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c (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 1359

Dated 30. 12. 96

[Despatch Abstract.]

Writing the attention of the Govt of India
to the heavy desertions from the Gula
state apparent from the annual report
on Indian Immigration in the North West
Frontier 1895.

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1951

ANNUAL REPORT

ON

INDIAN IMMIGRATION

IN THE

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR

1895

BY

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN, ESQ.

Acting Indian Immigration Agent, S. S.



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செப்பன்குபவர் பெயர்
செப்பன்குபவர்களுக்காக எடுத்த
கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் 1895
செப்பன்குபவர் பெயர்
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ANNUAL REPORT ON INDIAN IMMIGRATION, 1895.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION OFFICE,

Penang, 27th February, 1896.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, the Annual Report of the Indian Immigration Department, for the year 1895.

2. The total number of Indian immigrants who arrived in the Colony during the year was 15,962; of these, 1,549 were statute immigrants, and 14,413 not under indenture. This latter figure includes 88 dependents (women and children not under contract) who accompanied the indentured coolies from India. The number that returned to India was 12,360. The following table gives a comparative statement of the number of arrivals and departures for the four years 1892-1895:—

		1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Arrivals,	Under Indenture,	1,628	2,225	1,745	1,549
	Not under Indenture,	16,370	15,877	13,156	14,413
	Total,	17,998	18,102	14,901	15,962
Departures,	Total,	17,722	14,045	13,537	12,360

3. Of the 1,549 statute immigrants who arrived during 1895, 719 were for service in the Colony, and 830 for the Native States:—

Province Wellesley,	...	719
Perak,	...	614
Selangor,	...	198
Sungei Ujong,	...	18
Johore,	...	...

4. Appendices A and B to this Report contain a list of the vessels which arrived and departed with immigrants, indentured and otherwise, from the Madras Ports in 1895. The recruiting ground for statute labour being confined to the Madras Presidency, no account is taken of ships from other parts of India.

Births and Deaths.

5. The total number of births reported was 165, and of deaths 169. The percentage of mortality for the whole body of statute immigrants, calculated on an average struck from the total number employed on the 1st January, 30th June, and 31st December, was 3.95 per cent. Particulars for the Colony and Native States are given below:—

		Males.	Females.	Total.	Deaths,	
Province Wellesley,	Births,	59	56	115	92	
Perak,	"	15	29	44	"	61
Selangor,	"	6	...	6	"	12
Sungei Ujong,	"	...	...	...	"	1
Johore,	"	...	...	...	"	3
Grand Total,				165		169

Hospitals.

6. The total number of statute immigrants admitted for treatment in 1895 was 5,561. This includes admissions to Government as well as to Estate Hospitals. The percentage of deaths on admissions was 3.27 per cent.

Desertions.

7. Eight hundred and twelve (812) statute immigrants deserted. Of these, 452 were arrested. Gula Estate had most desertions (see Appendix D), the number of desertions on that estate being 610*, as compared with a total statute immigrant population of 1,026. This must not, however, be taken to mean that about 60 per cent. of those actually employed deserted during the year, as many deserted a second and even a third time after recapture. It is not too much to say, however, that about 40 per cent. of the Gula coolies deserted.

Contracts.

8. One thousand five hundred and forty-five (1,545) contracts were executed in the Office, showing a decrease of 199 as compared with 1894. Stamp duty to the amount of \$1,351 was collected; 168 contracts were renewed in Province Wellesley, the term of renewal being one year.

Certificates.

9. Two thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight (2,738) certificates under section 10 of the Indian Immigration Ordinance were issued in this Office, and 2,304 were granted by the Assistant Indian Immigration Agent, Singapore. There was one prosecution in Penang under section 33 of the Indian Immigration Ordinance.

General Remarks.

10. The supply of Indian labour in the Straits is still short of the demand. This I believe, to be the result of inefficient recruiting. Complaints also continue to be made by the planters of the receipt of coolies unfit for labour, and every effort has been made to provide against this, so far as Government is concerned, by a strict medical examination at the Dépôt at Negapatam. The Superintendent of the Dépôt there has, however, been instructed to pass all healthy men of the agricultural class irrespective of absolute robustness of frame, so that it cannot be said that the examination is rigorous to excess.

11. In the beginning of 1893, I spent three months on leave in Southern India, and availed myself of every opportunity of enquiring into the labour recruiting question and discussing it with such Officials of the Indian Government as I met. I also inspected the Dépôt at Negapatam, and made the acquaintance of the Superintendent and of the Government Officer in charge of emigration from that port. I also spoke with many Natives up-country in the Madura District, where I spent most of my time, and the Collector of that District kindly gave me all the information he could on the subject.

12. The conclusion I arrived at was that the recruiters employed by the firms who act for the Straits planters do not push their work far enough afield. They content themselves, for the most part, in picking up coolies within a narrow radius around the ports on the East coast, instead of going among the vast and indigent population further inland towards Madura and the Neilgherries, and further North towards Salem and Arcot.

13. In his report for the year 1893, Mr. MACGREGOR, then Indian Immigration Agent, remarks:—"The Dépôt at Negapatam has been carefully worked but..... cannot work satisfactorily without assistance from outside, viz., by a properly organized system of recruiting." He proposed that the defect should be remedied as recommended by the Labour Commission of 1890, i.e., by the appointment of an Agent-General for Emigration to reside in India and to be responsible for everything connected with recruiting, examination and shipping of coolies for the Straits. This proposal was negatived by Government on the ground that it was not for them to incur expenditure in order to foster a particular industry.

14. I am quite convinced that Mr. MACGREGOR was right in stating that the recruiting system was at fault, and that the best remedy was to be found in the appointment of a proper Agent to reside in India and attend personally to the work of recruiting. It is no less certain that it is the planters and not the Government who should combine to appoint and maintain such an Agent to work in their own interests. If the demand for Indian coolie labour is such as it is said to be, I believe there is not the least doubt that a trustworthy resident Agent employed by the planters, and himself conversant with the language and habits of the Tamil population, could command a field of labour practically inexhaustible, and ensure the enlistment of *bond fide* agricultural coolies. In many up-country districts in Southern India, the very name

*N.B.—133 of these desertions were from the 614 newly arrived coolies. The actual number who deserted out of the 614 who arrived was 123, but ten of these deserted twice and are counted as fresh desertions. I think perhaps the great reason for these Gula desertions is the difference in wages. A Public Works Department coolie in Perak can earn nearly \$12 a month.

of the Straits is unknown to the Natives, although Natal and Mauritius, which have more active recruiting Agents, are well known to all. The remedy then is in the hands of the planters themselves; and it remains for them to associate themselves for this purpose.

15. Another obstacle to successful recruiting is the low rate of wages paid by planters here in comparison to the market rate in the country. I believe that better results would be obtained and money saved in the long run by the owners of estates employing Indian labour if they would both raise the rate of wages for indentured coolies and shorten the period of the contract.

16. The greatest mortality has been on Gula Estate, where 59 coolies died during the year, out of an average total of 1,051, giving a percentage of 5.61. In Province Wellesley, the highest percentage was on Caledonia Estate—4.98. This is an improvement on last year, when as much as 6.13 per cent. of the average number of coolies employed died during the year on the latter estate, and 8.22 per cent. on the former. The hospital accommodation in Province Wellesley leaves nothing to be desired.

The mortality on Byram Estate fell to the comparatively low figure of 2.73 per cent.

17. Desertions continue to be very heavy on Gula Estate (see paragraph 7 above). The reasons assigned by the Manager are:—(1) discontent among the coolies, partly due to the falsehoods told by recruiters to the coolies in India to induce enlistment, resulting in their being dissatisfied on arrival; (2) crimping; and (3) the possibility of obtaining higher wages from employers of non-indentured labour, among which employers the Government of Perak is included. For the first of these causes of desertion, higher wages and a shorter contract seem to be the only cure; crimping must be stamped out by vigorous prosecution and the infliction of exemplary penalties on detected offenders; while the third cause can only be remedied by an improvement in the law rendering it penal knowingly to employ runaway contract coolies.

18. The statute coolies on Trans-Krian Estate—KHU BU AN'S Estate—are, in my opinion, habitually overworked and underpaid, and I have reported separately to Government on this subject and that of task work generally. There can be no doubt that task work, if applied in the proper way, is at once more profitable to the planter and less irksome to the coolie, and has the further merit of enabling the industrious to earn higher pay than the mere contract rate. On Malakoff Estate, there are indentured coolies who earn as much as \$8 to \$9 a month, and in the other estates in Province Wellesley under European management the tasks imposed are not excessive and the coolie can improve his position by his own industry. Trans-Krian is exceptional in this respect, and I have recommended the adoption of stringent measures to remedy the abuse of the task work system that prevails there.

19. The Labour Commission of 1890 recommended the recognition of task work in the contract; and this has been provided for in the Amending Ordinance XVI of 1892, which, however, has not yet come into force. This Ordinance provides (section 23) that the task shall be at the discretion of the Indian Immigration Agent, and that it shall not be more than equivalent to a nine hours' working day. This legalization of task work and the implied limitation of the task to what is just and proper will, I believe, be a most useful reform; but I think that the framers of the Amending Ordinance made a serious omission in not providing that the labourer who completes his daily task in less than 9 hours and then works on should be paid for the surplus work at the same rate as he is paid for the task itself.

20. Another recommendation of the Labour Commission is also dealt with by the same Ordinance, viz., the abolition of Sunday pay. On this, Mr. MACGREGOR comments in his Annual Report on Indian Immigration for the year 1892 (paragraphs 25 and 26). I understand that the attention of this Government has been drawn to the report in question by the Government of India, with a view to having the inconsistency, which Mr. MACGREGOR points out, remedied before the Ordinance becomes law. The Labour Commission recommended 16 cents a day for the second and third years, while the Ordinance provides for 14 cents only for all the three years of the contract. If Sunday labour is abolished, the third year's coolie will be in a worse position as regards pay under Ordinance XVI of 1892 than he was under Ordinance V of 1884, as unamended. I have submitted to Government the alterations which, I think, should be made in the later Ordinance before it is allowed to become law.

21. Having taken over charge of this Department from Mr. BROCKMAN on the 22nd November, early in December, I made an inspection of three estates in the North of Province Wellesley employing statute labour. The condition of the coolies in all three was satisfactory, and the hygiene and hospital accommodation left nothing to be desired. No complaint of any moment was made to me by the coolies themselves. The Colonial Surgeon expressed himself satisfied with the general health on these estates.

22. The Office work of the Indian Immigration Department is now performed by the Collector of Land Revenue assisted by the Second Magistrate and a single Clerk. A very great saving has been effected by this arrangement, as will be seen from the attached table:—

	Annual Allowances and Salaries.		Annual Salaries.
<i>Present Staff.</i>	\$	<i>Former Staff.</i>	\$
C. L. R. acting as Indian Immigration Agent,	300	Indian Immigration Agent,	3,600
2nd Magistrate acting as Assistant ditto, ...	300	Assistant ditto, ...	2,100
Chief Clerk, ...	720	Chief Clerk, ...	720
2 Inspectors, ...	840	Interpreter, ...	900
Boat Tindal, ...	108	2nd Clerk, ...	420
4 Lascars, ...	384	Boat Tindal, ...	108
Peon, ...	96	Office Tindal, ...	84
Punkah-puller, ...	84	Peon, ...	84
		Punkah-puller, ...	72
		4 Lascars, ...	384
		2 Inspectors, ...	840
	\$2,832		\$9,312

Difference saved \$6,480.

The work done by the staff in either case is precisely the same, and the boat does duty now for the Chinese Protectorate as well.

