

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Lulie DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	567	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	6-6-	1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

25/11/80
[Signature]

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
6th June 1866.

Read the following papers :—

No. 34. From H. BURTON, Esq., Mauritius Emigration Agent, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 19th May 1866.

I have the honor to forward the enclosed correspondence, regarding the large percentage of females received from the Northern Districts, viz., upwards of 75 per cent. I would respectfully point out, Mr. Franklin has scarcely considered the chief point of the complaint, viz., the refusal of allowing single men to be registered, without producing a Certificate that they are unmarried. Although this is perhaps only in accordance with the rule referred to, it appears to me unnecessarily strictly so, and would respectfully submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, if some relaxation could not be suggested.

From the Mauritius Emigration Agent, Madras, to the Protector of Emigrants; dated Madras, 9th May 1866.

I have the honor to forward, for your perusal, three letters marginally noted, received from Mr. B. Rungapah, Sub-Agent, referring to the large percentage of females now received from those Districts. I also enclose copy of correspondence between the Head Assistant Collector and Mr.

17th October 1865
2nd April 1866, No. 25.
29th " " " 38.

Manley, on the same subject, I must admit that it appears to me, the Assistant Collector simply acts up to the letter of the rules alluded to, but would beg especially to call your attention to paragraphs 2 and 3 of 17th October 1865, paragraphs 1, 2, and 3, of 2nd April, and the last paragraph of the 29th April of these letters, and submit, for your consideration, whether a relaxation could be made or suggested.

2. I beg also to enclose copy of a set of Rules, framed by the Mauritius Government, for the purpose of enabling emigrants to send remittances to their friends, and may also add, I have pointed out the necessity of Rules 8 and 9 being altered, to enable the money to be paid in the interior through the different Treasuries, as already sanctioned by the Local Government.

Extract of a letter from Mr. W. MANLEY, Travelling Emigration Inspector, Vizagapatam, to the Mauritius Emigration Agent, Madras; dated 17th October 1865.

Paragraph 2. On the 25th September, I addressed a letter to that gentleman, requesting to be favored with a copy of the decision of the Collector of Ganjam, relative to adult male emigrants, if married, proposing to emigrate, unaccompanied by their wives, and lads under 18 years of age who may be brought to him for registration, a request which was complied with, and I herewith enclose the copy of the same, for your information.

3. I informed you that recruitment was going on in Berhampore yesterday. Mr. Rungapah received a telegram from our Goomastah at that place, which he has this day forwarded to you.

4. Unless these requirements of the Senior Assistant Collector be over-ruled, our recruitment in Berhampore must be abandoned altogether.

5. I ought also to mention that, on the occasion of my bringing the batch of emigrants to be examined and passed by the Senior Assistant Collector, he rejected a number of youths, whom he conceived to be under 18 years of age, although they declared to him that they were destitute, having been abandoned by their relations, and were laboring for their livelihood.

6. Should the Assistant Collector's demand be insisted upon, Mr. Rungapah suggests that individuals in the same batch be called upon to declare to the fact of the emigrant under examination being unmarried or destitute, as the case may be, and I think the suggestion might be adopted, and extended also to the case of married emigrants, to ascertain if their wives are consenting parties.

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Telegram from M. SOONDIAH, Berhampore, to RUNGAPAH NAYADU, Vizagapatam.
15 Emigrants registered 14th. Several are to be registered whom Senior Assistant refused to register, requiring the married to produce their wives, and unmarried to produce certificate to that effect from the Village Magistrate.

Both are very difficult. Answer by telegram. Money wanted. 16th-1-25 P. M.

From G. THORNHILL, Esq., Acting Collector, Ganjam, to A. J. STUART, Esq., Acting Assistant Collector, Berhampore; dated Chettpore, 23rd September 1865.

In reply to the Queries put in your letter, No. 48, of the 19th instant, I have the honor to forward an extract from the Emigration rules for your guidance.

2. The enclosure of your letter is herewith returned.

3. With respect to your first query, I think you should decline to pass any man leaving his wife and family behind, without first satisfying yourself that they are consenting parties.

