

1-12-07/11

ORDINARY, MS.

<i>Public</i> DEPARTMENT.	
G.O., DATED	30-1-94
No.	72

INDEX

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording endorse-
ment of the Govt of
India forwarding copy
of despatch to the
Secretary of State
that it is unable to
recommence the resump-
tion of emigration
to Cayenne-

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

ENCLOSURE.

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.

BACK PAPER, No.

OF 18

FURTHER PAPER, No.

OF 18

From

The Govt. of India

Rev. & Agri. Dept.

Outgo No 853 D 17-10-93

79-80 D 23-1-88

N. 68/8

17th January 1894

R 22.

Encls. 1.

Forwarding Copy of a
despatch to The Rt. Honble
the Secretary of State for
India regarding the
renewal of emigration
to Cayenne.

30 Jan 94 K 72
H. M. [initials]

Order

25/1

Recorded.

W

27 Jan

28

24.1.94

FILE No. 8.
SERIAL No. 1.

No.

1894.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

EMIGRATION.

No. 5, DATED CALCUTTA, THE 17TH JANUARY 1894.

(COPY.)

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

SUBJECT.

WITH reference to Secretary of State's
Despatch No. 92, dated 24th August 1893,
states that the Government of India are un-
able to recommend the resumption of emi-
gration to Cayenne.

G. I. C. P. P. No. 818 R. & A.—12-1-94.—R. N. D.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

EMIGRATION.

To

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

CALCUTTA, the 17th January 1894.

MY LORD,

THE proposal which formed the subject of Your Lordship's Emigration Despatch No. 92, dated the 24th August last, regarding the renewal of emigration to Cayenne, has been referred by us to the Governments of Madras and Bengal, and the replies received from these Governments are now forwarded for Your Lordship's information.

2. For the reasons already given in our Despatch noted on the margin, and in view of the circumstances brought to notice in the report by Dr. Comins which has been forwarded by the Government of Bengal, we are unable to recommend the resumption of emigration.

No. 10 (Emigration), dated the 22nd June 1889.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

LANSDOWNE.

G. S. WHITE.

A. E. MILLER.

H. BRACKENBURY.

C. B. PRITCHARD.

J. WESTLAND.

A. P. MACDONNELL.

*Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 3191, dated 28th December 1893, and enclosure.

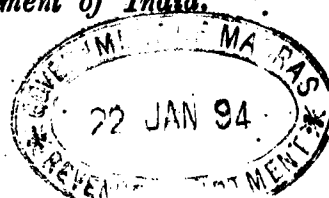
October 1893.

Copy, together with a copy of the enclosure* forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information, with reference to its telegram of the 17th

By order,

Smiley

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.



List of enclosures.

Letter to the Government of Madras, No. 2634, dated the 26th September 1893.

Bengal, No. 2635, dated the 26th September 1893.

Telegram from the Government of Madras, dated 17th October 1893.

Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 3191, dated 28th December 1893, and enclosure.

15 ap. copies of enclosure by Pkt 112

File No. 8.
SERIAL NO. 1.

No.

1894.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

EMIGRATION.

No. 5, DATED CALCUTTA, THE 17TH JANUARY 1894.

(COPY.)

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

SUBJECT.

WITH reference to Secretary of State's
Despatch No. 92, dated 24th August 1893,
states that the Government of India are un-
able to recommend the resumption of emi-
gration to Cayenne.

G. I. C. P. P. No. 818 R. & A. - 12-1-94. - 115. - R. N. D.

From
The Govt. of India
Rev. & Agri. Dept.
Pub. No. 853 D 17-10-93
79-80 D 23-1-88

N. 68/8

17th January 1894

R 22. —

Emb. 1. (1894)

Forwarding copy of a
despatch to the R. & A. Secy
the Secretary of State for
India regarding the
renewal of emigration
to Cayenne.

30 Jan 94 k 72
H. M. /

Order 257, 11/14
Recorded.

25/3
23/6
27 Jan
24.1.94

Member of the Court of Policy of British Guiana, and as representing French interests, Monsieur Le Doux, Vice-Consul for France at Georgetown, British Guiana. These two gentlemen are both on the spot and live in the same town. Mr Alexander has a very extensive knowledge of Indian immigration, which he has brought to a high pitch of perfection in British Guiana, and Monsieur Le Doux is a gentleman well disposed to the British, and with a very wide knowledge of both sides of the question, and of the actual condition of Cayenne, in which he at one time had substantial interests.

I have already discussed with Monsieur Le Doux the possibility of the resumption of emigration to Cayenne, and as embodying what are probably the views of the promoters of the scheme, I will give here the points referred to in our conversations.

