

Public (1896) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 943

DATED 1-9-96

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recoding end^t of the G.O. of I forwarding
the Annual report on Indian Immigration
in Surinam for the year 1895, and
distributing the spare copies of the
report -

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cur 40-17-26							

Public (1896) Department.

CURRENT No.

From the Govt. of India
R to A. Dept.
(Immigration)

No. 1404
53-1

Order No 943. D 1st September 1896
mis

Recorded. The
spare copies of the report
will be distributed as
follows:-

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SUBJECT.

Forwarding annual report
on Indian Immigration
in Surinam for the
year 1895.

31.9.96

31.9.96

To
The Bd of Rev (Dep't Rev) } with
" Protector of Emigrants } copy
" Librarian } of report.
Desp 419

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
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FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. $\frac{1404}{53-1}$

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.
(Emigration)

Simla , dated the 17th August, 1896.

Forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information, in continuation
this Department's endorsement No. 1893/46-2 dated the 29th October 1895.



By order,

[Signature]

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

List of Papers forwarded.

Annual Report on Indian Immigration in Surinam for the year 1

FILE No. 53 OF 1896.
SERIAL No. 1.

No. 59 Public (Emigration), dated India Office, London, the 25th June 1896.

*From—Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India,
To—The Government of India.*

I FORWARD, for the information of Your Excellency in Council, a copy of a letter from the British Consul at Paramaribo, enclosing a Report on British Indian Immigration in Surinam during 1895.

I have, etc.,

GEORGE HAMILTON.

No. 34, dated Paramaribo, the 7th May 1896.

*From—SYDNEY J. A. CHURCHILL, Esq., British Consul, Paramaribo,
To—Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.*

In laying before Your Lordship, in original, the report on British Indian Immigration in this Colony for 1895, which I have received from the Immigration Agent General, I beg to call Your Lordship's attention to the fact that it is the first time that it has been prepared at this unusually early date.

One of the most remarkable features of the development of the Immigration system of this Colony during 1895 was the initiatory steps taken by the authorities at the suggestion of the Immigration Agent General, Mr. Barnet-Lyon, to offer contract-expired coolies the means of taking up agricultural and pastoral enterprises under the immediate supervision of the Government and under conditions which can scarcely be termed otherwise than favourable to the farmer. The object that the Government has in view is to endeavour to attach the coolie to the soil. In order to induce the coolie to do this, the Government offers all coolies who will renounce their right to a free return passage a bonus of one hundred guilders. Otherwise the Government invites a coolie, whose contract is expired, to take up land, and then gives him the right to transfer the improvements thereon to any other coolie of approved character, whilst both have the option of retaining their rights to free return passages to India; so that in this respect this Colony is a step in advance of other coolie-employing countries.

£ 8. 6s. 8d.

As I have already had the honour to report in detail regarding the successful action taken in regard to the savings of coolies, I will not do more than mention it here.

The sugar estate: Rust-en-Werk, employing 441 contracted immigrants on the 31st December 1895 and having ordered 100 more from India, experienced difficulties, not yet surmounted, in its financial affairs, and was obliged to petition the High Court of Justice for a moratorium in the fulfilment of its financial obligations. In consequence of this difficulty the coolies ordered for this estate had to be distributed amongst other estates. Another, but smaller, estate also experienced a difficulty in taking over the labourers applied for by it. It is owing, in a great measure, to these questions that the coming recruiting season will be below the average.

The other great cause for the diminution of immigration from India during the coming season is that some of the planters imagine that they will now be able to obtain Javanese labour under conditions of less continued and strict supervision than they can get British Indian labour. This illusion will be soon dissipated in their minds when they see in practice the same rules observed for both kinds of labour; inasmuch as the Netherlands Government has sanctioned the recruitment on the same conditions as those in force for British Indian coolies.

Whilst the Javanese labourer is more docile than the Indian coolie, he does not appear to be as useful for the heavier work, so that planters will probably eventually obtain the best results by employing mixed Javanese and Indian labour on their estates.

I will not trouble Your Lordship with a detailed account—in justification of my services—of the immigration work which I have had before me during the year under review; anybody as well acquainted as Your Lordship with the character of the Oriental cannot fail to have observed the obstinacy with which he will reiterate complaints of the flimsiest and most petty character, which must be listened to in all solemnity and with the greatest patience, and against which no amount of argument can produce in the complainant's mind any other conviction than the one that he is being treated with prejudice.

On the whole, I must state that my inspections of the different districts and estates have, so far, given me a favourable opinion of the administration of justice as between coolies and employers. Only one instance came before me, in 1895, in which there was any

reason to doubt whether there had not been an error of judgment. Immediately the Immigration Agent General, with whom I happened to be inspecting, heard of it the same conclusion occurred to him, and he took immediate measures to ensure, as far as possible, the prevention of a repetition of the matter complained of.

