

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	589	Press Mis.
Dated	5-5	19 1871

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 24. Read the following letter from the Officiating Protector of Emigrants, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 18th April 1871, No. 18-N:—

I have the honour to report the arrival here, on the 10th instant, of the Ship *Red Riding Hood* with return emigrants from Natal. She had on board when she cast anchor 384 souls, of whom two died before they were landed. Of the remaining 382, 156 were for Madras, and 226 for Calcutta, including an infant born during the voyage.

2. When the Ship left Natal there were 387 souls on board. Four deaths and one birth occurred at sea, and two deaths after arrival in the port,* leaving the total above mentioned, viz., 382 souls.

3. The Madras Contingent was composed as follows:—

83 adult males of ten years and upwards.
30 adult females of ten years and upwards.
20 boys between 1 and 10.
15 girls do. 1 and 10.
8 infants under one year.

156

4. I went on board the vessel and examined the coolies and the ship. The coolies were all unanimous in praise of the kindness of the Captain and Doctor, and seemed for the most part stout and in good health.

5. The arrangements between decks for the sleeping accommodation of the coolies seemed good with the exception that the women and children appeared not to have been separated from the men at night.

6. The vessel was only chartered as far as Madras, but subsequently Mr. Rowland having been appointed by the Madras Government, at the request of the Natal Government, to officiate as Emigration Agent, and having entered into a fresh Charter Party with the Captain to take the Bengal Coolies on to Calcutta, the Ship's articles were signed, and she sailed on the morning of the 16th with the Calcutta Contingent on board consisting of 133 men, forty women, twenty-five boys, twenty-two girls, and six infants, making a total of 226.

7. Many of the Madras Coolies were loud in their complaints of the manner in which they had been treated on the Estates in Natal.

8. They all complained that they had been told, before leaving Madras and after reaching Natal, that, at the end of their ten years' service there, they would get £10 each on leaving to return to India, but had not received any money at all. Another general complaint was that they had not had proper rations of rice, as stipulated, while on the estates, "mealy meal" (maize flour) being served out instead in most instances in lieu of half the ration of rice.

9. I took down statements from those who had specific charges to make, and enclose copies of them. If the allegations therein set forth are true, they contain rather serious charges against some of the Natal Planters, and against the Magistrates

* DEATHS.—One woman and one infant, of Bengal Coolies.
Three men and one woman, of Madras Coolies.
BIRTH.—One infant born of one of the Bengal Coolies.

who are stated to have failed to put the law in force to protect the coolies. But it is quite possible that the statements contain exaggerations.

10. Among the whole eighty-three adult males who landed here only six had any money, and those six only £21 between them.

11. One cooly was insane and was sent to the Monegar Choultry. An application has been made to the Police Magistrate to have him transferred to the Lunatic Asylum under the provisions of Section 5 of Act No. XXXVI. of 1858.

12. I forward a letter addressed to me by a Mr. Pinsent, a Lawyer at Natal, who seems to have been consulted by the coolies on the question of the promise of £10 a-head to them on their return to India, and on the change in the Natal Law, which, he remarks, "had been altered evidently to meet the pressure of their (the coolies) claims under the old law.

13. I have questioned Mr. Burton who was Natal Emigration Agent here in 1859, and he tells me that, to his knowledge, no promise of any gratuity of £10 a-head on their return to India was made to the coolies then going to Natal.

Statement made by Balakistna, Colonial No. 336.

I came to Madras in the *Red Reding Hood* as Interpreter. I emigrated to Natal ten years ago. I think it was in the *Truro*. Mr. Collins in Madras and afterwards at Natal, and Dr. Holland and Mr. Tatham all told the coolies that they would get £10 each on their return to India after ten years. I was not told so personally by any one of those gentlemen, but every cooly said that they had been told they were to receive the £10. I served three years on Mr. Leicester's Estate; he gave proper food and wages, but was very severe. If a cooly did not go to work one day he stopped two days' pay, and he often tied up coolies who made mistakes and flogged them and then put salt-water on their backs. Jacob and Moonesawmy were treated in this way. I saw five or six coolies flogged two or three times. The coolies complained to the Magistrate who would come to the estate and make inquiries and speak to Mr. Leicester and then tell the coolies he would not flog them again.

2. After leaving Mr. Leicester I went into Mr. Lamport's service. He is a good gentleman. He treated the coolies well. He never beat them, but fed and paid them properly. I was there two years. My five years were then up. I was then free to go where I liked. I served in different places for five years more. All the gentlemen under whom I served for these five years were good gentlemen. Mr. Leicester used only to flog Jacob and Moonesawmy. I saw them flogged five or six times. He flogged them with a "chembuck," a piece of bullock's hide about a foot-and-a-half long which he carried in his pocket.

13th April 1871.

(Signed) M. BALAKISTNA.

Statement of Moonesawmy, son of Chenganna, Colonial No. 841.

I returned in the ship yesterday. I don't know its name. It is the same ship that Balakistna came in. I was not told that I should get £10 when I came back. I have been in Natal for about ten years. I went in the second ship. I served on Mr. Leicester's Estate. I don't quite know how long I was there. I was there till I got my liberty (i. e., for five years, the time of contract). Mr. Leicester was a very bad gentleman. He would sometimes put a rope round my neck and send me to the Police. He often beat me with a "chembuck" tying my hands and pouring salt-water on my back. After I left Mr. Leicester I worked as a bearer looking after other coolies' children. I was Mr. Leicester's cowherd. If the cattle strayed into the coffee he would beat me. I have seen Jacob beaten by Mr. Leicester.

13th April 1871.

Mark 8 of MOONESAWMY.

Statement of Rajanan, Colonial No. 160.

I went to Natal ten years ago. I was told before I went by Apparow Moodelliar and Mr. Collins in Madras that I should get £10 when I came back. Mr. Collins was present when Apparow Moodelliar told me. Mr. Collins told me first and Apparow Moodelliar translated for him to me. I was three years on Mr. Kennedy's Coffee Estate. He gave the coolies much annoyance. He did not give them proper rations, and if they complained he beat them. Once or twice he beat me with a stick. I have seen other coolies beaten by him. After three years I paid £5 to Mr. Tatham and went to Mr. Lamport's Estate who gave me back the £5 and treated me and all the coolies well. I complained to the Magistrate, Mr. Tatham, but he did nothing for me. He told me if I paid £5 I could leave Mr. Kennedy, and I accordingly did so. I was afterwards five years with Mr. Thomson as a Sirdar. He is a kind gentleman, and treated me and the coolies well.

13th April 1871.

Mark x of RAJANAN.

Statement of Vencatasawmy, Colonial No. 185.

I have been ten years in Natal. I was told by Mr. Collins and his Interpreter, Apparow Moodelliar, that I should get £10 and a free passage back to Madras at the end of ten years. I was five years on Mr. Hunter's Estate. He gave us mixed rations of mealy meal and rice. He did not beat the coolies, but if any one of them fell sick he stopped only one shilling a day from their pay if they went to him and took medicine before him, but if they stopped away from work without telling him he stopped half a crown a day. I was ten months with Mr. Thompson. He was very kind. He only stopped six pence a day if a cooly was sick, and sometimes not that if the man was a good workman.

13th April 1871.

Mark ? of VENCATASAWMY.

Statement of Lazar, son of Allamaloo, Colonial No. 737.

I came to Madras in the *Red Riding Hood*. I have been in Natal for ten years. I was three years in Mr. Andrew Wellesley's employ. He never paid me any wages properly. Once in three or four months he would give me 6 or 8s. I then went to Mr. Bob Smith for a year. He paid me for four months, and then never paid me any more. He said I must wait, he would pay me all at once; but when the year was up he never paid me. He owes me £5. When I left Madras I was told by Mr. Collins I should get £10 on my return, but I never got it. Mr. Collins was present, and Apparow Moodelliar translated for him.

13th April 1871.

Mark x of LAZAR.

Statement of Veeran, Colonial No. 280.

I have been for the last ten years in Natal. I was five years in the service of Mr. Greig as a field labourer and cook. He beat me on the head one day with an iron rod and cut my forehead (a scar on the right temple here shown) because I would not make up the fire. I then ran off into the bush for three days. When I came back I worked for three months for him, but never got any pay. I then left him. He gave the coolies small rations of rice and sweet potatoes. During the last five years I served, one with Mr. Luchar, two with Mr. Robinson, and one with Mr. Harrison. All these gentlemen treated me well. One year I was sick. Apparow Moodelliar and the gentleman who was here told me when I was leaving Madras to go to Natal that I should get £10 on my return.

