

Home (1917) Department.
Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 1216

DATED 24. 9. 17

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

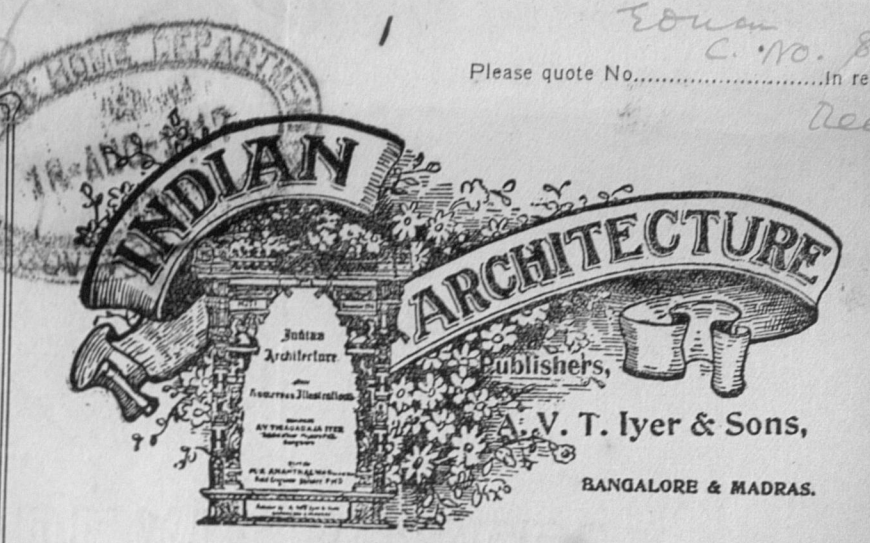
"Indian Architecture."

Informing the publishers of the -----
that Government regret their inability to supply them with
a set of published and unpublished drawings of monuments
preserved in the office of the Superintendent, Archaeological
Survey;

1159 Pub (Hm) 15-11-13
 882 (P) 10-7-13
 266 (P) 10-8-11
 811 (P) 11-9-13
 473 (P) 22-5-13
 802 (P) 8-8-11
 856 (P) 1-8-99
 779-80 (P) 11-9-91

Highly commended by the Press, viz., The "Madras Mail," "New India," The "Hindu," The "Lahore Bulletin," The "Mysore Social Review," The "Hindustan Review," and extolled by eminent Statesmen, learned Judges and experienced Engineers.

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 COMMERCIAL PRESS, MADRAS.



Enclosure - 3 parts. To
 The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras
 Public Department,
 Madras.
 15th August 1917
 TRIPLICANE, MADRAS, S. E.

Sir,
 We beg to submit with the first three parts of --
 "Indian Architecture" already published by us for your kind perusal and favour of encouragement and patronage. We are happy to add that Mr. A. Rea, F. S. A., late Superintendent of the Archaeological --
 Survey Southern Circle has been good enough to collaborate with us as joint Editor from the 4th part now in the Press. We also enclose an extract from the D. O. letter of the Director General of Archaeology, Simla expressing favourable opinion on our publication. As the illustrations of volumes already issued by the Superintendent of the Archaeological Survey, Southern Circle, Madras, are likely to be needed for reproduction in the subsequent parts of our journal on "Indian Architecture", we beg to request we may be permitted to have a set of these for our reference.

We understand that a large number of drawings of the --
 various monuments, as well as photographs, are available in the
 office

Office of the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Madras and we request that we may be permitted to bring to your kind notice that by ordering that some of these unpublished drawings and photographs may be given to us for reference it will enable us to reproduce several of them in our subsequent issues together with our notes relating to their construction according to the Silpa Sastras. As without this co-operation it may be difficult for us to illustrate the subsequent issues adequately, we request that necessary sanction may be accorded to us to enable us to obtain them from the various Offices.

The original drawings will be returned to the Office of the Superintendent of Archaeology, Madras as soon as we are done with them.

