

607 (1913) Department.

1155 SERIES.

G.O., No. 991

DATED 31 10 1913

[Despatch Abstract.]

Educational Colonies Association Regarding
letter from the Govt of India forwarding
papers relating to the question of the possibility
of applying to India the scheme of the

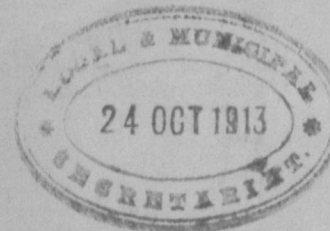
PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. _____

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number	Date.	Original (=O.) or spare copy (=S.C.)	Remarks. (In this column such of the papers as have been removed for copying, printing, etc., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of clerk with date in token of return to Reference department.

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Department.	Number.	Date.	Original (= O.) or spare copy (= S.C.).	Initials with date of (1) clerk of the Chief Secretariat department acknowledging returns of the paper concerned or (2) Despatcher to denote the return of the papers to departments outside the Chief Secretariat.



D.O. No. 542-553.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

EDUCATION.

Simla, the 10th October 1913.

Despatch 10-10-13

I AM desired to send for the information of *His Excellency the Governor*

Letter from Captain Petavel, dated the 13th September 1912, with a copy of a circular.
Letter to the India Office, demi-official no. 626, dated the 16th October 1912.
Letter to Captain Petavel, demi-official no. 627, dated the 16th October 1912.
Letter from the India Office, no. J. and P. 4175, dated the 27th June 1913, with enclosures.
Letter to Captain Petavel, demi-official no. 380, dated the 30th July 1913.
Letter to the India Office, demi-official no. 381, dated the 30th July 1913.
Letter from Captain Petavel, dated the 19th August 1913.
Letter from the India Office, no. J. and P. 2971, dated the 29th August 1913, with enclosures.

in Council, -- a copy of the accompanying papers,* relating to the question of the possibility of applying to India the scheme of the Educational Colonies Association.

Yours sincerely,

W. Francis

Joint Secretary to the Government of India.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. W. Francis, I.C.S.,

Ag. Secy. to the Govr. of Madras,

Education Department.

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Dated Essex, the 13th September 1912.

SPENCER HARCOURT BUTLER ESQ., C.S.I.

DEAR SIR,

I am sending you a pamphlet and circular about the Educational Colonies Association hoping very much that you will see as we do that the best thing would be to get people interested in India and to get a start made in that country.

I should be very happy to come to India myself in connection with such a movement if I could do any good.

We would be very glad indeed to have your help in giving publicity to the matter. Our Honorary Secretary Mr. J. B. Pennington has just returned from India.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

T. W. PETAVEL.

An Association has been formed to bring about at the earliest possible date a new departure in our system of popular education which will render it much more efficient and which will moreover effect the solution of important social problems.

The plan is to follow the school years proper by a period of employment under the educational authorities which will be arranged to be as instructive, as healthy, and in every way as improving as possible. Experiments on the continent of Europe and in America have shown beyond possibility of doubt that large industrial organisations can, under proper conditions make excellent use of large quantities of unskilled labour.....that.....boys working these organisations could when necessary help their parents at least as much as they could be by going out into ordinary employment; whilst having, besides, the advantage of the healthiest conditions and the best possible opportunities for continuation classes.

A very important feature in connection with this scheme is that it would allow school children to be both well educated and thoroughly well fed, receiving these advantages if necessary as an advance on what they will earn in their subsequent years of industrial employment under the educational authorities. It would weld the young people, as it were into a productive and instructional organisation producing the necessities of life for themselves, the elder ones producing it for the younger ones. Those whose parents had not been able to pay for them in their youth and who, therefore would incur a debt to the educational authorities would have merely to remain longer in the industrial organisation when they had been trained and their labour was useful, and pay the debt in that way.

