

Financial (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 345.

Dated 27th April 1895

INDEXED

12/13

[Despatch Abstract.]

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.-

Informing Mr. Sewell that, before deciding as to whether it will patronize the Indian Calendar, the Government desires to be furnished with a copy of the work.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	3027		1895				
	3338		95		1047		
	258/98						
	806/98						

6 Palace Mansions
Buckingham Gate
London. S.W.
February 24th 1895.

From Robert Sewall
To The Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George. Madras

Sir

I have the honour to address you on the subject of the chronological Tables, on which as you are aware I have for some years been engaged, at the request of the Government of Madras.

2. They are now in the Press (Messrs Swan, Sonnenschein & Co.) under the title of "The Indian Calendar" by myself in conjunction with Mr. Ballarishna Dikshitar, of the Bombay Educational Department, now at Poona.

3. You will remember that, as the work is destined for the use of Courts and offices throughout India, and not merely in Madras, the Secretary of State for India assented to my proposition that it should be printed in my land "at the lowest tender". This term, I think, was justified in assuming, meant that it would be printed at State cost.

4. Subsequently, however, I received a further order, in which I was informed that the Secretary of State would leave the publication entirely to myself, granting me however a subvention of £100 down and a promise of another £100 if he approved of the book after it was printed.

5. I am thus saddled with all risk, and stand to make a profit if a number of copies are sold - or to lose considerably if they are not. The total subvention will not pay the cost of publication, as far as I am concerned.

6. I enclose a few copies of the note which has just been printed by my publishers, and would beg that they might be circulated to the heads of those Departments who would be called on (perhaps) to furnish their opinion as to how many copies are required.

7. I do not personally stand for liberal treatment, though it is a fact that I have for several years worked very hard on this book, at the special request of the Madras Government; but it would suit me very well, accompanying the more occasionally accurate details, are extremely simple eye-tables which are designed for the use of officers, clerks, & note the portions marked on the printed notice for use in offices, where of great accuracy is desired the more intricate method of exact calculation can be used.

8. My publishers do not think that they can sell the book under a guinea (£1.1.0) as they are as intent to reduce the price as possible as to have never worked with the idea of personal profit.

9. A special feature of the book will be the Eclipse - Tables and List of provided by Dr. Schram of Vienna, one of the most accurate astronomers and chronologists living, which will make the book invaluable for those at work on astronomy. I can only note that as a proof of its value that it has received instant and cordial support from some of the best-informed foreign savants.

10. It would aid me considerably to a decision as to how many copies to order in the first edition if even would be so good as to inform me how many copies will be required by the Madras Government personally, knowing its value, I should say that every Court ought to have a copy, and each of the higher Revenue offices, not of course that must be settled by H.E. The Governor in Council. I have the honour to be

Yours most obedient servant,
R. Sewell.

MESSRS. SWAN SONNENSCHN & Co.
have in the Press an important work on the
INDIAN CALENDAR, written by MR.
ROBERT SEWELL, of the Madras Civil Service,
in collaboration with the well-known Hindu
Chronologist, MR. SANKARA BALKRISHNA
DIKSHIT.

The work contains complete tables for the verification of Hindu and Muhammadan dates for a period of 1600 years (A.D. 300 to 1900), and forms the first attempt to carry out in practical form the exact fixation of the astronomical phenomena on which the Hindu Calendar depends, and without which no conversion of dates into European reckoning can be safely relied upon. It embraces the whole of India. The calculations have been based on the general tables published by Professor Jacobi, of Bonn, checked and enlarged by processes invented by Mr. S. Balakrishna Dikshit. The precise position of sun and moon at sunrise on the meridian of Ujjain on the first day of each year of the Luni-solar Calendar during the period referred to is given, and for the Solar Calendar the moment of the sun's passing the first point of Aries in each year is entered in time reckoning. Full details for the addition and suppression of months in the intercalary Luni-solar years are provided; and where necessary the calculations have been made for true as well as mean intercalations. The solar phenomena have, moreover, been computed by both the Ārya and Sūrya Siddhāntas. Tables giving the correspondence of months and years in all the Hindu reckonings are provided. There is thus a mass of important information recorded, while a set of auxiliary tables enables the exact moments of the beginnings and endings of *tithis*, *nakshatras*, and *yogas*, to be computed by a simple process. For more ready-reckoning eye-tables have been provided, which, requiring no calculation whatever, fix the correspondence of dates in both the Solar and Luni-solar Calendars with fair exactness, the deviation being never greater than two days; so that wherever the week-day is given in the document or inscription under consideration, the date can be exactly obtained in the simplest possible manner. The tables are preceded by a complete and exhaustive treatise on the subject. Dr. Schram, of Vienna, has promised to assist the authors by providing them with a table of eclipses visible in India, which will probably be the most reliable yet published. We learn that Professor Kielhorn, of Göttingen, and Dr. Bühler, of Bonn, have expressed their cordial approval of the work, and it is expected that the volume will form a standard work of reference for chronologists, as well as for all courts and offices in India.

