[illegible]

Financial (1898) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., Nos 460 — 462.

DATED 18. 5. 98.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Govt Publications

Covering, with remarks, to the Depts of the Secretariat & to the Dept of Govt Press, letter from the Govt of India forwarding copy of correspondence relative to the establishment of agencies in India & in Europe for the sale of and advertising the Govt of India publications in Bombay & Calcutta in connection therewith.

Abstract of letter to Govt of India

Enquiring whether the undertaking that the number of copies to be sent to the Secy of State for sale in Europe shall not exceed ten, should be adhered to or can affix the establishments of agents in England & on the Continent for the sale of these publications

T.M.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
C No 1710 98							
1678 98							
1885/98 = 6669/1678 98.							
2670/98							

Government {1898} of Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Recd. / Regd. } 1898. Enclosures / Spare copies

G.O., No. 460, 18th May 1898.

MAY.

Government Publications.

Communicating, with remarks, to the departments of the Secretariat and to the Superintendent, Government Press, letter from the Government of India forwarding copy of correspondence relative to the establishment of agencies in India and in Europe for the sale of —, and addressing the Government of India and certain firms in Bombay and Calcutta in connection therewith.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following paper:—

G.O., Nos. 756, 757, Financial, dated 14th September 1897.

Abstract.—Communicating to the departments of the Secretariat, and to the Superintendent, Government Press, despatch from the Secretary of State intimating, with remarks, the appointment of certain agents in England and on the continent for the sale of Indian Government publications; and addressing the Government of India on the subject.

Read—also the following papers:—

From A. T. PRINGLE, Esq., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, (Home Department—Books), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, the 17th February 1898, No. 200.

In forwarding, for the information of the Government of Madras, a copy of the correspondence marginally noted, regarding the establishment of agencies for the sale of official publications issued by the Governments in India, I am directed to ask that, if His Excellency the Governor in Council sees no objection, arrangements may be made to supply on similar terms to such of the firms addressed by the Government of India, or to other book-selling firms in this country, as may be thought fit, any publications issued by the Government of Madras which are of use or interest to students or to the public.

Despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 7 (Public—Books), dated the 27th January 1897, and enclosures.
Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 9 (Public—Records), dated the 6th May 1897, and enclosure.
Home Department letter to Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co. and other Book-sellers, No. 195–98, dated the 17th February 1898.
Home Department letter to the Superintendent of Government Printing, India, No. 199, dated the 17th February 1898.

2. With regard to the enquiries contained in the second paragraph of your letter of the 14th September last, No. 757 (Financial), I am to enclose an extract from a despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 17 (Public—Records) of the 1st July last, and to request that future consignments of books intended for sale on the continent of Europe may, under the orders of the Government of Madras, be made to the India Office, where all the necessary arrangements will be carried out.

3. Under the new system it will, I am to add, no longer be necessary to print the names of any agents on the title-page of official works intended for sale to the public.

Enclosures.

Despatch from the Government of India, Home Department, to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, dated Calcutta, the 27th January 1897, No. 7.

We have the honour to submit, for your Lordship's consideration, a copy of a letter addressed to the Bengal Government by Mr. Grierson, C.I.E., of the Indian Civil Service, on the subject of the agency for selling official publications.

2. He represents, and in our opinion justly, that works of this class are not as accessible as is desirable to European and other students. The advertisements relating to them are to some extent hidden in the gazettes, and even when intending

purchasers have before them the name of the press at which a book was published, want of familiarity with the Indian monetary system, and ignorance as to the precise course to be adopted and the proper person to address, may, in many instances, form an almost insuperable difficulty in the way of their obtaining what they require. Mr. Grierson accordingly suggests that we should appoint authorised publishers in India and also in England and on the continent, from whom official publications could always be obtained, and who would advertise them in their lists in the usual manner.

3. The plan, advocated by Mr. Grierson, appeared to us to be a good one, and we have caused enquiries to be made of Calcutta book-sellers as to whether they would be prepared to assist in carrying it out. Your Lordship will see that, subject to the receipt of a commission, the precise percentage of which has not been definitely fixed but which need not in our opinion exceed twenty, and also to certain minor, and in our judgment reasonable, conditions in regard to postal and other charges, the two principal firms in this city will undertake to circulate catalogues and to issue circulars from time to time, and whenever specially required to do so. We believe that as regards English book-sellers somewhat similar arrangements to this have already been made by the India Office, and we would propose to place on our lists whichever firms Your Lordship may recommend. For continental establishments, Mr. Grierson has suggested MM. Dulan & Co. in Paris and Otto Harrassowitz in Leipzig, and the Government of Bengal would add to these Friedlander & Co. in Berlin. Another firm which appears to make a speciality of oriental works is that of Karl Hiersemann of Leipzig.

List of Enclosures.

(1) From the Government of Bengal, No. 348, dated 28th January 1896, and enclosure.
(2) To Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co. and Messrs. W. Newman & Co., Nos. 198–199, dated 23rd June 1896.
(3) From Messrs. W. Newman & Co., dated 15th August 1896.
(4) From Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., dated 1st December 1896.

From C. E. BUCKLAND, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Calcutta, the 28th January 1896, No. 348.

I am directed to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of a letter, dated the 13th December 1895, from Mr. G. A. Grierson, C.I.E., Magistrate of Howrah, in which, with a view to facilitating the purchase of such books by students and other persons who require them, he suggests the appointment of publishers in India, England, France, Germany and America, specially authorised to sell useful works published by Government.

