

Original of C.F.O. of 5.7.92,
No. 469.

Resumption of
Emigration to French
Colonies.

Submitted to the
H.M. for information
and perusal of the
Hon. Mr. Garstin's
remark, and for orders
whether there is any
necessity for addressing
India by letter in cont.
of the Telegram. The
latter was full and there
seems to be nothing
more to be said.

J.D.B.
6/11.

J. Garstin

Note for H.M.

The further correes is
submitted.

J.D.B.
22/11. It is submitted that there is nothing
The said about this.

23/July.

C. 7/7 C. 23/7
21/51

NO. 192

No. 1601
36

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

(Emigration.)

Simla, dated the 14th @ July 1892.

Forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information, in continuation of the telegram from the Government of India dated the 1st instant.

By order,

[Signature]
Under-Secretary to the Government of India.



List of Papers forwarded.

Despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State No. 52 (Emigration) dated the 2nd June 1892 and enclosures.

Despatch from Ditto No. 31 dated the 21st March 1892, and enclosures.

INDIA OFFICE, FILE No. 36.
London, 2nd June 1892. SERIAL No. 2.

Public (Emigration).
No. 62.

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

MY LORD MARQUIS,

IN continuation of the correspondence forwarded with my despatch No. 31, dated the 31st of March last, I transmit for the information of Your Excellency in Council copy of a letter from the Foreign Office with its enclosures, respecting the proposal of Her Majesty's Consul at Réunion for the repatriation of Indian immigrants *via* Mauritius.

2. I have signified to the Marquis of Salisbury my concurrence in His Lordship's proposal to instruct Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris to express to the French Government the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at their ready compliance with the suggestion made to them.

3. I also forward copy of a despatch from the Acting British Consul in Réunion, stating that a steamer has been chartered to convey time-expired coolies at the end of the present month to India direct.

I have the honour to be,

MY LORD MARQUIS,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

CROSS.

Dated 19th May 1892.

From—SIR T. V. LISTER, K.C.M.G., Assistant Secretary, Foreign Office,
To—The Under-Secretary of State, India Office.

WITH reference to your letter of the 17th of February last (J. & P. 187), I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit to you copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, respecting the proposal of Her Majesty's Consul at Réunion for the repatriation of Indian coolies *via* Mauritius. I am also to enclose copy of a letter from the Colonial Office on the subject.

If Viscount Cross concurs, Lord Salisbury will instruct Lord Dufferin to express to the French Government the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at their ready compliance with the suggestion made to them.

No. 9, Consular, dated Paris the 29th April 1892.

From—HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST HON'BLE THE MARQUIS OF DUFFERIN AND AVA,
K.P.

To—THE MOST HON'BLE THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, K. G.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in Your Lordship's despatch of this series No. 7 of the 25th of February last, Mr. Egerton addressed a note to Monsieur Ribot, submitting to His Excellency the scheme suggested by Her

Majesty's Consul at Réunion for attenuating the present unsatisfactory system with regard to the repatriation of time-expired coolies from that island.

I have now the honour to transmit herewith copy of Monsieur Ribot's reply, from which Your Lordship will observe that, in compliance with the suggestion made by Mr. Bennett, orders have been sent by the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Governor of Réunion instructing him to repatriate by way of the Mauritius all time-expired Indians, if the number of such immigrants in the dépôts awaiting repatriation is not sufficiently great to allow of a vessel being chartered for their conveyance home.

Monsieur Ribot concludes by expressing the hope that Her Majesty's Government will see in this decision a fresh proof of the sincere desire of the Government of the Republic to give every possible satisfaction to the wishes formulated by the British Authorities, with regard to Indians working in French Colonies.

Dated Paris, the 27th April 1892.

From—MONSIEUR A. RIBOT, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
To—Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Paris.

MONSIEUR EGERTON a appelé mon attention le 5 du Mois dernier, sur une proposition soumise par le Consul d'Angleterre à la Réunion à Monsieur le Gouverneur de cette colonie au sujet du rapatriement des travailleurs Hindous arrivés au terme de leur engagement.

