

1. Number 8
2. Date of receipt 17-10-34
3. Initials of Receiver

M.R.O. 1-32 400-22-11-30

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	29	Press
		~~Mis.~~
Dated	9-1-	1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
9th January 1867.*

No. 37. Read the following 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, 17th October 1866, No. 88.

I have considered in Council your Despatch, dated the 26th June, No. 35, of 1866, submitting certain propositions for the remittance to India of the savings of Coolies in British and Foreign Colonies.

2. I have referred the question, through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the consideration of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, and I transmit herewith, for your consideration, a copy* of their reply to the reference which was made to them, and also a copy† of the letter which I have caused to be addressed in reply to that communication to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

* Dated 19th September 1866.

† Dated 12th October 1866.

From S. WALCOTT, Esq., to Sir F. ROGERS, BART., &c., &c., &c.; dated 19th September 1866.

I have to acknowledge your letter of the 7th instant, accompanied by the copy of a letter from the India Office, with its enclosures, respecting the remittance to India of the savings of cooly laborers in the British and Foreign Colonies to which emigration has been authorized.

2. From this correspondence it appears that the Bengal Government called upon Captain Burbank, the Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta, to report upon the best means of enabling coolies in the Colonies, generally, to remit their savings to their friends in India. The Mauritius Government had already established a set of Regulations for the remittance of such savings to Calcutta, without, however, providing for their further transmission to the interior of the country. Captain Burbank's Report embraces both points, and enters fully into the question of exchanges, and the manner in which the financial arrangements between the Indian and Colonial Governments might be most advantageously carried out, and the Indian Government relieved from any losses of exchange that might arise out of these transactions. The Indian Government, however, gives up these questions of detail, and offers to remit the coolies' savings from Calcutta to the Mofussil Treasuries free of charge, provided the Colonial Governments will bear the risk of adverse exchanges between the Colonies and Calcutta, and will undertake to make the payments in Calcutta at the uniform rate of Rupees two the Dollar, or two Shillings the Rupee, according to the currency of the Colony.

3. There can, I think, be but one opinion as to the simplicity and advantage of the plan, so far as the cooly is concerned. The risk of any material loss to the remitting Colony (in some cases there would be gain) would be so inconsiderable, that it ought not to militate against its adoption. Assuming, therefore, that Lord Carnarvon will be disposed to recommend its adoption to the Governors of our cooly importing Colonies, I have ventured to prepare and submit, for his Lordship's consideration, the annexed Regulations for carrying out the scheme. These Regulations are based upon the Post Office Money Order System now in force for this country and the Colonies.

4. There are some questions of detail which I feel scarcely competent to deal with, but which I notice for the consideration of the Secretary of State for India, whose sanction to the scheme would have to be obtained previously to its adoption. I refer to the questions whether such remittances as might never be claimed should ultimately lapse to the Indian Treasury, or in what other manner they should be disposed of; and whether, in the event of any miscarriage of the advices from the Colonial Governments, or any delay in handing over to the Indian Government the amount of Colonial remittances, the Local Indian Treasuries should not honor, after a short delay,

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
9th January 1867.*

any money orders presented to them respecting the genuineness of which there may be no reasonable doubt. Instructions would also have to be given to meet cases which, it may be assumed, will sometimes arise of discrepancies between the money orders and the official advices.

5. I may observe that the scheme proposed by the Indian Government is apparently intended to apply only to the remittance of savings by coolies remaining in the Colonies. Probably, however, when it becomes generally known, coolies about to return to India may also desire to avail themselves of it. For some time past, it has been the practice for coolies, when returning from the West Indies to India, to pay their accumulated savings, before embarking, into the Colonial Treasury, whence they are remitted to the Emigration Agent in India for payment to the depositors on landing. These savings in the case of a single ship-load of Emigrants have not unfrequently amounted to several thousand pounds. It will be for the Indian and Colonial Governments to decide whether the proposed plan should be extended to the case of returning coolies.

6. Subject to these remarks, I would suggest that the plan be submitted, for consideration, to the Secretary of State for India, and to the Governors of the West India Colonies and of Natal; and, further, in order to carry out the views of the Indian Government, that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs should be requested to communicate the scheme to the Governments of France and Denmark for the purpose of ascertaining whether they will authorize its adoption in those of their Colonies in which Indian coolies may be located.

Regulations for the remittance to India of the savings of Coolies in the West Indies and other Colonies.

