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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

VERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Public

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

B.P. No.

263-64

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Press.

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Dated

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Emigration.

Read again Proceedings of Government, dated 13th May and 21st June 1875, Nos. 612 and 816.

Read also the following papers:—

No. 17. From Captain BOWNESS FISCHER, S.C., British Consular Agent, Karikal, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Karikal, 21st June 1875, No. 740.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., No. 612, of the 13th ultimo, which I received on the 30th of the same month, and to express my regret that I have hitherto been prevented from giving it earlier attention.

2. So many ideas have been suggested to me by the Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India that I have not found it easy to assign to each of them their share of present importance; but, confining myself strictly to the two main views entertained by Lord Salisbury, I am inclined to think that they, with some slight modifications, be rendered perfectly practicable: and if greater encouragement is afforded to emigration, and more satisfactory security, based on some certain information, is insured to the emigrants, it is probable that the colonization which His Highness so earnestly desires may follow as a natural consequence.

It is, however, very difficult to say exactly how this greater encouragement is to be afforded. It is rightly conceded that it would not "be prudent for the Indian authorities directly to undertake the task of recruiting emigrants under ordinary circumstances;" and it may also be questioned how far it would be proper for them to afford their personal help and countenance to Colonial Agents engaged in this work. These Agents already enjoy every liberty which is necessary for the success of their operations; and their Sub-Agents and recruiters exercise an influence in our rural communities which it is desirable rather to curb than to encourage. Only those who have lived for some time in the mofussil are aware of the extensive power for mischief within the indulgence of a man who is supposed to enjoy the "favor" or friendship of the Collector or *Peria Doray* of the town or district in which he lives; and if he himself should haply be averse to trade on this imaginary influence his subordinates are never likely to be swayed by such scruples. That an Emigration Agent or his subordinates should desiderate such support is not to be wondered at, since their vocation is by no means popular amongst natives in general, and, in some parts of the country, is regarded with positive detestation. But the ignorance of our peasantry is still so gross, and the memory of forced labor so recent that it does not appear right that Government officials should, for the present, be identified, however indirectly, with the interests of so suspected an institution as emigration now is. While, however, he thus holds himself personally aloof, a District Magistrate might afford material assistance to emigration by encouraging the publication, in his local *Gazette*, of advertisements from the Colonial Agent, and of statements, based on the reports of our Consuls abroad, setting forth in the simplest language the advantages enjoyed by persons who emigrate to our Colonies. It is, perhaps, needless to add

that these publications should be carefully revised by some competent Government official, and that in order to protect intending emigrants from the fraud too often practised upon them by their recruiters the *modus operandi*, from the day they may quit their villages to the day they may embark, should be distinctly detailed, with its consequent rupees, annas, and pies. If such publications were carefully disseminated throughout the district a healthy public opinion would be created in our villages and hamlets which would counteract the baleful influence of the recruiters, who, owing to their peculiar profession, are an eager, callous, and, too often, utterly unscrupulous race of men; and, as popular confidence was thus generated, the name of the Protector of Emigrants of the district might in time replace that of the Colonial Agent, and intending emigrants might then be directly invited and encouraged to present themselves to this official, without any of that insidious intervention which, in my opinion, makes emigration, as it is now carried on, so extremely illusory and unsatisfactory.

4. The adoption of this plan would necessitate the appointment in each district from which emigrants are now mainly recruited of an officer who should specially devote himself to this occupation, and who would thus relieve our already hard-worked Magistrates from a task which it is a mere illusion to expect them to fulfil in anything like a satisfactory manner. A discretion should certainly be vested in him—as suggested by Lord Salisbury—to reject those persons who may appear to him to be clearly unfit to emigrate; and if he were also entrusted with summary Magisterial powers to punish unscrupulous recruiters, a very much needed reform would be introduced, which would make emigration a really respectable business and very much enhance it in the popular estimation. It would be equally desirable that an Under-Secretary to Government in the Emigration Department should also be appointed, who should give himself up entirely to the study of this important question, should conduct at Madras the duties of Protector of Emigrants, and should, now and then, as he may think fit, visit the District Protectors, in order to stimulate them, to give them new ideas, and to prevent them from curdling into indifference, as men are so apt to do up-country, especially in an employment which is one of mere supervision, the after effects of which are too often as little known to those who are thus employed as the result of their labor is to men on the tread-mill.

5. The proposal to place in each of our Colonies a Colonial Agent appointed by the Indian Government from amongst its own servants appears certainly calculated to ensure the ends to which the Secretary of State for India looks forward; but it is doubtful whether the Colonies could afford, or would be willing, to pay for such a functionary. It goes without saying, perhaps, that, if such an official cannot be selected from the few persons in India who have any special knowledge of emigration, he should, at any rate, be one who thoroughly understands the different characteristics of the various classes from which emigrants are recruited, both in this Presidency and in Northern India, and that he should be able to sympathise with and to remedy their differing prejudices and complaints; while, for obvious reasons, it is indispensable that his position in his novel sphere of action should be such as to place him in absolute independence of all local influences.

The question then is: For what sum would a gentleman who possesses the necessary qualifications consent to accept such duties? The information that I have casually picked up about the West Indies is too vague to enable me to give anything like a reliable answer to such a question; but I believe that I am within the bounds of reason when I say that, in order to live in independent comfort in either Jamaica or British Guiana, an official of this kind would require at least from six to seven hundred pounds a year, while in the smaller islands of Trinidad, St. Vincent, and St. Lucia he would probably be content with much less than this sum. To this must be added their travelling allowances, to enable them to visit and inspect the different estates; and if, in an island like Bourbon in which living is so cheap, Captain Blunt finds that he requires an extra £300 a-year "to cover horse allowance and other incidental expenses," it is probable that a similar official would require much more in the more expensive Colonies of Jamaica and British Guiana, or even in Trinidad. It is probable, therefore, that the establishment of these Agents of the Indian Government would entail upon the Colonies an annual impost of nearly four thousand pounds; and it is certainly desirable that the object to be attained should be secured at a cheaper price. I am inclined to think that every end proposed by Lord Salisbury might be adequately attained by the appointment of a single official on an income of £1,000 a-year, with an annual travelling allowance of about £800. Full liberty should be accorded to him to live in whatever part of the West Indies he might elect as his head-quarters; but it should be distinctly understood that he should, in the course of each year, visit every Colony and every estate in which Indian laborers are employed. The times for so doing should, of course, be left to his own discretion; and it is evident that the more irregular such visits are the better test they would afford of the ends to be secured, since the planters would never know when he might not drop down upon them. It appears to me that a wandering official of this kind would do infinitely more good than one whose orbit was confined merely to a particular Colony. However energetically they may commence, it is the natural tendency of all men who remain very long amongst a small community to contract habits which though they may not abate their natural taste for work, too often make this work narrow, listless, and unfruitful. Abuses, more especially if inveterate, lose their primitive pungency; the moral sense, under the softening influence of time, becomes pulpy; and, with the very best intentions in the world, a man is only too apt sometimes to tolerate things which, for want of change in his work, he has almost lost the power of seeing. It must be remembered too that the nature of the work is such as to call for a peculiar order of mind; and that there would not be in the discharge of these duties the stimulus that urges most men to long sustained exertion; that while they are advancing the general good they are also assisting themselves along the difficult path of honors and preferment. For these reasons, therefore, it appears to me most desirable that the gentleman who is appointed by the Indian Government to watch over the interests of their subjects should not be confined to one Colony; but that he should be encouraged to move about as much as possible, in order to stimulate his own mind, and, consequently, those of other persons whom he may influence by the inspiring emulation that would thus be created between the different Colonies.

6. How far permanent colonization may thus be promoted it is, perhaps, premature to prophesy; and I feel myself quite unable to offer anything like a reliable opinion on this subject. My own immediate business lies with the French Colonies, and, during the four years and-a-half I have been here, not a single vessel has brought back to this port any emigrants from that distant bourne. Now and then, on very rare and remarkable occasions, the recruiters of the French Agency manage to induce a return emigrant who has already tried one of their Colonies to try another; but those who thus yield to the spirit of adventure are either persons who have been born in the Colonies, or have gone there as infants, and who consequently have no real attachment to their fatherland, or reckless beasts of burden who, having spent the little savings they brought over with them, are ready to go anywhere to toil and save and spend again. Judging from my own narrow experience, I should say that the native of India is not naturally inclined to emigrate. "To be contents his natural desire," unless he has had some domestic disagreement, or has been won over by some artful and ingenious recruiter. Even under the most desperate circumstances he always leaves his native land with an idea of returning to it; and it is probable that a proposition to "colonize," however temptingly set forth, would only excite those ridiculous suspicions which come so naturally to the mind of an ignorant native, and make him more obstinately determined to secure exorbitant advantages. One means perhaps of attaining the desired end would, I think, be to reduce the term of his stipulated service on a fixed wage from five to three years, and to allow him, at the end of that time, a certain liberty of making his own terms with his employer; and I am confident that if the planter would treat him with consideration and with sympathy he would find that—though our ordinary acknowledgment of gratitude may be absent from his vocabulary—the native of India thoroughly appreciates a good master and will attach himself to one with as much constant fidelity as the native of any other part of the world. The other ancillary means of promoting the taste for emigration, and, eventually, for colonization, would undoubtedly be to encourage correspondence between emigrants and their relatives in the mother-country to a greater extent than appears to be done at present, and to disseminate, by means of the local *Gazettes*, whatever other information may be available for this purpose; and if this course is steadily and persistently pursued, we may confidently look to time to complete our ulterior desires.

No. 18. From Captain BOWNESS FISCHER, S.C., British Consular Agent, Karikal, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Karikal, 3rd July 1875, No. 754.

With reference to G.O., No. 816, of the 21st ultimo, I have the honor to report that, however desirable it may be that the Colony of British Guiana should be supplied with "able-bodied" Indian emigrants, it does not appear to me equally expedient that these emigrants should be classified in this country by the Protectors in the manner proposed by the Emigration Board. Such an arrangement would probably lead to constant contests between the Protector of Emigrants and the Emigration Agent, since it would involve the transfer to the former of functions that particularly belong only to the latter. The duties of the Protector of

Emigrants are magisterial, those of the Emigration Agent merely mercantile; the former watches over the interests of his Government as far as the welfare of their subjects is concerned, the latter is entrusted with the care of carrying out the commercial operations of a body of men whose main interest is to make money—
"Si possunt, recte; si non, quocunque modo."

