Read the following papers:—

No. 170. From P. F. CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON, Esq., to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 4th January 1871.

THE Government of Madras are aware, from previous correspondence, that the ancient building called the Tunkum at Madura has been uninterruptedly claimed by my father the late Right Honourable Sir Alexander Johnston, and my grandfather Mr. Johnston, as their property; and that this claim has been supported by arguments and evidence which, in the eyes of this Government, had considerable, if not convincing, weight.

2. Into these proofs it is not my purpose to enter.

3. In claiming the property in question my family never had any selfish object; they merely desired to recover a possession which was endeared to them by early associations, and which they hoped might be made subservient to some useful purpose.

4. The correspondence between my father and the Court of Directors on this subject terminated in a letter under date of the 31st August 1839, a copy of which is enclosed, by which the Court declared themselves ready to convey the Tunkum to my father and his heirs and assigns for the purpose of being used for educational purposes, to be held by them while this condition was observed.

5. No effect was ever given to this communication; but after my father's death a letter was addressed to me, as sole acting executor of my father, by the Court, renewing the engagement in precisely similar terms. A copy of that letter will probably be found in the archives of the Madras Government. If it is not there, it can no doubt be procured from the India Office.

6. A variety of causes have prevented me from claiming the fulfilment of this engagement up to the present time; but I do not doubt that the Government of Madras recognize that, in spirit, it still exists, and I am here for the purpose of carrying it into effect with the benevolent co-operation of the Governor in Council.

7. I am assured that the Tunkum is too far from the Town of Madura to be conveniently used as a school, but that it commands a moderate rent as a private residence.

8. I venture to submit to the Government that the wishes of my family would be essentially fulfilled if the property could be vested in some public body by a deed under which the proceeds could be appropriated for the support of one or more scholars or bursars—natives of Madura District—who should pursue their studies in the University of Madras.

9. The Government of Madras have long enjoyed the rents of this estate, of which I believe they scarcely consider themselves the legal proprietors with a positive title.

10. I trust, therefore, that they would not grudge such a moderate outlay upon the property as would secure a good tenant in the first instance.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. C. MELVILL, Esq., Secretary, East India House, to the Right Honourable Sir ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, 19, Great Cumberland Place, dated East India House, 31st August 1839.

I HAVE laid before the Court of Directors of the East Indian Company, your letter of the 6th instant, renewing your request that a certain building at Madura may be made over to you, and explaining that it is your intention to convert it into such a public institution for the education and instruction of the natives of the country as must be attended, if properly managed, with the greatest benefit to the Southern part of British India.

2. In reply, I am commanded to inform you that the Court, with particular reference to the avowed object of your application, and without admitting your title to the building in question as a matter of right, are ready to authorize the Madras Government to make it over to you or your agents for the purpose of its being converted into a place for native education; the same to be held by you or your assigns as long as it shall be used for the purpose indicated in your letter, or for such other purposes as shall be approved by the said Government.

No. 171. Telegram from the Collector of Madura, to the Secretary to Government, Madras, dated 11th January 1871.

(7-1-71). Rupees one thousand four hundred and fifty is now in deposit to the credit of "Tunkum."

No. 172. ORDER THEREON, 16th February 1871, No. 289.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government recognize the benevolent spirit which prompts Mr. Campbell-Johnston's proposal, and, concurring in opinion with him that the intention of the Honourable Court of Directors' grant of the Tunkum to his late father, Sir Alexander Johnston, will be best fulfilled by the appropriation of the income derivable from the property to the maintenance of scholarships for natives of Madura in connection with the Madras University, resolve, in concurrence with Mr. Johnston and with his approval, to assign the property *in trust* for the purpose stated to the following public officers for the time being, namely, the Collector of Madura District, the Director of Public Instruction, and the Inspector of Schools for the division which includes the Town of Madura, and to empower them, by deed, to receive and apply the rents and other receipts derivable from the property in question, and any such other funds as may come to their hands in connection with the trust; first, to the due maintenance and improvement of the property, so as to obtain from it the largest amount of annual return procurable; and, secondly, to the due and proper maintenance of two or more scholarships to be called "The Johnston Scholarships," and to be held by natives of Madura of any class, caste, or religion, matriculated students of the University of Madras, to be elected under rules to be framed by the Trustees, subject to the approval of the Government, and open to revision from time to time as may appear necessary.

2. And in order to promote the object of the trust, and also to remove a possible ground of complaint which may arise from the ownership of almost every other suitable residence for the Zillah Judge in Madura being the property of Zemindars who are the principal litigants in his Court, the Government resolve to require the Zillah Judge to occupy the Tunkum as his official residence, paying therefor such reasonable rent as may fairly represent the value of the accommodation as compared with other residences in Madura.

