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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1044	Press Mis.
Dated	21.7.37	19 18/2

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
21st July 1869.*

No. 146. Read the following despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in Council; dated India Office, 13th May 1869, No. 44, (Public).

With reference to the despatch of your Excellency's predecessor in Council, dated 18th June, No. 80, of 1868, relative to the wish of the Netherlands Government to enter into a convention for regulating the emigration of coolies from British India to Surinam, I forward herewith, for the information of your Lordship's Government, copy of a letter,* with accompaniments, from the Foreign Office, stating that the Netherlands Government do not wish at present to proceed with the proposed convention.

* Dated 29th April 1869.

From ARTHUR OTWAY, Esq., to the Under Secretary of State, India Office; dated Foreign Office, London, 29th April 1869.

I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acquaint you, for the information of the Duke of Argyll, that he instructed Her Majesty's Minister at the Hague to propose to the Netherlands Government the draft Convention for regulating the emigration of coolies to the Dutch colony of Surinam, in the terms approved by his Grace, as stated in your letter of the 19th ultimo. Lord Clarendon has received from Admiral Harris a despatch* in reply, of which he desires me to enclose to you a copy to be laid before the Duke of Argyll. His Grace will perceive that the Netherlands Government decline to proceed at the present moment with the negotiation of the convention.

* April 24th, 1869, No. 36.

From Admiral E. A. J. HARRIS, to the EARL OF CLARENDON, K.G., &c., &c., &c.; dated Hague, 24th April 1869, No. 36.

In obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch, No. 19, dated March 30th, I addressed, on the 5th instant, a note (copy of which I enclose) to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, transmitting at the same time two copies of the proposed draft Convention respecting the emigration of coolies to Surinam.

2. I have the honour to enclose copy of the answer from the Dutch Minister, from which it appears that his Government is not prepared to negotiate the convention until they have consulted with the authorities at Surinam and shall have endeavoured to remove some legal obstacles which present themselves.

3. I gathered from the Minister for the Colonies that these arose from a resolution passed by the Estates General subsequent to the emancipation of the slaves, to the effect that the Home Government should not become responsible for the emigration of labour to the colonies.

4. I should feel obliged by your Lordship's causing me to be supplied with a copy of Baron Bentinck's despatch, dated June 20th, 1867, alluded to in your Lordship's despatch, No. 19. The present administration appear to have had no knowledge of it.

From Admiral E. A. J. HARRIS, to His Excellency M. ROUT von LIMBURG, &c., &c., &c.; dated Hague, 5th April 1869.

I have been instructed by the Earl of Clarendon to propose to your Excellency a draft of Convention (copies of which I enclose herewith) between Her Majesty and the King of the Netherlands relative to the emigration of labourers from India to the Dutch colony of Surinam. His Lordship states that, since the receipt of Baron Bentinck's note on this subject, dated the 20th June 1867, Her Majesty's Government have been in correspondence with the Government of India with a view to meet the wishes of the Netherlands Government, and that the result has been the preparation of the enclosed draft Convention.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
21st July 1869.*

2. It is, as your Excellency will perceive, founded on the Convention between Great Britain and France of the 1st July 1861, with such alterations as are necessary to adapt it to the case of the Netherlands and to the present state of the law in India.

3. I am instructed to state that, if your Excellency is prepared to accept the draft Convention, I should be authorized to sign it here at the Hague; or, should the Netherlands Government prefer it, the Earl of Clarendon would sign it with the Netherland Minister in London.

4. Your Excellency will observe that it is proposed that the Convention shall begin to take effect on the 1st of July 1869, its duration being fixed at three years and a half.

From M. ROUT von LIMBURG, to Vice-Admiral HARRIS, &c., &c., &c.; dated La Haye, le 23me Avril 1869.

Je me suis empressé de me concerter avec mon collègue des Colonies au sujet du projet de convention que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me communiquer par votre office, en date du 5 du courant, concernant l'engagement de coolies des Indes Orientales Britanniques pour Surinam.

Le Gouvernement Néerlandais apprécie hautement les intentions bienveillantes dont le Gouvernement Britannique a fait preuve par la proposition en question; mais comme certaines stipulations du projet Britannique, telle que la nomination d'Agents du Gouvernement pour la direction du recrutement, et le paiement des frais de repatriement par l'Etat, sont contraires aux dispositions légales en vigueur à cet égard dans les Pays Bas, le Gouvernement du Roi, avant de se prononcer au sujet de la convention proposée, devra rechercher s'il y aurait moyens de la concilier avec la législation du pays. Il a cru aussi nécessaire de prendre l'avis du Gouvernement Colonial de Surinam, tant par rapport à la convention en elle même que sur la question s'il ne serait pas préférable de s'en tenir à la proposition émise par Lord Russell dans sa dépêche adressée au Baron Bentinck, en date du 3me Octobre 1862, dans laquelle le Chef du Foreign Office donnait à entendre que, d'après l'avis du Gouvernement de la Reine, une émigration vers Surinam "might be allowed to proceed on a simple understanding that it is to be subject to the regulations agreed upon, and in conformity with the rules applicable to emigration to the British Colonies." En attendant donc, M. le ministre, que je puisse avoir plus tard l'honneur de vous communiquer le résultat de l'examen auquel le Gouvernement du Roi se livre en ce moment, je profite, &c.

