

Financial (1897) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 1 357-2

DATED 4-4-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Mr Sewell's work on Indian Chronology

Informing Mr Sewell that the Govt will purchase 200 copies of the appendix to the "Indian Calendar" entitled, "Eclipses of the Moon from A.D 300 to 1900"; and communicating to him G.O. No 156 Edul with reference to his suggestion that Indian Chronology should be introduced as a subject in the scheme of Govt Examinations. Copy the Govt of India.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
8.0.	1199	Finl.	40.12.98				
			Co 235 Tel 1-4-99				

Government {1898} of Madras. FINANCIAL.

Recd.

Regd.

Enclosures
1898.
Spare copies

G.O., &c., Nos. 351, 352, 4th April 1898.

APRIL.

Mr. Sewell's Work on Indian Chronology.

Informing Mr. Sewell that the Government will purchase 200 copies of the appendix to the "Indian Calendar" entitled "Eclipses of the Moon from A.D. 300 to 1900"; and communicating to him G.O., No. 156, Educational, with reference to his suggestion that Indian Chronology should be introduced as a subject in the scheme of Government examinations. Copy to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following papers:—

G.O., No. 1047, Financial, dated 21st December 1895.

ABSTRACT.—Congratulating Mr. Sewell on the completion of his work on Indian Chronology, and intimating that Government will purchase two hundred copies of his work.

G.O., R. Nos. 256, 257, Financial, dated 6th March 1896.

ABSTRACT.—Informing the Government of India, Home Department, that a copy of Mr. Sewell's "Indian Calendar" will be furnished to it on receipt of a supply of the book from the author.

G.O., R. No. 420, Financial, dated 22nd April 1896.

ABSTRACT.—Complying with the request of the Director of Public Instruction to be furnished with two copies of Mr. R. Sewell's "Indian Chronology" for the use of the Presidency and Kumbakonam Colleges, and making a certain alteration in the appendix to G.O., No. 1047, Financial, dated 21st December 1895.

G.O., R. No. 838, Financial, dated 31st July 1896.

G.O., R. No. 217, Financial, dated 17th February 1898.

Read—again the following papers:—

G.O., No. 1047, Financial, dated 21st December 1895.

" R. No. 420 " " 22nd April 1896.

" R. " 838 " " 31st July 1896.

Read—also the following paper:—

From R. SEWELL, Esq., I.C.S. (Retired), 6, Palace Mansions, Buckingham Gate, London, S.W., to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated 16th December 1897.

I have the honour—in reference to my last letter regarding the work brought out by Mr. S. B. Dikshit and myself under the title of "The Indian Calendar," and in continuation of Madras Government Proceedings (Financial), No. 345, dated April 27, 1895,—to enclose five copies of a prospectus just issued containing a summary of criticisms on the book, written by scientific men who are themselves well-acquainted with the subject.

2. You will observe that it has met with general approval, and I am glad to be able to say that in no quarter has the slightest doubts been expressed as to its accuracy. As to its simplicity, I beg to specially refer you to the opinion of Professor F. Kielhorn, perhaps the greatest living authority on the subject, and Professor Sylvain Lévi of the Collège de France, Paris. The latter observes—and this precisely emphasizes the result I was so anxious to attain—that the publication has rendered it for all future time a mere amusement to fix the correspondence of Hindu, Muhammadan and Christian dates, while he attests the precision and accuracy of our methods.

3. May I now refer you to paragraph 5 of my letter under reference, in which I attempt to show how important it is that this work should be generally introduced into all offices in India?

4. The volume in question contained all that was necessary for chronological purposes, with the one exception that eclipses of the moon were not touched. These are just as important, of course, for testing the genuineness or falsity of all old documents as are the eclipses of the sun, and as soon as the labour of bringing out the *Indian Calendar* was at an end I started work on this branch of the subject, and have now completed all the necessary calculations. These are based on von Oppolzer's *Canon der Finsternisse*, the standard tables for all astronomical purposes for the meridian of Greenwich, and I have prepared my list for Indian purposes for the meridian of Lanka. I have also worked out the days of the week on which the eclipses occurred, and added a column giving the Śaka year and ordinary month for Hindu calendars. Professor H. H. Turner of the University Observatory, Oxford, has most kindly furnished me with the necessary correction tables for latitude and longitude, so that now the exact moments of beginning, greatest phase, and end of every lunar eclipse from A.D. 300 to 1900 for any place in India can be ascertained with the greatest ease and with absolute accuracy.

