Archives Management at Brunel

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BFSS Archives ANNUAL REPORT 2017



Overview of the year

We are pleased to present the fourth British and Foreign School Society (BFSS) Archives Annual Report 2017.

Last year was a busy year as the University celebrated its 50th anniversary since the award of its Charter. We were heavily involved in many of the events and activities throughout 2016 using objects from the Archives, including many BFSS items, to illustrate the University's heritage. We also continued with projects to open up and make the BFSS Archives more accessible to existing and new audiences.

In October 2016 we welcomed Harry Baulcombe as a new member of staff to cover Ruth's maternity leave. He has been working with the Archivist on the BFSS Archives, including helping with enquiries. This year the number of enquiries has reached 50, one enquiry down on last year but as more and more information becomes available online, we expect the number of enquiries to decrease over the coming years, as information can be assessed directly.

We have hosted 10 researchers over 14 days in our Reading Room and provided another 'introduction to archives' session for 2nd year Brunel history students.

Here are some of the past year's achievements to tell you about –

- CALM catalogue online approximately 4,045 detailed descriptions searchable 24/7, including
 - ☐ Education Commissions Returns fully catalogued and online
 - ☐ Early BFSS Minute books fully catalogued and online
- Our Global Community an exhibition to celebrate Brunel's vibrant multi-cultural community – a tradition that can be traced back to our predecessor colleges, especially Borough Road College

However, we did receive the disappointing news that our bid to the Arts Council Designation Scheme, despite reaching the 2nd stage of selection, was unsuccessful. We are currently evaluating the feedback we received and hope to make another bid.



Circular D. EDUCATION COMMISSION. Nore I.—By the term "a School" is meant a distinct group of scholars under the instruction of a head master or head mistress, and not a separate Note I.—By the term "a School" is meant a distinct group or scaouars under the instruction of a head master or head mistress, and not a separate school building. Note II.—If an Educational establishment consists of a boys school, a girls school, and an infants school under three separate head teachers, a copy of this circular should be filled up by each head teacher. Note III.—The expression "belonging to the school," means all who are receiving instruction at the time the return is made, and all who are absent for a limited period in consequence of illness, bad weather, or other circumstances. Note IV.—If the Evening School is held only in the winter months, the answers should refer to the attendance at its last meeting. Note V.—In answering questions numbered 26 and 27, it is advisable to begin with Note V.—In answering questions numbered 26 and 27, it is advisable to begin with statements for the years 1856 and 1857. i.-Schools 1. State the name of (a) the county and (b) (a) Worcestershire Horcester the town or place in which the school is situated. (b)_ 2. State the name of the parish. St Martin's 3. State the population of the town or place. 4. By what name is the school generally known? Railway Ochor 5. Has the school building been (a) erected (a) Schooleen, a or (b) enlarged since 1851, and (c) what number (b) the Postion Build of children is it calculated to accommodate? established for (c) > 6. What has been the increase of accommodation since 1851? Hin the Rame Aform 7. Is the school situated in (a) an agri- (a) cultural district, (b) a mining district, or (c) (b)_ manufactures a manufacturing district? 8. Is the school for boys, girls, or infants, or is it a mixed school? For Boys only 9. State the total number of scholars belonging to the school under the heads of (a) Boys in the week-day school. (b) Girls in the week-day school. If there is an evening school, state the total number of scholars belonging to it under the heads of (a) Boys in the evening school? (b) Girls in the evening school? 11. How many of the scholars belonging to the evening school (a) have never attended a (a) week-day school, and (b) have attended a week- (b) day school five years?

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Archives

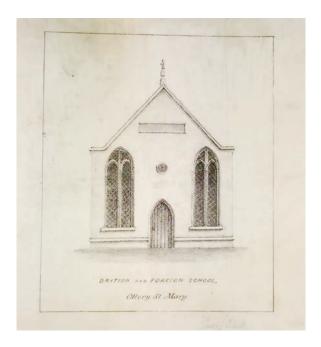
The British and Foreign School Society (BFSS) Archive is a unique collection which covers the period 1808 to 1976. It contains a wide range of materials in many formats such as official papers, letters, publications, student registers, photographs, maps, plans, trophies, clothing and furniture. It is approximately 178 linear metres.

