

ORDINARY MS.

Public DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 28-4-93
No. 340.

INDEXED.

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Investing that the
letter from the Colonel
Seymour Singapore re-
-garding the return
to Negapatnam from
Johor of three young
children whose parents
were at the latter
place under inten-
-tion, he could to
the Collector of Tan-
-jore —

mu.
order
 28 April 193.
 No. 340.
 HED
 27 Apr

The Colonial Secy's
 reply will be couid:
 to the collector of
 Tanjore with refer.
 -ence to G.O. dt 6th
 March 1893, No. 186.

20 B.
24/4

25/4/93

From
 The Hon: the Colonial
 Secretary
 Singapore

No. 3496-93

Dated 8th April 1893

Received 21st April 1893

Enclosures 3.

SUBJECT.

Reporting the result of
 Enquiry regarding the return
 to Negapatam from Johor of
 three young children whose
 parents were at the latter
 place under indenture
 WITH ORDER

Collo of Tanjore

DESTROYED

6 MAY 93

IN M.S.

C. 24/4
R 28/4

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

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B.—

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

to whoever you consider best.

Kindly write me as soon as the Cookies
leave.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) Howard Bentley.

Magistrate and A. I. J. Agent
Tahora.

(True Copy)

(Signed) J. Hardaker

Superintendent S.S.

(True Copy)

H. W. M. M. M.

Acting District Magistrate.

True

as

3

Paid

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Should agents be required to

accompanying the batch of Coolies
sent per S.S. "Sirsa" were four children, or
minor dependents. The specific particulars of the
three of these children referred to below in
the margin. On arrival of above mentioned
batch of Coolies at Johore the three children —
specified in the margin were found to be
unable to stand the climate of Johore, —
although the Superintendent, Straits
Settlements, Emigration Depot here, states,
when embarked here, they were in his
opinion all in good health. The three
children were thereupon sent back from
Johore to Messrs. Paterson Simons and Co.,
Singapore, for return to Negapatam, and
they returned here per S.S. "Sirsa" on 21st
September last. On arrival here, the
children were all seriously ill, —
necessitating their being sent to the
Station Hospital for treatment. They
were subsequently discharged from the
Hospital and have since been in the Straits
Settlements Emigration Depot here, being
maintained at our expense. We also
defrayed

or nearest relatives of these — — —
Still in Johore. On the children's return
here, we asked Messrs. Paterson Simons
and Co., Singapore, to inform us whether
they had any relatives in India to whom
they could be made over. No relatives of
the children, however, can be traced in
the South Arcot District from which
they are said to have come and the children
are still awaiting disposal here.

We have the honor hereby to point out
the improper manner in which these
children have been separated from
their parents in Johore in order to be
returned here and to ask you to
request the Government of Madras
to take early steps as to final disposal
of these three children. We would also
ask you whether we are now at liberty
to send these children back to Messrs.
Paterson Simons and Co., Singapore, for return
to their parents in Johore. In the meantime,
we would mention we have also addressed
the Indian Immigration Agent,
Straits

Or nearest relatives of these

No 9-9

98

Adamson MacTaggart and Co.
Agents.

Negapatam and Tuticorin.

P.O. and rem.

C.S.O.

13042

REGD 25VAR93

The Head Assistant Collector,

Tanjore District,

Negapatam.

Sir,

We have the honor to draw your attention to the following Circumstances.

On 5th July last, at the instance of Mr Howard Bentley, Assistant Immigration Agent, Johore, Straits Settlements, (Copy of whose letter ordering these Coolies dated 31st May last to the Superintendent, Straits Settlements, Emigration Depot here we enclose

Moonoosawmy age 6 years, Father's Name, Arumugam, Country Cakkoor, District Chittoor.

Coopen age 5 years Father's Name Kulappen, Country Vellamalay, District Chittoor.

Kanni Ammal, age 8 years Father's Name Kulappen Country Vellamalay, District Chittoor.

herewith) we sent a batch of native Emigrant Coolies hence per S.S. "Sirsa" to the late Mr D.F. Knoci's - Letty Brook Estate, Johore, via -

Singapore. Under Mr Bentley's instructions 50% of the Coolies sent were to be females

without

Arco District they are still lying in
the Depot unclaimed.