5. I would therefore confidently place this work before your Government with the request that it will be pleased to permit me to direct my publishers to send you the same number of copies as were ordered for the *Indian Calendar*, viz., 200, with a view to the distribution of them to those offices which received copies of the larger work. The lunar eclipses are, of course, as essential for Government purposes as the solar.

6. This new volume completes the entire work; and everything necessary for the correct elucidation of dates in old documents is now presented in the simplest possible form. I should like to add that I have had the highest opinion expressed as to the value of the book by such scholars as M. Senart, Professors Bühler, Kern, Jacobi, Serge d'Oldenburg, Cordier, Sayce, de Gubernatis, Baron Textor de Ravisi, M. Barth, and many others, representing the highest Oriental scholarship at Paris, Vienna, Leyden, Bonn, St. Petersburg, &c. I do not mention this from any spirit of self-laudation, but in order that the Government may thoroughly understand the scientific value of the work I have now carried through to completion.

7. If I might venture on a suggestion for extending the usefulness of the books, I would note that it is possible that clerks in courts and offices may at present, from ignorance of the subject, be somewhat frightened at its apparent difficulty. If the study of Indian Chronology, and especially South-Indian Chronology were introduced (optionally) into the examinations for Government appointments, there would soon be at least one clerk in every office well-grounded in the subject, and able to use the tables with facility, so that the genuineness of a document presented as evidence could be at once tested. The matter is not nearly so intricate as it looks. It is grievous to think how many forgeries may have passed muster in important cases, merely because there was no one at hand competent to test the date.

Order—R. No. 217, Financial, dated 17th February 1898.

Mr. Sewell's letter and its enclosure will be referred to the Honourable the Judges of the High Court with the request that they will be so good as to favour Government with their opinion as to whether it would be advisable to procure and distribute copies of the supplementary volume to the *Indian Calendar* entitled "Eclipses of the Moon from A.D. 300 to 1900" in the same manner as the original publication.

2. The request in the concluding paragraph of Mr. Sewell's letter will be transferred to the Educational Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

To the Honourable the Chief Justice (with C.L.).
" Educational Department.

READ—also the following papers:—

From the Registrar of the High Court of Judicature, Madras, dated 9th March 1898, Dis. No. 533.

G.O., No. 156, Educational, dated 10th March 1898.

Read—G.O., R. No. 217, Financial, dated 17th February 1898.

Order—No. 156, Educational, dated 10th March 1898.

His Excellency the Governor in Council regrets his inability to accept Mr. Sewell's suggestion, that the study of Indian Chronology should be introduced into the examinations qualifying for Government appointments.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. TREMENHEERE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Financial Department.

ORDER—No. 351, Financial, dated 4th April 1898.

Mr. Sewell will be informed that the Government will purchase 200 copies of the appendix to the "Indian Calendar" entitled "Eclipses of the Moon from A.D. 300 to 1900."

2. The copies of the work will, on receipt, be distributed as shown in the annexure to these proceedings.

3. G.O., No. 156, Educational, dated 10th March 1898, will be communicated to Mr. Sewell with reference to his suggestion that Indian Chronology should be introduced as a subject in the scheme of Government examinations.

(True Extract.)

A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

To R. Sewell, Esq., 6, Palace Mansions, Buckingham
Gate, London, S.W.

„ the Honourable the Chief Justice (with C.L.)
„ the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue.)
„ the Government Epigraphist.
„ the Director of Public Instruction.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ all District Magistrates.
„ the Librarian.

ENDORSEMENT—No. 352, Financial, dated 4th April 1898.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

[Annexure.

	Copies.
The Government of India, Home Department	1
„ High Court	2
„ Small Cause Court, Madras	1
„ City Civil Court	1
District Courts	20
„ Magistrates	21
Sub-Judges	14
District Munsifs	114
Board of Revenue (Land Revenue)	2
Director of Public Instruction	2
Government Epigraphist	4
Secretariat Library	16
Stock	—
Total	200

Exd. P. Seetharam.

Financial
Judicial (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. ~~115~~ 806



From

The Registrar,
High Court of Judicature,
Madras.

C.B.

In Orders

Please see the note on the
docket of the Current No. 258 in A
S.O. R. No. 217 of 17.2.98. The
High Ct. proposes that fut. should
take the same number of copies
(i.e. 200) of Mr. Serelli's "Eclipses
of the Moon" as it did of the
"Indian Calendar". This opinion
is based apparently on the fact
that the former is a supplement
to the latter; the High Court
offers no opinion on the usefulness
of the work.

No. 533

Dated 9th March 1898.
Received }
Registered } 11. 3. 98
Enclosures
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Stating that the same number of
copies of the "Eclipses of the Moon
from A.D. 300 to 1900" may be order-
ed as of "the Indian Calendar" for
distribution.

