

(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள்

(3) ஆதாரக் குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

①

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பெரிய கிறை

அரசாணை எண். 297.298-	அச்சகம்
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	பலவகை
நாள் : 30 - 3 - 1889	199

32

கனடாப் பதிவு கையாளவே கூடாது.

30TH MARCH 1889, No. 297, PUBLIC.

297-5

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From H. SEWELL, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cuddalore, 21st January 1889, No. 52.

In reply to G.O., dated 22nd December 1888, No. 1197, Public, I have the honor to state that I have made careful enquiries as to the emigration work which remains to be done at Pondicherry after the suspension or practical abolition of emigration to the French colonies.

2. The most important part of the work appears to be the inspection of emigrants on their return from French colonies, which will, of course, continue for a long time yet. This inspection has hitherto been carried out by the British Consular Agent in company with the Head of the French Medical Department, and other officers. It seems to me a matter of importance that our Government should on such occasions be represented by an officer of some position. It would be practically impossible for the Collector to be always present. The ships return generally during the first half of the year when the Collector is liable to be out on tour, and it would be a serious inconvenience to have to come in from perhaps the extreme end of the district for inspection at a few days' notice. I do not think that a native clerk would be of sufficient standing or importance on such an occasion to represent British interests properly.

3. The other work in connection with emigration business, such as taking charge of the estates of deceased emigrants, &c., might perhaps be looked after by a native clerk under the Collector's supervision; but it would certainly be necessary to keep some office establishment on the spot.

4. I would, however, venture to point out that the French authorities are extremely anxious to re-open the emigration to their colonies, and will strain every nerve to get this done, by improving their arrangements in their colonies which have been hitherto defective. If this is brought about, the presence of an officer as British Consul at Pondicherry will, of course, be as essential as at present.

5. Although Government do not call for a report on other matters connected with the work of the British Consulate, I would venture respectfully to point out that there is much business of a demi-official and confidential nature which can only be satisfactorily looked after by a European officer stationed at Pondicherry itself. In fact, it is the quality, not the quantity, of the work, which would render it most difficult for the Collector of South Arcot to carry out all that is now done by the British Consul, with due regard to the interests of Government.

From Colonel C. J. B. HARRIS, British Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Pondicherry, 24th January 1889, No. 32.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., dated 22nd December 1888, No. 1197, Public, and in accordance with the orders contained therein to report as follows.

பாடுசெய்யு பிள்ளை - 1

செய்யுபெயர் பெயர்: S. M. A. S. S. S.

செய்யுபெயர் பெயர்: S. M. A. S. S. S. 4/10/88

செய்யுபெயர் பெயர்: S. M. A. S. S. S. 2/10/88

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2. Before doing so, I would observe that, although the Government of India only speaks of the suspension of emigration to the French colonies, I conclude I am right in accepting the view of the Madras Government that such emigration has practically ceased.

3. Government is aware that, since the amalgamation of the Consular Agencies of Pondicherry and Karikal in December 1885, the work of the Karikal office has been carried on by the chief clerk, who is also Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements at that port. As Mr. Appasawmy Iyer is an official of long experience and of undoubted ability, his emigration work is performed efficiently, and he has only found it necessary on few occasions to refer to me for guidance in the past nine months. The Collector of Tanjore would, no doubt, be as qualified as I am to supervise this work, but as Karikal is French territory, I submit to Government that it would probably be more convenient to continue to entrust the direction of emigration from that port to the Consular Agent. In connection with this, I would respectfully call attention to the terms of letter, No. 31, dated 27th September 1886, from His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India, and which is embodied in G.O., dated 14th October 1886, No. 2175, Public.

4. Should, however, Government decide to withdraw the Consular Agent, I have the honor to report that, as the transfer of authority would in no way alter or lessen the duties, I do not consider the change would permit the withdrawal also of the office establishment, which consists of one chief clerk and two peons. The emigration returns for the past year show a very considerable increase in the passenger traffic from Karikal to the Straits Settlements; the number in 1887 was 698, in 1888 it is 1,480.

5. As regards Pondicherry (emigration to French colonies having ceased), there is practically no emigration from this port. The most important emigration duties to be performed are—

- (1) Attending at the landing of return emigrants from French colonies.
- (2) Preventing clandestine emigration to French colonies.

6. During the past year, 1,225 emigrants returned from French colonies, and Government is aware that the Consular Agent invariably attends at the landing, personally questions each emigrant, and submits the customary reports. It would be practically impossible for the Collector of South Arcot, or indeed for any official from Cuddalore, to be present; the date of the arrival of the steamer is always uncertain (the last steamer did not arrive for weeks after she was expected), and the landing of the emigrants commences as soon as is possible after the steamer anchors. Government is aware that complaints of a serious nature have at times been preferred, and that matters requiring delicate handling might arise at any time; the French Government appoints officers of high official position to be present on these occasions, and I have no hesitation in saying that, in my opinion, it is absolutely necessary that the British Government should be represented by an official of equal standing. I do not see how this can be managed if the appointment of Consular Agent is abolished. I would bring to the notice of Government that the Consular Agent acts on these occasions under the Paris Convention of 1st July 1861 (*vide* Article XIX), and that the last clause of Article V defines Consular Agents as follows: "Under the term Consular Agents are comprised Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and all other commissioned Consular Officers." The steamer *Nantes et Bordeaux*, now on her way to Guadeloupe with emigrants from Calcutta, Pondicherry, and Karikal, is expected to return with emigrants from Guadeloupe in April next, and I presume other vessels with return emigrants from other French colonies will in due course arrive. I respectfully submit that it is a point to be considered, whether the terms of the convention can be properly observed if the Consular Agent is withdrawn.

7. In my letters, No. 324, dated 28th May 1888, and No. 478, dated 28th July 1888, I reported to Government a case of clandestine emigration brought to my notice by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Réunion, and I enclosed copies of my correspondence with various authorities. During the past year, 45 passports have been granted at this port to so-called "free passengers;" the precautionary measures

I adopted to defeat, if possible, this clandestine emigration, and which measures were approved by Government in G.O., dated 30th August 1888, No. 837, Public, have been carefully observed; after personal and close examination, full particulars regarding 36 passengers have been forwarded to the Government Protector of Emigrants, Mauritius. These measures might, no doubt, be carried out by a native clerk, but it is a doubtful question whether in all cases they would be so exhaustively done, and I cannot but consider that the withdrawal of the Consular Agent would be followed by increased activity on the part of those who carry on this illicit emigration, whereas I am confident that the presence on the spot of an English official of position has a most wholesome deterrent effect on would-be offenders.

8. Administering to the estates of deceased emigrants is the only other emigration duty at this port. Since my arrival here, I have disposed of 41 estates of the value of Rs. 1,166-10-5; most of these were, however, legacies from my predecessors, and this duty could easily be performed by the clerk of this office under the supervision of the Collector of South Arcot.