Monsieur Le Doux acknowledged frankly that neither the British Government nor the Government of India could be expected, having regard to the beneficial arrangements they wished for in the control of immigrants, to allow the resumption of emigration under the conditions at present obtaining in Cayenne; but he said there was a body of influential capitalists in Paris who would be quite ready to enter into all guarantees on their own responsibility for the maintenance of immigration in Cayenne on the lines of that in British Guiana. He agreed with me that it would require operations on an extended scale to have any chance of success, and it would never pay to maintain an efficient Immigration Department, and free hospitals, barracks, depôts, etc., for a small body of immigrants. If, from motives of policy, it was thought expedient to give to France the aid of Indian labour to rehabilitate her colony, I have no doubt money would be forthcoming among Paris speculators, sufficient to guarantee all that the Government of India would require for the initial equipment of the enterprise and the expenses of introduction. After that it would probably be difficult to insist on any other arrangements beyond those which might be considered necessary by the Colonial Government. From the point of view of the Syndicate of capitalists who wish to try the experiment of extended cultivation in this colony, the possible advantages no doubt outweigh the actual risks; but in view of the difficulty which even the best managed and fully kept up estates having as much labour as they require experience in West Indian colonies in growing paying crops, it is as well to consider what would be the result of the introduction if Indian immigration to Cayenne did not pay. There is always the danger, as pointed out to me, that the capitalists would withdraw with as much as they could save from the business, and the immigrants would be thrown on the hands of the Colonial Government, which could ill-afford either to support them or to pay their return passages to India.

In conclusion, I should say that the proposal to resume immigration to Cayenne is far too speculative to contain all the elements of success.

No. 3191, dated Calcutta, the 28th December 1893.

From—C. E. BUCKLAND, Esq., C.S., *Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department,*

To—*The Secretary to the Government of India, REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.*

IN continuation of this office letter No. 2587, dated the 16th November 1893, and with reference to your office letter No. 3489—79, dated the 21st December 1893, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the enclosed copy of a letter from Surgeon-Major Comins dated the 12th December 1893, and to say that the Lieutenant-Governor concurs in his view that resumption of emigration to Cayenne is not advisable.

Dated Calcutta, the 12th December 1893.

From—SURGEON-MAJOR D. W. D. COMINS,

To—*The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department.*

REGARDING the question of the resumption of emigration of natives of India to the colony of French Guiana, I have the honour to submit the following remarks:—

I have already stated my opinion on the general treatment of Indian immigrants in French colonies, which is practically identical in those colonies which still maintain an Immigration Department and enforce the immigration ordinances. The arguments I have used will apply equally well to Cayenne, and there are some additional circumstances which would render the position of emigrants to this colony still more inconsistent with that which obtain in English colonies, and these differences would be all to the disadvantage of the intending emigrant. The agriculture of Cayenne which, before the emancipation, was in a most flourishing condition, and in the hands of wealthy proprietors and capitalists has, as regards private properties which could afford to import immigrants since that period, dwindled to insignificant proportions. The land has passed from the hands of its European owners into those of Mulattoes and blacks, who cultivate in a desultory way so much as is sufficient to maintain themselves and their families. They can hardly be considered as much superior to squatters, and have, although they employ some of the old Indian immigrants as servants, neither capital, energy nor inclination to extend cultivation beyond its present limits. The only other cultivation is that done by convicts, principally at St. Lament on the Marowmi river. The remainder of the large estates are now overgrown with dense jungle, and the European owners have long since taken their departure. The Negro at the best of times makes the worst of masters, and is brutal to all creatures, and even his own children. Wanting in temper, tact, honesty, or industry, he is quite unfit for the control of dependents; and it is not to barbarous and ignorant men like these, themselves mere parasites on the decaying vastness of once flourishing estates, that can be given the control of a helpless and alien race. The estates of Cayenne in their present condition are not in a position to receive new immigrants in sufficient numbers, either to maintain an Immigration Department for the inspection of estates, or to introduce coolies in sufficient numbers to form a community. To indenture raw coolies in dribblets to small estates, if they can be called such, in different parts of the colony, cannot but be, as the history of such attempts has too often proved, a total failure; as the Governor of Cayenne said to me "l'Agriculture est morte," and unless capital is forthcoming to establish immigration on a proper basis, Cayenne is no place for raw coolies. Cayenne is in the first place a convict settlement for the most desperate criminals of France and its dependencies, and the presence of 5,000 of these ruffians dispersed over the colony cannot but have its effect on the customs of the place and the attitude of authority: secondly, Cayenne is a gold field, and, as such, attracts the population usually met with in such places. In neither of these capacities is Cayenne of benefit to the agricultural labourer. There are those in neighbouring colonies who are well acquainted with the *pros* and *cons* of these questions, and who are capable of advising the Government of India; and I would suggest, as representing British interests on the one hand, the Honourable H. Alexander, Immigration Agent General and

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Public),—under date Calcutta, the 27th January 1894.

