

1. Number of pages.
2. Date of receipt.
3. Date of issue.
M.B.O. 1-89,000-16-10-89.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>717</i>	Press Mis.
Dated	<i>27-5-</i>	<i>19-1877</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

SP

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

27th May 1871.

Read the following papers:—

No. 119. From the Protector of Emigrants, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 26th April 1871, No. 50-W.

I have the honour to forward, for the consideration and orders of Government, copy of a letter from Captain B. Fischer, British Consular Agent, Karikal, requesting that he may be allowed to live at Tranquebar, as he cannot get a suitable residence at Karikal, where he would go daily to conduct his duties; also, that he should be invested with the powers of a Protector of Emigrants at Tranquebar, as he has reason to believe that emigrants are shipped thence to the Mauritius, illegally, as passengers.

2. Captain Fischer, I think, shows good grounds for being allowed to live at Tranquebar; he is an energetic, hardworking officer, and there is not the least fear that he will neglect his duties because he has a few miles to drive to office.

3. His appointment as Protector of Emigrants at Tranquebar should, I think, be referred to the Collector of Tanjore. If he makes no objection, which is unlikely, I think Captain Fischer's authority and presence would check abuses which, I believe, are now carried on both in landing and shipping labourers.

From Captain B. FISCHER, British Consular Agent, Karikal, to the Protector of Emigrants, Madras, dated Karikal, 21st April 1871, No. 10.

I have the honour to inform you that I have been assured by the French Emigration Agent at Karikal—and his statement has been corroborated by the disinterested testimony of other people—that a system of illicit emigration exists at Tranquebar, which, it is averred, indirectly inflicts discredit, if not positive injury, upon the operations of emigration both at Madras and at the French Ports. I am positively informed that, in 1869, 924, and 1870, 923 natives passed between Tranquebar and Ceylon and the Mauritius as “passengers,” and that the majority of these so-called “passengers” were in effect emigrants. The Superintendent of Sea Customs at Tranquebar—a by-no-means intelligent official—is unable to give any satisfactory information on this subject, and I would suggest, therefore, since Karikal is so near Tranquebar, and my duties at the former place are not severe, that I should be invested with the powers of a Protector of Emigrants at Tranquebar to test, at any rate, the truth of these reiterated assertions.

2. While on this subject, I would request that I might be permitted to reside at Tranquebar, since I find it impossible to obtain a habitable house at Karikal. The number of houses at the latter place is limited, and the best are occupied by the functionaries of the French Government who succeed one another in their houses as in their appointments. The house occupied by my predecessor was given over by him to the Juge de Paix, and it was two months before I could obtain a house of my own, and then only because one of the appointments of the French functionaries was abolished. My house is the smallest and most confined inhabited by a European at Karikal, and I have lately found it so intolerable that I have been obliged to accept the kind offer of the Secretary to the Chef de Service to sleep at his house. As I see no chance now of getting a better house, I beg that I may be allowed to reside at Tranquebar, keeping the residence I now possess at Karikal only for my office. Tranquebar is only six miles from Karikal, an hour and a quarter's drive, and as I possess a good conveyance I should find it just as easy to drive to my office as gentlemen who live at the Adyar do to drive to the Fort or to Black Town.

Referred to the Collector of Tanjore for his remarks.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28th April 1871.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

27th May 1871.

No. 120. From the Collector of Tanjore, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Point Calimere, 15th May 1871, No. 623.

In returning the letters, forwarded with your docket dated 28th April 1871, I have the honour to state that I am decidedly of opinion that the British Consular Agent, Karikal, should ~~be~~ ^{be} at Karikal and not at Tranquebar.

2. The road between Karikal and Tranquebar is very sandy and very heavy, and the idea of any one driving for any length of time daily, backwards and forwards, between the two places, is simply ridiculous.