Dans la lettre par laquelle il a formulé cette proposition et dont une copie était jointe à la communication de votre Ambassade, Monsieur Bennett a signalé l'intérêt qu'il y aurait à ce que les engagés qui, à la Réunion demanderaient à retourner dans leur patrie fussent, lorsque leur nombre n'est pas suffisant pour constituer un envoi, dirigés, à l'avenir, sur l'Île Maurice, où ils feraient partie des convois de retour qui partent, chaque mois, de cette Colonie Britannique pour l'Inde. Monsieur le Consul d'Angleterre à St. Denis a ajouté que l'Administration de l'Île Maurice était disposée à se prêter à cette combinaison.

Monsieur le Sous Secrétaire d'Etat des Colonies, que j'avais entretenu de la demande en question, m'a fait connaître qu'il a adressé immédiatement les instructions nécessaires à Monsieur le Gouverneur de la Réunion pour lui prescrire de rapatrier, par la voie de l'Île Maurice, les Hindous dont le contrat ferait expiré, si le nombre des engagés qui attendent dans les dépôts leur rapatriement ne permet pas de fréter un navire en vue d'assurer leur retour dans leurs foyers.

Je me plais de penser, Monsieur l'Ambassadeur que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique verra dans cette décision une nouvelle preuve du désir sincère du Gouvernement de la République de donner satisfaction dans la mesure où ce la lui est possible aux desiderata formulés par l'Administration Anglaise relativement aux travailleurs Hindous engagés dans les colonies Françaises.

Dated Downing Street, the 13th May 1892.

From—EDWARD WINGFIELD, Esq., C.B., Assistant Under-Secretary, Colonial Office,
To—The Under-Secretary of State, Foreign Office.

I AM directed by Lord Knutsford to return herewith the enclosures to your letter of the 7th instant, on the subject of the repatriation *via* Mauritius of Réunion time-expired Indian emigrants, and to express His Lordship's satisfaction at the result of Mr. Consul Bennett's action in the matter.

No. 11, dated Réunion, the 11th April 1892.

From—J. H. DOUGLAS-BELL, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul in Réunion,
To—The Most Honourable the MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, K.G., Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

WITH reference to Mr. Bennett's despatch No. 4 of the 5th of February last, I have the honour to report that a steamer has been chartered for the repatriation of time-expired Indian coolies, and that active preparations are going on for the departure of this vessel in the last days of May next.

As soon as I was informed of this I asked the Protector of Immigrants to announce the news to the Indians by means of public notices, and I am glad to say that my request was readily complied with.

[C. G. DE S.]

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 539 B, & A. D.—127-92.—180.

No. 22] No. 31 Public (Emig.), dated India Office, London, the 31st March 1892. File No. 36.

From—THE RIGHT HONOURABLE VISCOUNT CROSS, G.C.B., *Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India*,
Serial No. 1.

To—The Government of India.

WITH reference to your Emigration letter No. 94, dated the 2nd of December last, I transmit, for the information of Your Excellency in Council, copy of correspondence with the Foreign Office respecting the repatriation of Indian immigrants in Réunion.

India Office to Foreign Office, 16th January 1892.
Foreign Office to India Office, 4th February 1892,
and enclosures.
India Office to Foreign Office, 17th February 1892.
Foreign Office to India Office, 10th March 1892,
and enclosures.

No. J. and P. 2034, dated India Office, the 16th January 1892.

From—SIR HORACE WALPOLE, *Under-Secretary of State for India*,
To—The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

WITH reference to your letters, dated, respectively, the 20th, the 25th, and the 28th of July last, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Marquis of Salisbury and, with His Lordship's permission, for communication to Her Majesty's Consul in Réunion, three copies of a Despatch from the Government of India relating to certain Indian immigration matters in that colony.

I am to add that a copy of Mr. Bennett's later Despatch No. 24, dated the 3rd of July last, was transmitted to the Government of India on the 10th of December 1891.