13th April 1871.

Mark x of VEERAN.

Statement of Ramasamy, Colonial No. 4812.

I was three years with Mr. Hodgson. He only gave me half the pay which he ought to have given me. He ought to have paid me 10s. a month. He only gave me 5s. and sometimes 6s. This

5th May 1871.

lasted for three years. I then went to Mr. Greig. Mr. Greig engaged to pay me 12s. a month. He did so for six months, but afterwards only gave me 5 or 6s. a month. Mr. Greig died at the end of the year. Mr. Lamport bought his estate and treated me well.

13th April 1871.

Mark 2 of RAMASAMI.

Statement of Baboo, Colonial No. 3049.

I was in the employ of Mr. Clement Crozier for three years and nine months. He used to pay me irregularly, and of the 3½ years' wages due to me I only received pay for two years and 9½ months. Mr. Crozier owes me 11½ months' pay at 13s. a month. He treated thirty-three other coolies in the same way. Those men are still at Natal. Mr. Crozier's Manager named Henderson, and the Surdar Ramasamy Naidoo, used to worry and bully the coolies so that four men hanged themselves to escape the annoyance of being compelled to work when sick and of being beaten. One week we used to get pumpkins and salt and nothing else; another week sweet potatoes and salt only; another week 3lbs. of rice and 6lbs. of mealy meal, and instead of salt-fish and ghee only broken coffee was given to us. There is a Cooly Depôt at Point Town near Durban at which one Baboo Naidoo is interpreter. All incurable and sickly coolies sent down from the Estates to the Depôt are lodged there and made to work in Baboo Naidoo's garden. If they refuse he gives them only half rations. We were compelled to clean the privies while we were sick at the Depôt. Mr. Mason is entirely in the hands of Baboo Naidoo. Mr. Mason is the Manager of the Cooly Depôt and Emigration Agent.

13th April 1871.

(Signed) A. BAUBOO NAIDOO.

Statement of Mangapathee, Colonial No. 4430.

Mr. Trail, in whose service I was for four years, owes me 7½ months' pay at 12s. a month. I complained to Mr. Mason, but got no redress.

13th April 1871.

Mark || of MUNAPATHEE.

Statement of Ayalu, Colonial No. 2611.

Mr. Green, in whose service I was for 4½ years, owes me 7½ months' pay at 12s. a month. I complained to Mr. Mason, but got no redress.

13th April 1871.

NOTE.—This cooly was blind.

From SAVERY PINSENT, Esq., to the Cooly Emigration Officer, Madras, dated Durban, Natal, 8th February 1871.

The coolies by the *Red Riding Hood* have consulted me as their legal adviser respecting an alleged claim of £10 per head on their return to India against this Government. They can bring no proof of such a promise but their word, and I could not hope to win, even if there was time to sue, without their losing their passage. I doubt whether Mr. Collins, the Agent of this Government, could have made such a promise, and if he did, he could not have been authorized thereto.

2. But, apart from this, under our Cooly Law of 1859 the coolies are entitled to 25s. per month from the time of their giving notice claiming to return to India to their departure. By a law passed last year consolidating the Cooly Laws this has been altered evidently to meet the pressure of their claims under the old law. By that law they are only entitled to 10s. a month for the third and succeeding months after claim for a passage, and the Government claim that this 10s. shall only be paid on full completion of the third, &c., month, and not in full or *pro rata* for a part of the month. I contend that this law of 1870 was not intended to apply to past contracts, or that it is unjust and oppressive if held so to be. I have represented this to Government, but they will not listen to it.

5th May 1871.

3. I have written fully to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor on this matter. But the coolies want a document from me in their own hands.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 5th May 1871, No. 589.

Resolved that copies of the foregoing letter, and of the depositions received with it, be forwarded to the Natal Government, and that their attention be drawn to the complaints made by the return emigrants per Ship *Red Riding Hood* of the treatment they received on the Estates in Natal.

2. It is observed from the P. S. of the Colonial Secretary's letter, dated the 6th February 1871, that this Government will be addressed regarding a memorial presented to the Government of Natal by Mr. Pinsent on behalf of the return emigrants in respect of an alleged claim of £10 per head.

3. The Protector will furnish Government with any information which may be obtainable from the records of his office of the conditions on which coolies were sent to Natal ten years ago.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Protector of Emigrants.

Ed. J. Wright.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

No. 590.

To
THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY AT NATAL.

SIR,
With reference to your letters, number and dates as per margin, I am directed
Dated 19th January 1871, No. 149-D. to transmit copy of the Proceedings of the Madras
" 6th February " Government of this date, No. 589, and to request the
" 10th " " attention of the Government of Natal to the complaints made by the return
emigrants per Ship *Red Riding Hood* of the treatment they received on the Estates
in Natal.

2. This Government request that they may be informed of the result of any
inquiry that may be instituted on the subject, and that full information may be
furnished to them as to the late change in the local laws as regards allowances to
emigrants after application for return passages.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Acting Chief Secretary.

PORT SAINT GEORGE,
5th May 1871.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of 1871

PUBLIC.

To
THE PROTECTOR OF EMIGRANTS.

Dated May, 5th.

Recd.

Exd.

G. O., 5th May 1871, No. 589.

MAY.
Nos. 24-26.

Directing that the papers on the subject be
forwarded to the Natal Government, and their
attention drawn to the complaints made by the
return emigrants per Ship *Red Riding Hood* of
the treatment they received on the Estates in
Natal.

127
Ship Residing Home
February 13th 1871.

Si
Have the honor to inform
you that on shipping the
return (colic) this morning - one
Maw. Mylapur No. 59. Ship No. 227
was not present consequently
is not forwarded by the vessel.
This is one of the new where
passage is at the rate of 25/-

Have the honor to be
in
Ympheeris Lerrant
Maw, Mylapur
Acting Chief Agent

The Honorable
The Chief Secretary to
Gov. Madras

Count of 1871: 31 Madras.

PUBLIC.

To
THE HON. THE COLONIAL
SECRETARY AT NATAL.

Dated May, 5th.
Recd.
G. O. No. 504 May 1871. No. 590.

MAY.
Nos. 24-26.

Forwarding papers on the subject and drawing
the attention of the Natal Government to the
conclusions made by the return emigrants per Ship
No. 227 of 1871 of the treatment they received
on the voyage to Natal.

A

Return of the Number of ~~Ships~~ Adults. passage at \$8. per adult.
No. 10.

From Ships Number 1. to 320 equal 270 Statute adults @ \$8.

From Ships Number 321. to 398 equal 64 Statute adults @ \$10.

Chatae Feb'y 11th 1891

Alfred H. Mason
Acting Comdr. of Genl.

in ed

The Government
 the Secretary
 to Government
 at Washington
 The copy of the
 will show that in 1861
 good natured friends of the
 new case but some of them
 were great in fact to go
 but what is true and
 true for 10 years. These
 said to the new case
 it was another, and the
 I fear, and wherever
 there is a paper, the
 history of this
 case is a long
 to the fact, we had
 during the first
 and then to the
 the case to the
 the case to the
 the case to the
 the case to the

Immigration Office
Natal February 11th 1871

Sir

Since expired Cooks
142 Males
54 Females
33 Boys
27 Girls
10 Infants.
equal to 259. ^{Stat.}

Invalids & families

47 Males
3 Females

50 Statute adults
Families—

1 Male
12 Males
14 Boys
10 Girls
4 Infants.

all 75 Statute adults.

Total 334 Statute
adults.

I have the honor to inform you that by direction of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, I have returned by the ship "Red Riding Hood" Captain John Henderson, the time expired and Invalid Cooks with their families noted in the margin and as per descriptive list herewith

From this list you will perceive that from ships numbered 1. to No 184 are Calcutta Cooks and from ships No. 321. to No 398 are also Calcutta men. The remaining portion being principally men from the Madras presidency, and I have the honor to request that these people may be forwarded in the usual way to their respective villages—

The Charter party of the Ship "Red Riding Hood", I enclose herewith—

The Honorable
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Madras—

our own Country, we were verbally promised a gratuity of £100 Stg. each on leaving Natal if we fulfilled the conditions of the agreement. We have received nothing. This is just our case as it stands. I am sorry to hear of your trouble, but necessity compels us.

