MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

# Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 91 Pross

Dated 27 — 1857

**Not to be folded or roughly handled**

Cochin 1st March 1856.

To Thomas Clarke Esqre
Collector of Malabar
Calicut.

Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt
of your favor dated 23d Ultimo regarding the
working of Act V of 1843 in this neighbourhood
by which I presume is meant Company's
Cochin, where since my arrival in India in
1844 I never heard that slavery existed.
Many inhabitants of this place have
charge of Orphan and indigent Children who
are considered retainers of the family and
render service in after life in return for
the care taken of them in tender age, and as
no way are treated as bondsmen. on the con-
trary they find themselves in a far better
condition than their fellows who have not
been so fortunate in meeting with protectors.
One case in particular I could
adduce where a young man of this class has

Continued

conducted successfully in behalf of the widow and Children of his late Master a considerable business, receiving a proportion of the profits which are greater than he ever could have hoped to realize had he not been adopted.

There are several other instances (of men originally real slaves) now being possessed of Considerable landed & household property and comparatively in a respectable position.

The very high pay that Coolies have been earning for some time past here induced numbers of slaves to run from the Cochin & Travancore Coasts hither to hire themselves as Labourers but in no case that I ever heard of below the Market rate nor for the benefit of any one but themselves.

I have &c

(Signed) James Englebeen.

Colpetty Estate 5th March 1834.

To
T. Clarke Esqre
Collector of Matabar. Calicut.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 23d Ultimo and to acquaint you that as far as my knowledge enables me to judge, the practice of Mortgaging slaves, i.e. Covenanted Inspero and Pannies is still continued by the Natives to each other, they are not paid in money for their Labour but receive I believe so many Seers of Paddy, which is not equal in value to more than one Anna four pie, while if they worked regularly for one of the planters they usually each receive one Rupee per week. I have no doubt but that they perfectly well understand their position, and as long as their Masters have got a job for them to do they will not work for any other person until such time as that job is finished, no matter what amount of wages there might be offered

to them.

I have known instances of the Nairs getting an Advance of money from the planters 20 to 50 Rupees. According to the number of Slaves they would be able to send to work it out, a piece of the money the poor Slaves never handle but the Nair gives them the usual supply of Paddy for themselves and Families.

I have known some of them to run away from their Masters who invariably trace them and bring back again. I believe the greater number of them that were with the Nairs when first I arrived in this place, 11 Years ago, are still with them.

I have never known one of them to become a proprietor of Land or worth one Rupee.

I have &c
Signed P C Longhurst

To.

J. Clarke Esqre
Collector and Magistrate of Malabar
&c.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d Instant wherein you do me the honor to desire me to give you such information as may be in my power respecting the present state of the Slave population in Wynaad.

I have much pleasure, and always shall have, in placing the results of my observation and experience at the service of the authorities, promising thereby that I can only speak positively respecting the districts and localities actually named, I proceed to answer your queries Categorically in the order in which you have placed them.

The practice of leading Slaves for a period is continued by the proprietors

the Davala, Numbooloottah, Chanoung-
-Cottah and Neliadoin divisions of the
Wynaad Talook. In the first named
of these localities I was offered the
lease of the "Gold washing" of the dis-
-trict by the Jenoomulpad of Nellumboor
who offered to guarantee me in the lease
the services of twelve families of Slaves
who have been always and are now
included in the lease of the "washing".
This practice also obtains in the Country
about Eddakeray and Carcoor (in the
lower plains) where as in the above
named places, any person who farms
or rents land or gold washing has a
specified number of Slaves, included in
the leases, who are distinctly understood
to belong to him for the time being.
The Slaves have themselves frequently told
me that they belonged to such and
such a Nair, Chetty or Burgher, and
on enquiry I have found them to name
a middleman or Sub-tenant of one of the
extensive

freeholders, who rented land
and with it the Slaves from the
landlord.

There is I fear, no doubt, that
the wages they obtain when working
for their proprietors, or temporary pos-
-sessors, is considerably less than what
they would receive from other Masters.
I may mention as an example, that
whilst I am paying 3 annas per day
for able men and 2 as for women and
proportionately for boys, the native
proprietor adjoining is only giving
grain to the value of 1 as for men
per day and half that for women
whilst boys seek their subsistence in
the woods, and obtain much of their
food from wild fruits, yams, honey
& may perhaps mention that young birds, eggs &c. Their pittance
while badly very
few of them have
the value of Silver
Coin and many
did not even
understand
Copper money
moreover such diet is frequently
withheld on various pretexts and
I believe I am safe in stating that
much of the young population perish

ere

in Consequence, for I have found many of their diseases to be only the effect of bad and insufficient food, and to give way to a good and sufficient diet.

