

PAPERS

CONNECTED WITH THE

ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIVERSITIES

IN

INDIA.

---

CALCUTTA:

JOHN GRAY, "CALCUTTA GAZETTE" OFFICE

---

1857.

T4.2.M57

A857

15587

R-2031

No. 1906.

FORT WILLIAM, HOME DEPARTMENT,

**EDUCATION.**

THE 12TH DECEMBER 1856.

READ again, the Despatch from the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, in the Public Department, No. 49, dated the 19th July 1854, on the subject of Education in India.

26th January 1855,  
Nos. 147 to 159.

Read again, the papers on the subject, recorded on the Consultation of the date noted in the margin.

Read again, the letter addressed to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, under date the 26th January 1855, reporting the measures adopted for giving effect to the Hon'ble Court's instructions on the subject of general Education.

Read again, the Hon'ble Court's reply, No. 65 of 1855, dated the 27th June.

7th Sept. 1855, No. 40.  
12th Oct. 1855, No. 46.

Read again, the papers recorded on the Consultations of the dates noted in the margin.

Read again, the letter, No. 88 of 1855, addressed to the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, under date the 12th October.

Read the Report of the University Committee, dated 7th August 1856, with its eleven enclosures.

Read the following Minutes :—

- By the Governor General, dated the 15th November 1856.
- „ Hon'ble J. A. Dorin, dated the 24th November 1856.
- „ Major General the Hon'ble J. Low, dated the 25th November 1856.
- „ Hon'ble J. P. Grant, dated the 29th November 1856.
- „ Hon'ble B. Peacock, dated the 1st December 1856.

Read also, the Draft of a Bill submitted by the Secretary, for the incorporation of the Universities of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

## RESOLUTION.

1. In conformity with the directions of the Hon'ble Court of Directors, as contained in paras. 24 to 35 of their Despatch in the Public Department, No. 49, dated the 19th July 1854, a Committee was appointed, on the 26th January 1855, to prepare a Scheme for the establishment of Universities in the Presidency Towns of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

2. When the Committee was appointed, some doubt was felt as to whether the Hon'ble Court desired the Government of India to proceed at once, on receiving the Report of the Committee, to the establishment of Universities, or whether they desired that a further reference should be made to them on the subject. This doubt has been removed by the Hon'ble Court, in their Despatch of the 27th June 1855 (para. 6,) in which they say :—“ We are of opinion, that all the measures necessary for the constitution of the Universities should, in the first instance, proceed directly from your Government, and we accordingly authorize you to proceed in the matter in such a way as may seem best to you, without further reference to us. We would only remark, that we approve your intention, that the Universities, at the different Presidencies, should be formed on the same general *basis*, leaving it to the Senates of the several Universities to form the detailed rules, with such variations as local circumstances may render advisable.”

3. The Committee having now submitted their Report, dated the 7th August last, the Governor General in Council proceeds at once to take into consideration the establishment of the Universities at the three Presidency Towns, in accordance with the views of the Hon'ble Court.

4. In the orders of the Government of India, appointing the Committee, it was observed, “ that the details of a Scheme, in accordance with the outline sketched in the Despatch, should be settled with as little delay as possible, so that Bills, for the incorporation of the Universities at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, may, at the proper time, be brought into the Legislative Council, and that Draft Rules for Examinations, for the grant of Degrees, and for other cognate matters, may be ready for discussion and adoption by the Senates so soon as those Bills are passed into Law.” The Committee, therefore, though at the commencement of their proceedings they appointed a Sub-Committee to prepare the Drafts of Bills for the incorporation of the Universities, and though such Drafts were actually prepared, considered eventually “ that this was a matter beyond their province, and that the appointment of the Senates, and the framing of Rules for their guidance, whether under the sanction of Law or otherwise, must rest, in the first instance at least, with the Governor General in Council.” They have not, in short, dealt with the constitution of the Universities, or of the governing bodies, but have addressed themselves

exclusively to the system of Examination for Entrance Degrees and Honours in the several branches of Arts, Medicine, Law, and Civil Engineering.

5. The thanks of the Government are largely due to the Members of the Committee, for the careful and complete manner in which they have discharged their trust, amongst pressing avocations and claims upon their time, which, with many, can have left little room for additional labors. The work has been admirably performed, and the Governor General in Council has no hesitation in adopting, unreservedly, the Scheme of the Committee, which, with few exceptions, is strictly in accordance with the views expressed by the Hon'ble Court, in their Despatch of 19th July 1854, and by the Government of India in the letter appointing the Committee.

6. As regards the Examination upon Entrance, the Governor General in Council entirely agrees with the Committee in the opinion that it ought to be required. His Lordship in Council believes that the mode in which it is proposed to hold it is the most convenient that could be adopted, and that the standard is fixed judiciously.

7. His Lordship in Council thinks that the Committee have given good reasons for not departing from the titles of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts, which are familiar, and have a recognized value in England and throughout Europe; and that they have done well in making the higher Degree in itself the mark of Honors awarded.