2. I see no reason, however, why Medical Inspectors and Emigration Agents should not be made more directly and more stringently responsible for the good condition of the laborers they pass than appears now to be the case. Their interests are almost identical; they are paid by the same employers; and if they do not discharge the duties they are thus engaged to perform in the manner expected from them, they should simply be treated as other incapable or dishonest Agents are generally treated by other merchants.

3. If the Colonies so urgently require "able-bodied" laborers, they should employ trustworthy Agents, who thoroughly understand their wants, and who will as thoroughly endeavour to supply them. If the persons the latter recruit should be found on arrival at their destination to be constitutionally unfit, they should be repatriated at the expense of those who first engaged and accepted them. A similar system though, of course, on a very much smaller scale obtains at Karikal, and works with remarkable success. If an intending emigrant is found on arrival at the depot to be physically unfit, he is sent back to his native village at the expense of the recruiter who engaged him, who loses, in addition to this sum, the money he may already have expended in advances and for his food and transport. To stimulate still further his interest in the future of those persons whom he engages, the recruiter only receives half of his commission when he first brings them in, and does not obtain the balance still due to him until they are all finally embarked. Could not a similar system be applied by the Colonies to the Emigration Agents and Medical Inspectors who are charged with their interests in this country?

4. The wages question does not seem to me to admit of so easy a solution; but the proposals of His Excellency Mr. Longden appear to me eminently equitable, and, if the indentures of laborers were limited to three instead of five years—so as to give the immigrant, when he is thoroughly acclimatised, a chance of bettering himself—I am inclined to think that these propositions, thus amended, would almost meet the wants of the case. It is necessary to add, however, that the classification, in this country, of emigrants into "able-bodied" and "not able-bodied" appears to me most objectionable. It certainly seems more equitable that every emigrant should be engaged for a certain fixed sum, which should be the minimum amount that he would receive for a certain distinctly specified tale of work, and that he should be left to make his own terms afterwards: to the natural operation of that "struggle for the fittest" which assigns their true level to the idle and to the industrious, to the useful and to the worthless laborer. The minimum amount offered by Governor Longden is only 16 cents, or four annas a day, for it will be observed that the higher rate of 24 cents a-day, to which His Excellency alludes, is contingent only upon the fallible and varying opinion of a "District Medical Officer," who must inevitably be subject to the insidious

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
14th March 1876.*

influences of local associations. The question then remains whether 16 cents a day is a sufficient sum for an average Indian laborer; but on this point I do not feel myself competent to offer a decided opinion. Four annas a-day is certainly a very fair wage in this district; but in French Guiana—the conditions of which are, I presume, analogous to those of British Guiana—Mr. Consul Woolridge states that “the purchase power of money as affecting the coolie in Cayenne, or in proportion to its power in India, is as ten to twenty-five,” and that, consequently, “a native of India in the position of these coolies, who could live on between four or five Rupees a-month, would simply starve upon the same” in that country.

No. 19. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd November 1875, No. 3187.

Read the following papers:—

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chatterpore, 31st August 1875, No. 1770.

I have the honor to offer the following remarks with reference to the Proceedings of Government, Public Department, dated 13th May 1875, No. 612, communicated with the Board's Miscellaneous No. 5076, dated 8th June 1875.

2. I entirely concur in the general view expressed by the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, in paragraph 5 of his letter; at the same time as this is neither a very healthy nor very densely-peopled district, its interests as regards emigration would seem to clash in a measure with those of the Colonies, for whereas we desire the return of the ryots and others with their pockets well lined (as is usually the case with those emigrating to Burmah) to continue a better and more enlightened system of cultivating their paternal acres, the Colonies would desire them to remain after having secured a position as respectable citizens.

3. It will, I fear, be a difficult matter at first to induce respectable females to emigrate in any thing like a reasonable proportion to males to the more distant Colonies, save, perhaps, in times of famine or dire distress.

4. Early marriages, caste-prejudices, ignorance, a natural love of home, and shrinking from the unknown dangers and difficulties, which they consider inseparable from the ability to earn an honest livelihood abroad, combine to make the respectable female classes, as a rule, unwilling to quit this country under ordinary circumstances.

5. No doubt in course of time, under the checks and safeguards which it is proposed to introduce, and which I consider most salutary, the repugnance may be lessened, but under any circumstances, I think it will be indispensably requisite that a back-passage should be guaranteed to all emigrants.

6. It by no means follows, however, that the privilege will be always availed of, as under the improved relations which it may reasonably be expected will follow from the ameliorated footing on which the Indian emigrant will be placed when the proposed reforms have been introduced, it ought to be to the interest of many to remain. In the case of the emigrant electing to remain, I think that the value of his return passage should be paid him; he would in all probability employ it either in permanently bettering his position in his adopted home, or he would remit it to this country in view to assisting his relatives to join him. In either case the Colony would be benefited.

7. Where circumstances will admit of a grant of land being offered to an emigrant after, say, ten or twelve years' residence in the Colony, the difficulty of inducing persons to emigrate with their families from this country will be greatly diminished, and with fair treatment and encourage-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
14th March 1876.*

ment in the land of their adoption, they will, I think, in many cases readily settle down as permanent residents. Once a small nucleus is established, it is astonishing the rapidity with which under advantageous circumstances they increase.

8. While fully recognizing the advantages of emigration to a district by drafting off the most indigent classes who may not have the means of doing justice to the small parcels of land to which they cling with unflinching persistence, I question the desirability of Government taking a much more active part in promoting emigration from this district to the more distant Colonies than at present; but under the circumstances explained in paragraph 10 of the letter under remark, I think Government officers might well engage emigrants for those Colonies which have agreed to receive people recruited under such circumstances, always of course assuming that the terms offered have been fully approved of by Government that they should be clearly defined before embarkation, and should not be left vague and uncertain till after the arrival of the emigrants in the Colony.

9. At present there are great facilities and inducements for people to emigrate for a limited period to Burmah from this district. They perform the voyage by steamer in about four days, the passage money is Rupees 16 per head, or about a month's pay in Burmah. In two or three years they return to the district with from Rupees 200 to Rupees 300, clear off their debts, redeem their lands, and become useful members of society. They leave their wives and families in this country during their absence, and if need be, they have no hesitation in either returning to Burmah themselves for a time, or in sending a male member of the family to realize a little purse.

10. Under these circumstances, it will not be easy to induce people to emigrate to distant Colonies, nor so long as there is abundance of waste cultivable land in the district, will it be to the advantage of the district that they should leave it either permanently or for a protracted period.

From H. St. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th June 1875, No. 1,116.

With reference to G.O., No. 612, dated 13th ultimo, I have the honor to enclose herein a report from my Deputy Collector on the extent of emigration from this port and the restrictions under which it has been conducted.

2. The emigration to Burmah is on the increase, and the communication by steamer, which is now constant and regular, promises to be of great benefit in making accessible a country where comparative wealth is within the reach of industrious peasants from this district.

3. Population does not here press upon the soil to such an extent as to cause depletion by emigration to be felt as a relief, and I believe that the advantages and disadvantages of emigration, at least to Mauritius, Bourbon, and Burmah, are fairly known to the class who emigrate owing to the large number who have returned during past years from those places and related their experiences.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Report of Deputy Collector.

Emigration has been carried on in this district for some time past to the Colonies under the Indian Emigration Act VII of 1871 and to Tennaserim Provinces under the Passenger Traffic Act I of 1857.

2. The following statement shows to what extent this has been done and the places to which the people have left during the last twelve years. I am not aware that any emigration existed before 1863-64. Mauritius is the only Colony on account of which recruiting has been lately going on, but it will soon cease altogether, as the Sub-Agent has received instructions to close the business here. The passenger traffic still continues.

Statement showing the Number of Persons who have emigrated to the Colonies and to the Tennaserim Provinces during the last 12 years.

Official Year.	BOURBON.			MAURITIUS.			REUNION.			TENNIS.			JAMICA.			MOULMER.			RANGOON.			ARAB.			TOTAL.		
	3			3			4			5			6			7			8			9			10		
	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.	Adults.	Children.	Total.
1863-64...	285	66	351	545	189	734	98	13	111	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122
1864-65...	59	19	71	292	205	497	98	13	111	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122
1865-66...	56	46	102	791	604	1,395	98	13	111	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122
1866-67...	748	225	963	328	190	518	98	13	111	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122
1867-68...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1868-69...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1869-70...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1870-71...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1871-72...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1872-73...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1873-74...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1874-75...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	1,136	366	1,493	4,656	2,028	6,683	98	13	111	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122	98	24	122

3. From the above statement it will be seen that the total number sent to the Colonies is 8,496 and to the Tennaserim Provinces 10,249. How many of these belonged to other districts cannot be ascertained, as no such account is kept of the emigrants to the Tennaserim Provinces. It is a fact that several persons from Ganjam District do annually embark from Bimlipatam and Vizagapatam for Burmah, where the demand for labor is great and the remuneration better than in the Mauritius.

4. In Burmah a common laborer gets from 6 to 8 Annas a-day, and sometimes more, as soon as they go there. By the Mauritius scale, the highest rate after four years' residence is Rupees 7-8-0 and rations, which may be considered of equal value.

5. Annexed is a Memorandum of the Mauritius scale of wages and sundry-rules and circulated here by the Emigration Agency for the information of emigrants and others interested in emigration :—

"Coolies emigrating to Mauritius will receive the following rates of wages :—

Age.	WAGES PER MONTH.									
	First Year.		Second Year.		Third Year.		Fourth Year.		Fifth Year.	
	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.
From 10 to 11 inclusive	2	8 0	3	0 0	3	8 0	4	0 0	4	8 0
" 12 to 14 do.	3	0 0	3	8 0	4	0 0	4	8 0	5	0 0
" 15 to 17 do.	4	0 0	4	8 0	5	0 0	5	8 0	6	0 0
" 18 upwards	5	8 0	6	0 0	6	8 0	7	0 0	7	8 0

"Coolies who have returned to India from Mauritius re-emigrating will receive—

Rupees 5-8-0 for the first year,

" 6-0-0 for the second year,

" 6-8-0 for the third year,

" 7-0-0 for the fourth year, and

" 7-8-0 for the fifth year.

"They will receive in addition rations consisting of rice, maize or manioc, dholl, saltfish, ghee or oil, and salt. Boys under twelve years of age will receive three-fourths of the amount of rations allowed to adult emigrants.

"They will also be furnished with dwellings for themselves and for their families and with medical care when sick.

"Females are not required to work unless they choose. If they wish they can find employment and will be engaged for one year at the rate of Rupees 3 per month and rations.

"Emigrants are required to remain at the Mauritius for five years. Should they wish to return to India after that period, they must pay their own return passage.

