Scott. II—48—21,640-19-1-17.

Home (1917) Department.

(Mis)
Ordy SERIES.

G.O. Nos 1262-1263

DATED 15-12-17

INDE

[Despatch Abstract.]

Sacred returns of Baptisms and burials.

Directing that the Government of India be addressed on the subject of the restriction of the scope of the --- so as to include cases of European British subjects only.

2

C.F.—29.

HOME **DEPARTMENT.** (MISCELLANEOUS)

C.No. 3563

[illegible]

Received .... 191 . Registered 31.10 1917.

31-OCT-1917

Subject.

51 Ecl / 16.3.1874

189/190 / 26.2.1889

402-04 / 15.9.1888

689-91 / 16.10.1890

212 ✓ H.m / 9.10.16

798 ✓ Pub / 12.10.07

627 ✓ Pub / 3.8.07

884 Pub / 4.11.02

930 ✓ Pub / 5.12.05

606 ✓ Pub / 18.8.05

SACRED RETURNS:

Transmission of .... to India Office.

ENCLOSURES.
No. one.
Spare copies one

No. C. 92

Station Madras, *Dated the* 31 October 1917.

DESPATCHED.
31 OCT 1917

From (Name) C. M. SCHMIDT ESQUIRE

(Designation) Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Home Department.
(Miscellaneous)

Sir,

I have the honour to address you regarding the returns of sacred offices received by me and transmitted to the India office.

2. Apparently, the object of sending copies to England is that there should be in London some record, readily available, of these occurrences in respect of persons who are likely to require the record in England, or at all events out of India; but a large proportion of the returns which are transmitted relate to persons who are not only natives of India but are very unlikely to leave its shores

at any time. I enclose samples of some of the entries. As a result, ~~not only~~ there is ~~there~~ work in connection with such entries not only in my office but also in the India Office in conserving the record and indexing it.

Before submitting suggestions for the reduction of the volume of the returns forwarded to England without diminishing in any way the serviceableness of these records I shall set out the orders regulating the matter.

3. The transmission of sacred returns had its origin in the order of the Court of Directors dated the 25th July 1827 which ran as follows:-

(A)

> " Inconvenience having been experienced from the "want of the registers of sacred offices performed "by Laymen at the out stations of the several presi-"dencies in India, we desire that you furnish us with "complete returns of baptisms, marriages and fune-"rals performed by Civil and Military Functionaries "at those stations where no chaplain has resided com-"mencing at as early a period as practicable, and "that similar Returns be regularly sent to us in "future quarterly."

By a Resolution of the Governor-General in Council dated the 8th October 1852 it was determined that marriage certificates should be transmitted to England "whenever "either party to the marriage is, what is called commonly, "a British subject, or the legitimate offspring of such a "person, and in other cases whenever either party to the "marriage desires it to be so transmitted."

(B)

In 1854 the Government of India [Letter 113, 27th January 1854] wrote to the Government of Madras as follows:-

para 4 of the letter at slip (C)

> " As the Hon'ble Court attach much importance to the "possession of these returns [of births, deaths and "marriages] for statistical and other purposes and as it "is therefore desirable that they should be as nearly "as it may be possible to accomplish, complete registers "of the Births, Marriages and Burials of European Chris-"tians of all denominations throughout British India, "His Lordship in Council requests that under the orders "of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council of Madras,

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> "you will call upon the different Protestant Ministers "not in connection with the Church of England......... "to furnish you with similar returns of the members of "their respective congregations."

....

In the same year, forms of returns for the registry of births, marriages, and deaths "of European Christians of all denominations throughout British India" were for the sake of uniformity prescribed by the Governor-General in Council and, on a reference from the Madras Government as to the sense in which the words "European Christians" were used, the Government of India explained that they "were extended to include all Christians of European birth or descent, or of mixed European and Native descent."

para 7 of the Extract from the Proceedings of the G.O. at slip D.

