

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Indial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	64	Press
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Dated	17 — 1 —	~~17~~ 1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
17th January 1868.*

No. 99A. Read the following letter from RUGHONATH DAMODHUR,
Second Assistant in the Judicial Department of the Secretariat, Bombay,
to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Bombay, 3rd
January 1868.

The Index to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures from 1834 to 1866, with
notes showing the extent of repeal and application of each Act, compiled by me,
having now been in the hands of Government Officers and of the Public for six
months, and having been generally approved of, as will be seen from the accom-
panying extracts from the opinions of the Indian Press, I beg to state that it is my
desire to produce a yearly edition of the Index with the alterations and additions
of each year's legislation. I need scarcely say that the present edition of the Index
will soon become obsolete.

2. I am not, however, in a position to undertake this work unless assured
beforehand of a certain amount of support, and my object in addressing you is to
ask whether the Government of Madras will be pleased to subscribe annually for
any, and (if so) how many, copies of the Index, at the rate of Rupees (5) five per copy,
for distribution among the Officers subordinate to them. I have calculated that if the
several Governments in India will together subscribe for 1000 copies at that rate,
I can safely undertake to produce the work in a way that will give satisfaction, and
I humbly trust that I may receive your authority for supplying the Government
of Madras with such a number of copies as will at least constitute a fair proportion of
the total above stated.

3. Opportunity will be taken in each new edition of the Index to correct any
errors in its predecessor which may be brought to light, and the regular issue of
the Index will, I hope, be admitted to supply a great public want. I trust, there-
fore, confidently to my receiving such support as is essential to my carrying out
this object.

4. As the next edition is to embrace the legislation of 1867, I shall feel
obliged by your favoring me with the orders of the Government of Madras on my
application as early as possible, so as to enable me to put the work into the hands
of the Printers at once.

No. 99B. ORDER THEREON, 17th January 1868, No. 64.

Ordered that Rughoonath Damodhur be informed that copies of the work refer-
red to by him are not required.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To Rughoonath Damodhur, Second Assistant in the Judicial
Department of the Secretariat, Bombay.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

In Royal Octavo, Cloth boards, 412 pages, Price Rupees 10
per Copy.

INDEX TO THE ACTS

OF THE

INDIAN LEGISLATURES

FROM 1834 TO 1866.

REPEALED AND UNREPEALED,

ARRANGED ALPHABETICALLY AND IN CHRONOLOGICAL

ORDER,

WITH

AN APPENDIX

*Indexing the Acts passed between the 1st January and
30th June 1867.*

COMPILED BY

RUGHONATH DAMODHUR,

Second Assistant in the Judicial Department of the Secretariat, Bombay.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

INDEX TO THE ACTS OF THE INDIAN LEGISLATURES FROM 1834 TO
1866 ; REPEALED AND UNREPEALED, BY RUGHONATH DAMO-
DHUR, 2nd Assistant Secretary to Government, Judicial Depart-
ment, Bombay : 1867, Printed at the B. E. S. Press Byculla.

This is, on the whole, the best Index of the Acts that we have
yet seen. It is not, of course, in the nature of such a publication
that it should be interesting to the general reader ; but Mr. Rughoo-
nath has spared no pains to make his book as attractive as such a