4. You are also right in refusing to pass any emigrant under 18 years of age, unless accompanied by some relative of mature age.

Rule IV. Recruiters are to be specially careful not to entertain people, male or female, as emigrants, who may be improperly abandoning their families, nor to allow young persons under 18 years of age to join their bands, without being accompanied by some relative of mature age.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. J. STUART,

Acting Assistant Collector.

To the Travelling Inspector, Mauritius Emigration Agency, Berhampore.

Extract of letters, received from Mr. B. RUNGAPAH, Sub-Agent, Vizagapatam, to H. BURTON, Esq., Mauritius Emigration Agent, Madras, dated respectively, 17th October 1865, 2nd April 1866, No. 25, and 29th April 1866, No. 38.

No.—

With regard to bachelors being required to produce Certificates from their Village Magistrates, I believe, in my humble opinion, it will be hard matter, as I am confident that a Village Magistrate, having a great deal of his own business in visiting the several villages under his management, will not be in one place, on any particular day, to inspect and give them the requisite Certificates. If all this time the Recruiter is to wait, he will not be able to go his rounds for collection; besides which, a cooly being 20 miles away from his place of residence, in a District under the jurisdiction of another Collector, earning his livelihood and anxious there to emigrate, if he is required to return to his own Native village, to procure the necessary Certificate, the Recruiter having a batch with him, will not follow one individual, leaving the others, nor is he allowed to proceed to another District for recruiting. Even in his own District, he will not be able to leave his batch, or taking them with him, expending money merely for the sake of one individual. If this rule is insisted on, it will be a great impediment in the way of free emigration, and I believe, in my humble opinion, it will be enough if one or two of a single one's batch attest to his being unmarried, will suffice to pass such individual. I therefore respectfully beg to submit this for your consideration, in order that a relaxation may be allowed, if any rules exist on the matter, as I am informed that out of about 30 emigrants collected at Berhampore the half only has been passed.

I further beg to bring to your kind notice that the male inhabitants of the Ganjam District, commencing from Berhampore upwards, are prohibited by their Native customs, to take their females along with them; these individuals are known to proceed to great distances for work, always leaving their families behind. Many, in like manner, have proceeded in 1858, 1859, to Mauritius. Should they take their females (of whatever caste), they are immediately looked upon as outcasts; this also, I beg, will be taken into consideration.

No. 25.

With reference to your telegram message received under date the 22nd ultimo, directing me to avoid sending a large number of females, I respectfully beg to state, in reply, that I find it impossible to reduce their number, unless a representation is made to the Supreme Government, and a

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6th June 1866.*

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modification obtained of Rule No. III inserted in the Notification of the Governor General bearing Number 475, published on the 13th May last, which prohibits the entertainment of male or female emigrants, unless accompanied by their families; the several Magistrates who pass our emigrants being very particular in enforcing its strict observance, in consequence of which I am now obliged to reject all male emigrants who are daily brought to me unaccompanied by their wives and children, and if a male emigrant is accompanied by his wife, it is very often the case that she is followed by some other female relatives. Very often a woman whose husband is in Mauritius seeks admission to be enabled to proceed to him, and who I cannot conscientiously refuse to admit. Should I decline, it would at once throw a suspicion on their weak minds, which would cause a great injury to our emigration; but when such a woman is admitted, she generally has other females accompanying her.

2. The words "not to entertain people", males or females, who may be improperly abandoning their families, laid down in the above said Rule, means, as far as I can comprehend, that either the wife or husband must attest before the Magistrate that he or she is going with the consent of the other party, but I am sure that it will be a difficult matter to procure the attendance of the females to give their consent, in behalf of their husbands or other male relatives emigrating, as it is generally believed by the natives that the obtaining of a female's consent towards the male's transactions is disgraceful to their character—more so, in such a case. I would therefore propose that the male emigrants of mature age be allowed to emigrate with or without their families.