2. At present all books published under the authority of this Government are advertised for sale in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and the Lieutenant-Governor would now propose to send every month direct to the four publishers named by Mr. Grierson in paragraph 8 of his letter, and also to Messrs. Friedlander & Co. in Berlin, copies of those parts of the Gazette which contain the advertisements, and to inform them that the books named in the lists may be had so long as there are copies available. The publishers would be asked to insert these extracts from the Gazette in their sale catalogues. They might be allowed a discount of 20 per cent. on the published price of the books on all orders coming from them—a concession which is at present given to Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co.—and they might be left to charge their customers any price they think proper for the books they sell.

3. I am to enquire whether these proposals have the approval of the Government of India.

From G. A. GRIERSON, Esq., Ph.D., c.i.e., Magistrate of Howrah, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, dated Howrah, the 13th December 1895.

I venture to address you on a subject which has pressed itself upon my attention for some years. I am encouraged to do so by the fact that I believe that the suggestion will not be unwelcome.

2. The Government of Bengal has printed a number of useful works for the benefit of the public. Some of them are, to specialists, works of the highest importance, which would never have seen the light had it not been for the Government generously undertaking the expense of printing them.

3. The Government has also with signal liberality distributed these books free of cost amongst persons who are, at the time of printing, likely to be interested in their contents. I myself know by grateful experience how liberal Government is in the matter of works dealing with philology; and I believe that I am entitled to thank the Bengal Government in the name of all philologists for what it has done to students of Indian languages and antiquities, more especially during the last few years.

4. Under these circumstances I make bold to offer a suggestion in the hope of making the publications of the Bengal and of other Governments more accessible to students all over the world.

5. The fact is that nobody out of India knows how or where to get them. This is really a great scientific loss. To take one work, about which there can be no question, Dalton's "Ethnology of Bengal." It is a work which is frequently sought after. It commands a high price, second-hand (possibly higher than the price of a new copy at the Bengal Secretariat). It is the interest of second-hand book-sellers to restrict the supply. I believe that copies are (or were a few years ago) available for sale at the Bengal Secretariat Press, but no one knew it, and poor scholars, to whom every shilling was of importance, were compelled either to go to libraries or to buy second-hand copies, not always complete, at prices not calculated on the original selling price, but on the artificial restrictions which second-hand book-sellers were able to impose.

6. To take another example, for doing which I would ask to be excused, because I have a personal knowledge of the facts. My own "Bihar Peasant Life," originally published by the Bengal Government, has for some years sold second-hand for more than the original selling price, advertised in the *Calcutta Gazette*. As its author, I frequently received letters from Europe, asking where it could be got. My answer was "the Bengal Secretariat Press." But this to a student in England or Germany meant sending money by unaccustomed channels in an unusual currency to an official whom the purchaser hardly knew how to address. This may seem a small difficulty to you or to me, but to a poor young German student, who is not certain of his English, whom the "Accountant, Bengal Secretariat" is a being as mysterious as Koot-Hoomi or Prester John, to whom the Indian monetary system is not familiar, and, above all, who does not know how much to send for packing and postage to Europe, the difficulties, even if he knows where to write, seem almost insuperable. But as a rule, people in Europe do not know where to write to; and so when any one wants a book published by an Indian Government, he has to wait for the chance of purchasing a copy from a second-hand book-seller. I may say that, here in India, I have experienced similar difficulties in finding out where to get books published by other Governments, such as Mr. Crookes' excellent "Agricultural Glossary."

7. The cause of all this is that the Government publications are not published as a publisher who made it his business to dispose of his books would do. They are advertised in the Gazette, but in Europe no one sees an Indian Gazette, and in India the Gazette is not the place one would naturally look for an advertisement of a scientific work.

8. I would suggest that the Government should appoint authorised publishers in India, England, France, Germany and America, from whom Government publications could always be obtained, and who would advertise them in their lists in the usual manner. In this way purchasers would know where to get the books they want, and would obtain them without difficulty. The publishers best known for oriental works are—Thacker, Spink & Co. in Calcutta, Luzac & Co. in London, Dulan & Co. in Paris, and Harrassowitz in Leipzig. I am persuaded that these or other firms would gladly undertake the sale of Government works for a small commission.

9. In conclusion, I beg to be excused for troubling you in this matter, and I should not do so did I not know the difficulties to which many scholars are put, and did I not feel acutely what a pity it is that so many valuable materials, whose existence is due to the enlightened liberality of the Government which I am proud to have the honour to serve, should lie useless in the cellars of the Bengal Secretariat, merely because those who would most appreciate them are unable to obtain them.

From A. T. PRINGLE, Esq., Officiating Officer in charge of the Records of the Government of India, to Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co. and Messrs. W. Newman & Co., dated Calcutta, the 23rd June 1896, Nos. 198–99.

With reference to the conversations which we have had on the subject of the arrangements for the sale of official publications, I write to say that I shall be obliged if you will favour me with any observations that may occur to you in regard to the general question of agency.

2. The case may be put as follows:—

The present arrangement under which all but a very few official works are sold by a Department of the State is open to objection, and it has been pointed out that authors are at times injured by it, books which might otherwise command attention in Europe or America being left idle in the shelves. On the other hand, the limited kind of agency which is at present in existence seems to be little better than the departmental; the percentages of commission are arbitrary, in some instances apparently excessive, in other cases insufficient, and there is no inducement for private firms to take pains to push sales. If this partial agency were to be replaced by a more extended agency—if recognised agents were to be appointed in Calcutta and other large towns in India and elsewhere, and entrusted with selling not only works of special sorts, but also official publications in general,—it is possible that the change might benefit both parties, the Government and the agents. If, however, such agencies were to be established, it would probably be on the understanding that every reasonable endeavour was made to push sales, and that such publications as were likely to command the attention of the general public or of certain large classes of it, philologists or men of science, for instance, should be freely advertised both in India and elsewhere. It would be useless for Government to extend the system of sale by private firms unless this were done. On the other hand, assistance could be given to the agents in certain matters. Catalogues (to which the names of the firms of agency would be appended) might be printed at the Government Press, and storage room would always be afforded so as to relieve agents from any expenses in that connection. The rate of commission might be made fixed in respect to all publications without exception and be placed at 20 per cent.