READ—

Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, No. 136 (Public), dated the 23rd November 1893, announcing the appointment by the Queen-Empress of the Right Honourable Victor-Alexander Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, P.C., LL.D., Lord Bruce of Kinloss and Lord Bruce of Torry, in the Kingdom of Scotland, and Baron Elgin, of Elgin, in the United Kingdom.

RESOLUTION.

THE Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin having arrived in Calcutta, His Excellency takes his seat as Viceroy and Governor General of India under a salute of 31 guns from the ramparts of Fort William.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the following Proclamation be published in the *Gazette of India*, and at the usual place by the Sheriff of Calcutta :—

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the Right Honourable Victor-Alexander Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, P.C., LL.D., Lord Bruce of Kinloss and Lord Bruce of Torry, in the Kingdom of Scotland, and Baron Elgin, of Elgin, in the United Kingdom, has been appointed by Her Majesty to be Her Viceroy and Governor General of India, and has assumed the said office, the said appointment is hereby notified, and it is proclaimed that the said Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin, Viceroy and Governor General of India, has this day taken his seat in His Excellency's Council.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Proclamation be read at the head of the troops of the Garrison of Fort William under a salute of 31 guns and three volleys of small arms.

Ordered, also, that this Proclamation be read at the head of the troops in the different garrisons, and at all the principal military stations, under a salute of 31 guns.

(True Extract.)

C. J. LYALL,

Secretary to the Government of India.

I. Pub.

No. 179c/84

ORDERED, that a copy of the Proclamation and copies of the foregoing orders be sent for information to the Foreign and Military Departments, the Department of Finance and Commerce, the Public Works Department, the Department of Revenue and Agriculture and the Legislative Department, whence such orders as may be necessary will be issued forthwith.

I. Pub.

No. 185

ORDERED, that information of the accession of the Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin to the office of Viceroy and Governor General of India be sent to the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, and to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on the East India and China Stations.

Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Punjab, and the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Burma, Assam and Coorg, the Resident at Hyderabad and the Chief Commissioner of the Andamans and the Nicobars.

By order,

P. G. MELITUS,

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Public),—under date Calcutta, the 27th January 1894.

READ—

Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, No. 136 (Public), dated the 23rd November 1893, announcing the appointment by the Queen-Empress of the Right Honourable Victor-Alexander Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, P.C., LL.D., Lord Bruce of Kinloss and Lord Bruce of Torry, in the Kingdom of Scotland, and Baron Elgin, of Elgin, in the United Kingdom.

RESOLUTION.

THE Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin having arrived in Calcutta, His Excellency takes his seat as Viceroy and Governor General of India under a salute of 31 guns from the ramparts of Fort William.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the following Proclamation be published in the *Gazette of India*, and at the usual place by the Sheriff of Calcutta :—

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the Right Honourable Victor-Alexander Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, P.C., LL.D., Lord Bruce of Kinloss and Lord Bruce of Torry, in the Kingdom of Scotland, and Baron Elgin, of Elgin, in the United Kingdom, has been appointed by Her Majesty to be Her Viceroy and Governor General of India, and has assumed the said office, the said appointment is hereby notified, and it is proclaimed that the said Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin, Viceroy and Governor General of India, has this day taken his seat in His Excellency's Council.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Proclamation be read at the head of the troops of the Garrison of Fort William under a salute of 31 guns and three volleys of small arms.

Ordered, also, that this Proclamation be read at the head of the troops in the different garrisons, and at all the principal military stations, under a salute of 31 guns.

(True Extract.)

C. J. LYALL,

Secretary to the Government of India.

No.

ORDERED, that a copy of the Proclamation and copies of the foregoing orders be sent for information to the Foreign and Military Departments, the Department of Finance and Commerce, the Public Works Department, the Department of Revenue and Agriculture and the Legislative Department, whence such orders as may be necessary will be issued forthwith.

No.

ORDERED, that information of the accession of the Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin to the office of Viceroy and Governor General of India be sent to the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, and to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on the East India and China Stations.

Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Punjab, and the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Barma, Assam and Coorg, the Resident at Hyderabad and the Chief Commissioner of the Andamans and the Nicobars.

By order,

P. G. MELITUS,

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India; in the Home Department (Public),—under date Calcutta, the 27th January 1894.

READ—

Despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India, No. 136 (Public), dated the 23rd November 1893, announcing the appointment by the Queen-Empress of the Right Honourable Victor-Alexander Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, P.C., LL.D., Lord Bruce of Kinloss and Lord Bruce of Torry, in the Kingdom of Scotland, and Baron Elgin, of Elgin, in the United Kingdom.

RESOLUTION.

THE Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin having arrived in Calcutta, His Excellency takes his seat as Viceroy and Governor General of India under a salute of 31 guns from the ramparts of Fort William.