The records include Joseph Lancaster's letters (1810-12), committee minutes and papers, financial records, handwritten student applications with supporting testimonials and correspondence, student registers, teaching practice reports, establishment and progress of the British Schools, 19th century schools (both UK and foreign) correspondence, Education Commissions returns from British schools, BFSS charities and funds, agents and inspector reports, Annual Reports, student magazines (such as the B's Hum), photographs of staff, students and buildings, teaching manuals and lesson books, portraits of principals of the teacher training colleges, clothing such as blazers, ties and sporting honours caps, furniture and memorial plagues. It also contains particularly unique and irreplaceable items such as a copybook done by slave children from a British school in Jamaica containing examples of handwriting and needlework (presented to the BFSS in 1826), individual sewing samples, sketch books and other personal memoirs of former staff and students, and silver 'monitorial' medals.

These records contain a wealth of detailed information on the Society and its schools, as well as the progress of education in Britain and overseas.

There is also a large selection of educational books and pamphlets, many of them rare editions, dating from the 19th century including works by Lancaster, Bell, Pestalozzi and Froebel – leading educationists of the time, and Victorian and Edwardian children's books. One collection of books was presented by David Salmon, biographer of Joseph Lancaster and former tutor and student of Borough Road College and Principal of Swansea Teacher Training College.

The archives are catalogued to professional standards at a high-level (down to file or box level) on our CALM catalogue. Over the past few years, we have been focussing on cataloguing the archives down to item level as much as possible, for example, individual entries for letters and photographs. This is very time consuming. We also have close to 1,000 scanned images, of which 474 of which are attached to our catalogue and can be viewed online.



CALM Catalogue:

There are now 4,045 BFSS entries catalogued on CALM (out of 7,953 for all our collections) compared to 3570 entries reported last year. Another 1,740 BFSS catalogue entries have been modified (improved, additional information added).

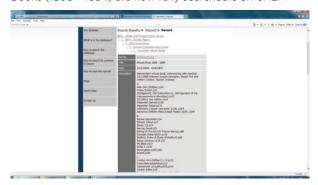
Opening up the archives:

□ School Returns - this year we started and completed a project to sort and catalogue the series of school returns to the Education Commission on Elementary Education 1858 - 61. Following the successful completion of this project, we also catalogued the other school returns.

The school returns are like census returns for schools, and are a very useful snapshot of how a school is faring, with questions on the forms such as date of establishment, number of children, number of forms (classes), and names of staff. They are very useful to both local and family historians. They are now fully catalogued down to individual towns, and available on the internet via our webpages.



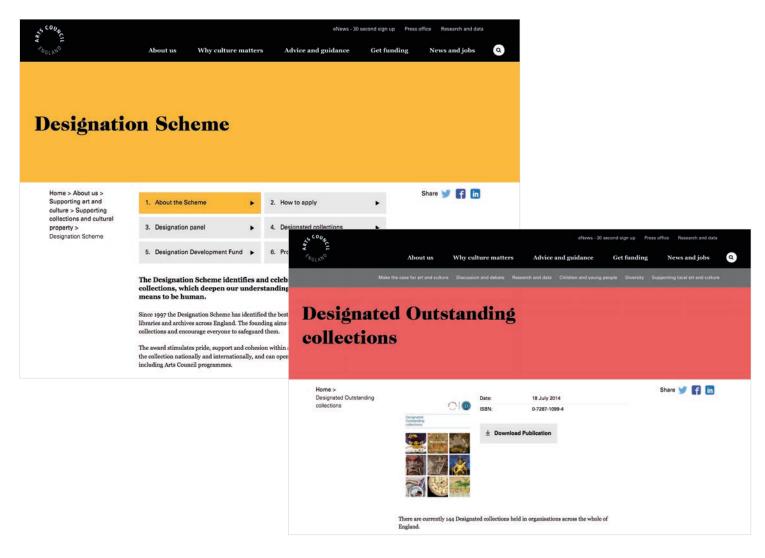
■ Minute Books – the original indices of the early BFSS Minute Books (1808 – 1834) are now fully searchable on CALM



- 'News from the Archives' we have added a number of news items this year, including A Glimpse into the Archives: Tennis, Black History Month: The Story of Thomas Jenkins, The first Lancastrian school in the USA and International Women's Day 2017
- □ **Teaching Appointments** last year, we started a new project to catalogue 72 boxes of teaching appointments. To-date, we have catalogued letters from schools (1830-1856), letters from teachers (1830-1856), letters from schools (1866, 1869, 1872 and 1875) and letters from teachers (1866, 1869, 1872 and 1875).
- □ **Student applications** we have continued with the student applications cataloguing project. The applications and accompanying letters are unfolded and receive basic preservation, before being filed by year and applicant name, with all details being added to CALM.