I feel very confident that many of them are quite unaware of their actual position as free men. I think they have an indistinct idea that they cannot be legally and openly sold and bought, they nevertheless see that the practice continues, and that redress is difficult to obtain; and perhaps even better informed, they have moreover an undefined dread of their proprietors, who still visit every desertion or disobedience with harsh treatment, and who do not scruple to threaten, and to subject them to Confinement, beating, Starvation, and even worse if they leave their employment. I may mention in illustration of this statement, that some slaves belonging to a certain at Nelialem came to work at my Estate one day, and stated they should



should always come in future, they never returned however and on enquiry elicited the fact that they had been ill treated by their proprietor for leaving him, and had been prevented coming since, and one of their number told me he did not dare to come, as he would be starved and beaten.

In reply to your fourth query I would beg to state that the strictest enquiry shows that though not always the property of the same landholder the slaves always remain part of the same property and attached to the same land, and are sold, mortgaged, leased or hired out with it, without changing their place of abode or leaving the locality where they were born. A large tract of land in Wynaad lately passed from the Sumbodaster Rajah as he is named, to the Sub-Lumbor Seevomelpad, and all the slaves changed owners with the land

and

and are living in the same place, but under the new proprietor, the same is the Case in the other districts before named, where the practice above alluded to obtains, of transferring the Slaves and their families with the land.

I Cannot ascertain a single instance of any Slave having become a proprietor of land, or cultivating it for his own sole use and benefit. They appear to be always the worthless of the Gang, Drunkard or Cripples, who do little or nothing themselves, but superintend their Gangs, and who to the utmost of their power, maintain full authority and sway over them, and in fact, treat them as part and parcel of their property.

I have always found the Slaves active and desirous to oblige, willing and hard working. It is only of late that I have been able to secure their regular

regular attendance, as directly the proprietors have found that valuable workmen have left them, they have succeeded (in the manner above related) in detaining them, and I may perhaps mention that the Constant encouragement and support which I have given to the Slaves, and my Consequent success in obtaining them as workmen, is inducing the native proprietors to do every thing in their power to annoy and oppose me, even so far as actually wishing to try and that I should be sued at Court for damages in consequence of the neglect of these Slaves by the Planting Gang of Cultivation.

I have been accompanied with four Cases of direct ill treatment of the Slaves for working for me, and I fear others have occurred which have not come to my knowledge, for having lately forwarded to the Police Master of Ireland Bay a

a particularly bad Case (wherein a Chief and six Englishers bound and severely beat four Slaves) the often perpetration of these atrocities, will probably cease, but for their effectual suppression, a more diffused and extended location of police Officers is requisite, and Must soon be invented for suggesting that these should be located at not more than ten miles apart over this little known and (by Europeans) unfrequented Country, as Relative appeals would frequently be made to them if it were not for the distance to be travelled before such protection can be gained.

In two Cases forwarded by me for Examination, I have been obliged to give the Plaintiffs an escort of Police Constables to prevent them being ill treated and brought back on the road, the delay and inconvenience which must ensue from having to send 20 miles to the nearest Police Officer, must however frequently prevent such appeals

appeals being made, and defeat the ends of justice by permitting (as lately) the escape of offenders in the meantime. In addition to the suggested increased diffusion of police, punishment of a severer nature than that now inflicted in convicted cases is imperatively required. The landholders are for the most part a wealthy class, and the payment of a fine of one or two Rupees is no punishment to them, and with all deference to the opinion which I know is not one of ordinary standard and to which I add, an attempt to uphold a system of tyranny and oppression, and cruel oppression to many to those offenced.

It is probable that opening up the several diverse and neglected means of Communication would in every way tend to destroy the existing system, not only by making the Country public and Causing it to cease to be as at present a terra incognita but also by Creating a

a demand for Labour and by the infusion of more energy and enterprise into the Character of the Slaves themselves. At the same time it must be admitted that the evil is of such deep root and of such long standing, and is moreover so Congenial to the Character and habits of the natives, that measures of no ordinary stringency are required for its Complete and effectual suppression and for the full and perfect ascendancy, throughout of the humane wishes of Government.

I have taken the Liberty of bringing forward Cases in which I have been myself Concerned in support of my statements, as they are Susceptible of proof and add therefore to the weight of such statements and are practical Illustrations of the points in question.

I have &c.

Signed. J. C. M. Lascelles

Calle Kynaad 6th March 1836

J. Clarke Esquire
Collector of Malabar
Calicut

Sir,

I duly received your Communication of the 23d ultimo, and regret I could not reply sooner.

The practice of mortgaging slaves still continues to a very great extent in this District, and the ordinary hire given for a man, his wife and family is from Rupees (30) Thirty to Rupees (40) Forty. I have seldom frequently within the past two years offered slaves at this rate. They do not I believe obtain any wages from their owners, at least in the shape of money, but are given rice and allowed a small portion of land or paddy field for themselves which together equals the wages they could obtain if working on a Coffee Estate.

I

I can't say, but I fancy not. Their
owners permit them during the period
when there is no paddy work to seek
work on the neighbouring Estates
where they obtain two and a half annas
daily. In consideration of this they
have to pay a certain sum (I think
Rs2 each man) to their owners yearly.
I think they are aware that they have the
power of leaving their owners but they
don't seem to care to do this. In cases
of bad treatment I have known them
to run away.