We remain
Yours Obedient Servant
Laubert Fortin
Bulle
Gehane
Megh
Lohar
Leboasing
Coolie

10 years, at the end of which we were sent on board this ship in the belief that after the Madras authorities were satisfied in that port, we would proceed to Calcutta with us. But after leaving Natal we found to our dismay that we were chartered for Madras only. It is like a foreign country to us, we have no relations nor have we the means of paying our passage, nor being able to find employment in our own country. We are afraid to land in India for fear of being sold by the natives as the Madras and Calcutta men do. I agree. If it is your pleasure we will go to the remaining one board here (having been well treated) with the Madras men are in need, and then proceed in this, or any other vessel your excellency thinks fit to send.

herewith from which you will perceive that the passage money for 240 Statute adults is at the rate of £8. sterling, and for all over that number £10. sterling per adult as per return herewith A.

The Charter party has been carried out as far as possible at this Port. The Captain agreeing to call at Mauritius to fill up. fresh water, and to carry out any suggestions of the Medical Officer in Charge for the well being of the Immigrants on board. -

Doctor M. Matthews has been appointed to take the Medical Charge of the Cooks by this Ship - and is to be paid by the Captain -

Enclose Copy of his letter of appointment - and Instructions

Two of the return Cooks have been appointed back as Interpreters. Copy appointment enclosed,

they will be entitled to receive a gratuity of 1/ per head for each adult landed, to be equally divided between them -

Two Measurers & Six Cooks have also been appointed and will be entitled to receive a gratuity of 15/ each, as per letter handed to them Copy enclosed.

Six Stewards or Stewesses have also been engaged and will be entitled to a gratuity of 20/ each, copy of letter handed to them now enclosed.

These appointments have been made on the understanding that if the several duties are not performed to the satisfaction of the Surgeon Superintendent of the Ship - and should any of them be negligent or otherwise unfitted for the duties, he will be free to replace

replace them - and that they will only be paid in India on a Certificate in writing from that Gentleman, that the several duties have been performed to his satisfaction -

The Stores and Medical Comforts for the use of the Cooks by this ship are of the best quality and sufficient in quantity for her intended Voyage, and have been supplied in accordance with the Indian Act,

The Invalid Cooks have been supplied with warm Clothing and Blankets &c. for the Voyage in order that they may be as comfortable as possible -

I enclose a parcel addressed to you from the Honorable the Colonial Secretary here, and I have also the honor

1840
honor of enclosing the following documents in connection with the shipment of these Cooks viz.

- no 1. Govt Notice no 182. 1840
- " 2. Tender of the Ship.
- " 3. Acceptance -
- " 4. Charter party
- " 5. Authority to sign Charter party
- " 6. Descriptive list of Cooks
- " 7. Medical Report from officers Cooks
- " 8. Do. Invalid "
- " 9. Abstract Number of Cooks
- " 10. printed Instructions Medical Officer
- " 11. Certificate Ships Surgeon
- " 12. Do. " & agents.
- " 13. Stores & Medical Comforts.
- " 14. Health Officers report
- " 15. Survey of Vessel.
- " 16. Acting Cooks Agents report
- " 17. General Instructions
- " 18. discharged Voucher pay on a/c.
- " 19. appointment Surgeon
- " 20. " Interpreters
- " 21. " Measurers
- " 22. " Cooks

- 23. appointm^t. Searangers
- 24. Original crew list
- 25. Letter to Surgeon.
- 26. " " Captain.

Have the honor to be

Y^r
 Your Obedient Servant
 A. J. Massey
 Acting Cooks Agent.

P.S. Captain Henderson has been
 paid Three Hundred pounds sq.
 in account of passage money.
 Receipt enclosed.

Natal Chambers,
 Durban. Natal.

8th Feb^y 1871

To the Coolie Emigration Officer
 Madras.

Sir

The Coolies by the Red Binding Flood have
 consulted me as their legal Adviser respecting an alter-
 claim of £10 per head on their return to India against
 this Government. They can bring no proof of such a promise
 but their word and I could not hope to win even if there
 was time to sue without their losing their passage. I doubt
 whether Mr Colling, the Agent of this Gov^t could have made
 such a promise. If he did, he could not have been author-
 ized to do so.

But apart from this, under our Coolie Law of 1859, the
 Coolies are entitled to 2^d per month from the time of their going
 notice claiming to return to India to their departure. By a law
 passed last year consolidating the Coolie laws, this has been
 altered, evidently to meet the pressure of their claims under
 the old law. By that law they are only entitled to 1st of a month
 for the third and succeeding months after claim for a passage
 and the Government claim that this 1st shall only be paid on
 full completion of the third month: first in full or pro rata
 for a part of the month. I contend that this law of 1870 was not
 intended to apply to past contracts: or that it is unjust & oppressive
 if held to be so. I have represented this to Gov^t but they will
 not listen to it.

I have written fully to His Excellency the Lieutenant
 Governor on this matter. But the Coolies want a document from
 me in their own hands.

Yours obed^{tly} Savery Pinson.

N
18

Protector's Office
Madras 18th April 1871

From

J. H. Garstin Esq.
Off. Protector of Emigrants

To

The Honorable R. L. Ellis C.B.
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St George

Sir,

I have the honor to report the arrival here on the 10th Inst of the Ship "Red Riding Hood" with return Emigrants from Natal. She had on board when she cast anchor 384 Souls of whom two died before they were landed. Of the remaining 382, 156 were for Madras and 226 for Calcutta including an infant born during the voyage.

When the Ship left Natal there were 387 Souls on board. Four deaths and one birth occurred at Sea and 2 deaths after arrival in the Port leaving the total above mentioned

Deaths—

1 Woman } of Bengal
1 Infant } Coolies
3 Men } of Madras
1 Woman } Coolies
Birth—
1 Infant born of one
of the Bengal Coolies

3.

Left 382 Souls.

The Madras contingent was composed as follows.

83 Adult Males of 10 years and upwards
30 Adult females of 10 years and upwards
20 Boys between 1 & 10
15 Girls " " 1 & 10.
8 Infants under one year

156

4

I went to the Hospital and examined the Cases and the Ship. The Coolies were all well in praise of the kindness of the Captain and Doctor and secured for the most

W. H. Garstin Esq.
18th April 1871
J. H. Garstin

most part stout and in good health.

5 The Arrangements between decks for the sleeping accommodation of the Coolies seemed good with the exception that the Women and children appeared not to have been separated from the Men at night.

6 The Hesper was only chartered as far as Madras but subsequently Mr Rowland having been appointed by the Madras Government at the request of the Natal Government to officiate as Emigration Agent and having entered into a fresh charter party with the Captain to take the Bengal Coolies on to Calcutta. The Ship's Articles were signed and she sailed on the morning of the 16th with the Calcutta Contingent on board consisting of 133 Men, 10 Women, 25 boys, 22 Girls & 6 infants making total of 226.

7. Many of the Madras Coolies were loud in their complaints of the manner in which they had been treated on the Estates in Natal.

8 They all complained that they had been told before leaving Madras and after reaching Natal that at the end of their 10 years service there they would get £10 each on leaving to return to India, but had not received any money at all. Another general complaint was that they had not had proper rations of rice, as stipulated, while on the estates, "mealy meal" (maize flour) being served out instead in most instances in lieu of half the ration of rice.

9 I took down statements from those who

who had specific charges to make and enclose copies of them. If the allegations therein set forth are true they contain rather serious charges against some of the Natal Planters and against the Magistrates who are stated to have failed to — but the law in force to protect the Coolies. But it is quite possible that the statements contain exaggerations.

10 Among the whole 83 Adult Males who landed ^{here}, only had any money and those six only £21 between them.

11 One Cooly was insane and was sent to the Monegar Choultry. An application has been made to the Police Magistrate to have him transferred to the Lunatic Asylum under the provisions of Section V of Act 1836 of 1858.

12 I forward a letter addressed to me by a Mr Pinson a lawyer at Natal who seems to have been consulted by the Coolies on the question of the promise of £10 a head to them on their return to India and on the change in the Natal Law, which he remarks "had been altered evidently, to meet the profuse of their (the Coolies) claims under the old Law."