23. Up to the 8th August, 1895, the whole work of supervision of this Department devolved on Mr. H. EVANS. On the 9th August, Mr. BROCKMAN, then Acting Collector of Land Revenue, undertook the duties of Indian Immigration Agent, with Mr. H. EVANS to assist him. The latter gentleman went on leave on 18th November, and Mr. E. G. BROADRICK, Acting 2nd Magistrate, was appointed to succeed him. The Office staff was still further reduced by the suspension of Mr. S. JOSEPH, the family Interpreter, whose dismissal is still under consideration. The Chief Clerk has now to perform the work of Boarding Officer and Interpreter as well as the clerical work of the Department. He has ordinarily as much work as he can possibly get through. In a time of stress (as, for instance, the outbreak of an epidemic on an estate) causing any considerable increase in the correspondence work of the Office, it would be necessary to obtain additional clerical assistance.

24. The supervision of Indian immigration in the Native States having been entirely taken out of the hands of the Indian Immigration Agent, it seems inconsistent that returns should continue to be sent to us and reports to be made on work which we have no means of verifying by actual inspection. If it is intended that the whole work and responsibility should devolve on the Native States' officials, and inspections by the Indian Immigration Agent for the Colony permanently discontinued, I would suggest that returns from the Native States should no longer be called for, and that the statements in regard to statute immigrants on estates be excluded, in future, from the annual report on Indian Immigration in the Colony. The Native States' official or officials charged with the work of supervising Indian immigration should, I think, more properly report to the Resident-General of the Federated States. I do not think I need dwell on the unsatisfactory nature of a report drawn up by an official who has practically no connection with or authority over the subject matter of his report.

I have, &c.,

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN,
Acting Indian Immigration Agent, S. S.

STATEMENT A.

List of Vessels which arrived in 1895 with Statute Immigrants from the Madras Ports.

Names of Vessels.	From what Ports.	Dates of Arrival.	Statute Immigrants.			Other Immi- grants.	Total.
			Men.	Women.	Dependents		
1895.							
S. S. "Secundra," ...	Madras & Coast Ports.	8th January,	31	9	...	453	493
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	23rd "	24	6	...	341½	371½
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	5th February,	39	13	1	454½	507
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	19th "	40	11	3	332½	385
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	5th March,	22	9	1	342	373½
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	20th "	45	10	2	242½	298½
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	2nd April,	52	9	1	238	299½
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	16th "	45	14	6	358	420
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	29th "	45	13	3	472	531½
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	13th May,	62	22	6	656	743
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	28th "	68	16	3	723½	809
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	11th June,	71	13	7	483½	571
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	24th "	96	19	4	729½	846½
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	9th July,	90	17	12	752	865
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	22nd "	55	7	8	694	760
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	6th August,	64	12	1	543	619½
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	20th "	71	12	6	433	519
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	3rd September,	55	11	5	709½	778
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	17th "	57	12	3	877	947½
" " "Camorta," ...	" "	30th "	56	15	2	972½	1,044½
" " "Sirsa," ...	" "	15th October,	53	9	2	677	740
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	29th "	14	5	3	432½	453
" " "Sirsa," ...	" "	11th November,	44	11	3	496	552½
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	27th "	28	8	4	554½	521½
" " "Sirsa," ...	" "	10th December,	27	12	2	737	779½
" " "Secundra," ...	" "	25th "	...	...	...	664	664
" " "Sirsa," ...	" "	"	...	...	...	...	...
Total,...			1,254	295	88	14,368½	15,961½

STATEMENT B.

List of Vessels which left for Madras Ports with Immigrants in 1895.

Names of Vessels.	Dates of Departure.	No. of Immi-grants.	For what Ports.
1895.			
S. S. "Camorta,"	3rd January,	434	Madras and Coast Ports.
" " "Secundra,"	17th "	482	"
" " "Camorta,"	31st "	438	"
" " "Secundra,"	15th February,	690	"
" " "Camorta,"	28th "	520	"
" " "Secundra,"	14th March,	490	"
" " "Camorta,"	28th "	429	"
" " "Secundra,"	11th April,	683	"
" " "Camorta,"	25th "	543	"
" " "Secundra,"	10th May,	753	"
" " "Camorta,"	22nd "	382	"
" " "Secundra,"	5th June,	460	"
" " "Camorta,"	19th "	468	"
" " "Secundra,"	3rd July,	392	"
" " "Camorta,"	17th "	469	"
" " "Secundra,"	31st "	529	"
" " "Camorta,"	14th August,	402	"
" " "Secundra,"	28th "	254	"
" " "Camorta,"	12th September,	341	"
" " "Secundra,"	26th "	477	"
" " "Camorta,"	10th October,	461	"
" " "Secundra,"	25th "	684	"
" " "Camorta,"	7th November,	519	"
" " "Secundra,"	21st "	314	"
" " "Camorta,"	5th December,	329	"
" " "Secundra,"	19th "	413	"
Total,...		12,360	

STATEMENT C.

Accounting for all Statute Immigrants employed in Province Wellesley, 1895.

Accounting for all Statute Immigrants employed in 1895.																						
ESTATES.	No. of Immigrants employed on 1st January, 1895.	No. of Arrivals in 1895.	No. of Immigrants employed under section 1 Contract.	Total.	No. in Government Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. in Estate Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths.	No. of Deserters.	No. of Deserters arrested.	No. in Gaol on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Convictions.	No. of Admissions into Hospital.	Percentage of Deaths on Admissions.	No. returned to India.	No. discharged by Expiration of Contract.	No. discharged by Mutual Consent.	No. discharged by Redemption of Contract.	Transferred in 1895.	No. of Indian Coolies employed not under Protection on 31st December, 1895.		Remaining on Estates on 31st December, 1895.
																				Men.	Women.	
Batu Kawan, ...	977	205	35	1,217	11	90	29	3.09	191	107	32	167	735	3.94	...	193	3	11	...	205	57	897
Byram, ...	251	209	1	461	34	45	7	2.73	21	12	3	19	555	1.26	2	179	2	2	1	589	31	262
Permatang Bertam, ...	...	14	42	56	...	...	...	...	63	29	...	...	1,223	2.61	...	...	...	...	...	1,200	31	54
Caledonia, ...	764	...	...	764	4	107	12	4.98	70	40	7	108	901	4.44	...	174	...	6	...	1,661	274	274
Malakoff, ...	212	98	140	450	8	23	4	1.65	97	43	1	46	359	5.57	...	302	1	5	...	15	121	435
Prye, ...	683	133	...	816	1	22	19	3.39	37	12	...	1	121	...	1	79	2	36	...	211	144	105
Trans-Krian, ...	188	60	...	248	4	16	...	...	8	...	2	2	77	1.29	...	29	...	29	...	60	25	67
Val d'or, ...	134	...	...	134	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,418	2,615
Total, ...	3,209	719	218	4,146	62	395	92	3.15	489	243	52	377	3,973	2.31	3	1,092	8	86	1	3,674	1,418	2,615

STATEMENT D.

Accounting for all Statute Immigrants employed in the Native States, 1895.

ESTATES.	No. of Immigrants employed on 1st January, 1895.	No. of Arrivals in 1895.	No. of Immigrants employed under 2nd Contract in 1895.	Total.	No. in Government Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. in Estate Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths.	No. of Deserters.	No. of Deserters arrested.	No. in Gaol on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Convictions.	No. of Admissions into Hospital.	Percentage of Deaths on the Cases in Hospital.	No. returned to India.	No. discharged by Expiration of Contract.	No. discharged by Mutual Consent.	No. discharged by Redemption of Contract.	Transferred in 1895.	No. of Indian Coolies employed not under Protection on 31st December, 1895.		No. of Coolies remaining on Estates on 31st Dec., 1895.
																				Men.	Women.	
PERAK.	930	614	...	1,544	2	80	59	5.61	610	428	99	449	828	7.12	...	103	15	12	...	649	265	1,173
Gula, ...	15	...	...	15	...	7	2	2.53	16	9	3	4	...	0.88	...	15	1	...	...	230	85	...
Sungei Bogah, ...	99	...	...	99	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	224	...	...	19	...	10	...	57	14	60
Total, ...	1,044	614	...	1,658	4	87	61	5.36	626	437	102	453	1,652	5.79	...	137	10	22	...	936	364	1,233
SELANGOR.	44	...	...	44	1	...	1	2.63	14	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	278	71	31
Batu Caves, ...	53	10	...	63	12	...	7	17.07	9	...	...	...	32	7.15	...	...	...	...	...	41	17	30
Tremelby, ...	33	...	...	33	3	...	2	6.56	...	...	...	...	12	21.53	...	...	...	...	...	31	4	31
Glen Marie, ...	...	50	...	50	...	...	1	4.76	7	1	...	1	1	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	28	288	43
Balgownie, ...	...	99	...	99	3	...	1	2.22	6	1	...	1	13	7.69	...	...	...	...	...	118	23	91
Hawthornden, ...	...	39	...	39	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Abercrombie, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total, ...	130	198	...	328	22	...	12	6.09	37	7	...	3	94	11.80	1	19	...	3	...	496	403	263
JOHORE.	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	87	15	...
Lettybrook, ...	15	...	...	15	2	...	3	42.85	...	...	...	...	1	37.50	...	...	2	...	...	15	3	...
Stoke Rochford, ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tebran, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total, ...	18	...	...	18	2	...	3	33.33	...	...	...	1	9	33.33	...	12	3	...	...	102	18	...
SUNGEI UJONG.	35	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Linsum, ...	30	18	...	48	9	...	1	2.70	2	...	...	...	22	10.00	...	13	20	...	...	15	4	44
Ribu, ...	65	18	...	83	9	9	1	1.85	4	1	...	...	32	3.12	...	13	20	1	...	15	4	44
Total, ...	1,257	830	...	2,087	37	96	77	5.64	667	445	102	457	1,187	6.48	1	181	39	26	...	1,549	789	1,540
Grand Total, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

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STATEMENT E.

	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Immigrants under Indenture,	107	159	209	176	177	49	244	278	468	2,747	2,960	3,443	1,628	2,106	1,688	1,549
Dependents, ...	3,755	5,769	8,276	8,979	14,365	19,819	17,316	12,156	15,183	15,285	15,341	20,441	10,310	15,877	13,155	14,368
Immigrants, ...	5,053	6,807	9,937	10,605	16,081	21,510	20,308	17,202	20,814	18,206	18,473	30,183	18,421	18,220	14,956	16,005
Total Arrivals, ...	...	5,269	5,947	9,041	10,749	13,417	18,105	12,596	13,190	14,099	15,276	23,912	17,722	14,044	13,537	12,360
Returned to India, ...	...	1,538	3,990	1,564	5,332	8,093	2,203	4,606	7,624	4,107	3,197	6,271	699	4,175	1,419	3,645
Remained in the Colony, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

N.B.—In this statement minor dependents are reckoned as individuals, hence their full numbers is counted in.

STATEMENT F.
Return showing the Statistics of Statute Immigrants employed in Estates in the Straits Settlements and Native States, during the year 1895.

COUNTRY.	1	2	Deductions made during the year 1895.																			16	17		18	
			Additions made during the year 1895.																				Strength on 1st July, 1895.	Annual Strength.		
			By Planters.	Re-engaged.	Recovered after having been struck off as Deserters.			Total.	Total of Columns 2 and 6.	Deaths.		Desertions.		Cancellation for permanent unfitness.	Efflux of time.	Redemption.	Number dissolved by mutual consent.	Total deducted.	Number remaining at the end of the year 1895.	First Half-year.	Second Half-year.					
					Imported.	Otherwise than by im- portation.	Imported.			First Half-year.	Second Half-year.	First Half-year.	Second Half-year.													
Province Wellesley.	...	3,209	719	217	243	1,179	4,388	49	43	277	212	3	1,092	89	8	1,173	2,615	2,809	3,009	2,712	50.16					
Perak, ...	...	1,044	614	...	437	1,051	2,095	40	21	282	344	...	137	22	16	862	1,233	1,152	1,098	1,192	54.03					
Selangor, ...	...	130	198	...	7	205	335	3	9	10	27	1	19	3	...	72	263	196	163	229	57.70					
Sungei Ujong, ...	...	65	18	...	...	18	83	1	...	2	2	...	13	1	20	39	44	49	57	46	17.54					
Johore, ...	...	18	...	...	...	...	18	2	1	...	...	...	11	...	3	17	...	5	11	2	681.81					
Total.	...	4,466	1,549	217	687	2,453	6,919	95	74	571	585	4	1,272	115	47	2,163	4,155	4,211	4,338	4,181	41.89					

COUNTRY.

