

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 28-28
(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் _____
(3) ஆதரங் குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் _____

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பெருகு துறை

அரசாணை எண். 431	அச்சகம்
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்:	பலவகை
நாள்: 31-5-1893	1893.

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது.

Put letter to 430
dy 31-5-93

Orig & Fair
In Reproduction of Despatch
from Col. Appin

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for C.S.
Lynah

to Madras

275

1269

No. 10 Pub.
560-572

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, Home Department,
(Public),—under date Simla, the 26th April 1893.

READ the following papers:—

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The Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, after consulting officers who, by independent research, have acquired special knowledge of the various subjects connected with ethnography, agrees in the desirability of prosecuting the inquiry in those Provinces. There are no Societies in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh formed for scientific investigations of this kind, but there are Societies which can, as correspondents, contribute very valuable information on the subject. Mr. W. Crooke, of the Indian Civil Service, who has already published several works of recognized value, and has for many years been collecting materials for a work similar in scope and arrangement to that undertaken by Mr. Risley for Bengal, has been appointed Provincial Director of Ethnographical Inquiries. Mr. E. J. Kitts has been requested to undertake the direction of the special branch of the inquiry having for its object the measurement of living subjects, and in consultation with the Director to frame proposals for the systematic record of measurements and the utilization of the data already in existence. Mr. J. C. Nesfield and Mr. V. A. Smith, who by personal investigations are in a position to render valuable aid, have been asked to give the Director the benefit of their advice, to aid him in drawing up lists of questions and to co-operate in other ways suggested by their knowledge and experience. The results of the inquiries of the Census Department in connection with classification of castes and civil condition will be placed at the disposal of the Director. District officers have been asked to render aid and to place the Director in communication with gentlemen who take an interest in the subject, and who from their own observation and inquiry can supply answers to the questions. A sum of Rs. 1,000 has been placed at the disposal of the Director; and it is understood that a further grant will be made if Mr. Kitts undertakes anthropometric inquiries.

In the Punjab there is reported to be no non-official qualified agency which could undertake the collation of information. Mr. M. L. Dames, Deputy Commissioner of Ferozepore, has, however, accepted the appointment of Honorary Provincial Director, and a sum of Rs. 1,000 has been placed at his disposal for incidental expenditure. The work will be carried on in communication with Mr. Risley, and the Provincial Director will receive all the assistance that can be afforded by District officers and the Director of Public Instruction consistently with the demands on their time for the discharge of their ordinary duties.

In the Central Provinces there are no Societies which could undertake the collation of information in aid of the researches. The Chief Commissioner, however, thinks that the Province, which contains so many aboriginal tribes, should take its share in the work, and he proposes to appoint Mr. Robertson, of the Indian Civil Service, to start the work in communication with Mr. Risley as soon as he is relieved of his Census duties.

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The Chief Commissioner of Coorg has forwarded a letter from the Reverend G. Richter, with a compilation by him on the castes and tribes in Coorg. The Government of India consider that no further inquiry need be made in Coorg, unless the Chief Commissioner thinks it advisable to adopt Mr. Risley's plan of inquiry and arrangement.

3. In a letter recently received from the Government of Bengal No. 429, dated the 1st February 1893, the Lieutenant-Governor submitted for the consideration of the Government of India a further communication from Mr. Risley,

in which he proposes to undertake, during his next furlough at the end of 1893 and the beginning of 1894, the publication of a revised edition of his Ethnographic Glossary, and at the same time to expand the glossary so as to include the whole of India. The Lieutenant-Governor feels considerable hesitation in recommending the proposal, and the Government of India are inclined to agree with His Honour that it would not be desirable to expand the work from an account of the Tribes and Castes of Bengal to one of the Tribes and Castes of India. The proposal, if carried out, would be likely not only to swell the glossary to unwieldy proportions, but also greatly to delay its revision and to cause the revised work to consist of materials of very unequal value. The glossary as it stands is an excellent model of what can be achieved in one Province by a highly qualified agency, inspired by enthusiasm and guided by sound knowledge and the advice of the best authorities in Europe. As such, it will have great value in holding out to other Provinces an example of what such a work should be. But if any attempt is made to draw into it material from all parts of India where no such agency exists as that which is represented by Mr. Risley in Bengal, the Government of India fear that the experiment is not likely to be successful; and they do not think it possible that such an extensive enterprise can be carried out satisfactorily by one single officer during his furlough or even during the remainder of his official career.

4. The Governor General in Council would therefore prefer that the further inquiries which are now to be undertaken should be carried out on a Provincial basis. Each Province should have an Honorary Director and, if necessary, one or more Honorary Assistant Directors. The Provincial Directors should be in charge of the work in their respective Provinces and should (with the permission of the Local Governments concerned) correspond direct with Mr. Risley with regard to any matters on which they may require advice or assistance from him. The extent of Mr. Risley's connection with the inquiry outside the Lower Provinces must therefore vary with the capacity and experience of the several Honorary Directors; and it will be for Provincial Directors and Local Governments to consider how far Mr. Risley's advice and supervision can be taken advantage of. The Governor General in Council has no doubt that the Provincial Directors of most of the Provinces will be grateful for any assistance which Mr. Risley may give them, and that if the results are locally published, otherwise than under Mr. Risley's supervision as Editor, the local officer's obligation to him for any advice and suggestions he may give will receive suitable and cordial acknowledgment. Owing to financial exigencies, the Government of India cannot assist in the enterprise by any money grant at present, and the work must necessarily be left to amateur effort, promoted by such assistance as Local Governments and Administrations may be able to render from Provincial Funds. An office of reference, and a means of rapidly publishing results, has been created at Calcutta in the Ethnographic Branch of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, and it may be hoped that its publications will gradually raise up observers interested in the subject and willing to be guided by sound principles in making and recording their observations.

5. The Government of India will be glad if the scheme is now taken in hand in all Provinces, generally on the lines indicated above. The details of the measures to be taken will be left entirely to Local Governments and Administrations. The Government of Bengal should be addressed direct for copies of Mr. Risley's books or any other information which may be required in furtherance of the inquiry.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance, and that a copy be forwarded to the Foreign and Revenue and Agricultural Departments for information, in continuation of endorsement Nos. ²⁷/₁₀₉₅₋₉₇ dated the 20th October 1891.

(True extract.)

C. Hall
Secretary to the Government of India.

1269
Pub Dept

From
The Govt of India
Home Dept

No. 10 Pub
560C572

Dated 26th April

Received 2nd May

Encls. 7 ls.

Subject:

Forwarding copy of the
Resolution on the Scheme
proposed by Mr. H. H.
Risley for the Extension of
Ethnographical Research

Pub No 912 31-1-93
Pub No 6A 210-1-93
511 25-7-92
221 21-4-92
989-90 24-11-91

Public

C. No. 1269
Resolution of the Govt of India
No. 10 Pub
560C572. re Ethnographical
inquiries.

For orders.

Mr. Risley is now preparing
a set of revised questions &
instructions for the carrying
out of these inquiries and
until these are received nothing
can be done.

Further action by this Govt.
it is submitted, does not
seem to be necessary with
reference to para 4 of the
resolution of the Govt of India.

J. D. C.

17th May 93.

Submitted that the Resolution may be
recorded and communicated to the
Yes Mr. D. C.

Yes
25/5/93

25/5/93

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Handwritten signature "H. H."

Order: 31 May 1903. No. 431. Recorded & Com.

Municated to Mr. F. J. Mullaly

Handwritten notes: "from notes 27/5 H. H. 18 385793"

F. J. Mullaly Esq. Director of Ethnography

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FURTHER PAPER, No.

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

ENCLOSURES

CURRENT No.

Handwritten: "Copied 2/6"

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

Handwritten: "A A"

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.

ORDINARY, MS.

Public DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 31-5-93.
No. 431.

INDEXED.

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Resident, Jampur
26 Nov 7. T. Mullaly.
resolution of the
Govt of India re-
garding the further
action to be taken
in connection with
Ethnographical re-
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3. In a letter recently received from the Government of Bengal No. 429, dated the 1st February 1893, the Lieutenant-Governor submitted for the consideration of the Government of India a further communication from Mr. Risley,

in which he proposes to undertake, during his next furlough at the end of 1893 and the beginning of 1894, the publication of a revised edition of his Ethnographic Glossary, and at the same time to expand the glossary so as to include the whole of India. The Lieutenant-Governor feels considerable hesitation in recommending the proposal, and the Government of India are inclined to agree with His Honour that it would not be desirable to expand the work from an account of the Tribes and Castes of Bengal to one of the Tribes and Castes of India. The proposal, if carried out, would be likely not only to swell the glossary to unwieldy proportions, but also greatly to delay its revision and to cause the revised work to consist of materials of very unequal value. The glossary as it stands is an excellent model of what can be achieved in one Province by a highly qualified agency, inspired by enthusiasm and guided by sound knowledge and the advice of the best authorities in Europe. As such, it will have great value in holding out to other Provinces an example of what such a work should be. But if any attempt is made to draw into it material from all parts of India where no such agency exists as that which is represented by Mr. Risley in Bengal, the Government of India fear that the experiment is not likely to be successful; and they do not think it possible that such an extensive enterprise can be carried out satisfactorily by one single officer during his furlough or even during the remainder of his official career.

4. The Governor General in Council would therefore prefer that the further inquiries which are now to be undertaken should be carried out on a Provincial basis. Each Province should have an Honorary Director and, if necessary, one or more Honorary Assistant Directors. The Provincial Directors should be in charge of the work in their respective Provinces and should (with the permission of the Local Governments concerned) correspond direct with Mr. Risley with regard to any matters on which they may require advice or assistance from him. The extent of Mr. Risley's connection with the inquiry outside the Lower Provinces must therefore vary with the capacity and experience of the several Honorary Directors; and it will be for Provincial Directors and Local Governments to consider how far Mr. Risley's advice and supervision can be taken advantage of. The Governor General in Council has no doubt that the Provincial Directors of most of the Provinces will be grateful for any assistance which Mr. Risley may give them, and that if the results are locally published, otherwise than under Mr. Risley's supervision as Editor, the local officer's obligation to him for any advice and suggestions he may give will receive suitable and cordial acknowledgment. Owing to financial exigencies, the Government of India cannot assist in the enterprise by any money grant at present, and the work must necessarily be left to amateur effort, promoted by such assistance as Local Governments and Administrations may be able to render from Provincial Funds. An office of reference, and a means of rapidly publishing results, has been created at Calcutta in the Ethnographic Branch of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, and it may be hoped that its publications will gradually raise up observers interested in the subject and willing to be guided by sound principles in making and recording their observations.

5. The Government of India will be glad if the scheme is now taken in hand in all Provinces, generally on the lines indicated above. The details of the measures to be taken will be left entirely to Local Governments and Administrations. The Government of Bengal should be addressed direct for copies of Mr. Risley's books or any other information which may be required in furtherance of the inquiry.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance, and that a copy be forwarded to the Foreign and Revenue and Agricultural Departments for information, in continuation of endorsement Nos. ²⁷ 1096-97, dated the 20th October 1891.

(True extract.)

C. J. LYALL,

Secretary to the Government of India.

*Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, Home Department,
(Public),—under date Simla, the April 1893.*

READ the following papers :—

Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 1041, dated the 27th August 1891, and its enclosed Resolution dated the 9th July 1891.
Circular letter of this Department, No. ^{27 (Public)}₁₆₃₆₋₁₆₉₈, dated the 20th October 1891.

Replies to the above Circular from—

The Government of Madras, No. 989-90, dated 24th November 1891.
" " No. 221, dated 1st April 1892.
" " No. 511, dated 25th July 1892, and enclosure.
" " No. 6-A., dated 10th January 1893, and enclosure.
" of Bombay, No. 2382, dated 13th July 1892, and enclosure.
" of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, No. 1772, dated 12th July 1892, and enclosure.
" of the Punjab, No. 159, dated 7th February 1892, and enclosure.
The Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, No. 2092, dated 6th April 1892.
" Assam, No. 10157-G., dated 2nd December 1891.
" " No. 11951, dated 30th December 1892.
" Coorg, No. ¹⁹⁰⁷₄₄₅₋₈₃, dated 10th December 1891, and enclosure.

Read also—

A further letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 429, dated the 1st February 1893, and enclosure.

RESOLUTION.

With a letter, dated the 27th August 1891, the Government of Bengal forwarded, for the consideration of the Government of India, a communication from Mr. H. H. Risley giving the outlines of a scheme for the continuation of ethnographical inquiries in the Lower Provinces and for their extension to other parts of India. A copy of these papers was circulated to Local Governments and Administrations for a report and expression of opinion as to the desirability of extending these inquiries to other Provinces, whether there was any non-official or other qualified agency, such as Societies formed for scientific inquiries of this kind, which would undertake the collation of information sent to it, and whether it was desired that the work should be commenced in communication with and under the supervision of Mr. Risley.

2. The replies received to the Circular of the 20th October 1891 show that Local Governments and Administrations generally are willing to co-operate in the scheme.

The Government of Madras propose to appoint Mr. F. S. Mullaly, of the Madras Police, to be Honorary Provincial Director of Ethnography, and to give financial assistance by contributing an annual grant of Rs. 500 to the Asiatic Society of Bengal for two years, its continuance being contingent on the work done for the Madras Presidency during that time. With a separate communication the Madras Government forward papers received from the Resident in Travancore, from which it appears that Dr. A. Crichton Mitchell, Principal of the Maharaja's College, and Mr. P. Soondram Pillay, M.A., Professor of Philosophy in the same College, are willing to assist in the inquiry.

The Government of Bombay, while considering that the information already available in the Provincial Gazetteer volumes, in addition to what will be furnished in the Census Caste tables, will suffice for all practical purposes, are prepared to extend the inquiry to that Presidency in view of its scientific interest and importance. The Governor in Council has no objection to the work being commenced under the supervision of Mr. Risley himself, provided that the

Provincial revenues do not bear any charges connected with his deputation on the duty, and that official co-operation is limited to the supply of the necessary census papers to him or to the Bombay Anthropological Society for compilation of the information required.

The Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, after consulting officers who, by independent research, have acquired special knowledge of the various subjects connected with ethnography, agrees in the desirability of prosecuting the inquiry in those Provinces. There are no Societies in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh formed for scientific investigations of this kind, but there are Societies which can, as correspondents, contribute very valuable information on the subject. Mr. W. Crooke, of the Indian Civil Service, who has already published several works of recognized value, and has for many years been collecting materials for a work similar in scope and arrangement to that undertaken by Mr. Risley for Bengal, has been appointed Provincial Director of Ethnographical Inquiries. Mr. E. J. Kitts has been requested to undertake the direction of the special branch of the inquiry having for its object the measurement of living subjects, and in consultation with the Director to frame proposals for the systematic record of measurements and the utilization of the data already in existence. Mr. J. C. Nesfield and Mr. V. A. Smith, who by personal investigations are in a position to render valuable aid, have been asked to give the Director the benefit of their advice, to aid him in drawing up lists of questions and to co-operate in other ways suggested by their knowledge and experience. The results of the inquiries of the Census Department in connection with classification of castes and civil condition will be placed at the disposal of the Director. District officers have been asked to render aid and to place the Director in communication with gentlemen who take an interest in the subject, and who from their own observation and inquiry can supply answers to the questions. A sum of Rs. 1,000 has been placed at the disposal of the Director; and it is understood that a further grant will be made if Mr. Kitts undertakes anthropometric inquiries.

In the Punjab there is reported to be no non-official qualified agency which could undertake the collation of information. Mr. M. L. Dames, Deputy Commissioner of Ferozepore, has, however, accepted the appointment of Honorary Provincial Director, and a sum of Rs. 1,000 has been placed at his disposal for incidental expenditure. The work will be carried on in communication with Mr. Risley, and the Provincial Director will receive all the assistance that can be afforded by District officers and the Director of Public Instruction consistently with the demands on their time for the discharge of their ordinary duties.

In the Central Provinces there are no Societies which could undertake the collation of information in aid of the researches. The Chief Commissioner, however, thinks that the Province, which contains so many aboriginal tribes, should take its share in the work, and he proposes to appoint Mr. Robertson, of the Indian Civil Service, to start the work in communication with Mr. Risley as soon as he is relieved of his Census duties.

In Assam there is no special agency qualified to undertake the work, and the Chief Commissioner has entrusted to Mr. Gait, late Superintendent of Census operations, the collection of anthropological and ethnographical information. Mr. Ward is willing to give Rs. 1,000 a year to the Asiatic Society of Bengal if the Society will provide the necessary instruments and books of reference, and will meet all expenditure which may be incurred by Mr. Gait in prosecuting inquiries.

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4. The Governor General in Council would therefore prefer that the further inquiries which are now to be undertaken should be carried out on a Provincial basis. Each Province should have an Honorary Director and, if necessary, one or more Honorary Assistant Directors. The Provincial Directors should be in charge of the work in their respective Provinces and should (with the permission of the Local Governments concerned) correspond direct with Mr. Risley with regard to any matters on which they may require advice or assistance from him. The extent of Mr. Risley's connection with the inquiry outside the Lower Provinces must therefore vary with the capacity and experience of the several Honorary Directors; and it will be for Provincial Directors and Local Governments to consider how far Mr. Risley's advice and supervision can be taken advantage of. The Governor General in Council has no doubt that the Provincial Directors of most of the Provinces will be grateful for any assistance which Mr. Risley may give them, and that if the results are locally published, otherwise than under Mr. Risley's supervision as Editor, the local officer's obligation to him for any advice and suggestions he may give will receive suitable and cordial acknowledgment. Owing to financial exigencies, the Government of India cannot assist in the enterprise by any money grant at present, and the work must necessarily be left to amateur effort, promoted by such assistance as Local Governments and Administrations may be able to render from Provincial Funds. An office of reference, and a means of rapidly publishing results, has been created at Calcutta in the Ethnographic Branch of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, and it may be hoped that its publications will gradually raise up observers interested in the subject and willing to be guided by sound principles in making and recording their observations.

5. The Government of India will be glad if the scheme is now taken in hand in all Provinces, generally on the lines indicated above. The details of the measures to be taken will be left entirely to Local Governments and Administrations. The Government of Bengal should be addressed direct for copies of Mr. Risley's books or any other information which may be required in furtherance of the inquiry.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance, and that

a copy be forwarded to the Foreign and Revenue and Agricultural Departments for information, in continuation of endorsement Nos. ²⁷/₁₆₅₆₋₉₇, dated the 20th October 1891.