In May 1861, the Government of the North-Western Provinces was instructed in forwarding marriage returns to the home office for transmission to England to make a selection in accordance with the definition above mentioned of the term "European Christians". It was remarked—"the names of "the parties will be a sufficiently accurate guide for all "practical purposes. Some cases may be included which are "not necessary, but none will be omitted."

para 8 of the Extract at slip D

In 1865 the Government of India [Resolution, 5th April 1865] resolved that the duty of selection of certificates of marriage should rest with the several Local Governments, Chief Commissioners and others by whom the returns and certificates are received under the provisions of the Indian Marriage Act, and it was decided that the Secretary to the Local Government should at the end of each quarter of the year select from the certificates forwarded to him during such quarter those certificates which the Governor-General of India in Council might desire that evidence should be transmitted to England, and should forward the same certificates, signed by him, to the Secretary of State for the purpose of being delivered to the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

para 9 of the Extract at slip (D)

× Act V of 1865 repealed by Act [illegible] of 1872.

para 4 of D.O.

The rules under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, dated the 4th October 1872, laid down that

> "it is imperative that the certificate [of "marriage] should be forwarded to England....... "where either party to a marriage is a British "subject or the legitimate offspring of such a "person."

para 5 supra
G.O. 51 Eccl / 16.3.1874 (2)

In 1889, after the appointment of the Registrar-General under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1886, the Government issued the undermentioned directions as to the returns of sacred offices:-

in G.O. 902 Pub / 15.9.1888 (E)

(1) of the two copies of returns received from the Registrar of the Diocese the Registrar-General should retain one for record and transmit the other to the Home Government

para 3 of G.O. 189 Pub / 26.2.89 (F)

(2) the returns of sacred offices performed by dissenting ministers and by Roman Catholic clergymen should be retained by the Registrar-General and copies forwarded to the Home Government.
(G.O. 189 Public, 26th February 1889) (F)

para 4 of G.O. (F)

These last mentioned orders cover, it will be observed, returns of all sacred offices - e.g., marriages, baptisms and burials.

4. The existing provisions of the Act and rules in the matter of the transmission of marriage returns are,

(1) sections 29 to 31 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, which refer to returns of marriages solemnised by clergymen of the Churches of England, Rome and Scotland;

page 21 of the Marriage Regrs Manual (my property)

(2) sections 32-34 which refer to certificates of marriages solemnised by any person who has received episcopal ordination but who is not a clergyman of the Church of England or of the Church of Rome or by a licensed minister of religion;

pages 21-22 of the book

(3) section 55 which refers to marriages by a Marriage Registrar;

pages 26-27 of the book

(4) section 81 which provides that the Registrar-General

page 33 of the book

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* .. * shall, at the end of every quarter in each year, select, from the certificates of marriages forwarded * * the certificates of the marriages of which the Governor-General in Council may desire that evidence shall be transmitted to England and shall send the same certificates * * to the Secretary of State for India.

(H)

(5) Rules 11 and 12 of the rules framed under the Indian Christian Marriage Act (G.O. 606 ~~Rmix~~ Public, dated 18th August 1905) which run as follows:-

> " 11. Every minister of religion solemnising "a marriage under part III and every Marriage "Registrar by whom or in the presence of whom "a marriage is solemnised under part V of the "Act shall enter on the face of the certificate "of marriage to be forwarded to the Registrar-"General of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Madras, "under section 34 or 55 of the Act a statement "whether each of the parties to the marriage "or one or other of them or neither of them "claims to be a European British subject.
>
> "Explanation.- European British subject means "(1) a subject of His Majesty born, naturalised "or domiciled in the United Kingdom of Great "Britain and Ireland and (2) the child or grand-"child of any such persons by legitimate des-"cent.
>
> "12. If neither party to the marriage claims "to be a European British subject, but if "either party desires the certificate to be "transmitted for delivery to the Registrar-"General of Births, Deaths and Marriages in "England, the minister of religion solemnising "the marriage under part III, or the marriage "Registrar by or in the presence of whom the "marriage is solemnised under Part V of the "Act, shall enter a statement that the party "so desires on the face of the certificate."