"There are Magistrates in the different districts of Mauritius who have been appointed to hear all complaints of laborers and to see that justice is done to them. There is also an officer called the Protector whose special duty is to watch over their interests.

"More than 206,000 coolies from Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay are now in Mauritius. Many of them have become proprietors of land and have settled there. Many others have returned to India with a large amount of savings.

"Coolies coming to the Emigration Depot at Madras and enrolling themselves as emigrants without the intervention of recruiters or contractors will receive the following rewards :—

"For every male emigrant above seventeen years of age and under fifty, Rupees 5-8-0.

"For every female do. do. do. 2-8-0.

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- "For emigrants between twelve and seventeen, half the above rates.
- "For children under twelve years, nothing.
- "Coolies from the mofussil, prior to leaving their districts, must present themselves before the District Magistrate and obtain a pass from him.
- "Signature of the Protector of Emigrants. "Signature of the Mauritius Emigration Agent."

6. According to the Act all the coolies recruited in the district are passed by a Magistrate, who satisfies himself that they understand the nature of the engagement they have entered into and that they are willing to fulfil the same, &c., and are sent to Madras, from whence they are embarked after being passed by a Medical Officer to the Mauritius under the Rules published in the Supplement* to the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 6th October 1874. These rules are apparently sufficient to secure the care and comfort of the emigrants during the voyage to the port of destination. Should they have any cause of complaint, they can go before a Magistrate for redress on landing.

7. To encourage emigration for a term of years or for colonization, the best means seems to be to employ the Sub-Agents selected from among the emigrants who have been on the island for some time and who can be trusted to explain to the people the advantages to be derived from emigrating. Lately a man and his wife returned from the Mauritius well off and covered with jewels; the Sub-Agent used them as recruiters and succeeded so well that they collected in one month more than the other Maistries did in three, and would no doubt continue to do so only that the enlistment here has been stopped.

8. The following is a copy of the notice to recruiters under Act VII of 1871:—

"A commission of Rupees 5-8-0 will be paid to recruiters for every male emigrant above seventeen years of age and under fifty.

"A commission of Rupees 2-8-0 for every female above seventeen years of age and under fifty.

"A commission half the above rates will be paid for emigrants between twelve and seventeen years of age.

"For children under twelve years no fees will be paid.

"It is requested that a written agreement duly stamped should be drawn up between recruiters and contractors, and complaints from these parties should be preferred to the Emigration Agent.

"Extract from Act VII of 1871 for the information of Recruiters.

Sections 21, 27, and 72.

"Signature of the Protector of Emigrants.

"Signature of the Mauritius Emigration Agent"

(Signed) J. W. McMURRAY,
Deputy Collector.

From J. KELSALL, Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavary District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 29th July 1875, No. 310.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., dated 13th May 1875, No. 612, forwarded with your endorsement of June 8th, No. 5076.

2. I do not think that Government or Government officials can do more to promote emigration than they do now. The duties of Government officers are to see that only suitable persons are recruited; that they fully understand the nature of the contract they are making and the results of their acts; and that they are properly provided for and treated both prior to embarkation and during the voyage.

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3. I consider they would be entirely in a false position if they were themselves to turn recruiters, or to guarantee employment and a fixed rate of wages to would-be emigrants. Such action on their part would most certainly be misunderstood.

From J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 29th June 1875, No. 180.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, No. 5586, dated 22nd instant, I have the honor to submit copy of my letter to Government, No. 128, dated 15th instant.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Protector of Emigrants, to the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 15th June 1875, No. 128.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Proceedings of Madras Government, Public Department, of 13th May 1875, No. 612, calling for my remarks on the points referred by the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in his despatch on the subject of emigration of 24th March 1875.

2. I have been Protector of Emigrants at the Port of Madras since July 1868, and during that period there has been no despatch of emigrants to any Colony save Mauritius except on one occasion in 1873, when 231 emigrants, half a shipload, the other half being Bengal emigrants sent from Calcutta, embarked for British Guiana.

3. On another occasion in 1872 a number of emigrants were recruited to be sent to Jamaica; but, in consequence of some mismanagement on the part of the agents, they were not despatched, and were retransmitted to their native villages at the expense of the Agency.

4. A good many emigrants are passed by me for French recruiters, but all emigrants to French Colonies are embarked at Pondicherry and Karikal. None at Madras.

5. The Secretary of State divides the subject of emigration into two principal heads; whether by some change of system it might not be possible and advisable to afford greater encouragement to emigration on the one hand, and on the other hand to obtain fuller information regarding the treatment of the emigrants in the Colonies, and greater security against any unfairness towards them, either on the Colonial laws and regulations or in the terms and conditions of their employment and treatment. As regards redundancy of population in the districts in which emigrants are recruited for shipment at Madras, I am decidedly of opinion that it does not exist to any great extent. It is even now insufficient to meet the requirements made by the cultivated lands of the districts themselves, the efflux of free laborers to Ceylon, both perennial and annual, and the demand, daily increasing, for labor to cultivate the numerous coffee, tea, cinchona, and other estates now being opened up by both Europeans and Natives, and the small requirements of the Mauritius and French Colonies. Wages are slowly and steadily increasing in this Presidency, and lately coffee-planters in the Wynad have been trying to import laborers from Bengal unsuccessfully as yet, but ere long either Bengalees or Chinese will be working on Madras coffee and tea estates.

6. Gold is also being discovered in several parts of the Presidency, and mining labor will be required.

7. Dr. Conran, the intelligent and energetic agent for the Mauritius Government at Madras, has found it impossible ever to supply the requisitions sent to him from the Mauritius. The annexed table shows the annual requisitions and numbers despatched for the last seven years:—

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Number of Men requisitioned for by the Planters at the Mauritius, and Number of Men, Women, and Children despatched to the Mauritius from 1868 to 1875.

Year.	Total Number required.	EMBARKED FOR THE MAURITIUS UP TO DATE.							Total Stature Adults.
		Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Male Infants.	Female Infants.	Total Souls.	
1868...	1,606	215	84	34	18	4	3	358	327½
1869...	1,625	820	309	82	57	8	12	1,288	1,205½
1870...	2,370	813	330	93	76	12	11	1,335	1,235½
1871...	1,856	479	191	48	50	2	6	776	721½
1872...	3,125	885	379	153	129	27	19	1,592	1,420½
1873...	3,380	1,510	626	228	231	19	15	2,739	2,386½
1874...	835	919	385	128	127	8	17	1,584	1,439½
1875...		327	151	52	47	10	9	596	533½
Total...	14,797	5,968	2,455	818	735	90	92	10,268	9,266

Dr. Conran works very hard and does his best to supply the requirements of the Mauritius; but, even though he has the sole agency in the Northern Division from whence come all his best and hardest-working emigrants, he can never recruit nearly the number required.

8. The rate of wages up to 1872 was on the scale given below:—

Wages per Month.

Age.	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.
	Shillings.	Shillings.	Shillings.	Shillings.	Shillings.
From 10 to 11 inclusive ...	5	6	7	8	9
„ 12 to 14 „ ...	6	7	8	9	10
„ 15 to 17 „ ...	7	8	9	10	11
„ 18 upwards ...	8	9	10	11	12

In 1872 the rates were raised as follows:—

Wages per Month.

	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.
	Shillings.	Shillings.	Shillings.	Shillings.	Shillings.
1.—Of New Emigrants.					
From 10 to 11 years of age inclusive...	5	6	7	8	9
„ 12 to 14 „ ...	6	7	8	9	10
„ 15 to 17 „ ...	8	9	10	11	12
„ 18 years upwards „ ...	10	11	12	13	14
2.—Of Emigrants who came back to Mauritius after having returned to India.					
From 14 to 17 years inclusive ...	9	10	11	12	13
„ 18 years upwards ...	11	12	13	14	15

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About a year ago the planters were allowed to requisition for coolies, stating any increase they were prepared to pay; the increase has been from half a rupee to two rupees monthly, and some of the women now get three rupees monthly, but the supply is still not equal to the demand.

9. The Mauritius is a prosperous and favourite Colony for emigrants; they often bring back large sums of money, and there are generally a good number of return emigrants in each shipload despatched who have been there before, are returning themselves, and taking with them others who have been tempted to go by their accounts of the island.

10. No back-passages is stipulated, for the engagement is for five years, when an emigrant can return paying his own passage, usually from Rupees 35 to 40, or can enter on a fresh term of service for five years, or can remain and start a shop or go into service as a domestic without any contract with the Government, in which latter case he is bound to serve on a plantation as a laborer if required.

11. As regards the proposal that the officers of Government generally might in many ways assist emigration, I will confine my remarks to matters which come under my notice as Protector of Emigrants.

12. A fee of Rupees 1-8-0 is payable for each emigrant passed. This could be remitted as also the license fee, Rupees 15, for recruiters, but I myself think it is only fair that the Colony, which is to benefit by the exodus from India of the emigrant, should pay some small fee to partially reimburse the Government of India its expenses, which are incurred for the benefit of the Colony to which the emigrants are despatched by the Colonial Agency.

13. New rules for emigration from Calcutta were passed by the Governor-General in Council and made applicable to Madras on 24th September 1874. There is not very much difference between them and the old rules, but two of the alterations are expensive and inconvenient when applied at Madras.

14. Formerly there was one survey and one survey report by the Government Surveyor. Now the very same report slightly altered in the wording is divided into two, and the Surveyor has to make two surveys and send in two reports, and is consequently paid two fees instead of one.

15. Now there are two inspections by the Protector, Medical Inspector, Ship's Surgeon, and Emigration Agent; formerly there was one. The inspection is the same, but has to be made at two different periods instead of one. Formerly only the Ship's Surgeon, Emigration Agent, and Protector inspected; now the Medical Inspector must be present also.

16. Though I cannot imagine any practical reason for splitting the former single survey and inspection into two, I can show several reasons for returning to the former practice as regards Madras.

17. First, the extra survey and inspection cost money in survey-fee and boat-hire; secondly, the surveys and inspections have to be made in a certain fixed order; in a port like Calcutta this can be done without difficulty, but in Madras the emigrants' ships lie some distance generally further than others out at sea in an open roadstead, and sometimes when the survey or inspection has been arranged, the weather prevents its coming off. The Medical Inspector has also other duties, and the practical result is that occasionally delays will occur which would have been avoided if the old system of one survey and one inspection had been allowed to remain in force.

18. Paragraph 11 of the Secretary of State's Despatch.—The Agent is answerable to the Mauritius Government for the class of persons recruited, and the Protector also occasionally rejects persons who are evidently unfitted from age, physique, or other causes. Young, single, unmarried women without relations are often rejected; old men or women are sometimes allowed to go with their families.