8. In respect of the Examination for the first Degree, although it is with some distrust that the Governor General in Council expresses an opinion different from that formed by the Committee after careful consideration, His Lordship in Council is of opinion that conditions somewhat more precise might, with advantage, have been laid down as an indication of the minimum of acquirements which should entitle a Candidate to that Degree.

9. According to the views of the Committee, this minimum is to be determined by the Examiners acting under the instructions of the Senate; and no doubt, whatever Rules the Committee might have framed, the application of them in practice, and a consistent adherence to them, would depend mainly upon the Examiners. Nevertheless, His Lordship in Council would have been glad if, without attempting to define accurately the minimum to be exacted in each branch of study (which, indeed, would be impracticable), it had been declared indispensably necessary that a thorough and perfect knowledge of some branches up to a certain point, or a complete mastery of certain recognized text-books, should be exhibited, not as in itself sufficient to secure even a bare Degree, but as a *sine quâ non* without which no Degree should be granted.

10. Mathematics up to a certain stage, or the elements of Logic as treated in the works of one or other standard writer, might be prescribed as subjects upon which the knowledge of the Candidates would be as strictly and thoroughly tested, as in the case of their own Vernacular Language, a critical knowledge of which is wisely insisted upon.

11. The Governor General in Council considers, that some such rule would be beneficial, as enjoining exactness and completeness of knowledge, and as indicating that, though the amount required is described as "moderate," that which is known should be known thoroughly. The habit of discursive reading, and the acquisition thereby of superficial knowledge, are always dangerously seductive to Students, and are too often encouraged by Teachers; and the wide range of study to which even those who aim at the lowest Degree are invited may increase the danger. That the range should be wide is, in itself, quite right; but the fact, that it is so, seems to call for some counteracting inducement to close and accurate study.

12. With these observations, the Governor General in Council will leave the further consideration of this important point to the Senates.

13. The Governor General in Council cordially agrees in the decision to which the Committee have come in admitting the Evidences of Revealed Religion as contained in Butler's Analogy and Paley's Evidences, as one of the subjects which a Candidate for Honors in the Mental and Moral Sciences may select for Examination. The subject being entirely optional, and consideration being had for the studies pursued in affiliated Institutions, in some of which Theology will hold a prominent place, His Lordship in Council cannot think that this will be deemed by the Hon'ble Court to be an infringement of the spirit of their injunction that the Examination for Degrees should not include subjects connected with religious belief.

14. The rules by which Degrees in Medicine and in Civil Engineering are to be governed call for no observation.

15. It is recommended, that there shall be but one Degree in Law, and that a Degree in Arts shall be a necessary condition of obtaining it, provided that the standard of an ordinary Degree in Arts is not fixed so high as to make it too severe a test of the general Education of a Law Student. The Governor General in Council is of opinion, that the standard of an ordinary Degree in Arts ought not to be, and is not in the Committee's Scheme, fixed so high as to give any reasonable ground for such an objection.

16. Whether a Degree in Law shall be made a condition of admission to the Bar, or to the Judicial Service of the Company, will be determined by

the Government hereafter. The question must be decided solely upon a consideration of what may most conduce to a sound administration of the Law, and it would be quite premature to discuss it before the University has come into active operation, and has been proved. The course of Study in the University has properly been fixed without reference to the decision which may be taken upon this point.

17. The Committee have recommended that the proceedings of the Senates of the several Universities should be subject to the control of a central authority, such as the Governor General in Council, so that general uniformity may be observed, and that, in the words of the Government "at each Presidency Town, the same degree of acquirement, in every branch of knowledge, should entitle its possessor to the same kind of Academical Distinction and Honor." This will be very necessary. That the several Universities may differ from each other in respect of the particular branch of learning which each may most successfully cultivate, and that with time each will assume a distinctive character and merits of its own, is very probable ; but it is essential that the Degrees and Honors which each will have to confer should, respectively, mark the same amount of acquirement and merit.

18. For this purpose, and in order to preserve a general harmony of constitution, but with no desire to enforce rigorous uniformity in matters in which local considerations and the judgment of the Local Governments may beneficially have free scope, it will be necessary that the proceedings of each Senate should be reported to the Government of India, and that all Bye-laws and Regulations passed by them should receive the sanction of the Governor General in Council.

19. The Draft of a Bill for the incorporation of the University of Calcutta, with suitable adaptations for the other Presidencies, has been approved generally by the Governor General in Council, and will be placed in the hands of the Hon'ble Sir James Colville, whom it is proposed to name Vice-Chancellor of the University, with a request that His Honor will take charge of it in the Legislative Council.

20. The Governor General in Council is hereby pleased to declare, in anticipation of the Act of the Legislature, that the Governor General of India for the time being shall be Chancellor of the University of Calcutta, and that the Governors of Madras and Bombay for the time being shall be, respectively, the Chancellors of the Universities of Madras and Bombay, and that the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces, the Chief Justice of Bengal, the Bishop of Calcutta, and the Members of the Supreme Council of India, all for the time being, shall be ex-officio Fellows of the University of Calcutta.

21. His Lordship in Council is also pleased to appoint Sir James William Colvile, Kt., Chief Justice of Her Majesty's Supreme Court of Judicature at Calcutta, and late President of the Council of Education, to be the first Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta.