94
94
138

10

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN,
Acting Indian Immigration Agent, S.S.

Public (1896) Department.

CURRENT No.

From the Govt of India.
R & A. Sept.

Endt. Order N^o 1947

Referred to the Collector
for remarks.

At Amulh
By Chief Secy.

25.9.96.

At Amulh
28 Sept 1896

No. 1594
70-2

Dated - 17th
Received 23rd
Registered 23rd } September 1896.

Enclosures one

Spare copies. 3 of the enclosure

SUBJECT.

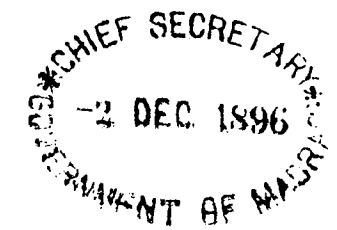
Forwarding copy of the
Annual Report on Indian
Immigration in the Straits
Settlements for the year 1895.

TO BE RETURNED
WITH REPLY.

Under-Secretary.

Public (1896) ^{11/1958} Department.

CURRENT No. 4628



From

The Collector of
Tanjore

Order

No. 4410
Res 896

Dated 27th November 1896

Received 2
Registered 2 } 12-96

Enclosures ~~Three~~ Pub. C. No.

Spare copies 3114/96 with
encls. in addition

SUBJECT.

Submitting report on
certain points referred to in
the Annual Report on Indian
Immigration in the Straits
Settlements for the year 1895.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

S.S. Emigration office.

Melapattam 14th October 1896

No. 8
404

From,

J. Hardaker Esquire.

Superintendent, S.S. Emigration Dept.

Melapattam

To,

The Head Assistant Magistrate
Melapattam.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your endorsement —
No. 5178^{Rev} of 96, dated the 4th instant, and the inclosure
returned with thanks, and in reply bel to offer
my remarks upon the point to which attention has
been drawn by the acting Collector.

2. It is noted in the Report of the Emigration
Agent that the desertions have been unduly heavy
in the Kuala Estate, and among the causes mentioned
by the Manager is the following.

"Discontent among the Coolies partly due to falsehoods
told by recruiters to their Coolies in India to —
"induce enlistment resulting in their being dissatisfied
"on arrival" This appears to me a very flimsy reason
given by the Manager in accepting the barefaced —
Statements

Statements of Coolies which are uncorroborated by other testimony. It must be very apparent to anyone conversant with the workings of the Depot, and with the modes of Cooly recruiting to the Straits Settlements, that it is hardly possible for Coolies to carry away with them to the Estates the impressions what the recruiters had told them before hand with intent to deceive, after what has been repeatedly told them by the Superintendent directly they are admitted to the Depot, and soon after their examination physically, (viz) (a) that they are ^{not} to account whatever to give credence to the representation of recruiters with intent to deceive them, and that what is explained to them is correct, is the terms of their Contract which are thoroughly and clearly explained, also the nature of their work on the Estates which is aboriginal, and wala etc. (b) that they are ^{at} ~~liberty~~ ^{free} to return to their homes if what is told does not commend itself to them. Then again, this is repeated on the day before the embarkation of all emigrants who are paraded before me

17/28
me, and for the last time on the morning of embarkation by the Port Officer and Emigration Agent here ~~being~~ ^{being} present; nothing could be more explicit in our manner of warning in order to undeceive would-be emigrants in the event of false inducements being held out to them by recruiters.

3. That in respect to the system of recruiting for the Estates, no special recruiters are nominated to collect Coolies for certain Estates only. The recruiting of Coolies is general, they are collected from the recruiting Centres in the several districts of Southern India, and brought to the Depot as they get them, so that they are not aware to what Estates the emigrants are consigned. From the above, it is not clear to me why Gula Coolies only should be more deceived than those of other Estates in the Province and native States, where the deceptions are insignificant as compared to Gula.

4. I admit the recruiter is not innocent of the

the inspection of the agent as he is in the habit of some
times of misrepresenting matters to Coolies,
but it is not of common occurrence. Some
complaints have been made by Coolies which
recruiters have denied, and the former were
not able to substantiate; however, in such cases
to animals have been given to recruiters, and
the Cooly sent out of the Depot at his request.
In connection with the above, I do not think
it would be out of place to quote a passage
in the letter from the Asst. Head Assistant Collector
of Tanjore H. V. Cobb Esquire to the Collector of
Tanjore published in the Indian Commission's
Report of 1890, See last page para 2. "The
recruiter may and probably does hold out
false inducements to many women - but if
these promises are, however ruthlessly dispelled
by the plain and unvarnished truth which
is put before every man, woman and child,
when brought to the Depot by not only the
Superintendent, but also by the Immigration
Agent

135
Agent whose duty it is to inspect the emigrants
a few hours before they sail. I have myself
since my arrival seen this inspection held,
and was pleased with the thorough and
efficient manner in which it was conducted".
5. Referring to Mr. Mac Gregor's remarks, Case
Indian Immigration Agent Penang in his
annual Report for the year 1893, para 20,
he asserts "Desertions from Gula is very
heavy. To a certain extent, this may be
accounted for by its isolated position, but
I am afraid other causes are at work, of
which as yet there is no proof". This latter
clause appears to me very cautiously written;
what the other causes are, are not made manifest,
as there is no proof, and I think until
this is thrashed out and made clear, and
the remedy applied, then alone the desertions
will, perhaps, be minimized.

6. The desertions from Gula Estate number (610)
during

during 1895, vide Statement C of Report, while
the largest (Batukawan) of all those in
Province Wellesley was only (191) vide State-
ment C, a very small number as compared
with Luala Estate. I also note that in
4 Estates in Province Wellesley, the total
number of Immigrants employed under
a second Contract was (218), whereas the estate
in the Native States, notably Luala with a
population of (1544) Immigrants none were
employed under a second Contract, thus
far showing that Luala does not seem
popular with the Statute Immigrants who
work on that Estate.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

(Signed) J. W. S. S.

Superintendent S.S.

(True Copy)

M. A. S.

For Official Collection

Revenue Department ¹⁸/₁₃₅ Head Assistant Collector's
No. Office.
11th November 1896

From

N. E. Marjoribanks Esquire

Acting Head Assistant Collector of
Tanjore

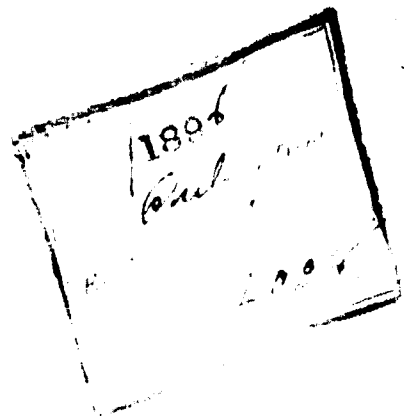
To

The Collector of
Tanjore

Sir,

With reference to Collector's Endorsement, Reference
in Government and Board Register No ¹⁴⁸¹/_{3.10.96} of
1896, I have the honour to forward, herewith, the
Remarks of the Superintendent of the Straits
Emigration Depot, and to report as follows:-

2. From what I have seen of the depot, I
believe that Dr Hardaker is quite fair in his
treatment of the Coolies and as far as lies in
his power does not allow misrepresentation to be
made to the Coolies by the Recruiters. I have
cancelled the licenses of recruiters who have
been detected in such malpractices. Moreover,
the Emigration Agent, or, the Port officer sees all
the



the men before they embark, and takes precautions against any of them being shipped on false pretences. The present Port Officer Mr Swan - certainly does this work Conscientiously and thoroughly. Dr Hardaker's remarks in paras 3 and 5 of his letter moreover are very pertinent, and probably the cause of the desertions is to be sought for in the Lulu Estate itself.

In this connection I would refer to my report Disposal No ¹⁴²¹ Rev of 1896, dated 16th September 1896 in which I brought to notice that the tendency of the planters in the native States in favour of free labour, i.e. labour that does not pass through the Depot at Malapattam was suspicious and that recruitment of such free laborers called for our stricter supervision, as existing precautions had apparently proved inefficient. I regret the delay in making this report which

which was due to recent events at Malapattam which have taken up all my time till now.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

your most obedient servant

(Signed) A. E. Marjibanks

As Head Assnt Collector
CURRENT No. 4028
(True Copy)

No ⁴⁴¹⁰ Rev of 1896.

Encls - 3.

Submitted to Government with reference to Government Endorsement, No 1947, Public, dated 28th September 1896.

2. The Chief point referred to by the Head Assistant Collector has been fully dealt with in Mr Hardaker's report of the 14th October 1896, Copy herewith sent.

On other matters in the Straits Government annual report on Immigration, the undersigned has no remarks to offer.

For Acting Collector

27th November 1896.

18/135

Public DEPARTMENT.

Ce No: 308 and 4028

H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

SUBJECT.

THE HON'BLE MR. BLISS, C.I.E.

Indian Immigration in the Straits

THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E. going on 17th to Borneo

FOR ORDERS.

Draft letter - which will be
submitted to H.E. before despatch
Mch 16. 12. 96.

* called for in Encl. N. 1947 d/26.12.96

In Current 3112 India forwarded
for information a copy of the Annual
Report on Indian Immigration in the
Straits Settlements for the year 1895,
and enquires whether there are any
points in it which this Govt would
wish the attention of the Colonial
Govt to be directed.

Current 4028 contains the remarks
thereon by the Collector of Tanjong in
regard to the unduly heavy description
from the Gula Estate.

The description in this Estate
during the past year is given
as compared with the total
descriptions in the whole of the
native states are given
below:—

Year. Gula Estate - Hill Mahie 87.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Account in the Public Estate</u>	<u>Total No. of description in Public Estate</u>
1891	255	432
1892	82	175
1893	265	330
1894	592	695
1895	610	667

At the top of page 2 of the latest report we read "Jula. J. Estate had most desertions (see Appendix 2 flagged G), the number of desertions in that estate being compared with a total estate population of 1336. This must not, however, be taken to mean that about 60 per cent of those actually employed deserted during the year, as many deserted ~~before~~ and even ~~at~~ some ~~after~~ capture. It is not too much to say, however, that about 40 per cent of the Jula coolies deserted". In illustration of these remarks the footnote explains that 133 of these desertions were from the 614 newly arrived coolies, but that the actual number

4. It, not represent how this number is obtained.

4 specimens of the no. 4 S
9 specimens in the 1st lot.
later on other average
is put at 1067. 1878

about a trading card. The reasons were the following:

¶ Please see also para 17 (page 3 just after T) 4
the present report. According to the Sullivan
(2) will be met by higher wages and a
shorter contract. This has been determined
on vide 11: (3) requires vigorous
prosecution, and (4) an improvement
in the law rendering it penal knowingly
to employ run away contract workers.

number that deserted was 123,
ten of whom having desert-
ed twice were counted as
fresh desertions. - W.
O'Sullivan thinks that "the
great reason for these false
desertions" is perhaps "the
difference in the wages". A
P. W. Dept coolie in Perak,
he states, can earn nearly
\$12 a month.

