

ORDINARY, MS.

Public DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 27-11-98
No. 956

INDEXED.

When given for copying. 27/11

Recd 28/11

[Despatch Abstract.]

Informing the Govt of India Rev Lt Col depts that this Govt has no further suggestions to offer on Capt. J. C. Munn's report on immigration to certain West India Colonies. That the Minister of Immigration has been of opinion that his suggestions are sound & desirable to be given advantage to the immigrant.

15 I

Secretary of State for India.

ula, the 20th September 1893.

2. We are glad to understand from the Note by Surgeon-Major Comins that the Colonial authorities con- express our gratification at Law, and we hope that Dr. Comins' recom- the Note, for the convenience mend when the revised law is being prepared. It indenture in that Colony. Note on Emigration to British Guiana Dr. Co Ordinance of 1891, which is of the British Guiana Ordinance of 1891 a general approval, although it Trinidad, and although the Ordinance has no n. We hope that effect has special concurrence, we are prepared to ap- prove of his Note for the

3. Meantime we trust that the to
hours of labour (page 46; see also pag
at least once a fortnight (page 46) may
that effect may be given, as far as poss
detention in hospital of persons sufferi
or otherwise requiring treatment (pa
work (page 47), as to the correct p
coolies in person (page 47), as to the
(page 48), and as to the closing of sh
headmen (page 49).

4. The question regarding the re-
passage to India with their parents, v
Note, will no doubt come under co

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f the Ordinance and accord-
described on pages 32 and
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id her reputed husband is
polygamous marriages laid
on to the correspondence

File No. 76.
Serial No. 2.

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

NO. 59, DATED SIMLA, THE 20TH SEPTEMBER
1893.

(C O P Y .)

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for India.*

hw 2

SUBJECT.

Forwards, with remarks, Dr. Comins' Note
on Emigration from India to the Colony of
Trinidad.

Pub. go. 430831-5-93 hrs
" 74 81-2-92 hrs

End L No 18, 5

W. B. B.

Referred - with the
reports - to the Pro-
-tector of Emigrants
for remarks and any
suggestions he may
have to make.

Respectfully
Chief Secretary

35 B
17/10

Ootacamund
21st October 1893 }

To
The Protector of Emigrants
with 5 reports and copies of despatches
to be returned with reply.

File No. 69.
Serial No. 2.

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

No. 60, DATED SIMLA, THE 20TH SEPTEMBER
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Forwards, with remarks, Dr. Comins' Note
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G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 661 R. A. & D.—18-9-93.—150.

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File No. 70.
Serial No. 2.

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

No. 58, DATED SIMLA, THE 12TH SEPTEMBER
1893.

(COPY .)

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for India.*

no 4

SUBJECT.

Communicates remarks on Dr. Comins' note
on Emigration from the East Indies to St.
Lucia.

File No. 16.
Serial No. 4.

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

NO. 29, DATED SIMLA, THE 17TH MAY 1893.

(C O P Y).

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for India.*

no 5

SUBJECT.

Forwards Dr. Comins' report on Emigration
from the East Indies to Surinam.

File No. 68.
Serial No. 2.

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

NO. 62, DATED SIMLA, THE 20TH SEPTEMBER
1893.

(COPY.)

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for India.*

Enc! no 1

SUBJECT.

Forwards, with remarks, Dr. Comins' Note on
Emigration from India to British Guiana.

NOTE FOR THE UNDER SEC.

15 spare copies of each of
Dr Comins' Reports on Emigration
from the East Indies to the
British West Indian Colonies
have been received. The
current (N^o 2733 Public) with
which they were received
was disposed of on the 24th
Nov^r by G.O. N^o 956. Orders
are requested regarding the
distribution of these copies

not
r

Send the Protector one
and the Board two
of each; keep the rest
for the present.

J. S. B.

8/14

No. 27

CURRENT NO. 27

From

E.D. MacLagan, Esq., C.S.

Under-Secretary to

the Government of India.

To

The Secretary to the

Government of Madras.

29th September 1893.

Sir,

I am directed to forward reports on Emigration from the copy of Surgeon Major Comins' Indian Colonies of British Guiana, Trinidad, Jamaica, and St. Lucia, together with a copy of the letter addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State. The Government of India will be glad to be furnished with these reports. The Governor's Lordship, with any further communication to the Governor in Council may be forwarded which His Excellency

2. I am also to offer on the reports on Emigration to Surinam the copy of Dr. Comins' letter addressed to the Secretary of State with copy of the letter

I have the honor

Sir,

your most obedient

[Signature]

Under-Secretary

Current No.

DEPARTMENT.

From

The Secretary to Govt of
India.

No. 2708

²⁶
Dated 29th Sept. 1893

Received 9th October 1893.