We have now completed 41 years of male applications (1817 – 1857 and 1875) and 15 years of women applications (1817-1832).

The Arts Council - Designation Scheme



The Designation Scheme, administered by The Arts Council, identifies and celebrates outstanding collections, which deepen our understanding of the world and what it means to be human.

Since 1997 the Scheme has identified the best collections held in museums, libraries and archives across England. The founding aims were to raise the profile of these vital collections and encourage everyone to safeguard them.

The application process is broken into Stage 1 and Stage 2. We submitted a bid for the BFSS Archives for Stage 1 in 2015. Our Stage 1 application was successful and we were able to proceed to Stage 2.

After a considerable amount of work – drafting and redrafting and trying to answer the questions as fully as possible – we submitted a bid in June 2016. Unfortunately, our bid was not successful this time.

This is the response we received -

BRITISH FOREIGN SCHOOLS ARCHIVE, BRUNEL UNIVERSITY UNSUCCESSFUL

The Panel had a lengthy discussion about the impact of the British Foreign School System and agreed that the impact was significant in the UK and worldwide. The Panel also felt that aspects of the collection were undoubtedly of high quality, however this was not sufficiently articulated or developed within the Stage 2 application to make a clear case for Designation.

The Panel noted that supporting information relating to research demonstrated that research is clearly an organisational priority, however the research agenda for the Archives was not well evidenced. The evidence in support of research related to the broader University research framework and the absence of reference to the special collections within this document weakened the case for ongoing research to be realised.

RATIONALE FOR DECISION:

The Panel was convinced that the significance of the BFSS Archive collection was met, however the application did not go far enough in demonstrating the outstanding quality of the collection in relation to the subject area within this submission. The Panel was not convinced that the research criteria was met.

The Panel indicated that a future application would be welcome, however requested that any future application would be expected to respond to the points made above.

CALM online - update

Following the launch of our CALM catalogue online last year - http://archivesearch.brunel.ac.uk/calmview we have continued to add more detailed entries.

This is a high-level overview of what is currently available online.

BFSS/ SOCIETY Governance Council Minute Books, Secretaries **PAPERS** Papers; Ladies' Committee, Annual Reports, Agents, **BFSS/ SOCIETY** Finance Trusts, Funds, Foundations, **PAPERS** Bursaries, Scholarships, Grants **BFSS/ SOCIETY** Human Resources Teaching Appointments **PAPERS BFSS/ SOCIETY** External Relations Foreign Correspondence, **PAPERS** Education Record, Home and Colonial School Society BFSS/SCHOOLS British Schools Commission Returns 1858-1894 BFSS Controlled schools including Corby, Petersham BFSS / BOROUGH College Governance papers, **ROAD COLLEGE:** Applications Men (1817-1857) + 1875 Applications Women (1817-1832), Student registers, and photos, including attached digital BFSS / STOCKWELL: Stockwell College Kindergarten, Old Students' Association papers, magazines and newsletters, and prospectuses BFSS/SAFFRON Saffron Walden Children's Book WALDEN: Old Students' Association papers BFSS / SWANSEA: All Swansea College records held at Brunel University

The following sections have been catalogued to item level (ie. entries for every single letter or document) on CALM.

