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Recd the 13<sup>th</sup> July 1849  
Para 16

The Principal of the Hindu College

The Secretary to Committee of Management  
of the Hindu College

I have the honor to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> instant  
forwarding an Extract from the Proceedings of  
the Council of Education dated 27<sup>th</sup> March 1849  
Para XXXI. -

2 I am required by the Council to  
state how many half holidays, I have granted  
to the Students of the Hindu College, how many  
hours daily I am present on the College Premises,  
and what portion of that time is devoted  
to the discharge of my official duties. -

3 In obedience to this requisition  
I have the honor to inform you that not having  
kept a record myself of the number of half  
holidays that I have granted and being unable  
to trust to my memory on such a point, I  
applied for information to Mr Jones the Head  
Master, who furnished me with the following

Memorandum -  
30 Oct 1848 at the request of the Students, it being  
the day on which the Principal

rejoined the institution after an absence of nearly six years. -

15<sup>th</sup> Nov 1828. - On the day of Kali Poojah. -

20<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> - on the occasion of Rajah Rakee Krishna's Visiting the College

23<sup>rd</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> - The Saturday before Christmas

12<sup>th</sup> Jan 1829 on the day Pous Sankranti. -

30<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> - On the day of Sunoshote Poojah

3<sup>rd</sup> February. - On Monsieur Muegre's expected ascent on the Balloon

6<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> - On Monsieur Muegre's second announcement of his intended ascent, he having disappointed the assembled Visitors, the first day and a number of Students having purchased tickets which were still available. -

4<sup>th</sup> The half holiday on the 30<sup>th</sup>

January was granted because as I was informed by the Head Master and some of the Students my Predecessor had always given a half holiday on the same day. -

5<sup>th</sup> I have thus granted altogether eight half holidays in eight (8) months. Sundry the occasions or inducements to grant them have been less frequent than

... have not given one since the  
 ... Having come from the collapse  
 of ... where more is left  
 to the discretion of the Principal, than at  
 the ... I have acquired a habit  
 of acting in some degree upon my own  
 judgment, and for to enquire whether  
 was entitled on any account whatever  
 to grant a half holiday without the express  
 sanction of the committee of Management...

As my oversight has exposed  
 me to something like a reproof for having  
 fallen into a practice irregular and un-  
 authorized" I have great reason to regret it  
 and shall of course take especial care  
 to avoid a similar error in future.

With reference to the enquiry  
 respecting the time of my daily attendance  
 at College, and the portion of that time  
 devoted to the discharge of my official  
 duties, they submit the following state-  
 ment for the information of the Council of  
 Education.

I am on the College premises  
 daily from 1/2 past 10 o'clock a.m. to 2  
 o'clock P.M. until 12 o'clock, except

myself in various duties connected with  
my post as Principal, such as receiving  
reports of all kinds, written or verbal from  
the College, the Branch School or the Parents,  
sometimes in examining Claps, and some-  
times in correcting the essays of the Students.  
When the clock strikes 12, I commence my  
Literary lecture to the first class which  
occupies a full hour. As I exert myself  
to the utmost of my ability during that  
period (and none I believe ever suspected  
me of going through my task of criticism,  
commentary or explanation with apathy  
or sluggishness) at the expiration of my  
hour's lecture, I do not feel that I should  
be equal to any considerable prolongation  
of the labor of either the mind or the lungs,  
such labor I mean as is required in  
keeping a large and advanced class in  
a crowded room, and making myself heard  
at the furthest end of a long table. Of this  
at least I am certain, that if I were to  
increase the length of my lecture I should  
lessen the advantage of it to the Students.  
If they should ever prefer a complaint agt.  
me as their teacher, I should not be displeas'd  
there, that their objection to my lectures

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beat rather on account of their brevity than  
of their length. I cannot but think it very  
desirable that a teacher should preserve  
as much as possible his freshness of  
spirit and animation of manner and  
he who could lecture in a crowded  
room and at the top of his voice much  
beyond an hour in a climate like this  
without manifest exhaustion must enjoy  
stouter lungs and greater general energy  
physical and mental than fall to the lot  
of the generality of lecturers. -

10 From one to 2 o'clock is the tiffin  
and recreation hour and I cannot pretend  
to say that it is exclusively devoted by  
myself to College duties. I have heretofore  
considered that I was at liberty to attend  
to my own concerns, but I am nevertheless  
on the premises and am always ready  
to answer to any official call, and indeed  
I frequently at that hour see the masters  
of the college and I always sign the Register  
of daily attendance after lecture. At 2 o'clock  
I generally go to my own lodgings, nor do  
I return to the college again on the same  
day unless my presence is especially required.