ORDER.—Ordered, that the following Proclamation be published in the *Gazette of India*, and at the usual place by the Sheriff of Calcutta :—

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the Right Honourable Victor-Alexander Bruce, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, P.C., LL.D., Lord Bruce of Kinloss and Lord Bruce of Torry, in the Kingdom of Scotland, and Baron Elgin, of Elgin, in the United Kingdom, has been appointed by Her Majesty to be Her Viceroy and Governor General of India, and has assumed the said office, the said appointment is hereby notified, and it is proclaimed that the said Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin, Viceroy and Governor General of India, has this day taken his seat in His Excellency's Council.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Proclamation be read at the head of the troops of the Garrison of Fort William under a salute of 31 guns and three volleys of small arms.

Ordered, also, that this Proclamation be read at the head of the troops in the different garrisons, and at all the principal military stations, under a salute of 31 guns.

(True Extract.)

C. J. LYALL,

Secretary to the Government of India.

No.

ORDERED, that a copy of the Proclamation and copies of the foregoing orders be sent for information to the Foreign and Military Departments, the Department of Finance and Commerce, the Public Works Department, the Department of Revenue and Agriculture and the Legislative Department, whence such orders as may be necessary will be issued forthwith.

No.

ORDERED, that information of the accession of the Right Honourable the Earl of Elgin to the office of Viceroy and Governor General of India be sent to the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, and to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on the East India and China Stations.

By order,

P. G. MELITUS,

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India.

G. 100-72 at 30-1-1894

No. 5 OF 1894.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.
EMIGRATION.

To

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

CALCUTTA, the 17th January 1894.

MY LORD,

THE proposal which formed the subject of Your Lordship's Emigration Despatch No. 92, dated the 24th August last, regarding the renewal of emigration to Cayenne, has been referred by us to the Governments of Madras and Bengal, and the replies received from these Governments are now forwarded for Your Lordship's information.

2. For the reasons already given in our Despatch noted on the margin, and in view of the circumstances brought to notice in the report by Dr. Comins which has been forwarded by the Government of Bengal, we are unable to recommend the resumption of emigration.

No. 10 (Emigration), dated the 22nd June 1889.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

LANSDOWNE.

G. S. WHITE.

A. E. MILLER.

H. BRACKENBURY.

C. B. PRITCHARD.

J. WESTLAND.

A. P. MACDONNELL.

No. $\frac{68}{8}$.

*Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 3191, dated 28th December 1893, and enclosure.

Copy, together with a copy of the enclosure*
forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information, with reference to its telegram of the 17th

October 1893.

By order, .

E. D. MACLAGAN,

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

List of enclosures.

Letter to the Government of Madras, No. $\frac{2634}{79}$, dated the 26th September 1893.

” ” Bengal, No. $\frac{2635}{79}$, dated the 26th September 1893.

Telegram from the Government of Madras, dated 17th October 1893.

Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 3191, dated 28th December 1893, and enclosure.

FILE No. 8.
SERIAL No. 1.

No.

1894.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
Department of Revenue and Agriculture.
EMIGRATION.

No. 5, DATED CALCUTTA, THE 17TH JANUARY 1894.

(COPY.)

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

SUBJECT.

WITH reference to Secretary of State's Despatch No. 92, dated 24th August 1893, states that the Government of India are unable to recommend the resumption of emigration to Cayenne.

G. I. C. P. No. 818 B. & A.—12-1-94.—115.—R. N. D.

No. 5 OF 1894.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.
EMIGRATION.

To

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

CALCUTTA, the 17th January 1894.

MY LORD,

THE proposal which formed the subject of Your Lordship's Emigration Despatch No. 92, dated the 24th August last, regarding the renewal of emigration to Cayenne, has been referred by us to the Governments of Madras and Bengal, and the replies received from these Governments are now forwarded for Your Lordship's information.

2. For the reasons already given in our Despatch noted on the margin, and in view of the circumstances brought to notice in the report by Dr. Comins which has been forwarded by the Government of Bengal, we are unable to recommend the resumption of emigration.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

LANSDOWNE.

G. S. WHITE.

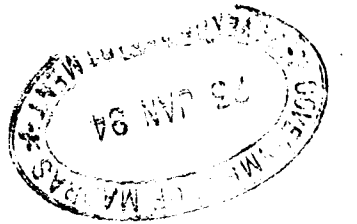
A. E. MILLER.

H. BRACKENBURY.

C. B. PRITCHARD.

J. WESTLAND.

A. P. MACDONNELL.



Pub. 42 7/2 1894.

No. $\frac{68}{8}$

*Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 3191, dated 28th December 1893, and enclosure.

October 1893.

Copy, together with a copy of the enclosure*
forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information, with reference to its telegram of the 17th

By order,

E. D. MACLAGAN,

*Under-Secretary to the Government of India.**List of enclosures.*

Letter to the Government of Madras, No. $\frac{2634}{79}$, dated the 26th September 1893.

