M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 145 Press / Mis.

222-223

Dated 17-7- 1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

(1) —1

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 17th July 1861.

No. 222. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department, dated 3rd July 1861, No. 953:—

Read the following letter from A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Director of Public Instruction, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Coonoor, 28th June 1861, No. 1,137.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, under date the 16th ultimo, No. 10, calling upon me to expedite the submission of the memorandum on the education of female minors alluded to in the Proceedings of Government, under date the 12th September last, No. 1,579.

2. I regret that it is not in my power to offer any much more definite suggestion on the subject than that contained in my memorandum of the 30th November 1859, and it is for this reason that I have deferred again addressing the Government with reference to it. It seems clear that the education of Native females of the upper classes, if it is to be carried out at all, must be conducted in their own homes, and through the agency of female teachers well acquainted with the vernacular language of their pupils. It would be desirable that such governesses should be English women, or East Indians, brought up with English habits, but if, as I fear, no such persons are procurable, Native women educated in the Mission Boarding schools might in some cases be employed. The objection to persons of the latter class would be that in most cases their caste, and the fact of their being Christian converts, would make them unacceptable to the relatives of the female minors.

3. In some respects the Military Female Orphan Asylum at Madras furnishes materials for a good class of governesses, such as is needed for the education of the daughters of native Zamíndárs and other landed proprietors. A teacher's class has been in operation in that institution for the last three years, and some of the girls trained in it promise to be very efficient teachers. As yet, however, their instruction in the vernacular languages has not been sufficiently attended to. It has been confined to Tamil, and in that language but little has been done. But this is a defect which may be easily remedied, and I have already suggested to the Directors the employment of a more efficient Tamil Teacher. The means of instruction in the Telugu language should also be provided.

4. But supposing that some of these young women were found perfectly competent for the duty and were willing to undertake it, the great difficulty remains of providing them with suitable homes at the places where their services would be required.

5. Under these circumstances I am not sanguine that the system of domestic education to which I advert, will prove feasible, at all events for some time to come; but if the Government approve of the principle, I would suggest that the Court of Wards should be instructed to attempt its introduction, in communication with my Department, whenever it may be possible to obtain the services of qualified governesses, European, East Indian, or Native.

Communicated to the Revenue Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT, *Chief Secretary.*

No. 223. ORDER THEREON, 17th July 1861, No. 1,415.

1. Ordered that this letter be forwarded to the Court of Wards who will, in communication with the Director of Public Instruction, make the best arrangements practicable for the education of their female wards.

2. Ordered also that a copy of Mr. Arbuthnot's letter and of this Order be transmitted to the Secretary of State for his information, with reference to paragraph 3 of his Despatch, dated 31st July 1860, No. 49.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

Ordered

Revd Dept.

No 1415

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 17th July 1861

Read the following

Proceedings of the Madras Govt

in the Public Dept.

Communicating a letter from the Director of Public Instruction on the subject of the education of female minors.

(Here enter 3d July 1861 No 953)

Ordered that this letter be forwarded to the Court of Wards who will in communication with the Director Public Instruction make the best arrangements practicable for the education of their female Wards.

Ordered

2. Ordered also that a copy of Mr. Arbuthnot's letter and of this order be transmitted to the Secretary of State for his information, with reference to para 3 of his Despatch dated 31st July 1860 No 49.

L W S

14 Copies to the Court of Wards — Dispo 17
4 — Pub Depts

Copy in a letter to Mr. 17th July 1861 No 93.

Revenue 1861 Deptt.
Pro: of Govt. for July
No 1415.
Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dt 17th July 61.

Communicating to the Court of Wards Letter from the Dr of Public Instruction relating to the education of Native female Minors.

No 222 & 223.

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