5. It will be seen that so far as certificates of marriage are concerned the Act and Rules provide for the transmission to England of only such certificates as those referred to in items (2) and (3) of paragraph 4 supra and that of these a selection is made and only such as fall under rules 11 and 12 are forwarded.

p 4 ante

The returns of marriages [item (1) of paragraph 4 supra] are on a different basis since they are transmitted in pursuance of the executive instructions set forth in para 3 supra. These returns include all marriages other than those between Native Christians [section 37] i.e., they include marriages of all European Christians, whether British subjects or not, where both or one party is a European Christian. No selection is made. Originals are forwarded in certain cases and copies in others with reference to the instructions in G.O. 189 Public, dated 26th February 1889 [para 3 supra]. The term European Christian as defined by the Government of India in 1854 and set forth in paragraph 3 supra is very wide.

para 4

(F)

on p. 3 of

As a result there is a great difference between the class of certificates and the class of returns transmitted to the India office, the reason for which is not apparent.

6. In respect of the returns of baptisms and burials the instructions on the subject provide as follows:-

> " In addition to the quarterly returns of marriages "required under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, XV "of 1872, the Government requires the submission for "statistical and other purposes of quarterly returns "of baptisms and burials of European Christians i.e., of "all Christians of European birth or descent, or of mixed "European and native descent.
>
> " 2. The persons who are required to submit these returns "to the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages "are—
>
> (1) "The Registrar of the Diocese, who collects them "from (a) Chaplains of the Church of England in the "service of Government; and (b) clergymen other "than Government Chaplains ministering under the "Bishop's license.
>
> (2) "The Bishop's Registrar in Travancore and Cochin.
>
> (3) "The Presidency Senior Chaplain of the Church of "Scotland who collects them from clergymen of the Church "of Scotland
>
> (4) "The Roman Catholic Bishops who collect them from the "various Roman Catholic Registering officers within "the Presidency.
>
> (5) "Ministers of Religion licensed to solemnise marriages "under section 6 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act "and any other ministers not included in any of the "before mentioned classes, as well as ministers of the "Baptist denominations who furnish in lieu of returns "of baptisms copies of the entries of births of European

(2)

p 10 of G.O. 51 Eccl
16.3.1874

rule 2 on page 9 of (H)
G.O. 606 Pub
18.8.05
(issuing instructions for the submission of returns of baptisms & burials.)

> "members of the Baptist community in the register "of births maintained under Act VI of 1886."
>
> * * *
>
> " In order that the records of burials of Euro-"pean and Eurasian Christians should be complete, "all such burials whether performed by clergymen "or laymen, should be included in the returns "sent to the Registrar-General."

(H)
rule 8 on p 99
G.O. 606 Pub
18.8.05

From the returns thus received no selection is made for the purposes of transmission to England, the duplicate of the returns being forwarded in some cases and copies thereof in others [Paragraphs 3 and 4 of G.O. 189 Public, 26th February 1889]. They relate to all European Christians including Christians of mixed European and Indian descent and their scope is thus the same as that of the marriage returns but wider than that of the marriage certificates forwarded to England.

(F)

7. It is a question for consideration whether in the case of the returns of marriages as well as of those of baptisms and burials it is necessary to have a wider field of selection than in the case of certificates of marriage and whether it is in any way useful to transmit to the India office all that is now sent. The orders requiring the transmission of all returns were passed when conditions were very different from what they are nowadays. Communication between England and India is in ordinary times rapid and little inconvenience is likely to be caused even if application has to be made by people in England for copy of an entry; as a matter of fact, even now applications for such copies are received by me direct from England and other distant countries. I would therefore submit for the consideration of the Government the suggestion that if, as in the case of certificates of marriage, the India office would be content with receiving the returns of marriages, baptisms and burials of only such persons as are, or as claim to be, European British subjects, there ~~will~~ would be an appreciable reduction in the bulk of

the records that have to be conserved in London. It would always be open to the India office, in the rare case of any entry not being traceable with them, to refer the matter to the local offices in India for search and for the grant of copies.

8. The returns now received by me and their treatment are enumerated below.

(1) Extract from the register books of native christian marriages.-(quarterly). No copies or extracts are forwarded to the India office.