It may here, perhaps be as well to mention that at an expense very inconvenient to me, I have been obliged to take the lodgings attached to (consisting of two large and airy rooms) because the dreadful stench and noise and smoke at night in the College square, make it almost impossible for me in my delicate state of health to sleep at the Principals house. There is the College necessary in front of it and there are tates and filthy drains in other directions in the immediate neighbourhood and on the eastern side just behind the bed rooms, is a lane of shops where brass vessels are manufactured and where the indefatigable workmen seldom lay by their hammers before midnight, and sometimes beat their brazen instruments during the entire night. This dreadful din added to the obstreperous conversation of naked foot passengers and the creaking of hackeries in the road immediately under the windows (for there is not an inch of Compound in front) and the noise of Tomtoms and fierce disputes and religious and festal processions is enough to drive an invalid to distraction. -

12 I should indeed be glad and grateful

to the Council, instead of expecting me to  
 reside altogether in such a place so un-  
 fit for the dwelling of a European, would  
 devote the building to some other purpose  
 and oblige me with a moderate house  
 allowance, instead of the use of the house  
 itself, in which myself and my whole family  
 fell so ill several years ago, that I was  
 obliged to send my wife and children home  
 at a ruinous expence and soon afterwards  
 to follow them myself in a state of mesera-  
 debility.

13 I acknowledge that this may not  
 seem the most fitting or suspicious time  
 to ask a favour when I am replying to an  
 enquiry that implies dissatisfaction, but  
 it is necessary for my own justification  
 that I should explain my reasons for not living  
 altogether in the house devoted to the Puncin-  
 pal and rather mention what would  
 be acceptable to me and might be con-  
 venient to the Council, than urge any positive  
 request.

14 I have to beg the Council's pardon  
 for troubling them with so long an explana-  
 tion, and yet I am compelled to trespass  
 still further on their indulgence for the prin-

for the pain which your letter of enquiry  
has inflicted upon me, drives me into the  
apparent egotism of presenting some account  
of my past services.

As to the President and many  
of the members of the Council, the earlier part  
of my educational career may be little  
known, both venture for reasons which I  
shall subsequently explain to give a retros-  
pect of it as briefly as I can. I think  
it should be acknowledged that I have been  
hardly used, and regret to say that the  
enquiry to which I have just replied has  
added a sting to my disappointments.

In the year 1835 in consequence of  
the resignation of Dr. Tytler as there was a  
vacancy in the instructional staff of the  
Hindu College I applied to Lord William Bentinck  
for the appointment. With many flattering  
and kind expressions he referred me to Mr.  
J. B. Macaulay the President of the Council  
of Education from whom I received the following  
note.

Chowringee July 1835

My dear Sir

I find that we have not the  
nomination of the Masters of the Hindu College



... body composed almost entirely of native  
... Chases. We have only a Latin I feel that we  
... had to have the services of  
... any person whose services would be equally  
... valuable with yours and shall assuredly  
... give you all the support in my power. -

Believe me

Yours truly

Yours very truly

signed L. P. Macaulay

to Capt. Richardson.

I then applied to the committee  
of the Union College for the appointment and  
though I believe there were several other can-  
didates was unanimously elected. I acted  
for a few months under a sort of temporary  
engagement and did not receive my regular  
appointment of Principal Professor of  
"College Letters" till the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 1835.

In April 1839 the Managing  
Committee at the suggestion of the President  
of the Journal of Education and the then  
Deputy Governor nominated me Principal  
of the College at that time quite a novel  
appointment.

In the following year was published  
my "Selections from the British Poets" for  
previous to the College and Schools, for which the Council  
voted me a reward of 2000 Rupees, but as the  
expectation that Government would advance  
the money was disappointed, and the edu-  
cation funds were in a low condition, I  
consented to take the Copyright instead.

