

Public (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 20

DATED 5. 1. 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Comg. to the Govt Astronomer
letter from the G & S forwarding
Copy of despatch from the Secy.
of State regarding the Visit of
the Astronomer Royal & Sir
H. Lockyer & Co. to the principal
observatories in India.

Public (189) Department.

CURRENT No.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
1695	Shack paper						

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

From the Govt of India
Secy to Govt Dept

Order
no

W.D. 20 8 5-1-98

Could to the foot
Astronomer who will be
requested to give effect to
the wishes of the Govt of India

No. 3779. 68-12.

Dated 30th Dec 1897
Received 5th Jan 1898
Registered 5th Jan 1898
Enclosure one
Spare copies -

MA 5.1.98.

Cco.
5/1/98

for Astronomer (a) of current & s.c. of me.)

Circ. to H.E. & H. Mus after
despatch.

sum. A. 5. 6. 1. 98

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of a
despatch regarding the
visit of the Astronomer
Royal to Sir N. Lockyer

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1675		28-11-97
	104		26-12-97
	1342		4-12-96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FILE No. 68 OF 1897.

SERIAL No. 7.

No. 216 (Revenue), dated India Office, London, the 9th December 1897.

From—Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India,
To—The Government of India.

WITH reference to my telegram, noted in the margin, I forward herewith, for the information of Your Excellency's Government, copy of papers,* from which it will be seen that the Astronomer Royal and Sir Norman Lockyer, who are about to visit India in connection with the forthcoming eclipse of the sun, are prepared to inspect the various observatories to which allusion is made in the letter of Your Excellency's Government in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, No. 56, dated 1st September 1897. In these circumstances, the consideration of your proposals will be deferred till the return of those gentlemen to this country.

2. I leave it to Your Excellency's Government to make such arrangements as may be deemed advisable for affording the requisite facilities to Mr. Christie and Sir Norman Lockyer.

3. It will be observed that the suggestion contained in the 12th paragraph of your above-quoted letter has been adopted, and that some gentlemen specially conversant with the subject of solar physics have been added to the Observatories Committee.

I have, etc.,
GEORGE HAMILTON.

No. R. & S. 2557, dated India Office, London, the 29th October 1897.

From—SIR A. GODLEY, K.C.B., Under-Secretary of State for India,
To—The Astronomer Royal, Greenwich.

Letter from India. Department of Revenue and Agriculture, No. 56, dated 1st September 1897, with enclosures.
Demi-official from Mr. Elliot to Mr. Ibbetson, dated 8th March 1897.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward herewith copy of the papers noted in the margin relative to the re-organization of the Indian Observatories.

It will be noticed that the Government of India are anxious that the scheme which they have recommended for sanction should be referred to various learned bodies and other authorities, some of which are enumerated in the 6th paragraph of the letter of the 1st September last; but Lord George Hamilton is disposed to think that a more satisfactory arrangement would be for you to furnish a report on the subject after consulting such persons as may seem to you advisable; and His Lordship would be glad to learn that you are prepared to assist in the mode suggested.

Any observations which you may submit consequent upon the present reference will be forwarded to India, and will, it may be presumed, form the basis of any future action. Meanwhile, I am directed to inquire whether, as it is understood, you will shortly be in India in connection with the forthcoming eclipse of the sun, it would be possible for you to visit Kodai-kanal where your presence would be of the highest advantage in initiating the new and important departure which is under consideration in regard to the observatories in India. In expressing a hope that the time at your disposal would admit of your further assistance in this direction, I am to add that any expenses which you might incur would of course be refunded to you from Indian revenues.

In conclusion, I am to state that Lord George Hamilton is fully conscious that the duties which he is anxious to entrust to you will involve considerable demands upon your time and attention, but changes of such scientific interest and importance could scarcely be adopted without your advice and approval, and His Lordship is anxious to record his appreciation of your services in this matter, and to express his regret at any inconvenience to which you may be exposed.

Dated Greenwich London, S. E., the 29th November 1897.

