

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை _____
(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் _____
(3) ஆதாரக் குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் _____

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

துறை

அரசாணை எண். மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	293	அச்சகம் பலவகை
நாள் :		199

மடிக்கவேண்டிய கையாளவே கூடாது.

ORDINARY, PRINTED.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

*South Indian Chrono-
logical Tables Re-
questing Dr. Hultzsch
& Burgess & Mr.
Rex to forward report
with their opinions
on the merits of the*

Each Paper, No.

of 15

RECEIVED AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
15, No.

FURTHER PAPER, No.

1504

of 15

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

3/4 — 1/2
757 — 1/2

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B = Not to be printed.
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Govt. of {1891} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 15th April 1891, No. 293.

APRIL.

South Indian Chronological Tables.

Requesting Drs. Hultzsch and Burgess and
Mr. Rea to favor Government with their opinions
on the merits of the —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
P U B L I C D E P A R T M E N T.

READ—the following papers:—

From J. F. FLEET, Esq., dated Bijapur, 31st October 1890.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding copies of a review of “South Indian Chronological Tables which appeared in the Indian Antiquary.”

From R. SEWELL, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bellary, 9th March 1891, No. 317—Index.

I have the honor to reply to your memorandum forwarding to me, for remarks, Mr. Fleet's criticism on Mr. Krishnasami Naidu's “South Indian Chronological Tables.”

2. With one exception, the remarks of Mr. Fleet, whose authority in matters connected with Indian chronology I fully recognize, are favorable, though his conclusion is not such as I can be expected to agree with.

3. First, I will point out that his criticism goes strongly to prove that the tables ought to be published for general use in this Presidency; secondly, I shall show that the tables are mostly accurate; and, lastly, I shall deal with the inaccuracies.

4. As to the first point, the object which Mr. Krishnasami Naidu and I had mainly in view was to prepare tables which should be so simple that any one could make use of them; since the only other tables available for the purpose, although excellent in their way, demand such intricate calculations as to be practically useless except to the initiated. Now this point is distinctly admitted by Mr. Fleet. He points out in his opening paragraph that the object of our work is to “give methods and tables for converting, *by a very simple process*, South Indian dates into English and *vice versa*.” Later on he writes: “The process is a very plain one, consisting of not more than five sums of very few figures in simple addition and subtraction. And any ordinary person can use the work. Though the book is intended specially for use in Southern India, still that part of it which relates to the Luni Solar Calendar will be useful all over India.” Later on he alludes to the real aim of the compiler and editor, which is “extreme simplicity and readiness of calculation.” Mr. Fleet's final suggestion is that no real object can be served by finally issuing the tables, since equally good approximate results can be obtained from works already published, viz., Cowasjee Patell's and General Sir A. Cunningham's books, Dr. Schram's tables, Professor K. L. Chhatre's books and Professor Jacobi's tables, “*by any one who will take the trouble to master them*.” In this last sentence lies the key of the whole matter. All those works require intricate calculations, and are quite unfitted for general use by the uninitiated. It is precisely for the sake of placing the conversion of dates within every one's reach that the present tables have been prepared. This, I think, ought to settle the question of publication. Our tables will be of very great use to the public, both official and private. If very great accuracy (*i.e.*, fractions of a day) be required, the more complicated publications may be resorted to, but for all ordinary purposes these tables will supply a general demand by enabling days to be henceforth calculated with rapidity and ease. If they are not published, things must remain as they are, and I venture to assert that there are not half-a-dozen men in the Presidency of Madras who have ever made much use of the elaborate methods of other chronologists. If any doubt still remains in the mind of His Excellency the Governor in Council, I would suggest that the opinion of Dr. Hultzsch and Mr. Rea might be called for. The former officer's opinion would naturally be of much weight, as he is especially employed in historical researches.

Reed
I 16/4.

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G.O., 15th April 1891, No. 293.