This matter has already been brought to India's notice, for in para 4 of letter N^o 718 Pubd/25.12.94(C) it was ~~pointed out~~ ^{intimated} that the fact that out of a total of 330 desertions no less than 265 were from the Jula Estate pointed to some cause other than its isolation, and called for further Enquiry.

Accordingly in the sub-
sequent report - that for
1894 - (vide paras 19 and 22
on page 2 flagged D) Mr.
Evans, the Ag. Indian Immigration
Agent, Str. Settlements, attempts
to account for these desertions.
He states that "enquiry showed
the following ^{the} reasons as being
the cause": -

- The causes:—
- (1) A large percentage of the coolies recruited are unfit for agricultural labour, 90 per cent of the total description consist of coolies in the first year of their agreement.
 - (2) The Sub-recruiters in India misrepresent matters to the

the coolies while being recruited, though while in depot the terms of their contracts and the labours they have to do on the estates out here is thoroughly explained to them by the Superintendent of the Depot.

(3) Crimping is rife. The Manager of the depot had two convictions in 1893 and several other cases occurred in which conviction was not procured for want of evidence.

(4) Foot contractors and owners of Chinese who do not import Indian immigrants themselves, are able to pay higher wages, this being a great inducement for the immigrants to desert.

With reference to (1) Mr. Clegg remarked - vide his letter flagged H in G.O. N. 944 Pubd 14.11.95 - that it was not clear what becomes of the coolies unfit for agricultural labour, and that if they seek higher wages elsewhere, vide (4), they can hardly be considered unfit.

As to (2) it has been repeated ad nauseam that coolies who have been induced by misrepresentation to come to the depot at Negapatam have the truth put

before them plainly. They are distinctly warned not to give credence to what the recruiters may have told them. The terms of the contract and the nature of the duties expected of them are fully and clearly explained, and they are freely allowed to return to their homes if what they then hear does not commend itself to them.

Mr. Clegg's remarks were communicated to India with letter N. 944 Pubd 14.11.95, and this foot expressed its opinion therein that the large number of desertions disclosed pointed to the necessity of improving the conditions and terms of labour in the Straits.

This matter has now been fully considered vide G.O. 1156/97 Pubd 27.10.96 and the improvements recommended will soon be a fait accompli.

The point for consideration now is whether or no a fresh representation should be made to India in regard to the full rate desertions.

Mr. Hardaker, the Supt. at the Negapatam Depot states that the Manager gives as the reason for the misrepresentation of recruiters already referred to, ^{consequently} it is a very flimsy reason and

in para 2 he explains how
"nothing could be more
explicit in our manner of
working in order to undecieve
would-be emigrants in the
event of false inducements
being held out to them by
recruiters."

He further shows (para 3)
that no special recruiters
are nominated to collect
coolies for certain estates
only; that the recruiting
is general; and that the
recruiters are not aware
to what estates the emigrants
are to be consigned.

It is therefore ~~not clear~~
clear why false estate
coolies should be recruited
any more than those of
other estates. This is a
strong point.

The recruiter, he adds,
is no doubt not ignorant
of the system, and that
this is not of frequent
occurrence, and which
complaints have been made
the recruiters have been
warned, notwithstanding
that the charges have not
been substantiated.

Mr. Hardaker then
goes to his principal grounds.
He refers to the
to the Collector of Tanjore
published in the
Commissioner's Report of
1890, in which he witnesses
to

The argument is that the
as appears at first sight. The
conditions of life, surroundings, and
situation to be, are better in some
estates than others. The agents
at the ports can only give
partial information on these points,
especially as it is not known
how each estate is going.
Naturally those who go to the
less fortunate - situated estates
are not likely to be as
satisfied as those who go
to estates which come up to
or surpass the descriptions they
have been given to them.

"The recruiter may, of probably does,
hold out false inducements to many
would-be emigrants. These promises
however, are largely dispelled by the
plain & unvarnished truth which
is put before every man, woman &
child, when brought to the depot.
By and by the hope, perhaps by
the emigrant's own hand, is
it is to inspect the Empire. The
proofs are before them. I
have myself seen my arrival
recruits inspection held, and
was pleased with the thorough
and efficient manner in
which it was conducted."

1758
to the efficient manner in
which indeed these false
inducements are "thoroughly
dispelled."

Reference is then made
to Mr. Macgregor's remarks
in his report for 1893 at
A where he asserts that the
heavy descutions prompt may
to a certain extent be accounted
for by its isolated position
but fears that other causes
are at work "of which as
yet there is no proof."

"This latter clause," says
Mr. Hardaker, "appears
to me very cautiously
what the other causes are,
are not made manifest,
as there is no proof, and I
think until this is thrashed
out and made clear and
the remedy applied, then
alone the descutions will,
perhaps be minimised."

It is further pointed out
that whereas the descutions during
1895 from the Jula Estate numbered
610 (Statement D), the largest of
all those in Province Wellesley
next, was Batu Kawan (Statement E)
was only 191; and that while
in four estates in Province Wellesley
218 immigrants were employed
under a second contract, in
the same States and notably
in Jula Estate (immigrant pop-
ulation 1544), none were
employed - clearly indicating
the unpopularity of this latter
estate.

The Ag Head Assistant
Collector bears out Mr. Hardaker's

*G
*page before G

in his letter of the 11th ult. and adds that the licenses of such recruiters as have been detected in any malpractices have been cancelled.

Finally Mr. Majoribanks refers to his previously expressed opinion "that the tendency of applicants in the Native States in favour of free labour, &c., is that does not pass through the depot at Negapatnam was suspicious, and that recruitment of such free labourers called for our stricter supervision, as existing precautions had apparently proved inefficient."

In this connection attention is invited to letter N^o 1145 dated 1/24.2.96 passed (N) in which the Govt N stated that it had no objection to the removal of the restriction against agents or recruiters receiving commissions elsewhere, other than in the Straits Settlements. They engage free labour in the Straits Settlements.

Please see also Mr. Majoribanks' letter with the subject referred to. Especially para 10. & seq.

Although this system is consisting in freeing labour, it is not free from restrictions still it does not lose its interest in the men who go over free or not. The desertions from this Gula Estate have always been heavy. If the recently sent increase of wage does not stop it, it is necessary that we should

enquiry should be made on the spot in view to the Estate being closed to Indian labour unless an improvement can be effected.

3013.
14/12/6.

The reasons assigned for the heavy desertions in Gula Estate this last year are -

1. Discontent among the coolies due to their not finding things as represented to them by recruiters in India;
2. Crimping;
3. The high wages given by employers of non-indentured labour (including the Govt. of Perak), who are an enticement to coolies to desert.

As regards 1. it has been pointed out again and again that it is ^{practically} impossible for indentured coolies to pass through the depot at Negapatnam without having the truth as to their prospects in the S.S. as clearly put before them as it is possible to do.

It is very probable that reasons 2 & 3 account for many of the desertions. For members of the Gula Estate

were made by the Indian
Labour Commission at Penang,

(in connection with a proposed
new Protection of Immigrants
Ordinance of 1905) last May.

Mr. Stewart (Fly A') (Answer
1939) states that the rate
of wage paid on the full
estate is from 18 to 20
cents per day, while the
P.W.D. pay 30 cents; he
says that P.W.D. finds
an extra finders actually
take men away & that
he has seen his men
working on the estate
very busy.

Mr. Kennedy also (Fly B')
(No. 92) attributes heavy
losses to crimping.

According to Mr. Stewart (No. 49)
25% of the indentured coolies
resign or are sent on expiry
of contracts, so that the
estate is not altogether
so popular.

On the other hand this
indenture is one sided and it
is not clear that any
satisfactory enquiry has been
made into the real cause

of the desertions.
It is submitted that attention
should again be drawn to the
necessity for careful enquiry
into the matter.

See
G.O. 1156-7. 27. 10. 96
Public (Flys A' B')

The death rate on full estate
was 6.6% the highest in
B.C. This seems to require
no comment as a matter of
fact. The G.O. may be informed that
desertions from the
full estate are such as to require
a special investigation.

Papers to be read in proceedings

Again G.O., dated

Again G.O., dated

Ordinance No. 3/118

of 1896, dated 17. 2.

" " 4028

" 1896, " 27. 2.

" " "

" 189, "

189, No.

189, No.

from

Collection

The Governor

1895 of 1896
The death rate on full estate
was 6.6% the highest in
B.C. This seems to require
no comment as a matter of
fact. The G.O. may be informed that
desertions from the
full estate are such as to require
a special investigation.

26
1388
ANNUAL REPORT

ON

INDIAN IMMIGRATION

IN THE

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR

1895

BY

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN, Esq.

Acting Indian Immigration Agent, S. S.



PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

SINGAPORE:

PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1896

CHIEF SECRETARY
23 SEP 1896
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

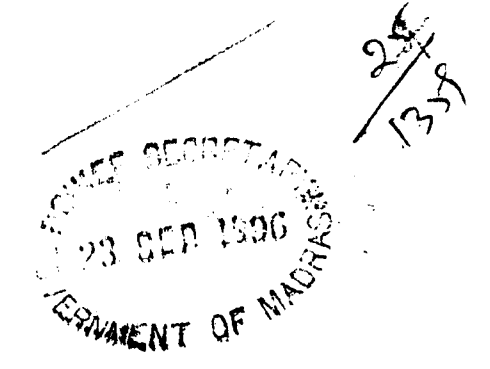
states no less than 265 men
 from the Pyla Estate and
 that this pointed to some
 grave reason calling
 for further enquiry.

3. It is observed that
 the present report shows
 even a worse state of affairs for the
~~the present report~~

~~This report, the desertion~~
 number being 60 out of a
 total of 667, while the rate
 of mortality ^{on} ~~above~~ that
 of the Pyla Estate, 5.61 per cent,
 was the highest in the dis-
 trict of Perak. No desertions
 indeed from this Estate
 during the past quin-
 quennium have been
 continuously heavy, as
 will be seen from the
 marginally noted
 figures, and H.B. [unclear]
 is of opinion that such a
 state of affairs clearly
 indicates the ~~very great~~
 desirability of a ~~serious~~
 enquiry ~~into the matter~~
~~being initiated by~~
 the Colon [unclear] Govt.

	Yr. P. Est.	Abolition
1891	255	482
1892	82	175
1893	268	331
1894	594	696
1895	610	66;

3 Spare copies of Enclor.
 to letter No. 1594 dated 7/9/96
 from the Govt. of India,
 Depa. of R & A to the
 Govt. of Madras.



Pulego 1359
 30-12-96

10/12/16

very great desirability of [unclear]

26
1358
ANNUAL REPORT

ON

INDIAN IMMIGRATION

IN THE

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR

1895

BY

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN, Esq.

Acting Indian Immigration Agent, S. S.

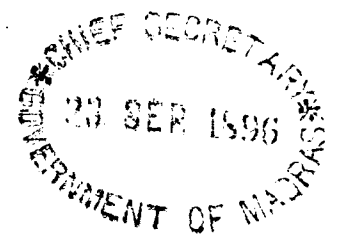


PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

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PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1896



1358

ANNUAL REPORT ON INDIAN IMMIGRATION, 1895.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION OFFICE,
Penang, 27th February, 1896.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, the Annual Report of the Indian Immigration Department, for the year 1895.