From—W. H. M. CHRISTIE, Esq., Astronomer Royal,
To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

WITH reference to your letter of the 29th October, R. & S. 2557, relative to the re-organization of the Indian observatories, I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of

Lord George Hamilton, that the Observatories Committee has been appointed as a Committee of the Royal Society and on an extended scale including several gentlemen specially conversant with Solar Physics, the President of the Royal Society being *ex-officio* Chairman, with myself as Vice-Chairman; these changes being in accordance with paragraph 12 of the letter from the Government of India of 1st September 1897.

2. The list of the Committee (which, as now constituted, includes the members of the Solar Physics Committee) is enclosed.

3. At a meeting of the re-constituted Committee on 17th November, I laid your letter, R & S. 2557, of 29th October, with its enclosures, before the members, and, after considering the scheme recommended by the Government of India, the Committee considered that, as Sir J. N. Lockyer and I had been requested to inspect several of the Indian observatories on our approaching visit to India, it would be better to defer reporting on the letter under reference till after our return from India.

4. The feeling of the Committee seemed to be that, while the scheme would make provision for the astronomical and magnetic observations and researches which are so desirable, there might be difficulty in securing effective supervision of the observatories at Madras and Bombay.

5. I am disposed to think that by suitable apportionment of the work between Kodaikanal on the one hand and Madras and Bombay on the other, so that the work at these two latter observatories would be as far as possible of a routine character, the difficulty could be got over, but this is a question which could be much better discussed on the spot, after inspecting the arrangements at the three observatories.

6. I was therefore anxious to arrange for my visiting Kodaikanal and also Bombay and Madras observatories while in India, although the time at my disposal is necessarily very short after the observation of the eclipse of the sun on 22nd January.

7. It was necessary for me to apply to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for leave of absence to go on this duty, and as this has now been approved, I am quite prepared to undertake the duties which Lord George Hamilton wishes to entrust to me, and to give any assistance in the matter that I can.

8. I would propose to visit the observatory at Colaba immediately after my arrival in Bombay by the S. S. *Ballaarat* on 1st or 2nd January, and the observatories at Madras and Kodaikanal as soon after the eclipse of the sun on 22nd January as circumstances will permit. I expect to be able to reach Calcutta from my Eclipse Station (near Sahagpoor on Katni-Bilaspur line) about 27th January, and would take the first steamer from Calcutta to Madras, where I should arrive some time between 31st January and 6th February, and two or three days later at Kodaikanal, after a visit to the Madras observatory.

9. If arrangements could be made for me to have an opportunity of discussing the working of the scheme with Mr. Elliot during my visit to Madras and Kodaikanal, it would be of great advantage.

OBSERVATORIES COMMITTEE.

List of Members.

Astronomer Royal (Vice-Chairman).
President of the Royal Astronomical Society.
Captain Olney, R.E.
Professor G. H. Darwin.
Sir W. Huggins.
Sir J. N. Lockyer.
Sir G. G. Stokes.
General Sir Richard Strachey, R. E.
President and Officers of the Royal Society as *ex-officio* Members.

November 1897.

No. R. & S. 3113, dated India Office, London, the 7th December 1897.

From—SIR A. GODLEY, Esq., K.C.B., *Under-Secretary of State for India*,
To—The Astronomer Royal, Greenwich.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to thank you for your kind offer of assistance in connection with the re-organization of the Indian observatories, and to inform you that a copy of the correspondence has been forwarded to the Government of India, who have also been informed by telegram that you will arrive at Bombay by the S. S. *Ballaarat*, due at that port on 1st or 2nd January next.

No. R. & S. 2713, dated India Office, London, the 22nd October 1897.

From—SIR A. GODLEY, K.C.B., *Under-Secretary of State for India*,
To—The Secretary, Solar Physics Committee.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, terminating with my letter, dated 29th

July last, I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward, for the Letter from India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, No. 62, dated 23rd September 1897, with enclosures. information of the Solar Physics Committee, copy of the papers noted in the margin, from which it will be seen that observations of the spectra of sun spots cannot be made in Madras until the completion of the Kodaikanal observatory, but will shortly be set on foot at the Poona observatory.

