

15-2-12
ORDINARY, MS.

Public DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 7-7-90
No. 488.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Report on the return voyage of
the French Steamer "Nantes et
Bordeaux" with the time expired
immigrants

No. $\frac{581}{27-4}$ E:

FROM

THE HON'BLE W. C. BENETT, C.S.,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Rev. & Agri. Dept.
Emigration.

Simla, the 12th June 1890.

SIR,

WITH reference to your endorsement No. 976 (Public) of the 2nd December last, giving cover to a report on the return voyage of the French Steamer *Nantes et Bordeaux* with time-expired immigrants from Martinique, and to your subsequent endorsement No. 119 (Public) of the 15th February, I am directed to say that the Government of India agrees with the Government of Madras, that the Consular Agent ought to have ascertained the causes of sickness for which admissions were made into hospital on the landing of the immigrants at Pondicherry and the diseases from which the deaths in the hospital occurred.

2. The Government of India regrets to observe that the submission of the returns of mortality has long been omitted, contrary to the rules relating to Colonial Emigration. It is satisfactory that Colonel Harris perceived the necessity of rectifying this defect, but considering that this was the second occasion within the year upon which excessive sickness and mortality occurred on board the *Nantes et Bordeaux*, more vigorous action was to be expected from him.

3. In future the Consular Agent should press the Pondicherry authorities for the supply complete of all the prescribed medical returns at the very earliest opportunity. He should also use every endeavour to obtain whatever explanations may be required before the ship or its surgeon leaves the colony.

4. I am to forward for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, copies of correspondence* which has taken place between the Government of India, the Government of Bengal, and the Secretary of State regarding the scandals brought to light upon the return voyage from Guadeloupe. It will be seen that on the arrival of the *Nantes et Bordeaux* at Calcutta in April 1889 she was carefully examined by the Medical Inspector of Emigrants, and that serious defects in her sanitary arrangements and accommodation were discovered.

- * 1. Letter to the Government of Bengal, No. 119, dated 25th July 1889.
- 2. Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 68.TG., dated 1st October 1889.
- 3. Despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 17, dated 3rd December 1889.
- 4. Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 44, dated 30th April 1890.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. C. BENETT,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

1890.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

FILE NO. 27
SERIAL NO. 4.

EMIGRATION.

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

No. $\frac{581}{27-4}$ E.

Dated Simla, the 12th June 1890.

SUBJECT.

Acknowledges receipt of the reports on the return voyage of the *Nantes et Bordeaux* from Martinique.

[W. F. C.]

INDIA OFFICE,
London, 30th April 1890.

Public (Emigration).
No. 44.

To His Excellency the Most Honourable the Governor General of India in Council.

MY LORD MARQUIS—

WITH reference to your Emigration Despatch No. 17, dated the 3rd of December last, I transmit, for the information of Your Excellency in Council, copy of the correspondence with the Foreign Office regarding the return voyage of the *Nantes et Bordeaux* with Indian immigrants from the Colony of Guadeloupe.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord Marquis,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble Servant,

CROSS.

No. 2264-J. & P., dated India Office, London, the 6th January 1890.

From—The Under-Secretary of State for India,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to transmit, for submission to the Marquis of Salisbury, copy of a Despatch, with its enclosures, from the Government of India, forwarding, with observations thereon, reports received from the Madras and Bengal Governments on the voyage of the French ship *Nantes et Bordeaux* conveying return emigrants from Guadeloupe.

Viscount Cross would call special attention to the third paragraph of this Despatch, and trusts that Lord Salisbury may be able to take the action advocated by the Government of India.

No. $\frac{161}{1890}$ J. & P., dated Foreign Office, London, the 29th January 1890.

From—SIR T. H. SANDERSON, K. C. M. G., Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

WITH reference to your letter (2264-J. & P.) of the 6th instant, on the subject of returned emigrants from Guadeloupe, I am directed by the Marquis of

To Lord Lytton.

No. 3-Consular, January 29th, 1890.

Salisbury to transmit herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for India in Council, copy of a Despatch which has been addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris instructing His Excellency to bring the facts connected with the voyage of the French vessel *Nantes et Bordeaux* to the notice of the French Government, and to urge them to cause a thorough investigation to be made into the matter.

No. 3 (Consular), dated Foreign Office, London, the 29th January 1890.

From—The MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, K. G., Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

To—Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Paris.