Bengal, No. $\frac{2635}{79}$, dated the 26th September 1893.

Telegram from the Government of Madras, dated 17th October 1893.

Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 3191, dated 28th December 1893, and enclosure.

FILE No. 8.
SERIAL No. 1.

No.

1894.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

EMIGRATION.

No. 5, DATED CALCUTTA, THE 17TH JANUARY 1894.

(C O P Y.)

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

SUBJECT.

WITH reference to Secretary of State's Despatch No. 92, dated 24th August 1893, states that the Government of India are unable to recommend the resumption of emigration to Cayenne.

G. I. C. P. P. No. 818 B. & A. —12-1-94.—115.—R. N. D.

No. 5 OF 1894.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

EMIGRATION.

To

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

CALCUTTA, the 17th January 1894.

MY LORD,

THE proposal which formed the subject of Your Lordship's Emigration Despatch No. 92, dated the 24th August last, regarding the renewal of emigration to Cayenne, has been referred by us to the Governments of Madras and Bengal, and the replies received from these Governments are now forwarded for Your Lordship's information.

2. For the reasons already given in our Despatch noted on the margin, and in view of the circumstances brought to notice in the report by Dr. Comins which has been forwarded by the Government of Bengal, we are unable to recommend the resumption of emigration.

We have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servants,

LANSDOWNE.

G. S. WHITE.

A. E. MILLER.

H. BRACKENBURY.

C. B. PRITCHARD.

J. WESTLAND.

A. P. MACDONNELL.

No. $\frac{68}{8}$

• Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 3191, dated 28th December 1893, and enclosure.

October 1893.

Copy, together with a copy of the enclosure* forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information, with reference to its telegram of the 17th

By order,

E. D. MACLAGAN,

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

List of enclosures.

Letter to the Government of Madras, No. $\frac{2634}{79}$, dated the 26th September 1893.

„ „ Bengal, No. $\frac{2635}{79}$, dated the 26th September 1893.

Telegram from the Government of Madras, dated 17th October 1893.

Letter from the Government of Bengal, No. 3191, dated 28th December 1893, and enclosure.

FILE No. 8.
SERIAL No. 1.

No.

1894.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

EMIGRATION.

No. 5, DATED CALCUTTA, THE 17TH JANUARY 1894.

(C O P Y.)

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

SUBJECT.

WITH reference to Secretary of State's Despatch No. 92, dated 24th August 1893, states that the Government of India are unable to recommend the resumption of emigration to Cayenne.

G. I. C. P. P. No. 818 R. & A.—12-1-94.—115.—R. N. D.

FILE No. 79.
SERIAL No. 8.

No. 3191, dated Calcutta, the 23th December 1893.

From—C. E. BUCKLAND, Esq., C.S., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

IN continuation of this office letter No. 2587, dated the 16th November 1893, and with reference to your office letter No. 3189—79, dated the 21st December 1893, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the enclosed copy of a letter from Surgeon-Major Comins dated the 12th December 1893, and to say that the Lieutenant-Governor concurs in his view that resumption of emigration to Cayenne is not advisable.

Dated Calcutta, the 12th December 1893.

From—SURGEON-MAJOR D. W. D. COMINS,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department.

REGARDING the question of the resumption of emigration of natives of India to the colony of French Guiana, I have the honour to submit the following remarks:—

I have already stated my opinion on the general treatment of Indian immigrants in French colonies, which is practically identical in those colonies which still maintain an Immigration Department and enforce the immigration ordinances. The arguments I have used will apply equally well to Cayenne, and there are some additional circumstances which would render the position of emigrants to this colony still more inconsistent with that which obtain in English colonies, and these differences would be all to the disadvantage of the intending emigrant. The agriculture of Cayenne which, before the emancipation, was in a most flourishing condition, and in the hands of wealthy proprietors and capitalists has, as regards private properties which could afford to import immigrants since that period, dwindled to insignificant proportions. The land has passed from the hands of its European owners into those of Mulattoes and blacks, who cultivate in a desultory way so much as is sufficient to maintain themselves and their families. They can hardly be considered as much superior to squatters, and have, although they employ some of the old Indian immigrants as servants, neither capital, energy nor inclination to extend cultivation beyond its present limits. The only other cultivation is that done by convicts, principally at St. Lament on the Marowmi river. The remainder of the large estates are now overgrown with dense jungle, and the European owners have long since taken their departure. The Negro at the best of times makes the worst of masters, and is brutal to all creatures, and even his own children. Wanting in temper, tact, honesty, or industry, he is quite unfit for the control of dependents; and it is not to barbarous and ignorant men like these, themselves mere parasites on the decaying vastness of once flourishing estates, that can be given the control of a helpless and alien race. The estates of Cayenne in their present condition are not in a position to receive new immigrants in sufficient numbers, either to maintain an Immigration Department for the inspection of estates, or to introduce coolies in sufficient numbers to form a community. To indenture raw coolies in dribbles to small estates, if they can be called such, in different parts of the colony, cannot but be, as the history of such attempts has too often proved, a total failure; as the Governor of Cayenne said to me "l'Agriculture est morte," and unless capital is forthcoming to establish immigration on a proper basis, Cayenne is no place for raw coolies. Cayenne is in the first place a convict settlement for the most desperate criminals of France and its dependencies, and the presence of 5,000 of these ruffians dispersed over the colony cannot but have its effect on the customs of the place and the attitude of authority: secondly, Cayenne is a gold field, and, as such, attracts the population usually met with in such places. In neither of these capacities is Cayenne of benefit to the agricultural labourer. There are those in neighbouring colonies who are well acquainted with the *pros* and *cons* of these questions, and who are capable of advising the Government of India; and I would suggest, as representing British interests on the one hand, the Honourable H. Alexander, Immigration Agent General and