(2) Returns of marriages of European Christians-(quarterly). Returns received from the Registrar of the Diocese of Madras and one set of the duplicates received from the Presidency Senior Chaplain of the Church of Scotland are forwarded in original to the India office, copies made from the former and the second set of the duplicates of the latter being retained in my office. In the case of the returns received from the Registrar of the diocese of Travancore and Cochin and from Roman Catholic clergymen, however, the originals are filed here, copies being made and forwarded to the India office.

(3) Certificates of marriages of European Christians (monthly). The originals of certificates relating to European British subjects are sent to the India office, copies being made and retained here. In the case of European subjects other than British the certificates are forwarded to the India office if the parties so desire, the remaining certificates being filed here in original.

(4) Returns of baptisms, and burials of European Christians -(quarterly). are received from the Registrar of the Diocese in duplicate. One copy is forwarded to the India office. In the case of returns received from others, copies made here are forwarded to the India office, the originals being filed here.

If the suggestions made in paragraph 7 meet with the

approval of the Government all the above mentioned returns will be received by me as heretofore but the matter of selection of such returns as should be forwarded to the India office may be left to my discretion. To help me in judging as to the entries which have to be so forwarded a column may be provided in (1) the return of marriages, (2) the return of baptisms and (3) the return of burials to show whether either or both of the parties in the case of marriage (or parents in the case of baptisms and burials) is a European British subject and where neither is a European British subject whether the parties desire the transmission of the entry to the India office.

vide pages 10, 11, 12, 24

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

C.W. Schmidt

Regr: Genl: of Births,
Deaths and Marriages.

Baptismal Returns

When baptized			Said to be born			Child's Christian name.	Sex	Parents' names		Abode of parents	Quality trade or profession of father	Name of priest or minister by whom the ceremony was performed.
Year	Month	Day	Year	Month	Day			Christian	Surname			
						Cannanore						
1915	Nov.	1	1915	Oct.	24	Hubert	Male	Marian and Hellen	Fonseca	Cannanore	Eurasian Tailor	Val.J.Sousa
						Saidapet						
1915	Oct.	16	1915	Sept.	5	Maria Rosaria	Fem.	Zeronio Nar- cisso and Emarcia	de Sousa= Periera	Guindi King Institute	Butler	A.S.Nunes
						Madras: Sacred Heart Church.						
1915	Nov.	9	1915	Oct.	28	A_nthony Joseph	Male	A_ndrew and Amelia	Pereira	Pudupet	Moulder	F.A.Carvalho
						Madras Cath. Cathedral						
1915	Dec.	22	1915	Dec.	2	Enid Bebiana Ann	Fem.	Basil and Martha	Vas	Park town	Stable-keeper	M.Onsten
						Sidapur						
1915	Sept.	19	1915	Aug.	24	Mercy	Fem.	Paul and Isabella	Fernandez	Pollibetta	Eurasian Carpenter	M.Pinatel
						Calicut						
1916	Feb.	9	1916	Feb.	2	Mary	Fem.	Antony and Anastasia	Netto	Calicut	Eurasian Tailor	R.Porta S.J
						Cannanore						
1916	Feb.	5	1916	Jan.	28	Agnes	Dr.	James and Grace	Gomes	Cannanore	Carpenter	Vol.J.Sousa
1916	Feb.	14	1916	Feb.	6	George Titus Edward	Son	Ambrose and Margaret	Pinto	Cannanore	Tailor	B.P.Rosario S.J.