WITH reference to Your Excellency's Despatch No. 16 of the 19th of July last, on the subject of coolie emigration to Guadeloupe, I transmit herewith, for Your Excellency's information, copy of a letter from the India Office, enclosing copies of a Despatch and its enclosures from the Government of India in regard to the voyage of the French ship *Nantes et Bordeaux* conveying return emigrants from that Colony.

The Government of India have drawn attention to the high rate of mortality which occurred on board this vessel, which appears to have been due to overcrowding and defective sanitary arrangements; and I have to request Your Excellency to call the attention of the French Government to the facts reported, and to press for the adoption of adequate measures to prevent a recurrence of them.

Your Excellency should also request that the facts of this voyage should be thoroughly investigated.

Dated Foreign Office, London, the 1st April 1890.

From—SIR T. V. LISTER, K. C. M. G., Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

WITH reference to my letter of the 29th January, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for India in Council, a Despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, enclosing copy of the reply of the French Government to the representation which His Excellency was instructed to make on the subject of the high rate of mortality which occurred on board the French ship *Nantes et Bordeaux* when repatriating emigrants from Guadeloupe.

It is requested that Lord Lytton's Despatch may be returned.

No. 11 (Consular), dated Paris, the 21st March 1890.

From—The EARL OF LYTTON, G.C.B., Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Paris,

To—The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a Note I have received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to the representations which, in obedience to the instructions contained in Your Lordship's Despatch No. 3 of this series of the 29th of January last, I addressed to the French Government on the subject of the high rate of mortality which occurred on board the French ship *Nantes et Bordeaux*.

Monsieur Ribot informs me that an enquiry has been held by the Colonial Department on the subject, and that it has been proved that the bad state of health of the emigrants was due to the defective nature of the fittings [amenagement] of the vessel; and that instructions have been sent to the authorities of Guadeloupe as well as to the Company engaged in the transport of coolies with a view of preventing any recurrence of the kind in future.

In conclusion, Monsieur Ribot states that Dr. Castellan's report has been referred to the Board of Health of the Navy.

Dated Paris, the 20th March 1890.

From—MONS. A. RIBOT, Minister for Foreign Affairs to the French Republic,

To—Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Paris.

Ainsi que V. E. en a été informé par une lettre du 22 du mois dernier, M. Spuller avait signalé à M. le Sous Secrétaire d'Etat des Colonies les cas de

mortalité qui se sont produits, au mois d'avril 1889, a bord du transport "Nantes et Bordeaux" chargé du rapatriement à Calcutta d'un convoi d'immigrants indiens venant de Guadeloupe.

En réponse à cette communication M. Etienne m'a fait connaître que le nombre des décès qui ont été constatés pendant le voyage de ce bâtiment ayant attiré son attention l'administration des Colonies a aussitôt ouvert une enquête sur les causes de cette mortalité. Cette enquête a d'ailleurs démontré ajoute M. Etienne, que le mauvais état sanitaire des colons rapatriés devait être imputé à l'aménagement defectueux du navire, et des instructions ont été en conséquence envoyées tant à la colonie expeditrice qu'à la compagnie chargée du transport des Coolies, en vue d'empêcher qu'un semblable fait de négligence se reproduise à l'avenir.

Quant au rapport médical du Dr. Castellan auquel vous avez fait allusion, M. le Sous Secrétaire d'Etat des Colonies m'informe qu'il a soumis ce travail à l'examen du Conseil supérieur de Santé de la Marine.

No. 17, dated Calcutta, the 3rd December 1889.

From—The Government of India,

To—The Secretary of State for India.

WE have the honour to forward for Your Lordship's information the accompanying reports received from the Governments of Madras and Bengal on the arrival of the *Nantes et Bordeaux* with returned emigrants from the Colony of Guadeloupe for Pondicherry and Calcutta.

2. Your Lordship will doubtless be struck with the high mortality which occurred on board this vessel of which seven deaths are attributed to typhoid, which appeared after the vessel left Gibraltar. It will also be observed that the ship's Surgeon attributed the malady to overcrowding ("encombrement"). The Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta describes the condition of the 'tween-decks, latrines, and hospital as exceedingly insanitary. It appears also that while the water supplied may have been good, the arrangements for dispensing it to the passengers were most faulty. Your Lordship will probably agree with us that for the overcrowding at least the Government of Guadeloupe must be held responsible. For the other defects the ship's Master and Surgeon are in our opinion to blame.