13 I have questioned Mr Burton who was Natal Emigration Agent here in 1859 and he tells me that to his

knowledge

know ledge no promise of any gratuity, of £10
 to India
 or head on their return was made to the Coolies
 their going to Natal.

I have the honor to be
 Sir,
 Your Most Obedt & Servt

J. H. Carsten
 Offy Protector of Emigrants

Colonial Office Natal
 February 10th 1871

Sir,

Referring to my letter dated 19th
 * January 1871 (original forwarded by Mail
 Packet, duplicate by the Ship "Red Riding
 Hood") apprising you that the Ship
 "Red Riding Hood" was about being
 despatched from the Port of this Colony
 to Madras with time expired and loaded
 Coolies I am directed by the Secretary
 the Lieutenant Governor to acquaint you
 for the information of the Madras
 Government that the Acting Chief

Emigration

The Honble
 The Chief Secretary to Government
 Madras

For 15 days only 11 Dec 1871

Public 1871 Dec 11
 From
 The Offy Protector of Emigrants

To the Honble Secretary

to Govt
 Fort St George

dated 18th Dec 1871

No 696

Reports to the Honble of the
 Acting Chief Secretary
 Madras dated 18th Dec 1871
 and for Madras a letter
 from the Honble of the
 Acting Chief Secretary
 at Madras dated 18th Dec 1871
 at Madras made by the
 Chief Secretary to the Honble
 Secretary -

22/5/71 24

Immigration Agent at the Port of
this Colony Mr. L. H. Mason has been
instructed to forward to your address
per the Ship "Red Riding Hood" the
Charter Party and all other documents,
connected with the Coolies by this Ship,
which documents I am to request may
be handed over to the person appointed
by your Government to act as the
Agent for this Colony at Madras
in attending to the landing of these
Coolies and the forwarding of such
portion of them to the Bengal
Presidency as are set forth in the
list signed by the Acting Coolie Agent
in this Colony.

2 I also beg to forward to
you the enclosed letter of instructions
to

to the Coolie Immigration Agent for
this Government at Madras and
to request that on the appointment
being made ^{it} may be handed over
to that Officer

3 I am further to state
that the Agents of the Ship "Red
Riding Hood" Messrs. Steel & Co. in
this Colony have been paid the
sum of Three hundred pounds sterling
on account of the passage money
of these Coolies and I am to request
that you will favor this Government
by drawing Bills on the Crown Agents
for the Colonies at thirty days sight
for the amount of the balance of
passage money certified to be owing,
and handing the same over to the

Person mentioned in the Charter
Party, in liquidation of the account
for such passage money -

4 As our Agent at Madras
will be required to make cash
payments on the landing of these
coolies, viz to Interpreters, Madras,
lookers and stevedores employed
during the voyage as per letter of
the Acting Coolie Agent in this Colony
with the papers and other expenses
I am to request that you will
be pleased to advance to our

Agent such sums as may be found
necessary to defray this expenditure,
the amount of advances so made
will be repaid to your Government
by your Bill at 30 days sight.

727.
on the Crown Agents for the Colonies
5. The Agent for this Colony
at Madras has been instructed
to act according to any instructions
he may receive from the Madras
Government.

6 I beg to enclose for the
information of your Government six
copies of the Statute Law No 2 1870
entitled "To amend and consolidate
the laws relating to the introduction
of Coolie Immigrants into this Colony
and to the regulations and government
of such Coolie Immigrants"

7 Mr L. H. Mason the Acting
Coolie Immigration Agent in this
Colony has been authorized to

sign the Charter Party for and on
behalf of this Government

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

J. H. M.

Colonial Secretary

Durban Natal 33
February 6th 1871

The Honorable
The Secretary to the Government
of Madras

My dear Sir

I have to apologise for
troubling you with our return
coolies but I do not know how to
avoid it. There seems to be little
probability of more coolies being sent
for at present. The passage money
would be no obstacle at present rates.
but the incidental expenses run
up the cost to an amount which
our planters are unable to bear.

The Lieutenant Governor
is extremely anxious that the coolies
should have no cause of complaint
and every thing we could think of
has been done to secure their
Comfort

comfort in the Ship Red Riding Hood,
which has been procured from the
Cape (720 Tons) In future we
propose to adopt the Mauritius
regulations with regard to these
shipments

The only causes of complaint
which have been mentioned to me
whilst personally superintending
the Embarkation have been first
that the Coolies by the first four
ships were promised by some white
men in India a gratuity of £10
each on the termination of their 10 years
residence here. I need hardly say
that this Government has no knowledge
of or belief in any such promise having
been made and I can only account
for the supposition on the part of the

35.
Coolies (if not as my old Indian
experience teaches me to suspect a
pure invention) by the fact that land
to the value of ten pounds is offered
to the Coolies in lieu of a return
passage. Secondly a lawyer has
complained on behalf of the Coolies
(the Coolies did not do so) that since
their engagement the law which gave
them 25/- per month for each month
which expired after their application
for a return passage has been altered
to 10/- and 2 Months. This was not done
at the instigation of the Government
but by the Legislative Council, and
it has had no practical effect on the
position of the Coolies as they remained
in service until about a month before
the departure of the ship and were
then kept in the Depot at the expense
of the Government. The

The third complaint was that they expected to be supplied with clothing and Blankets. It was found that they had been so supplied when shipped from India in one or two ships (but not in others) and that this had been done in consequence of their having to proceed from a hot to a cool climate which is not now the case, besides which they must be supposed after a residence of ten years here to have provided themselves with these articles. I shall however make enquiry whether it is the practice to furnish them elsewhere.

Mr Mathews, who accompanies the ship is the Government District Surgeon of the most populous Coolie district. The Invalids have been shipped with Blankets.

I have honor to be Sir
Your Obedient Servant
D. P. S.

Colonial Secretary

Some writing that a Memorial has been sent in by Mr. [unclear] the lawyer referred to which will be the subject of correspondence with your Government.

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from

the Protector of Emigrants
dated 18th April 1871 No. 2/10.

Order thereon No. 589 - 5 May 71.

Resolved that copies of the foregoing letter and of the depositions received with it be forwarded to the Natal Court and that their attention be drawn to the complaints made by the return Emigrants per ship "Red Riding Hood" of the treatment they received on the Estate in Natal.

It is observed from the P. S. of the Colonial Secretary's letter dated the 6th July 1871 that this Court will be addressed regarding a memorial presented to the Govt. of Natal by

No. 2/10

D. P. S.

Mr. Piment on behalf
of the return Emigrants
in respect of an alleged
claim of £10 per head.

2. In the meantime
the Protector of Emigrants
will ascertain and report
to Govt. who is Mr. Collins,
the person referred to by Mr. Piment
his letter to the Protector,
and also in the Regulations
of the Cooks, and whether
he is at present at Madras.

3. The Protector
will ~~also~~ furnish Govt.
with any information
which may be obtainable
from the records of his
Office of the conditions
on which Cooks were
sent to Natal 10 years ago.

L.K.

I find that Mr. Collins
has been shown the Natal
Govt. & long since the
Emigration Office
years ago. I find
wherever I have
Colony. I have
since been in
of him.
L.K.

The Protector of Emigrants.

furnished to them as to the
late changes in the local
laws as regards alcohol
& liquor & after applying
for return passages.

L. D.

Lat. 1871
5 Mar 1871

CONFIDENTIAL

To
Public
The Protector of Emigrants.

Dated May 5. }
Recd. 1871, No. 599.

Nos. 24. 26.

Directing that the ~~Emigrants~~ ^{Emigrants}
on the subject be forwarded to
the Hotel St. and ~~Emigrants~~
their attention to the complaints
made by the return Emigrants
per ship "Red Riding Hood" of
the treatment they received
on the estates in Natal.

and kept with
3 copies of letter 839.

847

80590 Public Department

To, ^{Honble the}
The Colonial Secretary
at Natal.

Dated 19 Jan^y/71 No 1498.
" 6 Feb^y/71
" 10 Feb^y/71

J. D. S.

I would ask you
to tell us the result
of their enquiry -
to explain about the
alleged change of
law. So long as we
permit emigration, we
ought to be furnished
with all new laws affecting
emigration.

Sir,
With reference to
your letter no and date
as per margin, I am
directed to transmit copy
of the Proceedings of the
of this date the instant No 5
and to request the attention
of the Govt of Natal to
the complaints made by
the return Emigrants per
Ship "Red Riding Hood"
of the treatment they
received on the Coast
in Natal.

