

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O., DATED *M. Jany 59*No. *53A.**Confidential No. 11*
9/10/9

When given for copying

[Despatch Abstract.]

Emigration to French
*Colonies.*SULTAN-UL-AKHBAR,
Nov. 29th, 1888.

9. *Sultan-ul-Akhbar*, of the 29th November, asks the Government Civil and Military Station of Bangalore. Reporter to notice an article on the Courts of Bangalore which says the Magistrates are much overworked and ill-paid. The Second Magistrate is Treasury Officer, Munsif and Registrar; the District Magistrate is Collector and Municipal President, &c.; besides this, the latter officer and the Sessions Judge are military officers; the Sessions Judge should certainly be a Barrister or experienced Civilian; then remains the Resident's Court, which may be called the High Court; there too the presiding officer is not one who can possibly be acquainted with the intricacies of law. If the income of the station were such as only sufficed for such arrangements, there would be nothing to be said; but when nearly two lakhs of rupees per annum surplus go into the Imperial treasury, the people, of whom there are nearly 200,000, should have proper means of obtaining justice, but the people show the same apathy in this matter as in the sheep-killing licenses matter.

(c) Jails.

VIJAYADHWAJA,
Nov. 22nd, 1888.

10. The *Vijayadhwaja*, of 22nd November, in commenting on the review of the reports on the administration of jails by the Government of India, remarks as follows:—
“The Government of India seem to think that the surroundings of jail-life will not as injuriously affect a Native sick prisoner as they would a European in the same position. This distinction, we consider, is rather unreasonable. A Native of good position in life, who has got into the jail by some misfortune, will as much feel the inconveniences and discomforts of the jail-life as a European, and the surroundings of the jail-life will produce as deleterious an effect on his constitution as on that of any European. The distinction should therefore be drawn, not with reference to the nationality of the prisoner, but with reference to his position in life and the comforts that he had commanded before he became an inmate of the jail.

“The Governor-General in Council appears to consider that the system of departmental supply is in every way superior to the contract system, and directs the substitution of the former for the latter in all the jails. In fact, both the systems are open to the same extent of abuse without strict supervision. The jail subordinates will have greater opportunities of misappropriation under the departmental system than under the contract system; and unless their purchases are carefully scrutinised and their accounts properly checked, the waste of public funds will be as great in the one as in the other.”

(d) Education.

VICATATOOTHAN,
Nov. 24th, 1888.

11. The *Vicatatoothan*, of Madras of the 24th November, observes that the Hindus possess no other power than that of education, and that while they are striving, at least by means of this power, to better themselves by establishing the National Congress, the Government propose to take away even that amount of power from them, as it has been resolved by Lord Dufferin to stop the grants on education and employ the money thus saved in liquidating the Indian debt.

KERALA SANCHARI,
Nov. 21st, 1888.

12. An article in the *Kerala Sanchari*, of the 21st November, thinks that, in the selection of University Examiners, the Syndicate and the Director of Public Instruction ought to exercise better discretion.

SULTAN-UL-AKHBAR,
Nov. 22nd, 1888.

13. *Sultan-ul-Akhbar*, of the 22nd November, comments on the advantages of the system of Government education and admits what it has done for India, but laments that it should be purely secular, though that is of course to prevent any religious prejudices being interfered with. The absence of religious instructions has had the effect of making men godless and irreligious, and has produced those agitators who, if they had power, would give trouble, but being powerless, have to confine themselves to

BACK PAPER, No. 1098

OF 1888.

C. No. 1714

FURTHER PAPER, No.

OF 1888.

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, dated
1888, No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B.—

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Confidential No. 29.
Public (1889) Department

C. No. 148.

From

The Govt. of India

Rev. & Agri. Dept.

File
this

Order of 29. Jan. 89 No. 53A
Recorded
16 Jan

No. 213
4-29 E

Dt. 5. January } 1889
Ry. 14. January }

Enc. 50 S.C.

Emigration to Réunion,
Martinique and Guadeloupe.

Jan. 17/89

With order

Dated Paris, the 31st October 1888.

From—His Excellency Lord Lytton, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris,
To—M. Goblet, Minister for Foreign Affairs.



THE Government of India have examined with close attention the whole subject of Indian Immigration in Réunion and in the Colonies of Martinique and Guadeloupe; and they have arrived at certain decisions in which Her Majesty's Government concur, and in consequence of which I am instructed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to make the following communication to Your Excellency.

First, as regards Réunion:—The Government of India considers it clearly established that there is much oppression, and that many abuses are connected with the whole system of immigration into this island; that the general tendency is to subordinate the rights of the immigrants to the interests of the Colonists; that the Indian has no security of obtaining equal justice at the hands of the Colonial Administration; and that the position of affairs complained of arises very much from the intimate connections existing between the Syndics or the members of the Syndicat Protecteur and the planting interest of the island. These connections go far to account for the fact that protests and representations produce no material effect, and to explain why, even with the co-operation of the French Government, it is almost impossible to ensure the introduction of reforms in the administration of immigration in Réunion. Her Majesty's Government have seen with much regret that the obligations of the Colony in respect of the repatriation of time-expired immigrants are not fulfilled as they ought to be, and that the bulk of those that are repatriated reach India in abject poverty; also that the sum voted by the Conseil Général for the Immigration Service continued to be reduced, and that further reductions are contemplated, although the grant for the current year is not sufficient for the maintenance of an efficient service. Her Majesty's Government are, therefore, compelled to agree with the Government of India in thinking that emigration from India to Réunion cannot be resumed.