Registered 11th Do

Enclosures 5

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of Surgeon
Major Cornie's Report on
Emigration from the East
India to the British West
Indian Colonies of British Guiana,
Trinidad, Jamaica, and St. Lucia
together with copy of the despatch
addressed to Her M^y Secretary of
State on these reports.

1956 Public Dept
27-11-93
Letter.

DESPATCHED
30 NOV 93
IN M.S. 28/

To The Secy to the G.O.
Rev. & Agri. Dept

Sir,

In reply to Mr. Mac
lagan's letter No. 2708/2
of the 29th Sep: last, for-
warding Surgeon Major
Comins' reports on emig-
ration to the Colonies
noted in the margin, I
am directed to inform
you that H.E. the Govr:
in Council has no
further suggestions to
offer on these reports.

The Protector of
Emigrants, Madras, who
has been consulted in the
matter, is of opinion that
Comins' suggestions
are sound & calculated
to prove advantageous
to the emigrant.

It is to be remarked
that no emigrants are
at present this Pres.

25/11/93

British Guiana, Trinidad,
Jamaica, St Lucia & Surinam

Note

It seems unnecessary to say more than is
said here. There is not the slightest
chance of a single colony emigrating
from this part of the world to any
of the places named above.

28/11

40, Rowis Square,

CHIEF SECRETARY,
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
10th October, 1893

The Secretary, Government of Madras.

Sir,

I am one of the Indian civil servants going out to Madras this year. Yesterday I signed my covenant at the India Office, & was there told to write to ask you to sanction my staying about a fortnight at Bombay on my way out to Madras. I intend to sail from London on Nov. 16th, so as to reach Bombay by the 11th Dec. After my stay of a fortnight in Bombay I could be at Madras by the 30th Dec. I have got an uncle in Bombay who is anxious that I should spend that fortnight with him. Will you send your reply to this request to his address: 90 John Hewitts, Esq.

NO. 62 OF 1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

To

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY, K.G.,

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Simla, the 20th September 1893.

MY LORD,

WE have the honour to forward a Note by Surgeon-Major Comins on Emigration from India to British Guiana, and to express our gratification at the excellence of the arrangements, described in the Note, for the convenience and comfort of the immigrants during their term of indenture in that Colony.

2. We take the opportunity to state that the Ordinance of 1891, which is printed as an appendix to the Note, meets with our general approval, although it has not yet been officially referred to us for opinion. We hope that effect has been given to the suggestion made by Dr. Comins on page 13 of his Note for the amendment of section 49 of the Ordinance, and we draw attention to his remark in paragraph 72 (1) implying that a few other alterations may be found expedient. We commend also to the consideration of the Colonial authorities the remarks made by Dr. Comins on the subject of the proportion of female emigrants and the reduction of their term of indenture from 5 to 2 years (page 37), the vaccination of coolie children (pages 93 and 100), the proper supervision of the distribution of rations (page 101), and the weekly payment for the partial performance of uncompleted tasks (page 101).

3. We are glad to observe that, in section 156 of the Ordinance and according to the practice of the Administrator-General as described on pages 32 and 33 of the Note, the title of a woman to a share in property which may be presumed to have been jointly acquired by her and her reputed husband is recognized. With reference to the prohibition of polygamous marriages laid down in section 141 (3), we would invite attention to the correspondence

ending with our Despatch No. 10 (Emigration) of 1st March 1893, and state that, in our opinion, a marriage contracted in India or during the voyage should not necessarily be deemed invalid by reason of there being another wife alive.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

LANSDOWNE.

G. S. WHITE.

P. P. HUTCHINS.

D. BARBOUR.

A. E. MILLER.

H. BRACKENBURY.

C. B. PRITCHARD.

LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

Note on Emigration from India to British Guiana.

File No. 68.
Serial No. 2.

No.

1893.

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REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

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*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
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S U B J E C T.

Forwards, with remarks, Dr. Comins' Note on
Emigration from India to British Guiana.

No. 60 OF 1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY, K.G.,

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

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MY LORD,

WE have the honour to forward, for Your Lordship's information, a Note by Surgeon-Major Comins on emigration from the East Indies to Jamaica, and in so doing we desire to express our satisfaction at the general adequacy of the arrangements which he reports to be made in the Colony for the protection and comfort of the immigrants.

2. We recommend that the notice of the Colonial authorities should be specially invited to the remarks made by Dr. Comins in paragraphs 14 and 52 of his report regarding the provision of medical aid to the labourers, and to the suggestion put forward in paragraph 17 regarding the estates of deceased immigrants. We think also that effect should, if possible, be given to the proposal made at the end of his report for the improvement of the monthly statement of work and wages.