3. I shall be glad if you will regard this discussion as quite informal; nothing I have written has at present the authority of the Government of India, and nothing that you may say in reply will be regarded as committing you in any way. But if in communication with you or other firms, some arrangement which is likely to answer can be worked out, it will be placed before the Government of India for consideration, and a formal communication will be made to you in due course.

Demi-official from Messrs. W. NEWMAN & Co., to the Officiating Officer in charge of the Records of the Government of India, dated Calcutta, the 15th August 1896.

We are sorry we have taken so long to reply to your favour No. 199 of 23rd June last, first owing to the absence of him by whom the matter was under consideration, and secondly owing to the difficulty we experience in replying to your letter.

2. We shall be very glad to undertake an agency for the sale of Government publications and would freely advertise the same in our book catalogues and circulars and include them from time to time in our regular newspaper advertisements.

3. We should be willing to keep in stock a certain quantity of each publication to be governed by its probable requirements and would draw our further supplies from the Government stores.

4. Taking all the points suggested in your letter, we cannot see anything but what is quite feasible and which we should be very willing and glad to carry out.

5. We think the rate of commission might be made 25 per cent. as there would be a great deal of extra work entailed on this special account.

6. As regards foreign agencies, we have our agencies in London and America, and can command the same in Paris and other cities in Europe and, where advisable, we could send information of such books as it were thought would be saleable in those places.

7. In all matters we are quite willing to take up the matter on the lines proposed by you, and in case of any arrangement being proposed we shall be very glad to go into the details with you.

From Messrs. THACKER, SPINK & Co., Calcutta, to the Officer in charge of the Records of the Government of India, dated Calcutta, the 1st December 1896.

With reference to our several conversations and your letter of 23rd June, we beg to offer our sincere apologies for the great delay in complying with your wish and placing on record our opinions on the subject of a more extended means of making Government publications known.

2. Speaking for ourselves we have for many years made it a practice to include in a list of local publications issued nearly every month all the Government publications that have been brought to our notice, and this list is posted specially to our agents and to known dealers in such books in London, Leipzig, Berlin, St. Petersburg, New York, Paris, and it is included in the very large issue of a general list posted in India, and we think looking at the question all round that it would not be worth while to attempt any advertisement in any local paper or magazine outside India not even in London. The cost of advertising is very high in proportion to realization by sales unless the book is very popular and carries a large margin beyond cost.

3. To do authors of special books, published by Government, full justice we should advise that a circular be posted to those who may be thought to be interested in the subject, and we think this is the best means of making the book known at first.

4. As to retaining and reviving the attention of the public, that we think can only be done by catalogues and by the present system of advertisement in the Government Gazettes.

5. We regret we do not see our way to offer any special means of keeping the books on view in our library—beyond what is done now to a certain extent in keeping on our shelves one or more copies of books likely to be asked for.

6. With regard to the issuing of circulars and catalogues occasionally, we are prepared to offer our services to Government in this manner, that the Government will supply the circular or the catalogue and wrapping and pay the postage if necessary —that we will do the addressing and sending to the post, the sole conditions being that our name is printed on the circular or catalogue, and that a sufficiently remunerative discount from the published price be allowed.

7. It is impossible to define what may be considered "a reasonable endeavour" to push a book, and we are very unwilling to enter into any special promise or agreement.

8. It is to our interest to sell all books we can and we have cultivated the knowledge of Government publications so as to be able to know and supply the want of our constituents, and we think that this coupled with the issue of catalogues, etc., as mentioned above is all we can offer to Government as an aid to making their publications known.

9. With regard to the discount allowed, the Bengal Government have lately increased it to 20 per cent., but with the Government of India it is not uniform but practically 10 per cent. (ten per cent.), and this we beg to say is not sufficient to pay for any work even in buying and supplying a plain definite order; it leaves us no margin for the inevitable correspondence in India between customers and suppliers, the time spent in looking up and reporting books and prices—for the equally unavoidable credit that has to be given and the chances of bad debts—for the certainty of errors which are always thrown upon the supplier for the general cost of advertising, postages, etc.—for the heavy rent, establishment and incidental charges unavoidable in India.

10. We would beg to submit that the Government should allow to the trade at least 25 per cent. (twenty-five per cent.) on all their publications; it is only a fair working rate, and in many instances does not pay for the time of an assistant taken in selling a book.

11. In conclusion, we beg to express our willingness to assist the Government in doing what is possible to make their publications known, and we shall be pleased to give our advice and help whenever any publication is about to be issued if the officer in charge desires to consult us.

Despatch from the Right Hon'ble Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 6th May 1897, No. 9 (Public Records).

On receipt of your Excellency's letter, No. 7, Home Department (Public—Books), dated the 27th January last, communications were addressed to the several publishing firms suggested by Mr. Grierson as agents for the sale of Indian Government publications on the continent. MM. Otto Harrassowitz and Karl Hiersemann, of Leipzig, and MM. Friedlander & Co., of Berlin, have accepted the offer. There is no firm of MM. Dulan & Cie of Paris, and I have, therefore, appointed M. Earnest Leroux, of 28 Rue Bonaparte, Paris, as agent in France, and I have also appointed M. Martim Nyhoff, of The Hague, as agent in Holland. A copy of the letter addressed to the above named firms is enclosed for the information of your Government.