Member of the Court of Policy of British Guiana, and as representing French interests, Monsieur Le Dour, Vice-Consul for France at Georgetown, British Guiana. These two gentlemen are both on the spot and live in the same town. Mr Alexander has a very extensive knowledge of Indian immigration, which he has brought to a high pitch of perfection in British Guiana, and Monsieur Le Dour is a gentleman well disposed to the British, and with a very wide knowledge of both sides of the question, and of the actual condition of Cayenne, in which he at one time had substantial interests.

I have already discussed with Monsieur Le Dour the possibility of the resumption of emigration to Cayenne, and as embodying what are probably the views of the promoters of the scheme, I will give here the points referred to in our conversations.

Monsieur Le Dour acknowledged frankly that neither the British Government nor the Government of India could be expected, having regard to the beneficial arrangements they wished for in the control of immigrants, to allow the resumption of emigration under the conditions at present obtaining in Cayenne; but he said there was a body of influential capitalists in Paris who would be quite ready to enter into all guarantees on their own responsibility for the maintenance of immigration in Cayenne on the lines of that in British Guiana. He agreed with me that it would require operations on an extended scale to have any chance of success, and it would never pay to maintain an efficient Immigration Department, and free hospitals, barracks, depôts, etc., for a small body of immigrants. If, from motives of policy, it was thought expedient to give to France the aid of Indian labour to rehabilitate her colony, I have no doubt money would be forthcoming among Paris speculators, sufficient to guarantee all that the Government of India would require for the initial equipment of the enterprise and the expenses of introduction. After that it would probably be difficult to insist on any other arrangements beyond those which might be considered necessary by the Colonial Government. From the point of view of the Syndicate of capitalists who wish to try the experiment of extended cultivation in this colony, the possible advantages no doubt outweigh the actual risks; but in view of the difficulty which even the best managed and fully kept up estates having as much labour as they require experience in West Indian colonies in growing paying crops, it is as well to consider what would be the result of the introduction if Indian immigration to Cayenne did not pay. There is always the danger, as pointed out to me, that the capitalists would withdraw with as much as they could save from the business, and the immigrants would be thrown on the hands of the Colonial Government, which could ill-afford either to support them or to pay their return passages to India.

In conclusion, I should say that the proposal to resume immigration to Cayenne is far too speculative to contain all the elements of success.

FILE No. 79.

SERIAL No. 8.

No. 3191, dated Calcutta, the 28th December 1893.

From—C. E. BUCKLAND, Esq., C.S., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

IN continuation of this office letter No. 2587, dated the 16th November 1893, and with reference to your office letter No. 3189—79, dated the 21st December 1893, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the enclosed copy of a letter from Surgeon-Major Comins dated the 12th December 1893, and to say that the Lieutenant-Governor concurs in his view that resumption of emigration to Cayenne is not advisable.

Dated Calcutta, the 12th December 1893.

From—SURGEON-MAJOR D. W. D. COMINS,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department.

REGARDING the question of the resumption of emigration of natives of India to the colony of French Guiana, I have the honour to submit the following remarks:—