No. 2942.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Fort Saint George for information with reference to letter thence, No. 412, dated 4th April 1868.

(By order of the Governor General in Council).

HOME DEPARTMENT, PUBLIC,
SIMLA, 29th June 1869.

(Signed) J. GEOGHEGAN,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 147. ORDER THEREON, 21st July 1869, No. 1011.

Communicated to the Protector of Emigrants.

(True Extract).

R. A. DALYELL,
Actg. Secy. to Govt.

To the Protector of Emigrants.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Public.
No. 44.

INDIA OFFICE;
London, the 13th May 1869.

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

MY LORD,—With reference to the Despatch of your Excellency's predecessor in Council, dated 18th of June, No. 80 of 1868, relative to the wish of the Netherlands Government to enter into a Convention for regulating the emigration of coolies from British India to Surinam, I forward herewith, for the information of your Lordship's Government,

* Dated 29th April 1869. copy of a letter*, with accompaniments, from the Foreign Office, stating that the Netherlands Government do not wish, at present, to proceed with the proposed Convention.

I have the honor to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servant,

ARGYLL.

Dated Foreign Office, London, 29th April 1869.

From—ARTHUR OTWAY, Esq.,

To—The Under Secretary of State, India Office.

I AM directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acquaint you, for the information of the Duke of Argyll, that he instructed Her Majesty's Minister at the Hague to propose to the Netherlands Government the draft Convention for regulating the emigration of coolies to the Dutch Colony of Surinam, in the terms approved by his Grace, as stated in your letter of the 19th

* No. 36, April 24th, 1869. in reply, of which he desires me to inclose to you a copy to be laid before the Duke of Argyll. His Grace will perceive that the Netherlands Government decline to proceed, at the present moment, with the negotiation of the Convention.

No. 36, dated the Hague, 24th April 1869.

From—Admiral E. A. J. HARRIS,

To—The EARL of CLARENDON, K. G. &c., &c., &c.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch No. 19, dated March 30th, I addressed, on the 5th instant, a note (copy of which I enclose) to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, transmitting at the same time two copies of the proposed draft Convention respecting the emigration of coolies to Surinam.

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Dated the Hague, 5th April 1869.

From—Admiral E. A. J. HARRIS,

To—His Excellency M. ROUT VON LIMBURG, &c., &c., &c.

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Govt. of 1869, *Surinam*.

PUBLIC.

To

THE PROTECTOR OF EMIGRANTS.

Dated July, 21st.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 21st July 1869, No. 1011.

JULY.

Nos. 146-147.

Communicating papers from the Home Government, received through the Government of India, stating that the Netherlands Government do not wish at present to enter into a convention for the emigration of coolies from British India to Surinam.

Government of India with a view to meet the wishes of the Netherlands Government, and that the result has been the preparation of the enclosed draft Convention.

It is, as your Excellency will perceive, founded on the Convention between Great Britain and France of the 1st July 1861, with such alterations as are necessary to adapt it to the case of the Netherlands, and to the present state of the law in India.

I am instructed to state that if your Excellency is prepared to accept the draft Convention, I should be authorized to sign it here at the Hague; or, should the Netherlands Government prefer it, the Earl of Clarendon would sign it with the Netherland Minister in London.

Your Excellency will observe that it is proposed that the Convention shall begin to take effect on the 1st of July 1869, its duration being fixed at three years and a half.

From—M. RUT VON LIMBURG,

TO—VICE ADMIRAL HARRIS, &c., &c., &c.

Je me suis empressé de me concerter avec mon collègue des Colonies au sujet du projet de convention que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de me communiquer par votre office, en date du 5 du courant, concernant l'engagement de coolies des Indes Orientales Britanniques pour Surinam.

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La Haye, le 23me Avril 1869.

No.

Copy forwarded to the Government of *Fort St. George* for information,
with reference to letter thence No. *442* of *14th April 1868*.

By Order of the Governor General in Council,

HOME DEPARTMENT,

PUBLIC;

Simla, the 29 June 1869.

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Communicated to the Protector of Immigrants

5. ~~Handwritten signature~~

Learning Messrs Pennell & Son
not stating that the
letter has by far do not
need a answer. It includes
with a consent for the
migration of people from
London to New Orleans.

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

Public Reg Dept
 June
 Hunderberg, F. H. & Son
 Kame Rock
 29/4/2

Geo. & Alfred J. B. Mac-59

Public May Dept

Public

The Protector of Emigrants

July. 21.

21 July.

Nos. 146. 147

Commig. papers from
Govt. received through the Govt.
of India stating that the
Netherlands Govt. do not wish,
at present, to enter into a Con-
vention for the Emigration
of ~~the~~ ^{from the} British
to Surinam.