APRIL.

South Indian Chronological Tables.

Requesting Drs. Hultzsch and Burgess and
Mr. Rea to favor Government with their opinions
on the merits of the —.

5. As to the accuracy of the tables, Mr. Fleet after careful examination finds the entries in two out of the three columns of the table which required lengthy calculation to be reliable, and this assurance, coming from so high an authority, is very gratifying, since it will be in the remembrance of Government that full publication of the tables had to be deliberately postponed till their accuracy could be tested. I would, however, venture to recommend that Dr. Burgess' opinion be taken. His address is "22, Seton Place, Edinburgh." I believe that he will declare himself satisfied, since I have it personally from himself that there is little chance of the tables ever being exhaustively tested by chronologists in Europe. They were submitted to the leading authorities, but a long time has elapsed without eliciting any response. The truth is that those gentlemen have no leisure for the intricate calculations required for the testing of even a single one of our entries, and cannot be expected to devote considerable time to the examination of the publications of other authors, when they have their own laborious duties to attend to. I may be permitted to quote from Dr. Burgess' private letter to me, dated June 12th, 1890: "I sent Schram and Jacobi, Keilhorn and Buhler, &c., copies of your tables, but except a general expression by Jacobi that they might be useful for approximate dates, I have nothing definite. Schram did not even acknowledge receipt." Dr. Burgess added that he had himself been working on Hindu astronomy as related to chronology, and hoped, when he could find time, to test our tables thoroughly. I have, however, not heard anything definite from him subsequently, though I sent him some information relative to the Hindu astronomical works on which the tables are based. Dr. Burgess will not improbably express himself satisfied with Mr. Fleet's dictum as to the general accuracy of the publication.

6. I pass on to the inaccuracies discovered. If you will look at the foot-note to page 3 of the printed criticism (which I herewith return), you will see that even the standard works are not altogether free from inaccuracies. But it is a matter for regret that the table of intercalary months (Column F1, Table C) is declared to be so replete with error. The difference is doubtless due to the calculations having (as stated in note 1, page 4, of the tables) been made in mean time, and not in true time. To obviate the extreme tediousness and difficulty of recalculation, I think the best plan will be simply to copy the entries given in Professor K. L. Chhatre's table of intercalated months from Saka Samvat 1 to 2000, quoted by Mr. Fleet, since the latter is convinced of their accuracy after several actual calculations. If this should meet the approval of Government, I will try to procure a copy of the extinct Bombay magazine, the *Jnanaprakasaka*, in which it was published, and make the necessary corrections.

7. So corrected I venture to submit that the tables will be of proved accuracy, or at least sufficiently so proved to warrant their general publication, as originally designed.

ORDER—dated 15th April 1891, No. 293, Public.

As suggested by Mr. Sewell in his letter read above, Dr. Hultsch, Dr. Burgess and Mr. Rea will be requested to favor Government with their opinions on the merits of the "South Indian Chronological Tables."

(True Extract.)

for Chief Secretary.

To Dr. Burgess, 22, Seton Place,
Edinburgh (with C.L.), } with copy of review in "Indian Antiquary."
" Dr. Hultsch,
" A. Rea, Esq.,
Copy to R. Sewell, Esq.
" J. F. Fleet, Esq.

Exd. A. Raitt.

16/4.

Sum. ...

Taken

CS

15.

from ...

Public DEPARTMENT.

[5]

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 18 , No.

Again G.O., dated 18 , No.

A — ²⁰ Current No. 369 of 1890, dated 31 Oct from J. F. Fleet Esq.

A — Current No. 757 of 1891, dated 9 March from R. Sewell Esq.

Order. 15th April 91 N^o 293

As suggested by Mr. Sewell in his letter read above, Dr. Hultsch, Dr. Burgess, and Mr. Rea will be requested to favor Govt. with their opinions on the merits of the "South Indian Chronological Tables."