No. S. 42099, dated South Kensington, S. W., the 26th November 1897.

From—FRANK RYDE FOWKE, Esq., *Secretary, Solar Physics Committee*,
To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

I HAVE to inform you that your letter of the 22nd ultimo, No. R. & S. 2713, and the documents which accompanied it (letter from India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, No. 62, dated 23rd September 1897, with enclosures), were submitted to the Solar Physics Committee at their meeting held on the 25th instant. I was instructed by the Committee to convey the expression of their thanks to the Secretary of State for India in Council for causing observations of the spectra of sun spots in India to be undertaken. The Committee direct me to add that Sir J. Norman Lockyer, K.C.B., F.R.S., is in communication with Professor Naegamvala with reference to the work to be carried on.

No. R. & S. 2847, dated India Office, London, the 10th November 1897.

From—SIR A. GODLEY, K.C.B., *Under-Secretary of State for India*,
To—The Secretary, Committee of the Privy Council on Education.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India to forward copy of letter* in which the Government of India ask that Sir Norman Lockyer, when on duty with the Solar Eclipse Expedition, may be deputed to inspect and advise upon certain solar observatories in India.

Lord George Hamilton will be glad if the Committee of the Privy Council could sanction Sir N. Lockyer's deputation on the proposed duty. The work would probably occupy from 20 to 30 days in addition to the time devoted to the business proper to the Solar Eclipse Expedition. If his services can be temporarily spared in the manner suggested, the Secretary of State in Council would propose to offer Sir N. Lockyer an allowance of Rs 30 a day, in addition to all travelling expenses, for such time as may be required for the work to be performed.

No. S. 44499, dated South Kensington, S. W., the 25th November 1897.

From—W. D. DONNELLY, Esq.,
To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

I AM directed by the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, R. & S. 2847, transmitting copy of a communication in which the Government of India ask that Sir Norman Lockyer, when on duty with the Solar Eclipse Expedition, may be deputed to inspect and advise on certain solar observatories in India.

I am to inform you that my Lords are pleased to sanction this proposal, and that Sir Norman Lockyer is willing to undertake the duty.

No. 3449-68-12.

FROM

F. G. SLY, ESQ., C.S.,

Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

The Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Calcutta, the 23rd



1894.

Department of Revenue
and Agriculture.

SIR,

(Meteorology)

I am directed to forward to you the information of the Governor in Council, a copy of a dispatch with enclosures, No. 110 dated 11th Decr 1894, from the Secretary of State for India, in which he informs the Government of India that the Astronomer Royal, and Sir Norman Lockyer K.C.B., F.R.S., have consented to visit the principal observatories in India during their approaching visit in connection with the solar eclipse, and to advise the Government on their ^{future} management, with reference to the session to which His Excellency in Council gave his general adherence in your letter No. 1513 dated 21st Decr 1894.

The Government of India feel assured that every facility will be given to the Government of Madras for this purpose, and I am to request that Mr. Michie Smith may be permitted to arrange the details in direct communication with the Meteorological

gical

Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

I have the honor to...

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Under-Secretary.

11-11-11
[9/74]
2,000-24-8-97.
P.A.
for perusal
of C.S.'s note.
19/9
5/1/98

NOTE FOR THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

The Asst Secy having
left office I submit this
file direct as it is V.E.
(Received 4 pm)

A draft is
put up. Nothing further
seems needed at
present beyond
copy to the Asst Secy
and Mr. Smith. I think
already left.
Copies must
be kept.
5.1.98.

Pub C. No 36/98

X
Please send this copied
at once. After despatch
the file has to be

circulated. It has also
~~be~~ should also be shown
to the A.S. either before or
after circulation.

seen
MSP
7/1/98
19/9
5/1/98

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189 ,

DATED

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.
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