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DT. 24. 7. 1878

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

6th January 1877, No. 32.

Emigration.

Read the following papers :-

No. 31. From J. HUNTER-RLAIR, Esq., Protector of Emigrants, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 29th November 1876, No. 177.

I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to send me a copy of the rules framed by the Governor-General in Council under Section 46 of the Native Passenger Ships Act (VIII of 1876).

No. 1364.

Ordered that copy of G.O., Marine, dated 20th November 1876, No. 481, be furnished to the Protector of Emigrants for his information, and that he be informed that the rules to which he refers have not yet been received from the Government of India and that the Passenger Ships Act is not yet in force.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
6th December 1876.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

No. 31-A. From J. HUNTER-RLAIR, Esq., Protector of Emigrants, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 7th December 1876, No. 180.

With reference to the Government Orders noted in the margin, I have the honor to report that the draft rules under G.O., No. 1504, dated 29th September 1876, on letter from the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Burma, dated 14th September 1876, No. 2033-203, to report that the draft rules under Section 86 of Act III of 1876 cannot be submitted until after receipt of the rules framed by the Government of India under the Native Passengers Act.

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, 6th January 1877, No. 32.

With reference to the above letter, copy of the Proceedings of Government in the Marine Department, dated 14th December 1871, No. 539, in which is embodied a draft of the rules proposed to be issued under Section 46 of the Native Passenger Ships Act, XII of 1876, will be furnished the Protector of Emigrants as reference thereto, and he is requested to report to the Government of India under the British Burma Labor Act III of 1876 as regards the matters specified in Clauses (f), (k), and (l) of that section.

2. The Protector will expedite the submission of the draft rules to be made under the latter Act.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Protector of Emigrants, with copy of G.O.,
Marine, 14th December 1876, No. 539.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

செப்பனிருபவர் பெயர்
செப்பனிருவதற்காக எடுத்த
கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்
செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள்
சரிபார்க்கும்
மு. ந. பா. எ.
கையொப்பம்

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

24th July 1878, No. 1143.

Emigration.

Read the following paper:—

No. 105. *From Major C. W. STREET, M.S.C., Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Rangoon, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 20th June 1878, No. 1157-324.*

I am directed to forward, herewith, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, a copy of Resolution, No. 324, dated the 8th instant, containing the orders of the Chief Commissioner on the results of the scheme for introducing laborers into this province from the Madras Presidency under the provisions of the British Burma Labor Law of 1876.

2. It will be seen that the Chief Commissioner has decided on putting a stop, for the present at all events, to all further recruiting under the Act, and I am to say that orders have been sent direct to the Emigration Agent at Cocanada to dismiss his establishment, and dispose of the dépôt buildings by auction, all allowances to himself or others to cease at the expiration of one month from the date of receipt of the letter containing the above orders.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of British Burma in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, dated 8th June 1878, No. 324.

READ—

Report by the Superintendent of Immigrants, British Burma, for the year 1877-78, on the working of the scheme for the introduction of laborers into the province from the Madras Presidency, under the provisions of the British Burma Labor Law (Act III of 1876).

RESOLUTION.—The British Burma Labor Law came into force in January 1876, and in November following the Master Attendant of Cocanada was appointed Emigration Agent at that port for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the Act in so far as they relate to the recruitment and despatch of laborers. Rules for his guidance were not, however, framed by the Madras Government until April 1877, and thereupon recruiting began throughout the neighbouring districts. By the middle of September, the first batch of emigrants, consisting of 327 souls, had reached the dépôt, where, owing to some difficulty in securing a sailing vessel to convey them to Rangoon, they were detained until the end of November, when the barque *George Watson*, which had been chartered for the purpose, sailed with them for their destination.

PUBLIC.

To
THE PROTECTOR OF
EMIGRANTS.

Dated January, 6th.

Issued

Recd.

G.O., 6th January 1877, No. 32.

JANUARY.
Nos. 31-32.

Emigration.—Copy of G.O., dated 14th December 1871, No. 539, furnished to the Protector with the request that he will expedite the submission of the draft rules to be made under the British Burma Labor Act III of 1876.

2. This batch was followed in rapid succession by three more, and the total number of immigrants on 31st March 1878, when further recruiting was put a stop to, is shown in the following table:—

Vessel.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.
<i>George Watson</i>	231	42	27	23	4	327
<i>S.S. Asia</i> (first trip)	124	15	4	17	4	164
<i>Do.</i> (second „)	93	15	4	5	3	120
<i>Do.</i> (third „)	80	22	5	10	..	117
Total ..	528	111	53	55	11	758

3. Of this number, two came over under contract with Government to labor in Burma for a period of three years at Rupees 9 a-month, 526 at Rupees 7, three at Rupees 4-8-0, 108 at Rupees 3-8-0, and 35 at Rupees 3, or in all 674 souls—the remaining 84 being merely dependents on the others. By this arrangement, Government came under obligation to pay the above rates of wages to the immigrants, whether they found employment or not.