22. His Lordship in Council is also pleased to appoint the following persons to be Fellows of the University of Calcutta:—

Charles Allen, Esquire, *Member of the Legislative Council of India.*

Henry Ricketts, Esquire, *Provisional Member of the Supreme Council of India.*

Charles Binny Trevor, Esquire, *Judge of the Sudder Court in Bengal.*

Prince Gholam Muhummud.

William Ritchie, Esquire, *Advocate General in Bengal.*

Cecil Beadon, Esquire, *Secretary to the Government of India.*

Colonel Henry Goodwyn, *of the Bengal Engineers, Chief Engineer in Bengal.*

William Gordon Young, Esquire, *Director of Public Instruction in Bengal.*

Lieutenant-Colonel William Erskine Baker, *of the Bengal Engineers, Secretary to the Government of India.*

Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Scott Waugh, *of the Bengal Engineers, Surveyor General of India.*

Kenneth Mackinnon, Esquire, *Doctor in Medicine.*

Hodgson Pratt, Esquire, *Inspector of Schools in Bengal.*

Henry Walker, Esquire, *Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in the Medical College of Bengal.*

Thomas Thomson, Esquire, *Doctor in Medicine, Superintendent of the Botanic al Garden at Calcutta.*

Frederick James Mouat, Esquire, *Doctor in Medicine and Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons.*

Lieutenant William Nassau Lees, *of the Bengal Infantry.*

The Reverend William Kay, *Doctor of Divinity, Principal of Bishop's College.*

The Reverend Alexander Duff, *Doctor of Divinity.*

Thomas Oldham, Esquire, *Superintendent of the Geological Survey of India.*

Henry Woodrow, Esquire, *Inspector of Schools in Bengal.*

Leonidas Clint, Esquire, *Principal of the Presidency College.*

Prosunno Comar Tagore, *Clerk, Assistant of the Legislative Council of India.*

Ramapershad Roy, *Government Pleader in the Sudder Court of Bengal.*

The Reverend William Stephenson, *Rector of St. John's College.*

The Reverend James Ogilvie, *Master of Arts.*



The Reverend Joseph Mullens, *Bachelor of Arts.*

Moulavy Muhummud Wujeeh, *Principal of the Calcutta Mudrussak.*

Ishwar Chundra Bidyasagor, *Principal of the Sanskrit College of Calcutta.*

Ramgopaul Ghose, *Formerly Member of the Council of Education.*

23. The Vice-Chancellor and Fellows of the Madras and Bombay Universities will be appointed by the Governor in Council of Madras and Bombay, respectively. A list of the Vice-Chancellor and Fellows composing each Senate will be furnished to this Department by the Local Governments for communication to the Legislative Council, and insertion in the Acts of incorporation.

24. The Meetings of the Calcutta University Senate can, for the present, with the permission of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, be held in the Council Room of the Medical College Hospital and the University Examinations in the Town Hall. The Senate is authorized to appoint a Registrar from among the Officers of the Education Department, on a salary not exceeding Rupees 800 a month, and to provide him with a Clerk on a salary of Rupees 50 a month, and two messengers on Rupees 6 a month each.

25. The Senate is also authorized to appoint, from time to time, as many Examiners as may be required for the examination of the Candidates for Entrance Degrees and Honors, in the several faculties of the University, and to award to each Examiner such remuneration as may be considered sufficient, not exceeding, for the present, Rupees 1,200 a year in any case.

26. The Senate will proceed forthwith to promulgate the Rules proposed by the Committee, and sanctioned by the Government of India, and to pass such other rules, and take such further measures, as may be necessary to give early and full effect to the Scheme.

Ordered, that the necessary letters be addressed to the Hon'ble Sir James William Colville and the other Fellows of the University.

Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to each of the Local Governments for information and guidance, and to the several Departments of the Government of India, for information and such further orders as may be necessary.

Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be published in the Calcutta and Vernacular *Gazettes* for general information.

CECIL BEADON,  
*Secretary to the Govt. of India.*

# APPENDIX.

No. 281.

FROM

C. BEADON, ESQUIRE,

*Secretary to the Government of India,*

TO

THE HON'BLE SIR J. W. COLVILE, KT.

THE HON'BLE J. P. GRANT.

D. ELLIOTT, ESQUIRE.

C. ALLEN, ESQUIRE.

\*P. W. LEGEY, ESQUIRE.

H. RICKETTS, ESQUIRE.

\*W. RITCHIE, ESQUIRE.

C. BEADON, ESQUIRE.

\*C. B. TREVOR, ESQUIRE.

LIEUT.-COLONEL H. GOODWYN.

\*LIEUT.-COLONEL W. E. BAKER.

W. G. YOUNG, ESQUIRE.

K. MACKINNON, ESQUIRE, M. D.

\*H. WALKER, ESQUIRE.

\*F. J. MOUAT, ESQUIRE, M. D.

LIEUTENANT W. N. LEES.

\*THE REVD. W. KAY, D. D.

\*THE REVD. A. DUFF, D. D.

\*THE REVD. D. EWART.

\*THE REVD. J. OGILVIE, M. A.

\*THE REVD. J. MULLENS, B. A.