19. Paragraphs 12 and 13.—The amounts of wages are always clearly defined and entered in the emigrants' agreements, and the emigrant is entitled to receive those wages on arrival in the Mauritius. This system should be enforced for all other Colonies. All classification of emigrants as to the work they are hired for should be made in India and entered in the agreements with the amounts of wages, ration, &c., and the adoption of the proposals in paragraph

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14 of the despatch will leave it optional with the emigrant to labor in task-work if he chooses. The wages are not guaranteed by the Indian Government, but the Colony to which the emigrant is sent.

20. *Paragraph 15.*—On the question of back-passages it is unnecessary at present to guarantee them in the case of Mauritius emigrants. An emigrant should be entitled to a free back-passage after ten years, or a gratuity of Rupees 40 if he settles in the island. All invalids should be entitled to a free back-passage. For other Colonies I think it is absolutely necessary to guarantee back-passages for all emigrants after five years' service. If the emigrant is satisfied with the treatment and wages, he will often remain. Many, however, wish to return to their native country and ought to have the option of doing so guaranteed. I believe that, as a rule, emigrants are well treated in the Colonies. They certainly are in the Mauritius, where many save large sums in a few years.

21. *Paragraph 16.*—Dr. Conran is most particular in his endeavours only to allow women of the agricultural and laboring classes to emigrate, but often a man brings a woman with him whom he calls his wife; they declare they wish to emigrate, and though Dr. Conran may suspect, he cannot be certain the woman is not really his wife. Among many of the lower classes who emigrate, the marriage-tie is not of a very binding nature, and is often dissolved on the voyage or on arrival at the Mauritius.

22. On the second point, whether it is advisable to obtain fuller information regarding the treatment of emigrants in the Colonies and promulgate the same for the information of intending emigrants in India, I think the proposals of the Secretary of State in paragraphs 7 and 8 would act most beneficially, the reports sent by the Colonial Agents of the state of affairs in each Colony would guarantee to the emigrants the truthfulness of the statements made to them by the recruiters and agents, and the former would be careful not to delude the emigrants with vain hopes and promises, which, on arrival at the depôts and on inspection by the Government officers, would be shown to be disappointing and exaggerated. It is most important that the Agents should be Indian Government servants actual or retired.

23. As far as Madras, however, is concerned, I must reiterate my opinion that under present circumstances, and still more in the future, no great tide of emigration will ever flow to the Colonies either of Great Britain or France.

24. On the point of comparison of emigration to British and French Colonies, I beg to call the attention of Government to the following extracts from my Administration Report of 1869-70:—

"Paragraph 21. Even when an emigrant does take money with him into the depôts, he has every opportunity of spending it in clothes, tobacco, and other luxuries while there. It is not, therefore, extraordinary if, after a sojourn of a month or so, emigrants go on boardship penniless and arrive at their destination without money. Some of the unscrupulous ones have there complained of extortion by maistries, but such complaints could and should have been made in the depôts where the complainants have generally been for some time before embarkation.

"Paragraph 22. I cannot see what advantage is gained by the French system of large advances, and it is most disadvantageous and unfair to the emigrants. Maistries ought never to be allowed to receive any money from emigrants on any pretence whatever: by the present French system the emigrant receives three months' wages in advance which he has to repay after arrival at the Colony in fifteen months by instalments of one rupee per month. He does not really want so much money advanced; part of it goes in paying the maistry for feeding him on the journey from the place of recruitment to the depôts; he also generally considers himself bound to give the maistry a present for recruiting him and gives it, and the balance he spends on clothes and luxuries in the depôt.

"Paragraph 23. British emigrants are fed on the road at the expense of the Agency, and get one month's pay in advance instead of three. This is generally spent in clothes and luxuries, but the amount is small. Of course head and under maistries approve of the French system,

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and the emigrant, careless of the future, never reflects that he has squandered a quarter of his first year's wages, before he commences to work in the Colony.

"Paragraph 24. The French system should, in my opinion, be assimilated to the British one; there would then be no more true or false complaints of extortion by maistries, as the one month's advance is paid just before embarkation."

See also my Administration Report of 1873-74:—

"Paragraph 15. Captain Fischer points out very clearly that many of the arrangements made under the French Arrêté of the 3rd of July 1862, which is the guide at Pondicherry for all shipments of food, clothing, &c., are totally inadequate to the requirements of the emigrants.

"Paragraph 16. I cannot understand why the Government of India allow emigrants to be shipped from French ports under rules which I believe they have not sanctioned and which are totally different from the rules of 1865. Nearly all the emigrants shipped from French ports are recruited in British India, and the French authorities should, I think, be bound to provide the food, clothing, medical comforts, &c., which are provided for emigrants shipped from British Indian ports.

"Paragraph 17. Government has appointed Protectors of Emigrants at Karikal and Pondicherry to see that emigrants are properly treated and that their necessary comforts on the voyage are attended to in every way, but it must be very disheartening to an energetic and zealous officer like Captain Fischer to know that there is a law which I can enforce if emigrants to French Colonies are shipped at Madras, but which he is powerless to carry out at Karikal. I think if we allow emigrants to be shipped at French ports, we should be as careful to see that all needful rules and regulations are attended to and carried out there as we are when emigrants are shipped from British ports.

"Paragraph 18. I observe that a correspondence on the subject of the shipment of the emigrants per *Nimrod* from Pondicherry is being carried on at present by Government with the French authorities, which I trust will result in placing these important matters on a proper footing.

"Paragraph 19. The recruiting regulations should also be the same. At present they are very much in favor of French recruiters, as they are permitted by custom to give three months' advance pay to emigrants, while Mauritius recruiters are only allowed to give one month's advance."

25. With reference to the above remarks, I beg to state that I consider the assimilation of the laws in force at Pondicherry and Karikal to those in force at all other ports in India, a matter of the very greatest importance, and that the rules and regulations which are considered necessary at British depôts and ports of embarkation should be strictly enforced at French depôts and ports.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,

Collector of Madras.

From G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th July 1875, No. 206:—

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, No. 6,092, of the 6th instant, I have the honor to submit copy of a letter addressed by me to Government as Protector of Emigrants, in reply to their Order, No. 816, dated 21st June 1875, Public Department.

From J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Protector of Emigrants, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Ootacamund, dated Madras, 1st July 1875, No. 138.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of G.O., of 21st June 1875, No. 816, calling for

Paragraph 2, Despatch No. 49 of 1875, from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India.
Paragraph 3, same despatch.

my opinion on an amendment proposed by Governor Longden as well as the two alternative further amendments suggested by the

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Emigration Commissioner, and also my opinion whether Governor Longden's amendment can be combined with the arrangement proposed by the Secretary of State in paragraph 12, Despatch No. 39 of 1875.

2. I have already, in paragraph 19 of my letter to yourself of June 15th, 1875, No. 128, stated my opinion that the classification should be made in India, and I most decidedly coincide with the Secretary of State in his suggestion that the classification should be made by the Emigration Agent. He is an officer paid by the Colony to which the emigrants are despatched, and if the Colonial Government considers that he does not do his duty towards it, and classify the emigrants according to their laboring abilities, the Government can dismiss him and appoint another Agent. If the wages, rations, &c., are entered in the emigrant's agreement, he will take care not to accept it unless he is guaranteed wages equivalent to his powers of working; and I certainly do not consider it advisable that either the Protector or the Medical Inspector of Emigrants should have anything whatever to do with the classification.

3. As regards Governor Longden's proposal, I think the clause which he wishes to add to the Act is equally fair to both the emigrant and his employer, and that the reasons given by him in paragraph 5 for suggesting that the District Medical Officer should grant the certificate instead of the Immigration Agent or Stipendiary Magistrate are very strong in favor of his proposal. Old men ought not to be sent as emigrants, but others may become permanently less able-bodied, and an employer ought not to be obliged to pay a full wage for less than full work. The certificate system will prevent this anomaly, and the right of appeal by the laborer to the Immigration Agent or Stipendiary Magistrate will ensure justice being done to him, if the District Medical Officer is treating him unfairly.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. D. LEMAN,
Acting Collector.

From R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saidapet, 18th June 1875, No. 345.

I have the honor to reply to Board's endorsement, dated 8th June 1875, on Government Proceedings of 13th May 1875.

2. The proposal in paragraph 12 of the Secretary of State's Despatch to have the terms on which emigrants are engaged more clearly defined, would, I think, be a useful measure; this might be done as proposed by classing the coolies before embarkation. If the right to a return passage be done away with greater difficulty than at present exists will be experienced by the Recruiting Agents in finding laborers. As far as my experience goes very few of those emigrating to the Colonies from this country go with the intention of settling. They all look forward to returning to India at some time or other. I do not think the people of this country, as a rule, will colonize. It is rare to see a family emigrating, though individual members of it may do so. The only instances I can call to mind are those of a few families of weavers, a much depressed trade, who went from Vizagapatam during the scarcity of 1871.

3. Complaints, it is stated, are made by the colonists that the class of coolies who emigrate are ill-adapted to the labor they have to perform; but it must be borne in mind that the Recruiting Agents employed by the various Colonies engage the coolies themselves, and that they must take those whom they can get or none at all. They have not the pick of the market. Any native of the laboring class, who can earn a decent livelihood in his own country, is very unlikely to go for employment to a distant country, only reached after a long sea voyage. Those who go are, as a rule, men who from some cause or other are social failures in their own land, and many of them bad characters who have made their neighbourhood too hot for them. Of the women, most have been deserted by their husbands, or cast out by their friends. That, if more discrimination were displayed by the Recruiting Agents, many of those now engaged as laborers would be rightly rejected, I have no doubt; but their places would not be filled by others of a superior class, and

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the number of emigrants would be proportionately reduced, besides which as long as the Agents are paid so much per head they have every inducement to take all who offer themselves.

4. The proposal in the despatch that Government should intervene to encourage colonization, I should be very sorry to see adopted. Such a course would be open to misconstruction, and would give rise to all sorts of silly reports. The position of a Magistrate would be very embarrassing; he would be directed to encourage colonization; each of the Agents of some four or five rival Colonies would be constantly pressing him to encourage recruiting to the particular Colony in which he was interested, and the Magistrate would be at a loss to know which Colony to recommend.

5. In conclusion, I should much regret to see any of the existing safeguards for the protection of emigrants at all relaxed. The result, in my opinion, would be kidnapping.

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Trinomalay, 15th June 1875, No. 258.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Board's Proceedings of the 8th instant, Miscellaneous No. 5,076, communicating the Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department, under date 13th May 1875, in which the despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, dated 24th March 1875, No. 39, is embodied, and calling on me to report on the proposals contained in the despatch.