book can well be. He has compiled it with care, the plan on which he has arranged it is good and simple, and the typography is excellent. The chief merit of such a work, however, consists in its usefulness, and to every one who has occasion to refer to the Indian Acts we can confidently recommend this Index as in every way a useful one. No Magistrate, or Judge, or Advocate who wishes to economise his time should indeed be without it. The several Indian Councils have been so active of late years in passing new laws, that it is often a matter of some difficulty to find out what is, or is not, the law on any subject. At a time, then, when so much of the legislation of former years has been repealed, and when so many new enactments have, within a short period, been placed on the statute book, the publication of a comprehensive Index to the Acts, repealed and unrepealed, is both opportune and welcome. We cannot better indicate the scope of Mr. Rughoonath's work than by quoting from his own preface. "This Index," he says, "is intended to include all the Acts of the Indian Legislatures, (Imperial and Local) from 1834 to 1866, and consists of two parts. In Part I. the Acts have been arranged in alphabetical order under headings according to the subject; the Acts of general application being in each case placed first, and followed by those applicable to Bengal, Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces, Punjaub, and the Straits' Settlements, respectively, as shown in column 4. The Acts of the Local Legislatures have been distinguished from those of the Imperial by the name of the Presidency being placed in Italics over the number of the Act. In column 5 the extent of repeal has been shown in each case. In Part II. the Acts have been arranged in chronological order. An Appendix has been added showing, in the same order as Parts I. and II., the Acts passed from the 1st January to the 30th of June 1867." As will be seen from the above Extract, the Index has been arranged in a tabular form, the same form being printed in each of the 330 Pages in Part I. The subject of each Act, as entered in the 1st column of the table, is indicated by the leading word in the title of the Act. In the 2nd column the full title of the Act is given; in the 3rd are the number and year of the Act; the 4th shows the extent of its application; and the last column is headed "Remarks, and extent of Repeal." From the numerous entries in the last column, it would

seem that there are few Acts of the Legislatures which have not been more or less repealed or amended by some subsequent Act; and it is a merit of this Index that it brings this fact into marked prominence, so that with the aid of the last column in each table any one can, with little labour, correct his own private copy of the Acts up to the present date—a work which, without such aid, could only be accomplished with the expenditure of much labour and research. Part II. of the Index shows in abstract a complete list of all the Acts of the Imperial and Local Legislatures from 1834 to 1866, each Act being indicated by its subject only, not by the full title. The whole book, with additions, contains 392 pages, and forms a portable and handy volume. We look upon it as a most creditable work to all concerned. Its issue, we believe, is entirely a private venture on the part of the Compiler. If this be so, we commend his "pluck" in publishing, at his own risk, a work which must have cost infinite trouble in its preparation and in going through the Press. We only trust that he will receive a liberal patronage from the several Local Governments, (who could not do better than place a copy of it in the hands of every Mofussil officer) and from all public servants and others to whom such a work is likely to be useful.—*Times of India, of the 21st August, 1867.*

INDEX OF LAWS.—We have before us an instance of how a book may be of great use, without being sufficiently interesting to tempt any ordinary mortal to read a single page.

It does sometimes happen that we have to consult Acts of the Legislatures, and we are perhaps not quite as familiar with these Acts as is Sir Barnes Peacock or the Hon'ble Mr. Phear. If we wanted, for instance, to know anything of Thugs, we might not know that an Act was passed in 1836, and amended in 1847, and repealed in 1862. It might, as the common saying is, "puzzle a Philadelphia Lawyer" to place his finger upon any Act, or all the Acts, that have been passed during the last thirty two years.

Even "old John Cochrane," the "Father of the Bar," would fail to remember the awful list of Legislative wisdom since 1834, albeit his memory will carry him beyond that period. Yet how convenient,

not to say essential, it must be to the legal practitioner to know the subject and object of every Act. And this, though seemingly difficult, has been placed within the reach of all by an Index compiled by Rughoonath Damodhur, Second Assistant in the Judicial Department of the Secretariat, Bombay. The Index has been compiled in Chronological order, and also according to the subjects of the Acts themselves. To the professional man, the Index will be invaluable.
—*The Indian Daily News* of 14th October 1867.

INDEX to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures from 1834 to 1866 by Mr. Rugoonath Damodhur, Bombay.

This is a most useful publication. The compiler has evidently bestowed much labor upon its preparation. The Index embraces Acts both repealed and unrepealed. About five or six years ago Mr. Newmarch, late of the Calcutta Bar, published a similar Index. But the arrangement in Mr. Rugoonath's compilation is much more comprehensive and therefore complete. To the professional lawyer as well as to the lay student of the Indian Acts it is calculated to prove exceedingly useful. We wish the compiler had included the Regulations, in his book. We would recommend him to supply this omission in the second edition of his work.—*Hindoo Patriot* of the 30th September 1867.

We beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of the Index to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures from 1834 to 1866, repealed and unrepealed, arranged alphabetically and in chronological order with an Appendix containing the Acts passed between the 1st January and 30th June 1867, compiled by Mr. Rugoonath Damodhur, 2nd Assistant in the Judicial Department of the Bombay Secretariat. The Index comprises every Act passed in Bombay, Madras or Bengal; also the Acts of the Imperial Legislature. At one glance the student of the Indian Law can ascertain from the volume the particular

Regulations bearing on a particular subject. Of course for details he will have to consult the Acts themselves. The book has been very carefully got up, though there are slight omissions here and there, which may be rectified in a second edition. We will instance one such omission which casually fell under our notice whilst glancing over the volume. Act XXI. of 1857 was repealed altogether by Act III. of 1864 as well as by other Acts. But whilst these other Acts are mentioned against it, Act III is unaccountably ignored. However, the compilation will prove an invaluable help to the Lawyer, the private gentleman and the Judicial officer, as a sure and safe book of reference to the maze of Regulation Law which now staggers often the most knowing.—*Bengalee* of the 7th September 1867.

* N.B.—This is a typographical error R.D.

THE INDIAN ACTS.—We beg to acknowledge with thanks a copy of an Index to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures from 1834 to 1866, arranged Alphabetically and in chronological order, with an Appendix containing the Acts passed between the 1st January and 30th June 1867, compiled by Rughoonath Damodhur, 2nd Assistant in the Judicial Department of the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Mr. Rughoonath seems to have taken much pains to ensure the correctness of his compilation, which will we have no doubt prove of great use to all parties having occasion to refer to these enactments.
—*The Madras Athenæum and Daily News* of 8th October 1867.

We have been favoured by the author with a copy of the following work:—"Index to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures from 1834 to 1866, repealed and unrepealed, arranged alphabetically and in chronological order, with an Appendix containing the Acts passed between the 1st January and 30th June 1867, compiled by Rughoonath Damodhur, Second Assistant in the Judicial Department of the Secretariat, Bombay." This compilation, as its title indicates, is more directly intended to be of benefit to those connected with legal business; it

also will be found a very useful book for such as seek information as to the date and subject of any Act passed by the Legislatures of the three Presidencies over a period of thirty two years, from 1834 to 1866, inclusive. To give an idea of the contents of the work we cannot do better than to quote the following extracts from the "preface," prefixed to it by the compiler himself.

"This Index is intended to include all the Acts of the Indian Legislatures (Imperial and Local) from 1834 to 1866, and consists of two parts. In Part I. the Acts have been arranged in Alphabetical order, under headings, according to the subjects; the Acts of general application being in each case placed first, and followed by those applicable to Bengal, Madras, Bombay, North Western Provinces, Punjaub, and the Straits Settlements, respectively, as shown in column 4; the Acts of the Local Legislatures have been distinguished from those of the Imperial by the name of the Presidency being placed in Italics over the number of the Act; in column 5 the extent of repeal has been shown in each case. In Part II. the Acts have been arranged in Chronological order."

"An Appendix, showing, in the same order as Parts I and II, the Acts passed from the 1st January to 30th June 1867, has been inserted, together with a table of Addenda showing the alterations in the Acts, included in the body of the work, which have been affected by the Laws passed by the several Legislatures while the work was in progress.—*Bombay Gazette of the 6th August 1867.*

Mr. Raghunath Damodhur has, by publishing his Index, done a service to all who are connected with the administration of justice in India. The making of laws is now going on so fast that it is daily becoming more and more difficult to keep pace with it. With 2 Councils at Calcutta, and one at Madras and Bombay, each, we are getting laws faster than are probably required, and certainly more quickly than can be digested. Then again there are so many enactments on each question that it is at times difficult to ascertain precisely what is the law on each subject. A good Index is therefore a great help, and the want of one has been sadly felt for several years. Messrs. Harrison's and Clarke's Indexes have become almost useless, so

great and vital have been the changes in our statute books. The present compilation seems to have been very carefully prepared, according to plan which Mr. Raghunath thus explains:—

"This Index is intended to include all the Acts of Indian Legislatures (Imperial and Local) from 1834 to 1866, and consists of two Parts. In Part I. the Acts have been arranged in Alphabetical order, under headings, according to the subject, the Acts of general application being in each case placed first, and followed by those applicable to Bengal, Madras, Bombay, North Western Provinces, Punjaub and the Straits Settlements respectively, as shown in column 4; the Acts of the Local Legislatures have been distinguished from those of the Imperial by the name of the Presidency being placed in Italics over the number of the Act; in Column 5 the extent of repeal has been shown in each case. In Part II. the Acts have been arranged in Chronological order."