Marriage Returns

When married Year	month	Day	Names of parties Christian	Surname	Age	Condition.	Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of marriage.	Father's name and surname	By banns or license	Signatures of parties.	Signatures of two or more witnesses present.	Name and designation of person by whom the ceremony was performed
Madras Assumption Church													
1915	May	4	Antony Edward	Geils	23	Bachelor	Fitter	N.G.T	Andrew Geils	License	E.Geils	F.Isaac	L.X.Fernandes
			Periananayagam	--	21	Spinster	-	-Do-	Ponnosawmy		Periananayagam	Arokiasawmy	Vicar
Madras St: Rock's Church													
1915	June	5	Isaac	Lovejoy	30	Bachelor	Private mobilised volunteer	Washermanpet	John Lovejoy	License	Isaac Lovejoy	K.R.Gnanapragasam	Rt.Rev. Monsignor
			Kithariammal	-	25	Spinster	-	-Do-	Arokiam		+Kithariammall	E.Antony	E.M.Angelo, V.F. C.Priest
Ootacamund St. Mary's Church													
1915	May	12	Joseph	Wheatly	34	Bachelor	East Indian	Mettucherry Ooty	G.Simon Wheatly	Banns	J.Wheatly	R.S.Rajendram	A.Marie Luis,
			Annammal	-	19	Spinster	Pariah	-Do-	Sinnasamy	XXXXX	Annammal	Soosay	C.Priest
Kolar Gold Fields													
1915	Feb:	24	Alie	Baldwin	21	Bachelor	Eurasian	Marikuppam	Robert Baldwin	License	Illiterate	S.C.Fernandez	Rev.A.J. Pinto Cath. Priest
			Jeyamary	-	18	Spinster	Native	-Do-	Paliam		Illiterate	Zackarias	
Madras St. Rock's Church													
1915	Sept.	25	Albert	Sweetlaw	28	Bachelor	Fitter P.W.Workshop	Pension Lines Washermanpet.	U.M. Sweetlaw	License	A.Sweetlaw	David	E.M.Angolo V.F Cath. Priest.
			Mary	(Native)	20	Spinster	"	"	Cheelam		Mary	A.Francis	
Madras St. Thomé Cathedral													
1915	July	21	John William	Vexon	47	Widower	Proof examiner	Mylapore	John Willaim Vexon	License	J.W.Vexon	A.Sammickannux	J.J.Pinto Priest
			Agnes	—	21	Spinster	" —	do.	Manikam		+ Agnes	+ Antony	
TANJORE													
1915	Nov.	24	Arthur	Pennefather	35	Bachelor	Guard	Tanjore	Arthur Payne Pennefather	License	A.Pennefather	Fr. Carpene	Eug. Mederlet
			Maria Magdalena	-	29	Spinster	—	Tanjore	Vengadasala Nayakar		+ Maria Magdalena	Antone Mutu Pillay	
Kolar Gold Fields													
1916	Feb.	2	James Anthony	Penting	35	Bachelor	Eurasian	Champion Reef	Thomas Penting	License	Illeterate	Sindoo Raju	J.F.Pessein Cath.Priest
			Annamaria	—	18	Spinster	—	do.	Poosalee		Do.	Zackairas	
Madras St. Antony's Church													
1916	June	28	Michael and	Church	25	Bachelor	Driver Harbour works	Pudupet	Henry Church	Banns	Michael Church	M.Henricks	Rev. Jos. Balaswamy
			Sampuranamal	-	19	Spinster	Nil	Egmore	L.Manickam		Sampuranamal	A.Rajadrow	

Burial Returns

When died			Christian name	Surname	Age	Quality trade or profession etc.,	When buried			Cause of death.	Name and designation of person by whom buried
Year	Month	Day					Year	Month	Day		
			Madras St.Georges								
1915	April	7	Walter Frank	D'Silva	25	Mechanic	1915	April	8	Consumption	F.Nuttall Cathedral Chaplain
1915	May	6	Joseph	David	37	Clerk	1915	May	6	Consumption	Lionel E.Cox Archdeacon of Madras.
			Gudalur								
1915	Aug.	29	Lazarus	Lobo	40	Writer	1915	Aug.	30	Pneumonia	P.Critenet M.A
			Madras Mission of Royapettah								
1915	May	20	Peter	Jacob	68	Confectioner	1915	May	21	Paralysis	M.L.Santiagoo Catechist
			Ootacamund								
1915	Sept.	18	Benedicta Ruby	Mowng Lat	2 months	-	1915	Sept	20	Bronchitis	Clements D.Giles M.A. Chaplain of Ootacamund.
			Tellicherry								
1915	Dec.	13	Mark	Mendez	30 yrs.	Eurasian Carpenter.	1915	Dec.	14	Spleen	Rev.J.A.Fernandez
			Cochin								
1915	Sept.	20	Rayamond	D.'Silva	27	Compositor	1915	Sept.	21	Consumption	Rev. Fr.Conceiçao
			Cochin								
1915	Sept.	6	George Isidor	Oliveira	60	Carpenter	1915	Sept.	7	Cough	Rev. A.Menezes Vicar
			Madras St. Rock's Church								
1916	Jan.	13	Hugh	Soans	10 y & 6 m	Father, Assistant Surgeon	1916	Jan.	13	Small-pox	Fr.J.Meyer.