As a practical example of the feasibility of this it is quite sufficient to refer to the Colony of Witzwil, Berne, Switzerland, where tramps and vagrants are made, by proper organisation, to earn their maintenance and a little above it. It is evident that with such a system industrial training would commence during the school years proper so that the young people would go to industrial employment capable of being useful from the outset, and would find it a very easy task indeed to do much better than the tramps and vagrants of Witzwil have done.

The plan is fully described in the explanatory pamphlet of the Association which is being sent to you by the same mail, and from which you will see that eminent people in all walks of life have given it their indorsement. The book which first initiated the movement has been published in English and in French and extensively reviewed by eminent economists. The matter has been fully discussed in the Press and it is time now that some practical steps were taken.

It seems clear that if this problem of self-supporting education were studied from an Indian point of view, it would be evident that there is no country in which it could be applied more easily and with greater benefit. This letter is addressed to you hoping that you may spare a moment to study the question from that point of view, and if so you will bring it to the notice of prominent people and of the Press in India.

What seems to be required is the formation of an association in India on the lines of the Association already formed at home to bring about this reform. A very important thing indeed to realise is that the first educational colony could be established by private enterprise, private individuals therefore giving the lead which the Government would soon follow.

Demi-official No. 626, dated Simla, the 16th October 1912.

From—The HON'BLE MR. H. SHARP, M.A., C.I.E., Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education,

To—M. C. SETON, Esq., Secretary, Judicial and Public Department, India Office.

I am desired to send you a copy of a letter from the Honorary Organising Secretary of the Educational Colonies and Self-Supporting Schools Association together with a copy of a typed note which accompanied that letter. Some printed information was likewise enclosed, which if you are not already in possession of, it could be obtained from Captain J. W. Petavel, R.E., Educational Colony, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex. I am to ask if the India Office have any information about this Association. We should be glad to receive such information before replying to Captain Petavel, to whom in the meantime an acknowledgment has been sent.

Demi-official No. 627, dated Simla, the 16th October 1912.

From—The HON'BLE MR. H. SHARP, M.A., C.I.E., Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education,

To—The Honorary Organising Secretary, Educational Colonies and Self-Supporting Schools Association, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex.

I am desired to acknowledge your letter of the 13th September last to the address of the Hon'ble Sir Harcourt Butler and to say that a reply will be sent later on.

No. J. & P. 4175, dated India Office, Whitehall, S.W., the 27th June 1913.

From—J. E. FERARD, Esq., Assistant Secretary, Judicial and Public Department.

To—The Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Education Department.

Will you kindly refer to your letter of 16th October last, demi-official No. 626, asking for information about the Educational Colonies and Self-Supporting Schools Association? Nothing was known at this office about the Association, we therefore consulted the Board of Education and have now received (after

considerable delay, which is regretted) a confidential report on the subject, a copy of which I send herewith for your information. I hope it will meet your purpose.

I take this opportunity of enclosing also a copy of some correspondence which has passed between Captain Petavel, the Organising Secretary of the Association, and the Assistant Private Secretary to the Secretary of State.

From Captain Petavel to Secretary of State, 20th May 1913.
From Mr. Brown, to Captain Petavel, 11th June 1913.

BOARD OF EDUCATION,

WHITEHALL,

LONDON, S.W.

June 2nd, 1913.

(CONFIDENTIAL).

Dear Mr. Dumbell,

Some time ago Hornell asked me about the Educational Colonies Association; it so happened that I had then been in communication with Captain Petavel, who is the author of the scheme, and was under the impression that he intended to call at the Board in order to explain the objects he was pursuing. He never came and we have no information here to show how far the scheme has been realised.

It would seem from the printed literature that two different ideals have influenced Captain Petavel, the bond uniting the two being the use of agricultural operations as a part of educational training.

The first idea is that of a penitentiary station and the model was found at Witzwil in Switzerland. Similar work has been done in this country by the Salvation Army and other Agencies, but I doubt its applicability to India.