4. Employment, more or less temporary, was however found for the majority of the men in different capacities—as coolies, domestic servants, and so on; but up to the date of the report, not one of the women (of whom there are 111) had obtained work. Some of the married women and their children left the depôt with their husbands when the latter found employment, and in this way saved Government the cost of their food for the time being. On the 31st March 1878, however, there were in the depôt 255 souls, consisting of 95 men, 80 women, 34 boys, 41 girls, and 5 infants. This was in a great measure due to the fact that the fourth and last batch of immigrants had only reached Rangoon three days previously; still, deducting these fresh immigrants, there remained 138 of the earlier immigrants in the depôt unemployed, of whom 15 were men, 58 women, and the rest children. The married men more especially have found it difficult to secure work. A few have been employed as Police Peons in the depôt: six have been engaged as conservancy men by the Promote Municipality; but from first to last not one of the numerous mill-owning firms in Rangoon has applied at the depôt for laborers, the demand being confined almost exclusively to native contractors, who require men in the dry season only. As the Superintendent of Immigrants anticipated, the setting in of the rains has had the effect of driving back into the depôt a great number of the men hitherto employed, no fewer than 120 having returned since the middle of May.

5. The health of the immigrants while in the depôt has been on the whole good: there has been very little sickness, and only three deaths. Up to the date of the report there had been 38 ascertained cases of desertion amongst the men, of which 20 were from the depôt and 18 from employers. Six only of these deserters were captured and punished. The number of desertions has however since risen to 104, and there can be no reasonable doubt that desertions will go on increasing until eventually Government will find on its hands a crowd of helpless women and children, whose natural protectors have abandoned them, and will probably be obliged to re-convey them back to Cocanada.

6. The expenditure involved in bringing over these 758 persons to Rangoon was as follows:—

	RS.
Cost of the Cocanada Agency on every account to 31st March 1878.	26,364
Cost of the depôt at Rangoon under all heads from 1st April 1877 to 1st March 1878	13,170
	39,534
Recoveries from immigrants towards their debt to Government, up to the same date, only	2,086
Unrecovered Balance ..	37,448

In round numbers, therefore, these immigrants have to the end of 1877-78 cost Government Rupees 50 a-head, the greater part of which will probably never be repaid.

7. This result of the first attempt to draw population from the Madras coast to this province by Government agency is altogether disappointing, and proves the immigration scheme to have

* Exclusive of two men who died on the passage

been founded on an erroneous conception of the position of the labor question in this province. The Labor Law appears to have been introduced in the belief that there were large employers of labor in British Burma, who would gladly avail themselves of the services of the coolies in the depôt, and who might induce the immigrant families to settle down on farms in the country. As a matter of fact, however, such employers exist almost exclusively in the seaport towns, and their wants are readily supplied from Madras (or from Chittagong in the case of Akyab) without the necessity for any interference on the part of Government. Mr. Rivers-Thompson, in his letter, No. 1677-324, dated the 3rd December 1875, to the Legislative Department, doubted whether the proposed enactment, which was then being discussed, coincided with the needs of the province, and expressed his belief that very little resort would be had by employers of labor to the provisions of the Act. His anticipations have proved but too true, as the report under review amply shows. The radical change which was made in the original Bill when passing through Council, whereby the system of contract between the laborer and Government was submitted for the system of direct contract between the laborer and private employers, without any dictation on the part of Government as to the disposal of his labor, was, in the Chief Commissioner's opinion, unfortunate. A Labor Law may be required, and may work well under two conditions: (1) when labor cannot be had by voluntary contract, except at great cost and with great difficulty; or (2) when, from local circumstances, special precautions are needed for the protection of immigrants. Neither of these conditions exists in British Burma at present. The true want of Burma is a settled agricultural population of Burmans or Shans to cultivate the extensive tracts of waste land in the interior. There is little, if any, real difficulty as to labor in the seaport towns. The province is in direct and constant steam communication with the Madras coast, whence hordes of laborers flock over to the Burma rice-ports annually for the busy season, returning home with their savings at its close. The absolute freedom with which these men can come and go at their own pleasure, the tempting wages they can command as coolies in connection with the milling and shipping of rice, the facilities they have for communicating with their homes while absent, the security from molestation in any form which they enjoy while here in their intercourse with the Burmese, the easy terms on which they can be conveyed to and from their country, and, above everything, the prospect of a speedy return to it—all these circumstances war against the success of any scheme directly fostered and controlled by Government. To give such a system a chance of succeeding, the free labor system should first of all have been prohibited; but this would neither have been advisable nor practicable. The result is that private employers secure the services of men who come over in crowds at their own expense, and make their own terms. Government, on the other hand, imports coolies at enormous cost, and has to feed and house them; while the coolies themselves, by way of return for this, desert as soon as they can get a chance, Government being obliged to engage special police to watch them, as if they were criminals. As before stated, no fewer than 104 of the immigrants brought to Burma under the Labor Law of 1876 have already disappeared, and, as the means of escape are so plentiful, the greater number of them can, if so minded, very quickly find their way back to their country. They have constant opportunities while here of mixing with the "free" coolie population; and doubtless the perfect freedom from restraint of any sort which they see these men enjoying incites them to plan their escape, while it is not improbable that they are aided by the same persons with the means of getting away. Under these circumstances, the Chief Commissioner is of opinion that all operations under the scheme of Government immigration from Madras to British Burma ought for the present to be put a stop to. The scheme has resulted so far in nothing beyond a very large outlay of the public funds without having in any degree secured the objects proposed.