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Home (Miscellaneous) Dept.

Subject.- Sacred Returns.

From the Registrar General of Births, Deaths and Marriages, No. C.92, dated 31-10-17.

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para 2 p2 cf.

The Registrar General of Births, Deaths & Marriages, after reviewing at length the practice at present obtaining in regard to the transmission to the India Office of the returns of the Sacred offices of baptisms, burials and marriages and of certificates of marriage, points out that the practice entails unnecessary labour both in his office and in the India Office in conserving and indexing most of these records. A distinction is, at the outset, drawn between certificates of marriage required to be submitted under statutory rules and the returns of the sacred offices of baptisms, burials and marriages required to be submitted under executive orders.

para 9 of the Extract from the proceedings of the G. of I. in Eo. 124 Eccl / 15-4-1865 D

Please see the Act printed in page 74 of the marriage Regrs manual.

In the case of certificates of marriage a discretion was originally vested in the local Governments which received them under the Marriage Acts then in force, to forward to the India Office only such of the entries as the Governor-General in Council desired that evidence should be transmitted to England. By Section 30(2) of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, (VI of 1886) the Registrar-General was empowered to perform the functions of the Secretary to the local Govt. under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872 and the discretion of selecting the proper entries that should be sent to the India Office also passed on to him.

Hence it is that he comes to exercise a discretion in selecting what entries in regard to certificates of marriage should be transmitted to the India Office. On the other hand the transmission of the returns of the sacred offices of baptisms, burials and marriages ~~are~~ is based on the orders of the Court of Directors. These returns include entries in respect of all "European Christians including Christians of mixed European and Indian descent", and the want of a discretion similar to that vested in the Registrar General in the case of certificates of marriage leaves him no option except to forward all the entries as they are received. This, it is stated, results in an accumulation of useless records at the India Office. The Registrar-General states that these orders were passed when conditions were very different from what they are now-a-days and that the communication between England and India in ordinary times being more rapid now, inconvenience is not likely to be caused if parties are left to make application for copies of entries to the Registrar-General, Madras, in cases where they have not been transmitted to the India Office. It is suggested that entries relating only to the baptisms, burials and marriages of European British subjects may be sent to the India Office, if the Home Government would agree to it.

para 7 of the orders of the Court of Directors. A

para 7 of the Extract from the proceedings of the G of I in E.D. 124 Eccl / 15:4:1865

para 7, page 7 of.

The principle underlying the orders on ~~the~~ the submission of these returns as well as certificates of marriage is two-fold. They are required at the India Office for (a) statistical purposes and (b) to afford evidence of the events they relate to. The argument that greater facilities

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facilities are now afforded in regard to communication between England and India and that ~~and~~ that factor militates against the need for the transmission of records which may well be omitted, would apply only to cases of records that are transmitted to the India Office for affording evidential record~~s~~. It will be clear from para. 4 of the letter from the Govt. of India, Home Department, No. 113, dated the 27th January 1854 that the returns of sacred offices of Baptisms, burials and marriages are transmitted to the India Office "for statistical and other purposes". They may afford evidence of the events they relate to; but they seem to be intended also to furnish the Ecclesiastical authorities in England with statistics in regard to these events and for other purposes the details of which are not known ~~[illegible] progress of the religion of [illegible]~~. It is clear that the scope of these returns has advisedly been made wide inasmuch as they are used for "statistical and other purposes". The representation of the North West Province Govt. that the definition of the term "European Christian" as given by the Government of India ~~xxx~~ was wide and that it may be restricted, was not accepted by the Govt. of India, who pointed out that the returns may under their definition "include some cases which are not necessary, but none will be omitted". It appears therefore that the scope of these returns has been made wide intentionally.