3. I forward, herewith, for your information, copy of a letter to my address from Captain Fischer, stating exactly what his duties at Karikal are, and another from the Sub-Collector, pointing out that there is ~~at present~~ nothing for a Protector of Emigrants to do at Tranquebar.

From Captain B. FISCHER, British Consular Agent, Karikal, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Karikal, 8th May 1871, No. 20.

As the request contained in your letter, No. 145, of the 2nd instant, is made at the requisition of Government, I have the honour to inform you that my duties as British Consular Agent—which are intermitted and irregular—do not, on an average, require my personal attendance at my office, at Karikal, more than four times a week throughout the emigration season.

2. My principal duty is—during the emigration season, which lasts from the beginning of June of one year to the end of March of the next—to examine those natives who wish to emigrate to the French Colonies; to ascertain whether they are British subjects; to satisfy myself that no undue influence has been exercised in bringing them from their homes; to see that they fully understand the conditions under which they are embarking; that they know where they are going to; and to look into and regulate their accounts with the Recruiting Maistries who bring them in. This examination—which is most minute, searching, and protracted—is conducted by myself in person at my office; but batches of emigrants do not, on an average, so present themselves more than four times a week.

3. My other duties lie out of doors:—to visit the Dépôt three or four times a week at unexpected hours and to ascertain that the emigrants are comfortable and cared for; to see those emigrants whom I pass at my office paid and installed in the Dépôt; to be present at the embarkation of each successive convoy of emigrants, and, by personal inspection of each vessel, to see that, as far as British subjects are concerned, the terms of the Act are complied with as regards ventilation, space, provisions, water, &c.

4. Besides this, I have—whenever a vessel may arrive at Karikal with return emigrants from Mauritius or other Colonies—to examine them, inquire into the treatment received by them both during the period of their service in the place to which they emigrated and also during the voyage, and to make a report thereon to Government. But such an occasion is rare, and, indeed, has only occurred once during my six months' tenure of office.

5. Other duties—properly so called—I have none; but I have been constantly appealed to to afford assistance to Captains of vessels in matters of their own interior economy; to settle disputes which so often arise between them and the local authorities from their mutual ignorance of each other's languages, and to allay other misunderstandings between English and French subjects; and though, in such cases, I have never hesitated to advise with authority, I believe that, in so doing, I was travelling out of the record.

6. And this is as nearly "an exact description of my duties" as I can give you. By a system which I have lately introduced the formal routine work of my office is conducted by my Clerk, and rolls on smoothly, without let or hindrance. The correspondence—conducted, of course, entirely by myself—is not great with the local authorities, as I find that personal application is far more efficacious with them than loads of letters, and less likely to lead to misunderstandings.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,

27th May 1871.

From H. J. STOKES, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Tanjore, to the Collector of Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 12th May 1871, No. 178.

With reference to your letter, No. 554, dated 2nd May 1871, asking me for my opinion as to whether it would be advantageous to make the British Consular Agent, Karikal, Protector of Emigrants at Tranquebar, I have the honour to inform you that there is at present nothing for a Protector of Emigrants to do at Tranquebar, as no emigrants leave that port. Emigrants, in the technical sense of the word as used in this Presidency, are natives of India under engagement to leave this country for the purpose of labouring for hire in some other place. Such engagements can only be made under the Act (VII. of 1871) to emigrate to certain places named in Section 23, and the emigration is only lawful from the port of Madras.

2. Natives leave Tranquebar for Ceylon and Penang. Ceylon is specially exempted under the Emigration Act (Section 23), which does not apply to that Island, and the shipping of native labourers to Penang is done secretly, and is contrary to the law. You are aware of the late endeavours to stop it.

3. An Emigration Agent would, therefore, have nothing to do at Tranquebar. The shipping of coolies for the Straits Settlements is carried on from Karikal to a far greater extent than it has ever been from Tranquebar. The late Consular Agent, Mr. Sam, endeavoured to keep himself acquainted with its circumstances, but found great difficulty in obtaining correct information. The authorities levy a poll-tax of one Rupee on every cooly shipped, and are not willing to allow information to be obtained by any persons who might be interested in checking or controlling the free course of the traffic.