8. The Emigration Agent at Cocanada will accordingly be instructed to close his accounts without delay, to dispose of the depôt buildings, and dismiss his establishment.

9. Further endeavour must be made to find permanent employment for the coolies now in Rangoon on the Railway, or in the P. W. D., or on Municipal works. For this purpose the Superintendent of Immigrants will at once place himself in direct communication with the proper authorities. If suitable employment cannot be found for them without the risk for their being better off to come to an arrangement with the coolies, with a view to cancel the engagements entered into with them, and provide them with a free passage back to their country.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Government of Fort St. George for information, and to the Emigration Agent at Cocanada, the Superintendent of Immigrants, Rangoon, and the Deputy Accountant-General, British Burma, for information and guidance.

(By order of the Chief Commissioner.)

(Signed) C. W. STREET, Major,
Secretary.

No. 106.

ORDER THEREON, 24th July 1878, No. 1143.

Communicated to the Collector of the Godavery District, and Account General.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary

To the Collector of the Godavery District.

„ Accountant-General.

„ Board of Revenue.

„ Surgeon-General, India Medical Department,

for communication to the Civil Surgeon, Cocanada,

(Medical Inspector of Emigrants.)

„ Master Attendant, Madras, for information.

sent direct to the Emigration Agent
at Coconada to dismiss his Establish-
ment, and dispose of the ~~the~~ depot
buildings by auction; all allowances
to himself or others to cease at the

date of receipt of the ~~same~~ in ~~accordance~~
the above orders

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most Obedt. Servant

Chas. Steel Major

is ~~at~~ ~~attached~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~

for the information of His Grace the
Governor in Council a copy of Resolution
No. 334 dated the 8th instant containing
the orders of the Chief Commissioner on
the results of the scheme for introducing
labourers into this province from the

of the ~~Commission~~
of 1876

2. It will be seen that the Chief
Commissioner has decided on putting
a stop, for the present at all events, to
all further recruiting under the
Act, and I am to say that orders have
been

Govt. of 18781 ~~St. Andrews~~

PUBLIC.

THE COLLECTOR OF THE
GODAVERY DISTRICT.

to
No.
No.
No.

Dated July 24th.

Issued

Recd.

G.O. 24th July 1878, No. 1143.

JULY.

Nos. 105-106.

Emigration. — Communicating letter from
Secretary to Chief Commissioner, British Burma
forwarding copy of a Resolution putting a stop
to all further emigration operations from the
Madras Presidency, and ordering the closing
the depot at Coconada.

1157/324.

FROM

SECRETARY TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

To

The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Fort St. George
Madras

Dated Rangoon,

20th June 187

SIR

Order 24 July 1878 No 1143

forward to the Collector of the Southern District, and Accountant General.

to the Collector of the Land Revenue District
- to be communicated to Government.

Desp
578

12/7/98 Board Review
Dear Surgeon General,
I am writing to you regarding the Right to Life Cause du Chet Dept of Health.
This letter contains information for inspiration.

Handwritten:

Dr. J. C. Smith
British Museum

Oct 20. 1896
Recd. N.Y. Ind.

No 1157/324

N.Y. Ind.
N.Y. Ind.

Dec 1896.

