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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

174

Press
Mis.

Dated

8-2-1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
8th February 1869.

Read the following papers :—

No. 67. Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George ; dated India Office, London, 7th October 1868, No. 39, (Public.)

I forward, herewith, for the information of your Excellency in Council, a copy of a letter from the Strangers' Home for Asiatics at Limehouse in this city, with its enclosures, relative to the case of eleven Natives of Oude brought from Bombay to this country by Messrs. Edward and George Hanlon, and of a further communication from Colonel Hughes regarding these and two other Natives of India, in which it is stated that all these unfortunate persons were received into the Home, and were despatched to Calcutta in the ship *Lord Warden* on the 14th ultimo.

2. I have determined in Council, under the circumstances represented in Colonel Hughes' letters, and as a special case, to defray the expense of the maintenance of these Natives in the Home, and of their passage back to Calcutta.

3. I desire that your Excellency in Council will take into your early consideration the question of adopting adequate measures for ensuring the provision of a return passage for all Natives engaged in India for service out of that country, with a view to obviate, as far as may be practicable, the occurrence of the evils adverted to in Colonel Hughes' communication of the 12th August, and its accompanying correspondence.

From Lieutenant Colonel R. M. HUGHES, Honorary Secretary, Strangers' Home for Asiatics, to H. MERIVALE, Esq., Under Secretary of State for India ; dated Limehouse, London, 12th August 1868.

The Directors of the Strangers' Home for Asiatics will thank you to submit this letter, and accompanying correspondence (1 to 7) to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council, and will feel greatly obliged for instructions regarding the disposal of this party of Natives of India.

2. Late on Saturday evening, the 1st of August, four men, three women, and four children, Natives of Oude, nuts or strolling players by profession, not one of whom can speak or read English, were brought to the house in a state of destitution and admitted, until their case could be inquired into.

3. It appears that a party of eleven men, four women, and five children under eight years of age, were brought from Bombay at the end of the year 1867, under the enclosed Agreement to Suez, from whence they accompanied Messrs. Edward and George Hanlon to Cairo and Alexandria, then to Malta through France to the United Kingdom, under a verbal promise of being provided with board, lodging, clothing, and certain allowances of money, and to be sent to their homes in three months.

4. Since their arrival in England they have been performing at the Crystal Palace, and other places of amusement in London, Manchester, and Liverpool, from whence, on Messrs. Hanlon being arrested for debt, and confined in Lancaster Castle, they were taken to Norwich by a Mr. Welden. At Norwich it appears that disagreements occurred among themselves, owing to the ill-treatment they met with from some of their party being permitted to knock them about, and

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
3rd February 1869.*

from not receiving proper food or any money ; this led to a case of assault, &c., being brought before and investigated by the Magistrates at Norwich, who were unable to reconcile the parties to each other, or to their employer. The principal cause of dissatisfaction, however, appears to have been the breach of contract in their having been kept in England, performing almost every day for several months, beyond the period agreed upon, without receiving any money, and the arrest of Messrs. Hanlon doubtless cut off all hope of their ever receiving any or reaching their homes again ; consequently the party of eleven (now at the Strangers' Home) determined to come to London, according to their own words, to "seek for justice," and "to get home," positively declining to join Messrs. Hanlon again.

Enclosure 4.

5. On Friday, the 31st July, this party of eleven arrived at the Great Eastern Shoreditch Railway Station, where, after remaining some time, they were taken by two poor men to the Bishopgate Police Station, where a Serjeant of Police sent them off, declining to take any notice of them. The two poor men placed them in a stable for the night, and on the following (Saturday) morning took them first to Westminster and then to Aldgate Street in the city in search of a lodging, and at last brought them to the Home at Limehouse.

6. On Wednesday, the 5th, they were taken to the Mansion House, with the hope that the Right Honorable the Lord Mayor might be able to advise or suggest some means for their disposal, but I was informed by the authorities that the Lord Mayor could do nothing for them.

7. It was then considered desirable to ascertain from the Mayor of Norwich the cause which led the party to come up to London, and to find out the address of the Messrs. Hanlon, who were understood to be at Liverpool ; these points were fully explained on the receipt of the accompanying correspondence. Messrs. Hanlon were then written to, and the correspondence with them is herewith enclosed.

Enclosures 1 to 4.

Enclosures 5 to 7.

8. After careful consideration of all the circumstances, the Directors feel they have no other resource left than to submit the case of these unfortunate men and women for the consideration and instructions of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council, and in doing so would respectively observe that the infraction of contracts, whether drawn up in writing or made verbally by Europeans with Natives of India, bring great discredit on the British name, and if infractions of similar contracts to this are permitted to be passed over with impunity it will not be long before the streets of the Metropolis will again (as they were ten years ago) be inundated with destitute Asiatics, and the Unions, Jails, and Hospitals will again have numerous Asiatic occupants who have been cast adrift unprovided for.

9. The Directors, therefore, feel it their duty to bring these circumstances to notice, with the hope that they may be deemed worthy of consideration, and that measures may be adopted in India to prevent any parties of the poorer classes of Asiatics being brought to the United Kingdom, except under the permission and sanction of Government, similar to the rules in force for the emigration of coolies to the Mauritius or West Indies.

10. The expenses of the party at present in the Home will be about £4 weekly, and £180 at least will be required for the passage of seven adults and four children to Bombay, which the Directors, from their limited resources, are really at the present time unable to afford, though very desirous of preventing so many helpless individuals being cast adrift on the streets to seek a precarious livelihood ; they would, therefore, respectfully suggest that Messrs. Hanlon (who are understood to hold good appointments in India) be called on officially to make immediate arrangements for the return of these destitute Natives of India to Bombay, according to their agreement with them.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
8th February 1869.*

COPY.

This agreement made this day between Edward Hanlon and George Hanlon on the one part, and Cullow and others on the other part, that the said Edward Hanlon and George Hanlon agree to engage them to perform for three months in Suez, and reach them to their Homes in India at the expense of the said Edward and George Hanlon.