9. As regards the retention of an office establishment after the withdrawal of the Consular Agent, I need hardly say that I consider the presence of some official at Pondicherry absolutely necessary. I submit to Government that the work and responsibility of the only clerk would be immensely increased, and I have no hesitation in saying that he could not single-handed carry on the duties.

10. In the above paragraphs, I have considered the question simply in connection with emigration to the Straits Settlements. I do not suppose any arguments of mine are necessary to show Government the absolute necessity of the presence at Pondicherry of a British Consular Agent in the event of the renewal of emigration to the French colonies. It will suffice to mention that, of 120 would-be emigrants produced before me for registration, I only passed 57, very patient and careful questioning justified me in refusing to register 63; and I need hardly say that I had to carry out this duty in the face of frequent appeals from the officials of the French Government, on more than one occasion satisfying His Excellency the Governor, *p.i.*, at personal interviews that my rejections were based on solid grounds. Government is aware that, by the thorough manner in which the emigration was checked, the French Government at great expense was compelled to complete the number of the convoy at Calcutta, and Government can judge whether a subordinate official could act in the future as I did on this occasion, in the face of the strong pressure which would be brought to bear on him.

11. There are, however, other duties attaching to the office of Consular Agent, some of these of a very important nature, which can only be performed by an official residing at Pondicherry, and which from their nature seem to me to require that this official should be a European officer of position.

12. My political duties, mostly of a confidential nature, are known to Government; it is only necessary for me, when mentioning them, to say that they occasion me at times much anxiety, and that it appears to me doubtful whether they could be satisfactorily entrusted to a subordinate official. I do not see how the Collector of South Arcot could possibly perform them.

13. My duties in connection with merchant ships and seamen are important and at times heavy. During the past year, 64 steamers and 42 sailing vessels visited Pondicherry, the former calling here on 195 occasions, the latter on 77. Twenty-five steamers and 3 ships remaining here for more than 48 hours delivered their articles of agreement to me on arrival; the average time of their stay was from 11 to 12 days. During these detentions, I had always to perform some of the many duties which devolve on a Consul at a foreign port; on some occasions I had to settle serious differences between captains and their crews, and once I had to call in the aid of the local police to deal with a refractory seaman. It will be clear to Government that these duties require the presence of an official at Pondicherry, and it appears to me that their nature demands that the official should be a European of recognized status. The

following extract from "A Consul's Manual" will, I trust, show Government that I am not exaggerating the importance of these duties:—

"The Consul, the Shipmaster and his Crew.—The Consul's duties under this head are very onerous and important. Under the Merchant Shipping Acts, many special functions and powers are committed to him; but he will remember that, independently of these special duties, he is looked upon as the representative of British law in his consulate; that his position is one of authority and functions of which it is impossible to define with the same strictness as in the case of public officers within the British dominions; that he will frequently be appealed to as an arbitrator; and that upon his patience, judgment and temper, in settling differences which may arise amongst the crews of merchant ships, must often depend the welfare and safety of many important lives, and of much valuable property."

A glance at the Instructions issued by the Board of Trade will, I am sure, convince Government that my consular duties with respect to merchant shipping are correctly described in the above extract as "very onerous and important."

14. My notarial duties are also of importance. 331 certificates to the signatures of French officials have been granted under my hand and seal during the past year; on many occasions also I have witnessed the signing of deeds and documents of various natures. The Consul's Manual states that I am empowered to perform these notarial acts by the 20th section of the Consular Act, 1825. I have no doubt that my clerk, if so empowered, could easily carry on these duties. I bring them to the notice of Government to show that the presence here of some duly-constituted official is necessary for these purposes alone.

15. Mustering and paying pensioners, forwarding processes and fees received from British Courts to the Procureur-Général, returning the same to the Courts of Issue, are some of the minor duties attached to this office. I mention them in order that Government may be fully acquainted with the varied nature of my work.

16. Referring to the remarks made by my predecessor, Colonel Fischer, in paragraph 17 of his report for 1887, on perusal of that officer's opinions as given in many letters both to Government and to officials of all descriptions, I think I am justified in concluding that Colonel Fischer was far from intending Government to understand that he considered he might with advantage be withdrawn; I submit that, as it was his last report, he thought it was his duty to bring prominently to notice the excellent help he had received from his clerks, and that he used expressions which he probably would not have used had he seriously considered the meaning which would be attached to them. It is impossible to reconcile the expression "greatly-diminished responsibilities of the Pondicherry and Karikal offices" with the many statements I find he made of the overwhelming nature of his duties. Time does not permit me to trouble Government with the many extracts I could furnish to prove this; I only think it my duty to attach two letters—the one, marked (A), written before he had received his appointment as Emigration Commissioner, the other, marked (B), written only two months before the close of the year 1887. With reference to these letters, I would remark that there was then no emigration to the French colonies, and that clerk Mr. Mutukrishna Iyer, in August 1888, received an appointment in the Revenue Department, since which time I have carried on my duties assisted by one clerk, who, although hard working and intelligent, was necessarily perfectly unacquainted with any one of the various subjects which had to be dealt with.

17. I have now concluded my examination of the question. I trust I have demonstrated to Government that it is absolutely necessary that an official to represent the British Government should be retained at Pondicherry, and I have endeavoured also to supply Government with cogent reasons why that official should be an English officer of standing. It is hardly part of my duty to offer an opinion on what the designation or remuneration should be if I am withdrawn. So long as I remain here, I feel assured that Government will not reduce my allowance; it is only one-half the amount which officers of my standing (some my juniors) in the service are drawing as commanding regiments, and it only exceeds the pay I would now be receiving as Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, by Rs. 27 per mensem. If I am withdrawn, I have equal confidence that Government will be pleased to provide me with suitable employment elsewhere.

ENCLOSURES.

A.

From Colonel B. FISCHER, M.S.C., Her Majesty's Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Pondicherry, 23th June 1886, No. 756.

I find, since I have been here, that, though the personal responsibility of the clerk in charge of my Karikal office is, necessarily, far greater than that which falls upon the clerk who works under my immediate orders at Pondicherry, yet that the actual amount of labor achieved by the latter is more continuous, more exacting, and much more heavy both in bulk and in importance; and I would therefore earnestly recommend that, when Government come to revise the re-organization scheme which it was my duty to submit in January, they would allot a further sum of Rs. 10 per mensem to the pay of the Pondicherry clerk, so that his remuneration may be more in accordance with his real desert.