Secondly, as regards Martinique and Guadeloupe, the state of affairs in these islands is similar to that in Réunion. In them also many abuses and many just causes of complaint exist, while the obligations as to the immigrant's right to re-engage and receive a bounty, his right to gratuitous medical treatment and to punctual repatriation, have been neglected in a manner most prejudicial to him.

In these circumstances Her Majesty's Government have no alternative but to concur with the Government of India in the necessity of exercising the power vested in them and prohibiting by formal notification the emigration of British Indian coolies to Martinique and Guadeloupe.

The prohibition has not, however, been applied to the emigrants, to the number of one thousand, who have recently been applied for by Guadeloupe and for whose conveyance steamships were already chartered before the decision of the Indian Government was arrived at.

In making this communication to Your Excellency, I am instructed to urge the Government of the Republic to insist upon their Colonial authorities treating the Indian immigrants with justice and fulfilling the obligations which are imposed upon them by the Convention of 1861, and which are none the less in force though the emigration from India may have ceased. I have the honour, in conclusion, to remind Your Excellency that the point to which special importance is attached by Her Majesty's Government is the obligation of repatriating those who are entitled to a free return passage; and that the attention of the French Government has frequently been called to the extent to which this obligation has been neglected, and to the inefficient manner in which repatriation when granted has often been carried out.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Nos. 2 & 3 E.
4-29

COPY forwarded to the Governments of Madras and Bengal for information, in continuation of this Department Endorsement Nos. 209 & 210—4-29E., dated the 8th November 1888, with the request that the papers may be treated as confidential.

By order,

W. A. M. M.

Under-Secy. to the Government of India.

REVENUE AND AGRI. DEPT.,
Calcutta, the 5th January 1889.

Government of India Central Printing Office.—No. 497 R. & A.—7-1-89.—150.—S. J. D'S.

To the Secretary to the Govt of Madras.

request you to communicate [a copy of it] the substance of these despatches to the French Government with the following observations.

First, as regards Réunion, it is clearly established that there is much oppression and that many abuses are connected with the whole system of immigration into Réunion; that the general tendency is to subordinate the rights of the immigrants to the interests of the Colonists; that the Indian has no security of obtaining equal justice at the hands of the Colonial Administration, and that the position of affairs complained of arises very much from the intimate connections existing between the Syndics or the members of the Syndicat Protecteur and the planting interest in the island. These connections go far to account for the fact that protests and representations produce no material effect and to explain why, even with the co-operation of the French Government, it is almost impossible to ensure reforms being introduced in the administration of immigration in Réunion. Her Majesty's Government have seen with much regret that the obligations of the Colony in respect of the repatriation of time-expired immigrants are not fulfilled as they ought to be, and that the bulk of those who are repatriated reach India in abject poverty; also that the sum voted by the Conseil Général for the Immigration Service continues to be reduced, and that further reductions are contemplated, though the grant for the current year is not sufficient for the maintenance of an efficient service. They are therefore compelled to agree with the India Government in thinking that [before the question of renewing emigration from India can be re-opened the three conditions which the Government of India have always declared to be essential must be accepted and also the further conditions now stated in the 5th paragraph of the despatch from the Government of India.] *emigration from India to Réunion cannot be resumed.*

The state of affairs in the Colonies of Martinique and Guadeloupe is similar to that in Réunion. In these islands also many abuses and many just causes of complaint exist, while the obligations as to the immigrant's right to re-engage and receive a bounty, his right to gratuitous medical treatment and to punctual repatriation have been neglected in a manner most prejudicial to him. Emigration to these two Colonies has practically ceased for some years past, but under the circumstances Her Majesty's Government have no alternative but to concur with the Government of India in the necessity of their exercising the power vested in them and prohibiting the emigration of British India coolies to Martinique and Guadeloupe by formal notification.

The prohibition has not, however, been applied to the emigrants, to the number of one thousand who have recently been applied for by Guadeloupe and for whose conveyance steamships were already chartered before the decision of the India Government was arrived at.

In making the above communication to the French Government you should also urge them to insist upon their Colonial authorities treating the Indian immigrants with justice and fulfilling the obligations imposed upon them by the convention of 1861, and which are none the less in force though the emigration from India may have ceased.

You should add that the question of repatriating those who are entitled to a free return passage is specially important; and that the attention of the French Government has frequently been called to the extent to which this obligation has been neglected and to the inefficient manner in which repatriation when granted has often been carried out.

Dated Foreign Office, London, the 8th November 1888.

From—SIR P. W. CURRIE, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,

To—The Under-Secretary of State for India.

WITH reference to India Office letter of the 5th ultimo, No. J. & P. 1357, I am directed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for India in Council, the enclosed despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, forwarding copy of His Excellency's note to the French Government respecting Indian Immigration in Réunion and Martinique.

No. 62 (Consular), dated Paris, the 31st October 1888.

From—His Excellency Lord Lytton, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris,

To—Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to Your Lordship a copy of a note which in execution of the instructions conveyed to me in Your Lordship's despatch No. 48 (Consular) of the 18th instant, I have addressed to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of Indian Immigration in Réunion and in the Colonies of Martinique and Guadeloupe.