(True extract.)

C. J. LYALL,

Secretary to the Government of India.

NOTE
ON
THE ABOLITION OF RETURN PASSAGES
TO
EAST INDIAN IMMIGRANTS
FROM THE
COLONIES OF TRINIDAD AND BRITISH GUIANA.

By
SURGEON-MAJOR D. W. D. COMINS,
On special duty in the English and Foreign Colonies.

CALCUTTA:
PRINTED AT THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT PRESS.
1892.

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1892.

FROM SURGEON-MAJOR D. W. D. COMINS,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

Dated Calcutta, the 28th December 1892.

SIR,

IN accordance with instructions received while on special duty under the Government of India, I have the honour to forward, for the consideration of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, the following note on the subject of the proposed abolition of return passages at the expense of the colonies to immigrants from British Guiana and Trinidad.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

D. W. D. COMINS, *Surgeon-Major.*

PROPOSED ABOLITION OF RETURN PASSAGES FROM TRINIDAD AND DEMERARA.

History.—In the early days of emigration, while it was yet uncertain how the experiment would succeed, the provision of a return passage, either wholly or in part, at the expense of the colony was included in the agreements of emigrants to the West Indies, as well as to other colonies.

The basis for this stipulation is perhaps best expressed in Lord Stanley's despatch No. 42 of 22nd January 1842, concerning emigration to Mauritius:—"Your Majesty's Government were of opinion that in the case of such persons it was not enough to rely upon the forethought and frugality of the emigrant himself to secure the means of return when the proper time arrived, and they thought that provision should be made for these objects by other and more certain means."

2. The question of how far this in the interests of the emigrant was necessary has formed the subject of consideration from time to time. So long ago as 1850 the Committee appointed to consider the question of immigration to Mauritius submitted a report, "a great portion of it is devoted to considering the question of the free return passage which was pronounced objectionable, not only in a financial point of view, but still more so as militating against the permanent settlement of the island"—(*Report of Commission on Immigration to Mauritius*, paragraph 316), and in 1852 the right to a free return passage to Mauritius was considered no longer necessary, and was withdrawn; the final sanction to this arrangement being conveyed in the Duke of Newcastle's letter No. 56 of the 9th May 1853 to Governor Higginson.

In the case of the West Indies, where the conditions of life of the emigrant and his opportunities for saving money were not so well understood, and the expense of the return passage much greater, the grant of a return passage to those wishing to avail themselves of it was retained. The expense of the passage was partly borne by the colonies, and largely contributed to by the immigrant, from whose wages a monthly deduction was directed to be made for this purpose. The collection of these petty sums extending over a long period was found to be so troublesome, expensive and altogether unsatisfactory, that it was after various trials abandoned as impracticable. The British Guiana Immigration Ordinance of 1853, paragraph 30, provides return passage upon payment of \$9 for each year of his term of service after passing of ordinance, free of all other charges whatsoever; also every child under 6 years of age or born in the colony, free return passage with its parents; also immigrants incapacitated from labour, by infirmity, accident, or other cause, to have free return passage and a proper supply of clothing for the voyage.

The British Guiana Consolidated Immigration Ordinance of 1854 passed by Sir Philip Wodehouse provided a back passage on the payment by the immigrant of \$12 a year, or \$35 = £7-5-10 after ten years' residence; and St. Christopher followed the example with a similar ordinance. The same difficulties occurred in the collection of the money and the attempt was discontinued. The principle that immigrants should contribute towards the return passage was, however, fully recognized and agreed to by the Home Government.

"The system under which the first East Indian immigration took place, that of 1845 to 1848, had consisted of a contract entitling the immigrants to a return passage at the end of five years' residence. When in 1850 the first attempts were made to revise the coolie immigration under the system of three years' indenture certain, the efforts of the colonists were devoted to the obtaining a longer period of indenture, or, if that would not be granted, to enforce some payment by way of consideration for the return passage. The Home Government resisted the idea of prolonging the indenture, but consented to an exaction of monthly sums from those immigrants who would not consent after serving out their first hiring to enter upon the second. This device proved an egregious failure. The attempt to collect monthly sums was made in earnest in 1852. After the passing of an ordinance, No. 30 of 1851 (an amendment of No. 20 of 1850), of a very stringent character, it was

abandoned after three years' experience, having filled the prisons and cost \$8,854.48 in getting in \$604.68 from the coolies. It was at this time (1854) that the East India Government ceased to insist upon a return passage at the end of five years' residence, and consented to increase the term to ten, provided it was recognized that the return passage could only be postponed and never absolutely commuted. The plan was thus worked out: A three years' indenture was supplemented by short indentures of one or two years for which the immigrant might choose his employer, bounty was given him if he accepted a second service after the termination of the first five years, monthly sums were abolished, and he became entitled after five years of indenture and five of residence not necessarily industrial to his return passage on payment of \$35 for the whole of the second period of five years, or \$12 for each of such year during which he had not been under indenture. This payment, although consented to by the Indian Government, proved as difficult to collect as the old monthly sum."—(*Report of Immigration Commission, British Guiana, 1871, paragraphs 234, 235, 237.*)

St. Christopher.—Immigrants are entitled to back passages ten years after their arrival at the expense of the colony, upon payment of £7-5-10, but no payment is required of immigrants who have served the last five years of their residence under contracts of not less than one year's duration, or passages may be acquired by immigrants who pay £2-10-0 for each year during which they may have not been under contract.—(*Colonization Circular, page 283.*)

This latter is evidently adopted from the British Guiana ordinance, as the terms are identical.

In other colonies than in the West Indies partial payments by immigrants of return passages have been approved of. Sir George Anderson, Governor of Mauritius, at a meeting of the Council in 1850, presented a Minute in which "he did not concur in the recommendation that the return passage as guaranteed should be cancelled, but suggested that a small deduction not exceeding 6d. should be made from the wages of the immigrants in aid of the expenses of return passage."—(*Report of Immigration Commission in Mauritius, 1873, paragraph 319.*) "The contracts from Calcutta were not uniform, except that they all contained a proviso that Re. 1 a month should be deducted for return passages."—(*Report of Immigration Commission, Mauritius, paragraph 171.*)

In 1852 it was found, as might have been expected from its mode of collection, that "as a fiscal measure it had been an utter failure, having during three years cost, in collecting, £2,900 more than it produced," besides giving temptation to vagrancy and idleness, and causing penalties to be incurred by the frequent attempts made to evade its payment (*vide paragraphs 343 and 344*).

In a Minute of 14th September 1875 on emigration to the West Indies by Sir Richard Temple, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, the following remarks occur:—

"It has been suggested that passage money should no longer be allowed to emigrants who return to India. Possibly the full amount of passage money need not be given, but some allowance of this sort ought, I think, to continue to be made. To withhold it altogether would be doubtful justice, inasmuch as an emigrant who had emigrated on imperfect information, or who found his expectations disappointed, might reasonably wish to return; and in regard to the poverty and ignorance of these classes it is but fair and reasonable that some door for escape, if such were desired, should be left open. If our officers are to advocate emigration, and to prove the perfect sincerity of their counsel, they will wish to be able to say to the people, try for yourselves and see whether the advantages we predict for you if you emigrate do not come true, and if you find the result to be otherwise, you can always come back again. Moreover, it is politic to maintain the means of returning, for every emigrant who returns with his pocket full of earnings is sure to induce others to try their chances for a like fortune. The spectacle of a safe and happy return is a sure and legitimate bait to others, and if the management of our West Indian colonies is good—and I certainly believe that it is—then if many go, though some return, the majority will remain, and the knowledge that they may abandon their bargain if they repent of it, does operate to overcome the hesitation of people proverbially timid and unenterprising."

Since then the prophecy of Sir Richard Temple has been fully verified, and the numbers who voluntarily remain in Trinidad and Demerara show how greatly they appreciate the advantages they obtain there.

3. As a result of the despatch of the Secretary of State for India to the Governor-General of India, No. 39 of the 24th March 1875, dealing with the subject of emigration to the West Indian colonies, and asking whether (paragraph 15) it could safely be left open to the emigrant in each case either to stipulate for a back passage or to accept other terms, the opinions of the many Indian officials consulted was that the withdrawal of the right to a free return passage would prove a serious bar to the progress of emigration. Mr. Grierson, the Magistrate specially deputed to consider and report on emigration from India, found in his enquiries that returned emigrants formed the best class of recruiters, particularly in regard to women. He says (p. 15), "in districts where there are return emigrants emigration is popular. In districts where there are none it is the reverse. Emigration emphatically *crescit indulgens sibi*, and every cooly who emigrates, on his return becomes an apostle of it." "Returned emigrants give the best hope of inducing families to emigrate. They form in fact a valuable class of unlicensed recruiters" (page 34). Also paragraphs 150, 151. "Returned coolies are an effective means of education." (page 162).

In 1890 the question was again considered, and it was found that the views of the Local Government consulted had undergone no material alteration, and in their opinion the withdrawal of the free return passage would cause the popularity of emigration to suffer and diminish the supply of emigrants, and the colonies would best consult their own interests by continuing the grant of return passages.

These authorities naturally dwell more on the harm that would be done to emigration from India, on which subject, from their knowledge and experience of the habits and customs of the people of India, they were entitled to speak with the greatest confidence, rather than on the effect it would have on the interests of those retained thereby in the colonies with which they were less familiar.

The return of coolies to their homes, prosperous and contented, has gradually overcome the natural prejudices of a people "proverbially timid and unenterprising" to seeking their fortunes across the sea in a far distant colony, and has gained for emigration whatever popularity it possesses. "To lose the right for ever would be the greatest cause of unpopularity."—(*Grierson, paragraph 151.*)

4. The importers of labour into the colonies, while fully recognizing the value of well-to-do emigrants as recruiters on their return to India, are strongly of opinion that the number of those who return is greatly in excess of their requirements, and neither their interests as employers nor those of the immigrants as labourers or colonists would suffer if a more exclusive selection were made and much needless expense and loss of labour would be avoided.

For many years past there has been a constant stream of coolies, from the very wealthy to the very poor, returning to India, and the conditions of life in the colonies must by this time be fairly well understood, and considerable information be available in most villages in recruiting districts regarding their respective merits. There are also a few well-to-do free coolies not entitled to return passage, coming to India every year at their own expense, who must be valuable recruiters. A table prepared by the Immigration Agent-General is appended, showing the numbers who have returned from India in this way from British Guiana between the years 1862 and 1890. It is the custom in Trinidad to fill up the vacancies in a returning emigrant ship, caused by those who having applied to return, and having even deposited their money for warm clothing to be worn on the voyage, have decided at the last moment to remain in the colony, by offering passages on payment to coolies not entitled to a free return passage, and the number of those who return in this way is considerable. In some instances which have come within my knowledge, coolies considering the emigrant sailing ship a not sufficiently comfortable and expeditious mode of travelling, have preferred to pay for passages, generally return passages, at the much higher rates charged by the ordinary mail steamers. Intercourse of this sort between the colonies and mother-country cannot fail to add much to the reputation of the colonies in the eyes of intending emigrants. The Hon'ble Fowler, Colonial Secretary of Trinidad, thinks that the reputation of the colony is such that emissaries of its advantages are no longer necessary (*letter to Colonial Office, 28th September 1889*), and many share his opinion; but the general impression appears to be that although on

account of the expense and loss to the colony, it would be desirable to reduce the numbers of those leaving the colonies, the return of well-to-do emigrants to India is of great advantage to recruitment. In British Guiana the Committee on return passages in 1889 said—"Your Committee are also of opinion that the return of a certain number of immigrants who have acquired sufficient means to settle themselves comfortably in India, has greatly tended to assist in developing the immigration system by familiarising the people of India with this colony, and opening up to them prospects of improving their condition to an extent and in a manner unattainable in their own country, while the recruiting operations have been greatly facilitated by the number of immigrants who have come back to the colony with their relatives and friends."

5. As regards the withdrawal of the right to a free return passage acting as a deterrent to emigration, there is a great diversity of opinion, but it is probable that to some extent it would operate in this way. After the cessation of the grant of free return passages from Mauritius, there was a falling off in the numbers emigrating to that colony. In 1865, or 12 years after free return passages had been discontinued, Mr. Marsh, Assistant Colonial Secretary, Mauritius, was sent to India to enquire into the causes of the difficulty in obtaining emigrants. He returned to Mauritius in 1866, and in his report "he also noticed the abolition of the return passage as having some influence on emigration."—(*Report of Immigration Commission, Mauritius, paragraph 1304.*) If this effect was noticeable in a colony so comparatively near India as Mauritius, it is probable that a similar change in Trinidad and Demerara would produce a more strongly marked effect. I do not, however, apprehend that the Emigration Agents for Trinidad and Demerara would find any serious difficulty in completing their limited demands for labourers. Bad harvests and consequent scarcity of and dear food and overcrowding in certain areas will create the necessity for the dispersion of labour, while the floating population of towns will always furnish a strong contingent which immediate necessity will make accept any available means of living without a too nice criticism of the more or less beneficial terms offered. So far as I can judge, no trace remains of the temporary check caused by the removal of the right to free return passage from Mauritius, and large numbers are now recruited yearly, and include many of the astute Bengalis, who are more keenly alive to the comparative value of advantageous terms than their northern neighbours. Mr. Stewart, Emigration Agent for Mauritius, says—"Mauritius gives no free return passage excepting to invalids and paupers, and I experience no special difficulty in obtaining emigrants for that colony, notwithstanding that wages are somewhat lower there than in other colonies." Both Trinidad and Demerara are well known as desirable places for emigration, and unless some very special precautions were taken to ensure the publicity of any change in conditions, it would require a considerable time for the idea to be widely disseminated, that a radical alteration had taken place in the prospects of the intending emigrant. Ideas travel slowly among the uneducated classes forming the bulk of emigrants, and it has always been difficult to get them to take a lively interest in the various details of the conditions stipulated for, and the rights and benefits they will enjoy in the colony. As a rule they very imperfectly understand, and are therefore indifferent to, the question of return passage, or whether they will pay for it themselves, or be furnished by the *sarkar*. All their experience teaches them is that numbers of people they know well or have heard of, have returned to their homes with plenty of money and good accounts of the colony, without any difficulty as regards return passages. That is enough for them, and they do not trouble to enquire further. Their ideas of distance are also extremely limited, and as they have no knowledge of the amounts required for passage money, their return has never been a source of anxiety to them. The recruiter in painting a glowing picture of the advantages they will receive, would be the last person to lay any stress on difficulties they may experience in returning to their homes. The Colonial Emigration Agents, who know the condition of immigrants in the colonies as well as in India, think that the change might be made without checking the flow of emigration.

Mr. Mitchell, who has had great experience both in Trinidad and Demerara, as well as in India, would postpone the new departure to a season when want would overcome any hesitation.—(*Letter to Colonial Office, 17th June 1890.*)

Mr. Warner, who knows Trinidad and India very well, thinks there would be no difficulty in recruiting the numbers of labourers required by the various colonies.—(*Letter to Colonial Office, 16th June 1890.*)

Mr. Stewart, who also knows Trinidad, Demerara and India very well, does not think there would be any difficulty in obtaining emigrants if the promise of free return passage were withdrawn.—(*Letter to Colonial Office, 2nd September 1890.*)

6. Since the attempts to collect monthly or yearly contributions from the immigrant were abandoned as too troublesome and unremunerative, the colonies have continued to grant both for the immigrant and for his family a free return passage at the expense of the colony. Long established custom and this privilege has been considered an indispensable part of the temporary engagements for labour in these distant colonies, as the men who form the bulk of immigrants have usually left their families in India, and it was thought they should be ensured the opportunity of rejoining their wives and children on the completion of their engagements. The difficulty in inducing women to emigrate has always been great, and many propositions have been put forward with the object of overcoming it, but as yet attempts in this direction have met with only very partial success, and it is still necessary to maintain the rules which direct that a certain proportion of women should be sent each year. These women are not in all cases related or connected to male emigrants, and to complete the number many women are recruited in the bazars.

The respectable agricultural castes recruited in the North-Western Provinces are more inclined to emigrate as families, and it would be desirable that most of the emigrants should be drawn from these classes. Planters, however, do not much favour caste labourers, and usually prefer chamars and others, among whom the marriage tie is not of a binding nature or sufficient to induce the woman to accompany the man desiring to emigrate. Many planters have told me that if women could be induced to emigrate, they would gladly take them without indenture or obligation to labour on the estate, and this would be a most beneficial arrangement, and probably solve the difficulty of insufficient women.

In reviewing in 1876 the reasons for the grant to emigrants of return passages, Sir R. Temple, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, observes:—"It would be premature at present to introduce a system which would cut off all hope of the emigrants being able to revisit their homes." Many, however, of the emigrants have no permanent home in India, and this argument does not apply to them.

7. In the despatch of the Government of India, No. 15 of 1877, to the Marquis of Salisbury, it is stated that perhaps the best safeguard to the kind and considerate treatment of the labourer is the desire to keep him (in the colony) by voluntary arrangement after the term of his compulsory service has expired. This principle has been long understood in these colonies, and many planters offer inducements to the labourers before the completion of their indentures to acquire a vested interest in the estate, so that they may not be tempted to wander to other fields of labour. Some estates have greater natural opportunities for doing this, but there can be few estates where the employer cannot offer advantages, costing the estate little but extremely valuable to the labourer, sufficient to prevent him wandering to seek new employment. The inducements are—

Pasturage for cattle on the waste or pasture lands of the estate, either free or at a nominal fee sufficient to pay a herdsman to prevent the cattle straying on to the cultivated grounds of the estate. Some estates, though few only, have sufficient pasture ground for the estate cattle, and therefore cannot give this valued advantage.

Ground either free or at a nominal rent to permit of the growing of rice or roots for the use of himself and family or for sale, on condition of the labourer working a certain number of days in the week on the estate, or a still more liberal arrangement—as long as he gives his spare time to the work of the planter, does not seek work on neighbouring estates, and will assist during the busy time of cutting and manufacture when all the labour available is pressed into use. This is much valued in Demerara, as the immigrant thereby benefits, without contribution, by the extensive and costly works carried out and constantly renewed for drainage and protection from the sea, which much increase the value of the land for cultivation.

"Farming" known as "colonage" in the French colonies, by which a proprietor gives to the free cooly a portion of the cultivation of the estate, and pays him at a fixed rate for the produce.