Only being here for a period of
two years I cannot say whether any
change of proprietor has taken place
1863 but I think I imagine not, except
by mortgage.

I have never known an instance
of slaves becoming proprietors of land,
but they sometimes cultivate land,
which is generally their Owners property
on their own account. The Shoofer
Caste

Cask fell and burn a very considerable
quantity of jungle, for the Cultivation
of Raggie.

Any further information
which I could obtain for you would
afford me much pleasure, either on this
or any other subject.

I remain &c.

Signed F. J. Ferguson

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Pamban 8th March 1864

J. Clarke Esquire
Collector of Madura.

Sir,

In reply to your Communication
of the 23rd ultimo regarding the operation
of Act V of 1863 in putting a stop to
the sale of slaves, I have the honor to
state that in my opinion men are
let out by their masters for the day
and that these men do not receive a fair
amount

amount of pay, their masters receiving it, who duly give their new a small supply of Paddy thus pocketing fully half the labourers' wages. The amount of wages paid by Coffee Planters for the new employed is the usual rate viz 2annas per diem. This amount is generally, if not in all cases, paid to the Nairs who professes to own the men. I believe that only some of the Pannians or Adyers (they being the Slave Castes in Wynaad) are aware of their right to freedom, though I believe that those who are aware of the fact prefer remaining with their former proprietors to gaining an independent livelihood, as by remaining with their masters they are sure of food and Clothing throughout the year, during a part of which they are unemployed, thus enjoying (to them) great luxury of idleness.

Considering the majority of the Slaves are still with their former owners though Slave land, on good authority,

that

that some few have left Wynaad, and taken up their abode (as free men) in Coorg, where the evil influence of the Nairs cannot effect them. In Wynaad they could not find employment as free men, the Nairs, without Exception, being in league to keep up the present system of dependence or in Correct terms "Slavery".

In no instances have the Pannians or Adyers become possessed of land.

I fear that the influence of Caste is too strong to admit of the Pannians and Adyers ever being placed on an independent footing they being in such subjection to the Nairs, that they do not even dream of being any thing beyond a Slave. The principle of ambition which exists in other races, is to them a thing unknown.

I have &c.

Signed J. S. Richmond

Yellamalle 9th March 1856

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 25th Febuary 1856 No 520 I have the honor to state that I have never heard of the actual sale of persons as slaves in this part of the country. The practice of mortgaging and leasing them from their original owners is still in vogue I have good reason to believe.

The wages these people (the Pannears who are the only slaved hereabouts) receive is very small and not the half of what they might obtain - They are paid in grain, generally Paddy and get one piece of cloth each a year, they appear content with these however and prove by their appearance that they are well fed.

I believe they are the property of the same persons as before or shortly after the act of 1843 alluded to.

I never heard of or saw any property of any sort that they Considered their own. Altogether I believe the fact of their being free is not known to these people and I know that they are almost universally Considered to be the property of the Chettis in all the parts of Wynaad adjoining the Teraghories. As these Chettis are probably the persons who would be Adagherised by me have the duty of promulgating the Act, and as it is their interest to keep these people in the state they are or even, they have not been very explicit perhaps.—

I have &c.

Signed/ T. H. Godfrey Captain
Bombay Army.

T. Charles Esqre
Collector of Malabar.

Tellicherry 12th March 1856

To,

T. Clarke Esquire

Collector of Malabar

Calicut

Sir,

We have received your letter of the 23d Ultimo only on the 5th Instant and we dont fail to give you all information we are able to do.

We think that the wages of the people called Slaves (in the Nyrnaad Called Pooniyans) are certainly below the average rate of Pay; they receive usually one or two measures of Paddy, Some Bethmul and from time to time a Cloth (of the value of 1 As 8 Pie); altogether perhaps one Anna daily, where the Coolies in Estabd employ receive daily two Annas and if they work Regularly the six days in the week they receive Extra four Annas more.

We dont know, if these people are



are aware, that they are no slaves more and we dont know if any of them are living independently or have become a proprietor of Land, as we never heard about it or saw any one living so.

We had in the year 1850 for two days some Pooniyans belonging or living with a Nair, to bring wood in for our Bungalow, and we have paid to the Nair for each daily two Annas, but what he has given to his people we dont know.

This is all the information we are able to give to you regarding Slaves.

We have &c.

Signed C. E. Moulton

To

T. Clarke Esquire

Collector of Malabar

Calicut

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 522 of the 23rd February, I have now the pleasure of submitting to you a Statement

such information as I have been enabled to glean from enquiries made of disinterested persons and which are as follows.

That the practice of mortgaging the Slaves or Cherumahs does not appear to be continued, but the system of leasing them out for certain periods by their Proprietors is said to be still followed.

That the wages they obtain are much below the average rate of a daily Coolly viz 1½ or 2 annas. The Slave or Cherumah only receiving daily when employed. Two Fadanganies of Paddy valued about one anna at the present time, but this he proves receiving to quitting his former owner, by whom employment is found for him daily throughout the year. His wants are attended to and assistance given him on occasions of Marriages, Deaths &c in his family.