L. J. P. This I
request that they may
be informed of the results
any enquiry that may
be instituted on the
subject. and that full
information may be

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	589	Press Mis.
Dated	5-5	19 1871

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 24. Read the following letter from the Officiating Protector of Emigrants, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 18th April 1871, No. 18-N:—

I have the honour to report the arrival here, on the 10th instant, of the Ship *Red Riding Hood* with return emigrants from Natal. She had on board when she cast anchor 384 souls, of whom two died before they were landed. Of the remaining 382, 156 were for Madras, and 226 for Calcutta, including an infant born during the voyage.

2. When the Ship left Natal there were 387 souls on board. Four deaths and one birth occurred at sea, and two deaths after arrival in the port,* leaving the total above mentioned, viz., 382 souls.

3. The Madras Contingent was composed as follows:—

83 adult males of ten years and upwards.
30 adult females of ten years and upwards.
20 boys between 1 and 10.
15 girls do. 1 and 10.
8 infants under one year.

156

4. I went on board the vessel and examined the coolies and the ship. The coolies were all unanimous in praise of the kindness of the Captain and Doctor, and seemed for the most part stout and in good health.

5. The arrangements between decks for the sleeping accommodation of the coolies seemed good with the exception that the women and children appeared not to have been separated from the men at night.

6. The vessel was only chartered as far as Madras, but subsequently Mr. Rowland having been appointed by the Madras Government, at the request of the Natal Government, to officiate as Emigration Agent, and having entered into a fresh Charter Party with the Captain to take the Bengal Coolies on to Calcutta, the Ship's articles were signed, and she sailed on the morning of the 16th with the Calcutta Contingent on board consisting of 133 men, forty women, twenty-five boys, twenty-two girls, and six infants, making a total of 226.

7. Many of the Madras Coolies were loud in their complaints of the manner in which they had been treated on the Estates in Natal.

8. They all complained that they had been told, before leaving Madras and after reaching Natal, that, at the end of their ten years' service there, they would get £10 each on leaving to return to India, but had not received any money at all. Another general complaint was that they had not had proper rations of rice, as stipulated, while on the estates, "mealy meal" (maize flour) being served out instead in most instances in lieu of half the ration of rice.

9. I took down statements from those who had specific charges to make, and enclose copies of them. If the allegations therein set forth are true, they contain rather serious charges against some of the Natal Planters, and against the Magistrates

* DEATHS.—One woman and one infant, of Bengal Coolies.
Three men and one woman, of Madras Coolies.
BIRTH.—One infant born of one of the Bengal Coolies.

who are stated to have failed to put the law in force to protect the coolies. But it is quite possible that the statements contain exaggerations.

10. Among the whole eighty-three adult males who landed here only six had any money, and those six only £21 between them.

11. One cooly was insane and was sent to the Monegar Choultry. An application has been made to the Police Magistrate to have him transferred to the Lunatic Asylum under the provisions of Section 5 of Act No. XXXVI. of 1858.

12. I forward a letter addressed to me by a Mr. Pinsent, a Lawyer at Natal, who seems to have been consulted by the coolies on the question of the promise of £10 a-head to them on their return to India, and on the change in the Natal Law, which, he remarks, "had been altered evidently to meet the pressure of their (the coolies) claims under the old law.

13. I have questioned Mr. Burton who was Natal Emigration Agent here in 1859, and he tells me that, to his knowledge, no promise of any gratuity of £10 a-head on their return to India was made to the coolies then going to Natal.

Statement made by Balakistna, Colonial No. 336.

I came to Madras in the *Red Reding Hood* as Interpreter. I emigrated to Natal ten years ago. I think it was in the *Truro*. Mr. Collins in Madras and afterwards at Natal, and Dr. Holland and Mr. Tatham all told the coolies that they would get £10 each on their return to India after ten years. I was not told so personally by any one of those gentlemen, but every cooly said that they had been told they were to receive the £10. I served three years on Mr. Leicester's Estate; he gave proper food and wages, but was very severe. If a cooly did not go to work one day he stopped two days' pay, and he often tied up coolies who made mistakes and flogged them and then put salt-water on their backs. Jacob and Moonesawmy were treated in this way. I saw five or six coolies flogged two or three times. The coolies complained to the Magistrate who would come to the estate and make inquiries and speak to Mr. Leicester and then tell the coolies he would not flog them again.

2. After leaving Mr. Leicester I went into Mr. Lamport's service. He is a good gentleman. He treated the coolies well. He never beat them, but fed and paid them properly. I was there two years. My five years were then up. I was then free to go where I liked. I served in different places for five years more. All the gentlemen under whom I served for these five years were good gentlemen. Mr. Leicester used only to flog Jacob and Moonesawmy. I saw them flogged five or six times. He flogged them with a "chembuck," a piece of bullock's hide about a foot-and-a-half long which he carried in his pocket.

13th April 1871.

(Signed) M. BALAKISTNA.

Statement of Moonesawmy, son of Chenganna, Colonial No. 841.

I returned in the ship yesterday. I don't know its name. It is the same ship that Balakistna came in. I was not told that I should get £10 when I came back. I have been in Natal for about ten years. I went in the second ship. I served on Mr. Leicester's Estate. I don't quite know how long I was there. I was there till I got my liberty (i. e., for five years, the time of contract). Mr. Leicester was a very bad gentleman. He would sometimes put a rope round my neck and send me to the Police. He often beat me with a "chembuck" tying my hands and pouring salt-water on my back. After I left Mr. Leicester I worked as a bearer looking after other coolies' children. I was Mr. Leicester's cowherd. If the cattle strayed into the coffee he would beat me. I have seen Jacob beaten by Mr. Leicester.

13th April 1871.

Mark 8 of MOONESAWMY.

Statement of Rajanan, Colonial No. 160.

I went to Natal ten years ago. I was told before I went by Apparow Moodelliar and Mr. Collins in Madras that I should get £10 when I came back. Mr. Collins was present when Apparow Moodelliar told me. Mr. Collins told me first and Apparow Moodelliar translated for him to me. I was three years on Mr. Kennedy's Coffee Estate. He gave the coolies much annoyance. He did not give them proper rations, and if they complained he beat them. Once or twice he beat me with a stick. I have seen other coolies beaten by him. After three years I paid £5 to Mr. Tatham and went to Mr. Lamport's Estate who gave me back the £5 and treated me and all the coolies well. I complained to the Magistrate, Mr. Tatham, but he did nothing for me. He told me if I paid £5 I could leave Mr. Kennedy, and I accordingly did so. I was afterwards five years with Mr. Thomson as a Sirdar. He is a kind gentleman, and treated me and the coolies well.

13th April 1871.

Mark x of RAJANAN.

Statement of Vencatasawmy, Colonial No. 185.

I have been ten years in Natal. I was told by Mr. Collins and his Interpreter, Apparow Moodelliar, that I should get £10 and a free passage back to Madras at the end of ten years. I was five years on Mr. Hunter's Estate. He gave us mixed rations of mealy meal and rice. He did not beat the coolies, but if any one of them fell sick he stopped only one shilling a day from their pay if they went to him and took medicine before him, but if they stopped away from work without telling him he stopped half a crown a day. I was ten months with Mr. Thompson. He was very kind. He only stopped six pence a day if a cooly was sick, and sometimes not that if the man was a good workman.

13th April 1871.

Mark ? of VENCATASAWMY.

Statement of Lazar, son of Allamaloo, Colonial No. 737.

I came to Madras in the *Red Riding Hood*. I have been in Natal for ten years. I was three years in Mr. Andrew Wellesley's employ. He never paid me any wages properly. Once in three or four months he would give me 6 or 8s. I then went to Mr. Bob Smith for a year. He paid me for four months, and then never paid me any more. He said I must wait, he would pay me all at once; but when the year was up he never paid me. He owes me £5. When I left Madras I was told by Mr. Collins I should get £10 on my return, but I never got it. Mr. Collins was present, and Apparow Moodelliar translated for him.

13th April 1871.

Mark x of LAZAR.

Statement of Veeran, Colonial No. 280.