I have already stated my opinion on the general treatment of Indian immigrants in French colonies, which is practically identical in those colonies which still maintain an Immigration Department and enforce the immigration ordinances. The arguments I have used will apply equally well to Cayenne, and there are some additional circumstances which would render the position of emigrants to this colony still more inconsistent with that which obtain in English colonies, and these differences would be all to the disadvantage of the intending emigrant. The agriculture of Cayenne which, before the emancipation, was in a most flourishing condition, and in the hands of wealthy proprietors and capitalists has, as regards private properties which could afford to import immigrants since that period, dwindled to insignificant proportions. The land has passed from the hands of its European owners into those of Mulattoes and blacks, who cultivate in a desultory way so much as is sufficient to maintain themselves and their families. They can hardly be considered as much superior to squatters, and have, although they employ some of the old Indian immigrants as servants, neither capital, energy nor inclination to extend cultivation beyond its present limits. The only other cultivation is that done by convicts, principally at St. Lament on the Marowmi river. The remainder of the large estates are now overgrown with dense jungle, and the European owners have long since taken their departure. The Negro at the best of times makes the worst of masters, and is brutal to all creatures, and even his own children. Wanting in temper, tact, honesty, or industry, he is quite unfit for the control of dependents; and it is not to barbarous and ignorant men like these, themselves mere parasites on the decaying vastness of once flourishing estates, that can be given the control of a helpless and alien race. The estates of Cayenne in their present condition are not in a position to receive new immigrants in sufficient numbers, either to maintain an Immigration Department for the inspection of estates, or to introduce coolies in sufficient numbers to form a community. To indenture raw coolies in dribbles to small estates, if they can be called such, in different parts of the colony, cannot but be, as the history of such attempts has too often proved, a total failure; as the Governor of Cayenne said to me "l'Agriculture est morte," and unless capital is forthcoming to establish immigration on a proper basis, Cayenne is no place for raw coolies. Cayenne is in the first place a convict settlement for the most desperate criminals of France and its dependencies, and the presence of 5,000 of these ruffians dispersed over the colony cannot but have its effect on the customs of the place and the attitude of authority: secondly, Cayenne is a gold field, and, as such, attracts the population usually met with in such places. In neither of these capacities is Cayenne of benefit to the agricultural labourer. There are those in neighbouring colonies who are well acquainted with the *pros* and *cons* of these questions, and who are capable of advising the Government of India; and I would suggest, as representing British interests on the one hand, the Honourable H. Alexander, Immigration Agent General and

Member of the Court of Policy of British Guiana, and as representing French interests, Monsieur Le Dour, Vice-Consul for France at Georgetown, British Guiana. These two gentlemen are both on the spot and live in the same town. Mr Alexander has a very extensive knowledge of Indian immigration, which he has brought to a high pitch of perfection in British Guiana, and Monsieur Le Dour is a gentleman well disposed to the British, and with a very wide knowledge of both sides of the question, and of the actual condition of Cayenne, in which he at one time had substantial interests.

I have already discussed with Monsieur Le Dour the possibility of the resumption of emigration to Cayenne, and as embodying what are probably the views of the promoters of the scheme, I will give here the points referred to in our conversations.

Monsieur Le Dour acknowledged frankly that neither the British Government nor the Government of India could be expected, having regard to the beneficial arrangements they wished for in the control of immigrants, to allow the resumption of emigration under the conditions at present obtaining in Cayenne; but he said there was a body of influential capitalists in Paris who would be quite ready to enter into all guarantees on their own responsibility for the maintenance of immigration in Cayenne on the lines of that in British Guiana. He agreed with me that it would require operations on an extended scale to have any chance of success, and it would never pay to maintain an efficient Immigration Department, and free hospitals, barracks, depôts, etc., for a small body of immigrants. If, from motives of policy, it was thought expedient to give to France the aid of Indian labour to rehabilitate her colony, I have no doubt money would be forthcoming among Paris speculators, sufficient to guarantee all that the Government of India would require for the initial equipment of the enterprise and the expenses of introduction. After that it would probably be difficult to insist on any other arrangements beyond those which might be considered necessary by the Colonial Government. From the point of view of the Syndicate of capitalists who wish to try the experiment of extended cultivation in this colony, the possible advantages no doubt outweigh the actual risks; but in view of the difficulty which even the best managed and fully kept up estates having as much labour as they require experience in West Indian colonies in growing paying crops, it is as well to consider what would be the result of the introduction if Indian immigration to Cayenne did not pay. There is always the danger, as pointed out to me, that the capitalists would withdraw with as much as they could save from the business, and the immigrants would be thrown on the hands of the Colonial Government, which could ill-afford either to support them or to pay their return passages to India.

In conclusion, I should say that the proposal to resume immigration to Cayenne is far too speculative to contain all the elements of success.

FILE No. 79.
SERIAL No. 8.

No. 3191, dated Calcutta, the 28th December 1893.

From—C. E. BUCKLAND, Esq., C.S., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

IN continuation of this office letter No. 2587, dated the 16th November 1893, and with reference to your office letter No. 3489—79, dated the 21st December 1893, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the enclosed copy of a letter from Surgeon-Major Comins dated the 12th December 1893, and to say that the Lieutenant-Governor concurs in his view that resumption of emigration to Cayenne is not advisable.

Dated Calcutta, the 12th December 1893.

From—SURGEON-MAJOR D. W. D. COMINS,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department.