THE REVD. W. STEPHENSON.

H. WOODROW, ESQUIRE.

J. C. MARSHMAN, ESQUIRE.

BABOO PROSUNNO COMAR TAGORE.

BABOO RAMAPERSAD ROY.

BABOO RAM GOPAL GHOSE.

PUNDIT ISSERCHUNDER SURMA.

*Dated the 26th January 1855.*

GENTLEMEN,

*Home Department.*

1. THE Most Noble the Governor General in Council is desirous that steps should be immediately taken to prepare the Scheme of an University to be established in Calcutta, in accordance with the desire of the Hon'ble Court of Directors, as expressed in their Despatch No. 49, dated the 19th July last, of which twenty printed copies are herewith forwarded for your information. The terms of the Hon'ble Court's Despatch preclude His Lordship in Council from establishing an University, either here or at either of the other Presidency Towns, without fur-

\* Those marked with an asterisk were subsequently added to the Committee.

ther orders from the Home Government ; but, in anticipation of those orders, which, after the decided opinions embodied in the Despatch, His Lordship in Council cannot doubt will be favorable, he considers it desirable, that the details of a Scheme, in accordance with the outline sketched in the Despatch, should be settled with as little delay as possible, so that Bills for the incorporation of the Universities at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay may, at the proper time, be brought into the Legislative Council, and that Draft Rules for Examination, for the grant of Degrees, and for other cognate matters, may be ready for discussion and adoption by the Senates, so soon as those Bills are passed into Law.

2. With a view to secure uniformity in all important points of principle, the Governor General in Council has come to the conclusion, that the Scheme of the Madras and Bombay Universities should be framed, in the first instance, by the body to whom is entrusted the duty of preparing that of the Calcutta University. He thinks it of considerable importance, that the three Universities should resemble each other in their main features, and especially, that the Acts of incorporation should be, as nearly as possible, cast in the same terms. Local circumstances will, doubtless, to some extent, render modifications necessary, but it is essential that the legal status and authority of each University should be the same, and that at each Presidency Town the same degree of acquirement in every branch of knowledge should entitle its possessor to the same kind of academical distinction and honor.

3. The Governor General in Council has accordingly been pleased to appoint you to be a Committee for preparing a Scheme for the establishment of Universities in the Presidency Towns of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. In conformity with the wishes of the Hon'ble Court, His Lordship in Council has availed himself on this occasion of the willing and valuable assistance of the Hon'ble President and the Members of the late Council of Education ; he has added to their number several other Gentlemen whom it is the intention of the Government hereafter to associate with them in the Senate of the University of Calcutta ; and he has also appointed to the Committee the Members of the Legislative Council from Madras and Bombay, whose experience of the circumstances and wants of those Presidencies will enable them to render very valuable assistance.

4. The Hon'ble Sir James Colville will be the President of the Committee, and the Committee will choose its own Secretary. The Secretary will have authority to frank, as on the Public Service, all letters relating exclusively to the business of the Committee, to indent for stationery on the public stores, and to incur such trifling contingent charges as may be necessary. If, as will be most convenient, the Secretary be already in charge of a public office, he will not require the services of a Clerk. The Committee will probably find it advisable to appoint from among themselves a Sub-Committee of Correspondence, to conduct the preliminary inquiries, and to frame the rough draft of a Scheme for discussion by the whole Committee. His Lordship in Council would deprecate resort to written minutes by any Member of the Committee, and would recommend as a preferable arrangement, that the Scheme, when drawn by a small Sub-Committee of Correspondence, should be discussed at a full meeting of the Committee (of which a majority may form a quorum.) and settled according to the opinions of the majority of Members present.

5. The Committee will correspond with the several Local Governments, and obtain from them their views and opinions in regard to the measures to be adopted for the

purpose of carrying out the Hon'ble Court's plan of an University in the several Presidencies. From the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces, the Committee will receive valuable suggestions in regard to the proposed Calcutta University; and the Hon'ble the Governors in Council of Madras and of Bombay will afford the Committee all requisite information respecting those to be established at the other Presidency Towns. Those Governments will also be requested from hence to furnish the Committee with lists of the persons who are eventually to form the Senate of those Universities, in order that their names may be included in the Acts of incorporation.

6. The Governor General in Council is of opinion, that the office of Chancellor of the University of Calcutta should be held by the Governor General for the time being, and that the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces and the Members of the Council of India should be Members of the Senate. In like manner, the Governors of Madras and Bombay should, in His Lordship's opinion, be the Chancellors, and the Members of Council at those Presidencies Members of the Senate, of the Universities of Madras and Bombay.

7. It has been suggested to the Governor General in Council, that there should be two Degrees in each of the subjects embraced in the design of an Indian University, viz. Literature, Mathematics, Science, Law, Civil Engineering, and Medicine, and that, on the taking of each Degree, the student should have, as in the London University, an opportunity of taking Honors. This suggestion, His Lordship desires to leave to the consideration of the Committee, and eventually of the Senate, observing that any one Degree of the very low standard, which seems to be contemplated by the Hon'ble Court, would be of little value. The Governor General in Council also leaves it to the Committee to consider what titles shall be assigned to the several Degrees, but he desires to express doubts of the expediency of adopting, in the Universities of India, the nomenclature which has, from long usage, become peculiar to the Universities of England.