2. The agents in this country are as follows:—

E. A. Arnold, 37, Bedford Street, Strand, London.
Constable & Co., 2, Whitehall Gardens, London.
Sampson Low, Marston & Co., St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London.
Luzac & Co., 46, Great Russell Street, London.
Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., Charing Cross Road, London.
B. Quaritch, 15, Piccadilly, London.
P. S. King & Co., 12 & 14, King Street, Westminster.

H. S. King & Co., of 65, Cornhill, are also agents for the sale of the Indian Army List.

3. With regard to the rate of commission to agents, it has been the general custom of this office to allow $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent., and I do not propose, as at present advised, to make any change in that respect.

4. In fixing the English prices of books published in India, the plan adopted is to convert the rupee at 1*s.* 4*d.* so as to give a small extra amount to cover cost of freight, etc., from India. In order to avoid fractions in the English prices they will increase between 1*s.* 4*d.* and 2*s.* by not less than 2*d.* at a time, and above 2*s.* by not less than 6*d.* In all cases it will be as well that the prices of books issued for publication in India should be printed on the title-pages, both in rupees and in English currency.

From Sir A. GODLEY, K.C.B., Her Majesty's Under Secretary of State for India, to M. Otto Harrassowitz, Leipzig; M. Karl Hiersemann, Leipzig; Messrs. Friedlander & Co., Berlin; Mr. M. Nijhoff, The Hague; and M. E. Leroux, 28, Rue Bonaparte, Paris, dated India Office, London, 23rd March 1897, No. R. & L. 293.

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to inform you that, with the view of making the several publications of the Government of India more generally accessible than heretofore, it is proposed to establish agencies on the continent for the sale of them as well as in India and England. I am accordingly to inquire whether you are willing to act as an agent in

The conditions of agency are, that the agents be allowed a discount of 33⅓ per cent. on the marked price of each book sold by them; that periodical lists of new publications be supplied to them gratuitously from India or from this office as they are printed, selections from which shall be printed by each agent in his monthly circular, free of all cost to this office; that annual accounts of sales be rendered to this office in January of each year, on forms to be supplied for the purpose; and that all payments on account of the preceding year's sale be made to the Secretary of State for India before the 1st March following.

I am to request that I may receive an early reply to these proposals.

From A. T. PRINGLE, Esq., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Books), to Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., Calcutta; W. Newman & Co., Calcutta; Thacker & Co., Bombay; and Higginbotham & Co., Madras, dated Calcutta, 17th February 1898, No. 195-198.

I am directed to inform you that, with the view of making the several publications of the Government of India more generally accessible than in the past, it is proposed to establish agencies for their sale in India as well as in Europe. I am accordingly to inquire whether you are willing to act as an agent for this purpose in Calcutta. / Bombay. / Madars.

2. The conditions of agency are, that the agents shall be allowed a discount of 33⅓ per cent. on the marked price of each book sold by them; that periodical lists of new publications shall be supplied to them gratuitously as they are printed, selections from which shall be printed by each agent in his monthly circular, free of all cost to the State; that annual accounts of sales shall be rendered to this office in January of each year, on forms to be supplied for the purpose; and that all payments on account of the sales of the preceding year shall be made to the Government of India before the 1st March following.

3. I am to request an early reply to these proposals, and to add that the publications of the Legislative Department of the Government of India will be excluded from the proposed arrangements.

From A. T. PRINGLE, Esq., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Books), to the Superintendent of Printing, India, Calcutta, dated Calcutta, 17th February 1898, No. 199.

I am directed to forward, for your information, a copy of the despatch from the Secretary of State marginally noted, regarding the appointment of agents for the sale of Indian official publications.

No. 9 (Public—Records), dated the 6th May 1897, and enclosure.

2. It will be seen that periodical lists of new Government publications are to be supplied gratuitously to the agents, selections from which will be printed by each agent in his monthly circular. Besides the firms addressed by the Secretary of State, Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co. and certain other firms have been addressed by the Government of India in the letter of which I am to enclose a copy. It is understood that you will be able to supply periodical lists in the manner contemplated to the

firms in Europe and in India which accept the agency. I am to request that the lists may be duly transmitted in future to the firms mentioned in the despatch from the Secretary of State, and to say that a list of the agents appointed in India will be sent to you as soon as arrangements are complete.

3. In accordance with the suggestion contained in paragraph 4 of the despatch the prices of the publications should be printed on the title-pages in both Indian and English currency, the rupee being converted at 1*s.* 4*d.*, and fractions dealt with as explained.

4. The publications of the Legislative Department of the Government of India will be excluded from the proposed arrangements.

5. I am further to enclose an extract from a despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 17 (Public Records), of the 1st July last, and to request that future consignments of books intended for sale on the continent of Europe may be made to the India Office, where all the necessary arrangements with the agents will be carried out.

Extract from a despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 17 (Public Records), dated 1st July 1897.

* * * * *

As it is very desirable that the sale of Indian Government publications should be conducted upon a uniform and systematic method, I request that some general orders may be issued directing that, in future, consignments of books for sale are to be made only to this office, by which all the necessary arrangements with the agents will be carried out.

From Messrs. HIGGINBOTHAM & Co., Printers, Publishers and Booksellers, Madras, dated 9th March 1898.

Order—No. 460, Financial, dated 18th May 1898.

The letter from the Government of India read above will be communicated to the departments of the Secretariat and to the Superintendent, Government Press, for information and guidance.