A Copyright Protection Society in London  
having threatened to persecute my publisher  
if he attempted to bring out a new edition,  
I applied to the Council to take back the  
Copyright and give me the 2000 Rs. My  
request was refused.

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Before the work went to press, I had  
submitted my Scheme of it to the Council, and  
had had several personal interviews on the  
Subject with Mr Macaulay who approved  
of it and made a few suggestions of which  
I availed myself. It was not published until  
Mr Macaulay had left India and Sir Edward  
Ryan had succeeded him as President of  
the Council of Education. On submitting to  
Sir Edward Ryan the "Biographical and  
Critical Notices" that precede the Selection  
I received a note from him of which the  
following is an Extract.

House Sept 13 1840  
 Really have to apologize for  
 having kept the Biographical and Critical  
 notices so long. may be permitted to  
 say that they ~~are~~ are a most valuable  
 addition to the work and in all respects  
 what the publisher desired to have.

The Governor General Lord  
 Auckland, honored me with the following  
 letter upon the same subject:-

Pararackpore Feby 24 1841

My dear Sir  
 I have been impatient to acknow-  
 ledge your kindness in presenting me with  
 a copy of your late publication, but I have  
 wished previously to find leisure for some  
 examination of it. I have now scarcely  
 had time to turn over its leaves, but I have  
 done so sufficiently to satisfy myself that  
 the Collection is excellently made, and  
 particularly that the Biographical notices  
 will be found most valuable.

The book cannot either for sale  
 or for libraries, but be generally and happily  
 regarded, and I must very cordially return  
 you my thanks for the copy which I have  
 received.

Very faithfully yours  
 signed Auckland

1841. 23. I think said Mr Cameron in a  
note to me "your Biographical and Critical  
Notices are excellently well adapted to the  
purpose in view. They are besides very  
agreeable reading for all the world"  
These testimonies from my official  
superior have been highly and I am proud to  
refer to them as a proof that I have done  
some service to the cause of education in  
this country. The book has been spoken of  
in similar terms by the Pres of Calcutta and  
of London.

24

In April 1843 I resigned my  
post of Principal of the Hindu College being  
compelled by extreme ill health to return to  
England. On the occasion of my departure  
I received the following official communica-  
tion from the Secretary to the Council of Education,  
Mr Captain D. Richardson  
Principal Hindu College

Sir  
Upon the occasion of your departure  
for Europe I am directed by the Council of  
Education to express to you their high sense  
of the industry and ability with which you  
have during a period of 4 years filled the  
office of Principal of the Hindu College and  
of the conciliatory manner by which you have  
made

\* April 1839 see  
Page 57 of last  
report

made your lectures attractive and your authority respected by the students of this Institution.

Council of Education  
April 11. 1843

I have the honor to be  
Your Obedt Servant  
Signed W. V. Bayley  
Secy

25 The following is an Extract from a letter from Mr W. V. Bayley as Deputy Secretary to the Government of India to the Secretary to Hindu College dated April 19th 1843.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 11th Instant No 1830 forwarding a letter from Capt. G. H. Richardson tendering resignation of his employment as Principal of the Hindu College

In reply I am directed to convey to you the expression of the regret of the Government at Capt. Richardson's departure to Europe and the high sense which his Honor in Council entertains of the services rendered by him to the Cause of Native Education.

26 I left Calcutta by the Steamer "Hindostan" on the 14 April 1843. -

27 In September 1844 circumstances turned my attention again to India, and I engaged by letter of Sir Edward Ryan

whether he thought make pretty sure of my  
power employment on my return. the following  
was his reply:--

James Lodge Pennington  
Sept 21 1844

I am sure the committee of Public  
Instruction or Council of Education as they are  
now called will be too happy to avail them  
selves of your services if they have any vacancy  
when you reach that Country. Any influence  
I have should most willingly exert in your  
behalf as well on public as private grounds.  
Testimonials from me would seem absurd for  
such a person as yourself but if you think  
otherwise I am always ready and willing to  
speak in the strongest terms of the vast ben-  
efits the cause of Native Education has  
received from your zealous and most able  
efforts.