Contracts for the planting and cultivation of newly-opened cacao plantations, by which a proprietor gives up the land to free coolies for a term of years on condition of their producing a fixed number of healthy trees, and in other ways safeguarding the interests of the estate.

Water for the irrigation of rice and other crops from the estate irrigation trenches and pipes.

Free residence in the cooly ranges of huts, of which there are generally many to spare on a large estate, or an advance of money to build a house, and sale of land on the estate for the same purpose and for cultivation.

Rent of houses to be used as shops.

Purchase of the produce, milk, &c., of the free immigrants resident on the estate.

Permission to cut wood for household purposes, and occasionally even for sale.—Some estates are not well provided in this respect, and cannot permit this privilege.

Medical treatment gratis in the estate hospital.

Education of children in the estate school.

In these ways, by kindly and considerate treatment, by studying the wants and desires of the immigrants, the employer is able in many instances to counteract any tendency of his labourers to wander either to neighbouring estates or to India, and to avoid the great expense of the introduction of large numbers of raw and unskilled labourers. Some employers have been so successful, and residence and work on their estates is so valued, that they are able to obtain a supply of free immigrant labour to meet all their requirements without applying for the allotment of indentured immigrants—an arrangement much in disfavour with their less appreciated neighbours, who naturally think every one should bear his share of the expense of introduction of labour into the colony.

The Colonial Governments have offered substantial benefits to the immigrants at the end of their five years' indentured service, in the hope of inducing those who do not wish to continue to work only on estates to remain in the colony as independent agriculturists and farmers. So long ago as 1868, the Government of Trinidad settled the titles of land so as to enable those who had previously been only squatters to assume the permanent rights of proprietorship and pursue with confidence the improvement of their land. This was a new departure, and met with much opposition from certain sections of the planting community, who saw therein the destruction of the supply of free labour to estates, which they had hitherto, owing to the absence of other outlets, been able to depend upon. In a recent conversation with Sir Arthur Gordon, who was Governor of Trinidad in 1868, and who initiated the policy of the grant of freehold titles to land, he spoke of the great unpopularity of the measure at the time and the difficulties, eventually surmounted, which had to be encountered. Since that time the opening up of the country and the grant of lands to immigrants and others have been immensely extended, and are at the present time perhaps the safest guarantee of its permanent prosperity.

In the Immigration Report for 1874-75 by Mr. Mitchell, whose experience of immigration to Trinidad is unique, the following passages occur:—

"The Indian settlements will certainly pave the way to gradual abandonment of the return passage; the few alone who have accumulated money in trade will desire to revisit India, while the masses remain where they can gratify alike their passion for land-holding and money-making. The numbers who migrate hither from other colonies increase annually. These work indifferently on the settlements or on estates, and look to Trinidad as in some respects a central rendezvous for the Indian. No less than 40 of these strangers have applied to be allowed to pay their passages hence to Calcutta in the first ship.

"The amount of lands thus actually granted in freehold from April 1869 up to 1st October, 1875 is 12,425 acres to 1,665 adult males. To give anything like an approximate estimation of the gradually increasing value of such settlements in a colony depending solely on the introduction of Indians to maintain the balance and efficiency of other kinds of labour is not easy; but without taking as a standard the opinion of existing authorities that the last 5½ millions of men who landed in America have added one billion sterling to the

wealth of the United States; it may be quite safe to assume that these 2,000 settlers and their families have added £100 each to the wealth of Trinidad, present and prospective."

"It is true that they are stigmatised by some as lazy and as not only withdrawing themselves from estate's work, but inducing others who are not under indenture to do the same. This statement is one-sided, as may be gathered from the present report of the Sub-Intendant. It will there be seen that the settlers work well on some estates, and that the results of their labour on their own freeholds has in the Montserrat district greatly relieved the neighbouring town of San Fernando from its painful dependence on the Spanish Main for provisions, and is surely laying the foundation in the colony of that abundant food-supply without which agricultural labour will always be uncertain." Since then the amount of Crown land alone alienated to immigrants has risen to 38,000 acres.

The proprietors of estates have come to look upon these independent cultivators as a source of occasional, and if they wish it of regular, if not continuous labour on the estates, according to the terms held out, and as relieving them in a great measure of the expense of return passages, and as forming one of the most valuable communities of tax-payers, both of imports and exports, and of producers of the grains and provisions necessary for consumption in the colony. When the success of these measures had been fully established, they were adopted in British Guiana, and there are now settlements of East Indians cultivating their own lands to be found in every part of the colony.

British Guiana, at least that part of it at present under control fringing the higher grounds of the interior, has not the natural advantages for easy cultivation without special preparation, draining, &c., possessed by Trinidad, and the land in many places is low and swampy, and liable to encroachments from the sea, and floods from the bush water of the interior. Some districts are more free from these difficulties, and with very slight preparation are suited for the cultivation of rice, grains, and roots, and the pasturage of cattle. The stream of immigrant colonisation is gradually extending to the North-Western District, which is reported by the planting members of the Council, who recently accompanied the Governor on a tour through this part, to be of surpassing fertility and free from the necessity for artificial drainage or defence against the sea. I anticipate that in a few years this district will be cultivated by cooly settlers, and form one of the most valuable producing areas of the colony.

8: It would certainly not be in the interest of immigrants to check among employers this healthy competition for their good will and voluntary labour and continued residence on estates or in the colony, or to remove the causes which have led to the adoption of a liberal and successful policy of settlement and colonisation, and the acquisition of land on easy terms, in the hope of retaining the immigrant labourers permanently in the colony, in preference to claiming their right to a return passage to India.

In 1876, Sir R. Temple, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, in writing of the impolicy of withdrawing the privilege of free return passage hitherto enjoyed, says, "we should rather trust to an experience of colonial life proving so attractive to the emigrants as to induce them to take up their abode in the country as free labourers."

In 1882 Sir Henry Irving, Governor of British Guiana, addressed the Combined Court in the following terms:—"There are two ways by which a tendency on the part of the immigrants to return to India may be counteracted. The one is by offering them inducements in the shape of grants of land or of money to sell or commute their right to back passage; the other is by rendering them so satisfied with their position in the colony as to remove any inclination on their part to exercise their right . . . And although the cooly who buys his land does not surrender his right to return passage, there is little danger of the right being claimed by a man who has established himself with his wife and family in a homestead on his own freehold."

In a Minute on return passages, kindly prepared during my stay with him, by Sir Charles Bruce, Lieutenant-Governor of British Guiana, he says, "the most intelligent of the proprietors have learned to offer every possible inducement to the emigrant freed from his indenture to establish himself on or in the immediate neighbourhood of their estates."

"It is my impression that the best way to retain an emigrant in the colony is to offer him inducements to remain there . . . When an emigrant owns ground and stock upon

which he has expended time and money, the inducement for him to remain in the colony is great."—(Mr. Stewart to Colonial Office, 2nd September 1890.)

The Committee in British Guiana appointed in 1889 to enquire into the system of back passages reported as follows:—"The question arises whether there is any alternative measure which could be proposed as likely to tend to reduce the number of applications for return passages. On this point your Committee consider that the only practicable means which they feel able to suggest for attaining this object is to encourage permanent settlement by increasing the facilities for the acquirement of land in suitable places and on easy terms of purchase."

9. *Return of paupers, criminals, and invalids.*—These colonies also benefit somewhat largely by returning to India many of those whom, for one reason or another, it is no longer profitable to retain. In this way they rid themselves at a comparatively small cost of a permanent encumbrance, and cast upon the broader shoulders of India the burden of controlling and supporting a number of hopeless paupers, criminals, bad characters, habitual idlers, lepers, and inefficient either bodily or mentally, infirm, old, blind, maimed, or otherwise permanently incapacitated persons who, if they remained in the colonies, would be a continual trouble and expense, and fill the poor asylums, hospitals, prisons, lunatic and leper asylums.

Since 1864 British Guiana has returned 1,817 such persons to India to the great benefit and relief of the colony which in calculating the cost of return passages must be taken into account.

The British Guiana Committee of 1889 in considering the question of return passages remark:—"It must also be borne in mind that among the immigrants returning to India there is always a proportion of invalids and others who from age or infirmity are unfitted for agricultural labour or for any other occupation which would enable them to earn a livelihood."

If the right to a free return passage were discontinued, it could not affect those already in the colony, but ten years hence there would be two classes of immigrants—one entitled to free back passage, and the other deprived of this privilege. This could not fail to create dissatisfaction among the newer coolies, who would see their countrymen enjoying an advantage they could never hope to obtain.

10. A considerable number of returning immigrants take with them sums of money which show that they could have paid for their own passages. Mr. Mitchell, Emigration Agent for British Guiana, has prepared a table showing that of 16,206 immigrants returned during the last ten years at the expense of the colony, 7,996, or very nearly half, carried with them Rs. 150 or over. If from the total number of immigrants returned are deducted those repatriated as criminals, &c., the proportion of those who had money sufficient for the passage would be still greater. This and a consideration of the amount of money and jewels taken or remitted to India, or lying in the Savings or other banks, and in the hands of shop-keepers, usurers, and others, and of the great wealth owned by immigrants in valuable cultivated land, in houses, shops, and cattle, prove how great are the opportunities enjoyed by these people for gaining a position of comfort and wealth. In both Trinidad and Demerara an industrious and steady man can rapidly save money and soon acquire a position of independence, and in many cases they become both wealthy and influential. Free coolies in Trinidad have purchased over 38,000 acres of Crown land, besides the numerous properties they have bought from private individuals, and many of these cacao and rice farms are extraordinarily rich in production and bring in large revenues. Cooly settlers are often largely interested in the cultivation of sugarcane on their own account or for the proprietors, and make considerable sums of money thereby. In British Guiana coolies own land valued at \$300,000 or \$400,000 on which they grow rice or other crops and graze their cattle, of which coolies working on estates own over 20,000, also 5,000 sheep and goats, pigs and fowls, horses, mules, and donkeys. Immigrants own more shops in Trinidad than any other class, and make large profits, replacing thereby the *bannia* of India both as traders and money-lenders. In British Guiana there are among immigrants—

93 merchants.	270 hucksters.
200 bakers.	369 milk-sellers.
153 barbers.	471 carpenters, mechanics.
46 chemists.	226 shop-keepers.
96 goldsmiths.	128 shopmen, clerks.

Similar returns have been promised me from Trinidad, but they have not yet arrived. All these people or their parents arrived from India penniless, and have greatly benefited by their residence in the colony.

11. The returns of British Guiana for the last 20 years show that of those who, taking advantage of the free return passage, go to India, 1/4th are children born in the colony, "Creoles," as they are called, who probably have little, if any, desire to leave the colony beyond the wish to accompany their parents. This is a great drawback to the development of the colony, which would be very glad to retain these children of the soil, but is deprived of a future source of labour acclimatised and accustomed to the ways of the place, who would naturally replace their fathers and in course of time do away with the necessity for further expensive importations. In 1889 the number of coolies born in the colony was calculated at 15,000 to 18,000. Out of 25,637 coolies returned from British Guiana during the last 20 years, 5,580 were born in the colony. The colonies very naturally feel that, except for the little children too young to be separated from their parents, these sons of the soil might well be expected to remain in the home of their birth and not be provided at great expense with a passage to a country of which, except by tradition, they know nothing, and where they have the disadvantage of having to learn new customs and ways.

12. Several have urged that the immigrants have been introduced at great cost, and their departure at a time when they have become most useful as tax-payers and colonists is detrimental to the interests of the colony.

A consideration of the value of immigrant colonists as labourers, tax-payers, and producers of grain and other food, shows how greatly the colony must suffer by their return to India, taking with them large sums of money, all acquired in the colony, and which represents so much of the interest of its capital, the withdrawal of which is a serious drain on its growing resources. Sir W. Robinson, Governor of Trinidad, writing in 1887, says, "Many of those who return are the cream of the population, who have learnt to be industrious on estates, whose savings show them to be of thrifty habits, and to whom every encouragement should be given to settle on and cultivate the large tracts of fertile land still uncultivated, and assist in swelling the exports and increase the wealth of Trinidad."—(Sir W. Robinson to Colonial Office, 1st September 1887.)

Sir Charles Bruce says, 1891:—"Moreover, the returning immigrant, the 'carpet bagger,' to use a familiar phrase, takes with him to India all the earnings of his industry, instead of adding them to the general accumulation of wealth in the colony. It is a misfortune of the colony that from various causes the wealth which has its origin in the soil does to a very large extent leave it to enrich other communities. It is hardly necessary to argue that the colony must continue to be deprived of all the advantages which follow the progressive accumulation of wealth in other countries so long as the interest of capital and the gains of labour are alike withdrawn from the colony as soon as realised."

The introducers of immigrants, however, have already been compensated for the cost of introduction in the control they have had of their labour for the term agreed upon, and the after-labour they obtain from the immigrants as free men. The immigrants have fulfilled all their engagements for labour at the end of five years, and his former employer has lost all claim to his services beyond what he can obtain by the offer of advantageous terms. Sir Charles Bruce says—"Of the cost of immigration 1/3rd is now paid out of the colonial revenues in consideration of the public advantages accruing from the increased supply of labour available when the immigrant has completed his apprenticeship on the estate which has borne 2/3rds of the cost of his introduction, and enters the labour market as a free man."

13. The uncertainty whether he will or will not take advantage of his right to return after ten years' residence, prevents the immigrant at the end of his five years' indenture, when he is free to shape his future life for himself, from settling down with the same confidence, and giving his best efforts to improving his ground or position as if this disturbing influence were not present. The future possibility of not being in the colony to enjoy the fruits of his labour, hinders him from seriously applying himself to choosing and establishing the line of life which would suit him best as a permanent occupation.

14. The increasing liability of the colonies owing to the possibility of large sums of money being necessary to provide return passages to the many coolies who have not yet claimed them, has been quoted as an argument for the abolition of the free return passage.

In 1887 it was calculated there were 20,000 coolies in Trinidad who might claim their return passage, which at £10 per head amounted to a liability of £200,000. This appears to be a needless alarm, nor would it be allayed by the abolition of free return passages, for any measure of that sort could not be retrospective. As long as free immigrants retain the advantages they at present possess of acquiring land and other property, and of working at will on the estates, there is no chance of their abandoning the colony, and, as pointed out by Sir Henry Irving, there is little danger of the right being claimed by a man who has established himself with his wife and family in a homestead on his own freehold. "Provided the existing conditions of their occupancy are not disturbed, they are never likely to apply to Government in such numbers for return passages in any one year as to financially embarrass the colony."—(*Abstract prepared by Private Secretary Grant for Sir W. Robinson, Trinidad, 1890.*)

15. The statistics prepared during the last few years show that a great number of those who return to India at the expense of the colony have no intention of remaining there, or, if they do so intend, soon find occasion to return to the colonies. The expensive boon of a free return passage has been used by them only for the purpose of a pleasure trip and a few months' freedom from work on good and plentiful food, and if eligible they soon re-emigrate, costing the colony again a large sum for introduction. Returned coolies re-emigrating are not much in favour among Emigration Agents, either because they have grown too old, or on account of the trouble they often cause among the new coolies by bad advice and in other ways presuming on their superior knowledge and experience. Unless they are particularly strong and good labourers, the Emigration Agents reject them, and if the number thus rejected were added to those who return to the colony, the total would be much larger.

Mr. Mitchell, Emigration Agent for British Guiana, says (8th October 1890):—"In the same period (ten years) 1,949 persons who had been previously in the colony re-emigrated, and it may be estimated that at least twice that number would have returned had they proved eligible."

Mr. Warner, Emigration Agent for Trinidad, 16th June 1890, in writing to the Colonial Office, remarks—"Many of whom now avail themselves of the opportunity of returning to India, simply because it costs nothing and is their due, and not from any strong desire to visit their native country, associated as it must be in the minds of the majority with poverty and hunger. Hundreds re-emigrate yearly, and many others I have to refuse on account of old age or some bodily infirmity."

Mr. Stewart, Emigration Agent for Fiji, finds the same thing with returned emigrants from that colony. Writing to the Colonial Office on the 2nd September 1890, he remarks—"Curiously enough, many of these emigrants re-emigrate after staying but a very short time in India. They seem to have a natural desire to visit their homes, and having done so are quite prepared to emigrate a second time."

Sir W. Robinson, writing to the Colonial Office in August 1887, remarks:—"Many who take advantage of a back passage re-emigrate to Trinidad, and many who have previously emigrated to other colonies and have returned to India re-emigrate to Trinidad. The average number who have returned and re-emigrated to Trinidad yearly is 42; 82 having previously been in other colonies have on an average re-emigrated yearly to Trinidad."

The West Indian Committee, writing to the Colonial Office on 3rd March 1876, remark:—"A considerable number of those who do return to India merely go on a visit and re-emigrate a second time to the colonies. In one of the ships this season there were no less than 87 of such people coming to Trinidad for the second time, and some of these paid their own passages." Dr. Mitchell, late Protector of Emigrants in Trinidad, and who has been with them and studying their welfare since the commencement of immigration, in his Annual Report for 1874-75 remarks:—"To these may be added a third class, by no means few, viz., those who merely go for the trip and mean to return by the next ship. As in the present instance, these last include the majority of those born in Trinidad. The trip to and from India is no doubt pleasant to many, but it is an expensive and questionable luxury in these days of low prices, and should certainly be limited."

Mr. Charles Mitchell, Protector of Immigrants, Trinidad, writing in 1889, remarks:—"This is clearly proved by the fact that we annually receive nearly a shipload of immigrants

who originally left their native country for this or other colonies, and after a short stay in India again re-emigrate to better themselves when they found they had greater facilities for doing so. This has also been stated to me by many immigrants, who have informed me on their departure from this colony that they intended to return by the first ship they could, and were simply going back to India to see their friends."

16. Immigrants owe to the care which has been taken of their health and that of their children, and to the knowledge they have acquired of the agriculture of the country, and to habits of industry engendered by steady work on estates, the wealth they are able to accumulate, and the prosperity they enjoy when they become free to use their labour as they please, either by work on the estates at the enhanced rates they obtain as skilled labourers or by striking out as agriculturists for themselves, or by a combination of both by working on the estates when not engaged on their own grounds. "Their long residence has made them familiar with the laws and customs of the country, and their term of indenture has inured them to industrious habits. The savings that they take away with them show that they may have at least acquired a spirit of thriftiness."—(*Sir W. Robinson, Governor of Trinidad, to Colonial Office, No. 215, dated 1st August 1887.*)

When they arrive in the colony they are raw, ignorant and unskilled, often unused to manual labour; prejudiced, lazy, unable to take care of themselves, and prone to disease; depressed and careless for the reasons which have induced them to leave their homes and at finding themselves in a new country amid strange surroundings.