4. The only conditions to which native passengers are subjected, who leave Tranquebar, are those of the Native Passengers' Act; which can be, without difficulty, enforced by the Superintendent of Sea Customs at that Port.

No. 121. From the Protector of Emigrants, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 10th May 1871, No. 57-W.

I have the honour to forward, for the consideration of Government, extract of a letter from the British Consular Agent at Karikal, dated 4th May 1871, No. 19, on the subject referred in paragraph 2 of his letter of the 21st April last.

EXTRACT of a letter from the British Consular Agent at Karikal, to the Protector of Emigrants, Madras, dated 4th May 1871.

The Consular Agency at Karikal is, in my opinion—and indeed in that of competent judges amongst the French—a much more important and responsible post than at Pondicherry, and is much more capable of being made self-supporting, if only some stringent rules were enacted to regulate the illicit emigration that now takes place at Karikal and Tranquebar.

Referred to the Collector of Tanjore in continuation of the docket from this Department of the 28th ultimo.

Fort St. George,
12th May 1871.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 122. From the Collector of Tanjore, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Point Calimere, 16th May 1871, No. 624.

In returning the papers received under your docket, dated 12th May 1871, I have the honour to state that my report on the previous order therein quoted was submitted yesterday.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
27th May 1871.*

2. As regards the statement of the Consular Agent at Karikal, that the illicit emigration from Tranquebar requires to be regulated, I beg to refer the Government to the Sub-Collector's letter, dated 12th May 1871, No. 178, which forms an enclosure to my report above quoted, and in which Mr. Stokes shows that it is not at Tranquebar but at Karikal that an Emigration Agent is required.

No. 123. ORDER THEREON, 27th May 1871, No. 717.

Ordered that the Collector's letter be communicated to the Protector of Emigrants. Under the circumstances stated, the Government are not prepared to sanction Captain Fischer's residence at Tranquebar, or to appoint him to be Protector of Emigrants at that Port.

2. The Collector of Tanjore will give his attention to the illegal system of shipping labourers to the Straits, and will report if he deems it necessary that the Government should address the authorities there on the subject.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Protector of Emigrants,
,, Collector of Tanjore.

Ed. J. Wright.

British Consular Agency,
Harikal 21st April 1871

To The Protector of Emigrants
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that I have been assured by the French Emigration Agent at Harikal — and his statement has been corroborated by the disinterested testimony of other people — that a system of illicit emigration exists at Tranquebar which, it is averred, indirectly inflicts discredit — if not positive injury — upon the operations of emigration both at Madras and at the French ports. I am positively informed that in 1869-924 and 1870-923 natives passed between Tranquebar and Ceylon and the Mauritius as "passengers" and that the majority of these so-called "passengers" were in effect emigrants. The Superintendent of Sea Customs at Tranquebar — a by no means intelligent official is unable to give any satisfactory information on this subject, and I would suggest therefore, since Harikal is so near Tranquebar and my duties at the former place are not severe, that I should be invested with the powers of a Protector of Emigrants at Tranquebar to test, at any rate the truth of these reiterated assertions.

While on this subject I would request that I might be permitted to reside at Tranquebar,
Sincerely

Govt. of 1871 Madras.

PUBLIC.

THE PROTECTOR OF EMIGRANTS,
Secy, &c., &c.

Dated May, 21th.

ccd.

Pub

G. O., 27th May 1871. No. 717.

MAY.
Nos. 119-123.

