a word that the publication of these books has already led generally, to an awakening interest in the condition of the Blind and, in particular, to the establishment of several small schools in this Presidency for teaching them to read. The Madras Missionary Conference has further considered the question of establishing an Industrial School for this much neglected class. Thus we hope that this small beginning will lead to great ends.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

S. W. Organe

Secretary, Madras Bible Society

D. O.



20 APR 1896
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

PORT ST. GEORGE,

13th April 1896

My Dear Duncan,

Please glance over the enclosed D.O. from the Secretary of the Madras Bible Society and the books sent herewith and let me know how far the results mentioned in the last paragraph of the letter have been achieved.

Yours sincerely,

J. J. Herbert

NR 15/14 Please reply to the C.S. at Ooty

D.O. N^o 282 Office of the Director of
Instruction,
Madras, 18th April 1896

CHIEF SECRETARY
1896
MADRAS

With reference to D.O. dated,
13th inst. from Mr. G. S. Forbes, forwarding
for inspection three books for the Blind prepared
on the Braille system and intended for presenta-
tion to Her Majesty the Queen Empress, I may
state that similar readers in Tamil and Telugu
have been brought out by Mr. G. S. Forbes with
the financial help of this Department,
and a Kannada edition has been brought out
under the auspices of the Mysore Government.

[As far as I know the books have
not yet come into use in any of the three

Schools for the blind recognized by this Department. These schools are in the Tinnevely District — two for boys, with 29 pupils; managed by Miss Asgith, and one for girls, with 11 pupils, managed by Miss Walford. In these schools Moon's system, which was followed before the appearance of Mr. Lighthair's books, continues to be used. It is possible that the books on the Braille system are being used in small schools not under the supervision of the officers of this Department.

In the Grant-in-aid Code special provisions are made for schools for the blind, but the Department does not prescribe the

System — Moon's or Braille — which may be followed in reading. The code provisions are as follows:—

"In the case of schools for the blind the following special concessions have been sanctioned:—

(1) Grants may be paid for pupils who have passed in reading and arithmetic only.

(2) The arithmetic may be mental.

(3) The examination in object lessons should be conducted by placing before the pupils certain objects and by requiring the pupils to touch those objects.

(4) In examining in geography reference to maps should not be insisted on until special maps are devised."

I enclose the letters forwarded

Ought not the draft inspection to be more fully worked? It is assumed that the majority will be pleased to accept the books. The usual form of draft is "in the hope that the majority will be pleased to accept the books." It is something of that sort.

There are precedents put up - it was never preferred to leave it to the S.P.S. to decide in the proper way - There is nothing new in books for the blind with raised type. They have been in use for years in England; a half the blind beggars have them. The only point about these books is that they are some of the best in the world.

Yes I don't think it at all necessary to try to make out that they were adopted by the Dept of Pub. Inst. The D.P.S. has admitted from the first that it is a very poor book. It is a very poor book. It is a very poor book.

Note for the Under Secy

The Public dept is concerned only with the transmission of these books to the Secy of State. But it seems necessary to say something on the educational aspect of the question of "Instruction for the Blind," as Lord Wollock interested himself in the matter, and the point may attract attention.

But on the title page of the books is printed the declaration

"Adopted by the Dept of Public Instruction, Madras"

Thomas Dr Duncan says

"The dept does not prescribe the system ~~of~~ Moon's or Marlett's - which may be followed in reading"

The fact that a grant-in-aid has been given & taken by the Director seems to point to the extent of the grant, & it will probably suffice, if extracts are

cut off the Secy of
State, as in the draft.

It is odd
that neither the
Rev Mr Knobel
nor the Secy of
the A.B. Society
says a word
about Mr.
Guthrie,
While neither the annual
Admin. reports nor in
the present D.O. from
the D.P.I., did any
mention made of
the services of the
A.B. Society?

How things seem to me to be
too long, and the same matter occurs

Readers for the

Blind - ought to be

booked down to the
shortest possible account of
the work for the blind that is being
done here, & not sent up in the form
of a story.

J. S.

The difficulty was
that the noble brief
took all the credit
to itself, as regards
the work of the
small schools,
which the Directors
ignored - It
was a pity before
to have each
have his own
say -

I don't see that this is
particularly odd: there doesn't
seem to be much reason why either
should refer to the other.

The Director says nothing about
the work of the Madras
Missionary Conference -

Please see draft
modified according
to U.S. views

AB
2/5/96

Please see Lewis letter
No 1199 of 11-4-96
(In response)

Note for the Under Secretary

On going over the
further precedents I called for
I think it will be better
to send the books to
India, & leave it to them
to add what they like on
the general educational
question. The Rev Mr Knobel
had adapted ~~Beattie's~~
system to all the Indian
languages, & India ought
to be able to pronounce
a decision whether the
books should be recommended
by the S. of S. for acceptance
by Her Majesty's
Queen Empress.

J.P. Feb. 2 15-7-96
No 460 Relative mostly of
Congratulatory & Condolences,
with to all "communi-
cations intended for Her
Majesty the Q.E."

The precedents show
that several books have been
sent to India, & draft is
forwarded accordingly

AB
6/5/96

How much of the same to be put

Public.

Do. 250 & 282.

ORDER:- W.P. 590 of 6th June '96

The books will be forwarded to the Govt. of India, with the request that they may be transmitted to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for presentation to the Her Majesty, the Queen Empress.

To
The Secretary,
Madras Auxiliary Bible Society.

LETTER:- W.P. 591 of 6th June '96

To
The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Foreign Dept.

SIR,
At the instance of the Madras Auxiliary Bible Society, I am directed to forward 3 Hindustani readers for the blind (published by Mr. Garthwaite for the Rev. Mr. Knowles, who has adopted Braille's system to several Indian languages) and to request that they may be transmitted to the Rt. Hon. the Secretary of State, with the intimation that the Society desires it to be offered

Public P.O. 590/1
96/6/96

offered for the acceptance of Her Majesty,
the Queen Empress of India.

2. Similar readers in Tamil and
Telugu have been brought out by Mr.
Garthwaite, with the aid of the Educa-
tional department, while a Canarese
edition has appeared under the auspices
of the Mysore Govt.

3. There are several schools
for the blind in this Presidency managed
by private enterprise, and partly aided
by Govt. and both Moon's and Braille's
systems are used therein.

4. The Madras Missionary Con-
ference contemplates establishing an
industrial school for the blind and
hopes that this small beginning will
lead to great ends.

Readers for the
Blind

CS
ms.

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____ DATED _____
189

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO G. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING AWAIT FOR RESEARCH
IN ORIGINAL

A A A A A A A

N.B.

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.

H.S.

Please send up the few copies of
the letter for name from here with the
books.

120
6/6/96