17. The following opinion of the Committee to consider the question of return passage, composed as it was of the Immigration Agent-General and the leading members of Agricultural Boards in British Guiana, is particularly valuable, not only as showing the benefits to the immigrant of his training under indenture, but also, as the history of all such attempts has shown, how inadvisable it would be to introduce more immigrants at any one time than can be provided for under indenture, and the care and training of their employers:—"On the question of reducing the term of indenture from five to two or three years, your Committee is strongly of opinion that any such change would be most injudicious and prejudicial to the interests of the immigrants, and at the same time unfair to the employers. It must be obvious that the results of such a measure would be to turn adrift on the colony a number of immigrants who have neither been fully acclimatized, nor thoroughly trained to labour, and who when left to their own resources would gradually become a burden on the public institutions."—[*Report (para. 11) of Committee to consider the question of return passage from British Guiana, March 1889.*] The five years under the salutary discipline of the immigration ordinances and the watchful eye of their temporary masters have an immense effect in increasing their good qualities as steady and industrious labourers, their physical strength and their mental acuteness; while the children under the influence of good and plentiful food and comfortable homes grow up the pictures of health and jollity and with a knowledge of the world which would infinitely surprise their grand-parents at home. To return these people to India, is to bring them back to all the misery they have fled from. The special knowledge they possess of cultivation as carried on in the West Indies is of little use to them, and they become disgusted with the inferior position and the small wages they are able to earn in India as common coolies.

Partly, perhaps, on account of the rum-drinking habits so many of them acquire in the West Indies, they complain greatly of the heat in India, in which they can no longer work without distress. After the varied and abundant food of the West Indies, that ordinarily obtainable in an Indian bazar appears to them innutritious and indigestible. So far from the habits he has acquired, the clothes he wears, the food he eats, the strange language he talks, and the contempt he has for the traditions of his forefathers being a source of admiration to his caste brethren, the more respectable of them regard him as an unclean outcast with whom it is contamination to associate; and I have heard of returned immigrants who have not been allowed to cross the doors of their father's house or to use the family "chillum." If he returns with money he is fledged by the priests and his relatives, and so long as it lasts they may endure him, but with little sympathy and only selfish interest. On either side there is no longer any real tie, and becoming disgusted with the simple ways and stricter habits of his relatives and village, the returned

immigrant makes his way to the larger towns, and from poverty or other causes soon finds it advisable to again emigrate to his former or some other colony.

18. A man of the immigrant classes with the strength and ability to work, and who has become acquainted with the advantages and is used to the ways and laws of the place, is in so much better a position in these colonies that it is of no advantage to him to return to India, where he can no longer work with comfort; his social position is inferior and disheartening, and the wants of life not so easily supplied, and the price of labour low; and temptations should not be put in his way to make a change so disadvantageous to himself. Of the useless expense and loss of labour and capital incurred by returning large numbers of people to India, who go merely for the trip and to enjoy the ease of a few months' idleness with plenty to eat and the pleasure of a visit to their friends, both the employers and the Colonial Governments complain, and with justice. The first lose many of their best skilled labourers with the chance of having to pay for their second introduction, and the colony loses many prosperous and independent agriculturists, much of the capital gained by labour in the colony, and a rising population of fine and healthy children who would in course of time replace their fathers in the labour field. "The colony, moreover, would benefit in one other important particular. There are many coolies induced to return to India for the sake of the two or three months' cessation from labour that a back passage affords them. These would probably remain in the colony if there was no such proviso and continue to be agricultural labourers. The Government, therefore, would be relieved of the expense of filling up, as it is compelled to do now, the gap in the labour market caused by departing immigrants. Not only would the back passage of those leaving be saved, but the cost of introducing others to replace them."—(Sir W. Robinson, K.C.M.G., Governor of Trinidad, to the Colonial Office, 1st September 1887.)

It will be said that the coolie selected and introduced a second time is more valuable to the planter than a raw and unskilled new immigrant, but were it not for the tempting offer of a trip to India held out to him, he would never have bestirred himself to leave the colony, and the cost of second introduction would have been avoided. The return to the colony after a few months shows how well they know that their best interests and advantages lie in the colony they have left, but many of those landed in India, as might naturally be expected, considering the few opportunities of direct communication, never find their way back to the colony, even if they desire it.

19. While not advocating any measures which would tend to lessen the advantages free immigrants possess in the colonies, and though I insist that in the interests of both immigrants and employers a door should be left open to ensure on moderately easy terms the possibility of return to their native land of those who really wish it, it is not necessary, nor would I encourage the return of those whose actions show they are not concerned to give any proof of the earnestness of their desires.

The wages of able-bodied and skilled labourers are so much in excess of the expenses of daily life and food, the produce of the colonies is so cheap and abundant, that every one but the habitually idle or extravagant should, while in regular work, without any difficulty save considerably; and even those who, though regular workers, are not altogether able-bodied, can and do, by the exercise of ordinary prudence and care, amass large sums of money, and towards the end of their ten years' residence are usually the possessors of cattle or sheep pigs or fowls, a cart, furniture, &c., which they sell if they intend to return to India. I therefore think they might fairly be asked to contribute something towards the expense of the passage to India of themselves and their children, and I recommend that future contracts made with emigrants in India should contain the stipulation that a return passage will be provided by the colony if at the time of application for the return passage by the immigrant he deposits with the Immigration authorities a certain sum towards the expenses of the voyage. This sum need not be so large as to entail any hardship in providing it, but should be sufficient to show that they are not going merely for the holiday; it gives them, but that they have a real desire to visit their native country, and are prepared to make some sacrifice to obtain it.

The right to a return passage should include, as heretofore, that of the children of the immigrant dependent on him and of adopted orphan children, but women accustomed to work

for wages might pay something proportionate to the money they earn as compared with the men.

The case of paupers is different, and as this class includes the old and infirm, criminals, the maimed or otherwise incapacitated, and the incorrigibly idle, the colonies will gladly undertake to return them to India in preference to keeping them to be a permanent burden on the public institutions of the country.

Sir Charles Bruce in his Minute on this subject says:—"During the last few years the number of immigrants returning to India has been nearly the same, and the average number of paupers among them has been about 200, or about 10 per cent. The case of these paupers raises a question of some importance. If it is in accordance with the wish of the Government of India that these persons should be returned to India at the cost of the Colonial Government, such an arrangement would be willingly agreed to. The cost of returning 200 paupers to their homes in India would not exceed £4,000. If, on the other hand, it were decided that these paupers should remain in the colony, the burden of their maintenance would be much more considerable."

Looking at it from a business point of view, the colony now pays one-third of the cost of the return passage of these invalids, or, in other words, it rids itself for ever, at a cost of £3 or £4, of a person who would have to be maintained for the rest of his life.

The subject of lepers should be separately considered in connection with the report of the Leper Commission.

The principle of demanding from immigrants payment of some of the expenses connected with return passages is by no means new. For some years the Immigration authorities have been accustomed to charge those who are able to pay it, the cost price of the articles of warm clothing supplied them for the return voyage.

The sums paid for warm clothing by those immigrants returning from British Guiana known to have money are as follows:—

For an adult	...	...	\$ 5	=£1-0-10
Child of 1 year and under 10 years	...	...	\$ 3	=£0-12-6
Infant	...	...	\$ 1.50	=£0-6-3

and in the other colonies much the same amounts, representing the cost price of the clothing supplied. Paupers are given these articles gratis. These sums are readily paid by those who really want to go, but to many the necessity for producing this modest sum of ready money is sufficient to counterbalance any small desire they may have for a sea trip.

If the sum returning immigrants were required to give towards the expenses of the return passage, were somewhat larger, it would not prevent anyone going who had a keen desire to do so, but it would keep in the colony a great number of labourers who, although quite indifferent whether they visit India or not, claim the right because they are entitled to it, and it gives them a pleasant trip and some months of idleness and gratuitous feeding. This is an unnecessary and fruitless expense which the employers of labour might well be relieved of. The amount of money to be contributed is comparatively a subject of indifference and would not in any case be great, but the loss of much of the best labour of the colony, and the provision of many needless and expensive return passages, and the cost of introducing other and raw immigrants is a matter of much moment, which they most urgently desire to see rightly understood.

I have lost no opportunity of discussing this question with employers and others connected with emigration, as well as the officials in these colonies, and I have as yet met no one who did not see in the contribution towards return passage by the immigrant, a satisfactory solution of a difficult question. It will allow those to return who require it and keep those to whom it is a matter of unconcern.

The attempts hitherto made of obtaining contributions from emigrants towards the expense of their return passage have failed, as might have been expected from the faulty manner of their collection, giving rise, as it did, to temptations to idleness and vagrancy, and frequent attempts at evasion of payment, and the endless trouble it caused that led to its discredit and discontinuance. No such difficulty would be experienced if the immigrant, at the time of his application for return passage, were required to deposit with the Immigration Agent-General the sum agreed upon as the contribution towards the payment of the passage,

in the same way as he now deposits the price of his warm clothing, or to establish his claim to exemption as a pauper in the manner now followed and thoroughly understood by the Immigration officials and immigrants.

20. If immigrants returning from Mauritius, where wages are lower and opportunities for independent and lucrative occupation not so great, can, without difficulty, pay Rs. 25 or Rs. 35 as passage money to Calcutta and Bombay, there can be no hardship in asking emigrants from Trinidad and Demerara, where their circumstances are very much more favourable, to contribute a like sum.

Mr. Mitchell, Emigration Agent for British Guiana, in recommending abolition of return passages, remarks:—"The India emigrant population of British Guiana is now about the same as that of Mauritius, where return passages at the expense of that colony were discontinued in 1852. It is true British Guiana is further away, but the greater distance is more than counterbalanced by the advantages, the vastly superior accommodation, both in sickness and in health, and the rate of wages, which is about double that of Mauritius; so that although the cost of a return passage is nearly twice as great, the emigrant should be sooner in a position to meet the extra expenditure from his savings if he desire to return."—(*Letter to Colonial Office, dated 17th June 1890.*)

Mr. Stewart, Emigration Agent for Mauritius, remarks:—"Mauritius gives no free return passage except to invalids and paupers, and I experience no special difficulty in obtaining emigrants for that colony, notwithstanding that wages are somewhat lower there than in other colonies. At the same time it must be admitted that that colony is by far the nearest to India, an emigrant being able to obtain a return passage to Calcutta for about Rs. 35, and to Bombay for about Rs. 25, or even less."—(*Letter to Colonial Office, dated 2nd September 1890.*)

As regards the means emigrants possess of saving money, a consideration of the sums standing to their account at the Savings Bank and invested in other ways, as well as the cash, jewels, and bills they bring with them on their return, are a sufficient proof of the favourable circumstances under which they work and live. I append some returns on this point.

Mr. Mitchell, Emigration Agent for British Guiana, writing to the Colonial Office, remarks:—"There are now over 100,000 settled in the colony, many owning farms in the country or substantial houses in the towns and villages, with £100,000 lodged to their credit in the Government Savings Bank. Upwards of 30,000, including children, have returned with savings in excess of half a million sterling."

The actual sum brought with them to India from this colony is £540,631.

From Trinidad the sums brought by return ships are given in the table appended, and amount to £250,006.

The sums standing in the Savings Bank at Trinidad to the credit of East Indian emigrants amount to £69,043-9-½.

The sums standing in the Savings Bank of Demerara to the credit of East Indian emigrants amount to £117,832-11-8.

Except the paupers and invalids otherwise provided for, and the dependent children and orphans, all these people might be expected to make some little sacrifice of their gains to show their real desire to benefit by so expensive a privilege as the return passage to India, and a claim providing for this might be entered in future agreements. Such a course, I hope I have shown, would be to the advantage of emigrant settlers and to the colony itself. The amount to be paid by each emigrant should be equal to the price of a passage from Mauritius to Bombay or Calcutta, Rs. 35 or Rs. 25, the first of which sums might be payable by men and the second by women, in addition to the cost of warm clothing as at present supplied, and would be sufficient for the ends desired and entirely unobjectionable and of benefit as an incitement to industrious and saving habits. If this suggestion be adopted, it will not affect the immigrants already in the colony, but only those whose right to return will have been earned ten years hence, by which time, although it is impossible to say what will happen before then, if the wealth and prosperity of the emigrants in Trinidad and Demerara continue to increase at the same rate as at present, the contribution of this sum will be a mere bagatelle to them. I need hardly say how gratifying such a concession, while carefully safeguarding the interests of the emigrants, would be to their

employers as a practical recognition of the great improvements effected in the condition of emigrants in recent years, and of the wealth and prosperity they have gained from knowledge acquired and labour on the estates.

The following tables show the riches acquired by these humble people in Trinidad and Demerara, and any one who has seen them in their new homes, surrounded by evidences of comfort and prosperity, must be convinced that they have found a place far superior to India, which if no temptations were offered them they would never in their own interests quit.

APPENDIX A.

STATEMENTS PREPARED BY THE IMMIGRATION AGENT-GENERAL.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Savings taken back to Demerara during ten years by immigrants returning there after a visit to India.

Year.	Ship.	Amount.	Year.	Ship.	Amount.	Year.	Ship.	Amount.
		Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
1881	Plassey	6,470	1884	Jorawur	100	1888	Ganges	366
	Ellora	400	1885	Newnham	560		Main	2,720
1882	North	280		Bann	4,050		Sheila	12,104
	Bayard	1,280		Boyne	480		Brenda	1,790
	Howrah	1,300		Foyle	4,080	1889	Allanshaw	55
	Newcastle	245		Allanshaw	5,870		Foyle	36,519
	Ellora	4,808	1886	Jorawur	837		Allanshaw	4,888
	Plassey	3,705		Main	1,180		Sheila	4,065
1883	Silhet	1,100		Ganges	880	1890	Rhine	1,788
	Rohilla	640		Bann	3,150		The Bruce	300
	Berar*	2,630		Avoca	5,249		Foyle	1,348
	North	2,350		Foyle	6,580		Sheila	589
	Bann	8,685	1887	Main	2,448		Rhone	2,975
	Foyle	800		Allanshaw	810		Main	1,021
1884	British Peer	2,890		Hereford	1,660	1891	Brenda	4,100
	Ganges	2,714		British Peer	830		Elbe	298
	The Bruce	4,844		Rhine	2,240		Foyle	3,583
	Shannon	4,566		The Bruce	410		Bann	6,678
	Foyle	3,100		Foyle	1,685			
	Allanshaw	845		Allanshaw	1,730		Total	1,83,478

*In addition, one immigrant deposited a bag containing 50 sovereigns with the Surgeon-Superintendent of the vessel for safe keeping.

The following statement shows the amounts at credit of East Indian immigrants in the Government and Post Office Savings Banks on the 31st December each year, from 1881 to 1890, both inclusive:—

YEAR.	GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.				POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.			
	East Indians.		Chinese.					
	Depositors.	£ s. d.	Depositors.	£ s. d.	Depositors.		£ s. d.	
1881	4,512	92,203 3 8½	26	308 16 2	...		...	
1882	5,566	115,927 0 7	34	523 6 3½	...		...	
1883	6,274	125,243 7 0	43	1,089 9 1½	...		...	
1884	5,912	107,478 4 7½	42	784 14 8	...		...	
1885	5,401	87,839 15 5	46	344 4 6	...		...	
1886	5,563	88,740 17 2	49	586 5 7½	...		...	
1887	5,821	91,375 4 6	40	638 18 11	...		...	
1888	4,388	82,987 6 11½	38	765 12 1	...		...	
1889	6,615	106,796 7 6	31	646 18 10	24		142 7 2	
1890	6,323	115,706 16 11	17	625 16 9	259		2,125 15 9	

The total amount, therefore, at credit of East Indian immigrants on the 31st December 1890 in the Government and Post Office Savings Banks was £117,832-11-8—equal to \$565,596-64.

The system of Post Office Savings Banks conducted in a similar manner to those in the United Kingdom, was inaugurated at the beginning of December 1889, when the Postmaster-General, in his report on the working of the Banks for this month, stated that at the close of the month the total number of depositors was 136, and the total amount deposited \$2,279-17. Of this amount, the sum of \$683-32 was deposited by 24 East Indian immigrants; and in referring to the immigrant population the Postmaster-General remarked as follows:—

“Up to the end of the month, the coolies had been slow to avail themselves of the “Bank, and in the absence of copies of the Regulations and Forms of Declaration printed “in the vernacular, which had been ordered from India, it was considered inadvisable to “make any particular attempt to reach them. It is anticipated that they will ultimately “form a large proportion of the depositors.”

He also reported as follows, in regard to a proposed addition to the number of these Banks, for the benefit of the immigrants residing at the extreme end of the Corentyne Coast:—

"On the 5th December I received an official communication from the Immigration Department in which I was informed that in anticipation of the opening of a Savings Bank in that district, the Manager of Skeldon had in a few days obtained the names of sixty immigrants on that estate anxious to deposit money.

"This was at once laid before the Government with the request that I might establish a Bank at the Skeldon Post Office, and His Excellency the Governor having authorized me to provide for this in my annual estimate, provision has been made accordingly. I took the same opportunity of bringing before the Government the request made to me by many depositors, that I would open a Bank in Georgetown, and I suggested that a Bank should be established at the Branch Post Office in Carmichael Street. This suggestion is under the consideration of the Government."

The Regulations and Forms referred to by the Postmaster-General were received on the 21st November 1889, and were at once distributed throughout the colony. They were printed in Nagri, Bengali and Urdu.

REMITTANCES TO INDIA AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The following statement gives the amount of money remitted by Indian immigrants for ten years, viz., from 1881 to 1890, and also the number of letters forwarded to India:—

YEAR.	Remitted through this Department.	Remitted by Post Office orders.	Letters sent through this Department.	Registered letters, Post Office.
1881	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
1882	473 11 8	...	591	...
1883	673 18 11	...	735	...
1884	3,259 4 10	...	1,220	...
1885	1,190 10 4	...	1,439	...
1886	1,398 2 6½	80 7 5	1,839	...
1887	1,076 17 6	481 16 1	1,726	...
1888	631 12 8	1,276 17 11	1,312	948
1889	732 4 0	2,648 16 0	1,286	1,323
1890	...	4,840 18 0	1,894	1,422
		5,192 3 11	2,035	1,705

Previous to December 1888, remittances were made through the Office of the Colonial Receiver-General in this Colony and the Indian Treasury, instead of, as now, by means of Post Office money orders. It will be seen that there has been a large increase in the amount of the remittances.