3. The recommendation made on page 27 for the amendment of the definition of an 'adult' in Law 23 of 1879 is based to some extent on a misinterpretation of section 49 of the law, and the addition of the word 'indentured' before 'adult' in section 47 seems in view of the definition given in section 3 unnecessary. We observe from the papers quoted in paragraph 19 of the report that the condition in section 53 of the law, requiring every claim for a back passage to be made within a year after it becomes due has been dispensed with by executive order, but we think that, if the law is amended, this condition might be omitted. We also support the proposals to omit the words "unable to work and" in section 62, and to relieve immigrants who have served their indentures from the restriction imposed by section 95 (21).

4. We are strongly impressed with the necessity for the introduction of a marriage law as advocated by Dr. Comins in paragraphs 16 and 17. In this

connection, we enclose, for transmission to the Colonial authorities, a copy of Dr.

Vide Revenue and Agricultural Department
Emigration Proceedings for December 1892,
Nos. 1-2.

Vide Lord Cross' Despatch No. 14 (Public—Emi-
gration), dated the 18th February 1892.

Comins' report on emigration to British
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5. It is suggested at the bottom of page 21 of the report that a free return-
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LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

Note on Emigration from the East Indies to Jamaica.

File No. 69.
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G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 661 R. A. & D.—18-9-93.—150.

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Simla, the 20th September 1893.

MY LORD,

WE have the honour to enclose, for Your Lordship's information, a
Note by Surgeon Major Comins on Emigration from India to the Colony of
Trinidad.

2. We are glad to understand from the remarks made on page 50 of the
Note that the Colonial authorities contemplate a revision of the Immigration
Law, and we hope that Dr. Comins' recommendations may receive due attention
when the revised law is being prepared. It will be seen that on page 12 of his
Note on Emigration to British Guiana Dr. Comins has suggested the adoption
of the British Guiana Ordinance of 1891 as a basis for any new legislation in
Trinidad, and although the Ordinance has not been as yet referred to us for official
concurrence, we are prepared to approve the suggestion.

3. Meantime we trust that the terms of the coolies' contracts regarding the
hours of labour (page 46 ; see also page 7 of the Diary) and the payment of wages
at least once a fortnight (page 46) may be strictly adhered to. We would ask also
that effect may be given, as far as possible, to Dr. Comins' suggestions as to the
detention in hospital of persons suffering from infectious or contagious diseases
or otherwise requiring treatment (page 48), as to the encouragement of task-
work (page 47), as to the correct preparation of pay lists and the payment of
coolies in person (page 47), as to the term and scale for the supply of rations
(page 48), and as to the closing of shops kept by managers, or estate owners or
headmen (page 49).

4. The question regarding the right of children born in the colony to a free
passage to India with their parents, which is mentioned on pages 9 and 50 of the
Note, will no doubt come under consideration in connection with our Despatch

No. 53 (Emigration), of the 15th ultimo, although in our opinion the contract, as it stands, gives to all such children a right to a free passage with their parents.

5. Dr. Comins' report has been submitted to us without remark by the Bengal Government and has not yet been communicated to the Government of the Madras Presidency. We have, therefore, desired that these Governments should be informed of the contents of this despatch and be invited to submit any further suggestions, which they may wish to make, at an early date. Any communication which we may receive from them will be forwarded for information.

6. We should be glad if Your Lordship will allow Lord Ripon to be informed that we have been gratified to learn the excellent arrangements made in this Colony for the well being of coolies whose term of indenture has expired.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

LANSDOWNE.

G. S. WHITE.

P. P. HUTCHINS.

D. BARBOUR.

A. E. MILLER.

H. BRACKENBURY.

C. B. PRITCHARD.

LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

Note on Emigration from India to Trinidad.

File No. 76.
Serial No. 2.

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

NO. 59, DATED SIMLA, THE 20TH SEPTEMBER
1893.

(COPY.)

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for India.*

SUBJECT.

Forwards, with remarks, Dr. Comins' Note
on Emigration from India to the Colony of
Trinidad.

No. 59 OF 1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

To

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY, K.G.,

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Simla, the 20th September 1893.

MY LORD,

WE have the honour to enclose, for Your Lordship's information, a
Note by Surgeon Major Comins on Emigration from India to the Colony of
Trinidad.

2. We are glad to understand from the remarks made on page 50 of the
Note that the Colonial authorities contemplate a revision of the Immigration
Law, and we hope that Dr. Comins' recommendations may receive due attention
when the revised law is being prepared. It will be seen that on page 12 of his
Note on Emigration to British Guiana Dr. Comins has suggested the adoption
of the British Guiana Ordinance of 1891 as a basis for any new legislation in
Trinidad, and although the Ordinance has not been as yet referred to us for official
concurrence, we are prepared to approve the suggestion.