"Every care has been taken to make the Index accurate, and to enter among the headings in column I. of Part I., all words likely to suggest themselves to persons searching for any particular enactment. But if any errors have inadvertently crept in, the compiler will feel sincerely grateful to any one who will be good enough to point them out to him, as also to favor him with suggestions, with a view to improvement in any future edition of the work."

"An Appendix, showing in the same order as Parts I. and II., the Acts passed from the 1st January to 30th June 1867, has been inserted, together with a Table of Addenda showing the alterations in the Acts, included in the body of the work, which have been affected by the Laws passed by the several Legislatures while the work was in progress."

"The compiler has had the assistance of his friends in the preparation of this work, and he begs to offer to them his sincere thanks."

If we refer to any subject in Part I., we find all the Legislation on that subject at once, and also the extent of repeal of any of the headings stated therein, thus if we take up "Annexation," we see that there were 7 cases, whereof four were actually annexations, and 3 were Acts for bringing certain districts and places under the Regulations. An antiquarian will be glad to find at pages 143 that the tax on

Pilgrims to Jagannath was abolished only in 1840. We had no idea that "Municipal Laws" extended over ten pages. All subjects are thus alphabetically noticed, and the work is brought down to 30th June 1867. We think every Judge, Magistrate, Barrister, Attorney, and Vakil ought to have a copy of this work, and we would further suggest the advisability of Government trying to get out annually such an Index of Acts during the year, showing as far as possible the additions and alterations in the previous laws of the empire.—*Bombay Native Opinion of 1st September 1867.*

We gladly introduce to the favourable notice of the Public, Mr. Raghunath Damodhur's Index to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures from 1834 to 1867.

It is a handsome volume of nearly 400 Octavo pages, the price being ten Rupees. The volume is of course only a reference book, but as a reference book its value is not small, especially in these days when India is inundated with Legislative enactments, and hardly a couple of months are allowed to elapse since the passing of an Act ere the work of emendation and alterations begins. Part I., by far the major portion of the work, gives an Alphabetical Index whereas Part II. gives a chronological Index to all the Acts from 1834 to 1866, passed by the Governments of India, Bombay, Bengal, and Madras. The Appendix gives the enactments of 1867, up to 30th June, while the Addenda at the end of the book show the alterations caused in the Acts included in the body of the work, by the laws passed in that year.

The Index in Part I., has five columns, under the first of which is put the subject matter of the Act, under the second, its title under the third, its number and year, under the fourth, its extent of application, and under the fifth, the extent of repeal in it and by what Act. Copious Tables of contents appear at the beginning of the book. It will be seen from the above that the book is very useful to the legal profession and Government servants throughout the whole of India, nay we think none of them can well afford to be without it. A Marathi translation of the work is, we hear, in progress to meet the wants of that portion of the Marathi community that does not know English.

We suppose, only so much of the matter as is useful or applicable to the Bombay Presidency will be included in the Marathi Edition.—*Bombay Indu Prakash of the 26th August 1867.*

Index to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures from 1834 to 1866.

Repealed and unrepealed, by Mr. Raghoonath Damodhur, Second Assistant in the Judicial Department of the Secretariate, Bombay, Printed at the *Bombay Education Society's Press.*