I have been for the last ten years in Natal. I was five years in the service of Mr. Greig as a field labourer and cook. He beat me on the head one day with an iron rod and cut my forehead (a scar on the right temple here shown) because I would not make up the fire. I then ran off into the bush for three days. When I came back I worked for three months for him, but never got any pay. I then left him. He gave the coolies small rations of rice and sweet potatoes. During the last five years I served, one with Mr. Luchar, two with Mr. Robinson, and one with Mr. Harrison. All these gentlemen treated me well. One year I was sick. Apparow Moodelliar and the gentleman who was here told me when I was leaving Madras to go to Natal that I should get £10 on my return.

13th April 1871.

Mark x of VEERAN.

Statement of Ramasamy, Colonial No. 4812.

I was three years with Mr. Hodgson. He only gave me half the pay which he ought to have given me. He ought to have paid me 10s. a month. He only gave me 5s. and sometimes 6s. This

5th May 1871.

lasted for three years. I then went to Mr. Greig. Mr. Greig engaged to pay me 12s. a month. He did so for six months, but afterwards only gave me 5 or 6s. a month. Mr. Greig died at the end of the year. Mr. Lamport bought his estate and treated me well.

13th April 1871.

Mark 2 of RAMASAMI.

Statement of Baboo, Colonial No. 3049.

I was in the employ of Mr. Clement Crozier for three years and nine months. He used to pay me irregularly, and of the 3½ years' wages due to me I only received pay for two years and 9½ months. Mr. Crozier owes me 11½ months' pay at 13s. a month. He treated thirty-three other coolies in the same way. Those men are still at Natal. Mr. Crozier's Manager named Henderson, and the Surdar Ramasamy Naidoo, used to worry and bully the coolies so that four men hanged themselves to escape the annoyance of being compelled to work when sick and of being beaten. One week we used to get pumpkins and salt and nothing else; another week sweet potatoes and salt only; another week 3lbs. of rice and 6lbs. of mealy meal, and instead of salt-fish and ghee only broken coffee was given to us. There is a Cooly Depôt at Point Town near Durban at which one Baboo Naidoo is interpreter. All incurable and sickly coolies sent down from the Estates to the Depôt are lodged there and made to work in Baboo Naidoo's garden. If they refuse he gives them only half rations. We were compelled to clean the privies while we were sick at the Depôt. Mr. Mason is entirely in the hands of Baboo Naidoo. Mr. Mason is the Manager of the Cooly Depôt and Emigration Agent.

13th April 1871.

(Signed) A. BAUBOO NAIDOO.

Statement of Mangapathee, Colonial No. 4430.

Mr. Trail, in whose service I was for four years, owes me 7½ months' pay at 12s. a month. I complained to Mr. Mason, but got no redress.

13th April 1871.

Mark || of MUNAPATHEE.

Statement of Ayalu, Colonial No. 2611.

Mr. Green, in whose service I was for 4½ years, owes me 7½ months' pay at 12s. a month. I complained to Mr. Mason, but got no redress.

13th April 1871.

NOTE.—This cooly was blind.

From SAVERY PINSENT, Esq., to the Cooly Emigration Officer, Madras, dated Durban, Natal, 8th February 1871.

The coolies by the *Red Riding Hood* have consulted me as their legal adviser respecting an alleged claim of £10 per head on their return to India against this Government. They can bring no proof of such a promise but their word, and I could not hope to win, even if there was time to sue, without their losing their passage. I doubt whether Mr. Collins, the Agent of this Government, could have made such a promise, and if he did, he could not have been authorized thereto.

2. But, apart from this, under our Cooly Law of 1859 the coolies are entitled to 25s. per month from the time of their giving notice claiming to return to India to their departure. By a law passed last year consolidating the Cooly Laws this has been altered evidently to meet the pressure of their claims under the old law. By that law they are only entitled to 10s. a month for the third and succeeding months after claim for a passage, and the Government claim that this 10s. shall only be paid on full completion of the third, &c., month, and not in full or *pro rata* for a part of the month. I contend that this law of 1870 was not intended to apply to past contracts, or that it is unjust and oppressive if held so to be. I have represented this to Government, but they will not listen to it.

5th May 1871.

3. I have written fully to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor on this matter. But the coolies want a document from me in their own hands.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 5th May 1871, No. 589.

Resolved that copies of the foregoing letter, and of the depositions received with it, be forwarded to the Natal Government, and that their attention be drawn to the complaints made by the return emigrants per Ship *Red Riding Hood* of the treatment they received on the Estates in Natal.

2. It is observed from the P. S. of the Colonial Secretary's letter, dated the 6th February 1871, that this Government will be addressed regarding a memorial presented to the Government of Natal by Mr. Pinsent on behalf of the return emigrants in respect of an alleged claim of £10 per head.

3. The Protector will furnish Government with any information which may be obtainable from the records of his office of the conditions on which coolies were sent to Natal ten years ago.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Protector of Emigrants.

Ed. J. Wright.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

No. 590.

To

THE HON. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY AT NATAL.

SIR,

With reference to your letters, number and dates as per margin, I am directed to transmit copy of the Proceedings of the Madras Government of this date, No. 589, and to request the attention of the Government of Natal to the complaints made by the return emigrants per Ship *Red Riding Hood* of the treatment they received on the Estates in Natal.

2. This Government request that they may be informed of the result of any inquiry that may be instituted on the subject, and that full information may be furnished to them as to the late change in the local laws as regards allowances to emigrants after application for return passages.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Acting Chief Secretary.

PORT SAINT GEORGE,
5th May 1871.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of 1871

PUBLIC.

To
THE PROTECTOR OF EMIGRANTS.

Dated May, 5th.

Recd.

Exd.

G. O., 5th May 1871, No. 589.

MAY.
Nos. 24-26.

Directing that the papers on the subject be forwarded to the Natal Government, and their attention drawn to the complaints made by the return emigrants per Ship *Red Riding Hood* of the treatment they received on the Estates in Natal.

127
Ship Residing
February 13th 1871.

Si
Have the honor to inform
you that on shipping the
return (colic) this morning - one
Maw. Mylapur No. 59. Ship No. 227
was not present consequently
is not forwarded by the vessel.
This is one of the new where
passage is at the rate of 2/-

Have the honor to be
Your obedient servant
Wm. H. Mason
Acty Collyer

The Honorable
The Chief Secretary to
Gov. Madras

Count of 1871: 311 adras.

PUBLIC.

To
THE HON. THE COLONIAL
SECRETARY AT NATAL.

Dated May, 5th.

Recd.

Ind.

G. O. No. 504 May 1871. No. 590.

MAY.
Nos. 24-26.

Forwarding papers on the subject and drawing
the attention of the Natal Government to the
conclusions made by the return emigrants per Ship
No. 227 of 1871 of the treatment they received
on the passage to Natal.

A

Return of the Number of ~~Ships~~ Adults. passage at \$8. per adult.
No. 10.

From Ships Number 1. to 320 equal 270 Statute adults @ \$8.

From Ships Number 321. to 398 equal 64 Statute adults @ \$10.

Chatae Feb'y 11th 1891

Alfred H. Mason
Acting Comdr. of the

in ed

[illegible]

10 years, at the end of which we
 were sent on board this ship in
 the belief that after the Madras
 authorities were satisfied in that port
 she would proceed to Calcutta
 with us. But after leaving Calcutta
 we found to our dismay that she
 was chartered for Madras only.
 It is like a foreign country to
 us, we have no population nor
 have we the means of paying
 our passage, nor being able to
 obtain any evidence in our favor.
 We are afraid to land in Madras
 for fear of being oppressed
 by the police as the Madras and
 Calcutta men do not agree.
 If it is your pleasure we would
 be left remaining on board here
 (having been well treated)
 until the Madras men are con-
 sidered and then proceed in
 this, or any other vessel your
 excellency thinks fit to send.

our own Country, we were
 verbally promised a gratuity
 of £100 Stg. each on leaving
 Madras if we fulfilled the
 conditions of the agreement.
 We have received nothing.
 This is just our case as it stands
 pardon us for having troubled
 your honor but necessity
 compels us.

