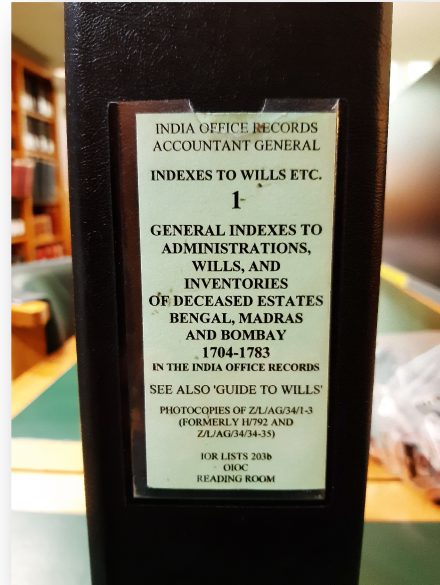


## Transcription of Explanation Pages at the beginning of Volume 1



*[Volume 1 transcription]* India Office Records Accountant General. Indexes to Wills etc., 1-. General Indexes to Administrations, Wills, And Inventories of Deceased Estates Bengal, Madras and Bombay 1704-1783 in the India Office Records. See also 'Guide to Wills'. Photocopies of Z/L/AG/34/1-3 formerly H/792 and Z/L/AG/34/34-35). IOR Lists 203b IOIC Reading Room.

### *[printed paragraph - Description of Wills]*

(I) Alphabetical List , prepared under the supervision of Miss L M Anstay, of Wills and Administrations contained in the Mayor's Court Proceedings (Madras 1753-79, Bengal 1727-79, Bombay 1729-83), Bengal Public Proceedings 1704-27, Factory Records, Miscellaneous, Vol. 23 and (a few very early ones) in the Correspondence Memoranda. In the India Office there is a Register of all Wills proved in Bengal for 1728, in Bombay from 1723 and in Madras from 1736 up to the present time in which Register there are some Wills which, though they fall within the above-mentioned dates, are not included in this Catalogue. Nor does the Catalogue contain the Wills in the Supreme Court Records. A further collection of Bengal Wills, not included in this Catalogue but managing between 1727 and 1765, is to be found in the series "Bengal Wills, Mayors Court," Range 155, Vols. 9-38. See also Factory Records, Miscellaneous, Vol XXIII for Wills and Inventories 1618-1723.

## Catalogue of Wills

Proved in Bengal, Bombay and Madras

This catalogue includes all the wills and administrations which appear in the following series of Records preserved in the Record Department of the India Office Whitehall

In Mayor's Court Proceedings:

Madras wills 1753-1779 - M. W.  
Bengal wills 1727-1779 - B. W.  
Bombay wills 1729-1783 - Bom. W.  
Bengal Public Proceedings 1704-1727 - B. P. P.  
Factory Records Misc vol 23 - Fac. Rec. Misc.  
Correspondence Memoranda - Corres. Memoranda.

The information supplied from the wills is given in the following order: Testator, Residence, Profession, Legatees *[Note: FIBIS dataset heading labeled: "Nearest Relative"]*, Relatives etc, Date of Will, Date of Probate, Location

The same order is preserved in the case of letters of administration and similar information is supplied in these so far as the character of the document will admit.

In all cases the nearest relatives mentioned in the wills have been noted, whether legatees or not, - whether living or deceased at the time of making the will. Surnames of legatees etc are not given unless they differ from that of the testator.

Locations: It is to be understood that, of the figures given in the locations, the first refers to the range, the second to the volume, and the third to the page. Where no page is given it is to be inferred that the volume

*[page 2]* is not paged. Factory Records, Miscellaneous, and the Correspondence Memoranda have no range numbers.

All wills marked with a black star have no date of probate attached. They are bound up to follow those proved in the year 1757, but were most probably proved in 1854, 1755 or 1756.

The wills marked with a red star have already been catalogued in the list supplied by Mr Culleton, and contain additional details to those given in the present catalogue. *[Note: Since these are photocopies there is no way to distinguish red from black]*

The dates covered by this catalogue are

Bengal 1704 – 1779

Bombay 1728 – 1783

Madras 1753 - 1779

A There are also wills in the India Office Indexed (registered) in the Estate and Wills Branch (Department) dating:-

Bengal from 1728 to the present time

Bombay from 1723 to the present time

Madras from 1736 to the present time

Some of these wills, though within the above dates, are not in this catalogue, nor does it contain the- wills in the Supreme Court Records.

N.B: There is a series of Bengal wills in the Record Department not included in the catalogue: ie Bengal Wills, Mayor's Court, Range 155, Vols. 9-38. These vols. cover the period 1727-1765, and until the completion of the list, were thought to contain only Proceedings and duplicates of wills already listed. It now appears that the wills are additional to those in the catalogue. They can be given later if desired as an appendix.

*[page 3]* It should be noted that the entries in this volume appear to be strictly of wills and administrations which were proved. It does not contain entries of unproved wills (if there was no eventually grant of administration) or of documents relating to estates in which there was neither probate nor administration. eg: inventories of estates, testament accounts of the settlement of estates proceedings etc.

*[page 4 Title page]*

R\* 1649/21  
H/792

India Office

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Catalogue of Wills

Also see N/B at end of preface

Bengal 1704-1779

Bombay 1728-1783

Madras 1753-1779

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Factory Records Miscellaneous, volume 23 (wills from 1618-1728)