C

para 8 of the Extract of 4/7 Proceedings in No. 124 Eccl 15.4.1865 D

But these orders ~~relate to a period~~ were passed at a time ~~or~~ when there was no legislation in India for the registration of ~~birk~~ births, deaths and marriages and even after the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act VI of 1886 had been passed, when the Registrar General brought to the notice of the Government that these returns were unnecessary, he was informed that inasmuch as they ~~ahxhx~~ related to the sacred offices of baptisms, burials and

printed as Appendix H in the Marriage Regr's manual.

page 1 of No. 189 Pub 26.2.1889 F

marriages and as the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act made no mention of the returns in regard to these sacred offices, these returns should continue to be submitted. The same argument seems to hold good even now and it is for orders whether he may be given a similar reply to that which was given to him in para. 1 of G.O. 189, dated the 16th Feby. 1889, or whether the Registrar General's letter may be forwarded to the Government of India with the request that this Government may be informed whether in the circumstances pointed out by him they would agree to move the Home Government to restrict the scope of the returns so as to include the cases of European British subjects only.

F

Cw.? 20.11.17.
Pack. 29.11.17

The Registrar General's letter ~~clearly~~ makes out that it is possible that unnecessary matter is being imported into the India Office & that the omission of ~~the~~ portion of it relating especially to the mixed race is not likely to prejudicially affect the usefulness of the records at that ~~India~~ Office. If it is eventually agreed to diminish the volume of matter going out to the India Office, ~~a~~ real reduction in work here & at that ~~India~~ Office would have ~~be~~ been done to great advantage. It is therefore submitted that the Registrar General's letter may be forwarded to the Govt. of India for orders. The need or otherwise of the returns is to be determined by

Box 11
Circ 11.12.17
~~Despd~~ 13.12.17

NOTES.

14

the Home Govt. ultimately.

1.12.17

I agree. Draft 3/12/17

4.12.17

Regr

A draft G.O. & a draft letter are subd for approval

6.12.17

Pack.
7.12.17

8.12.17

11/12/17

H. M.

12.12.17

13-DEC-1917
HOME DEPARTMENT

Issue
13/12/17

Sectt. II—10 (a)—7-2-16. Saved returns of Baptisms & burials Home (mis) DEPARTMENT.

Directing ~~that the~~ Govt. of India be addressed on the subject of the restriction of the scope of the — so as to include cases of European British subjects only

READ AGAIN G.O. No. ...., dated ....191 .

" " " " ...., " ....191 .

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 3563, From the Regr. Genl. of B. D. & M., No. C 92, dated 31st Oct 1917.

" " ...., " " ...., " ...., " 191

" " ...., " " ...., " ...., " ....191 .

ORDER.

No. 1262, ~~dated~~ 15 · 12 · 1917.

mis

The Govt. of India will be addressed.

6.12.17

7.12.17

8/12/17

11/12

STR 13/XII

To

Regr. Genl. B. D. & M. (F.O.) Madras

Despatched on

L. No. 1263 d/ 15 · 12 · 17

The Secretary to the Govt. of India, Home Dept;

(with copy of C. and copies of G.O. No. 189 Pub 26.2.1889 and copy of G.O. No. 606 Pub 18.8.05)

STR 13/XII

Despatched with enclosures

(at Flags F ~~H~~)

X/m

Regr. will furnish issue set copies.

Sir,

I am directed to forward a copy of ~~the~~ a letter from the Registrar General, Madras, No. C-92 of the 31st Octr 1917, on the subject of the transmission of the ~~sacred~~ returns of the sacred offices of baptisms and burials to the India Office and to state that the Registrar-General's proposal to restrict the scope of these returns to the cases of European British subjects only has the support of ~~[illegible]~~ H.E. the Govr. in Council.

I am to request that if the Govt. of India see no objection, orders of the Secretary of State may be obtained to the inclusion in the future returns only of cases relating to European British subjects ~~only~~.

CR
8.12.17

W
6.12.17

Adel
7.12.17

11/12/17

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed
191 .

READ AGAIN G.O. No. , DATED
191 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT .. .. .. A A A A A A A

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.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.