2. The despatch refers to emigration from India to the British West Indian Colonies only, and for the purpose of permanent colonization, and the Secretary of State suggests that it will be a benefit to India to get rid of her redundant population by transferring them to Colonies where they will be better off; that the Colonies themselves will profit by such immigration; and that it is therefore worth consideration whether the Indian Government should not more directly aid emigrants to emigrate to such Colonies than it does at present by advertising the terms offered, and by encouraging suitable persons to take advantage of them, care being taken, on the other hand, that the interests of the immigrants shall be well looked after in the Colonies after their arrival by the appointment of officers, who have served in India and are acquainted with the native character, in the quality of Emigration Agents or Protectors. It is also proposed to vest officers who attest the engagements of emigrants with discretion to reject such emigrants as appear clearly unfit, and who should not therefore be permitted to emigrate except for special reasons; and that to get over the objections of the Colonial employers of labor to pay the wages of able-bodied laborers to men who are not able-bodied, the emigrants shall be classified by the attesting officers of the Government in India as able-bodied or of an inferior class. The Secretary of State finally wishes to know whether it could with safety be left open to the emigrant in each case to stipulate for a back-passage or to accept other terms.

3. I am of opinion that the Government of India should not in any way be mixed up with the emigration of laborers from India to any other part of the world. Its proper rôle, I consider, is that which it now plays. It intervenes between the cooly and the man who contracts with him for his labor and sees that the terms are fair, and that the cooly understands and is willing to accept them. If it were to interfere directly in promoting emigration it is very probable that its motives would be regarded with suspicion and misunderstood.

4. If, however, it is decided that the Government shall interfere and directly encourage emigrants to settle permanently in our West Indian Islands, then I consider it most necessary that all classification of emigrants according to different rates of pay should be carried out in India before the emigrants leave the country. All contracts should be finally settled in India, and it should be distinctly understood that no contract can be altered after arrival in the Colony except with the immigrant's consent. As the object of the emigration is permanent colonization, the surest way of enticing the immigrants to settle is to guarantee them a certain amount of land on

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easy terms at the expiration of the term of their engagement if they will consent to remain. The effect of this would be very great in my opinion.

5. As to back-passages I consider that in every case a back-passage should be guaranteed. It must, however, be taken advantage of at the first opportunity after the expiry of the first term of service contracted for, and if then refused should lapse. In effect, by guaranteeing a back-passage it is left to the option of the emigrant to avail himself of it or not.

6. Even if Government directly interfere with emigration, I consider it essential that there should be a special agency for promoting it, and that the responsibility of encouraging suitable persons to emigrate should not be thrown upon the shoulders of the district officers.

From J. CAMERON, Esq., Sub-Collector in charge of Tanjore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 9th October 1875, No. 4,686.

I have the honor to reply to your endorsements on G.O., 13th May 1875, No. 612, and G.O., 21st June, No. 816, regarding the emigration of Indian coolies to the West Indies and British Guiana.

2. This subject is a very wide one, and one on which I do not know that I can give any very accurate opinion. The class of people who would avail themselves of such an emigration scheme would be generally of the laboring class, exceedingly ignorant and in a foreign land perfectly helpless, at least until they learned by experience to help themselves. The success of such a scheme would depend to a great extent on the nature of the rules laid down regarding the recruitment by the Colonial Agents in this country, their agreement to distinct terms of engagement and rates of pay in this country, and the means of enforcing such engagements in the Colony. The provision for a return passage is also a necessity. Rules regarding all these should be laid down clearly and distinctly, and explained to every proposing emigrant before going. Much would depend also on the class of men into whose hands they fell on their arrival in the Colony, whether they were disposed to treat them liberally or harshly and illiberally, and as connected with this, easy means of enforcing engagements is a necessary requirement, for cooly emigrants appear to be peculiarly liable, as far as I have seen, to being cheated and imposed on. If the Government were satisfied on all these points they might give their countenance to any Colonial Agents employed in this work and authorize their local officers to make generally known throughout their districts the terms and conditions on which emigrants are required for certain Colonies, guaranteeing that these rates and conditions are really those offered by the Colony, but making no engagement to be responsible for the due performance of these terms. All who accepted such terms would have to appear before embarkation by some Government officer, who should have the discretionary power of rejecting any who appeared unfit. Every dispute regarding class of laborer or rates of pay should also at the same time be finally settled, so that the cooly if he does not agree to the offer of the Emigration Agent may withdraw.

3. If the Government go beyond this, if they directly encourage emigration, superintend the system under which it is conducted, and not only make itself responsible for giving correct information, but also for the due performance of the terms on which the coolies are engaged, it incurs considerably greater responsibility. In the former instance it would be sufficient to obtain correct information regarding the proper fulfilment of the conditions. In this instance the emigrants would consider the Indian Government itself directly answerable for any non-fulfilment of what was promised them, and Indian Agents would require to be stationed there to enforce, as far as possible, such engagements; and it may be doubted whether such Agents, even if appointed, could in many cases do more than report the circumstances for orders. This system scarcely appears to me to be practicable.

4. As regards emigration itself I think there can be no doubt of the benefit of it both to the Colonies and the individual emigrants if arrangements could be made to carry it out satisfactorily.

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From H. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 21st September 1875, No. 230.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 8th June last, Miscellaneous No. 5,076, calling for information on the subject of emigration of laborers to Colonies, I have the honor to submit the following report.

2. As far as this district is concerned, I am not of opinion that the emigration of able-bodied laborers requires any stimulus.

3. The total area of the district is 3,591 square miles and the population is 1,200,408, or 334 per square mile. This rate may appear high, but it must be remembered that it includes two large towns, Trichinopoly and Srirangam, the former containing 75,000 and the latter 18,000 inhabitants. There is still a large quantity of arable waste in the district as well as a considerable amount of waste in ryots' holdings, of which it may be presumed the greater part would be cultivated were there sufficient hands.

4. The dry cultivation in the district is generally very indifferent, and what is understood among Europeans as high cultivation is scarcely known. Still the yield of these dry lands, which produce the staple food grains of the lower classes, is found sufficient to maintain the population. Although the country is an agricultural one, still the total strength of the laborers, among whom I have included all those ryots who pay land revenue 30 Rupees and under, does not exceed 192,000, or one-sixth of the whole population, and this is the total number of laborers actually engaged in tilling the ground and in other kinds of labor. The number of simple laborers, i.e., exclusive of the ryots, comes to 71,000, and it is from among these that able-bodied emigrants will have to be selected to be sent to different Colonies, as the putta-holding ryots would hardly find it worth their while to leave their country and lands.

5. The total area of the cultivable extent in the district is 1,372,000 acres; of this only 1,029,000 acres are held under putta, of these again 867,000 acres alone are cultivated, and the rest, 162,000, or on an average about 150,000 acres, i.e., about 16 per cent., are left waste partly from want of hands and partly from the quality of the soil requiring it to be laid fallow. The cultivation of even this comparatively small extent (867,000 acres), five-sixths of which are grown with dry crops, cannot be said to be satisfactory. The outturn does not come up to one-half the quantity such an extent ought to produce under high cultivation. With the figures before me, which I believe are correct, it may fairly be presumed that the main reason for such indifferent cultivation is want of hands, and it must be remembered that the colonists would, of course, wish to attract the very pick among their laborers as far as they could do so.

6. The number of emigrants registered in the office never exceeded fifty in any one year, but that figure does not represent the total number because it is generally more convenient for the recruiters, as well as for the emigrants themselves, to go straight to the port of embarkation and to get registration effected there. My predecessor, Mr. Pennington, therefore, ordered a register to be opened in all villages, and from the entries of these registers it appears that about 1,500 laborers emigrate every year from this district. There is already a complaint among the ryots that laborers are in the habit of receiving advances to secure their services and then absconding; and the ryots therefore naturally look on emigration with dismay. For these reasons I consider further encouragement of emigration from this district undesirable at least for some years to come. Free trade must, of course, find its own level, and there is not the slightest objection to laborers obtaining better food, clothing, and homes elsewhere. When the ryots find the laborers, on whom they depend for the cultivation of their fields, leave the country to better themselves, they may be induced to forego a little of their own profits to increase the comforts of the laborers, and thus a healthy competition for labor market will spring up. But at present, as far as our interests are concerned, we do not want more emigration. As regards the question of a guaranteed return passage, it seems to me that nothing can be of greater advantage to the Colonies than the system. If laborers know that they will be able to return to their homes after a time, and if they do actually return bringing with them not only their savings, but also glowing accounts of the treatment they receive in the Colonies, it is evident that those who have once emigrated will induce others to

emigrate and so keep up the stream. The case is very parallel to that of transportation. When none but life-convicts were sent to the Andamans, the criminal population had a wholesome dread of the "black water." But when short sentences of transportation began to be passed, i.e., when criminals had a guaranteed return passage, and when these criminals brought back pleasant accounts of their life in the Andamans, there was an undoubted inducement to petty offenders to aim higher and to reap the reward of transportation, which I have no doubt has had a serious effect on the criminal statistics of the country.

7. I do not wish to pay the Colonies the bad compliment of comparing emigration to transportation in all points of view, but I think there is enough of parallel between the two cases to prove that it is for the interest of the Colonies to guarantee the return passage and to trust to persuasion rather than to compulsion to induce the emigrant to pushing his stay after his period of service has expired.

8. The proposal to appoint Indian agents to look after emigrants arriving in the Colonies is undoubtedly good. As regards the classification of laborers, it seems to me that the fairest plan would be to class them before embarking and guarantee them the rate of wages of their class, and, if on arrival they are found to be sick or useless, the agent should have the option of continuing to pay the guaranteed rate in hopes of their recovery, or of providing an immediate return passage.

In the Despatches recorded in G.O., dated 13th May 1875, No. 612, and 21st June 1875, No. 816, the Secretary of State refers for consideration the questions whether it would not be advisable to alter the policy hitherto pursued in respect to emigration, and, instead of merely supervising and controlling, to interfere more actively to promote it; whether the Indian Government might not assume, under proper securities from Colonial Governments, the responsibility of guaranteeing the terms of the engagements and of seeing that coolies are properly selected and classified; and whether, in view to the encouragement of permanent colonization, it would not be advisable to discontinue the engagement usually made to provide the coolies with return passages on the expiration of the terms for which they have bound themselves, and to make special efforts to induce women of the agricultural and laboring classes to emigrate as well as men.

2. These questions were referred to the Collectors of Districts from which emigration has principally taken place, and the papers above recorded are the replies. From these letters, which are singularly unanimous, and from the knowledge which all who have served in the different districts must have, there is no difficulty in replying to the Secretary of State's queries.