The second type of institution which attracted Captain Petavel's attention was the cheap Farm School of France. It is his idea, I gather, that our ordinary secondary schools turn out many educational misfits and this because the instruction is not sufficiently practical. The simplest practical instruction is that in Agricultural work, and there is the added advantage that the boys are led to a healthful occupation. How far Captain Petavel has taken into consideration the different conditions under which agriculture is carried on in this country and in France, (still more in India) is not clear. Nor is it easy to see how the main lines of thought can be combined in a single endeavour.

We have no record here of the progress he has made. The Association has a Committee, the best known name on which is the Headmaster of Eton. But Mr. Lyttelton's sympathies are so catholic and his interest diffused over so many educational experiments, that I am a little doubtful how much weight can be attached to his adhesion.

From what I have read the whole plan seems too vague for the Indian Government to give any sort of encouragement to Captain Petavel to operate in India. Should I obtain any further information which would throw additional light on the matter I will pass it on to you.

Yours, etc.,

(Sd.) A. E. TWENTYMAN,

EDUCATIONAL COLONIES
AND SELF-SUPPORTING
SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION.
20th May 1913.

The Most Honourable the Marquis of Crewe, K.G., P.C.

My Lord,

Honorary Secretary to Committee.

J. B. Pennington, Esq., I.C.S., (retired).

Honorary Organising Secretary.

J. W. Petavel.

Vice-Presidents and Members of the Council.

Professor Sir William Ramsay, F.R.S.

The Rev. F. B. Meyer, D.D.

Professor Bickerton.

J. Buyers Black, Esq.

W. R. Boelter, Esq.

The Rev. C. M. Bayliss, B.A.

W. A. Evans, Esq., M.A.

Dr. H. Gray.

Dr. A. Haig, F.R.C.P.

E. J. Hunt, Esq.

Major Johnson, R.F.A., (retired).

Herr Otto Kellerhalls.

Mark Major, Esq.

J. B. Pennington, Esq., I.C.S., (retired).

Colonel Pollen, C.I.E., V.D.

Colonel Alsagar Pollock.

J. W. Petavel, Esq.

Henry Samuel, Esq.

Dr. Saleeby, F.R.S.E.

T. Troward, Esq.

Sir Francis Vane of Hutton, Bart.

Professor Walker, LL.D.

Thank you for your letter.* I appreciate very much the compliment you pay me in sparing a moment for my booklet. There is one thing developed in it that I would wish very specially to call your attention to as Secretary of State for India. The question of education is of course a great one in India, and the difficulty is the financial one. The whole of that difficulty can be surmounted by the educational system outlined in that booklet and advocated by this Association. The names on the margin of this paper will show you that I have the support of men whose support counts for something. You will see also that India is strongly represented on our Committee. I have underlined the names of prominent Anglo-Indians it contains.

Our difficulty, however, is that of getting people to understand really what an educational colony is, and generally speaking impossible to get the man in the street to understand the economics of the thing. I have defined it in the paragraphs marked on page 5 of the enclosed little pamphlet "Careers and Work for All". The educational colony is a thing like the Garden City that *requires to be put into practice and then the idea would spread of itself.*

May I be allowed to make the following suggestion:—If I get the prominent Anglo-Indians on our Committee to form themselves into a Sub-Committee to study the question from the essentially Indian point of view, would you receive a deputation of our Committee, and give them the opportunity to lay the matter before you? I would not propose this deputation merely to come and have a pleasant talk about it and then go away, but I would suggest then *if you are at all satisfied, that the Government of India should employ me to start a self-supporting educational colony in India.* I think if there is one thing I can do, it is to handle natives in the right way. I have Indian pupils here, and have always enjoyed popularity with my Indian subordinates. From the appended cutting you will see that I have educational qualifications. A big salary would *not* be my object. I am working for a cause not for money. The educational colony need not be expensive to start and with the Government patronage and the amount of interest I have already raised in it in India, a start could I am sure be easily made.

I think in fact that I have a plan by which the whole thing might be very simply financed if only you could see your way to get me the support of the Government of India. But it is not time yet to go into the details of it.

