

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2208

Press
~~Mis.~~

305. 306

Dated

14. 9. 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th September 1865.*

No. 305. Read the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 4th September 1865, No. 5,448.

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Court of Wards, dated Nannagaram, near Tenkasy, 26th July 1865, No. 294 :—

SIR,

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 14th June 1865, No. 3,224, paragraph 66, requesting a report on the education and attainments of the Oorkad estate minors, and as to their place of study, I have the honor to report that Mr. Silver, just before his departure in the end of January of this year, directed the attendance of the eldest at the Zillah school of Tinnevely. His mother, however, objected to this, and requested that her son might be allowed to attend the Talook school of Ambasamudram, which is within half mile of his residence, whereas the Zillah school is twenty miles distant. Mr. Banbury complied with her request as a temporary measure.

2. I sent for the three minors with the view of ascertaining what progress they had made in their studies.

3. The eldest, aged fifteen, read, with some mistakes in pronunciation, an English exercise, lesson 8, page 30 of Mavor's Spelling Book; he could not render it into Tamil with any facility, but understood the meaning of most of the words, also he read some easy sentences in the first book of English reading. He read out of the first book of lessons in Tamil, as he has an impediment in his speech, his facility of reading cannot be well judged of. He was then set exercises in numeration, multiplication, addition, &c., which he performed correctly.

4. He wrote Tamil from dictation pretty well. He had much difficulty in writing in English; on referring to the native teacher, whom he had before going to the Talook school, as to his previous attainments, I consider that he has not made a bad intermediate use of his time.

5. The next minor, aged ten, knows Telugu as well as Tamil, but no English as yet. He read a Telugu poem called Sumathipadyem with fluency, and from the first book of lessons in Tamil. He also performed exercises in numeration and addition on paper, and multiplication *viva voce*. He appears a clever boy, and is reported by the Talook School Master to make good progress, whereas his elder brother is rather slow.

6. The youngest, a child of eight, read Telugu from an *olie*, and Tamil from a printed book, he read Tamil easier from the *olie*.

7. I shall do my best to make arrangements for the eldest minor being sent to Palamcottah to attend the Zillah school; it is very much against the wishes of the family, who urge that, as the Talook school is close to their residence, the education of the sons may proceed without separation from the family. As regards the two younger boys they are quite too young to be separated from their home.

8. I have directed that the second boy attend the Talook school, and commence the study of English, in which I have no doubt he will make good progress, and shall request the Acting Sub-Collector, whose Head Quarters are near, to send for the boys periodically, and see what progress they are making.

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14th September 1865.*

9. The youngest, aged eight, is so small that I do not think he need be sent to the Talook school till next year.

10. On the whole, I do not think that the minors are so backward as I expected to find them. The eldest boy is, I fear, of inferior capacity, as well as backward in progress for his age.

11. The eldest son of the third widow of the deceased Zemindar is absent in Madras, and is engaged in prosecuting an appeal before the High Court for the succession to the estate, the other son is unemployed at home, and is reported to read books. They are said to have received an ordinary private education, and to know Tamil, Telugu, and a little English.

12. The attention of the mother of the minors has been called to the supervision of the boys during their play hours, and on questioning the eldest boy as to what he did after school hours, he said he learned his lessons for next day, and revised his old lessons, he rides about on a horse in the morning and evening. The younger boys play with kites and toys. From the boy's appearance, I do not think that there is any reason to suppose that they have any bad habits.

1. Submitted for the information of Government with reference to paragraph 5 of their Order, dated 3rd July last, No. 1,515. The account which the Collector gives of the minors is fairly satisfactory.

2. The Court resolve to request the opinion of the Director of Public Instruction upon the plan proposed by the Collector for the education of their Wards.

2nd August 1865, No. 1,721.

Mr. Powell has recently suggested that

the two elder boys should be sent to a Government school instead of being left at the Anglo-Vernacular school established at Ambasamudram, but Mr. Wedderburn's proposition to bring the eldest into Palamcottah, and place him at the Zillah school there, has not yet come under the Director's notice. The Court believe that this is not a Government, but a private native school, and one which, some time ago, was not approved by the late Director.

3. Looking to the age of the lad, and his comparative backwardness, it is desirable that no time should be lost in providing the best education available.

No. 300.

ORDER THEREON, 14th September 1865, No. 2,208.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GEORGE,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

No. 5,448.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COURT OF WARDS, dated 4th September 1865.

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2nd August 1865, No. 1,731.

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

G. H. H. H.
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To W. Haddleston, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, R. D.
„ E. B. Powell, Esq., Director of Public Instruction.
„ A. Wedderburn, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely.

Exd. J. Wright.

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No. 33. 103051/65. 11. 33-21.

14th 10th 10th 10th 10th 10th

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

No. 2508

Recd 1865
Dep. Secy for R. & L.

Recd 1865
Dep. Secy for R. & L.

No. 5,448.

Submitting for information report of the collector of Public Instruction and attainment of the Orkney Minors; and requesting the opinion of the District of Public Instruction on the arrangements proposed by the Collector for their future education.

RECEIVED D. J.

11. 10. 1865