There has also been an extension of the correspondence with India. Every effort has been made by the Immigration Department to encourage correspondence between the immigrants and their friends in India, by the gratuitous transmission of letters to Calcutta, the publication of rules to regulate the transmission of letters, printed in Nagri, Persian and Bengali, and by obtaining from India a supply of Indian stamps, four-and-a-half-anna and one-anna, which immigrants can purchase to cover the cost of the inland postage of their letters from Calcutta to their destination, and also to prepay the replies.

In addition to the letters forwarded through this office, there is now an increasing number posted direct by the immigrants at the Post Office. On this subject the following paragraph appears in the Report of the Immigration Agent-General for 1890:—

"There were 2,035 letters forwarded by immigrants in the colony to their friends and relatives in India through the medium of this Department, being an increase of 141 over the number transmitted last year; and 1,705 letters were registered at the Post Office for transmission to that country, as against 1,422 last year.

"No record of the number of letters posted in the ordinary course has been kept, but the weight of the mails sent was 80lbs. 4½oz. which, excluding the registered letters above referred to, probably represented about 2,000 letters."

CATTLE PASTURED ON SUGAR ESTATES.

The following figures show the number of cattle, sheep, etc., owned by East Indian immigrants and pastured on the estates on which they reside, during the year 1890:—

Indentured	Unindentured	Cattle.*	Sheep, etc.
...	...	4,067	2,088
...	...	16,564	3,238

These figures do not, however, represent the total number of cattle owned by immigrants indentured to or resident on estates, as in many instances the cattle are kept in pastures not connected with the estates, and no record can be obtained of these.

In the same manner, no information can be supplied as to the number of cattle owned by immigrants who do not reside on the estates, but the number is considerable. On this subject Mr. Griffin, Sub-Immigration Agent, Berbice, reported as follows:—"There are many wealthy immigrants not residing on estates, who own large herds of cattle of which it would be impossible to ascertain anything like a correct number. For instance, the heirs of Gungaram at Lovely Lass, West Coast, own upwards of 400 head. Purbhoo at Brahn has upwards of 700 head of cattle, and others all along the coast own cattle."

The immigrants as a rule dispose of their milk on the estates on which they reside and in the neighbouring villages, the negroes, who seldom keep cattle, being the chief purchasers, although large quantities are consumed by the coolies themselves.

From the East Coast, Demerara, large quantities are sent by train to Georgetown, where a ready market can always be guaranteed; and the town of New Amsterdam, Berbice, affords the same advantages to cattle owners in its vicinity.

The immigrants on Plantation Nonpareil, East Coast, Demerara, have in addition the opportunity of supplying the dairy lately started on that estate by the Manager, who purchases all the milk which the coolies can obtain.

The hospitals in general are supplied by the Managers, but it is seldom that they can furnish the quantities required, and recourse is then had to the immigrants to make up the deficiency.

No butter is made by the immigrants.

The number of individual immigrants owning cattle cannot be ascertained.

MONEY AND JEWELLERY TAKEN TO INDIA BY RETURN IMMIGRANTS.

Statement showing Money and Jewellery taken to India by Return Immigrants, or deposited for payment to them on arrival.

YEAR.	Money.	Value of jewellery.
	\$ c.	\$
1854	21,312 00	...
1856	20,543 16	...
1857	52,622 71	...
1858	27,386 63	...
1859	72,081 35	...
1862	45,058 00	...
1864	60,356 06	...
1865	53,969 00	...
1867	49,143 00	...
1869	53,388 00	...
1870	45,128 95	...
1871	50,136 89	...
1872	122,685 14	...
1873	97,272 79	...
1874	47,774 00	...
1875	68,570 65	2,460
1876	28,305 08	1,500
1877	92,205 80	4,800
1878	80,893 30	16,800
1879	85,599 88	11,000
1880	100,484 42	24,000
1881	98,082 73	24,500
1882	88,289 92	20,240
1883	152,980 80	30,858
1884	125,694 90	27,000
1885	114,708 93	23,000
1886	92,275 50	19,500
1887	77,613 57	15,000
1888	78,974 24	16,100
1889	93,424 07	18,700
1890	117,611 00	25,000
Total	2,314,572 47	280,468 = £540,631

OCCUPATIONS FOLLOWED BY UNIDENTURED IMMIGRANTS WHO DO NOT WORK ON THE ESTATES.

Some of the better class who have money invest it in shops, while others lend out their money at high rates of interest.

Others, again, are engaged as boxwallahs and hucksters, and the former have frequently large and valuable stocks of Indian goods and do a large trade. Vendors of sweetmeats are numerous.

The following are the other occupations generally followed by the immigrants :—

Rice cultivation.	Cartmen, some as owners, others as drivers.
Cattle farming.	Barbers.
Growing provisions.	Boatmen.
Jobbers about town.	Tailors.
Grass-cutters.	Rope makers.
Gardeners.	Charcoal burners.
Grooms.	Seive makers.
Jockeys (Creoles).	Goldsmiths.
Fishermen, chiefly Madras immigrants.	Workers in clay, out of which they make goblets, flower-pots, pipe-bowls, etc.
Cabmen, some as owners, others as drivers.	Domestic servants.
Tram car drivers.	Manufacturers of cocoanut oil.

PROPERTY OWNED BY EAST INDIAN IMMIGRANTS.

The property owned by East Indian immigrants in land and houses in the city of Georgetown and in the town of New Amsterdam, amounts to the value of \$129,305, the taxes payable on which are \$2,580-70, viz.—

	Value of property.	Taxes.
	\$	\$ c.
In Georgetown ...	91,530	1,830 03
„ New Amsterdam ...	37,535	750 10

It must, however, be observed that these statistics do not represent all the property owned by immigrants, but give only an approximate amount, for if immigrants or other persons becoming possessed of house property do not exhibit transports or other documents, the property will not appear in their names, but remains in those of the original owners.

In the villages, 23 in number, worked under the control of the Central Board of Health, the value of the houses and lots owned by East Indian immigrants is \$102,543-50, the rates payable on which are \$2,104-12.

The following is a summary of the village properties :—

No.	NAME OF VILLAGE.	Number of coolies.	Number of houses.	Value of houses.	Value of land.	Total value.	Rates per annum.
				\$	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
1	Alexanderville ...	37	48	3,255	960 0	4,215 0	84 30
2	Plaisance ...	74	86	4,835	135 0	4,970 0	90 40
3	Beterverwagting ...	44	47	4,771	60 0	4,831 0	96 62
4	Buxton ...	14	16	1,300	298 0	1,598 0	31 98
5	Friendship ...	53	56	2,784	600 0	3,384 0	67 68
6	Golden Grove ...	6	...	...	1,500 0	1,500 0	30 00
7	Nabacis ...	8	...	...	1,650 0	1,650 0	33 00
8	Two Friends ...	9	9	245	100 0	345 0	9 90
9	Ann's Grove ...	8	8	335	150 0	485 0	9 70
10	Craig ...	1	...	...	17 0	17 0	34
11	Meadow Bank ...	13	26	3,100	1,275 0	4,375 0	87 50
12	Sisters ...	7	...	...	2,187 50	2,187 50	43 75
13	Good Intent ...	4	...	...	1,502 0	1,502 0	30 04
14	Bagotville ...	32	...	...	3,888 0	3,888 0	77 76
15	Stanley Town ...	13	...	...	1,200 0	1,200 0	24 00
16	Den Amstel ...	56	75	6,945	1,900 0	8,845 0	176 90
17	Fellowship ...	4	5	295	50 0	345 0	6 90
18	Concordia ...	1	...	...	240 0	240 0	4 80
19	Ridge ...	24	31	486	16,740 0	17,208 0	344 12
20	Daniel's Town ...	18	15	500	600 0	1,100 0	22 00
21	Queen's Town ...	94	119	6,960	1,204 0	8,164 0	259 53
22	Cumberland ...	83	117	4,673	1,048 0	5,721 0	114 42
23	New Siah ...	44	43	2,940	6,325 0	9,265 0	185 30
24	The Lodge ...	...	...	...	...	6,210 0	124 79
25	Albuoystown ...	...	...	...	...	9,300 0	139 50
		646	700	43,404	43,629 50	102,543 50	2,104 12

The above statement gives, however, a very small proportion of the value of property owned by immigrants throughout the colony, as there are no means of ascertaining the value of such property in the manner afforded by villages under the Central Board of Health.

The following statement shows the extent and value of Crown lands acquired by Indian immigrants :—

NAME OF PLACE.	County.	Acreage.	No. of proprietors.	Value.
Plantation Brighton* ...	Berbice ...	375	1	\$ 500
" Cotton Tree ...	" ...	1,545	1	1,600
" Letter Kenny ...	" ...	739 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	1,000
" Dead Tree Farm* ...	" ...	616 $\frac{1}{2}$	32	2,125
" Massiah* ...	" ...	222 $\frac{1}{2}$	24	1,250
" Maria's Lodge* ...	Essequibo ...	...	1	50
" Huis t'Dieren ...	" ...	384 $\frac{1}{2}$	153	10,260
		3,883 $\frac{1}{2}$	214	16,685

* Places marked with an asterisk were taken over by the Government for road arrears and re-transported to the parties after payment of same.

On the 14th January 1890, Regulations were made by the Governor and Court of Policy to facilitate and encourage the acquisition of Crown lands. Under these Regulations land may be purchased at the rate of one dollar per acre, whereas previously the lowest rates were five dollars per acre for forest lands more than ten miles from any public road, and ten dollars per acre for Crown lands other than above.

APPENDIX B.

TRINIDAD.

TRINIDAD IMMIGRATION OFFICE, 5TH JUNE 1891.

Return of Immigrants with their Savings from 1851 to 1890.

YEAR.	Number of souls embarked.	Deposits in Colonial Treasury for transmission to India.	Consigned to the care of Surgeon-Superintendent.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1851	292	4,605 17 2	...
1852	30	1,594 10 6	...
1853	464	11,001 3 2	...
1855	104	3,130 0 0	...
1856	221	3,230 0 0	3,125 0 0
1857	314	6,390 0 0	961 17 6
1858	363	4,900 0 0	928 19 2
1861	303	2,692 1 9	1,384 11 8
1865	520	9,892 2 10	2,699 1 8
1869	372	10,675 16 8	2,987 14 2
1870	400	10,132 9 3½	650 0 0
1871	159	1,716 12 6	...
1872	378	10,642 7 9	780 9 11
1874	414	10,431 16 4	231 15 5
1876	480	12,485 0 6	271 6 6
1877	461	7,398 18 1½	197 8 8
1878	478	9,997 7 6½	310 3 8
1880	457	12,207 8 2	423 15 8
1881	473	9,966 18 4	688 10 7
1883	501	13,061 7 4	777 9 7
1884	677	16,006 2 7	652 3 4
1885	614	10,869 13 3	276 12 1
1886	544	11,589 11 8	519 15 5
1887	678	12,065 12 6	197 6 3
1888	435	7,995 1 8	250 0 0
1889	668	10,871 9 2	195 11 3
1890	597	7,809 7 6	68 14 2
Total	11,397	233,358 16 3½	18,648 6 8

Of these 403 deposited more than £100 each, and they usually conceal a great portion of their wealth as gold coins, &c., about their persons, which is not counted. The number of immigrants who invest their money in the colony and do not send it to India is yearly becoming larger.

DEPOSITS OF INDIANS IN THE GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.

The total amount deposited in 1890 in the Government Savings Bank by Indian immigrants is the largest yet recorded, as will be seen from the following list:—

YEARS.	Average amount per head to credit at the end of each year.	Number of depositors.	Amount deposited each year.	Balance to credit on 31st December of each year.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1884	28 0 0	1,499	24,177 19 1	42,012 10 10
1885	28 10 0	1,568	25,297 0 0	44,774 1 5
1886	29 3 2	1,688	27,547 0 2½	49,220 6 2½
1887	...	...	27,686 0 5	49,254 6 4
1888	26 19 11	2,165	32,130 19 0	58,451 12 10
1889	27 0 4	2,233	30,159 2 5½	60,328 5 0½
1890	24 18 6	2,758	34,955 1 1	69,043 9 9½

It will, however, be noticed that the number of depositors is larger than in any previous year, while the average amount to the credit of each depositor is smaller. It is

impossible to account for this exactly without enquiring into the pecuniary position of each depositor.

This increase in the total amount deposited and the number of depositors may possibly be due to the continuous introduction of Indian immigrants since 1884, while the smaller average amount to the credit of each depositor may be owing to the depression caused by the sugar crisis.—[*Immigration Report, Trinidad, 1891.*]

The coolies are our best customers. Not only do they make larger deposits, but they withdraw much less frequently—many of them no doubt save in order to provide for their return to India—large drafts being made each year at the time of the departure of the return ship. It is this class, too, who make most use of the provision in the Savings Bank Ordinance with regard to appointments, a provision which, in cases of intestacy, furnishes an easy means of securing the payment, without cost or trouble, of balances under £50 to the relatives or friends of deceased depositors.

The number of cooly depositors at the end of last year was 2,758 with a balance to their credit of £69,043-9-9½. It is to be regretted that more of the labouring classes do not follow the example of these people and put by some portion of their earnings.—[*Report of the Receiver-General, Trinidad, on Savings Banks for 1890.*]

Immigrants who paid Passage to Trinidad, or who deposited money in Calcutta to be refunded them in Trinidad.

YEARS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Number who deposited money.	Amount.
								£ s. d.
1881-82	13	6	2	4	...	25	13	226 6 1
1882-83	8	9	3	2	1	23	8	242 10 0
1883-84	5	3	1	1	1	11	11	510 17 5
1884-85	4	2	...	...	...	6	11	155 11 5½
1885	7	6	3	5	1	22	15	1,165 18 2½
1886	8	10	2	1	...	21	16	437 2 3
1887	14	9	6	4	...	33	37	957 14 7
1888	15	9	2	...	...	26	31	668 4 4
1889	17	9	2	...	...	28	45	1,568 10 6
1890	14	19	4	3	1	41	36	975 17 7
	105	82	25	20	4	236	223	6,908 12 5½

One Chinaman, not included, came as a passenger.
One female died on board.
One man and one woman died on board.

MEMORANDUM.

The above list shows the amount of money brought by immigrants and passengers from India during the ten years ending 1890; but it must not be imagined that this money was made in India. Those who brought it with them were immigrants who had made money in one or other of the British colonies and returned to India with their savings, where, after spending or losing a part of what they had acquired out of India, re-emigrated to the same or other colonies in which they had previously made their money.

I cannot in every case state how much they took away with them from the colony in which they served in the first instance, as some of them who re-emigrated to this colony made their money in British Guiana or some other place.

I attach a list, however, which gives the names of some, showing how much they took with them from this colony to India and what they brought back.

From this it will be seen that they took away sums amounting in all to £6,068-15-0, and brought back £3,022-10-0.

In addition to the properties, many of them extremely valuable, which they have purchased from Spanish and other Creoles, the immigrants of Trinidad are the freehold proprietors of 38,000 acres of alienated Crown land, which they cultivate in cocoa, sugar, and ground provisions with great success. Some of these estates are now worth \$50,000 or \$60,000, and enable their owners to live in affluence and become important members of the civil community. There are thousands of immigrants who have bought small

plots of a few acres of land, which they cultivate and add to yearly. At one part I found the coolies were purchasing from the owners of large estates the low grounds for the cultivation of rice. The immigrants form the principal shop-keeping class of the island, and are cutting out the Portuguese and Spanish Creoles.

A cooly at San Fernando is the owner of race-horses which win yearly the principal races of the island.

They also possess many cattle, cows, sheep and goats, and horses, carts, mules and donkeys, to say nothing of the large number of pigs they breed.

The independent coolies of Trinidad are gradually ousting the apathetic and heedless negroes from their squattings, and are destined to become the great grain and provision-producing community in the colony. Large quantities of food and bread stuffs have now to be imported at great expense from the main land, but the land cultivated by free coolies in rice and "provisions" is rapidly increasing.

MEMORANDUM.

List of some immigrants who have returned to India after completing their ten years' residence in Trinidad, and who re-emigrated, with amounts taken to Calcutta and brought back to the colony, during the last ten years, are as follows, viz.—

NAMES.	Amounts taken.	Amounts brought back.	REMARKS.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Kowlasur ...	50 0 0		
Doorga ...	992 14 2		
Tillucksing ...	523 2 6	281 0 0	
Resalsing ...	629 11 8	480 8 4	
Ramkeising and Soheebah	791 13 4	336 17 6	
Chaitnath ...	385 8 4	152 1 8	
Sugum and Moorhee ...	250 0 0	168 0 0	
Ajoodhia and Tatareo ...	145 16 8	114 16 5½	
Lowton ...	145 16 8	127 10 0	
Bessessur and Tooleah ...	250 0 0	218 3 4	
Kobiersing ...	216 13 4	107 15 8½	
Auckloo and Tonkolea ...	316 0 0	247 10 0	
Bhujan and Presotumeo ...	214 11 8	158 2 6	
Ramawaz and Phulkourie ...	350 0 0	219 6 0	
Gooljar and Saheemea ...	323 19 2	180 12 6	
Bindasuri and Lugia ...	208 6 8	177 1 8	
Nourmahomed and Lugia ...	83 6 8	17 0 0	
Hurdutt ...	42 19 2		
Faku and Jamonee ...	148 15 0	35 8 4	
	6,068 15 0	3,022 10 0	

Indians who emigrated from Calcutta to Trinidad and other Colonies, and again re-emigrated to Trinidad, from 1st July 1877 to December 1890.