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BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching appointments (men and women) 1830 - 1856: Letters from schools (individually listed)		
BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching appointments (BRC men and women) 1830 - 1856: Letters from teachers (individually listed)		
BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching Appointments 1866: Letters from Schools		
BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching Appointments 1866: Letters from Teachers		
BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching Appointments 1869: Letters from Schools		
BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching Appointments 1869: Letters from Teachers		
BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching Appointments 1872: Letters from Schools		
BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching Appointments 1872: Letters from Teachers		
BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching Appointments 1875: Letters from Schools		
BFSS/HUMAN RESOURCES	Teaching Appointments 1875: Letters from Teachers		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1870 Education Commission – 38 county files, all sorted into towns A-Z		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1873 School returns – four files		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1874 School returns 28 files		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1875 School returns 21 files		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1876 School returns 3 files		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1877 School returns 30 files		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1878 School returns 30 files		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1879 School returns 25 files		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1880 School returns 4 files		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	1894 School returns 12 files		
BFSS/SCHOOLS	Newspaper cuttings re British Schools "1870 – 1886"		
BFSS/ BRC/ STUDENT ADMINISTRATION	BRC Applications Men 1875		
BFSS/DC/ STUDENT ADMINISTRATION	1880: Appointments to schools of ex Darlington students		

The following files have also been added to the CALM catalogue.

BFSS/FINANCE	Trusts, bursaries and exhibition funds – correspondence and applications 1941 – 1977	
BFSS/FINANCE	BFSS exhibition funds committee minutes 1941 - 1970	
BFSS/FINANCE	Scholarships, trusts, prizes, and grants (colleges), various colleges. Bourne correspondence. 1941 – 1970.	

School Returns project

The Education Commission on Elementary Education of 1858-1861, also known as "The Newcastle Commission" after its chair, the Duke of Newcastle, was commissioned to enquire into the state of popular education in England, and to consider and report what measures, if any, were required for the extension of sound and cheap elementary instruction to all levels of society.

The Commission reported on the steady extension of day school provision which had taken place in England and Wales since the beginning of the 19th Century. It calculated that 120,305 children in England and Wales were without any form of education, 573,536 children were enrolled in private schools, and 1,549,312 were enrolled in the public elementary schools of the religious societies.

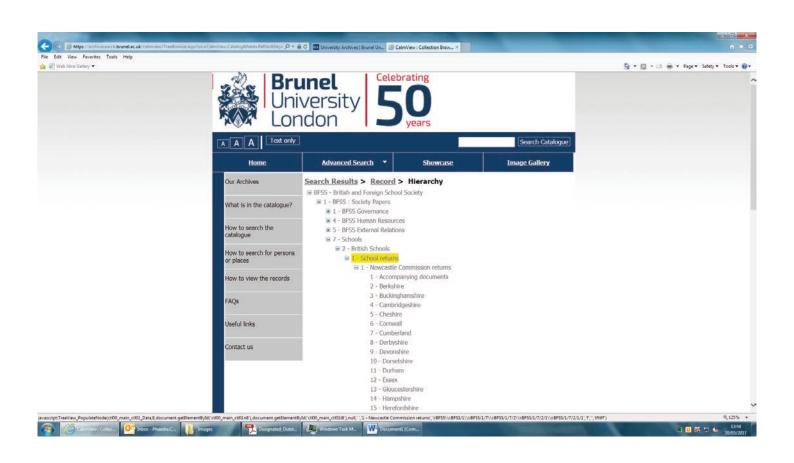
The BFSS obtained detailed information from its schools to submit to the Newcastle Commission, and the BFSS Archives contains hundreds of surviving "returns", i.e. completed questionnaires on printed forms. The returns give the number of boys, girls and infants attending each school, although the figures must be read with caution owing to the brief and erratic attendance of many pupils. The returns also often include the number of teachers. pupil-teachers and monitors, names of headteachers, and provide brief information about the sources of financial support, for example, voluntary donations or wealthy patron. Nothing is recorded about the curriculum or names of pupils. The BFSS Archives do not have returns for every British school - some schools did not supply the information at the time and some forms did not come to the Archives. The printed forms on which information was supplied have been physically arranged and catalogued by individual town and village name, A-Z within their counties (as of 1860, with modern counties cross-referenced), on to CALM, our Archive Catalogue, which is available online.

Once we had successfully completed the Newcastle Commission Cataloguing Project, we moved onto the other school returns. The next series dates from 1870.

Under the provisions of the 1870 Elementary Education Act local authorities and organisations such as the BFSS were required to send back returns in order that the Government might know which regions were without adequate schooling. In the areas without sufficient provisions for children's education (from ages 5 to 13), school boards were to be set up. According to the wording of the Act of Parliament, 'the managers or principal teachers of every school' were required to fill in their form and hand them over to their local authority or organisational authority within a specified time. The results would be compared with the number of children within the age group required to undertake elementary education, and so shortfalls in terms of the number of school places could be spotted.