That the Slave or Cherumah is well aware of his position and that his former owner has no control over him.

On the Act No V of 1843 first carrying into operation many Slaves left their Masters and supported themselves by committing Thefts &c for a time, but after having expended their dishonest gains, returned to their former Masters with whom they are still disposed to remain.

I can only learn of the following instance of a Slave or Cherumah becoming possessed of Land.

Saingatooreshee Pandigan & Seboo 1st Mumbe about 20 Cawds Ground 2d Etcheran do. 20 do. do.

Vaiyunchia Mannee Talgodal Tabock Mannee and 3 others. Land to the extent of 240 Cawds. but about under a Civil Suit at Talgod. instituted against Saingatooree Pandigan by the above Mannee and others.

Trusting this information will be satisfactory. I am &c

Palghat 2d March 1856. Signed John J Towlerton

Cochin 24th March 1836

To,

Thomas Clarke Esqre

Collector

Calicut

Sir,

In reply to your inquiry dated 23rd February we hand you the originals of two letters received from our most trustworthy agents, and from our knowledge of their general character we should be disposed to believe that the reports are true - it is however a difficult matter for natives to have a perfect idea of our notions of freedom - our impression is that it is limited to a general idea that if they succeed in running away they will not be brought back, but even this limited amount of knowledge will have the effect and real emancipation will be gradually effected.

We have &c

Signed Bruce & Co

Chowghat 7th March 1836

Koyah at Chowghat states on slaves as follows.

1. That since the act V of 1843 was Circulated, there is no practice of Mortgaging, and leasing for a period is discontinued.

2. That the Slaves there are paid the same wages or hire, as other Coolies for work, the slaves would not come to work if not.

3. The slaves now well understand of their present Condition, and they do as they like and nothing to do with their proprietors.

4. Since the act No 5 of 1843 published some slaves still remain under their former proprietors through their own will - and that owing to the good Conduct of, and feeding supplied by their proprietors - other slaves go about as they like.

5. No slaves have become land proprietor of any land.

16th March 1856

Noorden

Gives the following infor-
=mations as regards the slaves.

That in Travancore the act V of 1843
is not publickly known.

But he says, that a Proclamation by
His Highness the Rajah of Travancore
was issued on the 30th Convg of 1029 and
Subsequently another Proclamation dated
12 Dhithoovanom 1030 / 24 June 1855 for bettering the condition of
the Slave population in Travancore.

That all Sircar Slaves after the date
of the Proclamation, shall be considered
free and the tax hitherto leviable on them
being thereby abolished since the publication
of which there is no selling, mortgaging,
or leasing of the Slaves practiced.

Slaves then are in the habit of working
in the Paddy Lands and they get sufficient
wages - if not they are at liberty (as they
do at present) to go and work where they
like.

Some

Some Slaves live in their former
abodes and some since the proclamation
have left to their choice.

Some Slaves have acquired property
and are become proprietors of land &c.

All the Slaves in Travancore well
know their present position - i.e. free.

Manantoddy March 27th 1856

To,

T. Clarke Esquire
Collector of Malabar

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the
23rd Ultimo the Act No V of 1843 has
not put a stop to the transfer of the
Pannier Slaves as they are still mort-
=gaged with the lands by the proprietors.

Near Manantoddy they can
obtain work in the village when not
otherwise Engaged by their owners, in
which case they get 3 pice per day

being

being one piece less than the regular wages, the Slaves are also better treated by their proprietors near Mananteddy the former being aware that if inclined they they can leave their proprietors and cannot be again received by force, many cases occur when badly treated by their masters they run away to Coorgeshere they obtain work readily and are better treated, I have known instances when their proprietors trace them out and by fair promises endeavour them to return to their work.

The Slaves receive no regular pay from the proprietor but are allowed paddy Oil Tobacco &c. according to the circumstances and means of their proprietors, proportionally less the further from Mananteddy.

Vanstans has ever come under my notice in which a Slave has become a land owner, the lands principally belonging to men of Caste they would

on

Dharwar

26

on no account sell or rent their Lands to the Slaves.

One great disadvantage under which they labour is that they have no means of making their Complaints known as they would not be allowed to do so by the Officials any Complaints must come through their Masters.

Slave Trade.

Signed J. B. Baldaeus.

Calicut, 19th May 1856

To

J. Clarke Esquire

Collector of Malabar

Sir,

I have the honor of replying to your letter of the 23d February last, in which your request information regarding the Slaves in Malabar. The practice of mortgaging and leasing for a period still prevails to an immense extent in Malabar. Within the last two years I have received letters from

Slave

Slave Owners offering me Slaves on
Mortgage- "Canum"-

I have understood that whilst the
Slave is working for his owner, he receives
a small quantity of Rice p.a for his daily
support, but that it is not equivalent
to the average rate of wages in the
District, nor so much as they would
receive were they at work for any one
they did not consider their proprietor.