3. The Government are aware that certain additions to the building are needed in order to render it a desirable residence, and orders will be issued in the Department Public Works for the preparation of a plan, showing the existing building and the additions to it, or to the out-offices which are deemed necessary, with an estimate of the cost, bearing in mind that it is desired to maintain the character of the original design in making any addition to the main building. The Collector will cause an account to be prepared showing as fully as possible the receipts and charges on account of the Tunkum since the 31st August 1839, the date of the Honourable Courts' letter to Sir Alexander Johnston, communicated to this Government with their Revenue despatch No. 12 of 1839, dated 9th October. The Government will then be in a position to determine what liability they should assume in the matter of establishing the endowment. They understand from the Collector that at present there are Rs. 1,450 at credit of the Tunkum deposit account, and they believe that the building is rented at Rs. 75 monthly, though they are not informed of the terms of the lease.

4. They are prepared to augment the available funds for repairing and improving the building and for the other trust purposes by a grant of Rs. 2,000 in consideration of the proposed object. The Government understand that Mr. Campbell-Johnston has generously stated his readiness to contribute a like sum for the purpose. The whole amount will, the Government believe, be sufficient for the immediate object of completing the residence and establishing the scholarships. The arrangement for assigning the Tunkum as a residence for the Zillah Judge will operate from the completion of the repairs and improvements, or as soon after as the existing lease will permit.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To P. F. C. Johnston, Esq.
,, the Collector of Madura.
,, the Civil Judge of Madura.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant-General.
,, the Judicial Department.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Government Solicitor, with papers for preparation of Draft Trust Deed.
,, the Educational Dept.
,, the Director of Public Instruction.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

The Rt Hon'ble Sir. Alex.r Johnston
19 Great Cumberland
Place

Sir,

I have laid before the
Court of Directors of the East
Indian Company your Letter
of the 6th instant renewing your
request that a certain Building
at Madura may be made over
to you and explaining that it
is your intention to convert it
into such a public Institution for
the Education and Instruction of
the Natives of the Country as must
be attended, if properly managed
with the greatest benefit to the
Southern part of British India

In reply I am commanded
to inform you that the Court
with particular reference to the
avowed object of your application
and without admitting your
title to the building in question
as

as a matter of right are
ready to authorise the Madras
Government to make it over to
you or your Agents for the purpose
of its being converted into a
place for Native Education
the same to be held by you
or your Assigns as long as it
shall be used for the purpose
indicated in your letter, or
for such other purposes as
shall be approved by the said
Government

I have &c
(signed) James C. Melvill
Secretary

East India House
31st August 1839.

Mem.

Johnstone. Council
next Tuesday

It is worse going into the question of Title
to the Dunkeld. There is no sufficient title
in all Probability extant on behalf of
any one. But the Government are willing
now to waive their title whatever it may
be in favor of the family of the late
Sir Alexander Johnstone on the same
grounds as those entertained by the
Court of Directors. It does not appear
to me however material whether the
building is turned into a school
or made whatever it may be for
the interest of learning. The
building is old situated far short.
It is too far from the Town of Madeira
and is separated by the Town by
an unbridged tho intermittent
river. The Interest of Mr. Campbell
Johnstone, only of his family,
seems to me to meet especially
the views of the Court of Directors

J.L.

and of the late Sir Alexander Shirreff. The Garden what is still adapted for a School is well adapted for a Private Residence and the rest land first in that capacity can be utilized for the purposes of education.

The first thing necessary, however, is to put the Property in such a condition that it can command a tenant and produce such a Rental as can be made substantially useful for the object indicated above.

As the Govt. Government felt any obligation to keep up the Property the rent paid at the present time has been permitted to accumulate to a separate account hence being kept from time to time paid on account of Repairs. There is now the sum of R.s 1450

to credit of this account which the Govt. intend to devote to the improvement of the property. So that the Govt might add Rs 2000. Mr Campbell Shirreff has generously stated that he is desirous to add a like amount. A sum of Rs 5000. would thus be formed which might be laid out in building Kitchen - Stable - Coach houses & other offices indispensable to the convenience of a Gentleman's family. This being done and the plan being settled under the Govt. might advantageously as the Residence of the Head of Schools Inspector on certain favourable terms - or such terms, in fact, as would justify them in undertaking?

Revenue Dept.

Memo for Orders on Nos 64 & 101

Mr. John W. Campbell Johnston
Island & Mr. Sullivan
Madras

J. A. Lumsden &c.

Telegram from Govt. Madras.
Reporting amt. of Sullivan's
deposit funds.