3. On the general question it may be fairly stated that, so far as the Madras

Districts from which Emigration has hitherto chiefly taken place.	Population per square mile.
Ganjam	183
Vizagapatam	118
Chingleput	341
South Arcot	360
Tanjore	540
Trichinopoly	342
Presidency	226

Presidency is concerned, there is no real redundancy of population, and that for such portions of the people as may at times feel prompted to seek employment beyond its limits there are ample fields of labor within short distances where they can find work, either permanent or temporary, at wages considerably in

excess of what they can earn at home. For the Northern Districts British Burmah offers an ample field of labor at high rates of wage. The port of Rangoon can be reached from any of the northern ports by steamer in a week. The emigrants

there find large numbers of their countrymen already at work, and they can return to their homes when they please.

Tanjore, Madura, and Trichinopoly.

For the Southern Districts Ceylon offers a constant opening for permanent emigrants, and there is an enormous demand for temporary labor during the coffee-picking season. Its coasts can be reached from many parts of the Southern Districts in a few hours. The Ceylon Government gives every protection and encouragement to emigrants, and provides rest-houses and medical attendance along the principal roads to the coffee districts, and the planters employ large numbers of private recruiters who receive a premium on every cooly they bring to the estates.

4. There is further a large and growing demand for labor in this country itself for the tea and coffee plantations in the Wynad and on the Nilgiris and other hills. There is also a large extent of unoccupied land in each district, which, as capital and population increase, will be taken up for cultivation; and in some districts in which large works of irrigation have been undertaken—notably Kistna—there is serious difficulty in obtaining labor to carry on the works as rapidly as Government desire.

5. It may be confidently asserted that in no part of the Presidency do the numbers of the population as yet press upon the means of subsistence, and there is no occasion for Government to depart from the course hitherto followed, viz., while abstaining from throwing artificial obstacles in the way of emigration, to afford no artificial stimulus to it. To instruct Government officers to interfere actively to promote it or to engage in recruiting would be, in the Board's opinion, a very grave political error. No securities which would not prove illusory could be taken to secure observance of the conditions of engagements in far distant Colonies. The action of the Government officers would be misunderstood and misrepresented, its object would be defeated, and it would engender suspicion throughout the land. Government should confine itself as hitherto to carefully overlooking the proceedings of recruiters and clearly informing emigrants of the terms which they can claim in their elected field of labor. As to the classification of the emigrants the Board agree with the officers who have reported that this should be done by the Colonial Agents.

6. The Board do not think it probable that any great extension of emigration from Madras to the West-Indian Colonies can ever be looked for. The Mauritius offers to those who are minded to emigrate equal attraction without the long voyage, and is already, the Board believe, peopled half by Indian emigrants. It is unquestionable that the withdrawal of the promise of a return passage would be followed by an absolute cessation of the emigration, as every cooly who new emigrates holds fast to the hope of one day returning to his own village with savings which will make him well-to-do as a ryot. It would rather tend to keep the emigrants in the Colony if the option of receiving a fixed sum in lieu of a return passage were allowed them as suggested by the Collector of Ganjam.

7. The encouragement of the emigration of women and children would do more to induce emigrants to fix themselves permanently in the Colonies, and it would, in the Board's opinion, be good policy on the part of the Colonies which seek to attract labor to offer larger premia and higher wages for women and children

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
14th March 1876.*

emigrating. The premium for a woman should be made equal to that for a man. Those who take wives and children with them are more likely to settle in the Colony; unmarried women are sure to marry there; and children, to whom the Colony would be home, would most probably remain there for their lives.

8. The Board, while objecting to direct encouragement by Government, would, of course, offer no discouragement to emigration. So far as it is voluntary, it is a real good, and in this country, as in all others, there are always a certain number of people who find it hard to live. Emigration encourages a spirit of enterprise and independence, and every successful emigrant who returns spreads such feelings abroad, and, if he does not tempt others to do likewise, he is at least a standing example of self-reliance and trust. The Board think it would be a wise measure on the part of Colonial Governments to select and send to this country as recruiters a few successful immigrants who had settled in the Colonies. The system of large advances to emigrants is generally condemned.

9. The Colonial Governments cannot exercise too much care in the selection of emigration agents to act for them in this country.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 20. *Order returned 14th March 1876, No. 263.*

Ordered that the above be transmitted to the Government of India with reference to the endorsements, dated 27th April and 7th June 1875, on the Secretary of State's Despatches, dated 24th March and 22nd April 1875, Nos. 99 and 49, Public (Emigration), with the expression of the entire concurrence of this Government in the opinion of the Board of Revenue and the Officers consulted, that it is not at all advisable that the Government should take any direct action to develop emigration from this country to the Colonies, while at the same time any measures calculated to secure fair treatment to the emigrants in the Colonies, are greatly to be desired.

2. His Grace the Governor in Council is of opinion that the direct action of Government in respect to emigration is at present sufficient. Nothing is done to impede it, while every possible precaution is adopted to regulate the system of recruiting, to ensure that the recruit understands the terms of his contract, and to protect him while proceeding to his destination. The increasing demand for labor in this country, and the greater inducements held out by Ceylon, Burmah, the Straits, and the Mauritius, over those offered by more distant fields of labor preclude the probability of any legitimate increase in emigration to the West Indies; while on the other hand the suggested active interference by Government to promote it is calculated to induce serious distrust and misconception and to involve Government in responsibilities which they would be powerless to fulfil. A change in the policy hitherto pursued would almost certainly be attributed to a desire to promote the interests of English planters in the Colonies at the expense of India.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
14th March 1876.*

3. The Governor in Council is of opinion that offers of higher premium and better wages for women and children, and facilities for commuting the right to a return passage for money or grants of land would be the most effective means for inducing that contented service and permanent settlement which are desired. The withdrawal of the condition of a return passage would, in the opinion of Government, be fatal to the continuance of willing emigration to a distant Colony.

4. The selection and classification of cooly emigrants should, in the opinion of Government, remain with the Colonial Agents for emigration who are employed in India, and who should be held responsible by their employers that none but suitable laborers are engaged. The only concern of the Indian Governments in the matter is to be satisfied that the terms on which every emigrant is engaged are determined in India, that they are entered in a written agreement, and that there is reasonable facility for enforcing these agreements in the Colonies to which the emigrants are sent.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.

.. Protector of Emigrants, Madras.
.. British Consular Agent, Karikal.
.. do. do. Pondicherry.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Public Department

Official Memorandum.

The attention of the Board of Revenue is requested to the marginal statement in para. 3 of the proceedings dated the 23rd November 1875 No. 3187, regarding emigration to the Colonies, in which the population of the Madras Town is entered at 226 per square mile, whereas, according to the statement embodied in Mr. Forrester's Census Report para. 68, it is 14724 to a square mile. ^{The intended} ~~The accompanying~~ correction will be made. (By Order)

For Mr. George
4 March 1876

W. D. D. S.
Chief Secretary

To
The Board of Revenue

Govt. of 1876
PUBLIC.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Secy. &c. &c.

Dated March 1876.

Issued

Recd.

G.O. 14th March 1876, No. 283.

MARCH.
Nos. 17-21.

Emigration.—Certain papers forwarded to the Government of India with the opinion of the Government that it is not advisable to take any direct action should be taken to develop emigration from this country.



Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 17 March 1876.

Read Memorandum from the
Chief Secretary to Government, Public
Department, dated 6th Instant,
requesting certain information with
reference to the population of the
"Madras Town" as entered in the
margin of para 3 of Board's Pro-
ceedings, 23rd November 1875, No 316,
regarding Emigration of Colonies

The insertion of "Town" after
"Presidency" was a misprint.
The word "town" should be struck
out and a line drawn between
the figures 226 & 342. The former ^{fig}
represents the average for the whole
Presidency. (Enclosed)

[Signature]

To the Chief Secretary
Government, P.D.
[Signature]
Ag. Secretary

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Protectors Office
Madras 28th September 1878

From J. Hunter Blair Esquire
Protector of Emigrants
Madras.

To. The Honorable J. J. Harriehart
Offg. Chief Secretary to Govt.
Catacomund.

Sir,
With reference to the Proceedings
of the Madras Government dated 21st
Instant No. 1069. I have the honor to
inform you that the Report therein
called for has been already sub-
mitted on the 1st July last No. 138.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Yours etc. etc. etc.
J. Hunter Blair
Protector of Emigrants

10 & 2 has also been
forwarded to the
Protector of Emigrants.

10 & 2 has also been
forwarded to the
Protector of Emigrants.

10 & 2 has also been
forwarded to the
Protector of Emigrants.

No 128.

Protectors Office
Madras 15 June 1875

From J Hunter Blair Esq
Protector of Emigrants

To The Honorable. D F Carmichael
Offg. Chief Secretary to Govt.
Colacannid.

Sir,

I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of Proceed-
ings of Madras Government Public
Department of May 13th 1875 No 612
calling for my remarks on the
points referred by the Right Honorable
the Secretary of State for India
in his Despatch on the subject of
Emigration of March 24th 1875.

2^d I have been Protector
of Emigrants at the Port of Madras
since July 1868. and during that
period there has been no despatch
of Emigrants to any Colony save
Mauritius except on one occasion
in 1873, when 231 Emigrants half
a ship load the other half being
Bengal Emigrants sent from Calcutta
embarked

Inform that the
Report called for has
been already submitted
in duplicate.

Recd. 11/10/75

15/10/75

to the Hon. Chief Secy
to the Govt. of Madras
Protector of Emigrants.

4/11/75

J Hunter Blair Esq.

Protector of Emigrants.

to the Hon. Chief Secy

to the Govt. of Madras.

15/10/75

embarked for British Guiana.

3. On another occasion in 1872. a number of Emigrants were recruited to be sent to Jamaica, but in consequence of some mismanagement on the part of the Agents, they were not despatched, and were re-transmitted to their native Villages at the expense of the Agency.

4. A good many Emigrants are pressed by me for French Recruiters, but all Emigrants to French Colonies are embarked at Pondicherry, and Karikal, none at Madras.

5. The Secretary of State divides the subject of Emigration into two principal heads.

"Whether by some change of System, it might not be possible and advisable to afford greater encouragement to Emigration on the one hand, and on the other hand to obtain fuller information regarding the treatment of the Emigrants in the Colonies, and greater security against any unfairness towards them

them, either in the Colonial laws and regulations, or in the terms and conditions of their employment and treatment."

