

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1036	Press ~~Mis.~~
(171-172)		
Dated	22-8-	1967.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
22nd August 1867.

Read the following :—

No. 171. Despatch 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 June 1867, No. 72.

With reference to Sir Charles Wood's Despatch of the 24th of March 1864, No. 34, I forward herewith a copy of a Despatch* from the Governor of Ceylon, which has been transmitted to

* 6th March 1867, No. 57.

this Department from the Colonial Office, reporting upon the condition of Indian laborers employed on the plantations in Ceylon.

Despatch from Sir H. G. R. ROBINSON, Governor of Ceylon, to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies ; dated Ceylon, 6th March 1867, No. 57.

Miscellaneous.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Secretary Cardwell's Despatch, No. 101, of the 23rd March last, transmitting a copy of a letter from the India Office, on the subject of the Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, entitled " An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to servants, laborers, &c., " and calling, as suggested by the Secretary of State for India, for half-yearly reports on the condition of Indian laborers employed on the plantations in Ceylon.

I now beg to submit such information on the points referred to in that Despatch, as it has been in my power to obtain.

Number.—The number of immigrant coolies employed at the end of the past half-year upon the estates in the various districts of the Colony was, as nearly as can be ascertained, 105,000.

These men, after working for one or two years in Ceylon, generally return to their country, with the savings of their wages, after the coffee crop is gathered, and come back to Ceylon before the next crop is ripe, so that they are constantly going over to, and returning from, India. In various parts of the Island, however, many, who originally came over to work on the estates, have become settlers and have acquired landed property.

The following is a Statement of the arrivals and departures during the half-years ended the 30th June and the 31st December 1866 :—

First half-year.		Second half-year.		Total.	
Arrivals.	Departures.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Arrivals.	Departures.
48,315	39,543	40,213	9,686	88,528	49,229

Births and Deaths.—The number of births and deaths it has been impossible to ascertain with any degree of accuracy : but in those districts where information on this point has been obtained, it would appear that the average number of births is about 2 per cent., and that of deaths very nearly the same.

Wages.—Adult males earn from 7*d.* to 9*d.* a day, the amount varying in different districts. Female laborers and boys are paid at rates ranging from 4½*d.* to 7*d.*

Number of working days.—On an average each laborer works for five days during the week.

Complaints.—The most frequent causes of complaints by managers of estates are desertion, and coffee-stealing ; and, on the other hand, complaints are occasionally made of harsh treatment of coolies by their masters ; but such cases are rare. On the whole, the relation between the employer and the employed may be considered very satisfactory.

Public.

No. 72.

INDIA OFFICE;

London, the 14th June 1867.

To His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council.

SIR,

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* 6th March 1867, No. 57.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE.

Miscellaneous.

No. 57.

NEWARA ELIZA;

Ceylon, the 6th March 1867.

Governor SIR H. ROBINSON, to LORD CARNARVON.

MY LORD,

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Number of working days.—On an average each laborer works for five days during the week.

1. Name of Officer
2. Date
3. Initials of Officer
M.R.O. 1-52,400-22-11-60

8.
20-28
[Signature]

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1026	Press
		Mis.
Dated	10.10.	1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

[Handwritten signature]

Complaints.—The most frequent causes of complaints by managers of estates are desertion, and coffee-stealing; and, on the other hand, complaints are occasionally made of harsh treatment of coolies by their masters; but such cases are rare. On the whole, the relation between the employer and the employed may be considered very satisfactory.

Education.—There are few, if any, schools on the estates, so that it may almost be said that immigrant coolies receive no secular instruction. In some districts clergymen and catechists are in the habit of visiting the estates, but the good result of their teaching is generally reported to be scarcely appreciable.

Condition.—As a rule, coolies have good accommodation, being housed in well built "lines," which are clean and comfortable. They are supplied with rice, which is their staple food, at a price much below the market rate; the loss on this issue of rice being borne by the proprietors.

In cases of slight sickness coolies are treated by the Superintendents of estates, who are supplied with the necessary remedies; but when seriously ill, or when accidents occur, the coolies are sent to one of the Government Civil Hospitals, where they are properly attended to at a cost of 6*d.* a-day each, which sum is paid by the owners of the estates.

The agents of the Government in the several Provinces of the Island are unanimous in reporting that it is believed that the coolies are better fed, housed, and generally better cared for here than in their own country.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) HERCULES G. R. ROBINSON.

No. 2706

Copy forwarded to the Government of *Scot. St. George* with reference to communication thence No. 734, dated 29th June 1864.

By Order, &c.,

HOME DEPARTMENT;

SIMLA,

The 26th July 1867.

Adm. Secy.
Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Pro 29th June 1864 No. 133/34

71.72

1817

*For the 1867 West
22 Aug 1867
Henderson's list of children
of the West
1867-68*

*1867
1868*

*6 years 1867
1868*

*Commons are not upon
the condition of the law
from the plantation in
22nd August 1867 No. 1036
JP Dec 1867*

West 1867

No. 1036.

FROM

J. D. SIM, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George,

TO

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.
 SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Acting Under Secretary King's letter of the 4th ultimo, No. 1760, and, with reference to the correspondence which accompanied it, to express the belief of this Government that it relates to the Photographs alluded to in the letters from this Department of the 9th and 27th September 1865, Nos. 938 and 1003. These Photographs were contained in *one* case and *two* parcels as per Bill of Lading furnished with the latter of those two letters.

2. As, however, *two* cases are said to have been shipped on board the Steamer *India* by the Superintendent of Marine, reference was made to that Officer for any explanation he might have to offer on the subject. I now forward a copy of Mr. Franklin's reply.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
 10th October 1866.

Secretary to Government.

From J. J. FRANKLIN, Esq., Superintendent of Marine, to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 29th September 1866, No. 3769.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Proceedings of Government of the 24th instant, No. 965, and to inform you that, as reported in my letter of the 23rd September 1865, No. 3369, only one case and two parcels were sent by this Department to the address of the Secretary to Government, Bombay, by the Steamer *India*, which left on the 22nd of the month.

2. The additional case may possibly have been shipped privately.

Ed. T. Cartledge.

Re 24 Sept 66 nos 134-135.
27 — /bs mis no 87-88
29 — /bs nos 54 @ 68

3
10
Sept 1866 Sept
N W
Superintendent of Marine
to
The Secretary to Government
Public Department
Fort Saint George

dated 29 Sep 1866
recd 2nd Dec

no 3769
no 1250
states that only one case and
two parcels were shipped by
this Dept on the Steamer
"India" for Bombay in Sep.
1865.

CSA
R6

97

despd 15/10

Public Department

No. 1005.
To, The Chief Secretary to the Government
of Bombay.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge
the receipt of Mr. acting Under
Secretary King's letter of the 4th
Ultimo No. 1760, and, with refer-
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the Superintendent of Marine,
reference

J. J.

W. M.

reference was made to that
officer for any ~~ex~~planation
he might have to offer on
the subject. I now forward
a Copy of Mr. Franklin's re-
-ply -

Lord Albemarle }
1791

Article 1066. Separate.

c. 14. 1838.

20
27
in Charge of the
of Bonnet

Article 1066. Separate.