REGARDING the question of the resumption of emigration of natives of India to the colony of French Guiana, I have the honour to submit the following remarks:—

I have already stated my opinion on the general treatment of Indian immigrants in French colonies, which is practically identical in those colonies which still maintain an Immigration Department and enforce the immigration ordinances. The arguments I have used will apply equally well to Cayenne, and there are some additional circumstances which would render the position of emigrants to this colony still more inconsistent with that which obtain in English colonies, and these differences would be all to the disadvantage of the intending emigrant. The agriculture of Cayenne which, before the emancipation, was in a most flourishing condition, and in the hands of wealthy proprietors and capitalists has, as regards private properties which could afford to import immigrants since that period, dwindled to insignificant proportions. The land has passed from the hands of its European owners into those of Mulattoes and blacks, who cultivate in a desultory way so much as is sufficient to maintain themselves and their families. They can hardly be considered as much superior to squatters, and have, although they employ some of the old Indian immigrants as servants, neither capital, energy nor inclination to extend cultivation beyond its present limits. The only other cultivation is that done by convicts, principally at St. Lament on the Marowmi river. The remainder of the large estates are now overgrown with dense jungle, and the European owners have long since taken their departure. The Negro at the best of times makes the worst of masters, and is brutal to all creatures, and even his own children. Wanting in temper, tact, honesty, or industry, he is quite unfit for the control of dependents; and it is not to barbarous and ignorant men like these, themselves mere parasites on the decaying vastness of once flourishing estates, that can be given the control of a helpless and alien race. The estates of Cayenne in their present condition are not in a position to receive new immigrants in sufficient numbers, either to maintain an Immigration Department for the inspection of estates, or to introduce coolies in sufficient numbers to form a community. To indenture raw coolies in dribbles to small estates, if they can be called such, in different parts of the colony, cannot but be, as the history of such attempts has too often proved, a total failure; as the Governor of Cayenne said to me "l'Agriculture est morte," and unless capital is forthcoming to establish immigration on a proper basis, Cayenne is no place for raw coolies. Cayenne is in the first place a convict settlement for the most desperate criminals of France and its dependencies, and the presence of 5,000 of these ruffians dispersed over the colony cannot but have its effect on the customs of the place and the attitude of authority: secondly, Cayenne is a gold field, and, as such, attracts the population usually met with in such places. In neither of these capacities is Cayenne of benefit to the agricultural labourer. There are those in neighbouring colonies who are well acquainted with the *pros* and *cons* of these questions, and who are capable of advising the Government of India; and I would suggest, as representing British interests on the one hand, the Honourable H. Alexander, Immigration Agent General and

Member of the Court of Policy of British Guiana, and as representing French interests, Monsieur Le Doux, Vice-Consul for France at Georgetown, British Guiana. These two gentlemen are both on the spot and live in the same town. Mr Alexander has a very extensive knowledge of Indian immigration, which he has brought to a high pitch of perfection in British Guiana, and Monsieur Le Doux is a gentleman well disposed to the British, and with a very wide knowledge of both sides of the question, and of the actual condition of Cayenne, in which he at one time had substantial interests.

I have already discussed with Monsieur Le Doux the possibility of the resumption of emigration to Cayenne, and as embodying what are probably the views of the promoters of the scheme, I will give here the points referred to in our conversations.

Monsieur Le Doux acknowledged frankly that neither the British Government nor the Government of India could be expected, having regard to the beneficial arrangements they wished for in the control of immigrants, to allow the resumption of emigration under the conditions at present obtaining in Cayenne; but he said there was a body of influential capitalists in Paris who would be quite ready to enter into all guarantees on their own responsibility for the maintenance of immigration in Cayenne on the lines of that in British Guiana. He agreed with me that it would require operations on an extended scale to have any chance of success, and it would never pay to maintain an efficient Immigration Department, and free hospitals, barracks, depôts, etc., for a small body of immigrants. If, from motives of policy, it was thought expedient to give to France the aid of Indian labour to rehabilitate her colony, I have no doubt money would be forthcoming among Paris speculators, sufficient to guarantee all that the Government of India would require for the initial equipment of the enterprise and the expenses of introduction. After that it would probably be difficult to insist on any other arrangements beyond those which might be considered necessary by the Colonial Government. From the point of view of the Syndicate of capitalists who wish to try the experiment of extended cultivation in this colony, the possible advantages no doubt outweigh the actual risks; but in view of the difficulty which even the best managed and fully kept up estates having as much labour as they require experience in West Indian colonies in growing paying crops, it is as well to consider what would be the result of the introduction if Indian immigration to Cayenne did not pay. There is always the danger, as pointed out to me, that the capitalists would withdraw with as much as they could save from the business, and the immigrants would be thrown on the hands of the Colonial Government, which could ill-afford either to support them or to pay their return passages to India.

In conclusion, I should say that the proposal to resume immigration to Cayenne is far too speculative to contain all the elements of success.