

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No/287

**Press
Mis.**

Dated 13-10-1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
13th October 1870.*

No. 84. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Public), to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Simla, 18th April 1870, No. 1990:—

With reference to your letter, No. 105, dated the 26th January, I am directed to forward, for the information of His Excellency in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter* from the Hon. G. S. Forbes, containing a suggestion bearing upon the working of the European Vagrancy Act (XXI of 1869).

* Dated 18th ultimo.

From the Hon. G. S. FORBES, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Fort William, the 18th March 1870.

I beg the permission of His Excellency the Viceroy in Council to bring before the Government a consideration of much importance in connexion with the working of the Vagrancy Act. I am, perhaps, not strictly in order in taking this course, but it is the only one that suggests itself to me, and I claim some indulgence in the matter, as having myself prepared the original Act, which, after some modifications, was sent up by the Madras Government, and has now, in substance, been embodied in the existing Act.

The Act provides for the deportation from India to England, or elsewhere, of distressed Europeans, but as yet I understand this provision has remained inoperative. Probably one reason for this is, that no one is specially charged with the duty of taking action in the matter, and making application to Government for passages. I venture to suggest that this may be remedied by an order of Government, vesting some public officer (perhaps the Protector of Emigrants) with the duty of reporting, at stated periods, the number of destitute and unemployed Europeans in the House of Industry and the Hospitals at Calcutta (and the Strangers' Homes and Hospitals at Madras and Bombay), to whom it is desirable to apply this provision of the Act.

There is, however, a very serious objection to the removal of destitute Europeans to England at this moment, owing to the greatly increased number of that class who have been thrown upon public charity during the winter.

The Australian Colonies, also, have ceased to encourage emigrants who have nothing but their labour to bring with them, and, in fact, the bulk of the destitute class, now to be found in Calcutta and Madras, find their way here from that quarter. There is, however, an opening which it may be found possible to use to the advantage of all parties. The Southern Pacific of California Railway which is to unite with the Kansas Pacific Line (crossing the American Continent on the 36th parallel) is under vigorous prosecution. The Kansas Line had already reached the basin of the Colorado river in March last year, and the Southern Pacific of California was being pushed forward from San Francisco towards the slopes of the Sierra Nevada.

The first-mentioned Company invites emigrants, assists them to travel, and grants allotments on long credit. It is believed that the Southern Pacific Company follow the same course; all the Companies now engaged in the construction of the three Great Continental lines have large grants of land from the Government of the United States, and it is their direct interest to attract both settlers and labourers.

In the State of California, not only are mining operations prosecuted with as much activity as ever, though without the excitement at first shown, but agricultural industry has developed with even greater rapidity and success, and is, necessarily, still further stimulated by the completion of one great line to the Atlantic, and the active prosecution of the second.

Here, if any where, there is a fair field for able-bodied Europeans who have mistaken their vocation, or rather "lost their way" in coming to India in search of work; and, as communication with San Francisco is now established, I submit that this opportunity for a really purpose-like and benevolent disposal of pauperized Europeans deserves the attention of the Government, and that it

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
13th October 1870.

is worth while to communicate with the Representative of the Southern Pacific of California Company at San Francisco, in order to ascertain whether that Company (like the Kansas Company) are disposed to invite or assist able-bodied men, in case the Indian Government should undertake to defray a portion of the cost of their passage.

I venture, further, to suggest that early steps should be taken to obtain, through a special officer, the number and condition of men qualified for emigration.

No. 85. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Public), dated Fort Saint George, 13th October 1870, No. 1287.

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 18th April last, communicating copy of a letter from the Hon. G. S. Forbes, containing suggestions bearing upon the working of the European Vagrancy Act (XXI of 1869).

2. In this letter, Mr. Forbes suggests that advantage may be taken of the works that are being carried out by the Southern Pacific of California Railway which is to unite with the Kansas Pacific Line.

3. The Government think that it is desirable that information should be obtained from the American Railway Boards at San Francisco as to the prospects which they can hold out for the employment of able-bodied Europeans sent from India. The number available from Madras is fortunately very small, but it seems probable that a considerable number might be furnished from Bombay and Calcutta should the reply of the American Railway Boards be encouraging.

4. Under these circumstances, I am to suggest that a communication to the Railway Boards on the subject should be addressed to them by the Government of India.

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

Home 1870 Dept.

From Government of

Fort St. George.

Dated 13th Oct. 1870.

No.

Enclosures

Spare copies

D. No.

D.

Procs.

L. No. 1287.

No.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 84-85.

Suggesting, with reference to a letter from to
Hon. G. S. Forbes, communicated by the Govern-
ment of India, containing suggestions bearing
upon the working of the Vagrancy Act, that that
Government ascertain from the American Railway
Boards at San Francisco the prospects which they
can hold out for the employment of able bodied
Europeans sent from India.