2. It will be observed that whenever it is considered that a publication is likely to obtain a sale in Europe, it will be necessary for the Secretariat department concerned to forward to the India Office such copies as are intended to be placed on sale with the agents of that office.

3. The Superintendent, Government Press, will arrange to supply monthly lists of new Government publications, excepting those of the Legislative Department, to the agents of India Office mentioned in the despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, No. 9 (Public Records), dated 6th May 1897, to Messrs. Higginbotham & Co., Madras, and to such other agents of this Government as may hereafter be appointed. A copy of these lists will be forwarded to the Financial Department for information. He will also supply the agents in India with forms suitable for the preparation of annual accounts of sales.

4. The names of agents will, in future, be omitted from the title-pages and covers of all Government publications; but the prices in English and Indian currency will continue to be entered as directed in G.O., No. 756, Financial, dated 14th September 1897.

5. The attention of the Superintendent, Government Press, will be drawn to paragraph 5 of G.O., No. 666, Financial, dated 31st August 1894, as regards the selling price of works of a literary character. These orders will, for the future, be applied to all works likely to be purchased by the general public. The Superintendent will, however, revise the prices of books already printed and in stock, the prices of which have been fixed at the mere cost of printing, paper and binding.

6. Messrs. Higginbotham & Co. are appointed Agents in Madras for the sale of the publications of this Government (except those of the Legislative Department), subject to the following conditions :—

(i) They shall be allowed a discount of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. on the marked price of each book sold by them ;

(ii) Monthly lists of new publications shall be supplied to them by the Superintendent, Government Press, gratuitously as they are printed, and selections from these shall be printed by Messrs. Higginbotham & Co. in their advertisements and circulars, etc., free of all cost to the State. On receipt of these lists they shall, as early as possible, intimate to the Superintendent, Government Press, what publications and how many copies of each they are willing to keep in stock ;

(iii) Annual accounts of sales shall be rendered to the Superintendent of the Government Press and the Accountant-General, Madras, in January of each year, on forms to be supplied by the former officer for the purpose ; and

(iv) All payments on account of the sales of the preceding year shall be made to the Accountant-General, Madras, before the 1st March following.

7. Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co., Calcutta, Messrs. Newman & Co., Calcutta, and Messrs. Thacker & Co. (Limited), Bombay, will be requested to report whether they will undertake the sale and advertisement of the publications of this Government on conditions similar to those offered to them by the Government of India.

8. The following letters will be despatched :—

[Here enter Letters Nos. 461, 462, Financial, dated 18th May 1898.]

(True Extract.)

A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

To the departments of the Secretariat.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Superintendent, Government Press.
" Messrs Higginbotham & Co (Para 6)

Exd. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

Government {1898} of Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*
Regd. } *Spare copies*

Letter, No. 461, 18th May 1898.

MAY.

Government Publications.

Enquiring whether the instructions that the number of copies of — to be sent to the Secretary of State for sale in Europe shall not exceed ten should be adhered to even after the establishment of agents in England and on the continent for the sale of those publications.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Letter—from

The CHIEF SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of
FORT ST. GEORGE,

To

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA,
Home Department.

Sir,

Adverting to Mr. Pringle's letter, No. 200, dated 17th February 1898, I am directed to inquire whether the instructions contained in paragraph 5 of the despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 114 (Statistics and Commerce), dated 11th September 1879 [printed in the Resolution of the Government of India, Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department (Public), No. 10—438-60, dated 6th March 1880,] that the number of copies of official publications to be sent to the Secretary of State for sale in Europe shall not exceed ten should still be adhered to. It will be observed from the papers forwarded with Mr. Pringle's letter that there are now twelve agents appointed by the Secretary of State for the sale of Indian Government publications in England and on the continent, and unless a larger number of copies is forwarded in future for sale, it will be impossible for the India Office to supply all the agents with copies.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

Ootacamund,
18*th May* 1898.

Exd. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

Government {1898} of Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Reed. / *Regd.* } 1898. *Enclosures* / *Spare Copies*

Letter, No. 462, 18th May 1898.

MAY.

Government Publications.

Enquiring whether they are willing to act as an agent for the sale of —.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Letter—to

Gentlemen,

I am directed to inform you that, with the view of making the several publications of the Government of Madras more generally accessible than in the past, it is proposed to establish agencies for their sale in India as well as in Europe. I am accordingly to inquire whether you are willing to act as an agent for this purpose in

2. The conditions of agency are the following :—

(i) The agents shall be allowed a discount of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. on the marked price of each book sold by them.

(ii) Monthly lists of new publications shall be supplied to them gratuitously as they are printed, selections from which shall be printed by them in their monthly circulars, free of all cost to the State. On receipt of these lists the agents shall, as early as possible, intimate to the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras, what publications and the number of copies of each they are willing to store for sale.

(iii) Annual accounts of sales shall be rendered to the Superintendent of the Government Press, Madras, and to the Accountant-General, Madras, in January of each year, on forms to be supplied by the former officer for the purpose.

(iv) All payments on account of the sales of the preceding year shall be made to the Accountant-General, Madras, before the 1st March following.

3. I am to request an early reply to these proposals, and to add that the publications of the Legislative Department of this Government will be excluded from the proposed arrangements.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Ootacamund,
18*th May* 1898.

A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

Ed. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

[F. / 23]
1,000—11-[illegible]-07.
28
22-2

Financial (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 653

From The Govt of India
Home Department

Order

No. 200

Dated 17th
Received 27th } Feb 1898
Registered 28th

Enclosures 5

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Regarding the establishment of agencies for the sale of official publications issued by the Govt of India

C-380-9/2/157

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
756.7	14	9	97
623.4	24	9	96
476	12	8	96
386.7	23	6.	96
130 & 131	Pub	3	24. 2. 91
735	Pub	3	4. 8. 82
682	Jud	2	8. 9. 76
132	Jud	2	18. 8. 63

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[F. / 28]
500—22-2-98.

