

**THE HANDYBOOK
OF
THE CIVIL SERVICE**

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The Handybook of the Civil Service by Edward Walford

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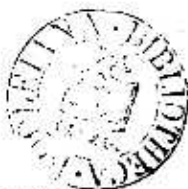
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EDWARD WALFORD

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BY



EDWARD WALFORD, M.A.

Late Scholar of Balliol College, Oxford

LONDON
LONGMAN, GREEN, LONGMAN, AND ROBERTS
1860

232. c. 119.

PREFACE.

As the national mind has been long waking to the expediency of superseding the old system of patronage, by which the Ministry used to dispose of almost all situations in the Civil Service of the Crown, it appeared to me to be neither uninteresting nor unprofitable to place upon record in these pages a brief account of the labours of the Civil Service Commissioners, and of the results hitherto attained, and at the same time to afford a useful Guide to those who may desire to offer themselves as Candidates for public appointments.

It is much to be feared that, in spite of all the force which the public press has brought to bear upon the subject, the old system of nomination still practically retains much of its baneful influence, and that the regulation by which, in most branches, Candidates have still

first to be nominated by some Minister of the Crown, acts as a serious obstacle to the real interests of the nation, by excluding ambitious spirits who do not boast of aristocratic connections. Such the author of this little work has found to be the case in more than one Department; and he trusts that the press and the educated classes at large will never relax their efforts at improvement, until the Civil Service is fairly thrown open to all the subjects of the Crown who can show themselves, before a competent tribunal, fit to become servants of Her Majesty in one or other of our public Departments. Our scholarships and fellowships have been thrown open to unlimited public competition, both at Oxford and Cambridge, and with marked success; and there can surely be no valid reason why a movement which has common sense on its side, and has proved so valuable on the banks of the Isis and the Cam, should be quietly ignored or set aside at Westminster as unsuited to the age in which our lot is cast.

E. W.

17, CHURCH ROW, HAMPSTEAD,

May 26, 1860.

CONTENTS.

I. THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

Its basis	1
---------------------	---

II. DEPARTMENTS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

In England.

	Page		Page
1. The Admiralty	8	17. The Friendly Societies' Registry	12
2. The Admiralty Court	8	18. The General Register Office	12
3. The Audit Office	9	19. The Home Office	12
4. The British Museum	9	20. The House of Commons	12
5. The Charitable Trusts Commission	9	21. The House of Lords	13
6. The Civil Service Commission	9	22. The Indian Office	13
7. The Colonial Office	9	23. The Inland Revenue	13
8. The Colonial Land and Emigration office	10	24. The Joint-Stock Companies' Registry	14
9. The Committee of Council on Education	10	25. The London University	14
10. The Copyhold, Inclosure, and Tithe Commission	10	26. The Lunacy Commission	14
11. The Customs	10	27. The Metropolitan Police Courts	14
12. The Duchy of Lancaster	11	28. The Metropolitan Police	14
13. The Ecclesiastical Commission	11	29. The Mint	15
14. The Exchequer Office	11	30. The National Debt Office	15
15. The Factory Inspectors' Office	11	31. The Patent Office	15
16. The Foreign Office	11	32. The Paymaster-General's Office	16
		33. The Poor-Law Board	16
		34. The General Post Office	16

	Page		Page
35. The Prisons Department	16	41. The Stationery Office	17
36. The Privy Council Office	16	42. The Trade Department	17
37. The Privy Seal Office	17	43. The Treasury	18
38. The Public Works Loan Office	17	44. The War Department	18
39. The Record Office	17	45. The Woods and Forests Office	18
40. The Science and Art Department	17	46. The Works and Public Buildings office	19

In Scotland.

47. The Board of Fisheries	19	50. The Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remem- brancer's Office	20
48. The General Register Office	19	51. The Royal Observatory, Edinburgh	20
49. The Lunacy Board	19		

In Ireland.

52. The Chief Secretary's Office	20	58. The Paymaster of Civil Services Office	21
53. The Constabulary for Ireland	20	59. The Poor Law Board	21
54. The Convict Service	20	60. The Public Works Office	22
55. The Educational Office	21	61. The Registry of Deeds Office	22
56. The General Register Office	21	62. The War Department for Ireland	22
57. The Lunacy Board	21		

III. LIMITS OF AGE AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR CANDIDATES.

Departments of the Public Service in England.