If sanction is accorded, we would request permission to inspect the Office list of drawings or receive a copy, so that the required drawings might be selected. We might mention that previously some years ago, under the sanction of Government drawings were lent to Dr. Burgess and Mr. Vincent Smith for use in some architectural works which they had in preparation.

As the illustrations are urgently required we would respectfully request that the early ^{sanction} of Government might be accorded

We beg to remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient servants,

W. A. C. Sankar

Editor
PUBLISHERS.

EXTRACT FROM THE LETTER OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF
ARCHAEOLOGY TO THE OFFICE OF THE "INDIAN ARCHITECTURE"

TRIPPLICANE, MADRAS, S.E.

D. O. No. 1532.

Simla, the 8th August 1917.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 23rd July 1917, and of the three parts of your publication on "Indian Architecture" and offer you hearty congratulations on both the conception and the execution of the work, which cannot fail to be of signal value to all interested in the noble monuments of India. * * I can readily enough assure you of the sympathy of this Department in your undertaking and of our desire to serve you wherever possible, * * *

As regards subscriptions, I shall be obliged if you will register the office of the Director General of Archaeology in India, "Benmore," Simla E, for one year's subscription for one copy, and am addressing a circular letter to our Provincial officers calling their attention to the work.

Yours sincerely,

(SD.) D. B. Spooner,

Offg: Director General.

(True Copy)

M. A. Spooner
M. A. Spooner
Indian Architectural Office, Madras

Opinions on "Indian Architecture"

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness The Maharajah of Mysore.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Order No. ²³²⁻³ P. W. 1421-2, dated Bangalore, 7th February 1917. Government are pleased to sanction the purchase of 20 copies of "Indian Architecture" at Rs. 50 per set of 24 parts and the cost of the whole set being paid in advance to Mr. A. V. Thiagaraja Iyer.

(Sd.) R. V. SUNDARAM IYER,

FOR SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

P. W. Department.

FROM

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice
T. V. Seshagiri Aiyar, B.A., B.L.,
Judge, High Court, Madras.

Dear Mr. Ananthawar,

I gave myself the pleasure of reading through the specimen pages of "Indian Architecture" which you were good enough to leave with me. I can lay no claim to any close acquaintance with the subject. But I have no doubt that you and Mr. Thiagaraja Iyer are doing excellent service to the country by unearthing that portion of the Sanskrit Literature from its obscurity. Any attempt to show the attainment which the ancients of this land had reached will have—at least, should have—a two-fold object:

(a) It should draw attention to the intellectual eminence reached in far-off ages when none of the modern facilities were available;

(b) It should inspire persons who claim descent from those giants of old to emulate their example and to endeavour to improve upon their work.

It is this latter purpose that is at present woefully wanting in this country. Foreign savants and Indians have shown how remarkable has been the progress in Ancient India in many departments of human activity. I am afraid they have not succeeded in rousing up Indians to convince the world that the spirit of their forefathers is alive and working in them.

We are often satisfied with looking back upon what has been achieved without trying to look ahead to add to and to improve upon the achievements.

You are doing excellent work in collaboration with Mr. Thiagaraja Iyer. I sincerely hope you may be able to stimulate in our young men a spirit of research and emulation.

Please enrol me as a subscriber for one copy at present.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) T. V. Seshagiri Aiyar.

"MADRAS MAIL" WEDNESDAY EVENING,
FEBRUARY 7, 1917.
ILLUSTRATED PERIODICAL.