BOMBAY,
12th November 1867.

(Signed) E. HANLON.

(„) G. HANLON.

WITNESSES.

(Signed) E. B. SMITH.

(„) NURSOO SEWAJEE.

From Major J. J. COLMAN, to Lieutenant Colonel R. M. HUGHES, London; dated Norwich, 7th August 1868, No. 1.

I am glad to have your letter of 5th instant, as I believe the case you mention requires thorough investigation, and I know the impression on the minds of the Magistrates who had the case before them was that some of them, at all events, had been grossly deceived. I happened to be from home during part of the time when the case was before the Bench, and I heard very little of the evidence given, but I will take your letter to Mr. Kennett, Clerk to the Magistrates, and he will be able to give you all the information you may require.

From G. B. KENNETT, Esq., Clerk to the Justices, to Lieutenant Colonel R. M. HUGHES, Honorary Secretary, S. H. A., London; dated Norwich, 7th August 1868, No. 2.

The Mayor of this city has handed your letter of the 5th to me, respecting the Natives of India, calling themselves the "Oriental Troupe," and requested me to reply to it.

2. I send you by this post some of the country newspapers, containing reports of the proceedings, which contain substantially a correct report of what took place, and a better description than I could give myself. I think you will find they give all the information required. The Magistrates considered the poor people had been most disgracefully treated. They are evidently in the hands of unscrupulous persons, and it was with great difficulty any information could be obtained. Steel, Hanlon, and Welden, each in turn appeared to be responsible parties, but it ultimately transpired, from the contents of a letter signed "George Hanlon," written from Lancaster Castle, where he was prisoner for debt, waiting for his Solicitor, a Mr. Ambler, to file his petition in the Bankruptcy Court, to his pretended Agent "W. H. Steel," who was with the Troupe, that this man Hanlon was the man who brought them to England, and had received the profits of their exhibition, which the blacks expected would be paid to them when they left England.

From B. RIDE, Esq., Chief Superintendent, Liverpool Constabulary Force, to Lieutenant Colonel R. M. HUGHES, Honorary Secretary, Strangers' Home for Asiatics, London; dated 7th August 1868, No. 3.

In the absence of Major Greig, c. n., Head Constable, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 5th instant, relative to two persons named Edward and George Hanlon, who were recently in Liverpool with a party of strolling players, Natives of India, some of whom were sent from this town to Norwich, and there deserted. I have caused inquiry to be made, and the report of the Inspector is subjoined.

No. 4.

Detective Inspector Carlisle begs to report, for the information of Major Greig, c. n., Head Constable, in reference to a communication from Lieutenant Colonel Hughes, Honorary Secretary for the Strangers' Home for Asiatics in London, respecting Edward and George Hanlon, who were travelling about with a party of performing Indians, that he has made inquiry and ascertained that the Indians were performing for several weeks in this town in charge of the Hanlons, who were

arrested for debt and lodged in Lancaster Castle, where they now remain awaiting their passing the Bankruptcy Court. After the arrest of the Hanlons the performers went from here either to Yarmouth or Norwich, at one of which places they quarrelled, were taken into custody, and that they then separated. At that time they were in charge of a man named Welden, who is now supposed to be at one of the London Theatres. None of the performers are at present in this town, but it is stated that a portion of them are either at Lancaster, or on their way there to meet the Hanlons upon their discharge.

From Lieutenant Colonel R. M. HUGHES, Honorary Secretary, Strangers' Home for Asiatics, to Messrs. EDWARD and GEORGE HANLON; dated London, 8th August 1868, No. 5.

Eleven Natives of India, four men, three women, and four children, having been cast adrift in the streets of London, were taken into this institution on Saturday last, the 1st August.

It appears that these eleven individuals, together with nine others, were brought by you from Bombay under a written agreement to perform for three months at Suez, and then to be sent back to India. They state that, on arrival at Suez, you induced them to accompany you to Cairo, Alexandria, and from thence to Malta through France to the United Kingdom, where they have been performing under your superintendence and direction. They complain that you have broken your contract with them, passing them over to other parties, by whom they have been ill-treated, starved, and cast adrift. The whole of the circumstances of your having brought them from India, &c., are about to be submitted to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council, but previously to doing so the Directors (having learnt your address) are desirous to acquaint you with their intentions, and will be glad to submit, with their report, any explanation you may wish to offer, and will thank you to inform them if it is your intention to pay the expenses of these Natives of India whilst in England, and their passage back to Bombay, according to your promise before leaving it.

P. S.—The report will be sent in on Wednesday morning at latest.

From Messrs. EDWARD and GEORGE HANLON, to Lieutenant Colonel R. M. HUGHES, dated 10th August 1868, No. 6.

We are in receipt of your communication in reference to eleven Natives of India, who appear to have claimed the protection of your benevolent institution.

2. We beg simply to state that they are a portion of a Troupe of Indian Artistes, brought by us to this country; that they were not passed, as represented, to other parties, nor do we consider our contract with them broken; their performances were not hitherto a success, and the annoying proceedings which occasioned our incarceration here is entirely owing to a liability incurred on their behalf. We have been detained here over five weeks, and have necessarily been prevented from giving that attention to them we desired to do. In accordance with a previous engagement with a Mr. Hellewell, who on our arrest took charge of the entire Troupe on our behalf, they proceeded to Norwich to fulfil it, and when there we were informed by him they voluntarily deserted him and the remaining portion of the Troupe, much to our surprise, and decidedly against our desire or design, and we were entirely ignorant of their whereabouts, until the receipt of your letter. The other portion of the Troupe are coming down here to-day from Oxford, and if these eleven will join them, which we believe they will, we shall be happy to remit their fares and expenses for the purpose, as we hope to have them more directly under our supervision and care. We confidently expect our release from here within ten days, and we shall proceed immediately to carry out our plans, which our detention here has frustrated for the time being, so as to be able to conduct them back to India (where we ourselves have our homes and families) before the winter sets in.

3. We trust after this explanation your Directors will see there exists no necessity for bringing the matter before the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council, as hinted in your letter. Awaiting your reply.

From Lieutenant Colonel R. M. HUGHES, Honorary Secretary, Strangers' Home for Asiatics, to Messrs. EDWARD and GEORGE HANLON, Lancaster Castle, dated 11th August 1868, No. 7.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, in which you state that "if these eleven" (Natives of India now in this institution) "will join them," (the party at Lancaster,) "which we believe they will, we shall be happy to remit their fares and expenses for the purpose." I have had read and carefully explained by our Interpreter in my presence this part and other portions of your letter, and on asking them what their wishes were, and what they intended to do, received from them all the most decided answer, that you had agreed to keep them three months, and had kept them ten; you had promised to give them money, and had given them none; you had deceived them; and all said they would not join you again under any circumstances.

2. The Managing Directors, before whom the whole case was submitted yesterday, were unanimously of opinion that the circumstances must be brought to the notice of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council for instructions, pointing out the discredit the infraction of contracts made between Europeans and Natives of India brought on the British name, besides the misery and injustice to individuals such as these.

From Lieutenant Colonel R. M. HUGHES, Honorary Secretary, Strangers' Home for Asiatics, to H. MERIVALE, Esq., Under Secretary of State for India; dated London, 15th September 1868.

I have the honor to report the departure on Monday forenoon, the 14th instant, of the eleven "Nuts"* referred to in my letter of the 12th

* Kaloo.	} Male adults.
Byresall.	
Gooroo.	
Beechoo.	
Peerojah.	} Wives of the three first.
Peerojee.	
Alijisee.	
Nealoo.	
Mussooruman.	} Female children of the above.
Mungroo.	
Myed.	

August, and of Mahomed and Jaun, two destitute Natives of India, received from the Stepney Union, in the ship *Lord Warden*, Captain Smith, bound to Calcutta.

2. Messrs. F. Green & Co. having offered to take the above-mentioned thirteen Natives of India in the *Lord Warden*, and to fit up two

cabins, one for the women and children, and the other for the men, for two hundred pounds, I thought it desirable to accept their offer on such reasonable terms.

3. The party of eleven "Nuts," referred to in my letter of the 12th August last, though brought from Bombay being Natives of Lucknow, entreated to be sent to Calcutta, as the nearest port in India to their homes, and as they had a tolerable supply of clothing, including a few articles of old linen we were enabled to give them, I did not consider it necessary to purchase any for them. On their admission into the Home the whole party suffered from illness, but on the 5th instant the Medical Officer, who had been daily attending them, reported all well and able to proceed to India. Their conduct whilst in the Home was satisfactory in every respect; they were quiet and orderly, and repeatedly expressed their gratitude for all that had been done for them.

4. The two destitute men Mahomed and Jaun, being totally unfit and incapacitated for employment on board of ship, have been sent off to India by the present opportunity, and neither of them having any clothing a warm suit was issued to both.

5. The Directors of this institution trust that all that has been done for these destitute Natives of India, in preventing their becoming mendicants on the streets, in attending to their every want during severe sickness, and in making the necessary arrangements for their return to India, may meet with the approval of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council, and that the accompanying account of expenses incurred on their behalf may be sanctioned, and authority given for its payment.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
8th February 1869.

The Honorable the Council of India to the Strangers' Home for Asiatics.				DR.	
For the maintenance of Mahomed from 1st April to 14th September 1868, £ s. d.					
23 weeks and 6 days, at 8 shillings weekly	...	...	...	9	10 10
Suit of warm clothing	...	...	...	1	6 4
The maintenance of Jaun from 18th May to 14th September 1868, 17 weeks, at 8 shillings weekly				10	17 2
Suit of warm clothing	...	...	...	6	16 0
	...	...	...	1	6 4
The maintenance of 7* adults and 4† children = to 2 adults				8	2 4
or 9 adults for 6 weeks and 3 days, from 1st August to 14th September 1868, at 8 shillings weekly				23	11 11
Cartage and tolls to ship, for 9† adults and 4 children.	...	...	...	23	2 11
Passage to Calcutta—Two cabins for 6 men, 3 women, and 4 female children...	...	...	...	1	10 0
	...	...	...	200	0 0
Total				248	12 5

15th September 1868.

(Signed) R. M. HUGHES, Lieut. Colonel,
Hon. Secy. Strangers' Home for Asiatics.

No. 414.

MEMORANDUM.

No. 67A. With the letter from the Accountant General's Department of the 21st August 1848, No. 271, a list was received of Government Securities deposited in the General Treasury on account of Native servants who had proceeded to England, and which had remained unclaimed. The Under Secretary to Government in the Public Department is directed to inquire whether any deposits on the same account have been made since July 1844, and if so, to request that Mr. Lushington will be good enough to furnish a statement, showing the number and dates of the several deposits.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
25th November 1868.

To the Accountant General.

(Signed) C. G. WALKER,
Under Secy. to Govt.

No. 68.

No. 240.

MEMORANDUM.

Book Department—General Treasury.

Referring to the Memorandum from the Under Secretary to Government, Public Department, No. 414, dated 25th ultimo, the Accountant General has the honor to state that no deposit has been made since July 1844 on account of Native servants proceeding to England. The sum of Rupees 500, deposited in the late General Treasury in the above month by Captain J. Lewis of the 24th Regiment Native Infantry on account of a male Native servant who accompanied him to England, was paid to the above officer in March 1848 under orders of Government, Public Department, No. 282, dated 17th March 1848.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
5th December 1868.

To the Under Secretary to Government, Public Department.

(Signed) F. LUSHINGTON,
Accountant General.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
8th February 1869.

No. 69. From the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, (Public,) to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, 10th December 1868, No. 73-4707.

With reference to the accompanying copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 152, dated 7th October last, and enclosures, I am directed to state that the Governor General in Council will be glad to receive the views of the Government of Madras as to the most fitting means for ensuring the provision of a return passage for Natives engaged in India for service out of the country.

2. I am to observe that, if legislative measures appear advisable, it will be necessary so to frame the law as to guard against interfering with ordinary engagements of domestic servants.

3. Except for the rarity of the occurrence, there would seem *prima facie* very little difference between an engagement such as that which forms the subject of the present reference and the engagement of coolies for labor in a Colony, and it is possible that some of the checks imposed by the Legislature on the latter kind of engagements (*e. g.*, the enforcement of registration before a Magistrate) might be usefully applied to the former.

No. 70. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Fort Saint George, 8th February 1869, No. 174.

In reply to your letter, No. 73-4707, dated the 18th of December last, I am directed to state that nothing has occurred in this Presidency to lead the Madras Government to consider legislation necessary for ensuring the provision of a return passage for natives engaged in India for service out of their own country, such service not being already regulated by law as in the case of emigrants and gangs of laborers.

2. The subject attracted the attention of the late Court of Directors so long ago as 1830, and consequent on orders received from them, a Notification was issued, in 1832, requiring persons to deposit in the Government Treasury £100 on account of any native servant they might take to England. In 1840 the amount of the deposit required was reduced to £50. This arrangement, however, has been long disused, the last deposit having been made in 1844.

3. I am to observe that in case legislative measures should appear to the Government of India to be advisable, it would seem that the public execution of a written contract before a Magistrate whose duty it should be to inquire into the nature of the engagement, and to explain its character and the risks attendant on it to those about to be engaged, would seem to be the best means of affording protection to natives against dishonest and unscrupulous adventurers.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

Copy

29

Strangers Home for Asiatics
West India Dock Road
Lincolns, London 12th Aug^r 1868

Sir. The Directors of the Strangers Home for Asiatics will thank you to submit this letter & accompanying correspondence (1 to 7) to the R^t Hon^{ble} the Secretary of State for India in Council, and will feel greatly obliged for instructions regarding the disposal of the party of Natives of India. —

Take on Saturday evening the 1st of Aug^r; 4 men, 3 women, and 4 Children, Natives of Oude, Nats or Strolling Players by profession, not one of whom can speak or read English, were brought to the House in a state of destitution and admitted until their case could be enquired into. —

It appears that a party of eleven

The Under Secretary of State
for India

Home 1869

From Government of

Fort St. George.

Dated 8th Feb. 1869.

R.

No. } Enclosures
Spare copies

D. No.

L. No. 174.

Progs. { D.
No.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 67-70.

Communicating the views of the Madras Government on the subject of the provision of a return passage for Natives engaged in India for services out of their own country.

eleven men, four women, and five children under eight years of age were brought from Bombay at the end of the year 1867, under the enclosed agreement to Suez, from whence they accompanied Messrs. Edward & George Haulon to Cairo and Alexandria, then to Malta, thro' France to the United Kingdom, under a verbal promise of being provided with board, lodging, clothing, and certain allowances of money, and to be sent to their homes in three months. —

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Enclosure
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Enclosure
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Since their arrival in England they have been performing at the Crystal Palace, and other places of amusement in London, Manchester, & Liverpool, from whence, on Messrs. Haulon being arrested for debt, and confined in Lancaster Castle, they were taken to Norwich by a Mr. Welden.

At

At Norwich it appears that disagreements occurred among themselves, owing to the illtreatment they met with, from some of their party being permitted to knock them about, and from not receiving proper food or any money, this led to a case of assault &c. being brought before & investigated by the Magistrates at Norwich, who were unable to reconcile the parties to each other, or to their Employer. — The principal cause of dissatisfaction however appears to have been the breach of contract, in their having been kept in England, performing almost every day for several months, beyond the period agreed upon, without receiving any money, and the arrest of Messrs. Haulon doubtless cut off all hope, of their ever receiving any or reaching their homes again; consequently the party

of eleven (now at the Stranger-Home) determined to come to London, according to their own words, to "seek for justice", and to get home, positively declining to join M^{rs}. Hanton again.

On Friday the 31st July, this party of eleven, arrived at the G^o Eastern, Shoreditch Railway Station, where after remaining some time, they were taken by two poor men, to the Bishopgate Police Station, where a Sergeant of Police sent them off, declining to take any notice of them.

The two poor men placed them in a stable for the night, and on the following (Saturday) morning took them first to Westminster and then to Aldgate in the City, in search of a lodging, and at last brought them to the "Home" at Limehouse.

On Wednesday the 5th, they were taken

taken to the Mansion House, with the hope, that the R^t. Hon^{ble} the Lord Mayor, might be able to advise or suggest some means for their disposal, but I was informed by the Authorities, that the Lord Mayor, could do nothing for them.

It was then considered desirable to ascertain from the Mayor of Norwich, the cause which led the party to come up to London; and to find out the address of the M^{rs}. Hanton, who were understood to be at Liverpool. These points were fully explained on the receipt of the accompanying correspondence. M^{rs}. Hanton were then written to, and the correspondence with them is herewith enclosed.

After careful consideration of all the circumstances, the Directors feel they have no other resource

Enclosures
1 to 4

Enclosures
5 to 7

resource left, than to submit the case of these unfortunate men & women, for the consideration and instructions of the Rt Hon^{ble} the Secretary of State for India in Council, and in doing so, would respectfully observe; that the infraction of contracts whether drawn up in writing or made verbally, by Europeans with Natives of India, being great discredit on the British name, and if infractions of similar contracts to this, are permitted to be passed over with impunity, it will not be long before the streets of the Metropolis will again, (as they were ten years ago) be inundated with destitute Asiatics, and the Unions, Jails, and Hospitals will again have numerous Asiatic occupants, who have been cast adrift unprovided for.

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The Directors therefore feel it their duty, to bring these circumstances to notice, with the hope, that they may be deemed worthy of consideration, and that measures may be adopted in India to prevent any parties of the poorer classes of Asiatics, being brought to the United Kingdom, except under the permission and sanction of Gov^t, similar to the rules in force for the emigration of coolies to the Mauritius or West Indies.

The expenses of the party at present in the "Home", will be about £4 weekly, and £180 at least will be required for the passage of 7 adults, & 4 children to Bombay, which the Directors from their limited resources are really at the present time unable to afford, though very desirous of preventing so many

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helpless individuals being cast adrift on the Streets, to seek a precarious livelihood; they would therefore respectfully suggest, that M^{rs} Haulon, (who are understood to hold good appointments in India) be called on Officially to make immediate arrangements for the return of these destitute Natives of India, to Bombay, according to their Agreement with them.

I have &c &c
(sgd) R. M. Hughes
Lt Col.
Hon. Sec. Strangers
Home for Asiatics

Bombay 12th Nov. 1867

This Agreement made this day, between Edward Haulon and George Haulon, on the one part, and Gallow and others, on the other part, that the said Edward Haulon and George Haulon, agree to engage them to perform for three months in Suez, and reach them to their Homes in India, at the expense of the said Edward & George Haulon.

(sgd) E Haulon
(s) G Haulon

Witness
C. B. Smith
Mureoo Somajee

Nº 1.

Tarson House
Norwich 7th Aug^r 1868

Sir,

I am glad to have your letter of 5th Instant, as I believe the case you mention, requires thorough investigation, and I know the impression on the minds of the Magistrates, who had the case before them, was that some of them, at all events, had been grossly deceived. I happened to be from home during part of the time, when the case was before the Bench, and I heard very little of the evidence given, but I will take your letter to Mr Kennett, Clerk to the Magistrates, and he will be able to give you all the information you may require.

I am &c

(sgd) J. J. Colman
Mayor

St Col^l R. M. Hughes
London

To

Nº 2.

Justice Room
Guildhall
Norwich 7th Aug^r 1868

Sir,

The Mayor of this City has handed your letter of the 5th to me, respecting the natives of India, calling themselves the Oriental Troupe, and requested me to reply to it.

I send you by this Post some of the County Newspapers containing reports of the proceedings which contain substantially, a correct report of what took place, and a better description than I could give myself.

I think you will find they give all the information required. The Magistrates considered the poor people had been most disgracefully treated. — They are evidently in the hands of unscrupulous persons, and it was with great difficulty any information

information could be obtained.
Sheel, Haakon, & Melden, each
in turn appeared to be responsible
parties, but it ultimately transpired,
from the contents of a letter,
signed George Haakon, written
from Lancaster Castle, where he
was Prisoner for debt, waiting
for his Solicitor, a Mr. Ambler,
to file his Petition in the
Bankruptcy Court, to his pretended
Agent, "W. H. Sheel", who was with
the Troupe, that this man Haakon
was the man, who brought them
to England, and had received
the profits of their exhibition,
which the Blacks expected would
be paid to them, when they left
England.

I am &c
(Sgd) G. B. Kennett
Clerk to the Justices

Lt. Col. Mares Hughes
Hon. Sec. S. H. A.
London

82
Liverpool Constabulary Force
Central Police Office
7th Aug 1868

Sir,

In the absence of Major Greig
C.B. Head Constable, I have to
acknowledge the receipt of your
communication of the 5th Instant,
relative to two persons named
Edmond & George Haakon, who were
recently in Liverpool with a party
of Strolling Players, Natives of
India, some of whom were sent
from this town to Norwich, and
there deserted. I have caused
enquiry to be made, and the
Report of the Inspector is subjoined.
I am &c.

(Sgd) Benjamin Ride
Chief Supt.
To Lt. Col. M. Hughes
Hon. Sec. S. H. A.
London

Detective Inspector Carlisle begs
to report for the information of
Major Greig C.B. Head Constable

in reference to a communication
from L^d Col^l Hughes, Hon: Sec:
for the Strangers Home for Asiatics
in London, respecting Edward &
George Haulon, who were travelling
about with a party of performing
Indians; that he has made enquiry
and ascertained that the Indians
were performing for several weeks
in this town, in charge of the
Haulons, who were arrested for
debt and lodged in Lancaster Castle,
where they now remain awaiting
their passing the Bankruptcy Court.
After the arrest of the Haulons the
performers went from hence either
to Yarmouth or Norwich, at one
of which places they quarrelled,
were taken into custody, and that
they then separated. At that
time they were in charge of a man
named Melden, who is now supposed
to be at one of the London Theatres.
None of the Performers are at present
in this town, but it is stated that
a portion of them are either at
Lancaster, or on their way there to
meet the Haulons upon their discharge.

No 5

Strangers Home for Asiatics
West India Dock Road
London 8th August 1868.

Sirs,

Eleven Natives of India,
four men, three women, & four
children, having been cast adrift
in the Streets of London, were
taken into this Institution on
Saturday last the 1st Aug^t. -
It appears that these eleven
individuals, together with nine
others, were brought by you
from Bombay, under a written
agreement to perform for three
months at Suez, and then to
be sent back to India. - They
stake that on arrival at Suez,
you induced them to accompany
you to Cairo, Alexandria, and
from thence to Malta, thro'
France, to the United Kingdom,
where they have been performing
under your Superintendence and
direction. - They complain that
you have broken your contract
with them, passing them over

to other parties, by whom they
have been ill-treated, starved, and
cast adrift. — The whole of the
circumstances of your having
brought them from India &c.,
are about to be submitted to the
Rt. Hon^{ble} the Secretary of State for
India in Council, but previously
to doing so, the Directors, (having
learned your address) are desirous
to acquaint you with their
intentions, and will be glad to
submit, with their Report,
any explanation you may wish
to offer, and will thank you to
inform them, if it is your
intention to pay the expenses of
these natives of India, whilst
in England, and their passage
back to Bombay, according to
your promise before leaving it.

I am
R. M. Hughes Lt Col^l
Hon. Sec. S. H. S.

P.S. The Report will be sent in
on Wednesday morning at latest.

To Messrs Edmund & George Haulton
16

No 1

19
Lancaster Castle
10th Aug^r 1868.

Lt Col^l R. M. Hughes

Sir,

We are in receipt of
your Communication in reference
to eleven natives of India, who
appear to have claimed the protection
of your benevolent Institution. —

We beg simply to state that
they are a portion of a Troop of
Indian Artists, brought by us
to this Country; that they were
not passed, as represented, to other
parties, nor do we consider our
Contract with them broken. —
their performances were not hitherto
a success, and the annoying
proceedings which occasioned
our incarceration here, is entirely
owing to a liability ^{incurred} on their
behalf. — We have been
detained here over five weeks,
and have necessarily been
prevented from giving that
attention to them we desired

to do. In accordance
with a previous engagement
with a Mr. Hellenwell, who on
our arrest took charge of the
entire Troop, on our behalf,
they proceeded to Norwich to
fulfil it, and when there, we
were informed by him, they
voluntarily deserted him, and
the remaining portion of the
Troop, much to our surprise
and decidedly against our desire
or design, and we were entirely
ignorant of their whereabouts,
until the receipt of your letter.

The other portion of the Troop
are coming down here today
from Oxford, and if these
eleven, will join them, which
we believe they will, we shall
be happy to remit their fares
and expenses, for the purpose,
as we hope to have them more
directly under our supervision
and care. We confidently

expect

18

expect our release from here within
ten days, and we shall proceed
immediately to carry out our
plans, which our detention here,
has frustrated for the time being,
so as to be able to conduct them
back to India, (where we ourselves
have our homes & families) before
the winter sets in.

We trust after this explanation,
your Directors will see there
exists no necessity for bringing
the matter before the R. Honble
the Secretary of State for India
in Council, as hinted in your
letter. - Awaiting your reply.

We are &c

(250). E. Haulon, & Geo. Haulon

Strangers' Home for Asiatics
11th Aug^r 1861.

N^o 7

Sir,
I have to acknowledge the
receipt of your letter of the 10th
Instant, in which you state
that "if these eleven" (natives of
India now in this Institution)
"will join them" (the party at
Lancaster) which we believe they

will

will, we shall be happy to remit their fares & expenses for the "purpose". I have had read and carefully explained by our Interpreter, in my presence, this part, and other portions of your letter, and on asking them what their wishes were, and what they intended to do, received from them all, the most decided answer; - that you had agreed to keep them three months, and had kept them ten; you had promised to give them money & had given them none; you had deceived them; and all said they would not join you again under any circumstances.

The managing Directors before whom the whole case was submitted yesterday, were unanimously of opinion, that the circumstances must be brought to the notice of the R^t Hon^{ble} the Secretary of State for India in Council for instructions, pointing out the discredit the infraction of contracts made between Europeans and natives of India, brought on the British name, besides the misery and injustice to individuals such as these.

I am &c
 (24th) R. M. Hughes
 Esq. Hanlon Coll. Co. Hon. Sec. S. B. S.

Strangers Home for Asiatics
 Great India Dock Road
 London 15th Sept 1868.

Sir,

I have the honor to report the departure on Monday forenoon the 14th instant, of the eleven "Nuts" referred to in my letter of the 12th August, and of Mahomed and Jann, two destitute Natives of India received from the Stepney Union, in the Ship "Lord Harden", Captain Smith, bound to Calcutta. Messrs J Green & Co, having offered to take the above mentioned, thirteen natives of India in the "Lord Harden", and to fit up two cabins, one for the Women & Children, and the other for the Men, for two hundred pounds, I thought it desirable to accept their offer on such reasonable terms. -

x
 Kaloo } Male
 Byrwall } Adults
 Ghorro }
 Buecho }
 Peerajit } Minor
 Peerajee } of the
 Kijiree } three first
 Kaloo } Female
 Chupooman } Children
 Mungroo } of the
 Ingon } above

The party of eleven "Nuts" referred

to
 The Under Secretary of State
 for India

to in my letter of the 12th August
last, though brought from
Bombay, being natives of Lucknow,
entreated to be sent to Calcutta,
as the nearest Port in India to
their Homes, and as they had a
tolerable supply of clothing,
including a few articles of old
linen, we were enabled to give
them, I did not consider it
necessary to purchase any for
them. - On their admission into
the "Home", the whole party
suffered from illness, but on the
5th Instant, the Medical Officer
who had been daily attending
them, reported all well and
able to proceed to India.

Their conduct whilst in the
"Home", was satisfactory in
every respect, they were quiet
and orderly, and repeatedly
expressed their gratitude for all
that had been done for them. -

The

The two destitute men, Mahomed
and Jann, being totally unfit
and incapacitated for employment
on board of ship, have been
sent off to India, by the
present opportunity, and neither
of them having any clothing, a
brown suit was issued to both. -

The Directors of this Institution
trust that all that has been
done for these destitute natives
of India, in preventing their
becoming Mendicants on the streets,
in attending to their every want
during severe sickness, and in
making the necessary arrangements
for their return to India, may
meet with the approval of the
Rt Hon^{ble} the Secretary of State
for India in Council, and that
the accompanying account of
expenses incurred on their behalf,
may be sanctioned, & authority
given for its payment. -

I have &c
(280) A. H. Hughes Esq. Secy.
Hon. Secy. S. H. A.

The Hon^{ble} the Council of India
 To the
 Strangers' Home for Asiatics

For the maintenance of Mahomed
 from 1st April to 14th Sept: 1868.
 23 weeks & 6 days at 8/- weekly. 9.10.10
 Suit of warm clothing. - - 1.6.4.10.17.2

The maintenance of Jann from
 18th May to 14th Sept: 1868
 14 weeks at 8/- weekly. - - 6.16.0
 Suit of warm clothing. - - 1.6.4.8.2.4

The maintenance of 7 adults
 and 4 Children = to 2 "
 or 9 "
 for 6 weeks and 3 days from
 1st Aug^r to 14th Sept: 1868
 at 8/- weekly. - - - - 23.11.11.23.2.11

Cartage & tolls to Ship,
 for 9 Adults & 4 Children. - - - - 1.10.0

Passage to Calcutta. -
 Two cabins for 6 men, 3 women
 & 4 female Children. - - - 200.0.0

15th Sept: 1868 £ 243.12.5

(242) R M Hughes L^t Col^l
 S. H. J.

x
 Kaloo
 Ayraall
 Gossoo
 Beechos
 Peerajah
 Peerajie
 Alajine
 * Kaloo
 Murrumun
 Mungroo
 Myad

o He alone with
 Mahomed & Jann

No 5

Copy letter from the Secy to
the Stranger's Home for Asiatics
at Limehouse, dated 12th
Augt. 1868, with Enclosures

35
1

India Office,
London, 7th October 1868.

Public,
No. 39.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable The Governor
in Council, Fort St. George.

My LORD,

12th Aug 1868.

15th Sept. 1868.

Para. 1. I forward herewith, for the information of your Excellency in Council, a copy of a letter from the Stranger's Home for Asiatics at Limehouse in this city, with its enclosures, relative to the case of 11 natives of Oude brought from Bombay to this country by Messrs. Edward and George Hanlon, and of a further communication from Colonel Hughes regarding these and two other natives of India, in which it is stated that all these unfortunate persons were received into the Home, and were despatched to Calcutta in the ship "Lord Warden" on the 14th ultimo.

2. I have determined in Council, under the circumstances represented in Colonel Hughes's letters, and as a special case, to defray the expense of the maintenance of these Natives in the Home, and of their passage back to Calcutta.

3. I desire that your Excellency in Council will take into your early consideration the question of adopting adequate measures for ensuring the provision of a return passage for all Natives engaged in India for service out of that country, with a view to obviate, as far as may be practicable, the occurrence of the evils adverted to in Colonel Hughes's communication of the 12th August and its accompanying correspondence.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble, Servant,

Stafford H. Mordaunt

Referred to the Public Letter to
Madras, No 39, dated 7th Oct 1868

W. H. M.
A. A.

Book Depart.
Genl. Treasury

N^o 240

16
39

Memorandum

Referring to the Memorandum from the under Secretary to Government Public Department N^o 414 dated 25th Ultimo the Accountant General has the honor to state that no deposit has been made since July 1844 on account of Native servants proceeding to England. The sum of Rupees 500 deposited in the late Genl. Treasury in the above month by Capt^l J Lewis of the 24th Regiment Native Infy on account of a Male Native servant who accompanied him to England was paid to the above officer in March 1848 under orders of Government Public Dept. N^o 282 dated 17th March 1848

Port Saint George
Account^l Genl. Office
5 December 1868

J. A. Cunningham
Account^l General

The Under Secretary to Government
Public Department

Campbell

Col^l to C. L. Thompson

Public,
7 Oct. 1868.

The Letter to Port St. George
No. 39.

174-8-3867/169

Forwarding copy of a letter from the Stranger's Home for Natives with enclosures, relative to the case of 11 natives of Ande, who were taken from Bombay to England, sales letter from Col. Hughes, and stating that under the circumstances represented, as a special case, the maintenance in the home of the Natives, & their

Read to Nov. 1868 via
Bombay

passage back to Calcutta, with defrayed, and requesting that His Govt should take measures to ensure the return of all Natives engaged

Department

²³
No. 4707

From

ARTHUR HOWELL, ESQUIRE,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India,

To

The Secy to the Govt. of Fort St. George

SIR,

Fort William, the 10th December 1868.

Hon. D^{ty}.
Public. WITH reference to the accompanying copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 152, dated 7th October last, and enclosures, I am directed to state that the Governor General in Council will be glad to receive the views of the *Gouvernement* *de l'Inde* as to the most fitting means for ensuring the provision of a return passage for Natives engaged in India for service out of the country.

2. I am to observe that, if legislative measures appear advisable, it will be necessary so to frame the Law as to guard against interfering with ordinary engagements of domestic servants.

3. Except for the rarity of the occurrence, there would seem *prima facie* very little difference between an engagement such as that which forms the subject of the present reference and the engagement of coolies for labor in a colony, and it is possible that some of the checks imposed by the Legislature on the latter kind of engagements (*e. g.*, the enforcement of registration before a Magistrate) might be usefully applied to the former.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

Arthur Howell

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Let the Hon. Secy. to the Govt. of India be informed that the Hon. Secy. to the Govt. of India has been made aware of the above and is in communication with the Hon. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

10.12.68

10.12.68

No 214

*Public 1868 Dept. of Public Works
from 1868
December 1868
No 214*

Department

Public Works Dept
From Prov. 8th Feb 1869
Secy to Govt of India
Home Dept
No 73
1707

2/10
By 22 Dec

1868 of the No 2242
line.

174
I enclose papers on the
subject from the Home Govt.
& request the views of the
Govt as to the most fitting
means for ensuring the pro-
-vision of a return passage
for natives engaged in
India for service out of the
Country

Public Department
V 414
Memorandum

With the letter from
the Accountant General's Department of
the 21st August 1848 No 241, a list was
received of Government Securities deposited
in the General Treasury on account of
Native Servants who had proceeded to
England, and which had remained
unclaimed. The Under Secretary to Govern-
-ment in the Public Department is directed
to enquire whether any deposits on the same
account have been made since July 1844
and if so, to request that Mr Lushington
will be good enough to furnish a state-
-ment, showing the number and dates
of the several deposits.

Fort Saint George } / Signed / C. G. Walker.
25th November 1868 } Under Secretary

To
The Accountant General

Department

Memorandum for Orders

Since the circulation of the accompanying memorandum a communication has been received from Calcutta, forwarding a copy of the Secretary of State's Despatch, and desiring this Government to express its views on the question. The course suggested in that memorandum, viz, to transmit a copy of the Despatch to the Government of India and inquire what action it was proposed by them to take regarding it, has therefore become inapplicable. The Government of India observe in their letter above referred to, that if legislative measures appear advisable it will be necessary to frame the Law as to guard against interfering with ordinary engagements of domestic servants. In this Presidency, however, it is believed, that instances very rarely

Sub. Secy to Secy.
20/7/9

rarely, if ever, occur, of any native but
a domestic servant, proceeding to Europe
under an engagement with a European.
It would seem to be clear therefore
that, so far as Madras is concerned,
no necessity exists for such legis-
lation as the Government of India
contemplates.

*months was to elapse after
the certified arrival in
India of the Servant, before
the sum deposited on his
account could be re-
rendered.

49
Memorandum for Orders

Consequent on
repeated orders from the
late Court of Directors
that Security should be
taken for the return to
India of native servants
accompanying persons
proceeding to England,
a Notification was issued
in 1832, requiring a deposit
of £100 in the Government
Treasury on account of
every such servant, in
order to provide, not only
for his maintenance abroad,
but for the expence of his
passage back to India.

The deposit was subse-
quently (1840) reduced to
£50 and a period of six

2. In 1832 the Court of
Directors desired that
no orders should be given
for the embarkation at
Madras

Madras of servants, without
its being specified therein
that the party engaging
and taking such servants
(not being Europeans) to
England would be liable
to the expense of their
maintenance there and
of their return to India.

2. For enforcing the
prohibition against the
reception of such persons
on board ship without
a special order, the Govern-
ment of India, in reply
to an enquiry from the
Madras Government,
stated that a Port Clear-
ance might be refused
by the Officers of Customs
for any breach of the
Port Regulations, and
that the Government
of Bengal had the power
of refusing a Pilot to any
vessel sailing in contra-
vention

Letter dated 1st Feb. 1837.

Letter dated 14th March 1837

vention of a Government
Order. In an open
Roadstead like Madras,
however, there appeared
to be no means, beyond
that of refusal of a
Port Clearance to the
ship, available to the
Officers of Government.

4. The Government of
India, at the same time,
and with reference to the
necessity of placing under
regulation the practice
of exporting Native Labour
which had then become
very prevalent, forwarded
the draft of an Act on
the subject, and enquired
whether the rules were
adapted to the circum-
stances of the Madras
Presidency.

5. The late Marine
Board, to whom the draft
was referred, observed
that

that, as the whole of the Boats of this Port were then under the control of the Master Attendant, who should, in their opinion, be appointed by Government to carry into effect the Act in question, that Officers could prevent the embarkation of the Commander of a ship, if empowered to do so by law. It appeared to the Board that the ends of justice (in the case then

under consideration) would be fully secured by adopting the summary mode of proceeding provided in Sec. ~~xx~~ of the 5th & 6th William 4 Chapter 19. In a marginal note, the Board remark that to refuse a Boat at Madras would not be more

"An Act to amend and consolidate the Laws relating to the Merchant Seamen of the United Kingdom, and for forming & maintaining a Register of all the men engaged in that Service."

G. D. 30th March 1837 N: 515

more arbitrary than to refuse a Pilot at Calcutta.

6. In all other respects they considered the provisions contained in the Draft Act to be equally well adapted for Madras as for Bengal.

7. As the observations of the Marine Board had reference solely to the Port of Madras, the Government considered the proposed enactments could only be satisfactorily and effectually enforced under this Presidency by authorizing the Collectors of Sea Customs to grant the permits required, & by empowering them to withhold a Port Clearance from any Vessel which might infringe or disregard its provisions.

8. It does not appear that any reply was sent to the letter from the Government of India enclosing the Draft Act and here the matter seems to have ended.

9. It will be seen from the List (which forms one of the enclosures to the letter from the Accountant General of the 21st August 1848) of Government Securities deposited in the Government Treasury on account of Native Servants who had proceeded to England, and which remained unclaimed up to March 1848, that the last deposit was made in July 1844.

10. The practice of requiring deposits was
this

thus long ceased. ^{it should now be resumed}
It becomes a question whether it ~~the same~~ ^{should now be resumed} to provide for contingencies of the kind referred to in the Home Despatch of the 7th Oct. 1860 No. 392 or whether it will not be more in accordance with the present times to provide by a legislative enactment for the protection of Natives proceeding to England under a contract or as servants.

Although the despatch is addressed to this Govt it is probable that a similar reference will have been made to Bombay & Calcutta and that any legislation which may be required should be by the Council of the Gov. Genl.

It may be desirable to send

a copy of these papers
and a brief statement of
what was the practice here,

and enquire if it is
proposed by the Supreme
Court to take action in
this matter.

MS

I think that this
will be the best course
to pursue in a
general sense.

H. J. P.
ADU

dec 12/2

Public Department.

No. 174.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India.

Home Department.

Sir,

In reply to your letter
No 73, Dated the 18th of
²⁷⁰⁷ December last, I am directed
to state that nothing
has occurred in this
Presidency to lead the
Madras Government to
consider legislation neces-
sary for ensuring the
provision of a return
passage for natives
engaged in India for
^{in England out of their own}
service ~~in their own country~~.

country - such service not being
already regulated by law as
in the case of emigrants and
gangs of laborers.

2. The subject attracted
the attention of the late
Court of Directors so long
ago

ago as 1830, and consequent
on orders received from
them, a notification was
issued in 1832 requiring
persons to deposit in the
Government Treasury
£100 on account of any
native servant they
might take to England.
In 1840 the amount of the
deposit required was re-
duced to £50. This
arrangement, however,
has been long disused,
the last deposit having
been made in 1844.

~~It is to be observed~~
that in case legislative
measures should appear
to the Government of India
to

to be advisable, it would
seem that the public
execution of a written con-
tract before a magistrate
whose duty it should
be, ~~to explain the nature~~
of the engagement, ~~and to explain~~
its character and the risks attendant on it
to those about to be engaged, would seem to be the best
means of affording pro-
tection to natives against
dishonest and unscrupulous
adventurers.

Fort St. George
8 Feb/69.

Will

Feb 1869. Department

No. 174

The Secretary to the
Government of India
Foreign Department.

Dated 8th Feb. 1869.

742/1548-2301-

Communicating the
result of the Medical Officer's
report on the subject of the
proposed system of
the proposed system of
the proposed system of

269079