The amounts to be remitted to India are to be deposited in sums of not less than 10 Dollars, nor more than 100 dollars, with the Colonial Treasurer or other Officer to be named by the Colonial Government for this service.

2. Each deposit is to be accompanied by a printed form, to be obtained from such Officer, in which are to be specified the full name, age, occupation, and address of the remitter, the amount deposited, and the name, age, occupation, and address of the intended payee in India.

3. In return for the deposit, the remitter will be furnished with a money order for the amount payable by the Government in India at the Local Government Treasury nearest to the residence of the payee. The amount will invariably be computed at the rate of two Rupees per Dollar, or one Rupee for two Shillings, according to the currency of the Colony. Upon the back of each such money order, there will be printed in English, (or in the case of Foreign Colonies, both in English and in the language of the Colony,) in addition to any other information which local circumstances may render desirable, the following notice for the guidance of the remitter as well as of the payee in India :—

Notice.—This money order is issued and must be taken, subject to the following conditions:—

(1.)—The amount specified in this money order, namely, ——— Rupees, will be paid by the Indian Government, without any deduction whatsoever, to the person in whose favor it has been issued within one month after its presentation at the Local Indian Treasury situated nearest to the residence of the payee.

(2.)—Before payment of the money the payee will be required to furnish the name, address, and such other particulars relating to the remitter, as well as to himself, as may be required to satisfy the Officer paying him that he is entitled to receive the money.

(3.)—If the money order be not presented at the local Treasury in India, for payment, within 12 calendar months, from the date of its issue in the Colony, all claim to the money will be lost.

(4.)—After a money order by whomsoever presented has been once paid, neither the Colonial nor the Indian Government will be liable to any further claim in respect of it.

(5.)—It will rest with the remitter to send the money order at his own risk to the person intended to receive the amount in India, in doing which he should be careful to call the payee's attention to the above conditions.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
9th January 1867.*

4. The Colonial Government will transmit by each Mail to its Emigration Agent in India a List, in duplicate, containing the above particulars in respect of every money order issued since the despatch of the previous List.

5. On receipt of these Lists the Emigration Agent in India will, without delay, hand in one copy to the proper Officer of the Government, together with the amount of Rupees comprised in such List, taking a receipt for the same as his voucher. All particulars necessary for the payment of the money orders will then be forwarded free of charge by the Indian Government to the several local Treasuries in the interior nearest to the residencies of the payees.

From J. C. MELVILL, Esq., Under Secretary of State for India, to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies; dated India Office, 12th October 1866.

I am directed to inform you that the Secretary of State for India has considered in Council your letter of the 29th ultimo, forwarding a copy of a letter from the Emigration Commissioners of the 19th idem, on the question of the remittance to India of the savings of coolies, in connection with a despatch on the subject by the Government of India.

In reply, I am to state that Lord Cranborne is prepared to give his assent to the principle of the plan proposed in Mr. Walcott's letter, provided the Government of India do not raise any material objection to it.

With regard to the ultimate appropriation of unclaimed remittances, it appears to Lord Cranborne that, as the Government of India will ever be responsible for the money given into their custody by the coolies, any such amounts must always be retained by them until claimed, but no payment will be authorized until advice has been received from the Emigration Agent of the payment of such sums into his hands by the coolies of the Colony for which he is Agent.

No. 921.

Copy of this Despatch, and of its enclosures, forwarded to the Government of Fort Saint George, in continuation of the communication from this Office, No. 2227, dated the 26th June last.

HOME DEPARTMENT,
FORT WILLIAM,
30th November 1866.

By Order, &c.,
(Signed) A. P. HOWELL,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 38.

ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1867, No. 29.
Communicated to the Protector of Emigrants.

(True Extract.)

A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

To the Protector of Emigrants.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

India Office;
London, 17th October 1866.

Public,
No. 88.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of
India in Council.

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I have, &c.,
(Signed) CRANBORNE.

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No. 921.

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HOME DEPARTMENT,
FORT WILLIAM;
The 30th November 1866.

By Order, &c.

Arthur Mark
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No 38 Aug 1868 Nov 17-18-

hint of 220 Aug

24-11-11

Public 1868 Dec 18

From
Sunderby St Paul
and Dr. Arthur Dept
No 921

2/30 Nov
1868
587

No 16/15-

1911 1911-1912
1911 1911-1912

County of Sussex relative
to the remittance to
India of the Remuneration
of the Indian and
Foreign Colonial -

121

Postan mss

37-230

9th Dec 1868 No 29.
Communicated
The Minister of Finance

1/1

The Hon. Sec. 1868