14 April (From Order)

Dr. Burgess 22, Seton

Place Wimbush (with C.F.)

Dr. Hultsch — 3

Mr. Rea Esq. — 3

Mr. W.R. Sewell Esq. 5

" J. F. Fleet Esq. 1

with copy of
revisions of in
Indian Antiquary

Recd
29/4/91

April 24

Comd^g 11/8

10/3/91

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I so corrected I venture to submit that the tables will be of proved accuracy, or at least sufficiently so proved to warrant their general publication, as originally designed.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant

R. Sewell.
Collector.

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"for approximate dates, I have nothing definite.
"Schram did not even acknowledge receipt."
Dr. Burgess added that he had himself
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the Tables are based. Dr. Burgess will
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5. As to the accuracy of the tables Mr. Fleet after careful examination finds the errors in 2 out of the 3 columns of the table which required lengthy

BELLARY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
Dated 9 March 1891.

Memorandum No. 3,

FROM
Robert Sewell Esquire
COLLECTOR OF
BELLARY.

TO
THE Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Department
Madras.

Sir,
I have the honour to reply to your memorandum forwarding to me for remarks Mr. Fleet's criticism on Mr. Krishnasami Naidu's "South Indian Chronological Tables".
2. With one exception the remarks of Mr. Fleet, whose authority in matters connected with Indian Chronology I fully recognize, are favourable, though his conclusion is not such as I can be expected to agree with.
3. First I will point out that his criticism goes strongly to prove that the tables ought to be published for general use in this Presidency; Secondly I shall show that the tables are mostly accurate; and lastly I shall deal with the inaccuracies.
4. As to the first point - The object which Mr. Krishnasami Naidu had in mind in view was to...

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process, South Indian dates into English
and vice versa". Later on he writes: "The
process is a very plain one ~~plain~~ consist-
ing of not more than five sums of very
few figures in simple addition and subtraction.
And any ordinary person, can use the work.
Though the book is intended specially for
use in Southern India, still that part of
it which relates to the Luni-Solar Calendar
will be useful all over India". Later on
he alludes to the real aim of the Compiler
and Editor, which is "extreme simplicity and
directness of calculation". Mr. Fleet's final
suggestion is that no real object can be
served by finally issuing the Tables, since
equally good approximate results can be
obtained from works already published
by Cowasji Patell's and General Sir
Cunningham's books, Dr. Schram's tables,
Mr. Chatres' books and Prof. Ja-
cob's tables, by anyone who will take
trouble to consult them". This last sentence
is a very strong statement of the whole matter. All these
works are in the public domain and are available to anyone who will consult them.

18/2/09 No 168
19/2/09 No 169
20/2/09 No 170

H. M.

For Order

Submitted that as proposed by Mr.
in para 4 of his letter
Sewell, the opinions of Dr. Hault
and Mr. Rice mentioned on the
merits of the "Tables" be obtained,
and that as suggested by Mr.
Sewell in para 5, Dr. Bingham
be asked for his opinions as to
their accuracy.

$\frac{C}{5/4}$

which is given in the Tables
in para 4 of his letter
18/2/09 No 168
19/2/09 No 169
20/2/09 No 170

Note for the Honorable Member.

Please see Mr. Sewell's letter of 2nd
February 1889 para 3. (in G.O. 18. 2. 89
No 168) and para 7 of his present
letter. Only 50 copies of the "Tables" appear
to have been printed & the original intention
appears to have been not to finally issue
the Tables till the above
has

Publ. Ct 757.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

FROM

THE COLLECTOR OF
BELLARY.

To

THE *Chief Secretary*
to Government
Madras
14 MAR 91
317

Dated

Despatched

Received

9 } March 1891
13 }

Enclosures. /

Abstract.

*Replying to the memorandum
forwarding for remarks Mr.
Hunt's criticisms on Mr.
Krishnasami Aiyar's South
Indian Chronological Table*