2. Before I came to Pondicherry, I was always under the impression that the duties of this office were peculiarly light; but this, I subsequently found, was due to the influence of a tradition here which dated, apparently, even before the appointment of the late Colonel Doveton. But I can conscientiously declare, from my own personal experience of the last five months, that the responsibilities I have met here have, so far, been much more onerous and important than any I have recently encountered at Karikal, more especially as the tendency of the migration that once obtained between that port and the Straits Settlements seems to be more and more towards Negapatam. Quite apart from the considerations to which His Excellency Monsieur Richaud alluded as imperative reasons for the presence of a British Consular Agent at Pondicherry, there are questions constantly arising here between British and French subjects which require much careful management; while the ground-nut traffic and other trade from this port, which is principally carried on by British vessels, is, owing to the conduct of the captains and their crews, a source of constant anxiety to me, and has, sometimes, for days and days together entirely engrossed my attention. During the past five months, more than 80 British steamers alone have called at Pondicherry; and, though my business relations have, hitherto, been confined principally to those that have stayed here more than forty-eight hours, I have been made to feel the full weight of the responsibilities so pithily summarised by the Board of Trade in their "Instructions to Consuls." Apart from these responsibilities, there are the duties to be discharged when emigrants return from the French colonies, which, though intermittent, are extremely heavy as long as they last; and there are other onerous duties which Government have specially entrusted to me and to which I need now only allude.

3. All these duties and responsibilities tell, in their way, upon my clerk here, and make his position far more difficult and laborious than it was in the days of my predecessors, more especially as the correspondence carried on in this office is at least double what it used to be, and as orders have to be conveyed through him to the Karikal Agency; and I would earnestly recommend, therefore, that when my reorganization scheme comes under the consideration of Government, the pay of the clerk of this office may be raised from 30 to 40 rupees per mensem. I would also most earnestly recommend that the claims of Mr. Appasami Iyer, who is in charge of the Karikal Agency, should not be overlooked in consequence of my present suggestions, for he has served the State most zealously through fifteen years, some of them (when I had to contend against the abuses that then obtained at Karikal) years of intense stress and trouble, and has shown, under all circumstances, a steadiness of character and an unflagging enthusiasm in the service of the State worthy of the very highest praise.

B.

From Colonel B. FISCHER, M.S.C., Her Majesty's Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Pondicherry, 28th October 1887, No. 690.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., No. 1061, Financial, of the 27th ultimo, reviewing the budget estimates of the Pondicherry and Karikal Agency for 1888-89.

2. The proposition submitted by the clerk in charge of my head office during my absence on leave was intended to meet a want which has more than once made itself severely felt since the amalgamation of the Pondicherry and Karikal Agencies. The fact is that I have only one clerk here to help me in the discharge of my duties both as Consular Agent and as Emigration Commissioner; and being after all only human, he is apt now and then to fall ill, though it must be said to his credit that this occurs as rarely as possible. Still when it does occur, it throws my office utterly out of gear for the time being, for my own personal duties here are, as I have endeavoured to explain elsewhere, of a multifarious, nondescript, and frequently most absorbing character.

3. It does not, however, seem fair that this want should be supplemented by the permanent appointment of a second clerk, for whom there is no real necessity, when this office is in working order, for Mr. Muthukistna Iyer is undoubtedly a most capable and most energetic assistant; and I prefer, therefore, to state the want, as it now and then presents itself, and to leave the remedy in the hands of Government.

From the Under Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department (Emigration), dated Calcutta, 7th February 1889, No. 24-E.

From E. GIBSON, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Camp Vallam, 21st February 1889, No. 135.

Referring to G.O., dated 22nd December 1888, No. 1197, I have the honor to report that I consider that the British Consular Agent at Pondicherry might be withdrawn, emigration to the French Colonies having been prohibited, but that some officer at Karikal is necessary. If there were none at all, we should of course know nothing of any irregularities in connection with emigration which might go on. For this purpose the present office establishment there will suffice.

ORDER—dated 30th March 1889, No. 297, Public.

The following letter will be despatched :—

(Here enter No. 298, dated 30th March 1889.)

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

Exd. W. H. French.

Gobt. of {1889} Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 30th March 1889, No. 297.

MARCH.

Consular Agency, Pondicherry.

Directing that the Government of India be addressed regarding the continuance of the present pay and allowances drawn by the British Consular Agent and the reasons against the abolition of the —.

30TH MARCH 1889, No. 298, PUBLIC.

6/29/89

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—from

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
FORT ST. GEORGE,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of Mr. Lawrence's letter of the 18th October 1888, No. 189 E, and with reference to paragraph 2 of it, to say that the Madras Government have carefully considered the suggestion therein made and that they strongly deprecate any present alteration of the pay and allowances drawn by the British Consular Agent, Pondicherry. Apart from questions connected with emigration, His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that it is highly necessary to have a British officer of standing and position at the head-quarters of the French administration in India, and if such an officer is to be retained, the allowance of Rs. 300 at present paid to Colonel Harris in addition to his staff salary does not seem at all excessive.

2. The object of the proposal made in Mr. Lawrence's letter appears to be merely to reduce the charges shown under Emigration, to which the whole of the British Consular Agent's pay and allowances is at present debited. I am to suggest that this object might be obtained by debiting a portion of the expenditure connected with the appointment to Political as would only be just in the circumstances of the case. The charges could still remain Provincial.

3. I am also to forward a copy of Proceedings of Government of this date recording letters from the British Consular Agent and the Collectors of South Arcot and Tanjore, and to invite the attention of the Government of India to the strong reasons shown by the first two officers against the abolition of the Consular Agency at Pondicherry.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
30th March 1889.

Chief Secretary.

Ed. W. H. French.

SOUTH ARCOT.

1889.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

From the Government of
Fort St. George.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

Letter, 30th March 1889, No. 298.

MARCH.

Consular Agency, Pondicherry.

Deprecating any present alteration of the pay and allowances drawn by the British Consular Agent and inviting attention to the strong reasons shown by the officers referred to, against the abolition of the —

NO.

FROM

TO

SIR,

Collector's OFFICE,
Cuddalore.

21st January 1889.

Henry Sewell Esquire,
Collector of SOUTH ARCOT.

The Hon'ble J. F. Price,

CHIEF SECRETARY TO

GOVERNMENT,

MADRAS.

In reply to Government Order dated 22^d December 1888, No. 1197 Public, I have the honor to state that I have made careful enquiries as to the emigration work which remains to be done at Pondicherry after the suspension or practical abolition of Emigration to the French Colonies.

2. The most important part of the work appears to be the inspection of emigrants on their return from French Colonies, which will of course continue for a long time yet. This inspection has hitherto been carried out by the British Consular Agent in company with the Head of the French Medical Department, and other officials. It seems to me a matter of importance that our Government should on such occasions be represented by an officer of some position. It would be practically impossible for the Collector to be always present. The ships return generally during the first half of the year when the Collector is liable

27. January 1886
From
Colonel E. J. B. Harris
British Consular Agent
Pondicherry & Karikal

To the Hon F. J. Price C. S.
Chief Secretary to Government.

