

Educational (1900) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 334

DATED 19-6-'01 ✓

INDEXED. (3)

[Despatch Abstract.]

Official Reports & Returns

Records' Progs. Ind. depts. directing
that the submission of the list of all works
of scientific, historical or antiquarian inter-
est to an India office be discontinued.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

507:11-900 R. 227707
146:12-3-07 M. 80.1770R 07 21-3-01.

ED CURRENT NO. 826
Government {1901} of Madras.

FINANCIAL
(BOOKS BRANCH).

N. Order 334
mis. 6.01.
Recorded.

Recd.

Regd.

15.6.

1901.

Enclosures

Spare copies

nil

nil

18.6.1

G.O., No. 87, 5th June 1901.

JUNE.

Official Reports and Returns.

Directing that the submission of the list of all works of scientific, historical or antiquarian interest to the India Office be discontinued.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT

(BOOKS BRANCH).

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 708, Public, dated 3rd June 1870.

Read—the following despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated India Office, London, 20th April 1870, No. 46, (Financial):—

I forward, herewith, for your information and guidance, copy of a Financial despatch to the Government of India, dated 20th April 1870, No. 133 (with enclosure), relative to the transmission to this country of works, reports, etc., published in India by, or under the patronage of, the local Governments.

ENCLOSURES.

DESPATCH from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 20th April 1870, No. 133 (Financial).

I forward, herewith, copy of a letter, dated 12th November 1869, from Dr. Hooker, Director of the Royal Gardens, Kew, relative to the inconvenience occasioned by the difficulty of obtaining in this country copies of works on scientific and practical Indian botany, published by, or under the authority of, the local Governments in India.

2. I have to request that you will give instructions for the preparation and transmission of lists of all works of this class, and of all other works of scientific, historical, or antiquarian interest, so published during the last five years. These lists should specify the nature of the works and reports enumerated, the Government by or under the patronage of which they were published, the number of copies in store, and the price at which they have been hitherto sold. Similar lists should annually be forwarded to this country.

3. I have further to request that not less than ten copies of all such works which may, in future, be published, or aided in publication, by any of the local Governments, may invariably be transmitted to this office, and that, in the case of works of special interest, the number of copies forwarded may amount to fifty. Of these, two copies should be sent, *via* Marseilles, immediately on publication, and the remainder, *via* Southampton, with as little delay as may be practicable.

4. With regard to works issued in parts, the publication of which often extends over a considerable period, directions should be given for the transmission of the various parts as soon as published, in accordance with the above arrangement, without awaiting the completion of the works.

5. It is my intention, when you have reported your adoption of this proposal, to enter into arrangements with London publishers, through which the attention of the public may be more readily directed to these works than has hitherto been the case, and their wider circulation ensured, so far as it is in the power of Government to further that object.

6. In the above directions I do not include official reports and other papers printed by your Government and the subordinate Governments for official use. With regard to these, I do not wish to add anything to the instructions already in force.

7. But I must take the present occasion of calling your attention to the great neglect, or carelessness, which has for a long time past existed, on the part of some of the officials of the different Governments in India, as to sending regularly home copies of any such papers. Either the papers in question are not sent at all, or, if sent, they arrive so long after the date of publication as to be frequently of comparatively little use. It has occurred, and that not seldom, that reference has been made to official Indian documents, by writers in English newspapers, in a

manner to indicate that such documents were actually in their hands, when no copies of them had been received in this office. These papers, moreover, are often transmitted in numbers which bear no relation to their importance; those of real value being forwarded in very small numbers, and those of less interest in large quantities.

8. A copy of this despatch, and of its enclosure, will be forwarded to the Governments of Madras and Bombay.

From Dr. J. D. HOOKER, Director of the Royal Gardens, Kew, to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India in Council, dated Royal Gardens, Kew, 12th November 1869.

I beg respectfully to bring under your Grace's notice the fact that certain useful works on scientific and practical Indian botany are from time to time printed by, or under the authority of, the local Governments of India, or are aided in their publication by grants from those Governments, but which being neither advertised nor published in Europe (and some not even in India) are inaccessible to Botanists in general.

2. As the most recent case in point I would cite Dr. Stewart's "Punjab plants," a book of upwards of 370 pages, comprising the botanical and vernacular names and the uses of the plants of the Punjab. This work is printed at the Lahore Government Press, but bears no published name, and it was by the merest accident that I became aware of its existence, though it is of essential importance that copies should be both in the Library and Museum of Kew.

3. In this and similar cases all that appears to be requisite is that, in future, copies of all such works printed by, or assisted in publication by the local Governments of India, should be deposited for sale with a London publisher, and be advertised in the Trade Catalogues.

Order—No. 708, Public, dated 3rd June 1870.

Ordered that the instructions contained in the despatch to the Governor-General of India in Council be kept in view.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" Military Department.
" Public Works Department.

READ—also the following paper:—

From the Right Honourable Lord GEORGE FRANCIS HAMILTON, His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated the 29th March 1901, No. 9-Public (Records).

I have considered your Excellency's letter, Home, No. 17, dated February 14th, 1901, on the subject on the lists of all works of scientific, historical or antiquarian interest published by the various local Governments in India, which is annually prepared and furnished to this office.

2. I concur with your Excellency in thinking that the submission of this list is no longer necessary, and I assent, therefore, to its discontinuance.

No. 478.

Copy, with copy of the despatch to which it is a reply, forwarded to the local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

(By Order.)

HOME DEPT. (BOOKS).

CALCUTTA,
15th May 1901.

(Signed) S. C. HILL,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ENCLOSURE.

From the Government of India, to His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, dated the 14th February 1901, No. 17.

In his Financial despatch No. 133, dated the 20th April 1870, the Duke of Argyll, then Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, desired that arrangements might be made for the preparation of an annual list of all works of scientific, historical or antiquarian interest published by or under the authority of local Governments in India. A return was accordingly prepared and continued to be furnished to the India Office, the list for 1899 being forwarded to the Under Secretary of State under a letter in our Home Department, No. 59, dated the 30th August last.

2. Your Lordship is aware that the question of reducing and curtailing official reports and returns has been engaging our attention for some time past. In this connection we propose, subject to your Lordship's approval, to discontinue the preparation of this return, as the lists of official publications published by the Government of India and local Governments and Administrations, and the quarterly catalogues of books published in the local Gazettes under Act XXV of 1867, copies of both of which are regularly sent to the India Office, already contain the information given in it. Moreover, the circumstances now existing are very different from those under which the return was called for in 1870, when Indian official publications were not always accessible to scholars in Europe. The appointment of certain firms in London and on the Continent to act as Agents for the sale of official literature of India has removed that difficulty.

3. We are, therefore, of opinion that the necessity for the submission of the return no longer exists.

ORDER—No. 87, Financial (Books Branch), dated 5th June 1901.

The list will accordingly be discontinued.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
for Chief Secretary.

To the Educational Department. ✓
" Director of Public Instruction.

not enclosed

Ed. A. F. Eccleston.

When given for copying _____
When copied _____ } 190 .
When examined _____
When signed _____

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED _____
190 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

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