3. We bring these facts to Your Lordship's notice both as an illustration of the treatment which is accorded to the return emigrant from Guadeloupe, and in order that, with Your Lordship's permission, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs may be moved to take such action as may appear advisable to bring home responsibility to the proper parties and prevent the occurrence of similar defects in the accommodation and sanitation of return emigrant ships from the French Colonies in future.

[W. F. C.]

No. 68-T. G., dated Darjeeling, the 1st October 1889.
 From—C. E. BUCKLAND, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department,
 To—The Secretary to the Government of India.

WITH reference to Mr. Mackenzie's letter No. 119—16-4E., dated the 25th July 1889, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy* of the report of the Protector of Emigrants on the returned emigrants from Guadeloupe by the ship *Nantes et Bordeaux*, which arrived at Calcutta on the 26th April 1889.

Report on the returned Emigrants from Guadeloupe by the Steam-ship "Nantes et Bordeaux," arrived at Calcutta on the 26th April 1889.

Name of Master—Themoin.

Name of Surgeon—Dr. Castellan.

Date of Departure from Guadeloupe—23rd February 1889.

Date of arrival at Calcutta—26th April 1889.

Port at which the ship touched—Pondicherry.

Classification of Emigrants.				EMBARKED.		DIED DURING THE VOYAGE.		LANDED.		TOTAL.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		
Adults of 16 years of age and upwards	...	...	264	134	16	6	248	128	376		
Minors from under 16 to 2 years of age	...	...	59	48	1	1	58	47	105		
Infants	{	Under 2 years of age born during the voyage	{	...	8	9	...	2	8	7	15
				Male	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				Female	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
TOTAL			...	...	331	192	17	10	314	182	496

Mortality during the voyage.

Serial No.	Name.	Sex.	AGE.		Disease.	Date of Admission.	Date of death.	Total death.	Percentage of death.	REMARKS.
			Years.	Months.						
1	Porrino	F.	9	6	Peritonitis	Nil.	Nil.	27	5.16	
2	Lacca	M.	49	0	Cachexia and Anæmia.					
3	Lachman	M.	23	0	Dysentery					
4	Sivamy	F.	49	0	Cachexia and Anæmia					
5	Rouck	M.	35	0	Typhoid fever					
6	Radha	F.	43	0	Bronchitis					
7	Basdeo	M.	36	0	Pulmonary Congestion					
8	Janky	M.	36	0	Syncope and Anæmia					
9	Karimbakas	M.	36	0	Dysentery					
10	Latchman	M.	36	0	Ditto					
11	Sionambir	M.	29	0	Pneumonia					
12	Aoutor	M.	36	0	Bronchitis					
13	Gobardhon	M.	2	0	Enteritis ague					
14	Ankama	F.	0	3	Convulsion					
15	Desiri	F.	1	0	Peritonitis					
16	Hollah	M.	44	0	Pneumonia					
17	Parkhya	F.	33	0	Typhoid fever					
18	Soukaron	F.	Infant.	0	Hæmorrhage					
19	Jagroup	M.	29	0	Pneumonia					
20	Dabaou	M.	40	0	Typhoid fever					
21	Parbotia	F.	36	0	Bronchitis, chronic cachexia.					
22	Harman	M.	32	0	Typhoid fever					
23	Kadmio	F.	34	0	Ditto					
24	Moulai	M.	35	0	Ditto					
25	Somaron	M.	35	0	Chronic Bronchitis					
26	Kallon	M.	39	0	Dysentery					
27	Gouria	F.	32	0	Cachexia and Anæmia					

Particulars of Estates of deceased Emigrants.

Name.	Father's name.	Caste.	RESIDENCE.			Ship of import into Colony and date of departure from Calcutta.	EFFECTS OF DECEASED EMIGRANTS.	
			District.	Tahana.	Village or town and mahalla.		Amount of credit of estate.	How disposed of.
Jhagroo ...	Bundhun	Koiree	Ghazipore	Secunderpore.	Tirinaio	<i>Jurana</i> , December 1878.	Rs. 258 9 9	Under enquiry.
Kadmi ..	Sohair	Noonia	Shahabad	Chanipur	Halta	<i>Lec.</i> September 1881.	198 4 3	
Luchmon	Phulloo or Pullar.	Koal	Rewah	Rewah	Chandai	<i>Hereford</i>	181 0 6	
Luchmon	Newaz ...	Chamar	Shahabad	Champur	Ahmow	<i>Essex</i>	2 14 9	
Pyrakya or Porekbia.	Lungtoo Roy	Rajpoot	Sarun	Goa	Masrukh	<i>Junna</i> , 27th January 1875.	2 0 6	

Remarks by Protector of Emigrants.