8. In the 30th paragraph of the Hon'ble Court's Despatch, allusion is made to the foundation of Professorships in connexion with the University, for the purpose of giving Lectures in certain branches of knowledge. The establishment of a General Presidency College in Calcutta has rendered unnecessary the foundation of any such Professorships here, but if they should be required either at Madras or Bombay, there seems to be no sufficient reason for not departing to that extent from the plan of the London University, which the Hon'ble Court have wisely held up as the model to be generally followed in India. In that case, however, the departments of instruction and of examination should be kept distinct from each other.

9. With these observations, His Lordship in Council leaves the subject to the careful and anxious consideration of the Committee.

I have the honor to be,

GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient servant,

CECIL BEADON,

*Secretary to the Government of India.*

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }  
The 26th January 1855. }

FROM.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE,

TO

C. BEADON, ESQUIRE,  
*Secretary to the Government of India,  
Home Department.*

*Dated Calcutta, the 7th August 1856.*

SIR,

ON behalf of the Committee appointed by the late Governor General in Council, to prepare the details of a Scheme for the establishment of Universities in the three Presidency Towns, I have the honor to submit a Report of the proceedings of the Committee, from their appointment up to the present time, and of the Scheme which, after careful and mature deliberation, they have resolved to recommend.

2. As reported in Mr. Gordon Young's letter, of the 19th September 1855, the Committee, on being constituted under the orders of Government, conveyed in your letter No. 281, dated the 26th January last, met and resolved itself into the following Sub-Committees :—

*First.*—A Sub-Committee for preparing Drafts of such Bill or Bills as may be necessary for the incorporation of the University.

*Second.*—A Sub-Committee for preparing Draft Rules for Examinations for the grant of Degrees, and for other cognate matters, in the Faculty of Arts.

*Third.*—A Sub-Committee for preparing similar Draft Rules, &c. in the Faculty of Medicine.

*Fourth.*—A Sub-Committee for preparing similar Draft Rules, &c. in the Faculty of Law.

*Fifth.*—A Sub-Committee for preparing similar Draft Rules, &c. in the Faculty of Civil Engineering.

3. The first Reports of the several Sub-Committees in Arts, Medicine, Law, and Civil Engineering, (herewith submitted and marked A, B, C and D,) were sent to the Governments of the several Presidencies, Bengal, Madras, Bombay, and the North-Western Provinces, for such observations as they might desire to offer on the plans thus presented, as it were, in the rough. The replies of the several Governments, together with remarks from the various local authorities whom they consulted, when received, were printed and referred for further report to the Sub-Committees. These replies are contained in the pamphlet marked E. The Sub-Committees, after re-considering the former Reports in connexion with the observations which had been made thereon by the authorities of the several Presidencies, submitted their second and final Reports, marked F, G, H, and I, which were duly considered by the Committee on the 9th of July.

4. The result of the meeting of the Committee held on that date was, that the Report of the Sub-Committees on Arts and Civil Engineering were adopted in their integrity; that the Report of the Sub-Committee on Law was adopted, with the exception of a single rule proposed by the Sub-Committee, on the supposition of a contingency which did not seem to have arisen; and that the Report of the Medical Sub-Committee was adopted, with certain modifications, with advertence to which it was referred to a special Sub-Committee for revision. The proceedings of the meeting of the Committee will be found in Enclosure K, and the Report of the special Sub-Committee on Medicine (which accords with the views of the Committee) in Enclosure L.

5. Before proceeding to give a sketch of the Scheme, as a whole, which the Committee recommend, it may be useful to recapitulate the views of the Hon'ble Court on the subject of Universities in India, as contained in paragraphs 24 to 32 of their Despatch of the 19th July 1854, in accordance with which it is intended that the plan of these Institutions should be framed.

6. The Hon'ble Court, then, desire generally, that the Universities should be established, so as to "encourage a regular and liberal course of Education, by conferring Academical Degrees as evidence of attainments in the different branches of Art and Science, and by adding marks of honor for those who may desire to compete for honorary distinction;" they express an opinion, that "the form, government and functions" of the London University "are the best

Para. 24.

adapted to the wants of India," and "may be followed with advantage, although some variation will be necessary in points of detail;" they indicate the constitution of the governing body of the Universities, observing that "the Senates will have the management of the funds of the Universities, and

Para. 25.

frame regulations for your approval," (that is, for the approval of the Governor General in Council,) "under which periodical examinations may be held in the different branches of Art and Science;" they point out, that "the function of the Universities will be to confer Degrees upon such

Para. 26.

persons as, *having been entered as candidates according to the Rules which may be fixed in this respect,*" and "having produced certificates of good conduct and a regular course of study, from any of the *affiliated Institutions*" (as described,) shall pass *at the Universities* such an examination as "may be required of them;" and they desire that *the Examinations for Degrees may not*

Para. 27.

*include "any subjects connected with religious belief,"* and that Schools conducted by all denominations of every religious persuasion "may be affiliated to the Universities, if they are found to afford the requisite course of study and can be depended upon for the certificates of conduct."