3. I further beg to observe that, for the above cause, many male emigrants from the District of Ganjam, who are prohibited, by their native customs, to take their females along with them, are going to Calcutta, on pretext of seeking employment, and emigrate direct from that place, knowing that, being far away from their own country, they cannot be forced to take their wives with them.

4. I respectfully beg to call your attention to my letter, transmitted under, date the 17th October last, regarding the refusal of the Collector of Ganjam to pass such individuals unless accompanied by their wives.

No. 38.

I now respectfully beg to inform you that two batches of emigrants were examined on the 19th instant, in which there were two individuals, one a native of this place, about 35 years of age, and another of Kistna District, 30 years of age—the latter had left his wife about two years ago, and was earning his livelihood in this part of the country since that time; the former's wife left him a year ago, and is earning her livelihood at the upper Godavery, about two hundred and forty miles from this place—and as these two individuals did not bring their wives with them, the Collector refused to pass them, and were consequently rejected.

From the Protector of Emigrants, to the Mauritius Emigration Agent, Madras; dated Madras, 11th May 1866.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, with enclosures herewith returned.

2. You therein bring to my notice that, acting strictly upon No. 3 of the Emigration Rules, the Civil authorities in Ganjam refuse to pass any married man as an emigrant, unless accompanied by his wife, or unless he can produce satisfactory proof that he proceeds with her consent. Recruiting is said to be checked by this Regulation, which you hope may be relaxed.

3. I regret that the matter does not appear to me in the same light as to yourself. With all the precautions taken, it is well known that many men do leave their wives and families without notice, and frequently without means. It is to check this evil that the rule was introduced. If the Recruiters act honestly, I see no difficulty in their obtaining, through the headman of the Village in which an intending emigrant resides, such a document as will satisfy the District authorities that the man's wife is a consenting party. Entertaining this opinion, I cannot move the Government to make any alteration in the rule; but, of course, it is open for you to do so.

Referred to the Protector of Emigrants for his remarks.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,

25th May 1866.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,

Chief Secretary.

No. 35. From the Protector of Emigrants, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 31st May 1866, No. 84M.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the papers referred to me, under date the 25th instant, and, in returning them, to offer the following remarks:—

2. Mr. Burton, the Mauritius Emigration Agent, complains that undue impediments are placed in the way of Emigration in the Ganjam District, from the Magistrates there enforcing too strictly the provisions of No. 3 of the Emigration Rules, which requires Recruiters "to be especially careful not to entertain people, "male or female, as emigrants, who may be improperly abandoning their families." It seems that the Collector of Ganjam declines to register men who cannot produce Certificate from a Village Magistrate, either to the effect that they are not married, or, if so, that they are proceeding with the consent of their wives.

3. Mr. Burton considers that, in my reply to his application, which he appends, I have scarcely considered the chief point of complaint, namely, that of bachelors being obliged to produce certificates of their not being married. The Government will, however, perceive that the two cases, of the unmarried as well of the married, are in fact the same. If a certificate can be obtained for one, it can for the other.

4. There can be, I submit, no question about the necessity of the rule. Emigration should not offer a means for a man to abandon his family, and although many still do so, it is the duty of those Officers who are the Protectors of the Emigrants, and who have to watch over the operations of the Agents and their Subordinates, to guard against the evil to the best of their ability. It frequently occurs at Madras that I have to refuse to register a man as an emigrant from a doubt arising on this very point. The Magistrates in Ganjam are doing the same, and I presume that the rule laid down, requiring Certificates from the Village Magistrates, was considered advisable, in consequence of the evil which it is intended to check being found to be very general.

5. No. 2 of the Rules, of which copy, for ready reference, is herewith forwarded, requires a Recruiter to wear his badge on his arm when exercising his calling, so that, when entering a village, the people may know what he has come for. If he acts honestly, I see no difficulty in his obtaining some sort of document from the head-man of the village in which the intending emigrant resides, that will satisfy the passing Officer. The Sub-Agent, Mr. Rungapah, complains that this impedes his operations, because the prejudices of caste in Ganjam are opposed to the women appearing; but this hardly tallies with the admitted fact that the number of women who accompany the men from that District are too numerous. The natural inference is that, when they have a voice in the matter, they elect to proceed with their husbands, and thus an undue proportion of females, so far as the wishes of the Colonists are concerned, are despatched.