16

Financial (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 801

From Messrs Hyam & Co

Order

No.

Dated 9
Received 10 } March 98
Registered 11

Enclosures 1 (Printed on page 5 of G. Co.)

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

offering to be Agents for the Sale of Govt Publications

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

File C[illegible] 9 Misc 801 18

Rec'd 10 } trans '98.
Rep. 11 }

MADRAS, *March 9th*, 1898.

CHIEF SECRETARY GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
10 MAR 1898

FROM

HIGGINBOTHAM & CO.,

Printers, Publishers & Booksellers,

By Appointment to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, and to H. E. the Governor of Madras,

Mount Road, MADRAS.

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

FORT ST. GEORGE,

MADRAS.

SIR,

We have the honor to annex for your information copy of a letter, No. 198, dated Calcutta the 17th February 1898, received from the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, from which you will observe that we have been asked to undertake the Agency in Madras for the sale of the Miscellaneous publications of the Government of India, at a commission of 33⅓ per cent. off the marked price of each book. This offer we have accepted and now await receipt of the books which we expect will be forwarded to us on an early date.

In the above connection, we submit it would be a source of convenience to the public if we are also entrusted with the sale of certain publications printed on account of Government, by the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras. We frequently receive requisitions from constituents for "Sibthorpe's Clinical Manual for India," "Jones' Sanitary Hand Book," "MacNally's Sanitary Science," &c., and by our having a stock of these and other treatises on Commission Sale, we should be in a position to push the sale of such books by advertisements in the local newspapers, distribution of circulars, &c., and the publications of Government would be made more accessible to the public. At present a loss is sustained by us in having to pay porterage on every order received for any one of the aforesaid treatises for which we have to send to the Government Press, which is situated at a considerable distance from our place of business. Under the existing arrangement, delay invariably occurs in the execution of orders fowarded to us; this would not happen if we had the required books on hand for immediate supply. In a commercial point of view, we derive no benefit by indenting on the Government Press, Madras, for publications where no discount is allowed; but rather than subject our correspondents to inconvenience or disappointment, we prefer to meet their wishes, by paying

19

cash for purchases made on their behalf, at the published rate, with no immediate prospect of being recouped for the outlay. These are the main disadvantages arising from the system now in force, and if the Madras Government will be pleased to pass an order for issue of its books to us on Commission Sale, as the Government of India intend to do, we need scarcely add that the result will prove mutually profitable and advantageous.

In conclusion, we trust this matter will receive the favorable consideration of the Local Government, as in the interests of the public we have ventured to address you on the subject.

We are,
Sir,
Your most obedient servants,

Agents for sale of Government books.

The proceedings are complete 19-4-98 Encl

Please see page 8 of current No 653

Page 13. .. ..

Page 11 .. ..

20

Financial Department.

C.Nos.653 & 801

N O T E

The Secretary of State has appointed certain agents in England & on the Continent with the object of making Indian Govt. Publications widely ~~advertised~~ Known and easily accessible. This object is to be effected ~~in the following ways~~ thus:-

(1) Lists of new Govt.Publications are to be periodically supplied to the agents, who are bound to print selections from them in their regular monthly circulars, free of cost to the State.

(2) Copies of books intended for sale in Europe are to be forwarded to the Secretary of State who will arrange to have them placed on sale with the agents.

2. The Govt. of India has accordingly issued instructions to the Supdt. Govt. Printing, India, to send periodical lists of Govt. Publications to the agents and to forward all books intended for sale in Europe, direct to the India Office. Similar arrangements will have to be made by this Govt.

The Superintendent Government Press may be directed to send monthly lists of new ~~Govt.~~ Of this Govt Publications to the agents, furnishing the Financial

Department

Encl 25/4/98 Ps JD 25-4-98

21

Department with a copy for information

3. Copies of books intended for sale in Europe, will have to be forwarded to the India Office by the departments of the Secretariat concerned direct. The Supt. of the Govt. Press will have to forward the books to the Sect. departments ~~of the Secretariat~~.

4. Under present orders not more than 10 copies of a book should be sent for sale to Europe but as there are now 12 agents - see page 7 of C.No.653 the Govt. of India may be asked if the number of copies ~~may~~ should be increased.

Para 5 of despatch printed with G.O. No. 540 Pub. d/ 14.4.80 P

5. As the Govt. of India has in answer to a reference made by this Govt. ruled that the practice of printing the names of agents on title pages of books should be discontinued. The attention of the Superintendent, Govt. Press will be drawn to this.

G.O.No.757 Finl.d/ 14-9-97. D

Para 3 of current 653 page 15

6. Another question which has engaged the attention of the Govt. of India and the Secretary of State is the printing of the prices of books on the title pages. To meet the difficulty felt by European purchasers in understanding Indian currency, the Secretary of State has ruled that the prices should be printed on the title pages both in English and Indian Currency, converting the rupee at 1s.4d. These instructions have already been communicated to the Superintendent Govt. Press. Suggested, however, that a reference may again be made to them, especially as they were overlooked by the Press in the case of the

Para 4 of the despatch disposed of by G.O.No.756 Finl.d/ 14-9-97. C

? him.

Page 9 of C No 653.

Page 15. " "

Page 8. " "

H

G.O. No 130. Pub. d/ 21. 2. 91. E

G.O. No 666 Fin. d/ 31. 8. 94. N

22

the recent Archaeological Publication on the Dutch East India Company by Dr. Rea.