1st as regards redundancy of population in the Districts in which Emigrants are recruited for shipment at Madras, I am decidedly of opinion that it does not exist to any great extent. It is even now insufficient to meet the requirements made by the cultivated lands of the Districts themselves - the efflux of free laborers to Ceylon, both perennial and annual - the demand daily increasing for labour to cultivate the numerous Coffee, tea, Chincha, and other Estates now being opened up by both European and Natives, and the small requirements of the Mauritius and French Colonies. Wages are slowly and steadily increasing in this Presidency, and lately Coffee Planters in the Wynnad have been trying to import laborers from Bengal - unsuccessfully as yet - but are long either ~~the~~ Bengallees

or Chinese will be working on
Madras Coffee, and Tea Estates.

6. Gold is also being dis-
covered in several parts of the
Presidency, and mining labour
will be required. -

7. Dr Couran the intelli-
gent and energetic Agent for the
Mauritius Government at
Madras has found it impossible
to supply the requisitions
sent to him from the Mauritius.
The annexed Table shows the
annual requisitions and numbers
despatched for the last seven
years -

Table

Number of Men requisitioned for by the Planters
at the Mauritius, & Number of Men Women and
Children despatched to the Mauritius from
1868 to 1875.

Year	Total No of men Required	Embarked for the Mauritius up to date								Remarks
		Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Under 16	From 16 to 21	Total	Total	
1868	1606	215	84	34	18	4	3	358	327 3/4	
1869	1625	820	309	82	57	8	12	1288	1265 7/8	
1870	2370	813	330	93	76	12	11	1335	1235 7/8	
1871	1856	479	191	48	50	2	6	776	721 3/4	
1872	3125	888	379	153	129	27	19	1592	1426 1/2	
1873	3380	1510	626	228	231	19	15	2739	2386 5/8	
1874	335	919	385	128	127	8	17	1584	1439 5/8	
1875	-	327	151	52	47	10	9	596	533 5/8	
14797		5968	2455	818	735	90	92	10268	9266	Dr.

Dr Couran works very hard, and
does his best to supply the requirements
of the Mauritius, but even though he
has the sole agency in the Northern
Division from whence come all his
best and hardest working emigrants
he can never recruit nearly the
number required.

8. The ^{Rate} of wages up to
1872 was on the scale given below

Age	Wages per month				
	1 st Year	2 ^d Year	3 ^d Year	4 th Year	5 th Year
in 10/6 11 inclusive	5 shillings	6	7	8	9
12 to 14 "	6	7	8	9	10
15 to 17 "	7	8	9	10	11
18 upwards	8	9	10	11	12

In 1872 the rates were
raised as follows -

Wages per month	1 Year	2 ^d Year	3 ^d Year	4 th Year	5 th Year
	shillings	shillings	shillings	shillings	shillings
New emigrants	5	6	7	8	9
From 10 to 11 years	6	7	8	9	10
" 12 to 14 "	7	8	9	10	11
" 15 to 17 "	8	9	10	11	12
" 18 upwards	10	11	12	13	14
Of emigrants who come back to Mauritius after having returned to India	9	10	11	12	13
From 14 to 17 years	11	12	13	14	15
" 18 upwards					

About a year ago the planters were
allowed to requisition for Coolies stating
any increase they were prepared to pay
the increase has been from half a
Ru

8 Rupees to two Rupees monthly, and some of the Women now get 3 Rs monthly, but the supply is still not equal to the demand.

9 The Mauritius is a prosperous and favorite Colony for Emigrants, they often bring back large sums of money, and ~~they~~^{there} are generally a good number of Return Emigrants in each ship load despatched, who have been there before, are returning themselves, and taking with them others who have been tempted to go by their ~~own~~ account of the Island.

10 No back passage is stipulated for the engagement is for five years, when an Emigrant can return paying his own passage - usually from Rupees 25 to 40 - or can enter on a fresh term of service for five years, or can remain and start a shop or go into service as a domestic without any contract with the Government, in which latter case he is bound to serve on a plantation as a laborer, if required.

11 As regards the proposal that the officers of Government generally might in many ways assist Emi-

I will confine my remarks

to matters which come under my notice as Protector of Emigrants

12 A fee of Rs 1-8-0 is payable for each Emigrant passed. This could be remitted, as also the license fee Rs 15 for Recruiters. but I myself think it is only fair that the Colony which is to benefit by the exodus from India of the Emigrants should pay some small fee to partially reimburse the Government of India its expenses, which are increased for the benefit of the Colony to which the Emigrants are despatched by the Colonial Agency.

13 New Rules for Emigration from Calcutta were passed by the Governor General in Council and made applicable to Madras in September 24th 1874. There is not very much difference between them and the old Rules, but two of the alterations are expensive, and inconvenient when applied at Madras.

14 Formerly there was one Survey, and one Survey report by the Government Surveyor, now the very same report, slightly altered in the wording - is divided into two and

and the Surveyor has to make two surveys, and send in two reports, and is consequently paid two fees, instead of one.

15. Now there are also two inspections by the Protector, Medical Inspector, Ship Surgeon & Immigration Agent, formerly there was one - The inspection is the same, but has to be made at two different periods, instead of one. Formerly only the Ship Surgeon, Immigration Agent, and Protector inspected, now the Medical Inspector must be present also.

16. Though I cannot imagine any practical reason for splitting the former single survey and inspection into two I can offer several reasons for returning to the former practice as regards Madras.

17. First the extra survey and inspection costs money in survey fee, and boat hire.

Secondly. The surveys and inspections have to be made in a certain fixed order: in a port like Calcutta this can be done without difficulty, but in Madras the immigrant ships lie some distance - generally further than others - out at sea in an open roadstead, and sometimes when the survey or inspection has been arranged the weather prevents its coming off. The Medical Inspector has also other duties, and the practical result is that

that occasionally delays will occur which would have been avoided if the old system of one survey and one inspection had been allowed to remain in force.

18. Para 11 of the Secretary of State's despatch. The Agent is answerable to the Mauritius Government for the class of persons recruited, and the Protector also occasionally rejects persons who are evidently unfitted from age, physique, or other causes. - Young single unmarried women without relations are often rejected, old men or women are sometimes allowed to go with their families.

19. Paras 12 & 13. The amounts of wages are always clearly defined and entered in the Emigrants' agreements; and the Emigrant is entitled to receive those wages on arrival in the Mauritius. This system should be enforced for all other Colonies. a classification of Emigrants as to the work they are hired for should be made in India, and entered in the agreements with the amounts of wages, rations &c. and the adoption of the proposals in para 14 of the despatch will leave it optional with the Emigrant to labor on task work if he chooses. The wages are not

Guaranteed

guaranteed by the Indian Government, but the Colony to which the immigrant is sent.

20. Para 15. on the question of back passages. It is unnecessary at present to guarantee them in the case of Mauritian Immigrants. I think an immigrant should be entitled to a free back passage after ten years or a gratuity of 40 Rs if he settled in the Island. All Invalids should be entitled to a free back passage. For other Colonies I think it is absolutely necessary to guarantee back passage for all immigrants after five years service. If the immigrant is satisfied with the treatment and wages, he will often remain. Many however wish to return to their native country and ought to have the option of doing so guaranteed. I believe that as a rule immigrants are well treated in the Colonies. They certainly are in the Mauritius, where many save large sums in a few years.

21. Para 16. Dr Curran is most particular in his endeavours only to allow women of the agricultural and laboring classes to emigrate, but often a man brings a woman with him

whom

whom he calls his wife, ~~and~~ they declare they wish to emigrate and though Dr Curran may suspect, he cannot be certain the woman is not really his wife. Among many of the lower classes who emigrate, the marriage tie is not of a very binding nature, and is often dissolved on the voyage, or on arrival at the Mauritius.

22. On the second point whether it is advisable to obtain fuller information regarding the treatment of immigrants in the Colonies, and promulgate the same for the information of intending immigrants in India. I think the proposals of the Secretary of State in Paris and I would act most beneficially. The reports sent by the Colonial Agents of the State of affairs in each Colony would guarantee to the immigrants the truthfulness of the statements made to them by the Recruiters and Agents, and the former would be careful not to delude the immigrants with vain hopes and promises which on arrival at the Depot, and on inspection by the Government Officers, would be shown to be

disappoint

disappointing and exaggerated.
It is most important that the
Agents should be Indian Gov-
ernment servants, actual, or
retired.

23. As far as Madras hon-
our is concerned I must re-
iterate my opinion that under
present circumstances, and still
more in the future, no great
tide of Emigration will ever flow
to the Colonies, either of Great
Britain, or France.

24. On the point of comparison
of Emigration to British and French
Colonies, I beg to call the attention
of Government to the following
extracts from my Administration
Report of 1869 & 1870.

Para 21. Even when an Emigrant
does take money with him into
the Depot he has every opportunity
of spending it in clothes, tobacco
and other luxuries while there.
It is not therefore extraordinary
if after a sojourn of a month
or so, Emigrants go on board
freely, and arrive at their
destination without money.

Some of the unscrupulous
ones

ones have there complained of
extortion by Maistres, but such
complaints could and should have
been made in the Depots where
the complaints have generally been
for some time before embarkation.

Para 22. I cannot see what
advantage is gained by the French
system of large advances, and it is
most disadvantageous, and unfair
to the Emigrants, Maistres might
never be allowed to receive any
money from Emigrants on any
pretence whatever. By the present
French system the Emigrant re-
ceives three months wages in
advance which he has to repay
after arrival at the Colony in
15 months by instalments of
one Rupee per month. He does
not really want so much
money advanced, part of it goes
in paying the Maistry for feeding
him on the journey from the
place of recruitment to the Depot,
he also generally considers himself
bound to give the Maistry a
present for presenting him, and
gives it; and the balance he
spends on clothes and luxuries
in the Depot.

Para 23. British Emigrants
are fed on the road at the expense
of the Agency and get one month's
pay in advance instead of three.
The

This is generally spent in clothes and luxuries, but the amount is small. Of course, Head and Under Masters approve of the French System, and the Emigrants - care of the future - reflects that he has squandered a quarter of his first years wages, before he commences to work in the Colony.

Para 24. The French System should in my opinion be assimilated to the British one, there would then be no more true, or false complaints of extortion by Masters, as the one month's advance is paid just before embarkation.

See also my Administration Report of 1873 - 74.

Para 28. Captain Fisher points out very clearly that many of the arrangements made under the French Arrête of the 3^d of July 1862, which is the guide at Pondicherry for all shipments of food, clothing, &c, are totally inadequate to the requirements of the Emigrants.

Para 16. I cannot understand why the Government of India allow Emigrants to be shipped from French ports under rules which, I believe they have not sanctioned.