I have been informed that
when the Slave Owner permits or
sends his Slaves to work for the
English Coffee Planter- that the Slave
is obliged to give a portion of his wages
to his proprietor on his return-

I have known instances of Slaves
hiding themselves in the Jungles when
they know that their Owners are expected
in the locality where they have been

at

at work for the English Coffee Planter

I have paid Slave owners in
advance for the labor of their Slaves.

The Slaves have sometimes begged
of me not to advance money to their
Owners as they then only obtained a little
gratification of it-

Instances have occurred when
the Owner of Slaves has brought
them to me in a body of 30 and
requested me to give him $ 50 and
the Slaves have promised to remain
& work the amount out.

I believe that there are cases
where people of the Slave Caste know
that they are free, but that they fear to
assert their freedom as they would
not be protected by the Native Authorities,
many of whom are Slave holders
themselves, and it would be against

their

their own interest to permit the Slave to be free.

I believe that many of them are still remaining with the same Proprietors that they were with, previous to the passing of the Act V of 1843.

One instance I know of when a few Slaves were taken before Mr Conolly by a Parsee Bhajorjee Framjee in about the year 1845, he having bought a piece of Land & 4 or 5 Slaves with it, to these he gave freedom, but what became of them I know not.

I have &c.ª
Signed/ John Wells.

Beypoor Iron Works
May 26th 1856

To,
J. Clarke Esquire
Collector of Malabar

Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge receipt

of your letter dated 23d February and 14th Instant and regret that I have not been able previously to collect information to give them reply.

At these Works we employ from 100 to 150 Cheroomen daily, who, as a general rule have employment of the rudest kind given to them, and which they do by Contract, earning thereby the average sum of 2 annas per diem. This is below what we pay our Workmen of the Mopla and Tier Castes but it is seldom that the Cheroomers are at work for the same number of hours as the Latter, who being day Labourers, work from 6 to 6 whilst the Cheroomers do not generally commence before 8 in the morning and finish at 4 P. M.

During my Journeys thro' our Jungles, I have frequently (being anxious to obtain Cheroomer labor for our Natives) questioned the Cheroomers relative to their supposed owners and

last

have nearly always been told, especially in the Sowing and harvest seasons, that they could not come as they had work to do for their Jemmys; and my impression is that they consider themselves under subjection to them and bound to Execute their orders. in fact that they unconsciously regard them in the same light as a Slave, in the ordinary acceptation of the word, looks upon his owner. I have always found a great disposition on the part of the Jemmys to endeavour to prevent their Cheroomers working for us, and this has not been a small difficulty in the way of procuring supplies, notwithstanding we have always been prepared to give the Cheroomers considerably higher wages than that which they receive (generally in the shape of rice) from their ideal owners.

The Cheroomers in the Jungles have, frequently spoken to me of their Jemmys, as the their orders were to be implicitly obeyed and in reasoning with them I have nearly always failed to convince them that they were free and independent beings entitled to choose and act for themselves.

With reference to the query in your letter whether I know of any Cheroomers who have taken land on Cannon, I have the honor to annex a list of 4 of our Contractors who hold small pieces of landed property in this immediate neighbourhood.

I have &c.

Signed/ George M. Fraser.

Local Manager.

Memo:

1. Adikary Thavamel Coonjathen, holds a paramba from Poolasherry Dewy Coony, Rair on a Cannon of 12¾ Rd.

2. Kahokaly Chathen, holds 2 parambas belonging to Katyat Govinda Menon, Cannon Rd 15¼

3. Iryen Keeren holds a paramba from Kotail Ikenathy on a Canom of Rs. 2 3/4 and a paddy field, the Jenmom property of Kiliady Sankaty Mandien on a Canom of 5 1/4 Rs.

4 Imbechathen holds 2 paramba from Karay Krishnen Nair and Iroobath Cootyan. Canom Rs. 13 and Rs. 15 1/4 respectively.

(True Copies.)

H. Robinson

Acting Collector

Ltr. to Engr. of Ft. Mifflin 26 Jan 1857
1857 Par. 39041

1856 Depart.
N°2
Inclosing from the
Collector of Malabon
dated 27 December
1856 -
N°1329.

N° 37

Copies of the
letters from the
European settlers in
Malabon regarding
the slave population
in the District -

Dft 1857
In N° 26

1856

Declaration

Etat

Of a Sale from

The Sheriff of

of Madison.

To

The Sheriff of Limestone

Greeting

Sept. 27 dec. de 1856.

Jo

Whereas on the 27th day of September A.D. 1856 at a Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions held for the County of Limestone at the Courthouse in Athens, the Commissioners Court of said County of Limestone did order that a certain Tract of Land containing Two Hundred and Fifty Acres more or less, the property of Thomas Hill, be sold to satisfy the State and County taxes due thereon for the year 1855, and whereas the said Court did appoint you to make said sale, and you have made return that you have sold said land to Thomas Hill for the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars, which sum you have paid into the County Treasury, and have taken the Treasurer's receipt therefor, and whereas you have executed bond as the law directs, and have filed the same with the Clerk of said Court, now therefore you are hereby authorized to make to the said Thomas Hill a deed to the said land, and the said deed shall be sufficient to convey to the said Thomas Hill all the right, title, interest and claim which the said Thomas Hill now has to the said land, and which the said Thomas Hill had on the 27th day of September A.D. 1856 when the said land was sold for taxes as aforesaid.