Declining to sanction the residence at Tranquebar of Captain Fischer, Consular Agent at Harikal, or his appointment as Protector of Emigrants at that Port. Requesting the Collector of Tanjore to give his attention to the illegal system of shipping aboatmen to the Straits, and to report if he deems it necessary that the Government should address the authorities on the subject.

since I find it impossible to obtain a habitable house at Harikal - The number of houses at the latter place is limited, and the best are occupied by the functionaries of the French Government who succeed one another in their houses as in their appointments - The house occupied by my predecessor was given over by him to the Juge de Paix and it was two months before I could obtain a house of my own, and then only because one of the appointments of the French functionaries was abolished my house is the smallest and most confined inhabited by a European at Harikal and I have lately found it so intolerable that I have been obliged to accept the kind offer of the Secretary to the Chief do service to sleep at his house - As there is no chance now of getting a better house I beg that I may be allowed to reside at Tranquebar, keeping the residence I now possess at Harikal only for my Office - Tranquebar is only six miles from Harikal, an hour and a quarter's drive and as I possess a good conveyance I should find it just as easy to drive to my office as gentlemen who live at the Adyar do to drive to the Fort or to Black Town.

I have the honor to be

Signed / B. Fischer Capt. L.
British Consular Agent Harikal
Enc. Copy

Wm. Blair
Protector of Emigrants

Pl. 27 Jan 1871
Sur 13 et 14
In Pub. 743/71

N^o 50

Protector's Office
Madras 26th April 1871

From

J Hunter Blair Esq.
Protector of Emigrants

To W. Huddleston Esq.
Acting Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St George

Sir,
I have the honor to forward for the consideration and Orders of Government, Copy of a letter from Captain B. Fischer, British Consular Agent, Harikal, requesting that he may be allowed to live at Tranquebar, as he cannot get a suitable residence at Harikal, where he would go daily to conduct his duties; also, that he should be invested with the powers of a Protector of Emigrants at Tranquebar, as he has reason to believe that Emigrants are shipped thence to the Mauritius, illegally, as passengers. -

2. Captain Fischer I think shows good grounds for being allowed to live at Tranquebar. he is an energetic, hardworking Officer, and there is not the least fear that he will neglect his duties because he has a few miles to drive to Office.

3. His Appointment as Protector of Emigrants at Tranquebar should I think be referred to the Collector of Tanjore. If he makes no objection which is unlikely, I think Captain Fischer's ^{authority} presence would

check

check abuses which I believe are now carried
on, both in landing and shipping laborers.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Most Obedt. Servt

Arthur Ward

Protector of Emigrants

Protectors Office
Madras 10th May 1871

From

J. Hunter Blair Esq
Protector of Emigrants

W. Huddleston Esq
Acting Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward
for the consideration of Government
of a letter from the British Consulate Agent
at Karikal dated 4th May 1871 No 19 on the
subject referred in Para 2 of his letter
of the 21st April last..

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

J. Hunter Blair
Protector of Emigrants

1871
L. J. Hunter Blair
Protector of Emigrants
J. Hunter Blair Esq
Protector of Emigrants
28. April 1871.

1871
The Protector of Emigrants
Madras
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George
Dated 26th April 1871
No 19
medium

To forward copy of letter
from the British Consulate
Agent Karikal reporting
that many be allowed to
live at Tangasseroe as
be cannot get suitable
residence at Karikal
and that should be invested
with the power of a Protector
of Emigrants at Tangasseroe

L. J. Hunter Blair

Extract of a letter from the British
Consular Agent at Karikal to the
Protector of Emigrants Madras dated
4th May 1871.

The Consular Agency at
Karikal is in my opinion - and indeed
in that of Competent judges amongst
the French - a much more important and
responsible post than at Pondicherry, and
is much more capable of being made self
supporting - if only some stringent rules
were enacted to regulate the illicit emi-
gration that now takes place at Karikal
and Francquehar. -

Trus Extract

Hunter Blair
Protector of Emigrants

1054

Received of the Collector of
Madras the sum of Rs 100
being the amount of the
gratuity for the Agent of the
28th March.