We remain
 your Obedient Servants
 La. Louis Fortin
 Buller
 Goharee
 Meghna
 Lohar
 Sebucasing
 Goollee

Immigration Office
 Natal February 11th 1871

Sir

I have the honor to inform
 you that by direction of His Excellency
 the Lieutenant Governor, I have
 returned by the ship "Red Riding Hood"
 Captain John Henderson, the time
 expired and Invalid Cooks with
 their families noted in the margin
 and as per descriptive list herewith

Time expired Cooks
 142 Males
 54 Females
 33 Boys
 27 Girls
 10 Infants.
 equal to 259. ^{St. 259}

Invalids & families
 47 Males
 3 Females
 50 Statute adults
 Families—
 1 Man
 12 Women
 14 Boys
 10 Girls
 4 Infants.

all 75 Statute adults.
 Total 334 Statute
 adults.

From this list you will
 perceive that from Ships numbered
 1. to No 184 are Calcutta Cooks
 and from Ships No. 321. to No 398 are
 also Calcutta men. The remaining
 portion being principally men from
 the Madras presidency, and I have
 the honor to request that these people
 may be forwarded in the usual way
 to their respective villages—

The Charter party of the
 Ship "Red Riding Hood", I enclose

herewith—

The Honorable
 The Chief Secretary
 to Government
 Madras—

herewith from which you will perceive that the passage money for 240 Statute adults is at the rate of £8. sterling, and for all over that number £10. sterling per adult as per return herewith A.

The Charter party has been carried out as far as possible at this Port. The Captain agreeing to call at Mauritius to fill up. fresh water, and to carry out any suggestions of the Medical Officer in Charge for the well being of the Immigrants on board. -

Doctor M. Matthews has been appointed to take the Medical Charge of the Cooks by this Ship - and is to be paid by the Captain -

Enclose Copy of his letter of appointment - and Instructions

Two of the return Cooks have been appointed back as Interpreters. Copy appointment enclosed,

they will be entitled to receive a gratuity of 1/ per head for each adult landed, to be equally divided between them -

Two Measurers & Six Cooks have also been appointed and will be entitled to receive a gratuity of 15/ each, as per letter handed to them Copy enclosed.

Six Stewards or Topasses have also been engaged and will be entitled to a gratuity of 20/ each, copy of letter handed to them now enclosed.

These appointments have been made on the understanding that if the several duties are not performed to the satisfaction of the Surgeon Superintendent of the Ship - and should any of them be negligent or otherwise unfitted for the duties, he will be free to replace

replace them - and that they will only be paid in India on a Certificate in writing from that Gentleman, that the several duties have been performed to his satisfaction -

The Stores and Medical Comforts for the use of the Cooks by this ship are of the best quality and sufficient in quantity for her intended Voyage, and have been supplied in accordance with the Indian Act,

The Invalid Cooks have been supplied with warm Clothing and Blankets &c. for the Voyage in order that they may be as comfortable as possible -

I enclose a parcel addressed to you from the Honorable the Colonial Secretary here, and I have also the honor

1840
honor of enclosing the following documents in connection with the shipment of these Cooks viz.

- no 1. Govt Notice no 182. 1840
- " 2. Tender of the Ship.
- " 3. Acceptance -
- " 4. Charter party
- " 5. Authority to sign Charter party
- " 6. Descriptive list of Cooks
- " 7. Medical Report from officers Cooks
- " 8. Do. Invalid "
- " 9. Abstract Number of Cooks
- " 10. printed Instructions Medical Officer
- " 11. Certificate Ships Surgeon
- " 12. Do. " & agents.
- " 13. Stores & Medical Comforts.
- " 14. Health Officers report
- " 15. Survey of Vessel.
- " 16. Acting Cooks Agents report
- " 17. General Instructions
- " 18. discharged Voucher pay on a/c.
- " 19. appointment Surgeon
- " 20. " Interpreters
- " 21. " Measurers
- " 22. " Cooks

- 23. appointm^t. Searangers
- 24. Original crew list
- 25. Letter to Surgeon.
- 26. " " Captain.

Have the honor to be

Y^r
 Your Obedient Servant
 A. J. Massey
 Acting Cooks Agent.

P.S. Captain Henderson has been
 paid Three Hundred pounds sq.
 in account of passage money.
 Receipt enclosed.

Natal Chambers,
 Durban. Natal.

8th Feb^y 1871

To the Coolie Emigration Officer
 Madras.

Sir

The Coolies by the Red Binding Flood have
 consulted me as their legal Adviser respecting an alter-
 claim of £10 per head on their return to India against
 this Government. They can bring no proof of such a promise
 but their word and I could not hope to win even if there
 was time to sue without their losing their passage. I doubt
 whether Mr Collins, the Agent of this Gov^t could have made
 such a promise. If he did, he could not have been author-
 ized to do so.

But apart from this, under our Coolie Law of 1859, the
 Coolies are entitled to 2^d per month from the time of their going
 notice claiming to return to India to their departure. By a law
 passed last year consolidating the Coolie laws, this has been
 altered, evidently to meet the pressure of their claims under
 the old law. By that law they are only entitled to 1st of a month
 for the third and succeeding months after claim for a passage
 and the Government claim that this 1st shall only be paid on
 full completion of the third month: first in full or pro rata
 for a part of the month. I contend that this law of 1870 was not
 intended to apply to past contracts: or that it is unjust & oppressive
 if held to be so. I have represented this to Gov^t but they will
 not listen to it.

I have written fully to His Excellency the Lieutenant
 Governor on this matter. But the Coolies want a document from
 me in their own hands.

Yours obed^{tly} Savery Pinson.

N
18

Protector's Office
Madras 18th April 1871

From J. H. Garstin Esq.
Off. Protector of Emigrants

To The Honorable R. L. Ellis C.B.
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St George

Sir,

I have the honor to report the arrival here on the 10th Inst of the Ship "Red Riding Hood" with return Emigrants from Natal. She had on board when she cast anchor 384 Souls of whom two died before they were landed. Of the remaining 382, 156 were for Madras and 226 for Calcutta including an infant born during the voyage.

When the Ship left Natal there were 387 Souls on board. Four deaths and one birth occurred at Sea and 2 deaths after arrival in the Port leaving the total above mentioned

Deaths—

1 Woman } of Bengal
1 Infant } Coolies
3 Men } of Madras
1 Woman } Coolies
Birth—
1 Infant born on board
of the Bengal Coolies

Right 382 Souls.
The Madras contingent was composed as follows.
83 Adult Males of 10 years and upwards
30 Adult females of 10 years and upwards
20 Boys between 1 & 10
15 Girls " 1 & 10.
8 Infants under one year

156

I went to the Hospital and examined the Cases and the Ship. The Coolies were all well in praise of the kindness of the Captain and Doctor and secured for the most

W. H. Garstin Esq.
18th April 1871
J. H. Garstin

most part stout and in good health.

5 The Arrangements between decks for the sleeping accommodation of the Coolies seemed good with the exception that the Women and children appeared not to have been separated from the Men at night.

6 The Hesper was only chartered as far as Madras but subsequently Mr Rowland having been appointed by the Madras Government at the request of the Natal Government to officiate as Emigration Agent and having entered into a fresh charter party with the Captain to take the Bengal Coolies on to Calcutta. The Ship's Articles were signed and she sailed on the morning of the 16th with the Calcutta Contingent on board consisting of 133 Men, 110 Women, 25 boys, 22 Girls & 6 infants making total of 226.

7. Many of the Madras Coolies were loud in their complaints of the manner in which they had been treated on the Estates in Natal.

8 They all complained that they had been told before leaving Madras and after reaching Natal that at the end of their 10 years service there they would get £10 each on leaving to return to India, but had not received any money at all. Another general complaint was that they had not had proper rations of rice, as stipulated, while on the estates, "mucaly meal" (maize flour) being served out instead in most instances in lieu of half the ration of rice.

9 I took down statements from those who

who had specific charges to make and enclose copies of them. If the allegations therein set forth are true they contain rather serious charges against some of the Natal Planters and against the Magistrates who are stated to have failed to — put the law in force to protect the Coolies. But it is quite possible that the statements contain exaggerations.

10 Among the whole 83 Adult Males who landed ^{here}, only had any money and those six only £21 between them.

11 One Cooly was insane and was sent to the Monegar Choultry. An application has been made to the Police Magistrate to have him transferred to the Lunatic Asylum under the provisions of Section V of Act 1836 of 1858.

12 I forward a letter addressed to me by a Mr Pincent a lawyer at Natal who seems to have been consulted by the Coolies on the question of the promise of £10 a head to them on their return to India and on the change in the Natal Law, which he remarks "had been altered evidently, to meet the profuse of their (the Coolies) claims under the old Law."