2. The total number of Indian immigrants who arrived in the Colony during the year was 15,962; of these, 1,549 were statute immigrants, and 14,413 not under indenture. This latter figure includes 88 dependents (women and children not under contract) who accompanied the indentured coolies from India. The number that returned to India was 12,360. The following table gives a comparative statement of the number of arrivals and departures for the four years 1892-1895:—

		1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Arrivals,	Under Indenture,	1,628	2,225	1,745	1,549
	Not under Indenture,	16,370	15,877	13,156	14,413
	Total,	17,998	18,102	14,901	15,962
Departures,...	Total,	17,722	14,045	13,537	12,360

3. Of the 1,549 statute immigrants who arrived during 1895, 719 were for service in the Colony, and 830 for the Native States:—

Province Wellesley,	...	719
Perak,	...	614
Selangor,	...	198
Sungei Ujong,	...	18
Johore,	...	...

4. Appendices A and B to this Report contain a list of the vessels which arrived and departed with immigrants, indentured and otherwise, from the Madras Ports in 1895. The recruiting ground for statute labour being confined to the Madras Presidency, no account is taken of ships from other parts of India.

Births and Deaths.

5. The total number of births reported was 165, and of deaths 169. The percentage of mortality for the whole body of statute immigrants, calculated on an average struck from the total number employed on the 1st January, 30th June, and 31st December, was 3.95 per cent. Particulars for the Colony and Native States are given below:—

		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Province Wellesley,	Births,	59	56	115	Deaths,	92
Perak, ...	"	15	29	44	"	61
Selangor,	"	6	...	6	"	12
Sungei Ujong,	"	...	...	...	"	1
Johore, ...	"	...	...	...	"	3
Grand Total, ...				165		169

Hospitals.

6. The total number of statute immigrants admitted for treatment in 1895 was 5,561. This includes admissions to Government as well as to Estate Hospitals. The percentage of deaths on admissions was 3.27 per cent.

Desertions.

7. Eight hundred and twelve (812) statute immigrants deserted. Of these, 452 were arrested. Gula Estate had most desertions (see Appendix D), the number of desertions on that estate being 610*, as compared with a total statute immigrant population of 1,026. This must not, however, be taken to mean that about 60 per cent. of those actually employed deserted during the year, as many deserted a second and even a third time after recapture. It is not too much to say, however, that about 40 per cent. of the Gula coolies deserted.

Contracts.

8. One thousand five hundred and forty-five (1,545) contracts were executed in the Office, showing a decrease of 199 as compared with 1894. Stamp duty to the amount of \$1,351 was collected; 168 contracts were renewed in Province Wellesley, the term of renewal being one year.

Certificates.

9. Two thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight (2,738) certificates under section 10 of the Indian Immigration Ordinance were issued in this Office, and 2,304 were granted by the Assistant Indian Immigration Agent, Singapore. There was one prosecution in Penang under section 33 of the Indian Immigration Ordinance.

General Remarks.

10. The supply of Indian labour in the Straits is still short of the demand. This I believe, to be the result of inefficient recruiting. Complaints also continue to be made by the planters of the receipt of coolies unfit for labour, and every effort has been made to provide against this, so far as Government is concerned, by a strict medical examination at the Depot at Negapatam. The Superintendent of the Depot there has, however, been instructed to pass all healthy men of the agricultural class irrespective of absolute robustness of frame, so that it cannot be said that the examination is rigorous to excess.

11. In the beginning of 1893, I spent three months on leave in Southern India, and availed myself of every opportunity of enquiring into the labour recruiting question and discussing it with such Officials of the Indian Government as I met. I also inspected the Depot at Negapatam, and made the acquaintance of the Superintendent and of the Government Officer in charge of emigration from that port. I also spoke with many Natives up-country in the Madura District, where I spent most of my time, and the Collector of that District kindly gave me all the information he could on the subject.

12. The conclusion I arrived at was that the recruiters employed by the firms who act for the Straits planters do not push their work far enough afield. They content themselves, for the most part, in picking up coolies within a narrow radius around the ports on the East coast, instead of going among the vast and indigent population further inland towards Madura and the Neilgherries, and further North towards Salem and Arcot.

13. In his report for the year 1893, Mr. MACGREGOR, then Indian Immigration Agent, remarks:—"The Depot at Negapatam has been carefully worked but cannot work satisfactorily without assistance from outside, viz., by a properly organized system of recruiting." He proposed that the defect should be remedied as recommended by the Labour Commission of 1890-1, i.e., by the appointment of an Agent-General for Emigration to reside in India and to be responsible for everything connected with recruiting, examination and shipping of coolies for the Straits. This proposal was negatived by Government on the ground that it was not for them to incur expenditure in order to foster a particular industry.

14. I am quite convinced that Mr. MACGREGOR was right in stating that the recruiting system was at fault, and that the best remedy was to be found in the appointment of a proper Agent to reside in India and attend personally to the work of recruiting. It is no less certain that it is the planters and not the Government who should combine to appoint and maintain such an Agent to work in their own interests. If the demand for Indian coolie labour is such as it is said to be, I believe there is not the least doubt that a trustworthy resident Agent employed by the planters, and himself conversant with the language and habits of the Tamil population, could command a field of labour practically inexhaustible, and ensure the enlistment of *bona fide* agricultural coolies. In many up-country districts in Southern India, the very name

*N.B.—133 of these desertions were from the 614 newly arrived coolies. The actual number who deserted out of the 614 who arrived was 123, but ten of these deserted twice and are counted as fresh desertions. I think perhaps the great reason for these Gula desertions is the difference in wages. A Public Works Department coolie in Perak can earn nearly \$12 a month.

of the Straits is unknown to the Natives, although Natal and Mauritius, which have more active recruiting Agents, are well known to all. The remedy then is in the hands of the planters themselves; and it remains for them to associate themselves for this purpose.

15. Another obstacle to successful recruiting is the low rate of wages paid by planters here in comparison to the market rate in the country. I believe that better results would be obtained and money saved in the long run by the owners of estates employing Indian labour if they would both raise the rate of wages for indentured coolies and shorten the period of the contract.

16. The greatest mortality has been on Gula Estate, where 59 coolies died during the year, out of an average total of 1,051, giving a percentage of 5.61. In Province Wellesley, the highest percentage was on Caledonia Estate—4.98. This is an improvement on last year, when as much as 6.13 per cent. of the average number of coolies employed died during the year on the latter estate, and 8.22 per cent. on the former. The hospital accommodation in Province Wellesley leaves nothing to be desired.

The mortality on Byram Estate fell to the comparatively low figure of 2.73 per cent. 17. Desertions continue to be very heavy on Gula Estate (see paragraph 7 above). The reasons assigned by the Manager are:—(1) discontent among the coolies, partly due to the falsehoods told by recruiters to the coolies in India to induce enlistment, resulting in their being dissatisfied on arrival; (2) crimping; and (3) the possibility of obtaining higher wages from employers of non-indentured labour, among which employers the Government of Perak is included. For the first of these causes of desertion, higher wages and a shorter contract seem to be the only cure; crimping must be stamped out by vigorous prosecution and the infliction of exemplary penalties on detected offenders; while the third cause can only be remedied by an improvement in the law rendering it penal knowingly to employ runaway contract coolies.

18. The statute coolies on Trans-Krian Estate—KIU BU AN'S Estate—are, in my opinion, habitually overworked and underpaid, and I have reported separately to Government on this subject and that of task work generally. There can be no doubt that task work, if applied in the proper way, is at once more profitable to the planter and less irksome to the coolie, and has the further merit of enabling the industrious to earn higher pay than the mere contract rate. On Malakoff Estate, there are indentured coolies who earn as much as \$8 to \$9 a month, and in the other estates in Province Wellesley under European management the tasks imposed are not excessive and the coolie can improve his position by his own industry. Trans-Krian is exceptional in this respect, and I have recommended the adoption of stringent measures to remedy the abuse of the task work system that prevails there.

19. The Labour Commission of 1890 recommended the recognition of task work in the contract; and this has been provided for in the Amending Ordinance XVI of 1892, which, however, has not yet come into force. This Ordinance provides (section 23) that the task shall be at the discretion of the Indian Immigration Agent, and that it shall not be more than equivalent to a nine hours' working day. This legalization of task work and the implied limitation of the task to what is just and proper will, I believe, be a most useful reform; but I think that the framers of the Amending Ordinance made a serious omission in not providing that the labourer who completes his daily task in less than 9 hours and then works on should be paid for the surplus work at the same rate as he is paid for the task itself.

20. Another recommendation of the Labour Commission is also dealt with by the same Ordinance, viz., the abolition of Sunday pay. On this, Mr. MACGREGOR comments in his Annual Report on Indian Immigration for the year 1892 (paragraphs 25 and 26). I understand that the attention of this Government has been drawn to the report in question by the Government of India, with a view to having the inconsistency, which Mr. MACGREGOR points out, remedied before the Ordinance becomes law. The Labour Commission recommended 16 cents a day for the second and third years, while the Ordinance provides for 14 cents only for all the three years of the contract. If Sunday labour is abolished, the third year's coolie will be in a worse position as regards pay under Ordinance XVI of 1892 than he was under Ordinance V of 1884 as unamended. I have submitted to Government the alterations which, I think, should be made in the later Ordinance before it is allowed to become law.

21. Having taken over charge of this Department from Mr. BROCKMAN on the 22nd November, early in December, I made an inspection of three estates in the North of Province Wellesley employing statute labour. The condition of the coolies in all three was satisfactory, and the hygiene and hospital accommodation left nothing to be desired. No complaint of any moment was made to me by the coolies themselves. The Colonial Surgeon expressed himself satisfied with the general health on these estates.

22. The Office work of the Indian Immigration Department is now performed by the Collector of Land Revenue assisted by the Second Magistrate and a single Clerk. A very great saving has been effected by this arrangement, as will be seen from the attached table:—

		Annual Allowance and Salaries.			Annual Salaries.
<i>Present Staff.</i>		\$	<i>Former Staff.</i>		
C. L. R. acting as Indian Immigration Agent,	300		Indian Immigration Agent,	3,600	
2nd Magistrate acting as Assistant ditto,	300		Assistant ditto,	2,100	
Chief Clerk,	720		Chief Clerk,	720	
2 Inspectors,	840		Interpreter,	900	
Boat Tindal,	108		2nd Clerk,	420	
4 Lascars,	384		Boat Tindal,	108	
Peon,	96		Office Tindal,	84	
Punkah-puller,	84		Peon,	84	
			Punkah-puller,	72	
			4 Lascars,	384	
			2 Inspectors,	840	
		\$2,832		\$9,312	

Difference saved \$6,480.

The work done by the staff in either case is precisely the same, and the boat does duty now for the Chinese Protectorate as well.

23. Up to the 8th August, 1895, the whole work of supervision of this Department devolved on Mr. H. EVANS. On the 9th August, Mr. BROCKMAN, then Acting Collector of Land Revenue, undertook the duties of Indian Immigration Agent, with Mr. H. EVANS to assist him. The latter gentleman went on leave on 18th November, and Mr. E. G. BROADRICK, Acting 2nd Magistrate, was appointed to succeed him. The Office staff was still further reduced by the suspension of Mr. S. JOSEPH, the Tamil Interpreter, whose dismissal is still under consideration. The Chief Clerk has now to perform the work of Boarding Officer and Interpreter as well as the clerical work of the Department. He has ordinarily as much work as he can possibly get through. In a time of stress (as, for instance, the outbreak of an epidemic on an estate) causing any considerable increase in the correspondence work of the Office, it would be necessary to obtain additional clerical assistance.

24. The supervision of Indian immigration in the Native States having been entirely taken out of the hands of the Indian Immigration Agent, it seems inconsistent that returns should continue to be sent to us and reports to be made on work which we have no means of verifying by actual inspection. If it is intended that the whole work and responsibility should devolve on the Native States' officials, and inspections by the Indian Immigration Agent for the Colony permanently discontinued, I would suggest that returns from the Native States should no longer be called for, and that the statements in regard to statute immigrants on estates be excluded, in future, from the annual report on Indian Immigration in the Colony. The Native States' official or officials charged with the work of supervising Indian immigration should, I think, more properly report to the Resident-General of the Federated States. I do not think I need dwell on the unsatisfactory nature of a report drawn up by an official who has practically no inspection with or authority over the subject matter of his report.