It is with the greatest satisfaction that I am able to renew to Your Lordship the assurance of the good relations which have continued to prevail between the Immigration Agent General and myself. It is this condition of affairs, and the conviction that Mr. Barnet-Lyon will assist my substitute by every means in his power to carry on the delicate relations, which so satisfactorily subsist between us, that enables me to avail myself, on this occasion, of the leave which Your Lordship has been good enough to grant me.

No. 618, dated Paramaribo, the 5th May 1896.

From—GEO. BARNET-LYON, Esq., *Immigration Agent General*,
To—Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Paramaribo.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you herewith an abstract from my report on British Indian Immigration for the year 1895.

Section 1.—Statement showing the number of indentured British Indian immigrants resident in the Colony during the year ended December 31st, 1895—

	ABOVE THE AGE OF 15.		UNDER THE AGE OF 15.		TOTAL.
	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	
On the 1st January 1895	3,856	1,308	624	562	6,350
<i>Increased</i>					
by arrivals from Calcutta	987	403	113	112	1,615
" births	...	...	78	82	160
" re-indentures	197	14	12	10	233
" return from desertions	4	1	...	...	5
" boys and girls who have attained the age of 15 years	11	11	...	...	22
	5,055	1,737	827	766	8,385
<i>Decreased</i>					
by deaths	65	20	28	29	142
" expiration of contract	922	303	197	169	1,591
" desertions	14	1	...	...	15
" cancellation of contract	3	3	...	1	7
" rejections	11	2	...	...	13
" orphans who attained their majority	...	3	...	...	3
" boys and girls who attained the age of 15 years	...	...	11	11	22
	1,015	332	236	210	1,793
Under indenture on the 31st December 1895	4,040	1,405	591	556	6,592

Section 2.—Table of births and deaths during the fifth year of residence in the Colony of the immigrants ex *Erne*—

	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
Number of immigrants at the beginning of the fifth year, i.e., 27th April 1894	341	133	94	68	636
Births	...	...	10	5	15
In the fifth year	341	133	104	73	651
Deaths	3	1	...	...	4
Desertions	1	...	...	...	1
Number at the end of the fifth year, i.e., on the 27th April 1895	337	132	104	73	646

The rate of mortality of immigrants ex *Erne* was:—

In the fifth year of residence	0.62
" fourth " "	0.47
" third " "	2.26
" second " "	4.41
" first " "	3.54

Section 3.—Table of births and deaths during the fifth year of residence in the Colony of the immigrants ex *Rhine*—

	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
Number of immigrants at the beginning of the fifth year, i.e., 12th November 1894	346	131	74	79	630
Births	...	...	4	5	9
In the fifth year	346	131	78	84	639
Deaths	2	...	1	1	4
Number at the end of the fifth year, i.e., November 12th, 1895	344	131	77	83	635

The rate of mortality of immigrants ex *Rhine* was:—

In the fifth year of residence	0.63
" fourth " "	2.53
" third " "	1.91
" second " "	3.06
" first " "	3.83

Section 4.—Table of births and deaths during the fourth year of residence in the Colony of the immigrants ex *Hereford I.*—

	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
Number of immigrants at the beginning of the fourth year, i.e., 17th May 1894	332	128	67	83	610
Births	...	...	11	9	20
In the fourth year	332	128	78	92	630
Deaths	5	1	1	3	10
Rejected and returned to India	1	...	...	...	1
Number at the end of the fourth year, i.e., 17th May 1895	326	127	77	89	619

The rate of mortality of immigrants ex *Hereford I* was:—

In the fourth year of residence	1.63
" third " "	1.50
" second " "	2.39
" first " "	4.89

Section 5.—Table of births and deaths during the third year of residence in the Colony of the immigrants ex *Lena*—

	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
Number of immigrants at the beginning of the third year, i.e., 2nd May 1894	385	150	69	54	658
Births	...	...	11	10	21
In the third year	385	150	80	64	679
Deaths	11	5	4	6	26
Rejected and returned to India	2	...	...	...	2
Number at the end of the third year, i.e., 2nd May 1895	372	145	76	58	651

[illegible]

	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
Number of immigrants at the beginning of the third year, <i>i.e.</i> , 18th November 1894 . . .	300	124	59	45	528
Births	...	...	7	9	16
In the third year .	300	124	66	54	544
Deaths	8	1	3	4	16
Rejected and returned to India	3	...	...	...	3
Number at the end of the third year, <i>i.e.</i> , 18th November 1895	289	123	63	50	525

In the third year of residence	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
" second " "	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
" first " "	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
Number of immigrants at the beginning of the second year, i.e., 18th April 1894	313	122	38	47	520
Births	...	...	10	9	19
In the second year {	318	122	48	56	539
Deaths	6	1	2	3	12
Rejected and returned to India	1	...	...	...	1
Number at the end of the second year, i.e., 18th April 1895	306	121	46	53	526

[illegible]

	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
Number of immigrants at the beginning of the second year, i.e., 19th December 1894 . . .	331	130	33	41	535
Births	...	...	12	9	21
In the second year	331	130	45	50	556
Deaths	9	3	4	1	17
Rejected and returned to India	2	...	...	...	2
Desertions	1	...	...	...	1
Number at the end of the second year, i.e., 19th December 1895	319	127	41	49	536