The BFSS Archives in all holds 14 series of school returns dating from 1858 to 1894, comprising 1,000s of individual completed school questionnaires, every one of which has been unfolded, read, filed and catalogued by the archivist or a volunteer under her supervision. Much research has been undertaken to ascertain the names of towns and villages, their modern spellings, and their modern counties. Reading some of the handwritten place names, particularly those in Wales, have challenged even the archivist's palaeographical skills! Getting it right, and cross-referencing with modern day versions of spellings, is essential for key-word searches to pick up the document. But we enjoy a challenge, and we are confident that we have produced a fantastic resource for researchers, while simultaneously providing very useful work experience and new skills for volunteers.

There has already been much interest in this new area of cataloguing, and we have welcomed several researchers wishing to view the items in person.



Enquiries

Since last year's report, we have received 50 enquiries. These equate to

- ☐ 23 British Schools
- □ 14 Borough Road College
- ☐ 4 Foreign Correspondence
- □ 3 BFSS
- ☐ 3 Darlington College
- □ 1 Stockwell College
- ☐ 1 Saffron Walden College
- □ 1 Swansea College

Thank you very much for these. They contain a wealth of interesting information which is almost all new to me.

The time and effort you have spent on this is much appreciated.

RESEARCHER, OCTOBER 2016

Thank you for your enormously helpful response to my query. I greatly appreciate it.

RESEARCHER, APRIL 2017



Webpages

Over the last year, we have had 9,318 views of our various web pages - an increase of over 4,000 views on last year.

The World War I profiles continue to be the biggest draw for online traffic, receiving 1,152 views, with the general BFSS collection page having 661 views.

We have added the following 'News Items' online over the past year -

□ International Women's Day - 8 March 2017

http://www.brunel.ac.uk/services/archives-management/ news/ne_496874

To celebrate International Women's Day this year, we decided to remind everyone of the First Register of Female Students at Borough Road College, which dates back to 1806 and the earliest female student photo (1859) we hold.

We included a link to the online transcript of the Register.

□ The first Lancasterian school in the USA - 10 November 2016

http://www.brunel.ac.uk/services/archives-management/news/ne_490549

Following the eventful US Presidential Elections, we thought we would highlight American-related material we hold.

In the early nineteenth century, the city of New York had a population of c. 75 000, which was constantly being increased by immigration. The social conditions bore a strong similarity to those in Southwark, London, where Lancaster had opened his first school. The New York Free School Society was formed in 1805 to establish schools open to all at no charge. Its first president was DeWitt Clinton. This first school soon came up against the same problem Lancaster had faced in Southwark – how to teach hundreds of pupils on a severely limited budget. Clinton and the Free School Society decided that the Lancasterian system, with its merits of economy and efficiency, was an obvious choice for its schools. They also imported British teachers trained at Borough Road College.

Black History Month: The Story of Thomas Jenkins – 6 October 2016

http://www.brunel.ac.uk/services/archives-management/news/ne_487954

To mark Black History Month, we told the story of Thomas Jenkins, a former student of Borough Road College, who went on to teach in London and Mauritius.

Thomas Jenkins first appears in the BFSS archives in a letter dated 2nd May 1818 from William Watson, a Quaker of Hawick in Scotland, to William Allen the Treasurer of the BFSS. Watson described Jenkins as "a young man native of Africa who has resided in Scotland since he was four. The son of a native chief, he was sent to Britain with a sea captain to receive an education. He overcame prejudice and is well educated and working as a teacher". Watson thinks he came from "Cape Mountman in Sierra Leone".

□ A Glimpse into the Archives: Tennis - 8 July 2016

http://www.brunel.ac.uk/services/archives-management/ news/ne_480726

To coincide with Wimbledon 2016, we thought we would look back at some of the tennis photographs from the BFSS Archives.



Here is the Tennis Team from 1922, Stockwell College.