This vessel on arrival in the Port of Calcutta with return emigrants from Guadeloupe was inspected by both Dr. Comins and Dr. McConnell, the Protector and the Medical Inspector of Emigrants, respectively. No serious complaints were made to the Protector regarding their treatment on the voyage or in the colony by the return emigrants. The condition of the between-decks was very unsatisfactory, and every thing about the vessel seemed to indicate that no proper attention had been bestowed on the sanitary requirements of the voyage. The Medical Inspector reports as follows :—

I inspected the steamer on her arrival at Garden Reach on the 27th April 1889. I found the 'tween-decks, where the coolies were accommodated, in a filthy condition, the hospital very badly fitted up, the latrines very foul, and the general sanitary arrangements very imperfect. The water used for drinking on the voyage was said to be only condensed water. It was pumped daily into wooden kegs (which had at one time apparently been used for preserved meat, beef, or pork), placed on the deck, and into these opened from the outside a series of metal pipes or tubes about half inch in diameter, through which the water was sucked by the coolies as required. The provisions were fairly good; but lard instead of ghee had been used all through the voyage for the coolies.

The emigrants embarked for Calcutta numbered 522, and of this number 26 or 4.98 per cent. died from the following causes :—

From pulmonary affections (bronchitis, pneumonia, &c.)	...	...	8
„ typhoid fever	...	...	7
„ cachexia and anæmia	...	...	4
„ peritonitis	...	...	2
„ convulsions	...	...	1

The occurrence of typhoid fever in the open sea indicates food and drink contamination, for which the Surgeon in charge, Dr. Castellon, is mainly responsible.

Of the 496 emigrants who remained to be landed in Calcutta, two women voluntarily landed at Pondicherry with their relatives, and one man was detained there for medical treatment, so that the number actually landed at destination of the Calcutta batch was reduced to 493 souls. Besides this number, however, three return emigrants (one man and two women) who belonged to the Pondicherry batch, and instead of disembarking at Pondicherry had accompanied their relatives to Calcutta, were also landed here, making the total of 496 souls landed as entered in the report.

Among the 26 emigrants, excluding the infant born and died on board, who are reported to have died on the voyage, five only left the property entered in the statement of estates of deceased emigrants. The enquiries for heirs have been instituted as usual, and as soon as they are completed a supplementary report will be submitted to Government showing the results of the action taken in the matter.

The paid up savings of the return emigrants amounted to Rs. 46,414-6, giving an average of Rs. 117-8 per adult emigrant. Besides the above savings, the jewellery and specie in the possession of the coolies amounted, as far as could be ascertained, to Rs. 23,500. These savings compare somewhat favourably with those of return emigrants from British Guiana, though they are far short of the savings of Trinidad return emigrants.

The return emigrants, with the exception of nine sent to hospital, were landed in good health, and the paupers were sent back as usual to their homes at the expense of the Colonial Government.

R. C. CHANDRA,
Offg. Protector of Emigrants.

No. 3169, dated Calcutta, the 25th September 1889.

Submitted for the information of Government, with reference to Mr. Carnduff's endorsement No. 242, dated 2nd August 1889.

[C. H. L.]

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 293 R. & A. D.—15-6-90.—30.

No. 119, dated the 25th July 1889.

From—J. W. P. MUIR-MACKENZIE, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of
India, Revenue and Agricultural Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

I AM directed to state that the Government of India will be glad to be furnished with a copy of any report submitted by the Protector of Emigrants on the condition, &c., of the batch of emigrants who returned from Guadeloupe in the month of April last in the S. S. *Nantes et Bordeaux*.

[W. F. C.]

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Name of Surgeon—Dr. Castellan.

Date of Departure from Guadeloupe—23rd February 1889.

Date of arrival at Calcutta—26th April 1889.

Port at which the ship touched—Pondicherry.