YEAR.	NAMES OF COLONIES.														Totals.
	Trinidad.	Demerara.	Mauritius.	St. Vincent.	Jamaica.	Grenada.	Rangoon.	Assam.	Natal.	Surinam.	Bombay, Madras, and Ceylon.	St. Lucia.	Fiji.	Cayenne.	
1877 ...	7	3	5	6	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	24
1878 ...	74	12	9	1	10	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	111
1879 ...	48	11	9	1	10	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	118
1880 ...	34	23	10	1	20	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	115
1881 ...	14	23	8	1	10	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	59
1882 ...	36	31	10	11	20	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	123
1883 ...	22	29	4	1	19	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	82
1884 ...	51	71	8	4	10	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	165
1885 ...	42	26	4	2	11	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	91
1886 ...	68	55	32	51	13	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	285
1887 ...	77	54	12	11	23	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	266
1888 ...	81	85	10	1	6	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	293
1889 ...	54	42	13	1	17	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	191
1890 ...	50	42	5	1	6	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	151
	653	507	189	88	172	4	6	2	139	205	115	19	24	1	2,074

Return of Indentured Immigrants on "Endeavour" Estate, Chaguanas, with their property, stock, cash and jewellery, in June 1891.

NAME.	Caste.	Zillah.	Nature of property and value.	Savings bank.	In hand or on loan.	Stock and value.	Total.	Value of jewellery, etc., etc.	REMARKS.
Basdeo ...	Brahman	Arrhee			20	1 cow	60	80	Remits frequently to India.
Purson ...	Ahir				40			40	
Ruthpaul ...	Chutree	Sultanpore			40	1 cow	30	70	
Pharoo ...	Ahir	Majaphurpoor			50			50	
Sewraj ...	Taooor	Patna			72			72	
Ramgobind ...	Chutree	Majaphurpoor			100			100	
Abeluck ...	Brahman	Gorakhpur			60			60	
Kunjbiarry ...	Goslin	Chapra			40			40	
Bhootan ...	Koormee	Arrhee	10 acres cocoa 600		260	1 donkey	25	885	Return cooly from Trinidad now four years on estate. Remits regularly to India.
Goolab ...	Chamar	Arjunghur			48			48	
Meghai ...	Brahman	Jawnpore		48	30			78	
Rutton ...	Chamar	Arjunghur			65			65	Remits to friends in India.
Rainkalia ...	Koormee	Luckimpoor		94	150			244	Return cooly from Demerara, brought back money and bangles.
Goolab ...	Do.	Ditto		94	20			114	
Sumjowan ...	Chamar	Arjunghur			40	1 cow	40	40	
Chandonsing ...	Chutree	Jawnpore			10			10	
Khadaraur ...	Chamar	Arjunghur			10			10	
Doobur ...	Do.	Jawnpore			25			25	
Buctowar ...	Do.	Sultanpore			35			35	Remits regularly to India.
Newaj ...	Ahir	Fyzabad			24			24	Ditto ditto.
Rutton ...	Tali	Gageepore			30			30	
Ramdhoni ...	Kahar	Arrhee			30			30	
Total ...	600	236	1,159	155	2,150	374			

Number of immigrants under indenture, 67 men, 24 women, out of which number 16 men and 8 women came since December 1890, and have not yet been able to put aside any savings beyond a few dollars. I have not noted any one whose savings and jewellery together did not amount to £5.

RENE DE VERTEUIL.

This return, taken from a well-managed estate where the proprietor is proud of, and takes an interest in, the prosperity of his labourers, is intended to show what may be acquired as savings during the first few years of their residence in the colony and while they are under indenture and comparatively new to their work.

Return of Free and Bounty Immigrants on "Endeavour" Estate, Chaguanas, with their property, stock, cash and jewellery, in June 1891.

NAME.	Caste.	Zillah.	Nature of property and value.	CASH.	Stock and value.	Total.	Value of jewellery, etc., etc.	REMARKS.
				Savings Bank.	In hand or on loan.			
Gonteshep ...	Ahir	Bara Banki		96	100		196	Remits occasionally to India.
Gahara ...	Lodh	Nawaganj, Faltapur.		288			288	Ditto ditto.
Poorun ...	Ahir	Banda			50		50	
Showdewos (Bounty)	Buhr	Gageepore			50	1 cow	50	
Oree ...	Musalman	Bharraigh			154		154	
Neeraboo ...	Chamar	Kattuck			40	Cow and calf	40	
Nankissore ...	Taooor	Agra			50		50	Lost much with wife who deserted him.
Gopaul (Bounty)	Oriah	Kattuck	1 lot	60		1 cow \$30, 1 donkey \$15.	105	
Moosale ...	Ahir			50	50		100	
Kanhail ...	Chamar	Sultanpore			24	Cow and calf	40	
Isree ...	Koormee	Rai Bareilly			24		24	
Mungarah (Bounty) and Boodoo (father and son).	Chamar	Fyzabad	5 acres cocoa	200		Donkeys, pigs and goats.	280	
Budhai (Bounty)	Ahir	Gorakhpur			50		50	Remits occasionally to India.
Seepaul ...	Ahir				50		50	
Mohabber ...	Durgoo	Bara Banki			50	1 cow	50	
Juggoo ...	Chamar	Nawaganj Bharraigh.	2 acres, partly cultivated.	50			50	Ditto ditto.
Bholah ...	Do.	Sultanpore			144	Pigs	15	
Ramgolam ...	Ahir	Ditto	2 acres	24	120		168	
Ramshahie ...	Ghoorjar	Delhi	3 acres	60			120	
Bhupsing ...	Taooor	Agra			50		50	\$80 were taken away by wife, who deserted him, now legally investigated.
Ramdin ...	Farnu	Rai Bareilly			24		24	
Rambarut (Bounty)	Nunnia	Arrhie					60	Married to a girl whose father has land.
Gopee ...	Kalwar	Gorakhpur		60	40		100	

Return of Free and Bounty Immigrants on "Endeavour" Estate, Chaguanas, with their property, stock, cash and jewellery, in June 1891—concluded.

NAME.	Caste.	Zillah.	Nature of property and value.	CASH.		Stock and value.	Total.	Value of jewellery, etc., etc.	REMARKS.
				Savings Bank.	In hand or on loan.				
Ramdin	Chamar	Gageepore		\$	\$	2 heifers	\$ 40	\$ 35	Family savings recently expended in matrimonial festivities.
Rutchu	Koormu	Fyzabad	2 lots with 500 house.				500	50	
Rambuccus	Ahir	Rai Bareilly		451	350		801	30	
Sodebul	Chamar	Arjanghur			100		100		
Naucoo	Ahir	Pertabgur			185		185	12	Cow and calf 40
Jurun	Gatwa		2 lots 100				140		
Pobaroo	Buhr	Kassee	10 acres un-cultivated.				96	120	
Neetooee	Do.	Gageepore		150	150	Pigs	20	320	
Mahess	Sunnia	Chapra	Cocoa partly 12 acres			1 cow	20	530	Squandered all money left by father.
Imamalle	Born in Trinidad		8 lots and house.			1 calf	20	20	
Soonandun	Ditto					1 donkey and foal	35	80	
Sobratee	Musalman	Bastee					200	45	
Alladin	Ditto	Do.		200			200	10	Romits money to India.
Drigpaulsingh	Tacoar	Sultanpore	1 lot	200		1 cow	48	100	
Dabudin	Brahman	Ghaura			300	1 cow	25	25	
Tailasia (f.)	Tacoar	Fyzabad		96			171	25	
Sevaram	Cachee	Barrackpore		110			150	40	Had his land in cocoa, but all burnt down this summer.
Hemraj	Chamar	Arjanghur	5 acres				48	15	
Ismail	Musalman	Dakkah				2 cows and 110 calves.	210	140	
Nihalsing	Tacoar	Mathura			35		35		
Nursingbali	Brahman	Ghaura					50	40	Remits regularly to India.
Bhutan	Ahir	Chupapah		50			50	80	
Dabee	Do.	Sultanpore			1,000		25		
Kallan	Came here	Dasa child					1,000		
Gobinsing	Tacoar	Arrhie			35		35	30	Has that money lent to a shop-keeper. Very poor security.
Seepersad	Born on	estate			100		100		
Rampeary (f.)	Tacoar	Fyzabad	1 house		25		25		
Jhuru and wife	Chamar	Jawnpore					125	50	
Aboluck (Bounty)	Buhr	Gageepore		125				50	Property left her by husband, who is dead.
Khuroo (Bounty)	Do.							35	
Petit Mone, Marale	Koormoe	Allahabad						60	
Petit Mone, Sutton	Do.	Ditto						60	
Jaukee							96	42	Inherited from her husband.
From indentured coolies				1,853	1,996		658	8,043	
				600	236		155	2,150	
Total				2,453	2,232		813	10,193	

Number of free adult coolies on estate—Men 83, women 45. | Average acreage under cultivation 400 acres. | Average crop, 600 tons muscovado.

The following list was given to me by the Rev. K. J. Grant, and refers to Indian immigrants whom, probably from their being Christians, he personally knows. From the notes appended to this list, some idea may be formed of the great happiness, contentment and prosperity enjoyed by those who have not exercised their right of returning to India.

Memo. for Dr. Comins, from the Rev. K. J. Grant, San Fernando.

The following is a list of East Indians of considerable means, and of persons favourably situated through their English education to get on successfully, but it does not include the thousands of small holders of 5 or 10 acres, and others who derive a livelihood by keeping mules and carts, or cows, etc.—

NAME.	Residence.	Occupation.
1. Jankey Mahoraj	San Fernando	Merchant.
2. Mahip	"	"
3. Kismat Ali	"	"
4. Clarence Gopal	"	"
5. Joga Grant	"	"
6. Moorallie	"	"
7. Juppy	"	Shop-keeper.
8. John Harry	"	"

NAME.	Residence.	Occupation.
9. E. Jagasor	San Fernando	Shop-keeper.
10. Jogwansingh	"	"
11. Sewnanan	"	"
12. Charles Dillod	"	"
13. Ogeerkhan	"	"
14. Doolal	"	"
15. Samaroo	"	"
16. Albert Saumy	"	Proprietor of houses and lands.
17. Timothy Sirpi	"	Interpreter and proprietor of houses and lands.
18. John Aaron	"	Book-keeper and proprietor of houses and lands.
19. James N. Namscoo	"	Proprietor.
20. Moham	"	Book-keeper.
21. James Mahabir	"	Merchant's clerk.
22. John Ramoo	"	Gents' tailor.
23. James Mangal	"	Photographer.
24. George Adha	"	Tamil interpreter.
25. Samuel Selvon	"	Clerk to Inspector of Immigrants.
26. Alex. Aaron	"	Proprietor.
27. George Aaron	"	Shop-keeper.
28. Boodhram Mahoraj	"	Merchant's clerk and proprietor.
29. Charles Mootoo	"	Proprietor.
30. A. Girdhorry	"	School teacher.
31. F. Amir	"	Presbyterian minister.
32. Lal Bihori Singh	"	"
33. Charles Ragbeer	Diamond Ville	" entechist.
34. Rajkomarlol	Canaan	"
35. Baldeo Mahoraj	Hermitage	"
36. D. Ujagar Singh	Oropouche	"
37. Matadim Mahoraj	Wellington	"
38. Raghuman Mahoraj	Userie, St. Mado	"
39. Tulsie Mahoraj	Tarouba	"
40. Gangapaul Mahoraj	Gasparillo	" and proprietor.
41. C. C. Soodeen	Prince's Town	Shop-keeper.
42. James Tulsie	"	"
43. Juman	"	Interpreter and proprietor.
44. David Mahobir	"	Proprietor.
45. Churkoo	"	"
46. Mahamdally	Malgetont	"
47. Bessasar	Jere Village	"
48. Raghuber	Mount Stewart Village	"
49. Kalahal Singh	Bona Ventura	"
50. J. W. Ramdin	Mayo Village	"
51. Imamallie	Williams Ville	"
52. Padarath	Paparo Settlement	"
53. Panchoo	Moriehal	"
54. Bessasar	Attawal Road	"
55. Nagine	Prince's Town	Shop-keeper and proprietor.
56. Goolkhan	"	"
57. Moolahan	Palmyra	"
58. Ramsawook	Prince's Town	Proprietor.
59. Jaipaul Singh	Langua Village	"
60. Dabi Gesaine	"	"
61. Boodhu Singh	Roussilac Settlement	"
62. Jaipargos Lal	St. Francique	"
63. Ramsaran	Siparia Road	"
64. Bandhar Singh	Monkey Town	"
65. Balgopaul Mahoraj	Diamond Ville	Shop-keeper.
66. Birjn	"	"
67. Bhogwan Singh	Victoria Village	" and proprietor.
68. Subrick Mahoraj	Canaan	Proprietor.
69. Rudal	Danglode Village	Shop-keeper.
70. Gookool	"	"
71. Ramjan	"	"
72. Rakhal	Hermitage	Proprietor.
73. Subador Singh	"	Shop-keeper and proprietor.
74. Ramdin	St. John's	"
75. Gangah	"	"
76. Palliandio	"	"
77. Behorry	"	"
78. Seechoram	Oropouche	" and proprietor.
79. Partop	"	"
80. Secumbor	"	"
81. Mahabin Singh	Rambert Village	"
82. Bhogwandas	La Fortune Estate	"
83. Hasnally	Victoria Village	Proprietor.
84. Bhorath Singh	St. Francique	"
85. Bisnoth Moharaj	Fyzabad Settlement	"
86. Gopaul Singh	Gasparillo Village	"
87. Hulas	Fyzabad Settlement	"
88. Kokaram	"	"

NOTES.

In 1867, the Presbyterian Church in Canada sent its first agent to the East Indians in Trinidad. A very clear and reliable statement of the operation of this Mission, from the pen of the Reverend Alexander Falconer, eight years pastor of Grey Friars Church, Port-of-Spain, may be found in the April issue, 1891, of the "Knox College Monthly," which I beg herewith to forward.

In connection with the Canadian Presbyterian Mission in Trinidad, about 3,000 East Indians have been baptised—adults, say 2,000, children 1,000.

In school, religious instruction is given before the hour for secular instruction. Very few parents object to their children receiving religious instruction.

Children of Hindu and Muhammadan parents attend Sunday School. Every convert at baptism is pledged to abstain from all intoxicants.

Converts liberally contribute to Mission funds. In San Fernando alone they give annually £150 of their Missionary's salary. Last year, including out-stations of the district, they contributed £261; this year they are doing better. Last week they subscribed an extra £100 for church repairs, which are carried forward by a committee of themselves. Few ministers could have a more loyally attached and willing people.

Babu Lal Behari Singh, who for 4 years was under indenture on Cupar Grange estate, has been with me 19 years. Eight years ago he was ordained to the ministry, and I think I can safely say that he is esteemed and trusted, not only by his countrymen, but by all gentlemen that know him.

The proprietors of estates have always dealt generously with us. Last year their contributions for this district alone aggregated £214-3-4. Those in authority on estates treat us with the utmost courtesy.

The efficiency of our schools would be greatly increased if we had compulsory attendance for even half a day.

Our Governor, Sir William Robinson, has taken a most praiseworthy interest in the education of the Indian children. Last year my schools received from Government £712-2-8.

Wife murders form the foulest blot on our whole immigration system, and looking at the abortive attempts to provide a suitable marriage ordinance, I conclude that the difficulties are all but insuperable. This crime would unquestionably be reduced if more women were introduced into the colony.

The introduction of whole families would be attended with many advantages. Of this we have a striking example on the Biene Venue estate, where one Gangaram, who arrived here above 30 years ago with his wife and children, may now be found surrounded by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, the connection numbering in all about 100 souls.

The period lying between the expiration of indenture and the time when an Indian is entitled to a home passage, or to land in lieu of return passage, is one of unsettlement. We would, therefore, suggest the purchase of portions of abandoned estates in different quarters by the Government, and the allotment of a parcel equivalent in value to five acres of virgin soil, which anyone holding a free paper might obtain—imposing the condition that, until the end of his tenth year, his cultivation should to some extent be under the supervision and direction of the warden of the district. We think such lands would readily be accepted, as at the present time scores of East Indians are renting them.

K. J. GRANT,

*Missionary of the Presbyterian Church of Canada
to East Indians in Trinidad.*

TRINIDAD, SAN FERNANDO,
25th June 1891.

APPENDIX C.

*Memorandum on return passages by SIR CHARLES BRUCE, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor of
British Guiana.*

In considering the question of continuing or discontinuing the right of a free return passage to East Indian emigrants to British Guiana, the interests to be taken into account group themselves naturally under three heads:—

- The interests of the colony;
- The interests of the Government of India;
- The interests of the emigrants.

No elaborate argument is necessary to prove the importance of the colonial interests involved. The area of the colony is estimated at about 120,000 square miles, or a little less than the collective area of Great Britain and Ireland. The population is a little over 280,000, being 2·3 to the square mile—a population hardly sufficient for the cultivation and requirements of the area at present beneficially occupied, amounting to about 150 square miles. As regards the unoccupied area, it is believed to be as rich in agricultural forest and mineral resources as the most fortunate parts of the Empire. For the exploitation of this area the Government desire to increase the population by immigration from parts of India in which the ratio of population to area is in striking contrast to the circumstance of this colony. The collective area of Bengal and the North-West Provinces is about 250,000 square miles, rather more than double the area of British Guiana, while the population in 1881 exceeded 110 millions, being nearly 450 to the square mile.

That an adjustment of population is equally to the advantage of this colony and of the Government of India I endeavoured to show in an article contributed last year to an English periodical, from which I may now reproduce some passages illustrative of the views of Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India.

In a lecture delivered before the Society of Arts in December 1873, Sir Bartle Frere said of the labouring population of India:—"The Bengal labourer with wages at 1½d. or 2d. a day, and no roads or canals to bring him food, is always terribly near the brink of starvation;" and again, "Though I believe the existing population of India is, as a mass, better fed than it was forty years ago, still there are large masses, especially in Bengal, living on the limits of starvation." These words may be taken as indicating the condition of things in India when the abolition of slavery created the necessity for an importation of labour into our tropical colonies and led to the organization of a system designed to reconstruct the fortunes of those colonies on the principles of free labour. The peculiar fitness of the East Indian labourer to satisfy the wants of our tropical colonies has been well shown* by Mr. Grierson, an officer deputed by the Government of India to inquire into the system prior to the Indian Emigration Act of 1863. He says:—

"The colonies importing Indian labour are in the belt of the tropics. The only exception is Natal, which is sub-tropical. The conditions of life in these colonies are much the same, viz., an equable climate, free from sudden or extreme variations, and an amazing fertility. The original natives of these countries, living for generations where life without labour was easy and pleasant, have developed into a type of human beings peculiarly unfitted for the higher forms of cultivation of the soil. When, therefore, European enterprise attacked these countries with the hope of carrying off the richer products of the earth, the indigenous natives were found unsuited for aiding them in the work. Cooly labour had accordingly to be introduced: and the only places where suitable labour was found to be available were India and China. Both these countries are sub-tropical, the greater portion being outside the tropical belt. Here the conditions of life are very different. The climate is anything but equable and is subject to sudden and extreme variations. At one time the country is deluged by rain, at another, parched for months together. Here life is impossible without labour. The most elaborate precautions have to be taken to obtain even a probable chance of raising a moderate crop; and the result is that the inhabitants of India and China have, in the course of generations, developed into human beings possessing considerable agricultural skill and a wonderful capacity for continuous hard work. The Indian's whole life is one long labour—he never has a moment's rest. . . . When an Indian cooly is transported to a tropical colony, he finds himself in a place quite beyond his experience. He finds a soil capable of yielding good crops with hardly any cultivation, and he naturally applies to it all the labour and all the skill and industry inherent in him. The result is an outturn such as would be impossible in India and such as he had never even dreamed of before. Subsequent experience confirms his first impressions, and he rightly considers that he has found a place free from cholera and famine, of a warm equable climate where his natural industry, if rightly applied, makes its possessor in a few years the owner of a large fortune."