Para. 28.

7. Further, the Hon'ble Court desire, that the detailed Regulations for the Examination for Degrees may be framed "with a due regard for all classes of the affiliated Institutions," and they observe that "the standard for common Degrees" must be "fixed with very great judgment," so that it should be "such as to command respect without discouraging the efforts of deserving students;" while in the competition for Honors, care is to be taken to "maintain such a standard as will afford a guarantee for high ability and valuable attainments, *the subjects being so selected as to include the best portions of the different schemes of study pursued at the affiliated Institutions.*"

Para. 29.

8. Lastly, the Hon'ble Court suggest, that Degrees should be given in Law and Civil Engineering, and special Degrees in other branches of useful learning; and that the study of the Vernacular and learned languages of India should be particularly encouraged.

Para. 30.  
Para. 31.  
Para. 32.

9. In communicating to the Committee these observations and directions of the Court, the Governor General in Council remarked, with reference to a suggestion which had been made that there should be two Degrees in each of the subjects embraced in the design of an Indian University, that "any *one* Degree of the very low standard, which seems to be contemplated by the Hon'ble Court," that is to say, a standard below that of the Senior Government Scholarships, "would be of little value," and His Lordship in Council also left it to the Committee to consider what titles should be assigned to the several Degrees, but expressed doubts "of the expediency of adopting, in the Universities of India, the nomenclature which has, from long usage, become peculiar to the Universities of England."

10. I now proceed to explain, in a general way, so far as the Reports of the Sub-Committees leave explanation necessary, the Scheme of an University which the Committee deems suited to the present requirements of Calcutta, and which they believe may be made applicable, without any alterations of moment, to the other Presidency Towns.

11. Broadly stated, the plan of the University is as follows :—

#### IN ARTS.

*1st.*—An Entrance Examination (to be held simultaneously in most of the chief Towns of the Presidency,) to which all candidates may be admitted on payment of a fee, provided they be sixteen years old or upwards, and of good moral character.

*2nd.*—An Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts (B. A.,) (to be held at the Presidency Town,) to which candidates may be admitted on payment of a fee, and on certificate of four, or, in special cases, three years' study, and of good moral conduct, in an affiliated Institution.

*3rd.*—An Examination for Honors in any one or more of five branches of knowledge, to be held immediately after the Examination for the Degree of B. A.

*4th.*—The Degree of Master of Arts (M. A.) conferred upon those who pass the Honor Examination, either immediately after the Examination for the B. A. Degree, or at any other time.

#### IN MEDICINE.

*1st.*—An Examination in the theoretical branches of Medical Science, to which all candidates may be admitted who have passed the Entrance Examination in Arts, and have been engaged in Medical Studies for two years in a recognized School.

*2nd.*—An Examination for the Degree of Licentiate in Medicine (L. M.,) to which candidates may be admitted who have passed the first Examination, and

who have been since engaged in Medical Studies for three years in a recognized School.

*3rd.*—An Examination for Honors in any one or more of the chief branches of Medical Science, to be held immediately after the Examination for the Degree of Licentiate.

*4th.*—An Examination for the Degree of Doctor in Medicine (M. D.) to which only such candidates may be admitted as have taken the Degree of B. A., and have been engaged for two years in the study or practice of Medicine after taking the Degree of Licentiate.

#### IN LAW.

*1st.*—An Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Laws (B. L.) to which all candidates may be admitted after one year from the date of obtaining a Degree in Arts, provided they have attended Lectures in a recognized School of Law for three years.

*2nd.*—An Examination for Honors, to be held at a convenient time after the preceding Examination.

#### IN CIVIL ENGINEERING.

*1st.*—An Examination for the Degree of Master of Civil Engineering (M. C. E.) to which all candidates may be admitted who have obtained the Degree of B. A., and have since passed four years in the study and practice of the profession.

*2nd.*—An Examination for Honors to be held shortly after the preceding Examination.

12. In framing the above Scheme, the general aim of the Committee has been to follow the plan of the London University and the instructions of the Hon'ble Court; and they have only departed from this course where sufficient grounds have been shown for adopting a different one.

13. The reasons which have led the Committee to propose, on the one hand, the substitution of the term "Entrance" for "Matriculation," as indicating the first Examination in Arts, and, on the other, the retention of the familiar designations of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts; are stated at pages 1 and 2 of the Arts' Sub-Committee's Report, and are concurred in generally by all the authorities who have been consulted.

14. In regard to the Entrance Examination, an opinion has been expressed in some quarters, and especially by the Government, of Madras, that no such Examination is necessary; but the advantages of requiring students to pass such an Examination are generally acknowledged, and as the Committee, for the reasons given at pages 5 of the Arts' Sub-Committee's second Report, incline to this view of the question, they see no reason for departing from the instructions of the Hon'ble Court in this respect. It is provided that the Examination shall be held under proper checks, simultaneously, at several principal Towns throughout the Presidency.