13 I have questioned Mr Burton who was Natal Emigration Agent here in 1859 and he tells me that to his

knowledge

27

J. H. Carsten
Offy Protector of Emigrants

Colonial Office dated
February 10th 1871

Li,

Referring to my letter dated 19th
* January 1877 (original forwarded by Mail
Packet, duplicate by the ship "Red Hiding
Hood") apprising you that the ship
"Red Hiding Hood" was about being
despatched from the Port of this Colony
to Madras with time expired and invalid
cooks I am directed by His Excellency
the Lieutenant Governor to acquaint you
for the information of the Madras
Government that the Acting Cooks

The House

Your Chief Secretary to Government.
 Muadras

Post: 15 June/91. La Mesa 204

Public 1871 Deborah
Furness

The Office of Protecting Immigrants

To
The Hon. Chafley

Yours
to

Nov-14 George

October 18th }
March 1891

No 696

Reports to him - 8 of the
ried) being mixed with
Return - 1000 from hotel
and for a letter
from the President - a lawyer
at home & the ^{chief} statement
of Chicago made by the
Chicago against the State
- 1000 -

Immigration Agent at the Port of
this Colony Mr. L. H. Mason has been
instructed to forward to your address
per the Ship "Red Riding Hood" the
Charter Party and all other documents,
connected with the Coolies by this Ship,
which documents I am to request may
be handed over to the person appointed
by your Government to act as the
Agent for this Colony at Madras
in attending to the landing of these
Coolies and the forwarding of such
portion of them to the Bengal
Presidency as are set forth in the
list signed by the Acting Coolie Agent
in this Colony.

2 I also beg to forward to
you the enclosed letter of instructions
to

to the Coolie Immigration Agent for
this Government at Madras and
to request that on the appointment
being made ^{it} may be handed over
to that Officer

3 I am further to state
that the Agents of the Ship "Red
Riding Hood" Messrs. Steel & Co. in
this Colony have been paid the
sum of Three hundred pounds sterling
on account of the passage money
of these Coolies and I am to request
that you will favor this Government
by drawing Bills on the Crown Agents
for the Colonies at thirty days sight
for the amount of the balance of
passage money certified to be owing,
and handing the same over to the

Person mentioned in the Charter
Party, in liquidation of the account
for such passage money -

4 As our Agent at Madras
will be required to make cash
payments on the landing of these
coolies, viz to Interpreters, Madras,
lookers and stevedores employed
during the voyage as per letter of
the Acting Coolie Agent in this Colony
with the papers and other expenses
I am to request that you will
be pleased to advance to our

Agent such sums as may be found
necessary to defray this expenditure,
the amount of advances so made
will be repaid to your Government
by your Bill at 30 days sight.

727.
on the Crown Agents for the Colonies
5. The Agent for this Colony
at Madras has been instructed
to act according to any instructions
he may receive from the Madras
Government.

6 I beg to enclose for the
information of your Government six
copies of the Statute Law No 2 1870
entitled "To amend and consolidate
the laws relating to the introduction
of Coolie Immigrants into this Colony
and to the regulations and government
of such Coolie Immigrants"

7 Mr L. H. Mason the Acting
Coolie Immigration Agent in this
Colony has been authorized to

sign the Charter Party for and on
behalf of this Government

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

J. H. M.

Colonial Secretary

Durban Natal 33
February 6th 1871

The Honorable
The Secretary to the Government
of Madras

My dear Sir

I have to apologise for
troubling you with our return
coolies but I do not know how to
avoid it. There seems to be little
probability of more coolies being sent
for at present. The passage money
would be no obstacle at present rates.
but the incidental expenses run
up the cost to an amount which
our planters are unable to bear.

The Lieutenant Governor
is extremely anxious that the coolies
should have no cause of complaint
and every thing we could think of
has been done to secure their
Comfort

comfort in the Ship Red Riding Hood,
which has been procured from the
Cape (720 Tons) In future we
propose to adopt the Mauritius
regulations with regard to these
shipments

The only causes of complaint
which have been mentioned to me
whilst personally superintending
the Embarkation have been first
that the Coolies by the first four
ships were promised by some white
men in India a gratuity of £10
each on the termination of their 10 years
residence here. I need hardly say
that this Government has no knowledge
of or belief in any such promise having
been made and I can only account
for the supposition on the part of the

35.
Coolies (if not as my old Indian
experience teaches me to suspect a
pure invention) by the fact that land
to the value of ten pounds is offered
to the Coolies in lieu of a return
passage. Secondly a lawyer has
complained on behalf of the Coolies
(the Coolies did not do so) that since
their engagement the law which gave
them 25/- per month for each month
which expired after their application
for a return passage has been altered
to 10/- and 2 Months. This was not done
at the instigation of the Government
but by the Legislative Council, and
it has had no practical effect on the
position of the Coolies as they remained
in service until about a month before
the departure of the ship and were
then kept in the Depot at the expense
of the Government. The

The third complaint was that they expected to be supplied with clothing and Blankets. It was found that they had been so supplied when shipped from India in one or two ships (but not in others) and that this had been done in consequence of their having to proceed from a hot to a cool climate which is not now the case, besides which they must be supposed after a residence of ten years here to have provided themselves with these articles. I shall however make enquiry whether it is the practice to furnish them elsewhere.

Mr Mathews, who accompanies the ship is the Government District Surgeon of the most populous Coolie district. The Invalids have been shipped with Blankets.

I have honor to be Sir
Your Obedient Servant
D. P. S.

Colonial Secretary
Some writing that a Memorial has been sent in by Mr. [unclear] the lawyer referred to which will be the subject of correspondence with your Government.

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from
the Protector of Emigrants
dated 18th April 1871 No. 2/10.
Order thereon No. 589 - 5 May 71.

Resolved that
copies of the foregoing letter
and of the depositions received with it be forwarded to the Natal Court and that their attention be drawn to the complaints made by the return Emigrants per ship "Red Riding Hood" of the treatment they received on the Estate in Natal.

It is observed from the P. S. of the Colonial Secretary's letter dated the 6th July 1871 that this Court will be addressed regarding a memorial presented to the Govt of Natal by

D. P. S.

Mr. Piment on behalf
of the return Emigrants
in respect of an alleged
claim of £10 per head.

2. In the meantime
the Protector of Emigrants
will ascertain and report
to Govt. who is Mr. Collins,
the person referred to by Mr. Piment
his letter to the Protector,
and also in the Regulations
of the Cooks, and whether
he is at present at Madras.

3. The Protector
will ~~also~~ furnish Govt.
with any information
which may be obtainable
from the records of his
Office of the conditions
on which Cooks were
sent to Natal 10 years ago.

L.K.

I find that Mr. Collins
has been formerly the Natal
Govt. & long since the
Emigration Office
years ago. I find
wherever I have
Colony. I have
since been in
of him.
L.K.

The Protector of Emigrants.

furnished to them as to the
late changes in the local
laws as regards alcohol
& liquor & after applying
for return passages.

L. D.

Lat. 1871
5 Mar 1871

CONFIDENTIAL

To
Public
The Director of Emigration.

Dated May 5. }
Recd. 1871, No. 599.

Nos. 24. 26.

Directing that the ~~Emigration~~ ^{Emigration}
on the subject be forwarded to
the Hotel St. and ~~Emigration~~
their attention to the complaints
made by the return Emigrants
per ship "Red Riding Hood" of
the treatment they received
on the States in Hotel.

and kept with
3 copies of letter 839.

847

80590 Public Department

To, ^{Honble the}
The Colonial Secretary
at Natal.

Dated 19 Jan^y/71 No 1498.
" 6 Feb^y/71
" 10 Feb^y/71

J. D. S.

I would ask you
to tell us the result
of their enquiry -
to explain about the
alleged change of
law. So long as we
permit emigration, we
ought to be furnished
with all new laws affecting
emigration.

Sir,
With reference to
your letter no and date
as per margin, I am
directed to transmit copy
of the Proceedings of the
of this date the instant No 5
and to request the attention
of the Govt of Natal to
the complaints made by
the return Emigrants per
Ship "Red Riding Hood"
of the treatment they
received on the Coast
in Natal.

L. J. R. This is to
request that they may
be informed of the results
of any enquiry that may
be instituted on the
subject. and that full
information may be