6. I should much regret to see sanctioned what I take to be the Sub-Agent's proposition, at the conclusion of the 2nd paragraph of his letter numbered 25. He there recommends that male adults be permitted to emigrate with or without their families. There is no objection now to this; but, taking the proposition with the context, wherein it is stated to be disgraceful for a woman to give consent to her husband's proceedings, it is clear he must be asking for a man to be allowed to emigrate without his wife's consent, a course which I think the Government will at once condemn.

7. The main object is to prevent this, and to prevent unmarried men, having family claims, leaving the country for a distant Colony, without the consent of those relatives who are dependent on them, or who have a right to exercise some control over their actions. The Protector at Madras and the Collectors up-country have endeavored to the best of their ability that this is not practised, and, if it is necessary to check the evil, by requiring the production of the certificate now complained of, I do not think that their proceedings should be interfered with. The Magistrates in the Southern Districts are not so strict, and probably for this reason that Madras is more accessible from them than from Ganjam. Ten or twelve days suffice for the journey from Tanjore or Trichinopoly, the Districts from which the greater portion of the southern emigrants are drawn; whereas to travel by land from Ganjam occupies from 40 to 50 days. The abandoned wives from the south frequently join their husbands at Madras and embark with them; but a deserted woman in Ganjam, whose husband has embarked in a steamer for the Presidency Depot, has no chance of overtaking him.

8. The Government will perceive by the foregoing observations that I am of opinion the Collector of Ganjam imposed the restrictions complained of advisedly. I would, however, recommend that the correspondence, including this letter, be forwarded to that Officer, with a request that he will give the matter his careful consideration, and, if possible, relax his rule only so far as he may consider safe, with reference to the protection of the class from which the emigrants are drawn.

No. 36. ORDER THEREON, 6th June 1866, No. 567.

Ordered that the foregoing letters be communicated to the Collector of Ganjam for any observations he may have to offer.

(True Extract).

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Ganjam, with copy of the Rules.

„ Protector of Emigrants.

„ Mauritius Emigration Agent.

Exd. J. H. Burns,

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Public Department

VERNMENT TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT. OFFICE MONTHLY NO. 27.

From Mr. S. S. S. S. S. To Mr. S. S. S. S. S.

By Mr. S. S. S. S. S. At Mr. S. S. S. S. S.

Private Paid

13. Emigrants registered 14th - Several are to be registered whom Senior Asst. refused to register requiring the married to produce their wives and unmarried to produce certificate to that effect from the Village Magistrate - Both are very difficult - answer by telegram - money wanted - 16th 17-25 Pm.

Sender's Signature } { Sender's Address }

RECEIVED BY _____ at _____ hrs. _____ mins. FROM _____

FORWARDED BY _____ at _____ hrs. _____ mins. TO _____

STATION FROM _____ date _____ STATION TO _____ date _____

Telegraph Office. Peon Book No. _____ Asst. in Charge.

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letters;

From the Mauritius Emigration Agent (Here entered 19th May 1866)

" Protector of Emigrants (" 21st " " ")

Order thereon 6th June 1866 No. 567.

Ordered that the foregoing letters be communicated to the Collector of Ganjam for any observations he may have to offer.

J. H.

To the Collector of Ganjam - with copy of the Rules }
" Protector of Emigrants } despatched
Mauritius Emigration Agent }

Encl. in N.3.

in N.3. Azupah's letter dated
17th October 1865

ditto June 2.

Public 1868. Department.

No. 567.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated. 6 June 1866.

Communicating to
the Collector of Garyam
for any observations he
may have to offer letters
from the Mauritius Im-
migration Agents & Protector
of Emigrants regarding
the large percentage of
female emigrants received
from the Northern Districts.