Given under my hand this 27th day of September A.D. 1856.

Jo

Clerk

Limestone Co. Ala.

Recorded

Book No 25

Calcut, 27th December 1856.
Dispd 2d January 1857.

No 132
1856.

From,

H. Robinson Esqr.
Acting Collector of Malabar

To,

T. Pycroft Esqr,
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St George.

Sir,

With reference to Extract Mins of Consultation dated 16th January 1856. No 13, I have the honor to forward a Statement containing the information required relative to the condition of the Slaves in Malabar.

2. Of a Slave population of 187758 about 118210 remain with their former proprietors 39548 or about 21 per Cent have availed themselves of the freedom secured by Act V of 1843. Thus the great bulk of the slaves of Malabar still remain with their former Masters but they as well as their Masters are, I believe, quite alive to the fact that they are at

Whether the Observations of the Municipal Commissioners should be adopted & the Collector to make them known through out the District of the Superintendent of Police should be required to furnish an explanation from the Observations Proceedings whether the information furnished by the Municipal Commissioners is correct

16/1/57 MR, HS

at liberty and the feeling has had the effect of greatly ameliorating their condition. British soil is now known to be free & hundreds of fugitive slaves from the border Territory have for years and do still seek refuge in Malabar and a very common mode of satisfying a grudge against any Native of Cheruma is to entice them away by holding out prospect of better wages. Sale & Mortgage & lease of slaves with the consequent breaking up of slave families has probably entirely ceased for the people are loath now to venture money on so uncertain transaction as the purchase or mortgage of a slave.

3. But tho aware of their position by law the Cherumars are not as a body in a condition to avail themselves of their liberty. Many causes operate with the predial slave in inducing him to cling to the Estate which his Ancestors have cultivated for generations. where stands his hut & garden & demon Temple. Poverty, ignorance, reluctance to change, uncertainty of employment & above all the fact that they are generally deeply indebted to their late owners & are entirely dependent on them for retaining their present Homes & gardens. operate to prevent their breaking off the ancient ties and degraded as they have been under an immemorial condition of slavery, many still bear servility & wrong with dull indifference but on the whole a great change has taken place & the wages & comfort are improving & independence springing up.

4. The Cherumer body constitute the only really good and certain body of agricultural labourers. The landed proprietor knows his worth as such & he is forced as the condition of the labouring population improves to meet his Cherumers increasing demand. Public works and Coffee plantation in Wynaad &c are exercising an important

important influence on wages in Malabar and the general rise ads on the condition of the Cherumar. It is commen to hear the ex-clamation "the slaves are become the masters"

5 The social condition of the Cherumar of Malabar & caste prejudices of the people of Malabar will for long stand much in the way of the improvement of the Cherumar condition. The ceremonial taint (uncleanness) of the Cherumar is such that he cannot approach within 30 yards of a man of caste or approach a house without conveying a taint which puts those affected to the trouble & expense to purifying. They have been turned off the public road wherever it is possible & caste bodies often object even on Public Works to labor in the same gang with cherumars. The objection is now always overcome by the determination of the European Officers to put down such opposition. Time and the diffusion

diffusion of intelligence among the higher classes only will ameliorate the Cherumar condition in this respect.

6. In the mean time the roads are kept free to them. They are allowed to enter every Public office in the country Education has been attempted among them, and every expedient that British abhorrence of slavery can compass to raise the degraded class is resorted to. My impression is that within our generation slavery will have ceased to exist practically.

7 1012 Slaves have valuable liens of 121 pieces of Parry lands. 400 small compounds to the value of about 5,600 Rs & paying a land tax of 360 Rs. 13 only are actual proprietors in fee simple.

8. 1066 cases of violence of Masters towards slaves have been tried, but these do not include the cases in which applic-ation is made to the Magistracy by fugitive slaves to support them in their

assertion

asserted liberty when this has been threaten-
ed by the slaves former owner. in such
cases it is usual to send for the owner
& in the presence of the slave point out
to him that the law recognizes no right
over the person of the slave, and that con-
=tinuance in a course likely to lead to
breach of the peace will force the Ma-
gistrate to require security from him.
otherwise the Petition is endorsed to the
Head of Police or Cutcherry requiring them
to prevent any interference with the liber-
of the Petitioner. These measures generally
have the required effect.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obdt Servant.

J Robertson
Acting Collector.

To,
J Sycroft Esqre,
Chief Secretary to Govt,
Fort St George.

P. S.

In connection with this subject I beg
to append a copy of the Communications received
from the European Settlers in the District, to
which I have attached a few hand notes in the
Margin.