Enc

H. A. Smith

housing of the Coolies I would be glad to have them
remedied as much as I possibly can. 22

3 I am not aware of any discontent or uncom-
fortableness existing amongst the inmates of the
Depot further than what occurred with regard to
the allowance of provisions in the first instance
which was at once remedied and I am of opinion
that he must have been misinformed or exaggerated
minor complaints of trivial matters occurring amongst
the Immigrants themselves and without any re-
ference to the Depot itself.

3 Regarding the alleged overcrowding of the Depot with 800 Immigrants I have to state that the present Medical Inspector's predecessor Dr. Hault considered that the two sheds were capable of containing conveniently 400 Immigrants and I was of the same opinion otherwise arrangements would have been made for erecting extra sheds the moment, before the Immigration was commenced the ventilation and all internal arrangements of the main Depot together with its position as well also as the plans position and requirements for the cookroom and hospital sheds were devised and arranged by Dr. Hault in consultation with myself. I am of opinion

the Depot should not be subjected to frequent material alterations and I think that it would be advisable for the Government to be consulted and decide what accommodations should be provided for say 500 Immigrants, as the customs stop without any previous notice being put to the recruiting as done by the Medical Inspector objecting to pass recruits on and since the 13th instant has seriously interfered with the Emigration inasmuch that a number of recruits have been left on the hands of the Recruiters to be returned to their villages and difficulty in getting a vessel to carry the small number recruited and at present in Depot.

The matter of a Superintendent being required for the Depot I think is premature under existing difficulties and obstacles experienced in the working of the Emigration Act, at present an East Indian Clerk is deputed to be constantly at the Depot.

In conclusion I beg to request you to be good enough to solicit the Government to revise the Subsidiary Rules framed under

14th Dec^r 1876, No 43-46
10th Sep^r 1877, No 63-66
Public (1877) Depart
from Emigration
The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

To
The Chief Secretary
to Government

Dated 6th December 1877.
No 2173

Enclosures 5
(1-1996 & 1888 & 3 only)

Submits observations
on the reference of
diet-scale adapted
for Emigrants in the
Depot on all sea
between India and
Burmah.

No 14

H. P. V. V.

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Hydrate
A. C. C. C.
S. C. C. C.
S. C. C. C.

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Bureau of
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(11)

FOR ORDERS.

GO to January 1878.
Nov 18/19

9/15/12

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(7)

Pauline Volant
Protection of Emigrants

Q. 180

2) H. as Protector Office
7th December 1876.

From,

J. Hunter Blair Esquire
Protector of Emigrants.

Dear,

The Honorable W. H. Halliston
Chief Secretary to Government

With reference to the Govern-

ment orders noted in the

margin, I have the honor

to report that the draft rules

under Section 86 of Act III

of 1876 cannot be submitted

until after receipt of the

rules framed by the Government

of India under the Statute Passengers' Act.

I have the honor to be

Yours most obedient servant

J. Hunter Blair

Protector of Emigrants.

(1) G. O. Ct. 1504 dated 29th
September 1876 in letter from
the Secretary to the G.O.
Commissioner Customs dated
14th September 1876 Ct. 2033/203.

(2) G. O. Ct. 1364 dated 6th
December 1876.

(8)

(25)

Order 6. 1917. No. 32

With respect to the above letter, & copy of the Draft of Part in the Marine Dept. 14 Dec. 1917, 1918, in which is embodied a Draft of the Rules proposed to be issued under Section 16 of the Native Land Ordinance, 1911 of 1913 with the amendments proposed by the Secretary, with the amendments in force of the Draft may be accepted in reference to the Rules regarding the matter under Section 16 of the Native Land Ordinance 1911 of 1913, as regards the matter specified in clauses (1) and (2) of that section.

2. The Order will be submitted to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior for his consideration of the Draft Rules to be made under the latter Act.

The Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

c 3/1

Robert A. Thompson
General Superintendent
The National Bank of Chicago

Adm. Sec.

To the Chief Clerk
No. 1000

Order 1200/1918

Recd 9. 1. 1918

Due - 1000/1918

Reports that the draft rules under Sec. 16 of the Native Land Ordinance 1911 of 1913 cannot be submitted until after receipt of the rules proposed by the Board of Indian Lands. The National Bank of Chicago is advised.

With Order

8

Obt. of 1878 Madras.

Public

G.O. 24 July 1878, No. 1143

Nos. 105-6

Communicating
Emigration - Letter
from Secy to Chief
Commissioner British
Burmah forwarding
copy of a Resolution
putting a stop to all
further emigration op-
-erations ^{the British Burm.} from ~~India~~ ^{the}
ordering the closing of the
Depots at Coconade -
comes to the Cdn. ^{forwarding}
Burmah of West General

8/10/20

10 2002 RH

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RH