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7/2/89 Halliday Post Regl

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Public Department.

From

The Collector of
South Arcot.

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government,
Madras.

Dated

Received

23 January 1889

No.

ENCLOSURE.

Subject.

CHIEF SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
23 JAN 89

Reporting on the question of
the proposed withdrawal
of the British Consular
Agent at Pondicherry.

to be out on tour, and it would be a serious inconvenience to have to come in from perhaps the extreme end of the District for inspection at a few days' notice. I do not think that a Native Clerk would be of sufficient standing or importance on such an occasion to represent British interests properly.

3. The other work in connection with emigration business, such as taking charge of the estates of deceased emigrants &c might perhaps be looked after by a Native Clerk under the Collector's supervision; but it would certainly be necessary to keep some office establishment on the spot.

4. I would however venture to point out that the French authorities are extremely anxious to re-open the emigration to their Colonies, and will strain every nerve to get this done, by improving their arrangements in their Colonies which have been hitherto defective. If this is brought about, the presence of an officer as British Consul at Pondicherry will of course be as essential as at present.

5. Although Government do not call for a report on other matters connected with the work of the British Consulate, I would venture respectfully to point out that there is much business of a demi-official and confidential nature which can only be satisfactorily looked after by a European officer stationed at Pondicherry itself. In fact it is the quality, not the quantity, of the work which would render it most difficult for the Collector of South Arcot to carry out all that is now done by the British Consul, with due regard to the interests of Government.

I have the honor to be,

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Wm. Halliday
For Collector.

W.H.

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Calcutta, Pondicherry, and Karachi, is ex-
pected to return with emigrants from
Guadeloupe in April next, and I pre-
sume other vessels with return emigrants
from other French Colonies will in due
course arrive, I respectfully submit
that it is a point to be considered, whether
the terms of the Convention can be pro-
perly observed if the Consular Agent
is withdrawn.

7. In my letter No. 324 dated 28th May 1888
and No. 478 dated 28th July 1888, I reported to
Government a case of clandestine im-
migration brought to my notice by H. B. Le
Comte at Reunion, and I enclosed
copies of my correspondence with
various authorities. During the past
year 45 passports have been granted
at this port to so called Free Passengers,
the precautionary measures I adopted
to defeat if possible this clandestine
emigration, and which measures
were approved by Govt. in G.O. dated
30th August 1888 No. 837 Public, have
been carefully observed; after
personal & close examination, full
particulars regarding 36 passengers

lector of emigrants Mauritius. These
manuscripts might no doubt be car-
ried out by a Native Clerk, but it
is a doubtful question whether in
all cases they would be as satisfac-
torily done, and I cannot but con-
sider that the withdrawal of the
Consular Agent would be followed
by increased activity on the part
of those who carry on this illicit
emigration, whereas I am confident
that the presence on this spot of an
English official of position has a
most wholesome deterrent effect
on would be offenders.

8. As regards the retention of
deceased emigrants is the only other
emigration duty at this Port. Since
my arrival here I have disposed of
41 estates of the value of Rs. 465. 12. 5.
Most of these were however legacies
from my predecessors, and this duty
could easily be performed by the
Clerk of this Office under the super-
vision of the Collector of South Arcot.

9. As regards the retention of an
office establishment after the with-
drawal of the Consular Agent, I need

of some official at Pondicherry also:
being necessary. I submit to Govt. that
the work and responsibility of the only
person in the colony increases
and I have no hesitation in saying that
he could not single handed carry on
the duties.

10. In the above Paragraphs I have
considered the question simply in
connection with emigration to the French
Settlements. I do not suppose any
arguments of mine are necessary to
show Govt. the absolute necessity of
the presence at Pondicherry of an
English Consular Agent in the event
of the renewal of emigration to the
French Colonies. It will suffice to
mention that of 125 would be emigrants
produced before me for registration
only passed 57. Very patient and
careful questioning justified me in
refusing to register 63, and I need
hardly say that I had to carry out
this duty in the face of frequent ap-
peals from the officials of the French
Government, on more than one occa-
sion satisfying H. E. the Governor p.c.
at personal interviews that my
rejections were based on solid grounds.

manner in which the Immigration was checked, the French Govt. at great expense was compelled to come to the assistance of the Government of Pondicherry, which Govt. can judge whether a subordinate Official could act in the future as did on this occasion, in the face of the strong pressure which would be brought to bear on him.

11. There are however other duties attaching to the Office of Consular Agent, some of these of a very important nature, which can only be performed by an Official residing at Pondicherry, and which from their nature seem to me to require that this Official should be a European Officer of rank.

12. My Political duties, mostly of a confidential nature, are known to Govt.; it is only necessary for me, when mentioning them, to say that they occasion me at times much anxiety, and that it appears to me doubtful whether they could be satisfactorily entrusted to a subordinate Official. I do not see how the Collector of South Arcot could possibly perform

13. My duties in connection with Merchant Ships & Seamen are important and at times heavy. During the last year 64 Steamers and 42 Sailing vessels visited Pondicherry, the former calling here on 195 occasions, the latter on 77. 25 Steamers and 3 Ships remaining here for more than 48 hours delivered their Articles of Agreement to me on arrival, the average time of their stay was from 11 to 12 days. During these detentions I had always to perform some of the many duties which devolve on a Consul at a foreign port, on some occasions I had to settle serious differences between the Captains and their Crews, and once had to call in the aid of the local police to deal with a refractory seaman. It will be clear to Govt. that these duties require the presence of an Official at Pondicherry, and it appears to me that their nature demands that the Official should be a European of recognised status. The following extract from "A Consul's Manual" will I trust show Govt. that I am not exaggerating the importance of these duties.

the Consular duties under this head are very
onerous and important. Under the Merchant
Shipping Acts many special functions and
powers are committed to him; but he will re-
member that, independently of these special duties,
he is looked upon as the representative of
British law in his consulate; that his position
is one the authority and functions of which
it is impossible to define with the same strict-
ness as in the case of public officers within
the British dominions; that he will frequently
be appealed to as an arbitrator; and that
upon his patience, judgment, and temper,
in settling differences which may arise
amongst the crews of merchant ships, must
often depend the welfare and safety of many
important lives, and of much valuable property.

A glance at the instructions issued by the
Board of Trade will I am sure convince Gov.
that my Consular duties with respect to
Merchant Shipping, are correctly described
in the above extract as "very onerous and
important".
The ~~very~~ notarial duties are also of
importance. 331 Certificates to the signatures
of French Officials have been granted under
my hand and seal during the past year;
on many occasions also I have witnessed
the signing of deeds and documents of
various natures. The Consular Manual
states that I am empowered to perform
these notarial acts by the 20th section of the
Consular Act 1825, I have no doubt that
my Clerk, if so empowered, could easily

perform these duties, leaving them to the
notice of Govt to show that the presence
here of some duly constituted official is
necessary for these purposes alone.