By order of the Collector
12 May 1871
By order of the
Collector

(Public 1871) Extract
from
The Protector of Emigrants
to the Chief Secretary
to Government.
12 May 1871

No 885
1057

Memorandum for the Consular
Agent of the British Consular
Agent Karikal on the
subject of the 22nd April
last. - The Agent of the
British Consular Agent
Karikal is to be
allowed to be allowed
to be allowed with the
power of a Protector of Emigrants
at Karikal.

121

No. 178

Sub Collector's Office
Negapatam 12 May 1871

From The Sub Collector
of Tanjore
To The Collector
of Tanjore

Sir With reference to your letter No. 554
dated 2^d May 1871, asking me for my opinion as
to whether it would be advantageous to make
the British Consular Agent Karikal, protector
of Emigrants at Tranquebar, I have the honour
to inform you that there is at present nothing
for a protector of Emigrants to do at Tranquebar
as no emigrants leave that port. Emigrants, in
the technical sense of the word as used in this
presidency, are natives of India under engage-
ment to leave this country for the purpose of
labouring for hire in some other place. Such
engagements can only be made under the
Act (VII of 1871) to emigrate to certain places
named in Section 23; and the emigration is
only lawful from the port of Madras—

2 Natives leave Tranquebar for Ceylon
and Penang. Ceylon is specially exempted
under

588
P. 131 B

2295
1236

121

Notice of a 12th day of May
at Chettair Station

under the Emigration Act (Section 22), which does not apply to that island: and the shipping of native labourers to Penang is done secretly and is contrary to the law. You are aware of the late endeavours to stop it -

3 An emigration agent would therefore have nothing to do at Tranquebar. The shipping of coolies for the Straits Settlements is carried on from Karikal to a far greater extent than it has ever been from Tranquebar.

The late Consular Agent Mr. Sam endeavoured to keep himself acquainted with its circumstances, but found great difficulty in obtaining correct information. The authorities levy a poll-tax of Rupee 1 on every coolie shipped, and are not willing to allow information to be obtained by any persons who might be interested in checking or controlling the free course of the traffic -

4 The only conditions to which native passengers are subjected, who leave Tranquebar, are

11 19
are those of the Native Passengers Act; which can be without difficulty enforced by the Superintendent of Sea Customs at that port -

I have &c
/ signed / H. J. Stokes
H. J. Stokes
Collector

(True copy)

W. Morris
Collector

13 21 7

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MARDAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from

The Protector of Emigrants of 26th April 1871 No. 50.
" Collector of Langore of 15th May 1871 No. 62.

Order thereon 27th May 1871 No. 717.

I would not encourage Mr. Fischer to live at Haridwar for however short a time. There must be some quarters near. N. A. Ordered that the Collector's letter be communicated to the Protector of Emigrants. Under the circumstances stated, the Govt. are not prepared to sanction Capt. Fischer's residence at Traunguebar or to appoint him to be Protector of Emigrants at that place.

Let a house be built for him to live at Wauchoe. Mr. - say for 3 months. Then if he can get quarters in Haridwar.

Log

In a letter

from

the Collector

of Langore

to the Chief Secretary

to the Government

dated 25th May 1871

@ 10623.

Copy of the letter from the Collector

1871 & in 1895

2. The collector of
Tanjore will give his
attention to the illegal
system of shipping la-
borers to the Straits &
will report if he deems
it necessary that the Govt.
should address the au-
thorities there on the
subject - L.B.

To

The Protector of Emig.
" Collr. of Tanjore.

Cont. of 1877 rulings.

Public

To

The Protector of Savings
Bos.

Dated

Recd.

1877, No. 717.

Nos. 119 @ 123

Referring to

Question the residence
of Josephine; formerly
of Capt. Strachan, formerly
agent at Portland, or
his appointment as
Protector of Savings
at that place; regarding
the case of Josephine. Agree
his attachment to the illegal
operation of shipping tobacco
to the States, & to report,
if he deems it necessary,
that the said agent, who
the authorities are advised.