3. Meantime we trust that the terms of the coolies' contracts regarding the
hours of labour (page 46; see also page 7 of the Diary) and the payment of wages
at least once a fortnight (page 46) may be strictly adhered to. We would ask also
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DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

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1893.

(C O P Y .)

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Forwards, with remarks, Dr. Comins' Note
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Trinidad.

No. 59 OF 1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

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LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

Note on Emigration from India to Trinidad.

File No. 76.
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No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

No. 59, DATED SIMLA, THE 20TH SEPTEMBER
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(COPY.)

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
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SUBJECT.

Forwards, with remarks, Dr. Comins' Note
on Emigration from India to the Colony of
Trinidad.

No. 58. OF 1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

To

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY, K.G.,
Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Simla, the 12th September 1893.

MY LORD,

WE have the honour to forward for the information of Your Lordship a copy of a note by Surgeon-Major Comins on Emigration from the East Indies to St. Lucia. We concur generally in the opinions and recommendations submitted by Dr. Comins, and we consider that the information which he has provided regarding the condition of emigrants in the island is not only satisfactory but most creditable to the Administration of the Colony.

2. We have no doubt that the responsible authorities will pay due attention to the suggestions made on pages 13 and 14 of Dr. Comins' diary, and we should be glad if the Protector of Immigrants were instructed to notice in his next annual report any action that may be taken in pursuance of them. We have not received the St. Lucia Immigration Ordinance of 1891, to which reference is made in the diary, and would request the favour of being supplied with copies of it, so that we may be able to form an opinion upon the amendments recommended by Dr. Comins.

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LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

Note on Emigration from East Indies to St. Lucia.

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

NO. 58, DATED SIMLA, THE 12TH SEPTEMBER
1893.

(C O P Y .)

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for India.*

SUBJECT.

Communicates remarks on Dr. Comins' note
on Emigration from the East Indies to St.
Lucia.

No. 58 OF 1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
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EMIGRATION.

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LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

Note on Emigration from East Indies to St. Lucia.

File No. 70.
Serial No. 2.

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

No. 58, DATED SIMLA, THE 12TH SEPTEMBER
1893.

(COPY.)

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for India.*

SUBJECT.

Communicates remarks on Dr. Comins' note
on Emigration from the East Indies to St.
Lucia.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 655 R. & A. D.—12-9-93.—6s.

No. 58 OF 1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

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LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

Note on Emigration from East Indies to St. Lucia.

File No. 70.
Serial No. 2

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

NO. 58, DATED SIMLA, THE 12TH SEPTEMBER
1893.

(COPY.)

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for India.*

SUBJECT.

Communicates remarks on Dr. Comins' note
on Emigration from the East Indies to St.
Lucia.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 655 R. & A. D.—12-9-93.—62.

No. 29 OF 1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

To

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY, K.G.,

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Simla, the 17th May 1893.

MY LORD,

WITH reference to Your Lordship's Despatch, No. 27 Public (Emigration) of the 2nd March last, we have the honour to forward a copy of Dr. Comins' report on Emigration from the East Indies to Surinam, together with a copy of his Diary of Tour in that Colony.

2. We consider that, until we are made acquainted with the opinion of Her Majesty's Consul in Surinam on the reforms suggested in Dr. Comins' report, it would be premature for us to communicate our final conclusions either on the proposal to extend the term of compulsory residence for immigrants in the Colony, or on any of the other questions dealt with therein. We accordingly request that Your Lordship will be good enough to cause us to be furnished with the views of Consul Wyndham on Dr. Comins' suggestions at as early a date as practicable.

3. If the Consul is of opinion that the proposal to extend the period previous to free repatriation from 5 to 10 years is one which is suitable to the Colony, we shall be ready to take it into consideration; but we should, as at present advised, require that the change proposed be accompanied by a proper amendment of the marriage law and by a clear stipulation that there shall be no second period of indenture, and that the immigrant after serving for five years shall be perfectly free to enter into any ordinary contract or adopt any mode of life he wishes, even returning to India, if he pleases, at his own expense.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

LANSDOWNE.

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C. B. PRITCHARD.

LIST OF ENCLOSURES.

1. Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 3711, dated 22nd December 1892.
2. Note on Emigration from the East Indies to Surinam or Dutch Guiana.
3. Diary of Tour in Surinam or Dutch Guiana (Confidential).

File No. 16.
Serial No. 4.

No.

1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL
DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

NO. 29, DATED SIMLA, THE 17TH MAY 1893.

(C O P Y).

*Letter to Her Majesty's Secretary of
State for India.*

SUBJECT.

Forwards Dr. Comins' report on Emigration
from the East Indies to Surinam.

NO. 29 OF 1893.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.

TO

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B. G. & M. = 16.