Mr. A. V. Thiagaraja Iyer, well known as the author of the "Engineer's Illustrated Pocket Book," has planned to issue a work on Indian Architecture, copiously illustrated, dealing with the theory and practice of the system of Indian Architecture based on the Silpa Sastras or ancient Indian literature bearing on the subject. Fergusson's classical work on eastern architecture has familiarised the reading public with the magnificent architectural wealth of the East and India in particular. The latest Western authority to pay unstinted but well deserved praise to the monumental treasures of Indian art and architecture was Professor Geddes, who during his special duty in connection with town-planning, has had exceptional opportunities of making local studies. During the past decade or two, both amongst the various provincial Governments and quasi public bodies, there have been activities on a large and extensive scale; and in this connection, those interested in the maintenance and revival of the art and architecture have been striving to get a recognition for the adoption of these in the new buildings. It is, therefore, peculiarly timely that an attempt should be made by an Indian who has had training in western methods of construction and engineering and is possessed of the necessary imagination and sympathy for the indigenous art and architecture, to bring out a work of this kind. Mr. Thiagaraja Iyer, who has secured the co-operation as Editor, of Mr. M. A. Ananthawar, retired Engineer, Mysore P. W. D., hopes to bring out a well informed work on up-to-date line on Indian Architecture, and the first instalment which has recently been issued gives promise of a substantial tome on the subject when it is completed, in the course of the next two years. The authors will make an exhaustive survey of indigenous literature on this and cognate subjects, bringing within reach of the large army of Public Works Officers material of value for reviving what is best in the indigenous system and nationalising imported improvements, to make them fit in with Indian traditions and environments. The photo-plates of magnificent architectural remains which are reproduced in the inaugural issue give an indication of that great monuments in the country are going to

be brought to the notice of the scientific world. If the work is carried out with sustained interest and in the true spirit of scientific investigation, it will serve a very useful purpose; if it is to be recognised as a work of authority by the side of Fergusson's classic, it will need all the professional knowledge and literary capacity which the authors can bring to bear on it. "Indian Architecture" is to be completed in 24 monthly parts, its annual subscription being Rs. 25.

"NEW INDIA,"

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20th, 1917

With numerous illustrations, compiled by A. V. Thiagaraja Iyer, edited by M. A. Ananthawar, B.A., Part I (A. V. T. Iyer and Sons, Bangalore and Madras. Price for Part I, Rs. 8).

This handsome production is to be published in 24 parts issued monthly; the first part, a copy of which we gratefully acknowledge, compels our unstinted admiration for the quality of both text and illustrations. If the succeeding parts fulfil the promise of this first instalment, the complete work will rank as an unique publishing enterprise, Indian in design and execution and Indian in motive and ideal. It is admirably fitted to achieve its primary object in arousing in the Indian people an appreciation of the greatness of India's architectural genius in the past and an ambition to excel in the future and incidentally is bound to attract the notice of students from other countries.

The greater part of this number consists of a general introduction in which after a brief historical review of the rise of Indian Architecture, examples are given of the three principal periods and styles, namely (1) the Dravidian, comprising within it the Chalukyan, (2) the Buddhist or Mongolian and (3) the Saracenic. Maps are also inserted showing the areas in which the different styles prevail. The author claims that the Greek and other western developments in architecture were greatly influenced by the Indo-Aryan emigration and supports his claim by quotations from Sir Arthur Evans and Mr. E. B. Hawell. He takes us back to the prehistoric geography of the Purana giving many interesting side lights on early Aryan civilisation, and showing the important place that architecture filled in the traditions of the race.

Among the examples of the Dravidian style are some beautiful plates of Tanjore Palace, the Minakshi temple at Madura and a Mantapam at Trivandrum. The Buddhist style is represented by the Golden Temple at Benares, the interior of a Jain temple on Mount Abu, and a charming little Chinese temple in Kuala Lumpur. The illustrations of Saracenic buildings include a particularly beautiful view of the Saman Burj at Delhi. The author concludes this introduction with an outline of the three Sections or Books into which the contents have been arranged.

The first chapter of Book I follows, and is introductory to a study of the Silpa Sastras or "science of manual art". It contains laws for the location and orientation of temples for the laying out of streets in cities etc., and from the descriptions of the fifty-eight chapters that the author gives, we get a good idea of the careful attention bestowed on every detail in this ancient standard work.