Classification of Emigrants.		EMBARKED.		DIED DURING THE VOYAGE.		LANDED.		TOTAL.
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Adults of 16 years of age and upwards	...	264	134	16	6	248	128	376
Minors from under 16 to 2 years of age	...	59	48	1	1	58	47	105
Infants	Under 2 years of age	8	9	...	2	8	7	15
	born during the voyage { Male	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	born during the voyage { Female	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
TOTAL		331	192	17	10	314	182	496

Mortality during the voyage.

Serial No.	Name.	Sex.	AGE.		Disease.	Date of Admission.	Date of death.	Total death.	Percentage of death.	REMARKS.
			Years.	Months.						
1	Perrine	F.	9	6	Peritonitis	Nil.	Nil.	27	5.16	
2	Lacca	M.	49	0	Cachexia and Anæmia.					
3	Lachman	M.	23	0	Dysentery					
4	Sivamy	F.	40	0	Cachexia and Anæmia					
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Name.	Father's name.	Caste.	RESIDENCE.			Ship of import into Colony and date of departure from Calcutta.	EFFECTS OF DECEASED EMIGRANTS.	
			District.	Thana.	Village or town and mahalla.		Amount of credit of estate.	How disposed of.
Jhagroo ...	Bundhun	Koiree	Ghazipore	Secunderpore.	Tirinaie	Jumna, December 1878.	Rs. 258	A. P. 9
Kadmi ..	Sohair	Noonia	Shahabad	Chanipur	Halta	Lee, September 1881.	198	4 3
Luchmon	Phulloo or Pullar.	Koal	Rewah	Rewah	Chandai	Hereford	181	0 6
Luchmon	Newaz ...	Chamar	Shahabad	Champur	Ahmow	Essex	2	14 9
Pyrakya or Porekhia.	Lungtoo Roy	Rajpoot	Sarun	Goa	Masrukh	Jumna, 27th January 1875.	2	0 6

Remarks by Protector of Emigrants.

This vessel on arrival in the Port of Calcutta with return emigrants from Guadeloupe was inspected by both Dr. Comins and Dr. McConnell, the Protector and the Medical Inspector of Emigrants, respectively. No serious complaints were made to the Protector regarding their treatment on the voyage or in the colony by the return emigrants. The condition of the between-decks was very unsatisfactory, and every thing about the vessel seemed to indicate that no proper attention had been bestowed on the sanitary requirements of the voyage. The Medical Inspector reports as follows :—

I inspected the steamer on her arrival at Garden Reach on the 27th April 1880. I found the 'tween-decks, where the coolies were accommodated, in a filthy condition, the hospital very badly fitted up, the latrines very foul, and the general sanitary arrangements very imperfect. The water used for drinking on the voyage was said to be only condensed water. It was pumped daily into wooden kegs (which had at one time apparently been used for preserved meat, beef, or pork), placed on the deck, and into these opened from the outside a series of metal pipes or tubes about half inch in diameter, through which the water was sucked by the coolies as required. The provisions were fairly good; but lard instead of ghee had been used all through the voyage for the coolies.

The emigrants embarked for Calcutta numbered 522, and of this number 26 or 4.98 per cent. died from the following causes :—

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WE have the honour to forward for Your Lordship's information the accompanying reports received from the Governments of Madras and Bengal on the arrival of the *Nantes et Bordeaux* with returned emigrants from the Colony of Guadeloupe for Pondicherry and Calcutta.

2. Your Lordship will doubtless be struck with the high mortality which occurred on board this vessel of which seven deaths are attributed to typhoid, which appeared after the vessel left Gibraltar. It will also be observed that the ship's Surgeon attributed the malady to overcrowding ("encombrement"). The Protector of Emigrants at Calcutta describes the condition of the 'tween-decks, latrines, and hospital as exceedingly insanitary. It appears also that while the water supplied may have been good, the arrangements for dispensing it to the passengers were most faulty. Your Lordship will probably agree with us that for the overcrowding at least the Government of Guadeloupe must be held responsible. For the other defects the ship's Master and Surgeon are in our opinion to blame.

3. We bring these facts to Your Lordship's notice both as an illustration of the treatment which is accorded to the return emigrant from Guadeloupe, and in order that, with Your Lordship's permission, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs may be moved to take such action as may appear advisable to bring home responsibility to the proper parties and prevent the occurrence of similar defects in the accommodation and sanitation of return emigrant ships from the French Colonies in future.