15. The standard of the proposed Entrance Examination differs little from that adopted in the London University. In Languages, History, and Geography, the range of study necessarily differs in its nature from that required at the London University, and is hardly equal to it either in extent or in difficulty. At London, a student, to pass his Matriculation Examination, must be acquainted not only with Greek and Latin, but with a modern European language, besides his own. Here, it is proposed, that a candidate should be examined only in two languages, of which English must be one and his own may be another. In Mathematics, three books of Euclid are proposed, instead of one ; but, on the other hand, all the Natural Philosophy required at London, except Mechanics, and all the Chemistry, are dispensed with, the Elements of Natural History being required instead. It is not proposed to give Honors at Entrance.

16. The standard of Examination for the B. A. Degree differs considerably in its nature from that adopted in the London University, but not greatly in extent or difficulty. The period, however, between the Entrance Examination and that for the B. A. Degree, has been increased from two to three or four years, according to circumstances, so as to allow a student, according to his capacity, to pass through a full course of study after entrance ; and the Degree itself is not to be conferred in any case until after four years. In Languages, instead of Greek, Latin, and a modern European language, the candidate is required to pass an Examination only in two languages, of which English must be one ; the Examination being so conducted as strictly and thoroughly to test the candidate's critical knowledge of his own Vernacular tongue. In History and Geography, the test is of a wider and more general character than in the London University. In Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, the range is substantially the same, while the Chemistry, which in London is required at the Entrance Examination, is here proposed as part of the test for a Degree, and in the Natural Sciences, Physical Geography has been added to Animal Physiology. Lastly, some knowledge of Mental Philosophy is required in addition to Logic and Moral Philosophy.

17. It has been objected to this standard, that it is too high, and, as the Hon'ble Court seem to deprecate a high standard for ordinary Degrees, though their views on this part of the subject were not shared by the Government of India, it is necessary that some explanation should be given of the reasons which have led the Committee to propose that so high a standard should be adopted. The Sub-Committee, at page 11 of their second Report, have observed that the papers set should be moderately high, so as to afford evidence of considerable progress and fitness for Honors in the best of the candidates ; but that a moderate amount of knowledge in each branch should suffice to secure a Degree. This is the view which the Committee take of the principle which ought to regulate the fixing of a standard and the mode of working it. The declared standard, as the Committee think, should be a maximum, such as to indicate, in each branch, the highest amount of knowledge which a student, of ordinary capacity, may be expected to acquire in a four years' course of study ; while the minimum of competence entitling to a Degree should, in the opinion of the Committee, be determined by the Examiners acting under the instructions of the Senate. Apart from the advantage of placing before the students in general, and not only the most capable portion of them, an object worthy of their best exertions, it seems that in no other way can a fair advantage be so well given to a student, whose inclination leads him to prefer one branch of knowledge to another, an inclination which the Committee think it desirable to encourage

as much as possible. Supposing, for instance, that the maximum number of marks in each branch \* is 100, making 500 in all, and that the minimum of competence in each branch is 25, making 125 in all, it is clear that, if the standard be low, the student who has an average fair knowledge of all or most of the subjects, in excess of the minimum, will have an advantage over the student who has reached perfection in one or two branches, and has made but moderate progress in excess of the minimum in the rest; while, if the standard be high, the advantage, as it ought to be, will be the other way. To an ambitious student, it will be but a small consolation to take high Honors in any given branch, if he occupies a low place in the general Degree Examination; and yet, if the standard for the Degree be low, he must, in order to take a high place in the first division, pursue a course of study uncongenial to his tastes, and such as to disqualify him for the place he might otherwise take in the Honor Classes. A moderate minimum, in all branches, is necessary, both for students of generally inferior capacity, and for students of good capacity who devote themselves to one branch of knowledge to the exclusion of others, and this minimum will be determined by the Examiners; but the standard, which fixes a maximum, should be high, not only for the credit of the University, but as a means of honorable excitement to those who aspire to its distinctions. In a word, a low standard encourages mediocrity, a high standard genius.

18. For Honors after the Degree of B. A., the Sub-Committee propose a Scheme of Examination in five distinct branches, *viz.* (1) Languages, (2) History, (3) Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, (4) Natural History and the Physical Sciences, and (5) Mental and Moral Sciences. The nature of the Examination is sufficiently explained in pages 11 to 14 of the Sub-Committee's Report, and in the Scheme appended thereto. It differs from the London University Scheme, in assigning a separate branch to History, including therein Political Philosophy and Political Economy, and in establishing an Examination in the Mental and Moral Sciences, which is there reserved for the M. A. Degree. Under this last head, it is proposed to examine the students in four \* subjects, which are to be compulsory, and in one, which is to be left to the selection of the candidate from the following list:—

Logic.  
Philosophy of Rhetoric.  
Natural Theology.  
Moral and Mental Philosophy.

- (a.) Philosophy of the Inductive Sciences.
- (b.) Elements of Jurisprudence.
- (c.) Philosophy of Education.
- (d.) Evidences of Revealed Religion, as in Paley and Butler.

