

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

1026

G.O. No.	<u>1025</u>	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	8-10-	1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
8th October 1866.*

No. 82. Read the following letter from the Under Secretary to the Government of India, to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Simla, 12th September 1866, No. 4469.

Home Department.

With reference to the correspondence relative to the proportion of female

From Madras, No. 782, dated 25th July 1865.
To " " 8213, " 35th Oct. "
From " " 1287, " 20th Dec. "

To Secretary of State, No. 82 of 1865, dated 25th October.
From " " 4 of 1866, " 18th January.
To " " 22 of 1866, " 31st March.
From " " 59 of 1866, " 16th July and enclosure.

Emigrants to be sent to the several Colonies, French as well as British, I am directed to forward, for information and guidance, a copy of the Despatches, to and from the Secretary of State, noted in the margin.

To No. 82 of 1865.

Home Department,
Public.

THE RIGHT HONORABLE SIR C. WOOD, BART, & C. S.,
Secretary of State for India.

SIR,

We have the honor to transmit, for your information, a copy of the correspondence noted in

From Government of Fort Saint George, No. 782, dated 25th July 1865, and enclosures.
To Government of Fort Saint George, No. 8213, dated 25th October.
To Government of Bengal, No. 3124, dated 25th October.

the margin, relative to the proportion of females to be sent to the several Colonies, French as well as British, to which emigration is allowed. We shall be obliged if, after consulting the correspondence herewith sent, you will favor us

with specific directions on the following points:—

1st.—Is a strict observance of the provisions of Article 16 of the Convention with France, embodied in Act XLVI of 1860, to be required with regard to all shipments of Emigrants, being British subjects, from English and French Ports alike?

2nd.—Are the several periods specified in Article 16 to be reckoned, in the case of the Island of Réunion, from the date of the passing of Act XLVI of 1860, and, in the case of the other Colonies, from the 1st of July 1862 (see the revised Article 26, as given in Act VII of 1863), or are any other dates to be taken?

SIMLA, 25th October 1865.

We have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN LAWRENCE
(") W. GREY
(") W. H. MASSEY
(") H. M. DURAND

From the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council; dated India Office, London, 14th January 1866, No. 4.

I have considered in Council your letter, dated 25th October (No. 82) 1865, and, in reply to the inquiries therein made, I have to state:—

1st.—That a strict observance of the provisions of Article 16 of the Convention with France of July 1860 is to be required, with regard to all shipments of Emigrants, being British subjects, from English and from French Ports alike.

2nd.—That the several periods specified in Article 16, are to be reckoned, in the case of the Island of Réunion, from the date of the passing of Act XLVI of 1860, and in the case of the other Colonies, from 1st July 1862.

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No. 22 of 1866.

Home Department, Public.

To

THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE EARL DE GREY AND RIPON,
Secretary of State for India.

MY LORD,

Referring to the Despatches noted on the margin, we have the honor to transmit copies of

To Secretary of State, No. 82, dated 25th October 1865.
From " " No. 4, " 16th January 1866.

* From Madras, No. 1287, dated 20th December 1865, and enclosure.
From Bengal, No 611, dated 1st February 1866, and enclosures.

two communications* which we have received from the Governments of Fort Saint George and Bengal, respecting the proportion of females to be sent to the several Colonies, French as well as British, to which emigration is allowed.

2. The normal minimum proportion of females to males for the British Colonies is 50 per

Public.—From Court of Directors, No. 35 of 1856, dated 30th April.
" " " 77 of 1856, " 6th August
" " Secretary of State " 75 of 1860, " 31st May.
" " " 149 of 1860, " 24th November.
" " " 167 of 1860, " 22nd December.

cent.; but, with reference to the rule prescribed for the French Colonies (shown in the following paragraph), Her Majesty's Government has sanctioned the assimilation of the relative

proportion of male and female Emigrants to the former Colonies, to that which obtains in the case of emigration to the latter.