[W. F. C.]

INDIA OFFICE,
London, 30th April 1890.

Public (Emigration).
No. 44.

To His Excellency the Most Honourable the Governor General of India in Council.

MY LORD MARQUIS—

WITH reference to your Emigration Despatch No. 17, dated the 3rd of December last, I transmit, for the information of Your Excellency in Council, copy of the correspondence with the Foreign Office regarding the return voyage of the *Nantes et Bordeaux* with Indian immigrants from the Colony of Guadeloupe.

India Office to Foreign Office, 6th January 1890.
Foreign Office to India Office, 29th January 1890, and enclosure.
Foreign Office to India Office, 1st April 1890, and enclosures.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord Marquis,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble Servant,

CROSS.

No. 2264-J. & P., dated India Office, London, the 6th January 1890.

From—The Under-Secretary of State for India,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to transmit, for submission to the Marquis of Salisbury, copy of a Despatch, with its enclosures, from the Government of India, forwarding, with observations thereon, reports received from the Madras and Bengal Governments on the voyage of the French ship *Nantes et Bordeaux* conveying return emigrants from Guadeloupe.

Three copies sent.

Viscount Cross would call special attention to the third paragraph of this Despatch, and trusts that Lord Salisbury may be able to take the action advocated by the Government of India.

No. ¹⁶¹/₁₈₉₀, J. & P., dated Foreign Office, London, the 29th January 1890.

From—SIR T. H. SANDERSON, K. C. M. G., Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

WITH reference to your letter (2264-J. & P.) of the 6th instant, on the subject of returned emigrants from Guadeloupe, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for India in Council, copy of a Despatch which has been addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris instructing His Excellency to bring the facts connected with the voyage of the French vessel *Nantes et Bordeaux* to the notice of the French Government, and to urge them to cause a thorough investigation to be made into the matter.

No. 3-Consular, January 29th, 1890.

No. 3 (Consular), dated Foreign Office, London, the 29th January 1890.

From—The MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, K. G., Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

To—Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Paris.

WITH reference to Your Excellency's Despatch No. 16 of the 19th of July last, on the subject of coolie emigration to Guadeloupe, I transmit herewith, for Your Excellency's information, copy of a letter from the India Office, enclosing copies of a Despatch and its enclosures from the Government of India in regard to the voyage of the French ship *Nantes et Bordeaux* conveying return emigrants from that Colony.

The Government of India have drawn attention to the high rate of mortality which occurred on board this vessel, which appears to have been due to overcrowding and defective sanitary arrangements; and I have to request Your Excellency to call the attention of the French Government to the facts reported, and to press for the adoption of adequate measures to prevent a recurrence of them.

Your Excellency should also request that the facts of this voyage should be thoroughly investigated.

Dated Foreign Office, London, the 1st April 1890.

From—SIR T. V. LISTER, K. C. M. G., Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

WITH reference to my letter of the 29th January, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for India in Council, a Despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, enclosing copy of the reply of the French Government to the representation which His Excellency was instructed to make on the subject of the high rate of mortality which occurred on board the French ship *Nantes et Bordeaux* when repatriating emigrants from Guadeloupe.

It is requested that Lord Lytton's Despatch may be returned.

No. 11 (Consular), dated Paris, the 21st March 1890.

From—The EARL OF LYTTON, G.C.B., Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Paris,

To—The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a Note I have received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to the representations which, in obedience to the instructions contained in Your Lordship's Despatch No. 3 of this series of the 29th of January last, I addressed to the French Government on the subject of the high rate of mortality which occurred on board the French ship *Nantes et Bordeaux*.

Monsieur Ribot informs me that an enquiry has been held by the Colonial Department on the subject, and that it has been proved that the bad state of health of the emigrants was due to the defective nature of the fittings [amenagement] of the vessel; and that instructions have been sent to the authorities of Guadeloupe as well as to the Company engaged in the transport of coolies with a view of preventing any recurrence of the kind in future.

In conclusion, Monsieur Ribot states that Dr. Castellan's report has been referred to the Board of Health of the Navy.

Dated Paris, the 20th March 1890.

From—MONS. A. RIBOT, Minister for Foreign Affairs to the French Republic,

To—Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Paris.