15. Mustering and paying pensioners,
forwarding processes and fees received from
British Courts to the Procureur General, return-
ing the same to the Courts of Issue, are some
of the minor duties attached to this Office.
I mention them in order that Government
may be fully acquainted with the varied
nature of my work.

16. Referring to the remarks made by
my predecessor Colonel Fischer in paragraph
17 of his report for 1887, on perusal of that
Officer's opinions as given in many letters
both to Govt and to Officials of all descrip-
tions, I think I am justified in concluding
that Colonel Fischer was far from intending
Govt to understand that he considered he
might with advantage be withdrawn; I
submit that as it was his last report,
he thought it was his duty to bring pro-
minently to notice the excellent help
he had received from his Clerks, and
that he used expressions which he pro-
bably would not have used had he
seriously considered the meaning which
would be attached to them. It is

greatly diminished responsibilities of the
"Pondicherry & Karikal Offices" with the
many statements I find he made of the
overwhelming nature of his duties. Time
does not permit me to trouble Govt with
the many extracts I could furnish to prove
this. I only think it my duty to attach
two letters; the one marked (A) written be-
fore he had received his appointment as
Emigration Commissioner, the other marked
(B) written only two months before the
close of the year 1887, both of which refer to
these letters I would remark that there was
then no Emigration to the French Colonies,
and that Clerk Mr. Mootookrishna Iyer
in August 1888 received an appointment
in the Revenue Department, since which
time I have carried on my duties assisted
by one Clerk, who although hard working
and intelligent, was necessarily perfectly
unacquainted with any one of the various
subjects which had to be dealt with.

17. I have now concluded my exami-
nation of the question; I trust I have de-
monstrated to Govt that it is absolute-
ly necessary that an official to repre-
sent the British Government should be
retained at Pondicherry, and I have
endeavoured also to supply Govt
with cogent reasons why that official

should be an English Officer of standing.
It is hardly part of my duty to offer
an opinion on what the designation or
denomination should be if I am with-
drawn. So long as I remain here, I feel
assured that Govt will not reduce my
allowance, it is only one half the
amount which Officers of my standing
(some my juniors) in the Service are draw-
ing as Commanding Regiments, and
it only exceeds the pay I would now
be receiving as Superintendent of Police
Trichinopoly by 27 Rupees per
mensem. If I am withdrawn I have
equal confidence that Govt will be
pleased to provide me with suitable
employment elsewhere.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedt. Servant

Charles Harris. (Colonel)

British Consular Agent.

No. 756 W.B.-L's Consulate
Pondicherry: 25th June 86.

From ^{10/9/86} Colonel Bowness Fischer,
W.B.-L's Consular Agent,
Pondicherry & Karikal.

To
The Honorable Fortescue Webster
C.S.
Chief Secretary to Govt.

Sir,
I find, since I have
been here, that, though the
personal responsibility
of the clerk in charge of
my Karikal office is,
necessarily, far greater
than that which falls
upon the clerk who
works under my immediate
orders at Pondicherry, yet
that the actual amount
of

of labour achieved by the latter is more continuous, more exacting, and much more heavy both in bulk and in importance, and I would therefore earnestly recommend that, when Government come to revise the re-organization scheme which it was my duty to submit in January, they would allot a further sum of ten rupees per mensem to the pay of the Pondicherry Clerk: so that his remuneration may be more in accordance with his real desert.

2. Before I came to Pondicherry

I was always ^{under} the impression that the duties of this office were peculiarly light; but this, I subsequently found, was due to the influence of a tradition here which dated, apparently, even before the appointment of the late Colonel Docton. But I can conscientiously ~~decline~~, from my own personal experience of the last five months, that the responsibilities I have met here have, so far, been much more onerous and important than any I have recently encountered at Karikal.

more

more especially as the tendency
of the migration that once
obtained between that port
and the Straits Settlements
seems to be more and more
towards Negapatam. Quite
apart from the Considerations
to which His Excellency Monsieur
Richard alluded as imperative
reasons for the presence of
a British Consular Agent
at Pondicherry there are
questions constantly arising
here between British
and French Subjects
which require much careful
management; while the
framed-net traffic and
other trade, from this port,

which is principally carried
on by British ¹⁸ vessels, is,
owing to the Conduct of
the Captains and their crew,
a source of constant anxiety
to me, and has, sometimes,
for days and days together
entirely engrossed my attention.
During the past five
months more than 80 British
steamers alone have called
at Pondicherry; and, though
my business relations
have, hitherto, been confined
principally to those that
have stayed here more
than forty-eight hours,
I have been made to feel
the

the full weight of the responsibilities so pithily summarised by the Board of Trade in their "Instructions to Consuls". Apart from these responsibilities, there are the duties to be discharged when Emigrants return from the French Colonies, which, though intermittent, are extremely heavy as long as they last; and there are other onerous duties which Government have specially entrusted to me and to which I need now only allude.

3. All these duties and responsibilities tell, in their way, upon my clerk here,

here, and make his position far more difficult and laborious than it was in the days of my predecessors - more especially as the correspondence carried on in this office is at least double what it used to be and as orders have to be conveyed through him to the Maritime Agency - and I would earnestly recommend, therefore, that, when my Reorganization Scheme comes under the consideration of Government, the pay of the clerk of this office may be raised from 30 to 40 Rupees per

per meum. I would
also most earnestly recom-
mend that the claims of
Mr. Appasami Iyer, who
is in charge of the Karikal
Agency, should not be over-
looked in consequence of
my present suggestions:
for he has served the
State most ~~zealously~~ through
fifteen years — some of
them (when I had to —
contend against the abuses
that then obtained at Karikal)
years of intense stress and
trouble — and has shown,
under all circumstances,
a steadiness of character
and

and an unflagging
enthusiasm ⁱⁿ the service
of the state worthy of the
very highest praise.

I have

(Signed) Colonel Bowness Fisher

H.B.'s Consular Agent
Pondicherry & Karikal

(True Copy)

Chamro

H.B.'s Consular Agent
Pondicherry & Karikal

Copy to Mr. Iyer 12/1/88

21
297/8

In Public 1328/89

W.B. Li's Consulate 14 2/3
No. 690 Pondicherry 28th October 87.
2/27

I am
Colonel Bowness Fischer
In. S. C.

W.B. Li's Consular Agent
Pondicherry & Karikal.

To
The Honorable H. E. Stokes, Esq.
Chief Secretary to Govt.

Sir,

I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of
y. a. No. 100, Financial, of
the 27th Ultimeo, reviewing
the Budget Estimates of
the Pondicherry and Karikal
Agency for 1888-89.