I do not see that
he have any title
to the building, as
against the family,
but the benefit
personal likes &
materially from that
which the Govt. deems to be
contemplated in

With their Despatch No 12 of 1839 dated 9 October the Honorable Court of Directors sent to this Govt a copy of a letter addressed to them by Sir A. Johnston on 6 August 1839 relative to the Pantheons & of their reply in which without admitting his title to the building in question as a matter of right they express themselves ready "to authorize the Madras Govt "to make it over to you or to "your Agents for the purpose of "its being converted into a "place of Native Education; "the same to be held by you "or your Assigns so long as "it shall be used for the purpose indicated in your letter "or for such other purposes as "shall be approved by the said "Govt."

"The purpose indicated

is

The Gentleman holding that office to live there. The Govt would thus secure a permanent Tenant. If the Rent was fixed at Rs 100 per annum Rs 600. might be appropriated to the support of two Scholars and Rs 400. expended in maintaining the gardens and grounds & repairing the buildings. The Scholars should be natives of Madras who have graduated in the Madras University & in any Seminary this Money should be kept to them in addition of pursuing their Studies at the grade of Bachelors of Arts at Madras. The Scholarships might be termed the Johnston Scholarships. The Govt of Madras and Mr Campbell Johnstone might join in a Deed conveying the Property to certain parties in trust for the purpose referred to Govt might afterwards continue to keep the Property by making the Trustees the Officials resident the Judge.

N.

is described in Sir A. Johnston's
letter as being "to convert it
"into such a public institu-
"tion for the education and
"instruction of the natives of
"the country as must be
"attended if properly managed
"with the greatest benefit to
"the Southern part of British
"India."

A full copy of the
Court's reply is enclosed in
Mrs Campbell Johnston's
present letter.

G.O. 6 December/39
No. 1550 Copy of the corres-
pondence was sent to the
Bp of Mad. D.U.W. with
orders to instruct the Pub.
Coll. of Madras to make
over to Sir A. Johnston or to
his Agents the building at
Madras claimed by him, on
the conditions specified. This
was reported to the Court
of Directors on 4th Dec/39.

Sir A. Johnston seems
to have taken no further
action in the matter, but
Mrs Campbell Johnston
states in her present letter
that after his father's
death (which I understood

him

in 1839 [illegible]
[illegible] I became
[illegible] the Secretaries
of the Late Sir A. Johnston.
I should be better
able to [illegible] at
Madras to the
[illegible]
of the children of
the family [illegible]
[illegible]. We [illegible]
talk the matter
over [illegible]

[illegible]

know to have occurred in 1839) the Court of Directors replied in precisely similar terms to a received application, which be addressed to them on the same subject. It does not appear from the Govt records that this further correspondence was communicated to this Govt.

Mrs C. Johnston now proposes to devote the rents of the building to the endowment of scholarships for natives of Madras at the Madras University, & suggests that as Govt have hitherto received the rents they should not grudge such moderate outlay on the property as would secure a good tenant for the first instance. The building is well placed for a school, & I have ascertained from the Collr that there are now Rs 1,450 at credit of the Govt account to which the rents have for some years been placed, and a sum of which the repairs and improvements have been charged

charged. I am not sure whether the rent now received is Rs 50 or Rs 75 monthly, but I think it must be the latter. I should think that the building must be in fair repair as a considerable sum out of the rents has been spent on it since 1865. I believe it is occupied either by the Civil & Session Judge or by Small Cause Court Judge. [illegible initials]

H. I have not thought it necessary to circulate all the early corresp. relating to Sir A. Johnstone's claim to the building as of right. The claim was never admitted. The fact seems to have been that when Mr. [illegible] Johnston ~~the father~~ of Sir Alex. J. was Superintendent in [illegible] in the last century he obtained some kind of cession of the old building from the Nawab's representatives, such as warranted him in occupying the building & spending money on its improvement. His successor Mr. Vaughan seems to have continued the occupation on the same footing.

[illegible signature]

After the cession of the country to the British Govt. the [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] and the building [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] building [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a single [illegible] chamber [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of some land surrounding it [illegible] [illegible]. This was [illegible] by Govt. and some years [illegible] the Govt. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a considerable sum in order to convert the house into a [illegible] House.

All the [illegible] of [illegible] importance [illegible] the [illegible] claim being based solely on the [illegible] order of 1829. [illegible initials]

Revenue Department

No. 289.