710: 11.9.94
 453-54: 11.6.94
 352: 2.5.94
 357: 2.5.94
 270: 3.4.94
 163: 13.2.94
 1187: 27.11.93
 117: 9.11.93
 423: 3.5.93
 607: 18.1.93
 Pub 609: 22.7.91
 Pub 1258: 21.11.91
 Pub 1255: 27.3.90
 Pub 287: 27.3.89
 Pub 165: 18.2.89
 Pub 727: 21.1.88
 Pub 17: 7.1.88
 Pub 1601: 2.12.87
 Pub 994: 20.7.87
 Pub 765: 4.6.87
 Pub 760: 1.1.87

From
 Robert Sewell
 To
 The Chief Secretary
 to Government
 Madras

RECEIVED SECRET
 Feb 24 - 1895
 Recd 18/3. 1895
 Recd 19/3
 18500/111
 incl 1.2

The chronological
 Tables asked for
 published under the
 title of "The Indian
 Calendar"

[G
 9
 2,000-23-1-95.

CURRENT No. 2

DEPARTMENT.

From

R. C. C. Carr Esq.

No.

Dated 20.3.95

Received 20/3

Recd 21/3

Enclosures 2 of 15.6
 of the 2nd and 1st

SUBJECT.

Forwdg. for necessary action,
 the enclosed letter from
 Mr. R. Sewell re: his work
 on the Indian Calendar.

23/3

the
 Forth
 the

C. No. 677 } of 1895 from
o/o 219 } Mr R. Senck

Indian Chronological Table

FOR ORDERS.

In the note filed with
G.O. No. 352 of 2nd May 1895
deciding that the Tables
should be printed at the
Govt. Press, Madras, a
price of the previous ~~year~~
is given.

After the issue of the above
order Mr. Senck, before
proceeding to England on
leave, asked for permission
to print the work there.
As it was found that there
was a great difference in
the cost of printing in
England and in India, it
was again decided that
the work should be under-
taken by the Govt. Press
Madras, and the Indian

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have in the Press an important work on the
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March 1895

6, PALACE MANSIONS,
BUCKINGHAM GATE, S.W.

My dear Mr. Corrie.

I have not been much studying the Madras Gazette of late. But I presume you are at your old post. If not I hope your successor will accept it as addressed to him in substance. (The above is my permanent address. I have settled myself in a comfortable flat.). I am writing about the chronological table work that I have been engaged on for some years. His Excellency may remember that it was originally commissioned as a book to be printed in Madras. Then I got home I asked the Secy of State to take it over from Madras, since it had been now extended so as to apply to all India, and publish it himself - 3000 copies, &

be distributed - 700 to
each Local Government, for
all Courts & Offices, &
all Courts & Institutions on their
persons on their
distribution lists - and
the rest according to the
Main Office distribution
list & those included
in Mr. Hultsch's list. After
some time came reply
that the Secy of State had
decided that the work should
be printed in "England" at
the lowest tender -
I wrote I assumed
that this meant that the
Main Office would pay,
since if not, it did not
matter to them, who offered
the lowest tender -

I therefore spent
some months with various
printing establishments
getting & comparing tenders
- finally sent in my
report thereon. The reply
surprised me very much.
I was told that everything
would be left to me
but that, if Secy of State
the book, the Govt.
could grant me a subvention
of £100 down, and
another £100 if approved
of the work after its completion.