2. The proposition sub-
mitted by the clerk in

Charge

and ~~with~~ energetic assistant,
and I prefer, therefore, to
state the want, as it now
and then presents itself,
and to leave the remedy
in the hands of government.

I have
(Signed) Rowneys Fischer
H.B.'s Consular Agent

(True copy)

C. Harris
H.B.'s Consular Agent
Pondicherry & Karikal.

Sub. 22-12-88 no 1197

328

Department.

(11)
24/1/89

From
Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Agent,
Pondicherry & Karikal,
Emigration Commission, 1888

To The Honorable J. Price
Chief Secretary to Govt.
Fort St. George

No. 3

Dated 24th January 1889

Received

CHIEF SECRETARY
16 JAN 89
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Enclosures 2

Submitting Report
in accordance with
G.O. no. 1197, Public
of 22nd December 1888
re the withdrawal
the British Consular
Agent at Pondicherry.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From H. SEWELL, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cuddalore, 21st January 1889, No. 52.

In reply to G.O., dated 22nd December 1888, No. 1197, Public, I have the honor to state that I have made careful enquiries as to the emigration work which remains to be done at Pondicherry after the suspension or practical abolition of emigration to the French colonies.

2. The most important part of the work appears to be the inspection of emigrants on their return from French colonies, which will, of course, continue for a long time yet. This inspection has hitherto been carried out by the British Consular Agent in company with the Head of the French Medical Department, and other officials. It seems to me a matter of importance that our Government should on such occasions be represented by an officer of some position. It would be practically impossible for the Collector to be always present. The ships return generally during the first half of the year when the Collector is liable to be on tour, and it would be a serious inconvenience to have to come in from perhaps the extreme end of the district for inspection at a few days' notice. I do not think that a native clerk would be of sufficient standing or importance on such an occasion to represent British interests properly.

3. The other work in connection with emigration business, such as taking charge of the estates of deceased emigrants, &c., might perhaps be looked after by a native clerk under the Collector's supervision; but it would certainly be necessary to keep some office establishment on the spot.

4. I would, however, venture to point out that the French authorities are extremely anxious to re-open the emigration to their colonies, and will strain every nerve to get this done, by improving their arrangements in their colonies which have been hitherto defective. If this is brought about, the presence of an officer as British Consul at Pondicherry will, of course, be as essential as at present.

5. Although Government do not call for a report on other matters connected with the work of the British Consulate, I would venture respectfully to point out that there is much business of a demi-official and confidential nature which can only be satisfactorily looked after by a European officer stationed at Pondicherry itself. In fact, it is the quality, not the quantity, of the work, which would render it most difficult for the Collector of South Arcot to carry out all that is now done by the British Consul, with due regard to the interests of Government.

From Colonel C. J. B. HARRIS, British Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Pondicherry, 24th January 1889, No. 32.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., dated 22nd December 1888, No. 1197, Public, and in accordance with the orders contained therein to report as follows.

2. Before doing so, I would observe that, although the Government of India only speaks of the suspension of emigration to the French colonies, I conclude I am right in accepting the view of the Madras Government that such emigration has practically ceased.

3. Government is aware that, since the amalgamation of the Consular Agencies of Pondicherry and Karikal in December 1885, the work of the Karikal office has been carried on by the chief clerk, who is also Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements at that port. As Mr. Appasawmy Iyer is an official of long experience and of undoubted ability, his emigration work is performed efficiently, and he has only found it necessary on few occasions to refer to me for guidance in the past nine months. The Collector of Tanjore would, no doubt, be as qualified as I am to supervise this work, but as Karikal is French territory, I submit to Government that it would probably be more convenient to continue to entrust the direction of emigration from that port to the Consular Agent. In connection with this, I would respectfully call attention to the terms of letter, No. 31, dated 27th September 1886, from His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India, and which is embodied in G.O., dated 14th October 1886, No. 2175, Public.

4. Should, however, Government decide to withdraw the Consular Agent, I have the honor to report that, as the transfer of authority would in no way alter or lessen the duties, I do not consider the change would permit the withdrawal also of the office establishment, which consists of one chief clerk and two peons. The emigration returns for the past year show a very considerable increase in the passenger traffic from Karikal to the Straits Settlements; the number in 1887 was 698, in 1888 it is 1,480.

5. As regards Pondicherry (emigration to French colonies having ceased), there is practically no emigration from this port. The most important emigration duties to be performed are—

- (1) Attending at the landing of return emigrants from French colonies.
- (2) Preventing clandestine emigration to French colonies.

6. During the past year, 1,225 emigrants returned from French colonies, and Government is aware that the Consular Agent invariably attends at the landing, personally questions each emigrant, and submits the customary reports. It would be practically impossible for the Collector of South Arcot, or indeed for any official from Cuddalore, to be present; the date of the arrival of the steamer is always uncertain (the last steamer did not arrive for weeks after she was expected), and the landing of the emigrants commences as soon as is possible after the steamer anchors. Government is aware that complaints of a serious nature have at times been preferred, and that matters requiring delicate handling might arise at any time; the French Government appoints officers of high official position to be present on these occasions, and I have no hesitation in saying that, in my opinion, it is absolutely necessary that the British Government should be represented by an official of equal standing. I do not see how this can be managed if the appointment of Consular Agent is abolished. I would bring to the notice of Government that the Consular Agent acts on these occasions under the Paris Convention of 1st July 1861 (*vide* Article XIX), and that the last clause of Article V defines Consular Agents as follows: "Under the term Consular Agents are comprised Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and all other commissioned Consular Officers." The steamer *Nantes et Bordeaux*, now on her way to Guadeloupe with emigrants from Calcutta, Pondicherry, and Karikal, is expected to return with emigrants from Guadeloupe in April next, and I presume other vessels with return emigrants from other French colonies will in due course arrive. I respectfully submit that it is a point to be considered, whether the terms of the convention can be properly observed if the Consular Agent is withdrawn.

7. In my letters, No. 324, dated 26th May 1888, and No. 478, dated 28th July 1888, I reported to Government a case of clandestine emigration brought to my notice by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Réunion, and I enclosed copies of my correspondence with various authorities. During the past year, 45 passports have been granted at this port to so-called "free passengers;" the precautionary measures

I adopted to defeat, if possible, this clandestine emigration, and which measures were approved by Government in G.O., dated 30th August 1888, No. 837, Public, have been carefully observed; after personal and close examination, full particulars regarding 36 passengers have been forwarded to the Government Protector of Emigrants, Mauritius. These measures might, no doubt, be carried out by a native clerk, but it is a doubtful question whether in all cases they would be so exhaustively done, and I cannot but consider that the withdrawal of the Consular Agent would be followed by increased activity on the part of those who carry on this illicit emigration, whereas I am confident that the presence on the spot of an English official of position has a most wholesome deterrent effect on would-be offenders.