J Robertson
Acting Collector

Magistrates Courthouse
Hampstone 4 October 1856.

147.

From
The Police Magistrate
Hampstone Town
To
The Clerk of the Peace for the County of Lowerwood
Sir,

I have the honor to forward the Sessions
Recognizances forfeited during the quarter ended
this present Michaelmas Sessions
from 10th to 18th.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient
Servant
[illegible]
Magistrate

P.C. 22 Jan. 1856 - Ist Sess
Edward Wilcox Recognizance 10/-
Wm. Hall Recognizance 10/-
Thos. Hall Recognizance 10/-
Sarah Wife of Wm. Hall Recognizance 10/-
for 1857
Dam. 3s 0d
Paid to Mr. Robinson Attorney
PD.

Mr. Wm. Hall - Recognizance to appear
at Quarter Sessions
Amount £1 0s 0d
1/-

Mr. Thos. Hall - Recognizance to appear
at Quarter Sessions
Amount £1 0s 0d
1/-

Mr. Wm. Hall - Recognizance to appear
at Quarter Sessions
Amount £1 0s 0d
1/-

Mrs. Sarah Hall - Recognizance to appear
at Quarter Sessions
Amount £1 0s 0d
1/-

30.

C. 12 Jan. 1857
R 19 -
C 17 -
D 29 -

No 1038.

Cantonment Ordnance Office
Bangalore, 12th October
1852

From

Lt. A. Fisher Esqr
Officiating Commy.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Orders from Head Quarters Madras dated 23rd August last directing the expenditure of Government Buildings

2. The amount of Estimate now submitted being the first and indispensable outlay required to render habitable the Barracks for the Regiment of Cavalry

3. The amount of these Estimates

have left their Masters since the passing of Act 1st of 1843, and a List of Applications of the Cash, showing the amount of Pay and Prize Money due thereon.

4. To Order that the Chief Constables transmit Quarterly Returns of the Police Establishment and Strength of their respective Districts, and of the Expenditure of the Police Rate, and that the Returns be laid before the Justices at the Quarter Sessions.

5. That the Justices at the Quarter Sessions may order the Chief Constable to be called to account for the Conduct of any Police Officer, and may suspend or dismiss him from his Office.

6. That the Chief Constable may be required to attend the Meetings of the Justices at the Quarter Sessions, and to report to them the Number of Complaints brought before him by Police, since the last Meeting of the Justices, and the Information required for the said Returns will be furnished without Delay, but the Justices shall not be bound to act thereon.

Constables do not specify the Period for which their Accounts are to be rendered, nor for the Pay may be drawn during Suspension. During the Period, charges of Misconduct are frequently not proven against Police Officers, and

6. That Police are not removable at the Pleasure of the Watch Committee, but only upon Conviction of Misconduct before a Magistrate, and that the Chief Constable may be required to attend the Meetings of the Justices at the Quarter Sessions, and to report to them the Number of Complaints brought before him by Police, since the last Meeting of the Justices, and the Information required for the said Returns will be furnished without Delay, but the Justices shall not be bound to act thereon.

Statement shewing the Number of Complaints of ill-usage received from the Native Population in Canara from 1844 to 1853.

| Talooks | Year 1844 | 1845 | 1846 | 1847 | 1848 | 1849 | 1850 | 1851 | 1852 | 1853 | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number of Cases. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mangalore | 1. | 2. | . | . | . | . | 2. | 6. | 2. | 1. | 14. | This does not include the Sahibagar division prepared by the Police reports of Head office having been sent under Warrant. |
| Be Rul | . | . | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. | 2. | 9. | |
| Bantwal | 7. | 7 | 5 | 4 | 8. | 4 | 3. | 3. | 6. | 6 | 53. | |
| Poston | 3. | . | 2. | 4 | 3. | . | . | . | 1. | . | 13. | |
| Padipy | 2. | . | . | 1 | . | . | 1. | 1. | 1 | . | 6. | |
| Bareom | . | 1. | 1 | 2 | 1 | . | . | . | . | . | 5. | |
| Candapoor | 8. | 3. | 2. | 2. | 4 | 6. | 5. | . | 4 | 5. | 39. | This is only for Sahibdaga division the records of the Basrcar having been lost by fire. |
| Honore | . | . | . | . | . | 1 | . | . | . | . | 1. | |
| Ankola | 1. | . | 1 | 3. | . | . | 2. | 4 | . | 2. | 13. | |
| Soopah | " | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | " | |
| Sondah | " | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | " | |
| Bilghi | " | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | " | |
| Total | 22. | 13. | 12. | 17. | 17. | 12. | 14. | 16. | 15. | 16 | 153. | |

Decided by District Police 149
" Magistracy 4
153

Mangalore
1st Feb 1856.