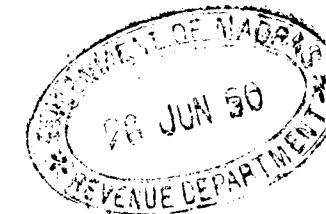
Ainsi que V. E. en a été informé par une lettre du 22 du mois dernier, M. Spuller avait signalé à M. le Sous Secrétaire d'Etat des Colonies les cas de

mortalité qui se sont produits, au mois d'avril 1889, a bord du transport "Nantes et Bordeaux" chargé du repatriement à Calcutta d'un convoi d'immigrants indiens venant de Guadeloupe.

En réponse à cette communication M. Etienne m'a fait connaître que le nombre des décès qui ont été constatés pendant le voyage de ce bâtiment ayant attiré son attention l'administration des Colonies a aussitôt ouvert une enquête sur les causes de cette mortalité. Cette enquête a d'ailleurs démontré ajoute M. Etienne, que le mauvais état sanitaire des colons rapatriés devait être imputé à l'aménagement defectueux du navire, et des instructions ont été en conséquence envoyées tant à la colonie expéditrice qu'à la compagnie chargée du transport des Coolies, en vue d'empêcher qu'un semblable fait de négligence se reproduise à l'avenir.

Quant au rapport médical du Dr. Castellan auquel vous avez fait allusion, M. le Sous Secrétaire d'Etat des Colonies m'informe qu'il a soumis ce travail à l'examen du Conseil supérieur de Santé de la Marine.

No. $\frac{561}{27-4}$ E.



FROM

THE HON'BLE W. C. BENETT, C.S.,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.



Rev. & Agri. Dept.
Emigration.

Simla, the 12th June 1890.

SIR,

WITH reference to your endorsement No. 976 (Public) of the 2nd December last, giving cover to a report on the return voyage of the French Steamer *Nantes et Bordeaux* with time-expired immigrants from Martinique, and to your subsequent endorsement No. 119 (Public) of the 15th February, I am directed to say that the Government of India agrees with the Government of Madras, that the Consular Agent ought to have ascertained the causes of sickness for which admissions were made into hospital on the landing of the immigrants at Pondicherry and the diseases from which the deaths in the hospital occurred.

2. The Government of India regrets to observe that the submission of the returns of mortality has long been omitted, contrary to the rules relating to Colonial Emigration. It is satisfactory that Colonel Harris perceived the necessity of rectifying this defect, but considering that this was the second occasion within the year upon which excessive sickness and mortality occurred on board the *Nantes et Bordeaux*, more vigorous action was to be expected from him.

3. In future the Consular Agent should press the Pondicherry authorities for the supply complete of all the prescribed medical returns at the very earliest opportunity. He should also use every endeavour to obtain whatever explanations may be required before the ship or its surgeon leaves the colony.

4. I am to forward for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, copies of correspondence* which has taken place between the Government of India, the Government of Bengal, and the Secretary of State regarding the scandals brought to light upon the return voyage from Guadeloupe. It will be seen that on the arrival of the *Nantes et Bordeaux* at Calcutta in April 1889 she was carefully examined by the Medical Inspector of Emigrants, and that serious defects in her sanitary arrangements and accommodation were discovered.

- * 1. Letter to the Government of Bengal, No. 119, dated 25th July 1889.
- 2. Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 68-TG., dated 1st October 1889.
- 3. Despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 17, dated 3rd December 1889.
- 4. Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 44, dated 30th April 1890.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

1890.

FILE NO. 27
SERIAL NO. 4.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

No. 581 E.
27-4

Dated Simla, the 12th June 1890.

SUBJECT.

Acknowledges receipt of the reports on the return voyage of the *Nantes et Bordeaux* from Martinique.

[W. F. C.]

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 277 R. & A. J. —14-6-90.—100.

Public *Q.1.*

From

The Govt. of India,
P. & A. Department.

581 8.
27-4

Dated 12th
Received 26th June 1890

Report on the return voyage
of the French Steamer "Nantes et
Bordeaux" with time expired immigrant.

12/90 No 119 Oros.
4/12/89 No 976 u
F/11

17/11

20.7 July 1900 N: 488
JH 24/7/0

Communication to the
British Consulate at
London
1 July

RECEIVED
1 JUL 1900
IN M.S.

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT,
18 , No. , M18

ENCLOSURE. 4

CURRENT No. 1878

STATEMENT WITH DI

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

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