7. In addition to the agents appointed by the Secretary of State the Govt. of India has ~~appointed Indian agents for the better advertisement and~~ addressed certain firms in India offering them the agency for the sale of its publications in India. ~~In paragraph 1 of the current, this~~ this Govt. is asked to make similar arrangements for its own publications. The conditions of agency are those laid down by the Secretary of State.

8. At present this Govt. has no agent in India for the sale of its publications. In G.O.No.735 Pub. d/ 11-8-82 Govt. sanctioned a discount of 10 p.c. being allowed to Messrs Higginbotham & Co on all publications purchased by them at the Govt. Press, but this concession was withdrawn in 1891 as it was considered that the Govt. Press was sufficiently well known & the prices of Govt publications are fixed to cover cost of printing & paper and thus differed from trade prices on which publishers are accustomed to give trade discount. In 1894 the scales of prices for Govt. publications was fixed and it was decided that works of a more or less literary character should be charged at prices such as publishers would demand The attention of the Supt. Govt. Press may be called to this G.O. The "prices publishers would demand" will cover the discount to be allowed.

9

23

9. ~~It is submitted therefore~~ ~~that~~ The agents in India may be asked to forward to the Supt. Govt. Press a list of books they are willing to store specifying the number of copies in each case ; this they should do as soon as they receive ~~a periodical~~ the monthly list of Govt. publications from the Press.

10. The Govt. of India has specially excluded from the operation of these arrangements, the publications of its Legislative Dept.

11. One of the conditions of the agency is that annual accounts of sales should be rendered ~~to Govt~~. on forms supplied to the agents for the purpose. The Supt. Govt. Press may be asked to supply suitable forms.

Page 9 of C. No. 653.

12. Messrs Higginbotham & Co. apply to be appointed agents. The other firms addressed by the Govt. of India may also be ~~offered~~ offered the agency

C. No. 801.

13. Draft G.O. & letters to the Govt of I & to certain firms are submitted

Ketu. 4. 98

Cmh
20.4.98

C 22-4-98
RD. 25-4-98

Financial DEPARTMENT

[G. / 25]
1,000 12-11-97.

C. No. 653 & 801

SUBJECT.

~~HIS EXCELLENCY~~ THE GOVERNOR.
1 THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E. ✓
2 THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E. ✓

Agents in the sale of Govt Publications

FOR ORDERS.

This Govt should follow suit—

Will be necessary to revise the prices of books already printed & in stock, the prices of which have been fixed at two annas per printing, wages of binding, & the allowance of a discount of 33⅓ % of all subject Govt to a considerable loss.

RD
22.4.98

The 2 copies are approved. The prices charged and even the discount in all cases.

JG
24/4/98

Note in the CB.

Please see Rd note addn to para 5 of draft - which may now issue?

Cmh
25/4/98

Yes AA 25.4.98

The papers require Hon'ble Members orders with reference to the question of placing Govt. publications on sale with book-selling firms in India, - please see (i) paras: 7, 8, 9 & 12 of the note on pages 22 & 23 of the current file ; (ii) paras 3, 5, 6 and 7 of the draft order on pages 25 and 26 ; and (iii) the draft letter on pages 28 & 29.

As the Govt. of India is placing its publications on sale with book-selling firms and granting them a discount of 33⅓ per cent there appea

[illegible] no [illegible] other course open [illegible] to this Govt.
[illegible] follow suit.

Cm.S.
20-4-98

AEA
21.4.98

[G/24]
1,000-18-9-97.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings:--

118 E

Again G.O., No. ~~13. Pub.~~ dated ~~21-7-91.(P)~~ ~~189~~ .
Again G.O., No. 756-7 Fuit, dated 14-9-1897 ~~189~~ . (P)
Current No. 653 of 189 8, dated 17-2-98 , from the Govt. of Imdia.(A)
" " 801 " 189 8, " 9-3-98 , " Messrs Higginbotham & Co. (2)
" " " 189 , " , "

1. Let the usual plus extra V.P. Check address & Cmd 25/4/98

ORDER. No. 460, dt 18th May/1898.

P.S.

The letter from the Government of India read above will be communicated to the Departments of the Secretarait and to the Supt. Govt. Press, for information and guidance.

2. It will be observed that whenever it is considered that a publication is likely to obtain a sale in Europe, it will be necessary for the Secretariat Dept. concerned ~~will~~ to forward ~~10 copies of it~~ such copies as are intended to be placed on sale with the Agents of that Office.

3. The Supt. Govt. Press will arrange to supply monthly lists of new Govt. publications, excepting those of the Leg. Dept. to the Agents of the India Office, mentioned in the despatch from the Right Hon'ble the Secy of State No. 9 Public (Revenue) dt 6th May 1897 to Messrs Higginbotham & Co., Madras, and to such other Agents of this Govt. as may hereafter be appointed. A copy of these lists will be forwarded to the Finl. Dept. for information. He will also supply the Agents in India with forms suitable for

Page 7 C. No 653

for the preparation of annual accounts of sales.

4. The names of Agents will, in future, be omitted from the title pages and covers of all Government publications; but the prices in English and Indian Currency will continue to be entered as directed in G.O.No.756, Finl., d/ 14-9-97.

5. The attention of the Supt. Govt. Press, will be drawn to para 5 of G.O. No.666 Finl., d/ 31-8-94, as regards the selling price of works of a ~~more or less~~ literary character.