I must apologise, my Lord, for trespassing so much on your time but in apology I wish to assure you that this is a plan that could be carried out and with infinite benefit not only to India but to this country and to humanity. If I may seem to claim a great deal, may I point again to the testimony of all those whose names you will see on the covers of these two pamphlets and on the

* N.B.—Quasi-formal acknowledgment of pamphlet.

margin of this paper. I append to this letter a copy of the "Constitution" of this Association, from which you will see that it was formed *solely to support me in putting forward this idea.*

It needs only such help as you would be able to give it and something could surely be done. The plan has received much favour in India. My books have been very well reviewed there and I am constantly asked by Indian Editors for articles.

Hoping very much that you will be able to reply favourably and that you may soon spare a moment to read my little pamphlets as it is your kind intention to do so.

I remain, etc.,

(Sd.) T. W. PETAVEL,

Honorary Organising Secretary,

Educational Colonies Association.

The following gentlemen have allowed their names to appear as references for Mr. Petavel, and the last named, marked with an asterisk, have been *prepared for examinations by him* :—

Captain St. John, 7, Holly Village, Swain's Lane, W.

Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas, V.C., Thelema, Dunmow.

R. W. Smith, Esq., 14 Southdene, Filey, East Yorks.

The Hon. Edward Gully, Speaker's House, S. W.

J. B. Pennington, Esq., Indian Civil Service, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight.

R. C. Edwards, Esq., 55 Buckland Crescent, N. W.

Dr. Boswell Dodds, Shotley Bridge, Durham.

* Captain Egerton, Coldstream Guards.

* The Hon. Julian Grenfell, Balliol College, Oxford.

* Captain Windsor Clive, Coldstream Guards.

* G. Brooke, Esq., 16th Lancers.

* M. Graham Esq., 16th Lancers.

* G. F. C. Clarke, Esq., 7th Dragoon Guards.

* J. Houston, Esq., 8th Hussars.

* E. Brassey, Esq., 7th Hussars.

* G. W. Godfree, Esq., 21st Lancers.

* F. Curtis, Esq., 19th Hussars.

* G. Gillaghan, Esq., 19th Hussars.

Constitution of the Educational Colonies and Self-Supporting Schools Association.

(As amended at the meeting held on the 6th March 1912.)

Article I.—The Association is formed of a group of people uniting to support Captain Petavel in propagating the idea developed in his books "Administrative Efficiency" and "The Coming Triumph of Christian Civilisation" (and the pamphlets enclosed) for social reform by means of Educational Colonies, leading to a "self-supporting" Army and finally to the re-planning of the towns on garden-city lines.

Article II.—It is understood that Captain Petavel being the author of the scheme, and having spent long years in thinking out its details, will exercise the fullest initiative, the Committee being in the position of people seconding his efforts and supporting him wherever they can conscientiously do so. In that way the advantage of individual initiative will be secured.

Article III.—The duties of the Honorary Secretary should be confined to work under the Committee, and Captain Petavel will act as Organising Secretary to the Association, and when he wishes the Committee to take action in any way, he will address them by means of a Memorandum.

Article IV.—It is quite understood that the above regulations are every one of them subject to alteration or modification on the vote of the Committee.

INDIA OFFICE.

11th June 1913.

DEAR SIR,

I am desired by Lord Crewe to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th May, which has had his careful attention. His Lordship understands that the objects of your Association have already been brought to the notice of the authorities in India, whose opinion on the matter he will be interested to learn; but he fears that it would be premature to consider the definite proposal that you lay before him in reference to a scheme which he is constrained to regard as being at present in the experimental stage. In the circumstances he regrets that he cannot anticipate any practical outcome from a discussion such as you suggest.

Yours etc.,

(Sd.) S. K. BROWN.

Captain J. W. Petavel.

Demi-official No. 380, dated Simla, the 30th July 1913.