I had no option but to accept
for I did not want to incur
greater delay by again ad-
dressing the Secretary,
and therefore that is the present
state of affairs. The Secy of State has
me with printing expenses (the
whole thing will cost about
£400 I think) - I get £100
from him, & may get another
£100 if he approves. If I
cannot call the first edition
I stand to lose a lot - the
maximum being about £200
which I cannot afford. And
the Secy of State will not
stop a finger to push sales
in India - where alone I
could expect sales of the
different Government work
if it is ordered a number
of copies.

It is rather hard after
all my years of labour on
the book (then you see if
we will perhaps understand
the end & purpose probably
to a considerable monetary
loss. But I am prepared
for that, as I am publishing
because the book will be
so useful.

I enclose a couple of
copies of my Publishers' note.

P.O. 11. Write in ink & intelligible. - (not a note)

For His Excellency, it is
shown my best respects, &
to Lady Wencroft.

Will you kindly
tell him that I have
Madras Government
see their way to ordering
a good number of copies
that will help me greatly
with the other Indian
Governments follow suit.

Horribly, your
The difficulty is that
in my ignorance of
many to print, and to print
Litho advice stereotyping the
up 500 of which he had
plates 1,000 of the
to print are not going to
Governments are very few
order any copies or very few.
Consequently the price is high.
But I may receive an
order promising to take (say)
the 400 I thought necessary
I should then print a first
edition of 1,000 instead of
500 and that would
considerably cheapen the
cost to Government.
I intend to call as
low as possible, but I have
to pay publisher and adv.
- to pay a everything out of
my own pocket; if a edition
of 500 only is printed, the
publisher say the cost must
be £15.0 - 20.0.

Yours very sincerely
R. C. C. 11/10/20 No. 219.

20.10.19

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
GUINDY.

To. Mr. G. S.

My dear Mr. Price

I am desired to
send his enclosed letter
from Sewell about his book
and to request that you
will calculate it for orders
with a note.

Yours sincerely
R. C. C.

He was asked to allow the proofs to be included in the India Office packet with a view to the saving of postage charges.

In July last Mr. Small forwarded a copy of a communication he sent to the Secy. of State asking for permission to print the Tables in England & proposing to strike off 3000 copies, - the requirements of each local Govt. was estimated at 400 copies. No orders were passed on this communication - it was recorded pending the receipt of a communication from the India Office.

No such communication has been received.

Mr. Small now states that the work is being published in England under the title of "The Indian Calendar" & that the Secy. of State has granted him a subvention of £100 and a promise of another £100

G.O. 453-4 d/ 11.6.94

FOR ORDERS.

G.O. 710 d/ 11.9.94

X Why some has been in now apparent enough

Dist. Magis	22.
Divisional " including	
Depty. Collectors	126.
Dist. Courts	21.
Sub Judges	14.
St. Munisiffs	114.
	<u>297</u>

* At Rs. 14 a Sovereign
= Rs. ~~2750~~ 5925-

Vide Office Note from
Supt. in G.O. 453-454
11.6.94

if the work is approved of. He asked the Govt. to order "a good number of copies" and expects the other Govts. will do the same.

The price will depend on the number of copies printed - if only 500 be struck the cost of a copy will be 1 Guinea.

If all District and Divisional Magistrates & Superior Courts are to be furnished with copies in accordance with Sir Henry Stokes' note on page 13 of G.O. No. 1258 d/ 12.11.92, at least 297 copies[†] will have to be purchased and the cost at a guinea a copy would amount to £316-17-0.

Had the work been printed at the Govt. Press Madras as ordered, the cost of 250 copies would have been only Rs. 758.

If the distribution be confined to District Courts, Sub Judges' Courts & District

Magistrates, only 57 copies
 will be required & the cost
 would be £59.17.0.
 The High Court and the
 Revenue Board have works
 of reference containing complete
 information as to comparative
 laws in an almost un-
 broken series and the
 Secretariat has complete
 sets of Almanacs to refer
 to.