I have, &c.,

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN,
Acting Indian Immigration Agent, S. S.

5 STATEMENT A.

List of Vessels which arrived in 1895 with Statute Immigrants from the Madras Ports.

Names of Vessels.	From what Ports.	Dates of Arrival.	Statute Immigrants.			Other Immigrants.	Total.
			Men.	Women.	Dependents.		
		1895.					
S. S. "Secundra,"	Madras & Coast Ports.	8th January,	31	9	...	453	493
"Camorta,"	"	23rd "	24	6	...	341	371
"Secundra,"	"	5th February,	39	13	1	454	507
"Camorta,"	"	19th "	40	11	3	332	385
"Secundra,"	"	5th March,	22	9	1	342	373
"Camorta,"	"	20th "	45	10	2	242	298
"Secundra,"	"	2nd April,	52	9	1	238	299
"Camorta,"	"	16th "	45	14	6	358	420
"Secundra,"	"	29th "	45	13	3	472	531
"Camorta,"	"	13th May,	62	22	6	656	743
"Secundra,"	"	28th "	68	16	3	723	809
"Camorta,"	"	11th June,	71	13	7	483	571
"Secundra,"	"	24th "	96	19	4	729	846
"Camorta,"	"	9th July,	90	17	12	752	865
"Secundra,"	"	22nd "	55	7	8	694	760
"Camorta,"	"	6th August,	64	12	1	543	619
"Secundra,"	"	20th "	71	12	6	433	519
"Camorta,"	"	3rd September,	55	11	5	709	778
"Secundra,"	"	17th "	57	12	3	877	947
"Camorta,"	"	30th "	56	15	2	972	1,044
"Secundra,"	"	15th October,	53	9	2	677	740
"Camorta,"	"	29th "	14	5	3	432	453
"Secundra,"	"	11th November,	44	11	3	496	552
"Camorta,"	"	27th "	28	8	4	554	622
"Secundra,"	"	10th December,	27	12	2	737	779
"Camorta,"	"	25th "	...	...	...	664	664
"Secundra,"		Total,...	1,254	295	88	14,368	15,961

STATEMENT B.

List of Vessels which left for Madras Ports with Immigrants in 1895.

Names of Vessels.	Dates of Departure.	No. of Immigrants.	For what Ports.
S. S. "Camorta,"	3rd January, 1895.	434	Madras and Coast Ports.
"Secundra,"	17th "	482	"
"Camorta,"	31st "	438	"
"Secundra,"	15th February,	690	"
"Camorta,"	28th "	520	"
"Secundra,"	14th March,	490	"
"Camorta,"	28th "	429	"
"Secundra,"	11th April,	683	"
"Camorta,"	25th "	543	"
"Secundra,"	10th May,	753	"
"Camorta,"	22nd "	382	"
"Secundra,"	5th June,	460	"
"Camorta,"	19th "	468	"
"Secundra,"	3rd July,	392	"
"Camorta,"	17th "	469	"
"Secundra,"	31st "	529	"
"Camorta,"	14th August,	402	"
"Secundra,"	28th "	254	"
"Camorta,"	12th September,	341	"
"Secundra,"	26th "	477	"
"Camorta,"	10th October,	461	"
"Secundra,"	25th "	684	"
"Camorta,"	7th November,	519	"
"Secundra,"	21st "	314	"
"Camorta,"	5th December,	329	"
"Secundra,"	19th "	413	"
"Camorta,"	Total,...	12,360	

STATEMENT C.
Accounting for all Statute Immigrants employed in Province Wellesley, 1895.

ESTATES.	No. of Immigrants employed on 1st January, 1895.	No. of Arrivals in 1895.	No. of Immigrants employed under second Contract.	Total.	No. in Government Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. in Estate Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths.	No. of Deserters.	No. of Deserters arrested.	No. in Gaol on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Convictions.	No. of Admissions into Hospital.	Percentage of Deaths on Admissions.	No. returned to India.	No. discharged by Expiration of Contract.	No. discharged by Mutual Consent.	No. discharged by Redemption of Contract.	Transferred in 1895.	No. of Indian Coolies employed not under Protection on 31st December, 1895.		Remaining on Estates on 31st December, 1895.
																				Men.	Women.	
Batu Kawan, ...	977	205	35	1,217	11	90	29	3.09	191	107	32	167	735	3.94	...	193	3	11	...	295	57	897
Byram, ...	251	209	1	461	34	45	7	2.73	21	12	3	19	555	1.26	2	179	2	2	1	940	613	262
Permatang Beram.	...	14	42	56	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	31	54
Caledonia, ...	764	...	...	764	4	107	32	4.98	63	39	7	34	1,223	2.61	...	174	...	...	1,001	274	521	
Malakoff, ...	212	98	140	450	8	23	4	1.65	70	40	7	108	901	.44	...	36	...	6	15	121	274	
Prye, ...	683	133	...	816	1	22	19	3.39	97	43	1	46	359	5.57	...	302	1	5	...	895	153	435
Trans-Krian, ...	188	60	...	248	4	16	...	...	37	12	...	2	121	...	1	70	2	36	...	211	144	105
Val d'or, ...	134	...	...	134	...	2	1	1	8	...	2	2	77	1.29	...	29	...	29	...	60	25	67
Total...	3,309	719	218	4,146	62	305	92	3.15	489	243	52	377	3,972	2.31	3	1,692	8	86	1	3,640	1,418	2,615

STATEMENT D.
Accounting for all Statute Immigrants employed in the Native States, 1895.

ESTATES.	No. of Immigrants employed on 1st January, 1895.	No. of Arrivals in 1895.	No. of Immigrants employed under 2nd Contract in 1895.	Total.	No. in Government Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. in Estate Hospital on 31st Decem-ber, 1895.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths.	No. of Deserters.	No. of Deserters arrested.	No. in Gaol on 31st Decem-ber, 1895.	No. of Convictions.	No. of Admissions into Hospital.	Percentage of Deaths on the Cases in Hospital.	No. returned to India.	No. discharged by Expiration of Con-tract.	No. discharged by Mutual Consent.	No. discharged by Redemption of Contract.	Transferred in 1895.	No. of Indian Coolies em-ployed not un-der Protection on 31st Decem-ber, 1895.		No. of Coolies re-maining on Estates on 31st Dec., 1895.	
																				Men.	Wo-men.		
PARAK.																							
Gula, ...	930	614	...	1,544	2	80	59	5.61	610	428	99	449	828	7.12	...	103	15	12	...	649	265	1,173	
Kamuning, ...	15	...	...	15	...	...	...	2.53	...	9	...	...	224	0.88	...	15	...	...	...	230	85	...	
Sungei Bogah, ...	99	...	...	99	2	7	2	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	19	1	10	...	57	14	60	
Total...	1,044	614	...	1,658	4	87	61	5.36	626	437	102	453	1,052	5.79	...	137	16	22	...	936	364	1,233	
Selangor.																							
Batu Caves, ...	44	...	...	44	1	...	1	2.63	14	2	...	...	14	7.15	...	...	...	...	...	278	71	31	
Tremelby, ...	53	10	...	63	12	...	7	17.07	9	2	...	...	32	21.53	...	...	...	...	...	41	17	30	
Glen Marie, ...	33	...	...	33	3	...	2	6.56	...	...	...	...	12	16.16	...	...	...	...	...	31	4	31	
Balgownie, ...	...	50	...	50	...	...	1	4.76	7	1	...	1	10	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	288	43	43	
Hawthornden, ...	...	99	...	99	3	...	1	2.22	6	1	...	1	13	7.69	...	...	...	...	...	118	23	91	
Abercrombie, ...	...	39	...	39	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	
Total...	130	198	...	328	22	...	12	6.09	37	7	...	3	94	11.80	1	19	...	3	...	496	403	263	
JOHORE.																							
Lettybrook, ...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	87	15	...
Stoke Rochford, ...	15	...	...	15	2	...	3	42.85	...	1	...	...	8	37.50	...	...	1	...	...	...	15	3	...
Tebnan, ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	18	...	...	18	2	...	3	33.33	...	1	...	1	9	33.33	...	12	3	...	...	102	18	...	
SUNGEI UJONG.																							
Linsum, ...	35	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	22	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ribu, ...	30	18	...	48	9	...	1	2.70	2	...	...	...	10	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	15	4	44	
Total...	65	18	...	83	9	...	1	1.85	4	1	...	...	32	3.12	...	13	20	1	...	15	4	44	
Grand Total...	1,257	830	...	2,087	37	96	77	5.64	667	445	102	457	1,187	6.48	1	181	39	26	...	1,549	789	1,540	

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9

Return showing the Statistics of Statute Immigrants employed in Estates in the Straits Settlements and Native States, during the year 1895.

COUNTRY.	2 Number remaining at the end of the year 1894	Deductions made during the year 1895.										7 Total of Columns 2 and 6.	6 Total.	Additions made during the year 1895.					5 Re-engaged. Recovered after hav- ing been struck off as Deserters.	4 By Planters.	3 Imported.	17 Annual Strength.	18 Death-rate per mille.
		Deaths.		Desertions.		Cancellation for permanent unfitness.	Efflux of time.	Redemption.	Number dissolved by mu- tual consent.	Total deducted.	Number remaining at the end of the year 1895.			Strength on 1st July, 1895.	First Half-year.	Second Half-year.							
		First Half-year.	Second Half-year.	First Half-year.	Second Half-year.																		
																	First Half-year.	Second Half-year.					
Province Wellesley.	3,209	719	217	243	1,179	4,388	49	43	277	212	3	1,092	89	8	1,173	2,615	2,809	3,009	2,712	50.16			
Perak.	1,044	614	...	437	1,051	2,095	40	21	282	344	...	137	22	16	862	1,233	1,152	1,098	1,192	54.03			
Selangor.	130	198	...	7	205	335	3	9	10	27	1	19	3	...	72	263	196	163	229	57.70			
Sungei Ujong.	65	18	...	...	18	83	1	...	2	2	...	13	1	20	39	44	49	57	46	17.54			
Johore.	18	...	...	...	...	18	2	1	...	...	...	11	...	3	17	...	5	11	2	681.81			
Total.	4,466	1,549	217	687	2,453	6,949	95	74	571	585	4	1,272	115	47	2,163	4,155	4,211	4,338	4,181	41.89			

STATEMENT C.

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN,

1350

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1895
ANNUAL REPORT

CHIEF SECRETARY
23. SEP. 1896
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

ON

INDIAN IMMIGRATION

IN THE

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR

1895

BY

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN, Esq.

Acting Indian Immigration Agent, S. S.



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1896

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1359

ANNUAL REPORT ON INDIAN IMMIGRATION, 1895.

INDIAN IMMIGRATION OFFICE,

Penang, 27th February, 1896.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, the Annual Report of the Indian Immigration Department, for the year 1895.

2. The total number of Indian immigrants who arrived in the Colony during the year was 15,962; of these, 1,549 were statute immigrants, and 14,413 not under indenture. This latter figure includes 88 dependents (women and children not under contract) who accompanied the indentured coolies from India. The number that returned to India was 12,360. The following table gives a comparative statement of the number of arrivals and departures for the four years 1892-1895:—

		1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Arrivals,	Under Indenture,	1,628	2,225	1,745	1,549
	Not under Indenture,	16,370	15,877	13,156	14,413
	Total,	17,998	18,102	14,901	15,962
Departures,...	Total,	17,722	14,045	13,537	12,360

3. Of the 1,549 statute immigrants who arrived during 1895, 719 were for service in the Colony, and 830 for the Native States:—

Province Wellesley,	719
Perak,	614
Selangor,	198
Sungei Ujong,	18
Johore,	...