No. J. and P. 187, dated Foreign Office, the 4th February 1892.

From—SIR T. V. LISTER, *Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs*,
To—The Secretary of State for India.

WITH reference to Mr. Walpole's letter [J. and P. 1292] of the 10th of September last, I am directed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to transmit to you, to be laid before Viscount Cross, for such observations as His Lordship may have to offer thereupon, copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Réunion reporting the further steps taken by him with a view to arranging for the repatriation of coolies *via* Mauritius.

Consul Bennett, No. 3, January 10th, 1892.

No. 3, dated Réunion, the 10th January 1892.

From—C. W. BENNETT, Esq., *Her Majesty's Consul at Réunion*,
To—The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

WITH reference to Sir Villiers Lister's Despatch No. 14 of the 16th of September 1891, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a correspondence which has passed between Mr. Manès and myself as to the repatriation of time-expired Indians *via* Mauritius.

Messrs. Scott & Co., December 23rd, 1891.
Protector of Immigrants, December 24th, 1891.
Consul Bennett, December 28th, 1891.
Governor Manès, January 9th, 1892.
Consul Bennett, January 10th, 1892.
His Excellency states that he cannot accept the definite offer made by me, as it would constitute a departure from the actual text of the law ruling immigration matters, and that he must await instructions from Paris before acting upon it.

The truth of the matter is that Mr. Manès is not strong enough to brave the storm of public opinion which would be aroused by creating a means for the repatriation of Indians by small batches leaving at frequent intervals.

Unless the French Government can be induced to sanction the proposed arrangements, I see no way in future of altering the present extremely unsatisfactory system.

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Dated Port Louis, the 23rd December 1891.

From—MESSRS. SCOTT & Co., *Agents for the British India Steam Navigation Company,*
To—*The Protector of Immigrants, Mauritius.*

In reply to your letter B. 1527 of the 22nd instant, we beg to say that we will be prepared to take the number of return immigrants mentioned by the mail steamer appointed to leave here for Colombo on the 16th proximo at the rate of—
Rupees 35 to Calcutta,
Rupees 34 to Madras,
per immigrant shipped, with an allowance of R10 each extra for invalids.

No. B. 1541, dated Mauritius, the 24th December 1891.

From—J. T. TROTTER, Esq., *Protector of Immigrants, Mauritius,*
To—*Her Majesty's Consul Réunion.*

In reply to your letter dated the 4th instant, I enclose copy of a letter from the Agents in this colony of the British India steamers, from which you will see that they are prepared to convey your time-expired Indians to either Madras or Calcutta at the rate of R34 to Madras and R35 to Calcutta, with an extra allowance of R10 each for invalids. By invalids are meant all those return coolies who, either from old age or disease, are in a feeble condition of health, and who will therefore require special care and medical comforts during the voyage.
2. If you cannot send your Indians here in time for January's mail, they could leave in February next, provided you give me notice a month before of your intention to send them here in February.

3. It is probable that many of the Indians returning to India from Bourbon will be poor and quite unable in consequence to reach their homes from either Madras or Calcutta. In such cases this Government instructs its agents to pay the expenses of any such people to their homes.

You should make provision for this also before the poor Indians from Bourbon are despatched, as it would never do for them to arrive in India without food and without the means of returning to their villages.

4. Arrange also please, that those who are poor and without food should be fed by me while waiting embarkation after their arrival here from Bourbon. The cost of their maintenance would be Rs25cs. each per diem.

No. 46, dated Réunion, the 28th December 1891.

From—C. W. BENNETT, Esq., *Her Majesty's Consul at Réunion.*
To—*His Excellency the Governor of Réunion.*

VERY shortly after my arrival in this colony I discovered how very difficult it was for the Colonial Government, however sincerely they desired to do so, to comply with the terms of the Convention of July 1st, 1861, as to the repatriation of British Indians; and I pointed out to Her Majesty's Government the fact that, although Indians were frequently kept waiting for a considerable time at the depôts, it would not be fair to throw the whole blame for such delays upon Your Excellency's Government, as it could hardly be expected that the colony should incur the large expense of hiring a special steamer, even when such a steamer was available, for the conveyance to India of perhaps not more than fifty or one hundred time-expired Indian immigrants.