Pros of the Madras Govt

Under date the 16th February 1871

Read the following papers:-

From Mr Campbell Johnston forwarding a copy of letter addressed to Sahib Lt Alex Johnston relating the "Sunkum" in Madura	M. E. 4. January 1871
Telegram from Collr Madura respecting amount of Sunkum ent deposit fund.	M.E. 11. [illegible]

The Govt recognise the benevolent spirit which prompts Mr Campbell Johnston's proposal, and concurring in opinion with him that the intention of the Honble Court of Directors grant of the Sunkum to his late father Sir Alex Johnston fulfilled will be best ~~satisfied~~ by

Revenue Department

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The Govt recognise the benevolent spirit which prompts Mr Campbell Johnston's proposal, and concurring in opinion with him that the intention of the Honble Court of Directors grant of the Sunkum to his late father Sir Alex Johnston fulfilled will be best ~~satisfied~~ by

by the appropriation of the income derivable from the property to the maintenance of scholarships for natives of Madura in connection with the Madras University, resolve in concurrence with Mr Johnston and with his approval to assign the property in trust for the purposes stated, to the following public officers for the time being, viz: the Collector (and Magistrate) of Madura the Director of Public Instruction, the Civil (Sessions) Judge of the Zillah of Madura, and the Inspector of Schools for the division which

Recd my Ct with thanks
Thanks! I thank
J.D.S

I would write
to thank him first &
then to the
Judge & Inspr
but I have just
written about
a litigation about
A at some future time
A.J.

agreed to the
[illegible] by the Collector
[illegible] Director of Public
Instruction and
the Inspector of Schools for
the Division No

which includes the town of Madura, and to empower them by deed to receive and apply the rents and other receipts derivable from the property in question, and any such other funds as may come to their hands in connection with the trust, first, to the due maintenance & improvement of the property so as to obtain from it the largest amount of annual return procurable, and secondly to the due & proper maintenance of two or more scholarships, to be called "the Johnston Scholarships", and to

to be held by natives of Madura of any class, caste, or religion, matriculated students of the University of Madras to be elected under rules to be framed by the Trustees, subject to the approval of the Govt & open to revision from time to time as may appear necessary.

2. And in order to promote the object of the Trust and also to remove as far as possible ground of complaint which may arise from the ownership of almost every other suitable residence for the Zillah Judge in Madura being the property of Zemindars who are the principal litigants in the Court, the Govt resolve to require the Zillah Judge to occupy

Home in Madras
Engineer's Journal
Letters
Such orders will accordingly be issued in the G. O. of the 2nd for the information

the Institution as his official residence — keeping thereof in such reasonable repair as may fairly be present the accommodation value of the property as compared with other residences in Madras.

3. The Govt are aware that certain additions to the building are needed in order to render it a desirable residence, & the following will be instructed to estimate the cost of the additions & alterations Engineer to submit a plan showing the existing building &

the additions to it or to
the out offices which
are deemed necessary,
with an Estimate of the
cost, bearing in mind
that it is desired to
maintain the character
of the original design
in making any addi-
tion to the main building.
The Colo will also cause
an account to be
prepared showing as
fully as possible the
Receipts & charges on
account of the Sumkum
since the 31st Aug: 1089
the date of the Honrable
Comts letter to Sir
Alex: Johnston, comm-
nicated to this Govt

with their Dep: Despatch
N° 12 of 1039 of 9th Oct.
The Govt will then be in
a position to determine
what liability they
should assume in the
matter of Establishing
the endowment. They
understand from the
Colo that at present
there is Rs 1,450 at credit
of the Sumkum Deposit
account, and they believe
that the building is
seated at Rs 5,000 but
though they are not
informed of the terms of
the lease.
4. They are prepared
to augment the
available funds

for repairing and
improving the building
up to the sum mentioned...
by a grant of £3000.
in consideration of the
proposed object. The
Sort understand that
Mr Campbell Johnston
has generously stated
his readiness to con-
tribute a like sum
for the purpose.
the whole amount
will the Sort believe,
be amply sufficient.
for the immediate object
of completing the Residence
and refurbishing the
Scholarships. The
arrangements proceeding
the Quickness as a whole
for the fitting & furnishing
separate from the Institution
& the repairs & improvements
necessary after are the
existing leases with Tenants.

1 Do Off. Johnston Esqr Orkney
1 " The Collector of Madras
1 " The Chief Judge of Madras
14 " The Board of Revenue
6 " The Lieutenant Governor
5 " The Judicial Office
21 " The Public Works Office
4 Copy Sheets of this
List papers - for
preparation of draft
Trust Deed - &c
original despatch from Mr Com
Dated 19 Oct 1829 No 125 & Letter
Dated 8 Nov 1829 No 1570

Dec 16 Tuesday 1902. Aetat 20