In the principle of this, the Committee entirely agree. A doubt has been felt, whether the introduction, though only optional, of a subject connected with Religion even in the Examination for Honors, may not be opposed to the strict terms of paragraph 28 of the Hon'ble Court's Despatch; but the Committee think that the concession is no more than fair to those Schools in which a considerable portion of the time of the students is taken up with a subject which would otherwise avail them nothing in their competition for University Honors, and that such a concession may be unobjectionably made to the earnest desire of those who, after the Government itself, are the chief promoters of secular education in India. There is an analogy between this optional Examination in the evidences of Revealed Religion, and the Examination in the Old and New Testament and Scripture

History, to which those who have obtained the Degree of B. A. may be admitted in the London University.

19. It is not proposed to hold a separate Examination for the Master's Degree, but it is intended, that every student who passes the Honor Examination in any one or more branches, immediately after passing the B. A. Examination, should at once have the Degree of Master of Arts gratuitously conferred upon him, and that students who may be able to pass the Honor Examination in any branch, at any subsequent time, should have the same Degree on payment of a fee.

20. The Scheme of Medicine, which the Committee propose, is generally the same as that adopted at the London University, the main points of difference being that candidates for the Licentiate's Degree may commence their professional studies immediately on passing the Entrance Examination, instead of waiting, as at London, two years for the B. A. Degree, and that the course of study necessary for the Licentiate's Degree is extended from four to five years, in accordance with the practice of the Medical Schools in India, and to compensate for the comparatively early age at which Medical Studies commence in this country. Two years of this course are given to theoretical and three to practical subjects : an examination is to be held in theoretical subjects after the two first years of the course, but it is not proposed to give Honors at that time : and a further Examination for the Degree is to be held at the end of the course.

21. For the Degree of Doctor of Medicine, it is proposed to require that the candidate shall have obtained not only the Degree of Licentiate or its equivalent, but also the Degree of Bachelor of Arts. It is thought desirable to limit the grant of this Degree to persons who have passed through the usual course of academical instruction, and may be supposed to possess a considerable amount of general, as well as professional knowledge. The Degree, it is expected, will usually be obtained by students who, passing the Entrance Examination at 16 and the B. A. Examination at 19 (for which special provision is made in the Arts' Scheme,) commence their Medical Studies, either immediately afterwards, or perhaps simultaneously with their general studies during the last one or two years of the course, and pass the Examination for the Licentiate's Degree at the age of 24, or, in some instances, of 22 or 23. Such students, after two years' further study or practice of Medicine, will be qualified to pass for the higher Degree, but it is not unlikely that some students may complete their medical course in the first instance, and afterwards undergo the three years' course of general study, to qualify them for the B. A., and subsequently for the M. D. Degree.

22. The second Report of the Sub-Committee on Law enters fully into the reasons which have led to the adoption of the Scheme therein proposed, in which, with the exception above indicated, the Committee entirely concur. The Committee think that there should be but one Degree in Law, namely, that of Bachelor of Laws, and that this Degree should be obtainable only by those who have already passed the B. A. Examination, and have been engaged for three full years in the study of the Law. The subjects of Examination for the Degree and for Honors should be those indicated at pages 6 and 7 of the Sub-Committee's second Report, and pages 5 and 6 of their first Report. Whether the possession of a Degree in Law is to be held a necessary qualification for admission to the Bar of the Company's Courts, or to the Judicial Service of the Company, is for the Government to determine.

23. The proposals made by the Committee on Civil Engineering, for the grant of Degrees and Honors to proficient students in that branch of Practical Science, are fully concurred in by the Committee.

24. According to the resolution of the Committee at its first sitting, the drafts of three Bills, founded generally on the provisions of the Charter of the London University, for incorporating the proposed Universities in Calcutta and the other Presidency Towns, were prepared; but it appeared to the Committee, on further consideration, that this was a matter beyond their province, and that the appointment of the Senates, and the framing of Rules for their guidance, whether under the sanction of Law or otherwise, must rest, in the first instance at least, with the Governor General in Council.

25. The Committee, having discharged their task, have only to observe again, that the Scheme they have submitted is applicable, in all its essential parts, to the Universities that may be established in the other Presidency Towns, as well to the University of Calcutta; and they would recommend that, while the Senates of the several Universities are allowed ample latitude for the adaptation of the Scheme as it may finally be sanctioned to local circumstances, their proceedings should be subject to the control of a central authority, such as the Governor General of India in Council, so that general uniformity may be observed; and that, in the words of the Government, "at each Presidency Town the same degree of acquirement in every branch of knowledge should entitle its possessor to the same kind of academical distinction and honor."

26. I ought to add, that the assent of the Members of the Committee to this Report is subject to the following qualifications. Dr. Kay, the Principal of Bishop's College, dissents from many of the arguments used in the 17th paragraph, and I believe conceives that the minimum which is to entitle a candidate to a Degree ought to be assigned. The Advocate General (Mr. Ritchie) is strongly of opinion that, if Government should determine to make a Degree in Law a necessary qualification for admission to the Bar of the Company's Courts or to the Judicial Service of the Company, the question, whether the Degree of B. A. is to be an essential condition to a Degree in Law, ought to be re-considered, and Dr. Mouat, being absent on duty from Calcutta, was not present at the last meeting of the General Committee, and has not perused this Report.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

JAMES WM. COLVILE,

*President of the University Committee.*

---