8. Administering to the estates of deceased emigrants is the only other emigration duty at this port. Since my arrival here, I have disposed of 41 estates of the value of Rs. 1,166-10-5; most of these were, however, legacies from my predecessors, and this duty could easily be performed by the clerk of this office under the supervision of the Collector of South Arcot.

9. As regards the retention of an office establishment after the withdrawal of the Consular Agent, I need hardly say that I consider the presence of some official at Pondicherry absolutely necessary. I submit to Government that the work and responsibility of the only clerk would be immensely increased, and I have no hesitation in saying that he could not single-handed carry on the duties.

10. In the above paragraphs, I have considered the question simply in connection with emigration to the Straits Settlements. I do not suppose any arguments of mine are necessary to show Government the absolute necessity of the presence at Pondicherry of a British Consular Agent in the event of the renewal of emigration to the French colonies. It will suffice to mention that, of 120 would-be emigrants produced before me for registration, I only passed 57, very patient and careful questioning justified me in refusing to register 63; and I need hardly say that I had to carry out this duty in the face of frequent appeals from the officials of the French Government, on more than one occasion satisfying His Excellency the Governor, *p.i.*, at personal interviews that my rejections were based on solid grounds. Government is aware that, by the thorough manner in which the emigration was checked, the French Government at great expense was compelled to complete the number of the convoy at Calcutta, and Government can judge whether a subordinate official could act in the future as I did on this occasion, in the face of the strong pressure which would be brought to bear on him.

11. There are, however, other duties attaching to the office of Consular Agent, some of these of a very important nature, which can only be performed by an official residing at Pondicherry, and which from their nature seem to me to require that this official should be a European officer of position.

12. My political duties, mostly of a confidential nature, are known to Government; it is only necessary for me, when mentioning them, to say that they occasion me at times much anxiety, and that it appears to me doubtful whether they could be satisfactorily entrusted to a subordinate official. I do not see how the Collector of South Arcot could possibly perform them.

13. My duties in connection with merchant ships and seamen are important and at times heavy. During the past year, 64 steamers and 42 sailing vessels visited Pondicherry, the former calling here on 195 occasions, the latter on 77. Twenty-five steamers and 3 ships remaining here for more than 48 hours delivered their articles of agreement to me on arrival; the average time of their stay was from 11 to 12 days. During these detentions, I had always to perform some of the many duties which devolve on a Consul at a foreign port; on some occasions I had to settle serious differences between captains and their crews, and once I had to call in the aid of the local police to deal with a refractory seaman. It will be clear to Government that these duties require the presence of an official at Pondicherry, and it appears to me that their nature demands that the official should be a European of recognized status. The

following extract from "A Consul's Manual" will, I trust, show Government that I am not exaggerating the importance of these duties:—

"The Consul, the Shipmaster and his Crew."—The Consul's duties under this head are very onerous and important. Under the Merchant Shipping Acts, many special functions and powers are committed to him; but he will remember that, independently of these special duties, he is looked upon as the representative of British law in his consulate; that his position is one of authority and functions of which it is impossible to define with the same strictness as in the case of public officers within the British dominions; that he will frequently be appealed to as an arbitrator; and that upon his patience, judgment and temper, in settling differences which may arise amongst the crews of merchant ships, must often depend the welfare and safety of many important lives, and of much valuable property."

A glance at the Instructions issued by the Board of Trade will, I am sure, convince Government that my consular duties with respect to merchant shipping are correctly described in the above extract as "very onerous and important."

14. My notarial duties are also of importance. 331 certificates to the signatures of French officials have been granted under my hand and seal during the past year; on many occasions also I have witnessed the signing of deeds and documents of notarial acts by the 20th section of the Consular Act, 1825. I have no doubt that my clerk, if so empowered, could easily carry on these duties. I bring them to the notice of Government to show that the presence here of some duly-constituted official is necessary for these purposes alone.

15. Mustering and paying pensioners, forwarding processes and fees received from British Courts to the Procureur-Général, returning the same to the Courts of Issue, are some of the minor duties attached to this office. I mention them in order that Government may be fully acquainted with the varied nature of my work.

16. Referring to the remarks made by my predecessor, Colonel Fischer, in paragraph 17 of his report for 1887, on perusal of that officer's opinions as given in many letters both to Government and to officials of all descriptions, I think I am justified in concluding that Colonel Fischer was far from intending Government to understand that he considered he might with advantage be withdrawn; I submit that, as it was his last report, he thought it was his duty to bring prominently to notice the excellent help he had received from his clerks, and that he used expressions which he probably would not have used had he seriously considered the meaning which would be attached to them. It is impossible to reconcile the expression "greatly-diminished responsibilities of the Pondicherry and Karikal offices" with the many statements I find he made of the overwhelming nature of his duties. Time does not permit me to trouble Government with the many extracts I could furnish to prove this; I only think it my duty to attach two letters—the one, marked (A), written before he had received his appointment as Emigration Commissioner, the other, marked (B), written only two months before the close of the year 1887. With reference to these letters, I would remark that there was then no emigration to the French colonies, and that clerk Mr. Muthukistna Iyer, in August 1888, received an appointment in the Revenue Department, since which time I have carried on my duties assisted by one clerk, who, although hard working and intelligent, was necessarily perfectly unacquainted with any one of the various subjects which had to be dealt with.

17. I have now concluded my examination of the question. I trust I have demonstrated to Government that it is absolutely necessary that an official to represent the British Government should be retained at Pondicherry, and I have endeavoured also to supply Government with cogent reasons why that official should be an English officer of standing. It is hardly part of my duty to offer an opinion on what the designation or remuneration should be if I am withdrawn. So long as I remain here, I feel assured that Government will not reduce my allowance; it is only one-half the amount which officers of my standing (some my juniors) in the service are drawing as commanding regiments, and it only exceeds the pay I would now be receiving as Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, by Rs. 27 per mensem. If I am withdrawn, I have equal confidence that Government will be pleased to provide me with suitable employment elsewhere.

ENCLOSURES.

A.

From Colonel B. FISCHER, M.S.C., Her Majesty's Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Pondicherry, 25th June 1886, No. 756.

I find, since I have been here, that, though the personal responsibility of the clerk in charge of my Karikal office is, necessarily, far greater than that which falls upon the clerk who works under my immediate orders at Pondicherry, yet that the actual amount of labor achieved by the latter is more continuous, more exacting, and much more heavy both in bulk and in importance; and I would therefore earnestly recommend that, when Government come to revise the re-organization scheme which it was my duty to submit in January, they would allot a further sum of Rs. 10 per mensem to the pay of the Pondicherry clerk, so that his remuneration may be more in accordance with his real desert.