C.B.
15/3/98

But how many
copies were sent to
the H.C. of the previous
work? 11.3.98.

Please register in file.
11.3.98

P70

1573/44

The same numbers
must be bought.

AT 16.3.28.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
R217	: 17. 2.	98	
R838	: 31. 7.	96	
R420	: 22. 4.	96	
R256	: 6. 3.	96	
1047	: 21. 12.	95 dist	
346	: 27. 4.	95 Mis	
352	: 2. 5.	94 "	

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

From

A. L. Hannay, Esquire, ~~Esq.~~

Registrar of the High Court of Judicature, Madras.

To

THE HON'BLE MR. A. T. Arundel,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

HON'BLE SIR,

With reference to G.O.,

A R. No.217, Financial, dated the 17th ultimo, I am directed to state that the Honourable the Judges of the High Court are of opinion that as the "Eclipses of the Moon from A.D. 300 to 1900" by Mr. Robert Sewell is a supplement to "The Indian Calendar" by himself and Sankara Balakrishna Dikshit, the same number of copies may be ordered of the former ^{as of the latter} for distribution to the offices which received copies of the original publication.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C. L. Hannay
10-3-95
Registrar.

$E = 2.9$

Financial (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 852

From

The Educational Dept

Order

No. 156

Dated 10 - 3 - 98

Received 16 - 3 - 98

Registered 16 - 3 - 98

Enclosures -

Spare copies -

SUBJECT.

^{Statute}
Informing that the Govt requires
its inability to accept Mr.
Souell's suggestion that the
study of Indian Chronology
should be introduced into
the examinations qualifying
for Govt appointments

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Financial Department.

Read again G.O. 1047, Finl.d/21st Dec.95
 ,, ,, ,, R.256-57, Finl.
 d/6th March 1896
 ,, ,, ,, R.420, Finl.d/22nd April 96
 ,, ,, ,, R.838, Finl.d/31st July 96
 ,, ,, ,, R.217, Finl.d/17th Feb.98
 ,, C. No. 806
 ,, ,, 852.

ORDER
 P.S.

Mr. Sewell will be informed that the Government will purchase 200 copies of the appendix to the "Indian Calendar" entitled "Eclipses of the Moon from A.D. 300 to 1900".

2. The copies of the appendix will, on receipt, be distributed as shown in the annexure to this proceedings.

3. G.O. No. 156, Educational, dated 10th March 1898, will be communicated to Mr. Sewell with reference to his suggestion that Indian Chronology should be introduced as a subject in the scheme of Government Examinations.

To

R. Sewell Esq: G, Palace Mansions,
 Buckingham Gate, London. S.W.
 The Hon. the Chief Justice with
 C.L.30
 ,, Board of Revenue (L.R.) 10
 ,, Govt. Epigraphist. 1
 ,, D. P.I. 5
 All District Magistrates. 183
 The Librarian. 1
 A.C. 4

Only 142.

Copy to the Government of India,
 Home Department.

See order for
 Appendix
 P.T.O.

ANNEXURE

The Govt. of India, Home Dept.	Copies 1
,,, High Court.	2
,,, Small Cause Court, Madras.	1
,,, City Civil Court	1
District Courts	20
,, Magistrates	21
Sub-Judges	14
District Munsifs	114
Board of Revenue (L.R.)	2
D.P.I.	2
Govt. Epigraphist	2
Secretariat Library	4
Stock	16
	200

The Collectors of
The District Magistrates of

Anantapur. 8
North Arcot, Chittoor. 8
South Arcot, Cuddalore. 8
Bellary. 8
South Canara, Mangalore. 8
Chingleput, Saidapet. 8
Coimbatore. 8
Cuddapah. 8
Ganjam, Chatrapur. 8
Godavari, Cocanada. 8
Kistna, Masulipatam. 8
Kurnool. 8
~~Madras (when necessary).~~
Madura. 8
Malabar, Calicut. 12
Nilgiris, Ootacamund. 8
Nellore. 8
Salem. 8
Tanjore. 9
Tinnevelly. 8
Trichinopoly. 8
Vizagapatam. 8

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O. No.
189

DATED

NUMBER OF COPIES
REQUIRED. { Order complete.
Letter only.
Order complete with Letter.

CURRENT No.

Please print as marked
in the drafts.

Order
Please send first only (one)
copy of the order and of the
encl. for signature.
189
22/3/98

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DETD.

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

P.
Please send me
copies before despatch.
189
22/3/98

N.B. -

- A = Print in full.
- B = Not to be printed.
- P = Print abstract only.
- Q = Print heading only.