Such was in brief the origin of cooly emigration from India to our tropical colonies. European enterprise on the one hand in need of a steady and continuous supply of labour, on the other a vast population skilful, industrious, and frugal, yet chronically on the limits of starvation, exposed to constant outbreaks of cholera and to frequent famines, and without prospect of ever bettering their condition or raising themselves above a daily struggle for existence.

The Imperial interests concerned in the system were broadly stated by Lord Salisbury in a despatch to the Government of India on the 24th of March 1875, in which he said:

* Report on Colonial Emigration from the Bengal Presidency.

"Having regard to the greatness of our Indian population, and to the probability that, under the protection which the British Government affords from depopulation by war, and as far as possible from famine and other evils, that population must continue very greatly to increase—especially in the healthier and more densely populated parts of the country, where the numbers already press on the means of subsistence, and the lowest classes are at all times little removed from want—it appears to me that, from an Indian point of view, it is desirable to afford an outlet from these redundant regions into the tropical and sub-tropical dominions of Her Majesty, where people who hardly earn a decent subsistence in their own country may obtain more lucrative employment and better homes. While, therefore, from an Indian point of view, emigration properly regulated and accompanied by sufficient assurance of profitable employment and fair treatment seems a thing to be encouraged on grounds of humanity, with a view to promote the well-being of the poorer classes, we may also consider from an Imperial point of view the great advantage which must result from peopling the warmer British possessions, which are rich in natural resources and only want population, by an intelligent and industrious race to whom the climate of these countries is well suited, and to whom the culture of the staples suited to the soil and the modes of settlement and labour are adapted. In this view also it seems proper to encourage emigration from India to colonies well fitted for an Indian population. Under extraordinary circumstances—such as famine, flood, or other great calamities, when large numbers of the poorer classes are deprived of the means of subsistence, or are left without house and home—the Government officers might themselves engage emigrants for those colonies which have agreed to receive people recruited under such circumstances."

Until the number of inhabitants to the square mile in British Guiana is very much larger than it is at present, the requirements of the colony will not be met by the temporary residence of labourers who are to be returned to India with their families at the end of a very limited period. Of the cost of immigration a third is now paid out of the Colonial Revenues in consideration of the public advantage accruing from the increased supply of labour available when the immigrant has completed his apprenticeship on the estate which has borne two-thirds of the cost of his introduction, and enters the labour market as a free man. It is evident, therefore, that the colony's share of gain from immigration must depend largely upon this question of return passages. If an immigrant returns to India at the completion of ten years of industrial residence, five years of which have been served mainly for the advantage of the proprietors of the estate to which he has been allotted, the colony's gain is reduced to five years of available service, in return for which it pays one-third of the cost of introduction and one-third of the cost of his return, together with his family, if any, to India. Such an advantage is obviously insignificant when compared with the permanent increase of population in the case of immigrants who settle in the colony, marry and multiply. Moreover, the returning immigrant—the "carpet-bagger," to use a familiar phrase—takes with him to India all the earnings of his industry instead of adding them to the general accumulation of wealth in the colony. It is a misfortune of the colony that from various causes the wealth which has its origin in the soil does to a very large extent leave it to enrich other communities. It is hardly necessary to argue that the colony must continue to be deprived of all the advantages which follow the progressive accumulation of wealth in other countries, so long as the interest of capital and the gains of labour are alike withdrawn from the colony almost as soon as realised.

So long as the reasons continue to exist which have been indicated in proof of the advantage accruing to the Government of India from the emigration of its surplus population, there seems to be nothing in the proposal to discontinue free return passages inconsistent with the interests of the Indian Government, provided it is satisfied that such a measure is not prejudicial to the interests of the emigrants themselves.

It remains for me to consider, what may well be thought first in importance, the interests of the emigrants from British India to this colony.

For the purpose of this memorandum, in which I am dealing with the question of return passages, I will assume that Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India are satisfied with the condition of the immigrants during the period of their indentured service in British Guiana, and I will confine myself to a consideration of the position and prospects of an immigrant whose term of indenture has expired.

He has two courses before him: either to continue to work for the estate to which he has been indentured or for some other estate under the laws regulating free labour in the colony; or to devote himself to any of the pursuits by which a living is earned by the general community.

The Indian immigrant population on the 31st of December last (1890) was estimated at 107,424, of whom 15,567 were under indenture, 51,259 free immigrants resident on estates, and 34,598 free immigrants not resident on estates. The number of children being estimated at about 27,000, it may be assumed that the adult Indian immigrant population is about 80,000, consisting of about 53,000 males and 27,000 females. Deducting from these the immigrants under indenture, we have a population of free adult immigrants consisting of about 42,000 males and 22,000 females.

Bearing in mind the conditions under which these persons have emigrated from India, as already shown, I will endeavour to illustrate the conditions and prospects attached to their settlement in the colony.

The following returns taken from the Blue Book for the year 1890 show the general rates paid for labour on sugar estates:—

*Average rate of wages for labour.**

	Per annum.	Per day.		Per task.	
ON SUGAR ESTATES.					
		S. d.	S. d.		
<i>Prædial—</i>					
Cane cutters	...	2	0 to 4	0	{ This work is always done by task. This work is, ordinarily done by industrious coolies and blacks; they can earn more by working beyond the 7 hours defined by law as a day's work.
Shovelmen	...	1	0 to 2	0	
Weeders	...	0	10 to 1	4	
Suppliers	...	1	6 to 2	6	
Puntmen	...	1	4 to 2	0	
<i>Manufacture—</i>					
Cane-throwers	...	1	0 to 1	4	{ Principally done by East Indians.
Boilermen	...	1	6 to 2	0	
Firemen	...	1	6 to 2	6	{ A good deal of this work is now done by task.
Sugar curers	...	2	0 to 3	0	
Boxmen	...	1	8 to 2	0	
Megass carriers	...	1	2 to 1	4	
Clarifiers—Headmen	...	3	0 to 3	6	
Do. other than do.	...	1	4 to 1	8	
Distillers (including headmen)	...	1	4 to 4	2	
Others about the buildings	...	0	8 to 1	6	
<i>Tradesmen—</i>					
Engineers	...	2	8 to 4	2	{ Headmen generally paid monthly. Generally by task.
Carpenters	...	2	8 to 3	0	
Masons	...	2	8 to 3	4	
Coopers	...	3	0 to 4	0	

* The rates for prædial labour during the crop season October to December were considerably in excess of those quoted above in consequence of the supply of labour not being equal to the demand.

Owing to the scarcity of labour in the colony, a good and industrious workman can generally secure employment on the most remunerative work quoted.

Hitherto the Asiatic immigrants have taken no great part in the gold industry. The general rate of wages is 2s. 8d. a day with all found.

Such are the immediate prospects before an immigrant who elects to start on his career, after the expiration of his indenture, as a hired labourer or workman. He has the alternative of seeking his fortunes as an independent adventurer.

Experience shows that as a general rule the immigrant on completing his term of indenture continues to reside on or in the immediate neighbourhood of the great sugar estates, devoting a part of his time to working on the estate as a free labourer at the rates I have quoted, and a part to the cultivation on his own account of lots of land rented or purchased, to cow-keeping, cattle-grazing, huckstering, shop-keeping or such other industries as are within reach of his savings. The extraordinary facilities offered in this colony for the lease or purchase of Crown lands have placed it within the reach of very small capitalists to acquire extensive tracts. Crown lands are exposed for sale at an upset price of 4s. 2d. an acre, or leased at a yearly rental of 2½d. an acre.

During the last twenty years the Government have made several experiments with a view to the settlement of East Indian immigrants on unoccupied estates, to which a large area of land suitable for cultivation or grazing purposes is attached. It was hoped to secure the settlement of these estates by offering lots of land to the immigrants in lieu of a return passage to India. None of these experiments has succeeded, and the failure is to my mind partly attributable to the position of the immigrant on completing his term of indenture having been overlooked. He must necessarily pass through a period of transition during which he cannot live by the produce of land worked on his own account, but is compelled to divide his time between working for hire and cultivating his own land. The settlements founded by immigrants of their own free enterprise have been more successful, because those who have founded them have been forced in the selection of sites to recognise the necessities of the immigrant during the period of his transition from the position of a hired labourer to that of an independent occupier or trader. It is hardly necessary for me to point out that the arrangement by which, as experience has shown, the immigrant works out his emancipation is in every way advantageous to the proprietor of a great estate. The most intelligent of the proprietors have learned to offer every possible inducement to the immigrant freed from his indenture to establish himself on or in the immediate neighbourhood of their estates.

The limits of this memorandum will not allow me to do more than illustrate by a few figures the extent to which immigrants from British India to this colony have availed themselves of the opportunities offered "to people who hardly earn a decent subsistence in their own country to obtain more lucrative employment and better homes."

The terms of employment I have already indicated; in illustration of the results which may be achieved by those who accept them, I will now offer some evidence of the position of immigrants as depositors in the Savings Banks, and as holders of immoveable property, adding some other illustrative facts and figures.

The Immigration Agent-General has supplied the following information as regards the Savings Banks:—

Savings of Immigrants.

The following statement shows the amounts at credit of East Indian immigrants in the Government and Post Office Savings Banks on the 31st December each year, from 1881 to 1890, both inclusive:—

YEAR.	GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.				P. O. SAVINGS BANK.			
	East Indians.		Chinese.					
	Depositors.	£ s. d.	Depositors.	£ s. d.	Depositors.	£ s. d.	Depositors.	£ s. d.
1881 ...	4,512	92,203 3 8½	26	308 16 2				
1882 ...	5,566	115,927 0 7	34	523 6 3½				
1883 ...	6,274	125,243 7 0	43	1,089 9 1½				
1884 ...	5,912	107,478 4 7½	42	784 14 8				
1885 ...	5,401	87,839 15 5	46	344 4 6				
1886 ...	5,563	88,740 17 2	49	586 5 7½				
1887 ...	5,821	91,375 4 6	40	638 18 11				
1888 ...	4,388	82,987 6 11½	38	765 12 1				
1889 ...	6,615	106,796 7 6	31	646 18 10	24	142 7 2		
1890 ...	6,323	116,706 16 11	17	625 16 9	259	2,125 15 9		

The total amount, therefore, at credit of East Indian immigrants on the 31st December 1890 in the Government and Post Office Savings Banks was £117,832-11-8—equal to \$665,596-64.

The system of Post Office Savings Banks, conducted in a similar manner to those in the United Kingdom, was inaugurated at the beginning of December 1889, and the Postmaster-General, in his report on the working of the Banks for this month, stated that at the close of the month the total number of depositors was 136 and the total amount deposited \$2,279-17. Of this amount, the sum of \$683-32 was deposited by 24 East Indian immigrants; and in referring to the immigrant population, the Postmaster-General remarked as follows:—

"Up to the end of the month, the coolies had been slow to avail themselves of the Bank, and in the absence of copies of the Regulations and Forms of Declaration printed in the vernacular, which had been ordered from India, it was considered inadvisable to make any particular attempt to reach them. It is anticipated that they will ultimately form a large proportion of the depositors."

He also reported as follows, in regard to a proposed addition to the number of these Banks for the benefit of the immigrants residing at the extreme end of the Corentyne Coast:—

"On the 5th December I received an official communication from the Immigration Department, in which I was informed that, in anticipation of the opening of a Savings Bank in that district, the Manager of Skeldon had in a few days obtained the names of sixty immigrants on that estate anxious to deposit money."

The Regulations referred to have been received from India, printed in Nagri, Bengali and Urdu, and have been distributed throughout the colony. A Savings' Bank in connection with the Skeldon Post Office has been opened.

The following statement on the subject of immoveable property owned by East Indian immigrants in the principal towns and villages has been supplied by the Immigration Agent-General:—

Property owned by East Indian Immigrants.

The property owned by East Indian immigrants in land and houses in the city of Georgetown and in the town of New Amsterdam amounts to the value of \$129,305, the taxes payable on which are \$2,580-70, viz:—

	Value of property.	Taxes.
	\$	\$ c.
In Georgetown	91,530	1,830 08
„ New Amsterdam	37,535	750 10

It must, however, be observed that these statistics do not represent all the property owned by immigrants, but give only an approximate amount, for if immigrants or other persons becoming possessed of house property do not exhibit transports or other documents, the property will not appear in their names, but remains in those of the original owners.

In the villages, 23 in number, worked under the control of the Central Board of Health, the value of the houses and lots owned by East Indian immigrants is \$102,543-50, the rates payable on which are \$2,104-12.

The following is a summary of the village property:—

Num-ber.	Name of village.	Number of coolies.	Number of houses.	Value of houses.	Value of land.	Total value.	Rates per annum.
1	Alexanderville ...	37	48	\$ 3,255	\$ c. 960 0	\$ c. 4,215 0	\$ c. 84 30
2	Plaisance ...	74	86	4,835	135 0	4,970 0	90 40
3	Beterverwagting ...	44	47	4,771	60 0	4,831 0	96 62
4	Buxton ...	14	16	1,300	298 0	1,598 0	31 96
5	Friendship ...	53	56	2,784	600 0	3,384 0	67 68
6	Golden Grove ...	5	...	...	1,500 0	1,500 0	30 0
7	Nabaelis ...	8	...	...	1,650 0	1,650 0	33 0
8	Two Friends ...	9	9	245	100 0	345 0	9 90
9	Ann's Grove ...	8	8	335	150 0	485 0	9 70
10	Craig ...	1	...	...	17 0	17 0	34
11	Meadow Bank ...	13	26	3,100	1,275 0	4,375 0	87 50
12	Sisters ...	7	...	...	2,187 50	2,187 50	43 75
13	Good Intent ...	4	...	...	1,502 0	1,502 0	30 04
14	Bagotville ...	32	...	...	3,888 0	3,888 0	77 76
15	Stanley Town ...	13	...	...	1,200 0	1,200 0	24 0
16	Den Amstel ...	56	75	6,945	1,900 0	8,845 0	176 90
17	Fellowship ...	4	5	295	50 0	345 0	6 90
18	Concordia ...	1	...	...	240 0	240 0	4 80
19	Ridge ...	24	31	466	16,740 0	17,206 0	344 12
20	Daniel's Town ...	18	15	500	600 0	1,100 0	22 0
21	Queen's Town ...	94	119	6,960	1,204 0	8,164 0	259 53
22	Cumberland ...	83	117	4,673	1,048 0	5,721 0	114 42
23	New Siah ...	44	42	2,940	6,325 0	9,265 0	185 30
24	The Lodge ...	...	...	...	...	6,210 0	124 70
25	Albuoystown ...	...	...	...	...	9,300 0	189 50
	Total ...	646	700	43,404	43,629 50	102,543 50	2,104 12

The above statement gives, however, a very small proportion of the value of property owned by immigrants throughout the colony, as there are no means of ascertaining the value of such property in the manner afforded by villages under the Central Board of Health.

The following returns which the Registrar-General has had compiled at my request, though imperfect, give more complete information as to the value of lands held in freehold by East Indian immigrants than has been hitherto available:—

RETURN showing the number of Transports and Letters of Decree passed and granted to East Indian immigrants during the period commencing 1st January 1871 and ending 31st December 1890, and still in their names, and the value of the property conveyed thereby, exclusive of property situate in the county of Berbice, in the city of Georgetown, and villages under the administration of the Central Board of Health.

YEAR.	Number of titles.	Value of property.	REMARKS.
1871	2	\$ c. 470 0	
1872	2	100 0	
1873	7	3,727 0	
1874	9	2,841 0	
1875	7	676 0	
1876	1	31 0	
1877	11	1,815 0	
1878	16	2,491 0	
1879	10	2,905 0	
1880	3	1,240 0	N. ¼ plantation DeKinderen, Mahaica Creek, acquired by an immigrant; area not ascertainable from records.
1881	14	3,079 50	Larima Cabra, Essequibo river, acquired by an immigrant; area 247½ acres.
1882	39	6,014 0	N. ½ plantation Roden Rust, east bank, Essequibo river, acquired by an immigrant; area 230 acres.
1883	48	6,756 0	Portions of Huis t'Dieren, transported to immigrants as gifts from Government; 63 of these titles still stand in the names of the parties then transported to; value of the land held under them not included herein.
1884	22	4,690 0	Parts of Soesdyk, Demerary River, acquired by immigrants; areas 110 and 62½ acres respectively.
1885	43	4,743 0	Part of the Loo, Demerary River, acquired by an immigrant; area 187½ acres.
1886	38	6,645 0	Part of Orangesteyn, West Coast, Demerary, acquired by 2 immigrants; area 125 acres.
			Part of Orangesteyn, West Coast, Demerary, acquired by an immigrant; area 250 acres.