Rev D. D. Andrews
Sept 11 -

My dear Sir - The
letter about Bryant is
here with enclosed - The
Gov of India is sending
the suggestion round the
country home I will
not forward the thing - I
think the Treasury is the
best person to address
of American Rail
roads might be
and as the Ocean Steamer
for that Port will from
Calcutta, all the way

Handwritten text, likely a list or ledger, with multiple columns and rows of entries. The text is written in a cursive script and is mostly illegible due to the angle and quality of the scan. It appears to be a detailed record of some kind, possibly financial or administrative.

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or a date, located at the bottom of the page. It is written in a cursive script and is mostly illegible due to the angle and quality of the scan.

Dated Fort William, the 18th March 1870.

From—The Hon'ble G. ⁴ FORBES,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I BEG the permission of His Excellency the Viceroy in Council to bring before the Government a consideration of much importance in connection with the working of the Vagrancy Act. I am, perhaps, not strictly in order in taking this course, but it is the only one that suggests itself to me, and I claim some indulgence in the matter, as having myself prepared the original Act, which, after some modifications, was sent up by the Madras Government, and has now in substance been embodied in the existing Act.

The Act provides for the deportation from India to England, or elsewhere, of distressed Europeans, but as yet I understand this provision has remained inoperative. Probably one reason for this is, that no one is specially charged with the duty of taking action in the matter, and making application to Government for passages. I venture to suggest that this may be remedied by an order of Government, vesting some public officer (perhaps the Protector of Emigrants) with the duty of reporting, at stated periods, the number of destitute and unemployed Europeans in the House of Industry and the Hospitals at Calcutta (and the Strangers' Homes and Hospitals at Madras and Bombay) to whom it is desirable to apply this provision of the Act.

There is, however, a very serious objection to the removal of destitute Europeans to England at this moment, owing to the greatly increased number of that class who have been thrown upon public charity during the winter.

The Australian Colonies also have ceased to encourage emigrants who have nothing but their labor to bring with them, and, in fact, the bulk of the destitute class, now to be found in Calcutta and Madras, find their way here from that quarter. There is, however, an opening which it may be found possible to use to the advantage of all parties. The Southern Pacific of California Railway which is to unite with the Kansas Pacific Line (crossing the American Continent on the 36th parallel) is under vigorous prosecution. The Kansas Line had already reached the basin of the Colorado River in March last year, and the Southern Pacific of California was being pushed forward from San Francisco towards the slopes of the Sierra Nevada.

The first mentioned Company invites emigrants, assists them to travel, and grants allotments on long credit. It is believed that the Southern Pacific Company follow the same course; all the Companies now engaged in the construction of the three Great Continental lines have large grants of land from the Government of the United States, and it is their direct interest to attract both settlers and laborers.

In the State of California not only are mining operations prosecuted with as much activity as ever, though without the excitement at first shewn, but agricultural industry has developed with even greater rapidity and success, and is, necessarily, still further stimulated by the completion of one great line to the Atlantic, and the active prosecution of the second.

Here, if any where, there is a fair field for able-bodied Europeans who have mistaken their vocation, or rather "lost their way" in coming to India in search of work; and as communication with San Francisco is now established, I submit that this opportunity for a really purpose-like and benevolent disposal of pauperized Europeans deserves the attention of the Government, and that it is worth while to communicate with the Representative of the Southern Pacific of California Company at San Francisco, in order to ascertain whether that Company (like the Kansas Company) are disposed to invite or assist able-bodied men, in case the Indian Government should undertake to defray a portion of the cost of their passage.

I venture further to suggest that early steps should be taken to obtain, through a special officer, the number and condition of men qualified for emigration.

No. 1990

FROM

E. C. BAYLEY, Esq.,

Secretary to the Govt. of India,

*The Acting Chief Secy to the Government
of Fort St. George.*

Home Dept.
Public.

SIMLA, the 18-April 1870.

SIR,

WITH reference to your letter No 105 dated the 26 Jan 70
I am directed to forward *for the information of His
Excellency in Council*
the accompanying copy of a letter* from the

* Dated 18th ultimo.

8 Hon'ble G. D. Forbes, containing a suggestion bearing upon the working of
the European Vagrancy Act (XXI. of 1869).

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

E. C. Bayley

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

22. 11. 1870

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To

Home Department.

(Public)

Sir,

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 10th April last, communicating to me of a letter from the Hon. Mr. J. S. Forbes, containing suggestions bearing upon the working of the European Vagrancy Act (XXI of 1869).

2. In this letter Mr Forbes suggests that advantage may be taken of the works that are being carried out by the Southern Pacific of California Railway which is to unite with the Kansas Pacific Line.

3 The Govt think that it is desirable that information should be obtained from the American Railway Boards

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MA

Robt George
13 Oct 72

18 . Department.

No.

To
The Secretary to the
Government of
Department

Dated

187 .

10/2/10

Home 1870. Dept.

From Government of

Fort St. George.

Date 1 Oct. 13

R.

1870

No.

Enclosures.
spare copies.

D. No.

Progs.

D.

L. No. 1287.

No.

Nos. 85.

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Comr. by the Govt. of India, contain-
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