We have to thank Mr. Raghoonath Damodhur for presenting us with a copy of the above work. This valuable book is divided into two Parts. In Part I., the author has taken great pains in arranging the Acts alphabetically according to subjects, those of general application being placed first and followed by those applicable to Bengal, Madras, Bombay, North Western Provinces, Punjab and the Straits' Settlements respectively. In Part II. care has been taken to arrange the Acts in chronological order. An Appendix showing in the same order as Parts I and II the Acts passed from 1st January to 30th June 1867 has been added so that we must say that the work is complete almost up to date. To those who have to administer justice in India Mr. Raghoonath's labors have given a work which will save much of their valuable time for searching what particular Act relates to the subject under their consideration. The book will also enable those who have complete volumes of Acts with them to mark out what are repealed by merely looking at the last column of the Index. It is not too much to say that Mr. Raghoonath Damodhur has conferred a favor on those who have always to do with Law. We recommend the work to Judges, Magistrates, Principal Sudder Ameeris, Amecns, Moonsiffs, Mauludars, Barristers, Attornies, Pleaders and Vakeels, and every one else who understands English and who needs reference to Acts, as a great and useful guide, and we have no doubt every one will be glad to secure a copy of it for his use. Compared to the labor spent on the compilation of the work and to its use, the price is very trifling—As the work is printed in the *Education Society's Press*, which is noted for its excellent printing, any praise of the work in that respect is superfluous.—*Bombay Mitrodaya of the 25th August 1867.*

Index to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures from 1834 to 1866, repealed and unrepealed, by Raghunath Damodhur, Second Assistant Secretary to Government, Judicial Department, Bombay 1867.

Elsewhere we acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a copy of this work, which its compiler has been good enough to furnish for our table. The Index takes cognizance of all the Acts passed by the Governments of Bengal, Madras, Bombay, the North Western Provinces, the Punjab and the Strait's Settlement, and is divided into two Parts. In the first Part, which is arranged alphabetically according to subjects legislated upon, are contained the title, number and year, application, and extent of repeal of the Acts. The second Part specifies the classification of the Acts in chronological order only. An Appendix also is inserted shewing a treatment in the above forms of all the Acts passed from January to June 1867, in order to render the Index as complete a book of reference as practicable.

It affords us much pleasure in adding our testimony to the golden opinions which Mr. Raghunath has already won for his labors from some of our brethren of the local Press. The Acts of the Indian Legislatures at present in force are so varied and have swelled to such an enormously large number, that one often feels at a loss to know what the Law is on a particular subject. In such cases, his Index is likely to do a most acceptable service. Its importance is greatly enhanced by its notes about the "extent of repeal." In fact, the Index possesses intrinsic merit which must commend it to the sympathy of the legal profession, and of all others who have anything to do with the Acts of the Indian Legislatures, and we think we merely act as a medium of circulating a knowledge about it, by noticing it in these columns. The price Rs. 10 fixed for a copy is not a high one when we take into consideration the pains Mr. Raghunath must have been at to compile such an Index, and the superior printing and binding in which it makes its appearance.—*Bombay Hindoo Reformer of the 1st September 1867.*

We have received a copy of a work by Rughoonath Damodhur, 2nd Assistant in the Judicial Department of the Bombay Secretariate,

being an Index to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures, both Imperial and Local, repealed and unrepealed from 1834 to June 1867. The want of such a work has long been felt, and the Compiler by giving the Index both in Alphabetical and Chronological form has made a reference to any particular Act a matter of the greatest ease. To all members of the legal profession it will prove an important saving of time and trouble.—*Englishman of the 15th October 1867.*

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a volume entitled "Index to the Acts of the Indian Legislatures from 1834 to 1866 repealed and unrepealed, arranged alphabetically, and in chronological order" and compiled by Raghoonath Damodhur, Assistant in the Judicial Department of the Secretariate Bombay. It consists of nearly 400 good sized pages of matter, and is a strong testimonial to the wonderful diligence of our legislators during the past two decades. As care seems to have been taken in the compilation of the Index and to enter all words likely to suggest themselves to persons searching for any particular enactment, it may as a work of reference be of much use.—*Madras Times of the 8th October 1867.*

Journal 1868 & 1869

From
Ragunath Damodhar
24th Feb 1868
Bombay.

1868 } Aug 1868

1 line.

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Feb 207/70.

No 64 of 17th January 1868. Is desired
that Ragunath Damodhar be informed
that copies of the work referred to
by him are not required.
Ragunath Damodhar was informed
of this in the post
of the Secy. Bombay dated 21/1/68

Forwarded to the Secy from
the printing of the Indian
in his hands, & the Secy of the
Indian Legislature, Jan 1868
to 1868, in London, his notice
to publish on 21st 1868
of the same, and under
Govt. Secretary.

With an end

In Ind. No 48/68.