Sanctioned, and which are totally different from the rules of 1865. - nearly all the Emigrants shipped from French ports are recruited in British India, and the French authorities should, I think, be bound to provide the food, clothing, medical comforts, &c, which are provided for Emigrants shipped from British Indian ports.

Para 17. Government have appointed Protectors of Emigrants at Madras and Pondicherry, to see that Emigrants are properly treated, and that their necessary comforts on the voyage are attended to in every way, but it must be very disheartening to an energetic and zealous officer like Captain Fisher to know that there is a law which I can enforce if Emigrants to French Colonies are shipped at Madras; but which he is powerless to carry out at Pondicherry. I think if we allow Emigrants to be shipped at French ports, we should be as careful to see that all medical rules and Regulations are attended to, and carried out there,

we are when emigrants are shipped from British ports.

Para 18. I observe that a correspondence on the subject of the shipment of the emigrants per "Havrood" from Pondicherry is being carried on at present by Government with the French authorities, which I trust will result in placing these important matters on a proper footing.

Para 19 The recruiting regulations should also be the same. At present they are very much in favor of French Recruiters, as they are permitted by custom to give three months advance pay to emigrants, while Maritime Recruiters are only allowed to give one month's advance.

25 With reference to the above remarks, I beg to state that I consider the assimilation of the laws in force at Pondicherry and Karikal to those in force at all other ports in India a matter of the very greatest importance, and that the rules & regulations which are considered necessary at British Depots & Ports of Embarkation

Embarkation should be strictly enforced at French Depots and Ports.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant

Hunter Blair
Inspector of Emigrants

N^o 128

Protector's Office

Madras 1st July 1875

From J. Hunter Blair Esquire
Protector of Emigrants
Madras

To

The Honorable D. F. Carmichael
Offy. Chief Secretary to Govt.
Oatacamund.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge
receipt of Government Order of 21 June
1875 N^o 46, calling for my opinion on
an amendment proposed by Governor

Para 2 Despatch Longden as well as the two alternative
N^o 49 of 1875 from
the Right Hon^{ble} Secretary of
State for India
Para 3. same
despatch. —

further amendments suggested by the
Emigration Commissioners and also my
opinion whether Governor Longden's amend-
ment can be combined with the amend-
ment proposed by the Secretary of
State in Para 17. despatch N^o 27 of 1875.

2. I have already in Para 19 of
my letter to yourself of June 15th 1875
N^o 128 stated my opinion that the clas-
sification should be made in India
and I most decidedly coincide with

Subd^o 1575-1875
from Immigration
the Protector of Emigrants
Madras
The Honorable D. F. Carmichael
to Government
19/6/75

19/6/75
1875

Reception the Honorable
by the Right Honorable the
Secretary of State for India
in his despatch on the
subject of Emigration of
24th March 1875.

the Secretary of State in his suggestion that the Classification should be made by the Emigration Agent. It is an affair paid by the Colony to which the Emigrants are despatched, and if the Colonial Government considers that he does not do his duty towards it, ^{Classify} the Emigrants according to their labours, a child, the Government can dismiss him, and appoint another Agent. If the wages, rations, &c. are entered in the Emigrants' Agreement, he will take care not to accept it, unless he is guaranteed wages equivalent to his powers of working, and I certainly do not consider it advisable that either the Protector or the Medical Inspector of Emigrants should have anything whatever to do with the Classification.

3. As regards Governor Longden's proposal, I think the clause which he wishes to add to the Act is equally fair to both the Emigrant, and his Employer, and that the reasons given by him in Para 5 for suggesting that the District Medical Officer should grant the Certificate instead of the Emigration Agent.

Agent or Stipendiary Magistrate are very strong in favor of his proposal. Old men ought not to be sent as Emigrants, but others may become permanently less able-bodied, and employers ought not to be obliged to pay a full wage for less than full work. The Certificate System will prevent this anomaly, and the right of appeal by the laborer to the Emigration Agent or Stipendiary Magistrate will ensure justice being done to him, if the District Medical Officer is treating him unfairly.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servant,
Muntz Blair
Protector of Emigrants.

Proceedings of Government

dated 18 May 35. 46/2

L 21st June 1895. N. 816.

Letters from Protector of Emigrants.
245 b. 1875.

4 15. Juni 1975. N. 128.

9 July - N. 138

- O. - from British Consular Agent. Karikal.

of 21st June 1875. L. 740.

9 4 July 1875. N. 754

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

923? *Monocentris* / 75
H. 3187.

Memo: about Return papers to India.

For Orders.

I entirely concur in the
views taken by the
Board of Revenue,
after communication with
the Inspector of Emigration
& the district officers,

He decidedly concurs
with the Secretary of
State in his suggestion
that the Classification
should be made by
the Emigration Agent
in India. —

Feb. 10, 1917

Letter 100
Dec 5 1893

[illegible]

on the questions submitted
by the Secretary of State
to the Govt of India, on
the subject of affording
further encouragement
to emigration from India
to the British Colonies,
the West Indies being
the colonies specially
in view.

It is clearly shown
that as regards the
Madras Presidency
there is no such surplus
of population or
resources as to make
it desirable that the
Govt should take upon
itself to promote

emigration.

I believe that the action
of the Govt in respect to
emigration is at present
sufficient.

Nothing is done to impede
voluntary emigration, and
every possible precaution
is taken to regulate the
system of recruiting, to
secure the intending

emigrant's understanding
the terms of his contract,
and to protect him while
proceeding to his destination.

The Board show that
there is a little prospect
of any increase in the
emigration to the West
Indies. They point out
the increasing demand
for labor in the plant.

ations in the by road
and Kilgerry hills road
that, to the more adventurous
Ceylon Burmah and
the Mauritius present
greater facilities & more
tempting prospects than
the more distant West
Indies.

I agree with the Board
that it will be for the
interest of the Colonies
concerned to offer a higher
sum than a better wages
for women and children
and that it would be
a mistake to withdraw
the promise of a return
passage.

The election and disfigurement

of which could remain ~~an~~
~~engaged~~ ^{in India} with the Emigration
agents, who should be held
responsible by their em-
ployers that none but
suitable laborers are engaged.
The only concern of the
Govt is to be satisfied
that the terms on which
every emigrant is engaged
are determined in India.

[illegible]

desp^d in the 25th of letter of 24/3/76

Public Department.
No. 266

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India,

Department of
Rev. Agriculture & Commerce
Sir,

With reference to
your endorsement
N^o 111 and 158, dated
the 24th April and
7th June 1875, on the
Secretary of State's
Despatches dated the
24th March and
22nd April 1875, nos.
39 and 49 Public
(Emigration) I am
directed to trans-
mit copy of the
Proceedings of the
fact.

Forst marginally
noted with the
expression of the
entire concurrence
of His Grace in
Council in the
opinion of the Board
of Revenue and the
officers consulted,
that it is not at
all advisable that
the Forst should take
any direct action to
develop emigration
from this country
to the Colonies, while
at the same time
any measures cal-
culated to secure
fair treatment
to

of 14th March 1876, 1876

Forst George
14th March 1876

to the emigrants
in the Colonies, are
greatly to be desired.

E. A.

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers

Pres. of Govt of 13th May 1875, No. 612
+ 21st June 1875, No. 816.

Letters from the Protector of Emigrants

of 15th June 1875, No. 128

of 1st July — " — 138.

Do — from British Consul Agent, Karikal

of 21st June 1875, No. 740.

of 4th July 1875, No. 754.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

of 23rd November 1875, No. 3187.

20 — Order thereon 14 March 1876.

Ordered that the
above papers be
transmitted to the
Govt of India with
reference.

Res. Secy. to Govt.

No. 264

☆

To

The Secretary to the
Government of Madras.

Department of

Res. Secy. to Govt.

Dated 16 June 1876.

No. 17-21

Emigration.

reference to the rem-
-ediments dated
27th April and 7th
June 1875 on the
Secretary of State's
Despatches dated
21st March and
22nd April 1875.
Nos 39 and 149, Public,
(Emigration) with
the expression of the
entire concurrence
of this port in the
opinion of the Board
of Revenue and the
Officers consulted,
that it is not at
advisable, that
the

the fort should take
any direct action to
develop emigration
from this country to
the Colonies, while
at the same time
any measures cal-
-culated to secure
fair treatment to
the emigrants in the
Colonies, are greatly
to be desired.

2. His Grace the
Governor in Council
is of opinion that
the direct action
of fort in respect to
emigration is at
present

present sufficient.
Nothing is done to
impede it while
every possible precau-
tion is adopted to re-
gulate the system
of recruiting, to en-
sure that the recruit
understands the terms
of his contract, and
to protect him while
proceeding to his
destination. The in-
creasing demand for
labor in this coun-
try, and the greater
inducements held
out by Ceylon, Bur-
mah, the Straits,
and

27
and the Mauritius,
over those offered by
more distant fields
of labor preclude
the probability of
any legitimate in-
crease in migra-
tion to the West
Indies; while on
the other hand the
suggested action in-
terference by foot to
promote it is calcu-
lated to induce serious
distrust and miscon-
struction and to
saddle foot with
responsibilities which
they would be power-
less to fulfil. A

change in the policy
hitherto pursued would
almost certainly be
attributed to a desire
~~to induce~~
to induce
of English
planters in the Colo-
nies at the expense
of India.

3. The Governor in
Council is of opinion
that offers of higher
premium and better
wages for women and
children, and faci-
lities for commuting
the right to a return
passage for money
or grants of land
would be the most
effective means for
inducing

inducing that contracted
services and permanent
settlement which are de-
sired. The withdrawal of
the condition of a return
passage would in the opi-
nion of J. G. Munro be the
continuance of inducing
migrants to a distant
Colony.

The selection and
classification of coolie
migrants should be the
decision of J. G. Munro
with the Colonial Agents
for immigrants who are
employed in India, and
who should be held respon-
sible by their employers
that no more but suitable
labourers are engaged. The
only concern of the Indian Govt
in the matter is to be satis-
fied that the persons who
every immigrant is engaged
determined in India that they
are entered in a written agree-
ment, and that there is reason-
able facility for enforcing these
agreements in the colonies to
which the immigrants are sent.

The Hon. Secy of Revenue
Protector of Immigrants Madras
British Consular Agent Madras
200 - 50 - Pondicherry
7-3-76

Bobt. of 1876 31 adrs.

Patm

To



David M. Long
Hart

1876 263
764

Nos 17 21

*Conjunctum. Certain
papers (manuscripts) &c.
concerning the place and
the opinion of the Court
this is not yet decided.
I would like to see the
papers & the original
papers & the original
papers from the Court*

15/11/79/5f

18700/77