2. Before I came to Pondicherry, I was always under the impression that the duties of this office were peculiarly light; but this, I subsequently found, was due to the influence of a tradition here which dated, apparently, even before the appointment of the late Colonel Doveton. But I can conscientiously declare, from my own personal experience of the last five months, that the responsibilities I have met here have, so far, been much more onerous and important than any I have recently encountered at Karikal, more especially as the tendency of the migration that once obtained between that port and the Straits Settlements seems to be more and more towards Negapatam. Quite apart from the considerations to which His Excellency Monsieur Richaud alluded as imperative reasons for the presence of a British Consular Agent at Pondicherry, there are questions constantly arising here between British and French subjects which require much careful management; while the ground-nut traffic and other trade from this port, which is principally carried on by British vessels, is, owing to the conduct of the captains and their crews, a source of constant anxiety to me, and has, sometimes, for days and days together entirely engrossed my attention. During the past five months, more than 80 British steamers alone have called at Pondicherry; and, though my business relations have, hitherto, been confined principally to those that have stayed here more than forty-eight hours, I have been made to feel the full weight of the responsibilities so pithily summarised by the Board of Trade in their "Instructions to Consuls." Apart from these responsibilities, there are the duties to be discharged when emigrants return from the French colonies, which, though intermittent, are extremely heavy as long as they last; and there are other onerous duties which Government have specially entrusted to me and to which I need now only allude.

3. All these duties and responsibilities tell, in their way, upon my clerk here, and make his position far more difficult and laborious than it was in the days of my predecessors, more especially as the correspondence carried on in this office is at least double what it used to be, and as orders have to be conveyed through him to the Karikal Agency; and I would earnestly recommend, therefore, that when my reorganization scheme comes under the consideration of Government, the pay of the clerk of this office may be raised from 30 to 40 rupees per mensem. I would also most earnestly recommend that the claims of Mr. Appasami Iyer, who is in charge of the Karikal Agency, should not be overlooked in consequence of my present suggestions, for he has served the State most zealously through fifteen years, some of them (when I had to contend against the abuses that then obtained at Karikal) years of intense stress and trouble, and has shown, under all circumstances, a steadiness of character and an unflagging enthusiasm in the service of the State worthy of the very highest praise.

B.

From Colonel B. FISCHER, M.S.C., Her Majesty's Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Pondicherry, 28th October 1887, No. 690.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., No. 1061, Financial, of the 27th ultimo, reviewing the budget estimates of the Pondicherry and Karikal Agency for 1888-89.

2. The proposition submitted by the clerk in charge of my head office during my absence on leave was intended to meet a want which has more than once made itself severely felt since the amalgamation of the Pondicherry and Karikal Agencies. The fact is that I have only one clerk here to help me in the discharge of my duties both as Consular Agent and as Emigration Commissioner; and being after all only human, he is apt now and then to fall ill, though it must be said to his credit that this occurs as rarely as possible. Still when it does occur, it throws my office utterly out of gear for the time being, for my own personal duties here are, as I have endeavoured to explain elsewhere, of a multifarious, nondescript, and frequently most absorbing character.

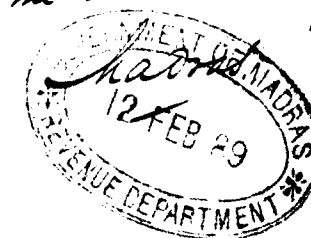
3. It does not, however, seem fair that this want should be supplemented by the permanent appointment of a second clerk, for whom there is no real necessity, when this office is in working order, for Mr. Muthukistna Iyer is undoubtedly a most capable and most energetic assistant; and I prefer, therefore, to state the want, as it now and then presents itself, and to leave the remedy in the hands of Government.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Revenue and Agricultural Department,
(Immigration)
Palanthe The 7th February 1889.

No. 24. E
29/2

To The Secretary to the Government



SUBJECT.

*Continuance of Col.
Harris, Quartermaster Agent,
Pondicherry, of the allowance
of Rs. 300. for maintenance granted
him for immigration duties.*

SIR,

I am directed to invite attention to the
communication marginally noted,* and to request
the favour of an early reply thereto.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

Had. ...

Under-Secretary to the Govt. of India.

* No. ¹⁸² 622 E dated the 18th Feb 1889.
subsequent reminder
No. — dated —

22/12/88 No 1197 Recd.

Public

From,

The Government of India.
Rev. & Agri. Dept.
No 24E.

Dated 7th }
Recd 12th } Feb 1889.

Reminder on their
Communication re Continuance
to Col^l Harris, Consular Agent,
Pondicherry, of the allowance of Rs 300
per mensem granted him for Emigration
duties.

TANJORE, COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

No. 135

CAMP, 2nd February 1889

FROM

E. Gibson Esquire,

COLLECTOR,

TANJORE,

TO

The Honble J. F. Price
Chief Secretary

Government
Public Department.

Sir,

Referring to l^{tr}. dated 22nd
December 1888 No. 1197 I have the honor
to report that I consider that the British
Consular Agent at Pondicherry might
be withdrawn, Emigration to the French
Colonies having been prohibited but
that some officer at Karikal is
necessary. If there were none at all
we should of course know nothing
of any irregularities in connection
with Emigration which might be
on. For this purpose the present
office establishment there will suffice.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obed^t Servant.

E. Gibson

C. 653.

30
2975

Public DEPARTMENT.

FROM

THE *Collector*

of Tanjore,

TO

THE *Chief* SECRETARY

TO GOVERNMENT,

Public DEPARTMENT,

SECRETARY
3 FEB 89
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Madras.

Dated

21

Received

Submarine 1889

No. 135.

ENCLOSURE. *ad.*

(SUBJECT.)

*Reporting on the question
of the withdrawal of the
British Consular Agent
at Pondicherry and the
retention of the office
establishments at Karikal*

Apert

part from any questions connected
 with the ~~immigration~~ ^{the question} of
 union that it is highly necessary
 have a British ^{in India} officer of standing
 & position at the head-quarters
 the French administration and if
 an officer is to be retained
 allowance at present paid to
 C. Harris, does not seem at all
 excessive. Should it, however, the
 effect of the proposal made in
 Lawrence's letter be merely
 reduce the charges show
 the indignation. I am to suggest
 that a portion of the present
 expenditure connected with
 appointments might be allotted
 political and that it will still
 be sufficient to pay the expenses of the
 charges which still remain now.
 I am also forwarding a copy of
 a letter of this date
 or Aug. 1857 from the British
 Consul at Pondicherry and the Collectors
 at the Arcot and Tanjore and to
 the attention of the Govt.
 India to the strong
 satisfactory reasons shown by
 first two officers against
 abolition of the consular
 agency at Pondicherry.

To Mr. (7. 1857)
 28

Govt. of Government, dated
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Order complete
 Letter complete
 Order complete with letter
 Print in full
 Not to be printed
 Print only
 Print heading only
 Print only for...