☐ The Battle of the Somme Remembered - 1 July 2016

http://www.brunel.ac.uk/services/archives-management/news/ne_480111

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Somme, we highlighted ten brave students and alumni from Borough Road College who fought and died in this battle:



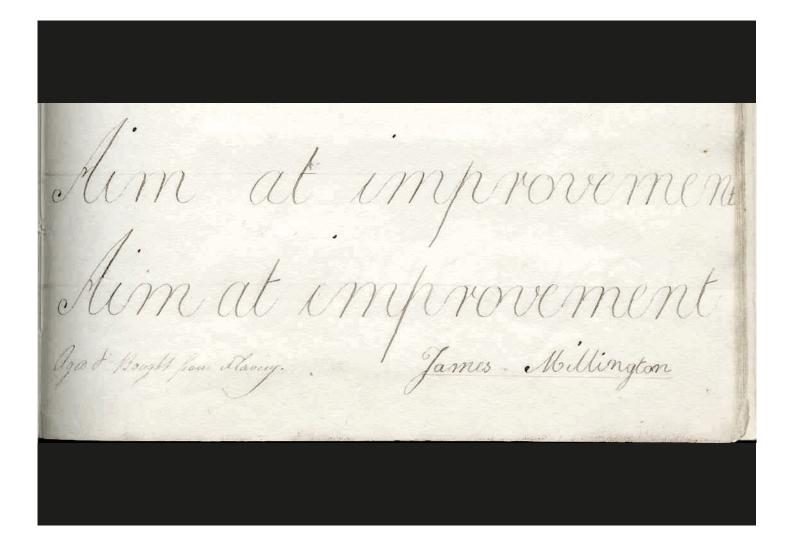
Top Row (L-R): Walter Wilfred Green, James Knighton, Thomas Goodier, Joseph Frederick Ore. Bottom Row (L-R): Frank William Lupton, Reginald William Sephton, Sydney Robert Mitchley, William Fraser Lydamore

Visitors to the Archives

Again this year, we have given presentations and tours of the archives to batches of 2nd year Brunel history students, many of whom had not visited an archive before. A total of 40 students attended over two sessions.

We have also received a number of researchers to the archive, who examined a range of material including the BFSS foreign correspondence and specific British Schools in the UK.

RESEARCHER	SUBJECT	ITEMS VIEWED	NO OF DAYS	FROM
Local Historian	British Schools in Dorset Annual Reports, School returns, school pamphlets		1	UK
Academic	Anti-slavery connection of William Allen & BFSS	Minute Books, Annual Reports, Foreign Correspondence. Early correspondence	1	USA
Academic	Foreign Correspondence – Mauritius, Jamaica	Foreign Correspondence Mauritius, Jamaica	1	USA
Local Historian	British Schools in Surrey	Annual Reports, School returns, school pamphlets, teaching appointments	1	UK
Academic	BFSS Finance	Minute books	2	France
Local Historian	British Schools in Devon	Annual Reports, School returns, school pamphlets, teaching appointments	2	UK
Local Historian	British Schools in Gloucestershire	Annual Reports, School returns, school pamphlets, teaching appointments	1	UK
Academic	BFSS in India	Foreign Correspondence India	2	India
Academic	BFSS Committee & Jeremy Bentham	Minutes, Correspondence	2	UK
Academic	BFSS links with military schooling	Annual Reports, School returns, school pamphlets, teaching appointments, Foreign Correspondence	1	USA



Exhibitions

Our Global Community



یک هذاصاحب عا ترب سن انه فرای مدهسه اخلافای و ملا رم شبه ما مدر فؤاده فهولانیا به ما طال ا مده و هوا لاره بیکما وقع و هوالان یک میکما وقع و هوالان یک میکما وقع بیر به به الدر الدرج حنی بعد و انا اخترت اید ایک بعهدالر طرالورج حنی بعد کنو به منمیزه عهد غیرها فتکو به اوعی لا سنفات بعری و تنده ربی می صاحب و تنده ربی می می صاحب و تنده ربی می می عاطف

ch friend, who has been with you for six months writes these few lines in chrabic. What you have shown him of your character and friendship has so filled his mind that he will not forget you as long as he lives. He writes these lines now as a memento. He has chosen to write them in chrabic so that it may be more conspicuous and by this means when you see them you may remember your old friend-Mohammed chatef Barakat.

Archive Volunteers

We would like to thank our volunteers for their help and hard work completed over the last year – their work continues to support our work to a very highstandard.