6. Messrs Higginbotham & Co are appointed Agents in Madras for the sale of the publications of this Govt. ~~in Madras~~ (except those of the Legislative Department), subject to the following conditions:-

(i) They shall be allowed a discount of 33 1/3 % on the marked price of each book sold by them;

(ii) Monthly lists of new publications shall be supplied to them by the Supt. Govt. Press gratuitously as they are printed, selections from ~~which~~ these shall be printed by ~~them~~ Messrs Higginbotham & Co in their advertisements, and circulars &c., free of all cost to the State. On receipt of these lists ~~they~~ shall, as early as possible, intimate to the Supt. Govt. Press, what publications & how many copies of each ~~the number of copies of each and how many of them~~ they are willing to keep in stock;

(iii) Annual accounts of sales shall be rendered to the Supt. of the Govt. Press & and the Accl Genl, Madras in January of each year on forms to be supplied by ~~that~~ the former officer for the purpose;

and

C

N

These orders will in future be applied to all works likely to be purchased by the general public. The Supdt. will however revise the prices of works already printed and in stock, the prices of which have been fixed at the mere cost of printing, paper and binding.

MA 25.4.98

(iv) ~~and~~ All payments on account of the sales of the preceding year shall be made to the Accountant-General, Madras before the ~~31st January~~ 1st March following.

7. Messrs. Thacker Spink & Co., Calcutta, Messrs Newman & Co., Calcutta, and Messrs Thacker & Co. (Ld.), Bombay, will be requested to report whether they will undertake the sale and advertisement of the publications of this Govt. on conditions similar to those offered to them by the Government of India.

8. The following letters will be ~~addressed to the Govt. of India~~ despatched

Cmb. 20/4/98 MA 21.4.98

The Acct. Genl. will be furnished with by the Supt. Govt. Press with copies of the Accounts of Sales.

To

The ~~Revenue~~ Legislative Department (2 to Sect)
,, H.W. Department.
,, Educational ,,
,, L. & M. ,,
,, Marine ,,
,, Public ,,
,, Legl. ,, ~~with copy of G.O.No.756 Finl.d/14-9-97~~ dated 7-6-98
,, Acctt. Genl.
,, Supt. Govt. Press.
Messrs Higginbotham & Co., Madras (2 & para 6 of O)

Lr m/s Despd 11/6/98. Copies GO 7/6/98.

Copy to the Librarian.
" " - Home Despatcher
" " - Telco (CR 22)

N.B. All necessary Corrections made in the Draft.

Sent Sent Revd

PTO

LETTER No. 14 P 27
P.S

No. 461. dy 18th May 18

Books

To

The Secy to the Govt. of India,
Home Dept.

Sir,

Adverting to Mr. Pringle's letter No.200, dated 17-2-98, I am directed to enquire whether the instructions contained in para 5 of the despatch from the Secy. of State No.114 (Statistics & Commerce) d/ 11-9-79 (printed in the resolution of the Govt. of India Home, Rev, & Agri Dept (Public) No.10-438-60 d/ 6-3-80) that the number of copies of official publns to be sent to the Secy of State for sale in Europe shall ~~should~~ not exceed ten should still be adhered to. It will be observed from the papers forwarded with Mr. Pringle's letter that there are now twelve ~~eleven~~ agents appointed by the Secy. of State for the sale of Indian Govt. Publications in England & on the Continent, ~~it is therefore~~ thought that a larger number of copies ~~should be~~ is forwarded in future for sale, and unless a it will be impossible for the India Office to supply all the Agents with copies

Cwb 20.4.98 AH 21.4.98

P

Note. There are the forms addressed by the G. of I. Messrs Higginbotham & Co. also were addressed by India but as the firm has already applied to this Govt. it has been appointed an Agent in the draft Order. Ejm 19/11/98

For Madras Conditions offered by India please see page 9 of Cir. 653

150 28

LETTER No. 469, dt 18th May 1898
P.S.

To Messrs. Thacker, Spink & Co. Calcutta
" Newman & Co. Calcutta
" Thacker & Co. Bombay (Ltd.)

Gentlemen,

I am directed to inform you that, with the view of making the several publications of the Govt. of Madras more generally accessible than in the past, it is proposed to establish agencies for their sale in India as well as in Europe. I am accordingly to enquire whether you are willing to act as an agent for this purpose in

Calcutta
Bombay

2. The conditions of agency are the following:-

(i) The agents shall be allowed a discount of 33⅓ % on the marked price of each book sold by them.

(ii) ~~Periodical~~ Monthly lists of new publications shall be supplied to them gratuitously as they are printed, selections from which shall be reprinted by them in their monthly circulars, free of all cost to the State. On receipt of these lists they agents shall, as early as possible, intimate to the Supt. Govt. Press, Madras what publications and how many of them the number of copies of each they are willing to store for sale.

(iii) Annual accounts of ~~sales~~ Sales shal

29

Supt. Govt. Press, Madras and the Accthant, Madras

be rendered to the ~~Genl. Dept.~~ in January by the Office of the former of each year on forms to be supplied for the purpose. ~~and~~ (IV) A All payments on account of the sales of the preceding year shall be made to the Acct. Genl., Madras, before the ~~31st~~ 1st February March following.

3. I am to request an early reply to these proposals, and to add that the publications of the Legislative Department of the Govt. will be excluded from the proposed arrangement.

* This is in accordance with Col. Alexander's ~~in the last para of the draft G.O.~~

19/4/98

Chs.
20.4.98

---

rat copy sent to Press.

rrod for signature.

espatched in print.

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

Letter Engl. - 40
Letter V. — 10
Chem. Proof 5
Collection

13

AD AGAIN G.O., No. 189 . DATED

SUBSEQUENT No.

Proof as marked

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

Please see proof
sent of these forms
to Letter Engl to be
made out for signature

28/4/98

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT .. .. ..

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

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