3. By Article XVI of the French Convention, embodied in Act XLVI of 1860, the proportion of women is *one-fourth* for the first three years, *one-third* till the end of the fifth year, *one-half* till the end of the seventh year, and after that, the proportion shall be the same as may be fixed, for the British Colonies.

4. These periods are to be reckoned, according to the instructions conveyed in Sir Charles Wood's Despatch of the 16th January last, No. 4, in the case of the Island of Réunion, from the date of the passing of Act XLVI of 1860, namely, the 6th October 1860, and, in the case of the other Colonies, from the 1st July 1862.

5. Under the strict operation of these rules, the proportion of women to be despatched now, and from the 1st July 1867, respectively, to the French Colonies, ought to be as follows :—

Date.	To Réunion.	To other Colonies.
Now...	One-half...	One-third.
From 1st July 1867...	One-half	One-half.

6. The proposals submitted in the communications which we enclose are to the following effect :—The Protector of Emigrants at Madras suggests (the Government of Fort Saint George concurring) that a *fixed* proportion of 35 per cent. of female to male Emigrants should be enforced, and the present *increasing* proportion abolished. The Lieutenant Governor of Bengal and the Medical Superintendent of Emigrants at Calcutta, on the other hand, are not prepared to advocate any increase in the present minimum of 25 per cent.; while the Protector of Emigrants considers that the proportion of females for all the Colonies should be fixed at the minimum standard of 25 per cent., with a discretionary power to the Protector to vary that standard.

7. In submitting these proposals to you, we beg to observe that the question of the proportion of women to be sent is one that concerns the Colonies to which the Emigrants go. We, therefore, suggest that the letters from the Madras and Bengal Governments may be communicated to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, with a view to his considering whether any

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modification of the existing orders, regulating the proportion of women to be sent, can be authorized.

FORT WILLIAM,
31st March 1866.

We have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN LAWRENCE.
(") H. S. MAINE.
(") W. GREY.
(") G. N. TAYLOR.
(") W. N. MASSEY.

From the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council; dated India Office, London, 16th July 1866, No. 59.

Your letter, dated 31st March (No. 22) 1866, on the subject of the proportion of female to male Emigrants to be sent from India to the several Colonies, was communicated to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies,

Dated 21st June 1866, and enclosure.

and I forward, for your information, a copy of the reply which has been received from that Department.

2. You will observe that it is proposed to establish 33 per cent., or 50 females to every 100 male Emigrants, as the fixed proportion to be hereafter observed. My predecessor having expressed his concurrence in this arrangement, I have to request that you will make the requisite communication on the subject to the several Subordinate Governments.

From the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, to the Under Secretary of State for India; dated Downing Street, 21st June 1866.

With reference to your letter of 28th ultimo, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Cardwell, to transmit to you, to be laid before Earl de Grey, the copy of a report from the Chairman of the Board of Emigration, on the subject of the

11th June 1866.

proportion of women to accompany male Emigrants from India in future years.

2. With Lord de Grey's concurrence, Mr. Cardwell proposes to inform the Governors of the Colonies which receive coolies, that he agrees in the views expressed by Mr. Murdoch as to the proportion to be observed.

From T. W. C. MURDOCH, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Emigration, to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies; dated 11th June 1866.

I have to acknowledge your letter of 2nd instant, with one from the India Office, on the subject of the proportion of women to accompany male Emigrants from India in future years.

Dated 28th May.

2. By the Convention with the French Government in 1860, it was agreed that the proportion of women included in the emigration to the French Colonies should be, for the first three years, one-fourth of the number of men; for the next two years, one-third; and after that period, one-half. By subsequent instructions, the same rule was applied to British Colonies. The time has now arrived when, in compliance with the above agreement, the proportion of women sent to the French Colonies should be raised to—

Réunion, one-half.

Other Colonies, one-third.