Dist. Courts - 21
 Sub Judges - 14
 Dist. Magtes. - 22
 57
 = Rs. 1137
 G.O. 1258 d/12.11.92, pages 10-11.

Handwritten notes in margin

Circulars

9/4/95 All this trouble and the prospects
 of loss which Mr. S has if Govt.
 does not come to the rescue is entirely
 the outcome of the Cavalier way in which
 Mr. S has treated Govt. in this matter.
 Govt. distinctly told Mr. Sewell that the
 table should be printed at the Govt. Press
 and here but he coolly ignoring Govt.
 went to the Secretary of State. The result
 has been most quite so satisfactory as
 Mr. S anticipated and he evidently sees
 that unless he can get off in India a
 by considerable number of copies, he
 will find himself involved in
 a pretty heavy loss.
 It is submitted that Govt. should not
 take one copy more than it wants.
 Mr. Sewell has acted in distinct opposition
 to the wishes and of his country.

I quite agree with the C.S. - Knowing
 of such matters, but it is quite in-
 evitable that a work of this kind may
 be quite valuable, from inaccuracy, even
 if valuable if accurate, as I said
 I cannot give "no opinion" at all
 We should certainly see the book &
 fit opinions on it before we
 are given.

9/4/95
 We are under some obligation
 Mr. Sewell. We told him to proof
 the book & showed our interest
 in various ways (e.g. by giving
 to the Clerk who has helped him -
 £0 2.5.94 351) The work will
 most certainly be a valuable
 work & it will be a loss to the
 public if it never appears. It
 we should tell Mr. Sewell
 if it is approved by the Sec of
 we will take 200 copies. The
 work on above us to supply

[G 25]
 100-20-0-04

DEPARTMENT.

Office (4) the Rd of Rev (2) the
 High Court (2) the Madras Small
 Cause Court (2) the Madras Civil
 Court (1) the Magts (22) the Courts
 (21) Sub Judges (14) the Mags (14)
 & keep a few in stock. We the
 Sec of State's grant of £100 FOR ORDERS.
 It will nearly pay the expenses of
 printing (about £4.00) & on average
 we 5 to buy over the work. Other will
 be with, in all probability "hard hand"
 the cost to us will be something less
 than Rs 399 & I think we can
 afford to meet us on such a course

JG
 18/4

I think we ought to assist Mr. Sewell
 in this matter, in spite of the way
 in which he has set to work.
 But let us first see that the
 book is of value, & if it is, we
 might take 200 copies.

W
 26 Apr

to give him his own faults.
 Attention is invited to the comparisons in
 the Appendix between what would be the cost of
 297 copies if supplied at the ruled
 which Mr. Sewell apparently contemplated
 and that of the 250 if the work
 had been printed at Govt. - decided
 apparently as large a distribution as
 297 copies & not required: of Dr. L
 Jones, Sub Judges & Dist. Magtes. about
 have copies it would be sent
 enough.
 Further I would submit that Mr. Sewell
 he told that nothing definite could
 be said as to what Govt. will do
 in the way of taking copies, until
 it has seen a specimen of the work.

26/4/95

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 11. 9. 1894, No. 710.

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Current No. 677 of 1895, dated 24. Jan from R. Sewell Esq.

D.O.
Current No. 219 of 1895, dated 20. Jan from The P. S.

ORDER. 27 April 1895, No 345.

Mr. Sewell will be informed
that before deciding, as to whether
it will patronize ^{the Indian Calendar} ~~the~~ ~~work~~, the
Government desires to be furnished
with a copy of the ~~book~~ "Indian
Calendar" work

(From Orders)

CS
22. 4. 95

JP
23/4/95

copied 26/4
22. 4. 95

R. Sewell Esq.

4 MAY 96

IN M.S.

Mr. Sewell's Indian Calendar

The Hon'ble J. Grose
Mis

Office
Keep file
~~together~~ intact
CS

H. J.

When given for copying _____
When copied _____ 189
When signed _____

ADJ. ADAM G.O., No. _____ DATED _____
189

DIFFERENT No. _____

ENCLOSURE TO G. No. _____

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DETTO.

APPROPRIATE NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

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