Voluntary work experience is an essential part of becoming an archivist – in fact the Masters courses in Archives Management do not accept applications from people who have not worked for a minimum of one year in an archive. Having been down this route ourselves, and understanding the importance of a solid grounding in archival skills to both history students and prospective archivists, we try to take on at least 2 volunteers a year. It is time consuming to manage, but the benefits to both sides can be great.

Over the last 5 years, we have taken on and supported 17 volunteers. Some volunteers have only completed a few days' work experience while others have volunteered with us once a week for months or even years, and produce fantastic pieces of work. We are proud to say that we have supported four young people on their route to becoming qualified archivists via the MA in Archives and Records Management at UCL. Having all qualified now, they are currently working at the archives of Buckingham Palace, the Royal College of Surgeons, Lambeth Palace and Magdalen College.

Two of our other more recent volunteers are also working towards an archive or heritage postgraduate degree.



Joshua Insley volunteered at Brunel University London Archives from November 2014 to July 2016, and appeared in last year's Annual Report.

I graduated with a 1st class BA (Hons) in history in July 2016

I'm currently the archives assistant at Eton College and applying to study for an MA in Archives and Records Management. Volunteering at the archives helped me enormously with my course, especially in terms of palaeography and made me feel much more confident and effective when dealing with archival sources, especially for my dissertation.

Also, I wouldn't have been aware of it [Archives] as a potential profession to pursue without having done the volunteering. So the volunteering is what actually led to me pursuing this career, and I certainly wouldn't have got my current job without the volunteering I did with you!

JOSHUA INSLEY, FEB 2017



Simil—By the form "a feelind" in meant a different group of solubine solube the instructions of a last sander or local inference and not a separate form of the contraction of the contr



Donata Miller volunteered at Brunel University London Archives from November 2015 to July 2016, and also appeared in last year's Annual Report.

I am currently a trainee curator at the London Transport Museum and my volunteering with the Brunel archives and experience dealing with 19th century material was a major factor in my getting the job. The support of the archival staff was invaluable in helping me to learn more about the heritage industry and approach interviews with confidence.

DONATA MILLER, APRIL 2017

During the summer of 2016, Andrew Knowles volunteered with us to gain work experience in the archive sector. Under the Archivist's guidance, he sorted and catalogued boxes of "School return" files.

Last year, I volunteered at the Brunel University Archives. It was the second time I had volunteered there, and I found it to be even more rewarding than the previous occasion.

I was organising the Returns from British Schools (questionnaires sent to all the BFSS schools in the country).

Aside from the obvious satisfaction of having helped create a potential research tool, I also benefitted from the opportunity to develop several useful skills. Volunteering at the archive taught me about handling old documents correctly, but it also honed my organisational skills, allowed me to practice time management, and left me rather proficient at deciphering Victorian handwriting. I felt alternately like a historian, an archivist, a code-breaker, and a detective. I'm also much better at pub quizzes that involve knowing the historic counties of England.

ANDREW KNOWLES, APRIL 2017

Mandy Mordue

Head of Archives and Records Management

Phaedra Casey

Archivist

Ruth Maguire

Archive Assistant

(currently on Maternity Leave)

Harry Baulcombe

Archive Assistant (Maternity Cover)

October 2016 - October 2017

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REPORT. - INDEPENDENT FOREIGN STATES.

nothing of general interest has been transmitted; but your Committee cannot pass over Switzerland, without expressing the happiness they have felt in having had a visit at the central schools from Mr. Frederick Fellenberg, a gentleman whose name will long be associated with the bold and praiseworthy experiments undertaken by his respected father at Hofwyl, in the canton of Berne.

France. - It was stated in your last Report, that the Paris Society had risen out of a state of deadness and inefficiency to one of extraordinary animation and activity. Recent accounts shew that this zeal has not been allowed to flag, but continues to give birth to much active exertion in the cause of education, a cause which no where requires assistance more than in France. The year 1829 has also been distinguished in that country by the formation of a new educational society, from which important results may be expected. The French government recognises three different kinds of primary schools-those which embrace all the peculiarities of the Roman Catholic faith; those under purely Protestant management; and those which, like your own, are intended for the youth of different denominations, and do not form a component part of the discipline of any particular church. To the last the Protestants had no objection, but the Roman Catholics dislike them, and, when they compose the majority, direct the application of the local education funds according to their own views, leaving Protestant families to the painful alternative of either losing all the advantages of the public schools, or engaging their children in religious observances which they and their forefathers have solemnly renounced. In order to obviate this, a society was formed last summer in Paris, under the royal sanction, for the purpose of securing elementary instruction to all the Protestants, the prospectus and rules of which have been transmitted to your Committee by the Secretary, your respected correspondent the Rev. Francis Martin, a name well known in connexion with the early labours of your society in France. Among other strong facts which this new institution sets forth in support of its claims on the public, it is stated, that even among Protestant families an inability to read forms a serious hindrance to the circulation of the Holy Scriptures.