M. Linton
Magistrate.

Statement Showing the Revenue Population of the District of Canara.—

| Talooks. | Hindoos | Christians | Mahomedans | Jains | Brahmins | Other Castes | Total Amount of Revenue | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | Rup. | |
| Mangalore | 12,115 | 5368 | 6,247 | 8. | 7. | 6. 15. 11. | " | |
| Barkul | 15,316. | 1070. | 14,246. | 535. | 16. | 13. 12. 9. | 1. | |
| Buntwall | 19,191. | 111. | 19,080. | 520. | 1. | 1. 13 7. | 18. | |
| Poolour | 13,868. | 640. | 13,228. | 638. | 4. | 26. 8. " | 5. | |
| Oodipy | 9,681. | 2,257. | 7,150. | 551. | 12. | 11. 1. 7. | " | |
| Barcoor | 12,272. | 790. | 11,482. | 410. | 2. | " 12. 4. | " | |
| Coondapoor | 12,068. | 564. | 11,504. | 1,372. | 1. | 11. " " | " | |
| Honore | 6,747. | 2,868. | 3,879. | 2,121. | 16. | 36. 13. 3. | " | |
| Ankola | 4,169. | 1,401. | 2,768. | 588. | 4. | 39. 7. 10. | 4. | |
| Soonda | 2,689. | 3533. | 156. | - | 142. | 622 2. 10. | " | |
| Sundah | 6,470. | 4,231. | 2,239. | 366. | 7. | 36. 4. 1. | " | |
| Bilghi | 6,703. | 1,597. | 5,103. | 550 | 25. | 351. " " | " | |
| Total. | 122,096. | 24,924. | 97,082. | 7,661. | 237. | 1,157. 12 2. | 28. | Police-24 Burgher-6 Christ-1 33 |

Collectors Cutcherry,
Mangalore,
1st September, 1856.

H. Forbes
Collector

Copy 1856
Encl 5A

Colonial Office [illegible]

To Sir Henry G. Ward K.C.M.G. &c &c &c

To Sir Henry G. Ward K.C.M.G. &c &c &c

Sir

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has transmitted to me a Despatch from Your Excellency No 38 of the 27th ultimo, enclosing a Petition addressed to the Queen by the Chamber of Commerce of Port Louis praying that Orders may be given for the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the Sanitary condition of Port Louis and to report on the best means of improving it.

I am to request that you will cause the Petition to be laid before the Council of Government, and that you will inform me what steps you propose to take in the matter.

I have &c

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

Henry Labouchere

Downing Street 1st April 1858

Col. Sec. Mauritius

Encl. 1

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No 38 of the 27th ultimo, enclosing a Petition addressed to the Queen by the Chamber of Commerce of Port Louis praying that Orders may be given for the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the Sanitary condition of Port Louis and to report on the best means of improving it.

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I have &c

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

Henry Labouchere

Downing Street 1st April 1858

Col. Sec. Mauritius

Encl. 1

In a letter from the Solicitor of Customs dated 1st September 1856

No 38.

L. L. Esq 7 April 1858

1858 Dept

1857 Paras 3904

1858 D

In 1042

From Gibraltar 7 June 6
From Cannes 25 May 6

Private letter

2 — The previous report of State Affairs had gone to show that the effect of Act V. 1843 upon the condition of The Rhenish Provinces has been as great as could have been expected — The present letter points out certain circumstances which will serve to show that this Act has not yet had its full effect — and that it may confidently be presumed that from the [illegible]

taken upon
Collector and his
subordinates within
Town Hall Rec-
tion to make them
to them perfectly their
true duties under the
Law — and to obtain
their co-operation
in by personal
communication
with them that they
understand it —
The Agency of the
European planters
settled in Malabar
might also be specia-
-lly employed for
this same purpose —
3. These remarks
apply equally to the
Town of Cannes.

Copy of Despatch
Cannes

Secretary Fort St
George to the Collector
of Madura & Commr
in the Ceded Districts
letters of Recorded above
Secretary Fort St
George to the Collector
of Madura & Commr
in the Ceded Districts
dated 1st Augt 1806
Authorizing the Collector
of Madura to Draw for
the sum specified
and that of the
Subordinate Collectors
in the Ceded Districts
to the Extent
stated

To the Magistrate of Northcote with 4 spare copies
Do Southcote " 4 do
Do Bellary " 3 do
Do Canara " 4 do
Do Chingleput " 2 do
Do Coimbatore " 3 do
Do Cuddapah " 3 do
Do Ganjam " 4 do
Do Guntoor " 2 do
Do Madura " 3 do
Do Malabar " 4 do
Do Manlipatam " 3 do
Do Nellore " 3 do
Do Rajahmundry " 3 do
Do Salem " 3 do
Do Tanjore " 4 do
Do Tinnevelly " 3 do
Do Trichinopoly " 2 do
Do Vizagapatam " 2 do
To the Agent at Ramnad " do

Dupl. for Govt

Lr. La Cruz 27th Jan. 1857 No 5 of 1857

Par. 1 Copy

Rep. to in Jud. dis. No 5 of 1858

Con

Lr. La Cruz 27th January.

Political 1857 Dispatch

No 5

Encl. Minutes Council

Dated 27th Jan.

No 1 Enclosure

Jamaica