In the second year of residence	3.17
" first " "	3.86

the immigrants ex <i>Erne II.</i> —					
	Males.	Females.	Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
Number of the immigrants on arrival on 14th April 1894	328	129	41	32	530
	...	...	6	1	7
In the first year { Births	328	129	47	33	537
{ Deaths	6	3	7	3	19
Number at the end of the first year, i.e., April 14th, 1895	322	126	40	30	518

the immigrants ex <i>Ems</i> —		Males.	Females.	Boys,	Girls.	TOTAL.
Number of the immigrants on arrival on 22nd November 1894		434	162	49	31	676
	Births	...	...	3	6	9
In the first year	Deaths	434	162	52	37	685
	Desertions	10	2	2	3	17
		2	...	...	...	2
Number at the end of the first year, i.e., November 22nd, 1895		422	160	50	34	666

Section 11.—In 1895, 1,128 certificates of exemption from labour were granted. The number of re-indentures amounted to 233, being 197 men, 14 women, 12 boys and 10 girls. The bounty paid being Fl. 100 for a re-indenture of five years.

2 drowned, viz. :—
 1 boy of plantation Lust and Rust;
 1 man " Hazard.
 1 case of suicide by hanging, a man of plantation Waterloo;
 1 woman of plantation Jagtlust murdered by another coolie;
 1 woman of plantation Catharina Sophia, died of wounds inflicted on her by another coolie;
 1 man of plantation Bromverslust, died of blows inflicted upon him by four other coolies;
 1 man of plantation Hazard, died of a fall over a cane punt; and
 1 man of plantation Leasaves and Sarah, who was shot whilst escaping from the hands of justice.

The asterisks *** added to the name of an Estate signify that there was no mortality on that Estate during the years 1892, 1893, 1894 and 1895; ** no mortality during 1893, 1894 and 1895; * no mortality during 1894 and 1895. No asterisks indicate the absence of mortality in 1895 alone:—

4.—Names of the Estates where there has been no mortality—

Number of indentured
immigrants on
December 31st, 1895.

- | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| 1. Maagdenburg *** | Cocoa Estate in Upper Surinam | . | . | . | . | . | . | 18 |
| 2. Geyersvluit *** | " Lower " | . | . | . | . | . | . | 33 |
| 3. Oldenburg (Foerlugt) *** | Cattle farm in Lower Surinam | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 |
| 4. Boxel *** | Cocoa Estate in Upper Para | . | . | . | . | . | . | 10 |
| 5. Concordia *** | " Lower Saramacca | . | . | . | . | . | . | 43 |
| 6. de Dankbaarheid *** | " " " | . | . | . | . | . | . | 155 |

			Number of indenture immigrants on December 31st, 1895.
7. de Morgenster *** Cocoa Estate in Lower Saramacca			27
8. Leasowes and Sarah ***	"	Coronie	1
9. Zorg and Hoop **	"	Lower Commenyne	69
10. Leliendaal and Ellen **	"	"	44
11. Gertruidenberg **	"	"	64
12. Dordrecht **	"	Lower Surinam	84
13. Waterland **	"	Upper Para	75
14. Elizabethshoop *	"	Lower Commenyne	40
15. Kroonenburg *	"	"	10
16. Nijl and Spyt *	"	"	10
17. Petersburg *	"	Upper Surinam	70
18. Caledonia *	"	Lower Saramacca	41
19. Johanna Catharina *	"	"	72
20. Fredericijs gift *	"	"	15
21. la Poule *	"	"	8
22. Nieuw Clarenboek	"	Upper Commenyne	59
23. de Maastroom	"	Lower	26
24. Guadeloupe	"	"	9
25. Bromverslust	"	"	70
26. Hootmyk	"	"	20
27. de Nieuwgrond	"	"	14
28. Susanna'sdaal	"	Surinam	97
29. Belwaarde	"	"	67
30. Peperpot	"	"	13
31. Ma Retraite	"	"	27
32. Kwatta	"	"	15
33. la Renoontre, Sugar and	"	Upper Para	23
34. Tout-lui-faut	"	Lower	57

B.—Names of the Estates where the mortality in 1895 was below the average rate—

1. Alliance Sugar Estate in Cottica		0.98 per cent.	414
2. Catharina Sophia, Cocoa Estate in Lower Saramacca		1.21 "	56
3. de Endracht, Sugar	"	1.28 "	141
4. Zoelen	"	1.37 "	466
5. Voorburg, Cocoa and Coffee	"	1.47 "	287
6. Killenstein, Cocoa	"	1.49 "	80
7. Spiengshoek	"	1.53 "	65
8. de Morgenstond	"	1.67 "	66
9. Mon Souci	"	1.68 "	63
10. Wederzorg	"	1.79 "	194
11. Marienbosch	"	1.82 "	51
12. