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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. /	Press Mis.
Dated 5-1-	1870 19

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
5th January 1871.*

No. 1. 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, London, 14th September 1870, No. 90 (Public): —

In continuation of my Despatch of the 6th instant, No. 88, I have to inform your Excellency in Council that, since the date of the letter from the Colonial Office, therewith forwarded, advices have been received by that Department, from which it appears that the number of Indian coolies required by the Colony of Grenada is 318, and that Mr. Anderson, the Emigration Agent at Calcutta for Jamaica, will be instructed to collect that number in the event of your Government agreeing to the renewal of the emigration to Grenada, and not 200—the number which, in the absence of specific information from the Local Government, the Chairman of the Emigration Board, in his letter of the 19th ultimo, communicated to you in my Despatch above cited, conjectured would be sufficient.

No. 5252.

Copy of this Despatch, and of the previous Despatch, No. 88, dated the 6th September 1870, with a copy of its enclosures, forwarded to the Government of Fort Saint George, in continuation of Endorsement, No. 4546, dated the 6th ultimo.

(By order of the Governor-General in Council,)

FORT WILLIAM, HOME DEPARTMENT,
PUBLIC, the 30th November 1870.

(Signed) W. M. SOUTTAR,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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, London, the 6th September 1870, No. 88 (Public).

In continuation of my Despatches of the 24th of March last, and 16th ultimo, Nos. 29 and 84,
* 25th July 1870, No. 24, with a collection of 15 letters
I forward, herewith, for the information of Your Excellency in Council, a copy of a Despatch,* addressed by the Governor-in-Chief of the Windward Islands to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, with accompanying correspondence, as well as a report† by the Immigration Board, in connexion with the proposal for renewed emigration of Indian coolies to the Colony of Grenada.

2. Governor Rawson's report, made after a visit to the Island, appears to me to be satisfactory; and should Your Lordship in Council find yourself able to acquiesce in the proposed renewal of emigration thither, there will be no objection to its being put in execution. But, as the season for emigration may be far advanced before your views are known in this country, the Earl of Kimberley is desirous that, in the event of your concurrence in the proposal, Your Excellency in Council should issue instructions direct to the Immigration Agent in India for Jamaica to execute the orders received by that Officer on the subject from the Chief Emigration Commissioner in London. It is Mr. Anderson whom Lord Kimberley intends to employ on this occasion, and not Mr. Thornton Warner, as suggested in Sir Clinton Murdoch's letter of the 19th ultimo above cited.

3. I desire that, in the event of your entertaining no objection to the renewal of emigration to Grenada, Your Lordship in Council will make the necessary communication to Mr. Anderson, who will be informed that he is not to act without the sanction of your Government.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
5th January 1871.*

From ROBERT G. W. HERBERT, Esq., to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated Downing Street, the 25th August 1870.

In your letter of the 18th of March last, you stated that the Duke of Argyll would not object to the resumption of immigration from India to Grenada, should the Governor of the Windward Islands report favourably on the points raised in the 6th paragraph of Sir Clinton Murdoch's letter (meaning a letter, dated the 17th of January last), and should the Government of India have no objection to offer.

In the Despatch, of which I am to enclose a copy, * the Governor-in-Chief of the Windward Islands has, after a visit to the Island, reported in terms which Lord Kimberley apprehends will be satisfactory to the Duke of Argyll. But the Government of India has not yet, as Lord Kimberley assumes, communicated to the Duke of Argyll its final opinion on the question of resuming emigration to Grenada, and His Lordship feels, therefore, unable to authorize Sir Clinton Murdoch, as that Officer suggests in the report, of which I am to enclose a copy, † to instruct his Agent in Calcutta to despatch 200 coolies to the Colony.

But as the season may be far advanced before the decision of the Government of India is known in this country, and as Lord Kimberley is unwilling to disappoint the reasonable expectations of the colonists, he would suggest, for the consideration of the Duke of Argyll, that His Grace should write to the Government of India, explaining the difficulty of the case, and directing them that, in the event of their having found themselves able to acquiesce in the resumption of immigration to Grenada, they should communicate their decision direct to Mr. Anderson, the Immigration Agent in India for Jamaica, and inform him that he is at liberty to execute the instructions he has received from Sir Clinton Murdoch, for I am to explain that it is Mr. Anderson whom Lord Kimberley intends to employ on this occasion, and not Mr. Thornton Warner as suggested by Sir Clinton Murdoch.

Mr. Anderson will be informed that he is not to act without the sanction of the Government of India.

From the Governor, Windward Islands, to the Right Honourable the EARL of GRANVILLE, K.G., &c., &c., &c., dated Grenada, the 25th July 1870, No. 24.

Having spent a week in Grenada, and visited a large portion of the Island, I am in a position to reply to Your Lordship's Despatch, No. 43, of the 16th May last, and to report that there is a reasonable certainty that the Indian immigrants, for whom this Island has applied, will find employment at fair wages, and that their labour will be valued by the planters.

2. The enclosed Despatch from the Lieutenant-Governor, expressing the opinion of himself and the Immigration Agent, and the enclosures which Major Mundy had procured in anticipation of my arrival, afford evidence of the views of the local authorities who have a better acquaintance with the characters and means of the proprietors of estates than I could possess.

3. My personal testimony amounts to this. I have visited a considerable number of estates, and conversed with their owners and managers. They are all very anxious to procure Indian labourers. The need of them is but too apparent. The cane fields exhibit a great want of hands to keep them clean. Some abandoned estates are being brought back into cultivation. More would be added to the number if labour were available.

4. I made inquiries of two of the most intelligent medical men attending a large number of estates in the districts which I visited. They both bore testimony to the willingness of the planters to comply with all their demands on behalf of the coolies, and to supply all reasonable comforts.

5. I visited the coolie camps and hospitals on almost all the estates through which I passed. The former I found as comfortable as those with which I was acquainted in Mauritius, and to differ in nothing from the habitations of the creole labourers living around them, except that, in some instances, barracks have been built of six to ten rooms. But there are always separate huts on the

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
5th January 1871.*

same estates, which coolies occupy, and which they much prefer. These barracks are all on the ground-floor, and I observed nothing objectionable in any of them. For the most part, the estates are amply supplied with running water. Many are on the sea shore where the coolies can bathe.

6. Each estate which has not the Lieutenant-Governor's approval, arranged for its sick immigrants being treated in the Colonial Hospital in Saint George's, has a building set apart for a hospital. These I found clean, airy, and suitable. But I did not find an inmate in any one. All the managers state that the coolies prefer remaining in their own huts. With one exception, they stated that there was not any sick at the time on the estate. In this case, the manager stated that the hideous (now not under indenture) refuse to go into the hospital, because an African, who had been under treatment in the building, had died there. The medical officers would much prefer a district hospital, where the patients would be removed from their friends, and might be more closely subjected to a curative treatment. The separation from their comrades, and the exclusion of improper food, cannot be properly effected on estates' hospitals.

7. I saw several gangs at work. I visited many of their dwellings. I spoke to many of them, and I found them generally stout and healthy, cheerful and expressing themselves contented. The conclusion to which I have come is, that those whom I saw were as comfortable as Her Majesty's Government could desire, or at least could expect them to be.

8. With regard to the ability of the planters to continue to give them employment, I would point out that the small number demanded for any estate is an evidence of the probability of that result; while the fact of estates being newly brought into cultivation with fresh capital, strengthens the grounds for expecting that there will be no lack of employment for at least the number now demanded. I was informed that the coolies, new and old, receive the same wages as those paid to the creoles.

9. I was glad to find that the Island is beginning to recover from the effects of the protracted drought from which it has suffered. The season has been most favourable for the coming crop, and the planters are hopeful for the future, if they can only procure labour.

10. I trust that the information now brought before your Lordship will prove satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government and to that of India; and that, as a considerable time has elapsed since the Island first applied for a supply of immigrants, and as some delay has arisen from my inability to visit it, and to satisfy myself upon the point upon which I was called on to report, the order to the Agent in India may be despatched by telegraph.

11. Your Lordship will learn, from the Lieutenant-Governor's Despatch, that an Act has been passed, by the Legislature of the Island, to carry out the suggestion of the Commissioner of Emigration for extending the time allowed for detention of the immigrants in the depôt at Calcutta.

From R. M. MUNDY, Esq., Grenada, to His Excellency Governor RAWSON, C.B., &c., &c., &c., Barbadoes, dated Grenada, the 23rd July 1870, No. 61.

With reference to your Excellency's Despatch of the 3rd June last, transmitting copy of a Despatch from the Secretary of State of the 16th May, with its enclosures, relative to the renewal of immigration to this Island, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that an Act has been passed by the Legislature, by which the limitation of the period of detention of the emigrants in depôt in the 4th Section of Act No. CCCXC. has been removed.

2. A circular having been addressed to all the planters making application for immigrants, satisfactory answers had been received, and I have every reason to believe that the proprietors are both able and willing to act up to their engagements as to the employment and good treatment of the immigrants, and I trust that Her Majesty's Government will be pleased to sanction the further supply now asked. Copies of all the documents are herewith enclosed.

From the Immigration Agent, Grenada, to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Grenada, dated Grenada, the 16th July 1870.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday's date, referring me to your previous letter of the 9th May, wherein I was directed to report, for the

information of the Lieutenant-Governor, as to whether the estates' hospitals and dwellings for immigrants were in a proper condition, and whether there will be sufficient dwellings for the immigrants applied for.

2. In explanation, I have to state that this report has been delayed until after my general inspection of the immigrants in the present month, as required by the 73rd Section of the Act, No. CCCXC., when I would be better enabled to report more fully on those subject to the Executive.

3. So far as I have gone in these inspections, the estates in the Colony are provided with furnished hospitals. These, however, are small, and are not so practically useful as they might be made, the greater portion of our sick immigrants being sent to the Colony Hospital for treatment.

4. The dwellings of the immigrants are in general good condition, and there is every desire manifested by employers to make the immigrants comfortable. These dwellings are, in some instances, being enlarged with the view to the accommodation of the expected immigrants.

5. The state of health of the immigrants on estates has been good during the past half-year, very little mortality having occurred among them.

6. I have had occasion to notice recently two instances of what I consider to be neglect and ill-treatment of immigrants, in which I found it necessary to institute proceedings against their employers, and the results of which it will be my duty to report to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

From the Immigration Agent, Grenada, to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Grenada, dated Grenada, the 21st July 1870.

I have the honour to furnish, herewith, copy of a circular, which was addressed by me on the 22nd June last, to employers of Indian immigrants in this Colony, who had applied for a further supply of Indian labourers, and the replies received from them.

In requesting you to place the same before His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, I have to state, at the same time, that I believe there is a reasonable certainty that the immigrants applied for will find employment at fair wages, and that their labour will be valued by the planters.

Circular from the Immigration Agent, Grenada, to the employers of Indian Immigrants, Grenada, dated Grenada, the 22nd June 1870.

With reference to your application of 23rd August last for coolies for the Observatory and River Antoine Estates, I am directed to obtain from you answers to the following questions, viz. :—

First.—In the event of your application for a further batch of coolies being complied with, whether you will guarantee employment for the immigrants at fair wages; and *secondly*, whether house and hospital accommodation will be provided for them in accordance with law.

The explanations are required in anticipation of the Governor-in-Chief's early visit to this Island on that subject.

From W. McEWEN, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, dated Mount Rodney, the 24th June 1870.

In reply to your circular, dated 21st instant, I beg to say that, should I receive coolies for Mount Rich, Montrose, Belmont, and Mount Rodney Estates, according to my application dated 30th August last, I will find them continuous employment at a fair rate of wages, and also house and hospital accommodation as required by law.

From F. PRENDHOMME, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, dated Dongaldston Estate, the 24th June 1870.

In reply to your circular just received, I beg to state that I will be prepared to conform to the law in respect to all coolies that may be located on Westerhall, Prendhommes, Bacolet, and Hope Estates, in providing proper hospital accommodation, medicines, and medical attendance, and will guarantee to give them regular and constant employment at the highest rate of wages paid to

our native labourers. I will also be glad to get, on the first arrival of coolies into the Island, a further lot of twelve to fourteen male and females to be located on Morne De Lice Estate, which property I have lately purchased.

From J. LONGDON, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, dated Observatory, the 27th June 1870.

In answer to your circular of June 22nd, I beg to state, in reply, that I will guarantee employment at fair wages, as well as proper dwelling-houses and hospital accommodation, for any immigrants who may be allotted to the estates under my directions in accordance to law.

From AUGUSTA LAW, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, St. Georges, dated Boulogne Estate, the 27th June 1870.

In reply to your questions contained in circular of 22nd instant, I beg to say—

1st.—That I will guarantee to find employment for the immigrants applied for at fair and the usual rate of wages.

2ndly.—That proper houses and hospital on one of my estates (which are approximate) shall be provided for them in terms of the Immigration Law.

From H. N. MURRAY, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, dated Modeys, the 27th June 1870.

In reply to questions contained in your note of 21st instant, I will answer them in order, as they are set down—

1st.—I will, in the event of my application being complied with, guarantee constant employment for the coolies at the rate of wages, fixed by the law or custom of this Island.

2ndly.—I will have proper house accommodation for them. I have already a hospital; but as I do not exactly know, inasmuch as the law does not clearly state, the exact size of a hospital, I cannot say whether the one I have will answer.

I can only further state that I shall be ready to do all in my power to keep the coolies in health, and make them comfortable.

From W. SHEARS, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, dated Grand Bras, the 30th June 1870.

I am in receipt of your favour of the 21st instant, and, in reply, beg to state that, in the event of my application for coolies being complied with, I, on behalf of the proprietors of Paradise, Grand Bras, Simon, and Calwiny Estates, guarantee employment to the coolies allotted to these properties at fair wages, and will also provide proper houses and hospital accommodation for them in accordance to law.

From D. WEBSTER, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, dated Saint Georges, the 30th June 1870.

In reply to your circular, dated 15th instant, with respect to the coolies applied for by me for the Plain and Morne Fendue Estates, I have to inform you, on behalf of the proprietor of these estates, that continuous employment will be found them at the regular rate of wages, also that proper house and hospital accommodation will be provided for them according to law.

From F. KENT, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, St. Georges, dated Dunfermline Estate, the 4th July 1870.

In reply to your circular of the 21st ultimo (No. 7), I beg to inform you I can guarantee sufficient employment, and that fair wages shall be paid to all immigrants that I have applied for (for this and Requin Estates), and also that proper houses and hospital accommodation shall be provided, and medical attendance as required by law.

From SALVO CASSAR, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, dated Balthazar Estate, Grenada, the 4th July 1870.

I beg to make an application for ten Indian or African immigrants for this estate, being a sugar and cocoa plantation in St. Andrew's, and I guarantee that comfortable and sufficient accommodation as well as estate's hospital and medical attendance will be provided for them as the law requires.

From C. THOMSON, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, dated Snell Hall, the 1st July 1870.

In answer to your circular of 21st June, I beg to inform you that I will be ready and guarantee employment to the coolies, in the event of my getting them, and will find them proper houses and hospital accommodation, and wages according to law.

From G. A. WHITEMAN, Esq., to the Immigration Agent, dated Corinth, the 11th July 1870.

I beg to forward you my return of immigrants on this estate to 30th June last, which I trust will be found correct.

In reply to your circular of 21st June, 1st, that I will guarantee to employ the coolies at fair wages; 2nd, I will have proper house and hospital accommodation provided for them in accordance with law.

From T. W. C. MURDOCH, Esq., to Sir F. ROGERS, Bart., &c., &c., &c., dated Emigration Board, the 19th August 1870.

I have to acknowledge your letter of 17th instant, with a further despatch from the Governor of the Windward Islands, on the subject of the renewal of Indian emigration to Grenada.

2. In November last, Governor Rawson sent Home an amended Immigration Act passed by the Legislature of Grenada, with an application from certain of the planters of the Island for 198 immigrants. In a Report, dated 17th January last, I recapitulated the circumstances connected with the former immigration to Grenada, which rendered caution necessary in acceding to this application; and I suggested that, before the application was granted, Governor Rawson should ascertain that there was a reasonable certainty that the immigrants, if introduced, would obtain employment and would be well treated. Governor Rawson now reports the result of his personal inquiry on the subject, and also transmits the answers returned by applicants for immigrants to an inquiry by the Immigration Agent, to the effect that the small number of immigrants applied for will be sure of employment and good treatment, and that the preparations for receiving them are satisfactory. At the same time, the alterations introduced by the recent law (as explained in my Report above referred to) have removed the difficulties which the Local Government formerly experienced in controlling the dealings of the planters with the immigrants.

3. Under these circumstances, the Secretary of State for India having consented to the renewal of the emigration, I request permission to direct Mr. Thornton Warner, the Trinidad Emigration Agent at Calcutta, to endeavour to send to Grenada a ship with about 200 emigrants. I assume that number, as it is the number mentioned in the enclosure to the Governor's Despatch of 30th November last, No. 598. It is, however, to be regretted that no number is specified in the Despatch of 25th ultimo, as I find in the enclosures to the latter Despatch no less than ten estates named as requiring immigrants which do not appear in the list sent Home in November. Nevertheless, it would not be safe to act on a conjectural estimate of our own framing, and the present Despatch does not afford materials for a definite estimate. The Local Government are, of course, aware that the Despatch of so small a number will be proportionally more expensive than the despatch of a whole ship's complement.

4. I should propose, with the Earl of Kimberley's permission, to offer Mr. Warner a remuneration of £70 for this service. As the season is advancing, I would request an early intimation of His Lordship's decision in the matter; that the necessary instructions may be sent to Mr.

Warner to collect the emigrants and engage a ship. In order to save time, I propose to communicate with him in the first instance by telegraph.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, 5th January 1871, No. 1.

Communicated to the Protector of Emigrants, together with a copy of the Proceedings of Government, dated the 21st November 1870, Nos. 99 and 100.
(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Protector of Emigrants.

Edw. J. Wright.

INDIA OFFICE;
London, the 14th Sept. 1870.

Public
No. 90.

To His Excellency The Right Hon'ble The GOVERNOR
GENERAL of India in Council.

MY LORD,—In continuation of my despatch of the 6th instant, No. 88, I have to inform your Excellency in Council that, since the date of the letter from the Colonial Office therewith forwarded, advices have been received by that Department, from which it appears that the number of Indian coolies required by the Colony of Grenada is 318, and that Mr. Anderson, the Emigration Agent at Calcutta for Jamaica, will be instructed to collect that number in the event of your Government agreeing to the renewal of the emigration to Grenada, and not 200—the number which, in the absence of specific information from the Local Government, the Chairman of the Emigration Board, in his letter of the 19th ultimo, communicated to you in my despatch above-cited, conjectured would be sufficient.

I have the honor to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servant,

ARGYLL.

No. 5212

COPY of this despatch, and of the previous despatch No. 88, dated the 6th September 1870, with a copy of its enclosures, forwarded to the Government of Fort St. George in continuation of endorsement No. 4545 dated the 6th ultimo.

By Order of the Governor General in Council,

FORT WILLIAM,
HOME DEPARTMENT,
PUBLIC;
The 3rd November 1870.

W. H. Murray
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Vol of 1871 ~~3~~ 40715.

PUBLIC.

To

THE PROTECTOR OF EMIGRANTS.

Dated January, 6th.

Recd.

G. O., 6th January 1871, No. 1.

JANUARY.
Nos. 1-2.

Communicating certain correspondence from the
Home Government on the subject of emigration of
Indian peoples to the Colony of Grenada.

5th Jan. 1871 No 1.

Communicated to the Protector of
Emigrants together with a copy of the
: proceedings of Emigration of the 21st Jan.
170. No 99 + 100.

To the Protector of Emigrants *W. M. 21/1/71*

Emigration and
immigration from the
these that no connection
with the proposal for re-
-sum of Emigration of Indians
order to the Colony of Guiana

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Public:

The Probationers and

Jan. 4th.

5 Jan^{ry} 1885.

Vol. 1. 2

Among certain correspondence
from the Home Govt. on the
subject of immigration of
Indian Coders to the colony of
Canada.