I now have the honour to inform Your Excellency that with a view to enabling the Réunion authorities to more easily comply with their well-known wishes upon this point, Her Majesty's Government, in accord with the Governments of India and of Mauritius, have agreed to allow return immigrants from Réunion to proceed to Mauritius, to be there joined to the conveys of Indians which leave for India nearly every month, provided only that no expense is thereby thrown upon the Government of the Colony of Mauritius.

In order that Your Excellency may be in a position to know what would be the expense of such a repatriation, I enclose a copy of a letter I have received on the subject from the Protector of Immigrants in Mauritius, and of a letter addressed to him by the Agents of the British India Company, from which it appears that the Indians may leave on the 16th proximo, being conveyed from Mauritius at the rate per head of R35 to Calcutta and R34 to Madras, with an allowance of R10 each extra for invalids.

Arrangements would of course be made in the usual manner by your Government for sending each man to his village on his arrival in India.

The cost of transport to Mauritius would not be large, and I presume no special medical officer would be required for the few hours' voyage. It might also, I think, easily be arranged

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to despatch the Indians from here on the 15th, so as to either have them only a few hours ashore, or to place them directly on board of the British steamer, thus avoiding the charge of a quarter of a rupee per head for board in the depôt.

Once handed over to the Protector in Mauritius, the responsibility of Your Excellency's Government, except as to payment of expenses, would naturally be at an end.

As this course is so clearly advantageous to the colony from a financial point of view, I have no doubt Your Excellency will take the necessary steps to despatch by this opportunity the eighty or ninety Indians who are awaiting repatriation.

No. 2, St. Denis, le 9 Janvier 1892.

From—MONSIEUR E. MANÈS, *Governor of Réunion,*
To—*Her Majesty's Consul at St. Denis.*

PAR lettre du 28 décembre dernier, vous voulez bien m' informer qu'en vue de faciliter le rapatriement des Indiens Anglais arrivés au terme de leur contrat, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, d' accord avec celui de l'Inde, a autorisé les immigrants de retour de la Réunion à passer par Maurice, et à être joints aux convois d' indiens qui partent pour l'Inde à peu près mensuellement.

Sans examiner le surcroît de dépenses que ce mode de rapatriement pourrait occasionner à la Colonie, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que je ne puis accepter l'offre gracieuse que vous voulez bien me faire, me mode étant en tous points contraire aux dispositions de l'article 97 ci-après du décret du 27 Août 1887 qui règle l'immigration à la Réunion.

"Aucun navire affecté au transport des immigrants ne peut être expédié de la Colonie, s'il n'est préalablement constaté par le Protecteur des Immigrants, ou son délégué, que les formalités prescrites par les articles 19, 26, 27 et 32 du décret du 27 Mars 1852 ont été remplies."

Aux termes de cet article, vous remarquez que tout rapatriement doit avoir lieu directement de la Réunion pour l'Inde, et être exclusivement surveillé par les autorités de la Colonie.

En conséquence, vous comprendrez que je ne puis déroger aux prescriptions ci-dessus rappelées sans en avoir préalablement référé à mon Gouvernement.

No. 2, dated Réunion, the 10th January 1892.

From—C. W. BENNETT, Esq., *Her Majesty's Consul at Réunion,*
To—*His Excellency the Governor of Réunion.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note of yesterday's date, from which I learn with regret that Your Excellency cannot sanction the repatriation of time-expired Indians *via* Mauritius without first referring the question to the French Government.

I am to-day sending a copy of Your Excellency's reply to Her Majesty's Government, and I hope I may rely upon Your Excellency's strongly supporting at Paris the manifest advantages of the scheme as resulting in a financial gain to the colony, and providing an easy remedy for one of the chief causes which have in the past created difficulties between the Administration and this Consulate.