From—The HON'BLE MR. H. SHARP, M.A., C.I.E., Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education,

To—The Honorary Organising Secretary, Educational Colonies and Self-Supporting Schools Association, Standford-le-Hope, Essex.

In continuation of my demi-official letter No. 627, dated the 16th October 1912, I am desired to inform you that on the information supplied the Government of India do not feel assured of the possibility of applying to India the scheme of the Educational Colonies Association.

Demi-official No. 381, dated Simla, the 30th July 1913.

From—The HON'BLE MR. H. SHARP, M.A., C.I.E., Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education,

To—M. C. SETON, Esq., Secretary, Judicial and Public Department, India Office, London.

With reference to Mr. Ferrard's confidential demi-official letter No. J. and P. 4175, dated the 27th 1913, I am desired to state for the information of the Secretary of State that the Government of India have informed the Honorary Organising Secretary of the Educational Colonies and Self-Supporting Schools Association that, on the information supplied, they do not feel assured of the possibility of applying to India the scheme of the Association.

Dated the 19th August 1913.

From—J. W. PETAVEL, Honorary Organising Secretary, Educational Colonies Association.

To—The Secretary, Department of Education, Simla.

- I am in receipt of your letter demi-official 380-Edn. of the 30th ultimo which was in continuation of your demi-official 637 of the 16th October 1912.

This Association has always been of the opinion that the educational colony should be started at first as a private enterprise. I am glad to be able to say that we have so far interested Rabinerath Tagore in the idea that we are now discussing my going to India this autumn to start an educational colony on his estates in Bengal.

Lord Crewe and Lord Grey have expressed their interest in this enterprise. Lord Crewe has particularly said that he would be interested to hear what the education authorities of the Government of India have to say about it.

I shall communicate with you further when things are settled, and we shall then be able to consider to what extent if any we might have the help and co-operation of the Government of India in the matter.

J. and P. 2971.

INDIA OFFICE,
WHITEHALL, S. W.

29th August 1913.

DEAR MR. SHARP,

With reference to the correspondence ending with your demi-official No. 381- Education, dated 30th July, I forward, for information, a copy of further correspondence between the Assistant Private Secretary to the Secretary of State and Captain J. W. Petavel, Organising Secretary of the Educational Colonies and Self-Supporting Schools Association.

Yours sincerely,

M. C. SETON, Secretary,
Judicial and Public Department.

The Joint Secretary to the Government of India,
Education Department.

EDUCATIONAL COLONIES AND SELF-SUPPORTING SCHOOLS
ASSOCIATION.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE,
ESSEX.

7th August 1913.

The Most Honourable the Marquess of Crewe, K.G., P.C., etc.
MY LORD,

I have to thank you for your letter in which you say that you would be interested to hear the views of the Indian Authorities on our educational colonies scheme.

You will be interested, then, to hear that I expect to be going to India shortly to start an educational colony in co-operation with Rabinerath Tagore (the great poet and educationalist). I may be starting in a very few weeks, and

You will see from the margin of this paper that I am convincing an increasing number of people at home as well as in India of the great hopefulness of the plan. That is my excuse for troubling you and for asking for a moment of your time.

J. and P. 4175.

INDIA OFFICE,
14th August 1913.

DEAR SIR,

I am desired by Lord Crewe to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th August.

His Lordship notes that it is your intention to visit India with a view to the formation of an educational colony. As regards your suggestion that you should see him before your departure, he still thinks that such an interview would not serve any useful purpose before you have brought your definite proposals to the notice of the authorities in India, as you will have an opportunity of doing on your arrival. Lord Crewe feels that this plan will be the most conducive to the success of the experiment, the result of which he will await with interest.

Yours, etc.,

Captain J. W. Petavel.

324 DE-70-3-10-13-GCBP Simla

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated 191

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C. No. 3218, From the Govt of S., No. 542-53, dated 10-10-1913

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ORDER

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No. 99185, dated 31-10-1913

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READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED
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ENCLOSURES TO C. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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