After this we are somewhat surprised to find, instead of a continuation of Book I the 1st two chapters of Book III. As both the latter sections also open off for introductions; but perhaps this arrangement gives a better idea of the ground to be covered than if one section was taken at a time. One of the best chapters is that on the Srirangam temple, in which there is a really marvellously clear photo of the Vellai Gopuram. The designs for private bungalows which illustrates the beginning of Book III are practical but might be more artistic.

We cordially congratulate the compiler, editor and publishers, and look forward with pleasurable anticipation to the forthcoming parts. W. D. S.

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADVAR,
MADRAS S., 19th December 1917

Dear Sir,
Your work on Indian Architecture is praiseworthy. I will take two copies.

if you will let me know the price I will send cheque.

Sincerely

(Sd.) ANNIE BESANT.

"THE HINDU"

Dated 9th December, 1916.

Indian Architecture.

Sometime ago we reviewed the prospectus of the work on "Indian Architecture" issued by Messrs. M. A. Ananthawar and A. V. Thiagaraja Iyer. We then had nothing but a few specimen pages before us and we commended the publication to public patronage in the view that it must be highly useful to all interested in the subject. Part I of the stupendous book has just now been placed in our hands, and we have nothing but admiration for the great industry, earnest endeavours and fine discrimination that the gentlemen responsible have exhibited in producing this important work. It is an attempt, in which complete success has crowned their efforts, to present to the world an idea of the great principles governing the art as followed in ancient times, of the perfection reached in working out those principles and of the monumental examples of art that have been left for later generations to admire.

"Indian Architecture" is an authoritative standard work, of invaluable use to the public interested in the subject. The different schools of Indian Architecture are clearly described with the help of illustrations which constitute a most pleasing and instructive feature of the publication. Modern architecture receives adequate attention and there are numerous half-tone illustrations, plans, detailed drawings which add greatly to the value of the book. Detailed notes are given of ancient temples, mosques and other monuments in the whole of India with reference to the styles of architecture followed, with full page illustrations accompanying the description. The proprietors of the "Commercial Press," Triplicane, deserve great praise for the excellent manner in which they have executed the book. It is a gigantic and valuable undertaking which can be brought to a successful termination only with the liberal help of Maharajahs, the rulers of Native States, territorial magnates, Zamindars, wealthy people and the Government, and we are sure that the help which the undertaking deserves so well will be readily forthcoming.

"THE BULLETIN", LAHORE.

Dated 10th January 1917.

REVIEW.

"Indian Architecture," December, Part 1916, with numerous illustrations, compiled by Mr. A. V. Thiagaraja Iyer, Sub-Divisional Officer and edited by Mr. M. A. Ananthawar, B.A., A.C.E., B.C.E., retired Engineer, Mysore P.W.D. There are "authorities" on India who hold that not only was the "so-called" Sanskrit language, claimed by the ancient Hindus as their own an invention of Sir William Jones, but that before the advent of the Moghuls the architectural knowledge of the Hindus did not proceed beyond muddled hazy ideas. Of such as these the work under notice will open the eyes to their utmost width. The object of the work will be evident from the following extract from the editorial appeal for help and support:—"Art-loving Indians and fair-minded visitors from the far-off countries of Europe and America are stunned with admiration on seeing the magnitude and majesty of the Indian works and herald the genius and glory of our ancestors to their posterity. Even at the present enlightened days when we have abundance of chances for exploring the vast sacred and ancient lore on Architecture, and when we have the best means of reproducing most faithfully and artistically works of every kind, it is not deplorable that we have not strived to do our part to fructify the object of our ancestors by reviving the valuable sciences and arts, which are practically lost upon us?" The present work is an effort in that direction, and a very grand effort, judging from its manner and matter. The get-up leaves nothing to be desired and the illustrations might do credit to the best illustrated periodicals of England. Such a great undertaking deserves every support from the public and the Government. The work is being published by Messrs. A. V. T. Iyer and Sons, Bangalore and Madras, and will be finished in twenty-four monthly parts.