Your Committee may conclude this notice of the progress of day instruction in France, by remarking that provincial committees have been formed there for the purpose of organizing schools in the provinces.

Belgium .- A pleasing Report has been transmitted from the Brussels Society, by which it appears that the normal schools there are in a state of great activity and gradual improvement. A member of that Committee visited your schools at the Borough Road in August last, bringing with him beautifully executed specimens of linear drawing from the boys

INDEPENDENT FOREIGN STATES.

school, and of fine needle-work from that for girls. In return, he introduced to the notice of his Committee your mode of teaching geography, a branch of instruction not till then adopted by them, but which is now in successful operation there. The Brussels Society have sustained a severe loss, in the decease of their late president, Mr.

Spain and Portugal.-Italy.-No intelligence has arrived from Spain, Portugal, or Italy. Your Committee are in hopes of soon receiving another Report from Florence, and also an answer to a letter transmitted to Madeira, to ascertain the state of the school there.

Greece. Of all the countries into which you have yet penetrated with your teachers and Scripture lessons, none can compare with Greece, whether as it respects the interest which the fortunes of that country have universally excited, or the eagerness with which these heralds of religious knowledge have been received amongst them. There indeed, in the first ages of the church, the gospel may be said to have achieved its greatest triumphs, having encountered and overcome superstition and error, associated with all that was enchanting in the poetry and fascinating in the philosophy of a most refined and ingenious people; and if even at that time the saying of the apostle was strikingly verified amongst them, that "the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God stronger than men," surely we may entertain the hope that the Scriptures will be more highly appreciated, when again presented to them, after a long night of moral and political degradation, as the best and most precious accompaniment of returning liberty and

The schools of the Ionian Islands, referred to in your last Report, are not only still in existence, but during the last year have considerably increased both in numbers and efficiency. In Zante alone, 26 British schools have been established, containing near 1,000 children; and when the last accounts were received, 14 additional masters were training at their central establishment. The Rev. Mr. Croggon, of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, to whom we are indebted for this information, says, "We may safely state, that the system has taken deep root here, and is likely to flourish permanently. At Corfu, all the schools previously reported upon are in a prosperous state, and several new masters are in course of training." From their valued friend, Dr. Korck, of the Church Missionary Society, a very interesting communication has been received, by which it appears that in Syra, Zea, Andros, Tino, Myconi, Samos, Kalumno, Naxos, Paros, Anasi, Santorino, Gambusa, Siphono, Serpho, Thernia, and Egina, besides many other stations, schools have been established and are now going on prosperously. His



Borough Rd College.



South Arcadia Dormitory.

Looking forward - 2017-2018

In the coming year, we hope to:

- □ Continue to open up and celebrate the BFSS Archives by adding more detailed descriptions to our online (CALM) catalogue
- □ Submit another 2nd Stage Application to the Arts Council England's Designation Scheme for collections of national significance
- ☐ Further cataloguing projects teaching appointments, student applications

Mangaia, South Pacific My dear Sir august 12 1869 On the 16 to g June alt. the new John Williams brought us your valuable grant of school materials. Our efforts at teaching have in consequence received a new impulse. The large Map of the World is particularly valuable for no amount of verbal description can supply the place of ocular demonstrations bur lads delight to trace the track of our noble new Missionary Ship. a few years ago there was printed at Rarotonga a new work in the native dialect on Geography. But with -- out the aid of maps, it was hard work to drive it into the heads of our young people. a general and increasing interest in Geography is growing up in the mind of our young and middle - aged people,

agon George Schlattri Willian



rah Carter M Picé F K

Brooks J Jeffries Mrs



Brunel University

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