3. Mess^{rs}. Adamson MacTaggart & Co.
wish to return the Children now to their
parents at Johore. I do not think that this
would be at all advisable, as they have already
been declared unfit to stand the climate;
I should suggest that some further enquiries
be made through the Collector of South
Arco concerning the whereabouts of their
relatives.

4. I do not know if you will consider
any further action necessary; but I need
hardly point out what a grave deterrent
influence, instances of this kind have on
emigration -

Endorsement thereon by the
Collector of Tanjore dated 22nd February 1893
No. 241.

Submitted for the information of
Government.

I think the Government of the
Straits Settlements should be informed of
the inhuman manner, in which these 3
miserable little waifs have been separated
from their parents and sent back to Negapatam,
without the least enquiry, as to whether
they had here any relatives to take charge of
them. After months of futile enquiry, I
yesterday received a communication from the

District Magistrate of North Arco inform
me that the Tahsildar of Arco has, at
length, discovered one Velayudha Gramany, who
affirms that he is the grand father of 2 of
the Children and Grand uncle of the 3rd and
that he is willing to receive them all three.
I must now send the Children to North Arco
to be delivered to the individual in question
if they turn out to be the Children he supposes.

Copy of letter from Asst. Assistant
Collector of Tanjore dated 14th February 1893 No. 271
to the Collector of Tanjore.

I have the honor to forward herewith in
original, letter No. 99 of 98 of 25th January
1893 from Mess^{rs} Adamson MacTaggart and
Co. of Negapatam, regarding the disposal of
3 children returned to them by the S. Shore
Emigration Agency and now lodged at the
Emigration Depot here. You will doubt-
less remember these three children, whom
you saw at the Depot on the occasion of
your visit here on the 16th January 1893.

2. The children appear to have been forwarded
by Mess^{rs} Adamson MacTaggart & Co. with
a number of female emigrants per S. S. Sersea
in answer to a request for 50 coolies without
young children which Mess^{rs} Adamson

MacTaggart and Co. appear to have interpreted
to mean, without children in arms. The S. Shore
authorities, however, did not agree with this
interpretation and found the children unfit
to stand the climate. They, therefore, returned
them after obtaining their parents' consent.
The children returned very ill and were unable
to give any clue to their belongings. And
more after considerable correspondence with
S. Shore authorities and some attempts on the part
of Mess^{rs} Adamson MacTaggart and Co. to
trace their relatives at A. N. in the South
Arcot

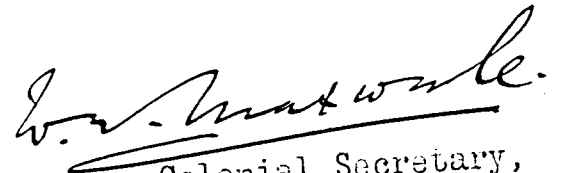
children (indentured labourers in Johor). Hence the necessity for further correspondence and for the delay, which has resulted, His Excellency is informed, in the payment by the Johor authorities of Rs. 70 to Messrs. Adamson, MacTaggart & Co. for expenses incurred up to February.

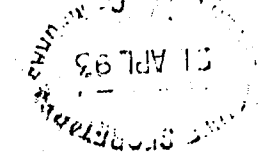
4. If proper care and foresight had been exercised by the Assistant Indian Immigration Agent in Johor, the children (whose return to India was prompted by motives of humanity and carried out at the express and earnest request of their parents) would have arrived in Singapore and in India under proper charge and each provided with the fullest particulars to facilitate identification and to prove place of destination. His Excellency greatly regrets that the Officer responsible has failed in his duty in this respect, and that so much trouble has consequently been caused to the Government of Madras.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Colonial Secretary,
S. S.



It is requested that the following number be quoted in the reply to this letter.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

SINGAPORE, 8 April, 1893.

Enign. 3496-93.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th March (Public No. 187), with enclosures, now returned, regarding the return to Negapatam from Johor of three young children whose parents were at the latter place under indenture.

2. Full enquiry has been made, and it appears that Mr Bentley, Assistant Indian Immigration Agent in Johor, caused the children to be returned to India on the earnest application of their parents, twice repeated to him on two consecutive occasions of his official visits to the Estate (Lettybrook). He says that, on the first occasion, the coolies surrounded him and entreated him to have their "children sent back to India as they found the place so unhealthy" that they felt sure that their children would not live if "they remained there". At his next visit, some of the parents

of

The Chief Secretary

to the Government of

MADRAS.