I will here add the following tes-  
timonials the first from Lord Auckland  
and the second from General Morrison  
formerly Deputy Governor of Bengal.

Capt. Richardson superintends  
the Hindu College of Calcutta during his  
residence in India and was on all occasions  
greatly pleased with the ability and un-  
fatigable attention with which he per-  
formed

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formed his duties and with the personal  
kindness and interest which he exhibited  
towards the young men and boys whose  
education he directed.

Warrington Lane }  
March 12<sup>th</sup> 1844 }  
Queen's Auckland

Extract of a letter from General Morrison  
formerly Deputy Governor of Bengal  
to Capt J. Richardson.

London June 7<sup>th</sup> 1844

My dear Sir

I am glad to hear that your  
health has so much improved, as to induce  
you to think of returning to India when it  
would give me great pleasure to have any  
opportunity of bearing my testimony to the  
ability, devotion and conciliatory manner,  
in which you invariably conducted the  
duties devolving upon you. - first as Professor  
and then as Principal of the Hindu College  
at Calcutta during the time I held at that  
Presidency the office of Deputy Governor,  
and while you held a temporary appoint-  
ment on my personal staff. - I am very sensible  
however that any such testimonial from  
me could not be of much value to you whose  
your name and character are already so  
well known and respected and where  
the students of the College and the natives

Community would hail your return amongst them with great satisfaction.

29. These flattering letters and testimonials encouraged me to hope, that if I were to return to Bengal, I should have no difficulty in obtaining employment again, and had privately intimated to <sup>my</sup> friends my wish to resume my educational duties, but at a moment when I was rather undecided whether I should return or not, my prospects at home were suddenly improving, and had the offer of a profitable literary engagement in England, I received a notice from the Council of Education, that my services would be acceptable.

30. After some hesitation, I made up my mind to return to India. I arrived here in July 1845 and I presented myself as a candidate for the Principalship of the new college at Kishnagore. I was honored with the following gratifying reply to my application.

From the <sup>Secretary</sup> Private, to his Honor the Deputy Governor of Bengal.  
Capt. D. Richardson  
November 6<sup>th</sup> 1845

My dear Sir  
I have spoken to the Deputy Governor



Governor regarding your wish to be appointed to the  
Principalship of the Madras College. His Honor  
desires me to say that he shall feel much satisfaction  
in nomenating you to the appointment and he is  
fully sensible that he is consulting the interests of  
the state in securing the services of an officer so able  
and Zealous as yourself in the cause of education.

I am

Yours etc

J. Signer of William Grey

31

I was appointed in November 1845

Principal of the Kishnagur College.

32

To my bitter surprize and extreme  
mortification my first military pay Bill, after joining  
the institution was returned to me with an intimation  
that I could no longer draw my military pay as I was  
in Civil employ, though I had done so far eight years  
at the Madras College. I represented the hardships of the  
case to the Council of Education. It was referred  
to the Deputy Governor with an acknowledgement from  
the Council that I had been invited out to India;  
the Deputy Governor referred it favorably to the Governor  
General and finally the Governor General referred it  
with a strong recommendation to the Court of  
Directors - The Court decided against me.

33

I have thus been employed to become  
literally only two hundred and ...

from the Education funds for my duties and responsibilities  
as Principal while one subordinate at Hooghly / then  
of a few months standing in the service / received five  
hundred, another four hundred and another three  
hundred monthly. At the Hindu College one young  
Officer under me receives four hundred rupees, and  
the Head Master receives five hundred monthly. A  
gentleman who was for some months under me at the  
Hindu College on a salary of 300 Rupees is now  
in the receipt of a thousand rupees per mensem.  
I am the senior Principal in the service, and draw  
200 rupees monthly, this is my reward; After so  
many years approved service my salary is reduced  
by more than one third; I had formerly 940 Rupees  
per mensem including my military pay; I now  
receive 600 Rupees, three hundred and forty of  
which I could draw in any part of India  
without a day's work as it is a military pension  
for past service, and I conceive that the Council  
is no more entitled to reckon that as a part of  
their payment of my educational labors than if it  
had been an annuity awarded to me by the  
Government of America or France. The moment  
I retire the Council must pay to my successor  
what has been so unfairly deducted from  
my salary. If I had been taken from  
actual military service, or if I had received  
notice before I left England that the  
salary

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Salary I had enjoyed for so many years was to be reduced if I rejoined the education service in the same post I should have had less reason to complain, but I think that every honorable man who reviews the actual state of the case will admit that I have been very harshly treated to use the mildest terms.