1. The Admiralty	23	9. The Committee of Council for Education	28
2. The Admiralty Court	24	10. The Copyhold, Inclosure, and Tithe Commission	29
3. The Audit Office	25	11. The Customs	29
4. The British Museum	25	12. The Duchy of Lancaster	30
5. The Charitable Trusts Commission	25	13. The Ecclesiastical Com- mission	31
6. The Civil Service Com- mission	26	14. The Exchequer Office	31
7. The Colonial Office	26	15. The Factory Inspectors' Office	31
8. The Colonial Land and Emigration Office	28		

CONTENTS.

ix

	Page		Page
16. The Foreign Office	32	32. The Paymaster-General's Office	41
17. The Friendly Societies' Registry	33	33. The Poor-Law Board	42
18. The General Register Office	33	34. The General Post Office	42
19. The Home Office	34	35. The Prisons Department	43
20. The House of Commons	34	36. The Privy Council Office	43
21. The House of Lords	35	37. The Privy Seal Office	43
22. The Indian Office	35	38. The Public Works Office	44
23. The Inland Revenue	37	39. The Record Office	44
24. The Joint Stock Companies' Registry	38	40. The Science and Art Department	44
25. The London University	38	41. The Stationery Office	45
26. The Lunacy Commission	39	42. The Trade Department	45
27. The Metropolitan Police Courts	39	43. The Treasury	46
28. The Metropolitan Police	39	44. The War Department	47
29. The Mint	40	45. The Woods and Forests Office	49
30. The National Debt Office	41	46. The Works and Public Buildings Office	49
31. The Patent Office	41		

In Scotland.

47. The Board of Fisheries	49	50. The Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer's Office	51
48. The General Register Office for Scotland	50	51. The Royal Observatory, Edinburgh	51
49. The Lunacy Board	50		

In Ireland.

52. The Chief Secretary's Office	51	58. The Paymaster of Civil Services Office	55
53. The Constabulary for Ireland	52	59. The Poor-Law Board	56
54. The Convict Service	53	60. The Public Works Office	56
55. The Educational Office	54	61. The Registry of Deeds Office	56
56. The General Register Office for Ireland	54	62. The War Department for Ireland	56
57. The Lunacy Board	55		

IV. EXAMINATION PAPERS.

1. ARITHMETIC.		2. BOOK-KEEPING.	
a. Elementary	58	a. Single Entry	62
b. Including vulgar and decimal fractions	59	b. Double Entry	63

	Page		Page
3. COMPOSITION	66	A. Sanskrit	110
4. CORRESPONDENCE	67	f. Spanish	116
5. DICTATION	70	10. LAW.	
6. GEOGRAPHY	73	a. Constitutional Law	120
7. GRAMMAR	79	b. Mercantile and Commercial Law	121
8. HISTORY.		c. Law of Real and Personal Property	122
a. History of the British Empire	81	d. Conveyancing	123
b. History of India	83	11. MATHEMATICS.	
c. Universal History	83	a. Pure Mathematics	125
9. LANGUAGES.		b. Mixed Mathematics	127
a. Arabic	91	12. NATURAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.	
b. French	93	a. Chemistry	128
c. German	96	b. Geology	130
d. Greek	98	c. Natural Science	131
e. Hindustani and Bengali	101	13. ORTHOGRAPHY	133
f. Italian	106	14. PRECIS	136
g. Latin	109		

V. SALARIES OF THE CIVIL SERVICE.

1. ADMIRALTY.		5. Department of Manuscripts	148
a. Chief Office	142	c. Department of Natural History	148
b. Accountant-General's Office	143	d. Department of Geology	149
c. Comptroller's Office	143	e. Department of Mineralogy	149
d. Dockyards and Factories	144	f. Department of Botany	149
e. Hydrographical Office	144	g. Department of Antiquities	149
f. Storekeeper-General's Office	145	A. Department of Prints and Drawings	149
g. Surveyor's Office	145	5. CHARITABLE TRUSTS COMMISSION	150
2. ADMIRALTY COURT.		6. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION	151
a. Registrar's Office	146	7. COLONIAL OFFICE	151
b. Marshal's Office	146	8. COLONIAL LAND AND EMIGRATION OFFICE	152
3. AUDIT OFFICE	147		
4. BRITISH MUSEUM.			
a. Department of Printed Books	148		