4. Appendices A and B to this Report contain a list of the vessels which arrived and departed with immigrants, indentured and otherwise, from the Madras Ports in 1895. The recruiting ground for statute labour being confined to the Madras Presidency, no account is taken of ships from other parts of India.

Births and Deaths.

5. The total number of births reported was 165, and of deaths 169. The percentage of mortality for the whole body of statute immigrants, calculated on an average struck from the total number employed on the 1st January, 30th June, and 31st December, was 3.95 per cent. Particulars for the Colony and Native States are given below:—

		Males.	Females.	Total.		
Province Wellesley,	Births,	59	56	115	Deaths,	92
Perak, ...	"	15	29	44	"	61
Selangor, ...	"	6	...	6	"	12
Sungei Ujong, ...	"	...	...	...	"	1
Johore, ...	"	...	...	...	"	3
Grand Total, ...				165		169

Hospitals.

6. The total number of statute immigrants admitted for treatment in 1895 was 3,561. This includes admissions to Government as well as to Estate Hospitals. The percentage of deaths on admissions was 3.27 per cent.

Desertions.

7. Eight hundred and twelve (812) statute immigrants deserted. Of these, 452 were arrested. Gula Estate had most desertions (see Appendix D), the number of desertions on that estate being 610*, as compared with a total statute immigrant population of 1,026. This must not, however, be taken to mean that about 60 per cent. of those actually employed deserted during the year, as many deserted a second and even a third time after recapture. It is not too much to say, however, that about 40 per cent. of the Gula coolies deserted.

Contracts.

8. One thousand five hundred and forty-five (1,545) contracts were executed in the Office, showing a decrease of 199 as compared with 1894. Stamp duty to the amount of \$1,351 was collected; 168 contracts were renewed in Province Wellesley, the term of renewal being one year.

Certificates.

9. Two thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight (2,738) certificates under section 10 of the Indian Immigration Ordinance were issued in this Office, and 2,304 were granted by the Assistant Indian Immigration Agent, Singapore. There was one prosecution in Penang under section 33 of the Indian Immigration Ordinance.

General Remarks.

10. The supply of Indian labour in the Straits is still short of the demand. This I believe, to be the result of inefficient recruiting. Complaints also continue to be made by the planters of the receipt of coolies unfit for labour, and every effort has been made to provide against this, so far as Government is concerned, by a strict medical examination at the Depot at Negapatam. The Superintendent of the Depot there has, however, been instructed to pass all healthy men of the agricultural class irrespective of absolute robustness of frame, so that it cannot be said that the examination is rigorous to excess.

11. In the beginning of 1893, I spent three months on leave in Southern India, and availed myself of every opportunity of enquiring into the labour recruiting question and discussing it with such Officials of the Indian Government as I met. I also inspected the Depot at Negapatam, and made the acquaintance of the Superintendent and of the Government Officer in charge of emigration from that port. I also spoke with many Natives up-country in the Madura District, where I spent most of my time, and the Collector of that District kindly gave me all the information he could on the subject.

12. The conclusion I arrived at was that the recruiters employed by the firms who act for the Straits planters do not push their work far enough afield. They content themselves, for the most part, in picking up coolies within a narrow radius around the ports on the East coast, instead of going among the vast and indigent population further inland towards Madura and the Neilgherries, and further North towards Salem and Arcot.

13. In his report for the year 1893, Mr. MACGREGOR, then Indian Immigration Agent, remarks:—"The Depot at Negapatam has been carefully worked but..... cannot work satisfactorily without assistance from outside, viz., by a properly organised system of recruiting." He proposed that the defect should be remedied as recommended by the Labour Commission of 1890-1, i.e., by the appointment of an Agent-General for Emigration to reside in India and to be responsible for everything connected with recruiting, examination and shipping of coolies for the Straits. This proposal was negatived by Government on the ground that it was not for them to incur expenditure in order to foster a particular industry.

14. I am quite convinced that Mr. MACGREGOR was right in stating that the recruiting system was at fault, and that the best remedy was to be found in the appointment of a proper Agent to reside in India and attend personally to the work of recruiting. It is no less certain that it is the planters and not the Government who should combine to appoint and maintain such an Agent to work in their own interests. If the demand for Indian coolie labour is such as it is said to be, I believe there is not the least doubt that a trustworthy resident Agent employed by the planters, and himself conversant with the language and habits of the Tamil population, could command a field of labour practically inexhaustible, and ensure the enlistment of *bond fide* agricultural coolies. In many up-country districts in Southern India, the very name

*N.B.—133 of these desertions were from the 614 newly arrived coolies. The actual number who deserted out of the 614 who arrived was 123, but ten of these deserted twice and are counted as fresh desertions. I think perhaps the great reason for these Gula desertions is the difference in wages. A Public Works Department coolie in Perak can earn nearly \$12 a month.

of the Straits is unknown to the Natives, although Natal and Mauritius, which have more active recruiting Agents, are well known to all. The remedy then is in the hands of the planters themselves; and it remains for them to associate themselves for this purpose.

15. Another obstacle to successful recruiting is the low rate of wages paid by planters here in comparison to the market rate in the country. I believe that better results would be obtained and money saved in the long run by the owners of estates employing Indian labour if they would both raise the rate of wages for indentured coolies and shorten the period of the contract.

16. The greatest mortality has been on Gula Estate, where 59 coolies died during the year, out of an average total of 1,051, giving a percentage of 5.61. In Province Wellesley, the highest percentage was on Caledonia Estate—4.98. This is an improvement on last year, when as much as 6.13 per cent. of the average number of coolies employed died during the year on the latter estate, and 8.22 per cent. on the former. The hospital accommodation in Province Wellesley leaves nothing to be desired.

The mortality on Byram Estate fell to the comparatively low figure of 2.73 per cent.

17. Desertions continue to be very heavy on Gula Estate (see paragraph 7 above). The reasons assigned by the Manager are:—(1) discontent among the coolies, partly due to the falsehoods told by recruiters to the coolies in India to induce enlistment, resulting in their being dissatisfied on arrival; (2) crimping; and (3) the possibility of obtaining higher wages from employers of non-indentured labour, among which employers the Government of Perak is included. For the first of these causes of desertion, higher wages and a shorter contract seem to be the only cure; crimping must be stamped out by vigorous prosecution and the infliction of exemplary penalties on detected offenders; while the third cause can only be remedied by an improvement in the law rendering it penal knowingly to employ runaway contract coolies.

18. The statute coolies on Trans-Krian Estate—KHU BU AN'S Estate—are, in my opinion, habitually overworked and underpaid, and I have reported separately to Government on this subject and that of task work generally. There can be no doubt that task work, if applied in the proper way, is at once more profitable to the planter and less irksome to the coolie, and has the further merit of enabling the industrious to earn higher pay than the mere contract rate. On Malakoff Estate, there are indentured coolies who earn as much as \$8 to \$9 a month, and in the other estates in Province Wellesley under European management the tasks imposed are not excessive and the coolie can improve his position by his own industry. Trans-Krian is exceptional in this respect, and I have recommended the adoption of stringent measures to remedy the abuse of the task work system that prevails there.

19. The Labour Commission of 1890 recommended the recognition of task work in the contract; and this has been provided for in the Amending Ordinance XVI of 1892, which, however, has not yet come into force. This Ordinance provides (section 23) that the task shall be at the discretion of the Indian Immigration Agent, and that it shall not be more than equivalent to a nine hours' working day. This legalization of task work and the implied limitation of the task to what is just and proper will, I believe, be a most useful reform; but I think that the framers of the Amending Ordinance made a serious omission in not providing that the labourer who completes his daily task in less than 9 hours and then works on should be paid for the surplus work at the same rate as he is paid for the task itself.

20. Another recommendation of the Labour Commission is also dealt with by the same Ordinance, viz., the abolition of Sunday pay. On this, Mr. MACGREGOR comments in his Annual Report on Indian Immigration for the year 1892 (paragraphs 25 and 26). I understand that the attention of this Government has been drawn to the report in question by the Government of India, with a view to having the inconsistency, which Mr. MACGREGOR points out, remedied before the Ordinance becomes law. The Labour Commission recommended 16 cents a day for the second and third years, while the Ordinance provides for 14 cents only for all the three years of the contract. If Sunday labour is abolished, the third year's coolie will be in a worse position as regards pay under Ordinance XVI of 1892 than he was under Ordinance V of 1884, as unamended. I have submitted to Government the alterations which, I think, should be made in the later Ordinance before it is allowed to become law.

21. Having taken over charge of this Department from Mr. BROCKMAN on the 22nd November, early in December, I made an inspection of three estates in the North of Province Wellesley employing statute labour. The condition of the coolies in all three was satisfactory, and the hygiene and hospital accommodation left nothing to be desired. No complaint of any moment was made to me by the coolies themselves. The Colonial Surgeon expressed himself satisfied with the general health on these estates.

22. The Office work of the Indian Immigration Department is now performed by the Collector of Land Revenue assisted by the Second Magistrate and a single Clerk. A very great saving has been effected by this arrangement, as will be seen from the attached table:—

	Annual Allowances and Salaries.		Annual Salaries.
<i>Present Staff.</i>		<i>Former Staff.</i>	
C. L. R. acting as Indian Immigration Agent,	300	Indian Immigration Agent,	3,600
2nd Magistrate acting as Assistant ditto,	300	Assistant ditto,	2,100
Chief Clerk,	720	Chief Clerk,	720
2 Inspectors,	840	Interpreter,	900
Boat Tindal,	108	2nd Clerk,	420
4 Lascars,	384	Boat Tindal,	108
Peon,	96	Office Tindal,	84
Punkah-puller,	84	Peon,	84
		Punkah-puller,	72
		4 Lascars,	384
		2 Inspectors,	840
	\$2,832		\$9,312

Difference saved \$6,480.

The work done by the staff in either case is precisely the same, and the boat does duty now for the Chinese Protectorate as well.

23. Up to the 8th August, 1895, the whole work of supervision of this Department devolved on Mr. H. EVANS. On the 9th August, Mr. BROCKMAN, then Acting Collector of Land Revenue, undertook the duties of Indian Immigration Agent, with Mr. H. EVANS to assist him. The latter gentleman went on leave on 18th November, and Mr. E. G. BROADRICK, Acting 2nd Magistrate, was appointed to succeed him. The Office staff was still further reduced by the suspension of Mr. S. JOSEPH, the Tamil Interpreter, whose dismissal is still under consideration. The Chief Clerk has now to perform the work of Boarding Officer and Interpreter as well as the clerical work of the Department. He has ordinarily as much work as he can possibly get through. In a time of stress (as, for instance, the outbreak of an epidemic on an estate) causing any considerable increase in the correspondence work of the Office, it would be necessary to obtain additional clerical assistance.

24. The supervision of Indian immigration in the Native States having been entirely taken out of the hands of the Indian Immigration Agent, it seems inconsistent that returns should continue to be sent to us and reports to be made on work which we have no means of verifying by actual inspection. If it is intended that the whole work and responsibility should devolve on the Native States' officials, and inspections by the Indian Immigration Agent for the Colony permanently discontinued, I would suggest that returns from the Native States should no longer be called for, and that the statements in regard to statute immigrants on estates be excluded, in future, from the annual report on Indian Immigration in the Colony. The Native States' official or officials charged with the work of supervising Indian immigration should, I think, more properly report to the Resident-General of the Federated States. I do not think I need dwell on the unsatisfactory nature of a report drawn up by an official who has practically no connection with or authority over the subject-matter of his report.

I have, &c.,

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN,
Acting Indian Immigration Agent, S. S.

STATEMENT A.