But the Governments of Madras and Bengal express doubts as to the expediency of carrying out the agreement, and Lord de Grey desires Mr. Cardwell's opinion on the question. The Government of Madras recommend that a proportion of 35 women to every 100 men should be fixed as the permanent proportion; while the Government of Bengal are not prepared to advocate any increase of the minimum of 25 women to every 100 emigrants. On the one hand, as Negro women in the Colonies are found to form connections with Indians, a small proportion of women in the emigration leads to crimes among the Indians shocking to humanity. On the other hand,

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so great is the difficulty of obtaining female Emigrants in India, that the Agents, if required to send a large proportion, must either limit the number of male Emigrants, or must be satisfied with an inferior class of women. But experience appears to show that to send a low class of women leads to licentious habits, and crimes of violence among the men, and it can hardly fail to increase the reluctance of a more respectable class to emigrate. Upon this point, I would venture to refer to the report which I had the honor to send to Mr. Cardwell on 29th December 1864.

4. Nor is it on this ground only that an increase in the proportion of women has been deprecated by the authorities in India. If a large proportion of women is insisted on, not only is the class deteriorated, but it becomes almost impossible to make a good selection of families, with reference to sanitary considerations. Women must be taken, as in last season, with a number of young children; and a number of young children on board ship is invariably attended with sickness. So indisputable is this result, that Dr. Mount, in his report of May 1858, on the mortality in Emigrant ships, recommended, as one means of diminishing that mortality, a reduction in the proportion of women and children to 25 per cent.

5. The proportion of women sent to Mauritius and the West Indies during the last seven years, has varied—in Mauritius from 46 to 101 in 1860, to 33 to 100 in 1862; in the West Indies from 18 to 100 in 1860-61, to 25 to 100 in 1863-64. The proposal of the Madras Government is, as I have said, to fix the proportion permanently at 35 per cent., which would be equal to 5381 women for every 100 men. On the other hand, the authorities in Bengal, from which the great bulk of the Indian emigration, deem a large proportion of the emigrant population, which is 25 per cent., or 33 women for every 100 men. This equality of past year and how it appears to show that a proportion of 33 per cent., or 59 women for every 100 men, might be obtained without any excessive difficulty, and without compelling resort to a very low class of women.

I would, therefore, submit that, for the reasons above stated, and the fact that there is no necessity for any promise that the proportion shall not be increased hereafter, if circumstances would admit of an increase, without injury to the emigration.

6. I observe from the papers that some consideration has been given in India, from the calculation of the proportion of men and women by percentages. It is, of course, desirable to prevent this, and I have, therefore, in the preceding suggestions stated the proportions in actual numbers, rather than in percentages.

No. 83. ORDER THEREON, 8th October 1866, No. 1025.

Ordered that copies of the foregoing letter, and of its enclosures, be forwarded to His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India, also, to the Protector of Emigrants, for communication to the several British Consular Agents, and, likewise, to the Emigration Agents for the Mauritius and Natal Governments.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

No. 84. To His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India, dated Fort Saint George, 8th October 1866, No. 1026.

In the absence of Lord Napier from Madras, I have the honor to forward, for your Excellency's information, the accompanying copies of a letter from the Government of India and of its enclosure, respecting the proportion of female to male Emigrants to be sent from India to the several Colonies, French as well as British, to which emigration is allowed.

Accept, Sir, &c.,
(Signed) H. D. PHILLIPS.

Edw J H Burns

Public

No. 1026.

His Excellency M. C. Pontemps

Governor of the French Settlements in India

Sir, I have the honor to forward

to you, for your Excellency's information,

the accompanying copies of a letter

from the Government of India

of its enclosures, respecting the

proportion of female to male

emigrants, to be sent from India

to the several Colonies, French as well as

British, to which emigration is

allowed.

(Signed) H. D. Phillips

Sir.

For St. George
8th Oct 1866

W.D.

Public Robb Department

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to the Secretary

the Treasury

French & McDonald
in India

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