34 I believe that if any British or Merchant in Calcutta were to disappoint in a similar manner the fair expectations of a Clerk invited to return from England after an absence on account of sickness there would be but one opinion of Conduct.

35 As my salary was so seriously reduced I thought that, at all events, I would apply for that passage money allowance which others who came out to India by invitation from the Council had received. Even this was refused to me by his Honor the Deputy Governor though recommended by the Council.

36 The Kishnagar College was opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1846. In the following November I was transferred to the College of Mahomed Mohsin at Hooghly. The college at Kishnagar, considering the then deplorable state of education in the district and that many difficulties attending the establishment of a new institution, was in a promising condition at the end of its first year. It appeared to

me however that I should probably be of more use at the Hooghly College than at that of Meshnagar where the Students were not in a state to benefit by Literary Lectures. They stood more in need of such elementary instruction as might be quite as well conveyed by the under teachers.

37  
His Honor the Deputy Governor Sir Herbert Maddack in his address to the Students of the College at Hooghly delivered on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1847 observed that "when the Government selected a distinguished scholar and Author to fill the office of Principal of the Hooghly College, it was in the confident expectation that by his exertion and example such a stimulus would be given to the prosecution of literary studies as would lead to distinction in this branch of knowledge equal to that which you / the Students / have already attained in Mathematics, and this I have no doubt will be the case when time has been afforded for the full effect of the Principal's Lectures" The Government I believe was not disappointed. The result of the last Hooghly College annual examinations shows that the students had made a very considerable advance in Literature though many of the best of the first class had left the College before the examinations.

In October 1848 some of the  
Leading

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Leading natives of Calcutta hearing that the  
Hindu College Principalship was likely to be  
soon vacant, deputed an English gentleman to  
wait upon me at Hooghly and enquire if  
I should have any objection to their petitioning  
the Government to reinstate me in my first  
educational post. I replied that I could  
not give a decided answer immediately  
as from what had fallen from the Governor  
General in a conversation on the subject I was  
not without a hope that a monthly allowance  
equal to my military pay would be yet  
granted to me in which case I should  
prefer remaining where I was. But in this  
hope I was disappointed. The natives sent in  
their petition with the sanction of the Council  
of Education in October 1848. I effected an exchange  
of Principalships with W. Kerr.

39 I have now gone through the  
history of my services under the Council of  
Education, and if there be an appearance of  
egotism and ostentation in so doing, as indeed  
I fear there is, and should the occasion  
seem scarcely to justify so voluminous  
a communication, I must beg it to be borne  
in mind that I am a disappointed man,  
I might even add a ruined one. Let

me also in allusion to the enquiry concerning  
my time of attendance, avail myself of  
Lord Botolph's well known metaphor  
"The vessel was now full and this last drop  
"made the waters of bitterness overflow" The  
expenses incurred in returning to this Country at the  
invitation of the Council, leaving as I did, certain  
heavy domestic claims at home, and the  
pressure of several pecuniary engagements  
which I had entered into in the full assurance  
that my entire allowances would have been  
at least equal to what they were about  
fourteen years ago when I entered the  
Education Service have placed me in a  
position of extreme embarrassment from  
which I know not how to extricate myself.  
As I grow old my prospects darken -  
Instead of encouraging me with an increase  
of emoluments after many years of what  
I will venture to call distinguished service,  
I am treated with a degree of strictness such  
as I have never before experienced.

40

Once more begging pardon  
for the long intrusion on the time of the  
Council and trusting that the pain I have  
felt

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felt in replying to an implied censure, and  
reverting to past disappointments may not  
have led me to express myself in stronger  
terms than are consistent with the respect  
which is always due to official superiors.

D. L. Richardson

I have &c  
D. L. Richardson  
Principal

Hindu College  
Calcutta.  
The 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1849.