List of Vessels which arrived in 1895 with Statute Immigrants from the Madras Ports.

Names of Vessels.	From what Ports.	Dates of Arrival.	Statute Immigrants.			Other Immigrants.	Total.
			Men.	Women.	Dependents.		
		1895.					
	Madras & Coast Ports.	8th January,	31	9	...	453	493
		23rd "	24	6	...	341	371
S. S. "Secundra,"	"	5th February,	39	13	1	454	507
" "Camorta,"	"	19th "	40	11	3	332	385
" "Secundra,"	"	5th March,	22	9	2	342	373
" "Camorta,"	"	20th "	45	10	1	242	298
" "Secundra,"	"	2nd April,	52	9	6	238	420
" "Camorta,"	"	16th "	45	14	3	358	531
" "Secundra,"	"	29th "	45	13	3	472	743
" "Camorta,"	"	13th May,	62	22	6	656	809
" "Secundra,"	"	28th "	68	16	3	723	846
" "Camorta,"	"	11th June,	71	13	7	483	865
" "Secundra,"	"	24th "	96	19	12	752	1,044
" "Camorta,"	"	9th July,	90	17	8	694	760
" "Secundra,"	"	22nd "	55	7	1	543	619
" "Camorta,"	"	6th August,	64	12	6	433	519
" "Secundra,"	"	20th "	71	11	5	709	778
" "Camorta,"	"	3rd September,	55	12	3	877	947
" "Secundra,"	"	17th "	57	15	2	972	1,044
" "Camorta,"	"	30th "	56	9	2	677	740
" "Secundra,"	"	15th October,	53	5	3	432	453
" "Sirsa,"	"	29th "	14	11	3	496	552
" "Secundra,"	"	11th November,	44	8	4	554	521
" "Sirsa,"	"	27th "	28	...	2	737	779
" "Secundra,"	"	10th December,	27	12	...	664	664
" "Sirsa,"	"	25th "	...	...	...	...	...
Total,...			1,254	295	88	14,368	15,961

STATEMENT B.

List of Vessels which left for Madras Ports with Immigrants in 1895.

Names of Vessels.	Dates of Departure.	No. of Immigrants.	For what Ports.
	1895.		Madras and Coast Ports.
S. S. "Camorta,"	3rd January,	434	"
" "Secundra,"	17th "	482	"
" "Camorta,"	31st "	438	"
" "Secundra,"	15th February,	690	"
" "Camorta,"	28th "	520	"
" "Secundra,"	14th March,	490	"
" "Camorta,"	28th "	429	"
" "Secundra,"	11th April,	683	"
" "Camorta,"	25th "	543	"
" "Secundra,"	10th May,	753	"
" "Camorta,"	22nd "	382	"
" "Secundra,"	5th June,	460	"
" "Camorta,"	19th "	468	"
" "Secundra,"	3rd July,	392	"
" "Camorta,"	17th "	469	"
" "Secundra,"	31st "	529	"
" "Camorta,"	14th August,	402	"
" "Secundra,"	28th "	254	"
" "Camorta,"	12th September,	341	"
" "Secundra,"	26th "	477	"
" "Camorta,"	10th October,	461	"
" "Secundra,"	25th "	684	"
" "Sirsa,"	7th November,	519	"
" "Secundra,"	21st "	314	"
" "Sirsa,"	5th December,	329	"
" "Secundra,"	19th "	413	"
Total,...		12,360	

STATEMENT C.
Accounting for all Statute Immigrants employed in Province Wellesley, 1895.

ESTATES.	No. of Immigrants employed on 1st January, 1895.	No. of Arrivals in 1895.	No. of Immigrants employed under second Contract.	Total.	No. in Government Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. in Estate Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths.	No. of Deserters.	No. of Deserters arrested.	No. in Gaol on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Convictions.	No. of Admissions into Hospital.	Percentage of Deaths on Admissions.	No. returned to India.	No. discharged by Expiration of Contract.	No. discharged by Mutual Consent.	No. discharged by Redemption of Contract.	Transferred in 1895.	No. of Indian Coolies employed not under Protection on 31st December, 1895.		Remaining on Estates on 31st December, 1895.
																				Men.	Women.	
Batu Kawan, ...	977	205	35	1,217	11	90	29	3.09	191	107	32	167	735	3.98	...	193	3	11	...	295	57	897
Byram, ...	251	209	1	461	34	45	7	2.73	21	12	3	19	555	1.26	...	179	2	2	...	989	613	262
Pernatang Bertam, ...	...	14	42	56	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	31	54
Calcionia, ...	764	...	...	764	4	107	32	4.98	63	29	7	34	1,223	2.61	...	174	...	...	1,061	274	521	
Malakoff, ...	212	98	140	450	8	23	4	1.65	70	40	7	108	901	.44	...	136	...	6	...	15	121	274
Prye, ...	683	133	...	816	1	22	19	3.39	97	43	1	46	359	5.57	...	302	1	5	...	895	153	435
Trans-Krian, ...	188	60	...	248	4	16	...	...	37	12	...	2	131	...	...	79	2	36	...	211	144	105
Val d'or, ...	134	...	...	134	...	2	1	...	8	...	2	2	77	1.29	...	29	...	29	...	60	25	67
Total,...	3,209	719	218	4,146	62	305	92	3.15	489	243	52	377	3,973	2.31	3	1,092	8	89	1	3,646	1,418	2,615

STATEMENT D.
Accounting for all Statute Immigrants employed in the Native States, 1895.

ESTATES.	No. of Immigrants employed on 1st January, 1895.	No. of Arrivals in 1895.	No. of Immigrants and Contract in 1895.	Total.	No. in Government Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. in Estate Hospital on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths.	No. of Deserters.	No. of Deserters arrested.	No. in Gaol on 31st December, 1895.	No. of Convictions.	No. of Admissions into Hospital.	Percentage of Deaths on Cases in Hospital.	No. returned to India.	No. discharged by Expiration of Contract.	No. discharged by Mutual Consent.	No. discharged by Redemption of Contract.	Transferred in 1895.	No. of Indian Coolies employed not under Protection on 31st December, 1895.		No. of Coolies remaining on Estates on 31st Dec., 1895.
																				Men.	Women.	
PERAK.	930	614	...	1,544	2	80	59	5.61	610	428	99	449	828	7.12	...	103	15	12	...	649	265	1,173
Gula, ...	15	...	...	15	...	7	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	230	85	...
Kamuning, ...	99	...	...	99	...	...	...	2.53	16	9	...	4	224	0.88	...	19	1	10	...	57	14	60
Sungei Bogah, ...	...	614	...	1,658	4	87	61	5.36	626	437	102	453	1,052	5.79	...	137	16	22	...	936	364	1,233
SELANGOR.	44	...	...	44	1	...	1	2.63	14	2	...	...	14	7.15	...	...	...	...	...	278	71	31
Batu Caves, ...	53	10	...	63	12	...	7	17.07	9	2	...	...	32	21.53	...	19	...	...	...	41	17	30
Tremelbye, ...	33	...	...	33	3	...	2	6.56	...	...	...	...	12	16.16	...	...	...	...	...	31	4	31
Glen Marie, ...	...	50	...	50	...	...	1	4.76	7	1	...	1	10	10.00	...	...	...	...	...	288	43	43
Balgownie, ...	...	99	...	99	3	...	1	2.22	6	1	...	1	13	7.69	...	...	...	...	...	118	23	91
Hawthornden, ...	...	39	...	39	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Abetcross, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	263
Total, ...	1,300	1,998	...	3,298	22	...	12	6.09	37	7	...	3	94	11.80	1	19	3	3	...	496	403	...
JOHORE.	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	82	15	...
Lettybrook, ...	15	...	...	15	2	...	3	42.85	...	1	...	...	8	37.50	...	11	1	...	...	45	3	...
Stoke Rochford, ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tebran, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102	18	...
SUNGEI UJONG.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Linsum, ...	35	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ribu, ...	30	18	...	48	9	...	1	2.70	2	...	...	...	10	10.00	...	13	...	...	...	15	4	44
Total, ...	65	18	...	83	9	9	1	1.85	4	1	...	...	32	3.12	...	13	20	1	...	15	4	44
Grand Total, ...	1,257	1,830	...	2,087	37	96	77	5.64	667	445	102	457	1,187	6.48	1	181	39	26	...	1,549	789	1,540

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STATEMENT E.

	1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
Immigrants under Indenture,...	1,191	879	1,452	1,450	1,539	1,642	2,748	4,736	4,064	2,747	2,960	3,443	1,628	2,106	1,688	1,549
Dependents, ...	107	159	209	176	177	49	244	310	317	174	172	293	423	237	113	88
Immigrants, ...	3,755	5,769	8,276	8,979	14,365	19,819	17,316	12,156	15,183	15,285	15,341	26,447	16,370	15,877	13,155	14,368
Total Arrivals,...	5,053	6,807	9,937	10,605	16,081	21,510	20,308	17,202	20,814	18,206	18,473	30,183	18,421	18,220	14,956	16,005
Returned to India, ...	...	5,269	5,947	9,041	10,749	13,417	18,102	12,596	13,190	14,099	15,276	23,912	17,722	14,044	13,537	12,360
Remained in the Colony, ...	...	1,538	3,990	1,564	5,332	8,093	2,203	4,606	7,624	4,107	3,197	6,271	699	4,175	1,419	3,645

N.B.—In this statement minor dependents are reckoned as individuals, hence their full numbers is counted in.

STATEMENT F. Return showing the Statistics of Statute Immigrants employed in Estates in the Straits Settlements and Native States, during the year 1895.

COUNTRY	1	2	Deductions made during the year 1895.										14	15	16	17		18				
			3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11				12	13					
			Imported.	Additions made during the year 1895.																		
				By Planters.	Re-engaged.	Recovered after having been struck off as Deserters.																
		Number remaining at the end of the year 1894				Total	Total of Colours 2 and 6.	First Half-year.	Second Half-year.	Deaths.	Desertions.	Cancellation for permanent unfitness.	Efflux of time.	Redemption.	Number dissolved by mutual consent.	Total deducted.	Number remaining at the end of the year 1895.	Strength on 1st July, 1895.	First Half-year.	Second Half-year.	Annual Strength.	Death-rate per mille.
Province Wellesley,	...	3,209	719	217	243	1,179	4,388	49	43	277	212	3	1,092	89	8	1,173	2,615	2,809	3,009	2,712	50.16	
Perak, ...	...	1,044	614	...	437	1,051	2,095	40	21	282	344	...	137	122	16	862	1,233	1,152	1,098	1,192	54.03	
Selangor, ...	...	130	198	...	7	205	335	3	9	10	27	1	19	3	...	72	263	196	163	229	57.70	
Sungei Ujong, ...	...	65	18	...	...	18	83	1	...	2	...	...	13	1	20	39	44	49	57	46	17.54	
Johore, ...	...	18	...	...	...	...	18	2	...	...	...	...	11	...	3	17	...	5	11	2	681.81	
Total,	...	4,466	1,549	217	687	2,453	6,919	95	74	571	585	4	1,272	115	47	2,163	4,155	4,211	4,338	4,181	41.89	

STATEMENT G.
Deaths amongst Statute Immigrants.

[illegible]

A. W. S. O'SULLIVAN,
Acting Indian Immigration Agent, S.S.

Volunteer Corps
Appointment. 1857
East Coast Rifle Volunteers

Mr. WILLIAM OGILVIE HORNE,
Collector, Virayapatam District, to be Lieute-
-nant Colonel, Commandant, vice Lieut-
-nant Colonel C. H. COWIE resigned.

W. B. Benson / Captain
Ag. Commandant, East Coast Rifle Corps

3. Spare Copies of the enclosure to Public Circulat No 3118 of 1896.