Home (Edin)

CNo. 832B.

Endl. 832B-1 27.8.17

Referred to the S.A. S.
for ^{early} remarks.

CA
30.8.17

ver
24.8.17.

Id
29.8.17

my
31.8.17

To, The S. A. S. (with the pet. & seals
in original to be returned
with reply)
dispatched
by
2.9.17

HOME (EDUCATION)

DEPARTMENT.

Received



191

Registered

12th Sept 191

Subject.

INDIAN ARCHITECTURE

Submitting with remarks an application from the
Publishers of the ----- with original enclosures.

ENCLOSURES

No. 3

3 Parts sent
separately Nil.
State copies

No. 448

Station Madras, Dated the 11th September 191

From (Name) A.R. Longhurst, Esq.,

(Designation) Superintendent, Archaeological Sur

Southern Circle.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

HOME (EDUCATION)

Department

Cotacamund.

Sir,

I have the honour to return herewith the original
enclosures relating to the Publishers of "Indian Architecture"
forwarded with Home (Education) Department Endorsement No. 832 B-1,
dated the 31st August 1917 and to offer the following remarks:-

1. Record drawings belonging to this department are not, and
never have been made available to the public. Retired officers
of the Government, like the late Dr. Burgess, Mr. Smith and Mr.
Cousins were supplied with a few drawings to serve as illustrations
for works ordered or approved by the Government of India. A
large number of the record drawings in this office have already
been published in Mr. Rea's "Pallava Architecture", "Chalukyan
Architecture", "South Indian Buddhist Antiquities", and numerous
illustrated monographs appearing in the Annual Reports of the

See No. 778-80 sub (2)
11.9.91

7
neral of Archaeology; and I do not think any useful pur-
be served by permitting the publishers of "Indian Archi-
to again reproduce these drawings in their journal. Mr.
ublications mentioned above, are available to the public and
at the Government Press. With regard to the unpublished
s, these will be required to illustrate monographs and reports
ed by myself or other officers of this department from time
me.

I see no reason however, why the publishers of "Indian Archi-
re" should not be supplied with photographs taken by this de-
ment, in the same manner as they are usually supplied to the
ic, namely at a cost of 8 annas each.

"Indian Architecture", appears to me to be a purely commercial
ure undertaken with the sole object of bringing money into the
ets of the publishers and I see no reason why it should receive
support from the Government. I shall be more than surprised
the work is ever completed as the publishers in my opinion, have
ertaken a work which they are not competent to carry through and
ompiler's knowledge of his subject is indeed pathetic.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. H. Loughurst.

Superintendent.

PL.
42
1,200-20-1-11.
NOTES.

NOTES.

Subject- Requesting that ~~the~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} a set of illustrations of Archaeological drawings and photographs for the "Indian Architecture".

CNo 882B From the publishers of the "Indian Architecture" d- 15. 8. 17.

In the Registrar.

Submitted that the may be referred to the S. A. S. for A draft Endt is submitted for

[Go No 779-780 (2)
11. 8. 17
put up only on 29. 8. 17]

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see

pp 6-7 cf. CNo. 989B From the S. A. S. No 448, dated the 11. 9. 19

In the Registrar

Please see the letter from the S. A. S. pp 6 to 7 cf.

2. The Supt. is of opinion that the journal does not deserve any support from Govt.
3. The publishers may be informed that the Govt are unable to supply them with a set of published and unpublished drawings in the office of the Supt. Arch. Survey and that photographs by the Deptt. are available for sale to the public at 8As. each.

A draft must be submitted
to the 2. & 2.

Please see the letter from the

70 72 74 76

A

ver
14.9.17.
JL
18.9.17

$\frac{18}{20.9.17}$

21/9/17

H. S.

22 SEP 1917



Issue
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24 9/17

21/8/77

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.