YEAR.	Number of titles.	Value of property.	REMARKS.
1887	29	\$ 4,593 0	
1888	19	3,989 0	Half of plantations Retrieve and Canefield, Leguan, Essequibo, acquired by an immigrant; area not ascertainable from records.
1889	32	7,923 0	Plantation Amsterdam, Leguan, Essequibo, acquired by an immigrant; area about 500 acres.
			Part of Orangestein, West Coast, Demerary, acquired by an immigrant; area 62½ acres.
1890	58	9,739 50	Part of Orangestein, West Coast, Demerary, acquired by an immigrant; area 62½ acres.
			Half of plantations Retrieve and Canefield, Leguan, Essequibo, acquired by an immigrant; area not ascertainable from records.
			South half of plantation Look Out, Essequibo, acquired by an immigrant; area not ascertainable from records.
Totals	415	74,468 0	

RETURN OF TRANSPORTS of various lots of land and buildings and certain large properties, their values and extent in acres, passed to East Indian immigrants in the county of Berbice, exclusive of the town of New Amsterdam and such incorporated villages as are under the administration of the Inspector of Villages, within the last twenty years, from 1st January 1871 to 31st December 1890:—

YEAR.	Number of persons.		Trans-ports passed.	Lowest value.	Highest value.	Total value of lands and buildings.	Certain large properties acquired by East Indian immigrants.	Where situate.	Area in acres.	Value.
	M.	F.		\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.				\$ c.
1871	1	...	1	...	...	230 0	Part pln. Dun Robin	Corentyne Coast	41	230 0
1872	30	6	19	50 0	2,335 0	3,274 0	Und. ¼ of pln. lot 11	East Sea Coast	250	2,335 0
1873	7	...	5	15 0	600 0	805 0	West ½ pln. Armadale	West Sea Coast	250	600 0
1874	1	...	1	...	...	45 0				
1875	5	...	4	30 0	575 0	827 0	East ½ pln. Brighton	Corentyne Coast	250	575 0
1876	7	1	8	55 0	270 0	1,031 0				
1877	16	2	18	15 0	210 0	1,159 92	Part pln. Industry	East Sea Coast	125	64 92
1878	8	3	11	15 0	215 0	1,076 0	West ½ pln. Clifton	Corentyne Coast	250	200 0
1879	7	...	7	10 0	85 0	322 0				
1880	13	3	15	15 0	800 0	1,232 0				
1881	36	2	34	17 0	200 0	2,644 0				
1882	35	15	46	15 0	545 0	3,757 0	West ½ pln. lot 86	Corentyne Coast	250	183 0
1883	79	14	8	13 0	600 0	5,958 88	Plantation lot 67	Idem	500	600 0
1884	56	27	80	5 0	400 0	4,021 50	Und. ½ of East ½ pln. Armadale.	West Sea Coast	125	400 0
1885	53	5	51	7 50	740 0	1,692 50	Pln. lot 60	Corentyne Coast	500	740 0
1886	20	9	29	15 0	1,000 0	2,965 24	Lots 1, 2, and 3, pt. of pln. Brahn.	West Sea Coast	205	1,000 0
1887	21	8	22	5 0	400 0	2,455 50	Und. ¼ of East ½ of pln. Armadale.	Idem	125	400 0
1888	28	14	34	5 0	250 0	2,441 0				
1889	48	6	55	15 0	6,755 0	16,844 0	Plantation Prospect cum. an.	East Coast Canal	635	6,755 0
1890	43	7	45	7 50	160 0	2,686 0				
Total	512	122	569	310 0	15,640 0	55,467 54			3,506	14,082 92

It has unfortunately been found impossible without a longer delay than will allow of my preparing this memorandum in time for the use of Surgeon-Major Comins, to obtain any accurate information as to the number and value of cattle, sheep, &c., owned by East Indian immigrants. A return obtained by the Immigration Commissioners in 1871 gave the value of cattle, sheep, &c., owned by East Indian immigrants as exceeding £130,000. If we may take the vastly increased area of lands in the rural districts now held in freehold by them as some indication, it is probable that this amount is much below the present value.

The following information is supplied by the Immigration Agent-General:—

Cattle.

The following figures show the number of cattle, sheep, etc., owned by East Indian immigrants and pastured on the estates on which they reside, during the year 1890:—

	Cattle.	Sheep, etc.
Indentured	4,067	2,088
Unindentured	16,564	3,238

These figures do not, however, represent the total number of cattle owned by immigrants indentured to or resident on estates, as in many instances the cattle are kept in pastures not connected with the estates, and no record can be obtained of these.

In the same manner, no information can be supplied as to the number of cattle owned by immigrants who do not reside on the estates, but the number is considerable. On this subject Mr. Griffin, Sub-Immigration Agent, Berbice, reported as follows:—"There are many wealthy immigrants not residing on estates, who own large herds of cattle of which it would be impossible to ascertain anything like a correct number. For instance, the heirs of Gungaram at Lovely Lass, West Coast, own upwards of 400 head. Purbhoo at Brahn has upwards of 700 head of cattle, and others all along the coast own cattle."

The immigrants as a rule dispose of their milk on the estates on which they reside and in the neighbouring villages, the negroes, who seldom keep cattle, being the chief purchasers, although large quantities are consumed by the coolies themselves.

I will now only add in illustration of the position of immigrants in the colony two statements prepared by the Immigration Agent-General:—(1) relative to their correspondence without remittances to India, and (2) showing the money and jewellery taken to India by return immigrants or deposited for payment to them on arrival:—

Remittances to India and Correspondence.

The following statement gives the amount of money remitted by Indian immigrants for ten years, viz., from 1881 to 1890, and also the number of letters forwarded to India:—

YEAR.	Remitted through this Department.	Remitted by Post Office orders.	Letters sent through this Department.	Registered letters, Post Office.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
1881	473 11 8		591	
1882	673 18 11		785	
1883	3,259 4 10		1,220	
1884	1,190 10 4		1,439	
1885	1,308 2 6½	80 7 5	1,839	
1886	1,076 17 6	481 16 1	1,726	
1887	631 12 8	1,276 17 11	1,312	948
1888	732 4 0	2,648 16 0	1,286	1,323
1889		4,840 18 0	1,894	1,422
1890		5,192 3 11	2,035	1,705

Previous to December 1888 remittances were made through the Office of the Colonial Receiver-General in this colony and the Indian Treasury, instead of, as now, by means of Post Office money-orders. It will be seen that there has been a large increase in the amount of the remittances.

There has also been an extension of the correspondence with India. Every effort has been made by the Immigration Department to encourage correspondence between the immigrants and their friends in India, by the gratuitous transmission of letters to Calcutta, the publication of rules to regulate the transmission of letters printed in Nagri, Persian and Bengali, and by obtaining from India a supply of Indian stamps, four-and-a-half-anna and one-anna, which immigrants can purchase to cover the cost of the inland postage of their letters from Calcutta to their destination, and also to prepay the replies.

In addition to the letters forwarded through this office there is now an increasing number posted direct by the immigrants at the Post Office. On this subject the following paragraph appears in the Report of the Immigration Agent-General for 1890:—

"There were 2,035 letters forwarded by immigrants in the colony to their friends and relatives in India, through the medium of this Department, being an increase of 141 over the number transmitted last year; and 1,705 letters were registered at the Post Office for transmission to that country, as against 1,422 last year."

"No record of the number of letters posted in the ordinary course has been kept; but the weight of the mails sent was 80 lbs. 4½ ozs., which, excluding the registered letters above referred to, probably represented about 2,000 letters."

Money and Jewellery taken to India by return immigrants.

Statement showing money and jewellery taken to India by return immigrants, or deposited for payment to them on arrival:—

YEAR.	\$ c.	\$ c.
1854	21,312 0	
1855	20,543 16	
1856	52,622 71	
1857	27,886 63	
1858	72,081 35	
1859	45,058 0	
1860	60,356 06	
1861	53,969 0	
1862	49,143 0	
1863	53,388 0	
1864	46,128 95	
1865	50,136 89	
1866	122,685 14	
1867	97,272 79	
1868	47,774 0	
1869	68,570 65	2,460 0
1870	28,305 08	1,500 0
1871	92,205 80	4,800 0
1872	80,893 30	16,800 0
1873	85,599 88	11,000 0
1874	100,484 42	24,000 0
1875	98,082 73	24,500 0
1876	88,289 92	20,240 0
1877	152,980 80	30,858 0
1878	125,694 90	27,000 0
1879	114,708 93	23,000 0
1880	92,275 50	19,000 0
1881	77,613 57	15,000 0
1882	78,974 24	16,100 0
1883	93,424 70	18,700 0
1884	117,611 0	25,000 0
	2,314,572 47	280,458 0

For a just appreciation of this statement it must be borne in mind that for the latter half of the period included East Indian immigrants have remitted to India in other ways, and to a large extent, as shown in returns included in this memorandum, invested money in the colony to its great advantage and, it may be assumed, to their own.

At the commencement of this memorandum I indicated that that part of the population of British India which supplies the tropical colonies with labour is without prospect of bettering its condition or raising itself above a daily struggle for existence, and is exposed to constant outbreaks of cholera and to frequent famines. I have endeavoured to show that in British Guiana the immigrant has an excellent prospect of bettering his condition and raising himself above a daily struggle for existence. It remains for me now to give some evidence of his position as regards his chances of life in British Guiana as compared with his Indian home.

As regards the normal chances of life, the following figures showing the death-rate per thousand are based on an average of five years ending with the year 1889:—

Indentured immigrants on estates.	Unindentured immigrants on estates.	Colony generally.
22.00	18.00	29.00

I may mention that the high death-rate of the colony generally as compared with the rate among immigrants is due to the high percentage of deaths among children under 5 years of age belonging to the non-immigrant community. The Surgeon-General last year drew particular attention to this fact.

I have no doubt that the normal death-rate as indicated will compare favourably with the normal death-rate of the Indian population from which immigrants are drawn to British Guiana. The exceptional calamities such as floods, famines and epidemics of cholera, to which the population of India is exposed, are here practically unknown. The epidemics of yellow fever which have visited the colony since the first immigration of East Indians have been chiefly fatal to Europeans and have never appreciably affected the death-rate of the immigrant population.

As a convenient illustration of the intention of this Government to place medical aid within reach of the community, I may state that the public expenditure upon the Medical Department and public hospitals is equivalent to over one-eighth of the total revenue of the colony. Of this amount nearly one-fourth is paid by the employers of immigrants. It does not include the expenditure upon over 90 estates hospitals, maintained wholly at the cost of the proprietors.

In dealing with the question of return passages from the point of view of the interests of the immigrants themselves, I have dealt particularly with those points which I indicated at the outset as inseparable from the motives which have led to emigration from British India; I believe that in all other respects British Guiana offers advantages not inferior to such as are afforded by any country which draws emigrants from British India. And British Guiana offers to the industrious immigrant two superior inducements, inasmuch as the population is inadequate to the cultivation of the land already occupied, thus ensuring him fair rates of wage, while the area of land awaiting beneficial occupation is practically unlimited and is offered by the Government at a rate which places the occupancy of a considerable area within easy reach of the savings of an industrious workman.

I trust that what has been said in this memorandum, brief and imperfect as it necessarily is, may be accepted as evidence that the permanent settlement of the colony by immigration from India as distinguished from a system which provides a merely temporary supply of labour is in the interest equally of the Colonial and Indian Governments and of the immigrants themselves.

The principal argument which has been brought forward in favour of return passages from this colony is: that the return to India each year of a number of prosperous immigrants facilitates the supply of fresh immigrants by creating a favourable impression in India as to the advantages offered by the colony, and that any departure from the existing terms of engagement might have the effect of impeding the supply by creating an unfavourable impression. The Emigration Agent of the Colony in India, however, does not believe that a discontinuance of the right to a return passage would to any appreciable extent interfere with the supply at present available, and it appears to me that the ever-increasing correspondence between the immigrants and India, and above all the increased remittance of money, are likely to act as sufficient advertisements of the colony. In any case, the beneficial result of a permanent settlement would outweigh any possible inconvenience to be apprehended from some slight additional difficulty or cost in obtaining immigrants.

The Royal Commission appointed in 1872 to enquire into the question of East Indian immigration in Mauritius were not agreed as to the advantage of granting free return passages; Mr. Victor Williamson, the member who favoured them, stated two reasons for his opinion. He considered that as the island was densely populated it was desirable on sanitary grounds that there should be an artificial drain to prevent the consequences of overpopulation by the artificial means of immigration; and he believed that the absence of a right to a free return passage prevented the Colony's Agent in India from obtaining immigrants. As regards the former of these reasons the argument cannot of course apply to British Guiana; with the latter I have already dealt. It may of course be argued that the comparative nearness of Mauritius to India places that colony in a very different position from British Guiana as concerns return passages. It cannot be doubted that with the earlier emigrants from India the certainty that a return passage would be placed within their reach within a measurable time was taken into account. They were going to a distant land to try their fortunes, a small company in the midst of a comparatively large population

foreign in race, language, and creed. But the conditions under which the first emigrants left India are now greatly changed. The East Indian immigrants in British Guiana now exceed one-third of the total population, and as children are born and families become bound to the colony by new ties, each succeeding generation becomes more and more firmly rooted in the soil. The change of position is in fact exactly the same as has occurred in the position of settlers in Canada or Australia within the last century.

I have now to say a few words on the financial bearing of the question so far as concerns the direct annual expenditure for immigration. The estimates for the current financial year provide a sum of about £85,000 for the cost of introduction of 5,000 East Indian immigrants and a further sum of about £30,000 for the free return passages of 1,800 immigrants.*

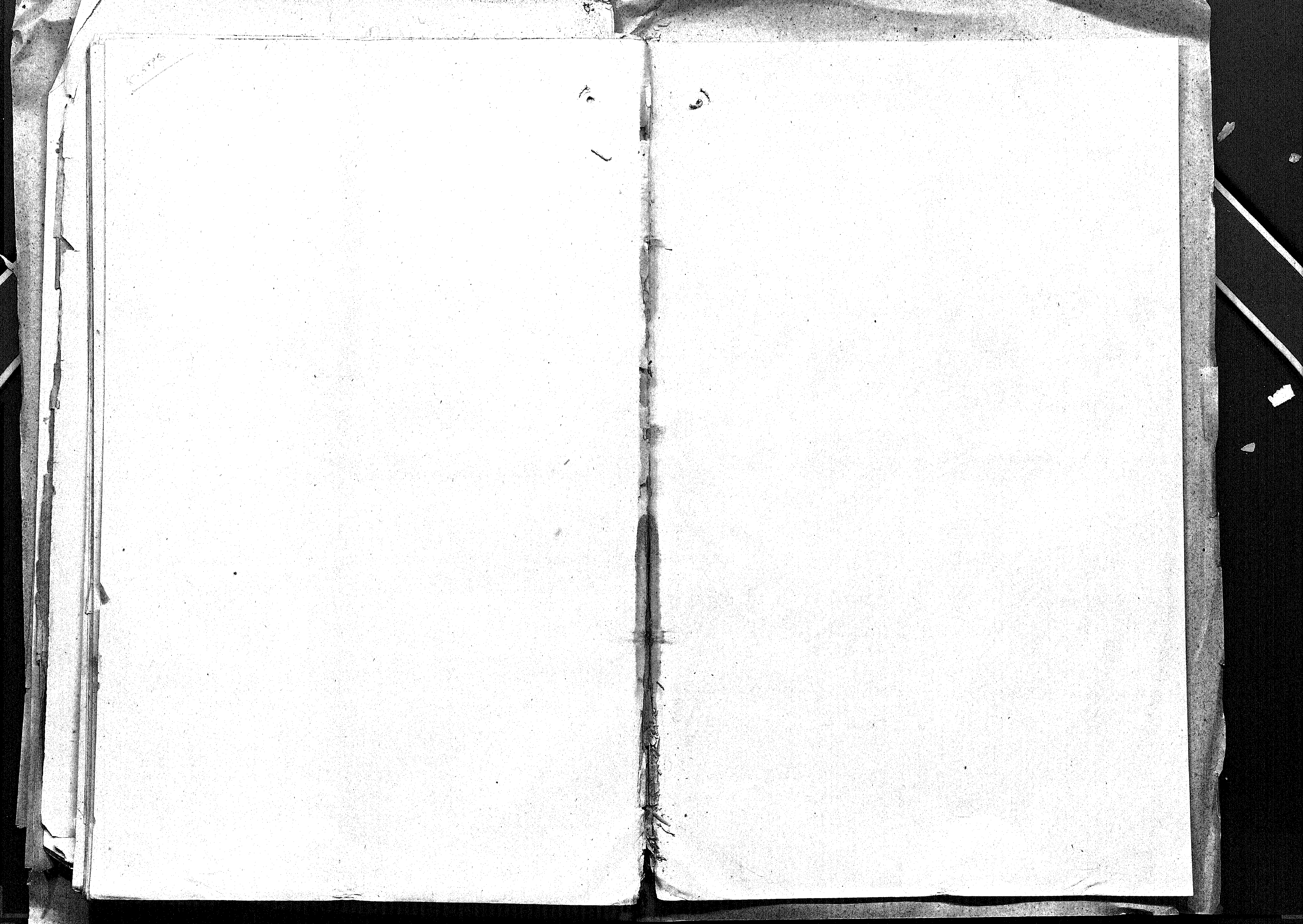
The number to be introduced is equivalent to nearly 5 per cent. on the resident immigrant population; the number returning is less than 2 per cent. It would appear from these figures that the same expenditure which now serves to provide an artificial increase of the population at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum would suffice without the burden of free return passages to provide an increase at the rate of 7 per cent. The direct financial advantages of the proposal would not, however, be so considerable as they thus appear. During each of the last three years the number of immigrants returning to India has been nearly the same, and the average number of paupers among them has been about 200, or about 10 per cent. The case of these paupers raises a question of some importance. If it is in accordance with the wish of the Government of India that these persons should be returned to India at the cost of the Colonial Government, such an arrangement would be willingly agreed to. The cost of returning 200 paupers to their homes in India would not exceed £4,000. If, on the other hand, it were decided that these paupers should remain in the colony, the burden of their maintenance would be much more considerable.

If it should be decided to discontinue free return passages, it would nevertheless be incumbent on the Government to make such arrangements as would enable immigrants to return to India at their own cost with reasonable speed, security, and economy. It might be considered just that the Government should bear a portion of the cost of such arrangements, and perhaps in this way a fair solution of the question of return passages may be found.

CHAS. BRUCE.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, GEORGETOWN,
October 5th, 1891.

* NOTE.—I take no account of immigrants who pay their own passages, as the question I am dealing with is not affected by them.



NOTE
ON
THE ABOLITION OF RETURN PASSAGES
TO
EAST INDIAN IMMIGRANTS
FROM THE
COLONIES OF TRINIDAD AND BRITISH GUIANA.

By
SURGEON-MAJOR D. W. D. COMINS,
On special duty in the English and Foreign Colonies.

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