No. J. and P. 187, dated India Office, the 17th February 1892.

From—GEORGE N. CURZON, Esq., *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 acknowledge the receipt of Sir T. V. Lister's letter of the 4th instant, transmitting, for the observations of Viscount Cross, a Despatch, with enclosures (herewith returned), from Her Majesty's Consul, reporting the

10th January 1892, No. 3.
further steps taken by him with a view to arranging for the repatriation of coolies *via* Mauritius.

In reply I am desired to refer you to Mr. Walpole's letter of the 16th ultimo, enclosing a Despatch from the Government of India, in which it will be seen that the Consul's proposals are strongly supported by that Government.

Having regard to the readiness expressed by M. Ribot in his note to Mr. Egerton, dated the 23rd of December * last, of the French Government to concert with Her Majesty's Government in framing a fixed system for effecting

* See letter from Foreign Office to India Office, 6th January 1892.

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the timely repatriation of coolies, Lord Cross would suggest that Her Majesty's Minister in Paris should be instructed to submit the scheme proposed by Mr. Consul Bennett for the favourable consideration of the French Government.

No. J. and P. 435, dated Foreign Office, the 10th March 1892.

From—SIR T. V. LISTER, *Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,*
To—*The Under-Secretary of State for India.*

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to transmit to you, to be laid before Viscount Cross, with reference to Mr. Curzon's letter (J. and P. 187) of the 17th ultimo, copy of a further Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul in Réunion on the subject of the repatriation of Indian coolies.

No. 4, dated Réunion, the 5th February 1892.

From—C. W. BENNETT, Esq., *Her Majesty's Consul at Réunion,*
To—*The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.*

WITH reference to my Despatch No. 3 of the 10th ultimo, in which I had the honour to inform Your Lordship that Monsieur Manès did not see his way to sanction the scheme for the repatriation of time-expired Indians *via* Mauritius, I now enclose a copy of a further note which I have addressed to His Excellency inquiring what steps the Governor proposed to take in regard to the repatriation of the Indians now waiting in the dépôts. I have now received a reply from Monsieur Manès informing me that orders have been given to call for tenders for a steamer to leave here about the month of April. This is satisfactory as far as it goes, but all former experience leads me to fear that no vessel will be forthcoming at the date named, and that, while the letter of the Convention is strictly observed, its spirit will be again broken.

No. 3, dated Réunion, the 11th January 1892.

From—C. W. BENNETT, Esq., *Her Majesty's Consul at Réunion,*
To—*His Excellency the Governor of Réunion.*

YOUR Excellency having found it impossible for the present to accept the proposal made by me to repatriate *via* Mauritius the time-expired Indians who are now entered for repatriation to the number of 112, I have the honour to ask that you will kindly let me know what other arrangements Your Excellency intends to make with a view to avoid keeping the men waiting too long in the dépôts.

Current Number

From

The Government of India
Rev. and Agri. Deptt.

order 27th July 92 No. 519

Recorded with

reference to G.O. dt 5.7.92,
No. 469.

/from orders/

note for C.S.

May the substance
of the telegram to India
be commd. to the Probr. of
Enight and the B. C. Agent
Pondy by G.O. or Memo?
or is not necessary for
them to know.

Dated 14th July 92

Received 20th July 92

Enclosures 2

No. 1601
36

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of despatches
from the P. H. to the Secretary
of State for India regarding
the proposal of Her Majesty's
Consul at Réunion for
the repatriation of Indian
immigrants via Mauritius.

WITH ORDER

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
18 No. MISCELLANEOUS.

RECEIVED

CHARGE No.

RECEIVED WITH DUTY

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

RECEIVED WITH DUTY

PAPER NOT FILED BY, BEING KEPT FOR SEPARATION
IN ORIGINAL (not filed)

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A = Copy in full.
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C = Copy abstract only.
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ORDINARY NO.

188 DEPARTMENT
CO. 15. 27-7-92
579

INDEXED

Handwritten for copying.

[Dispatch Abstract]

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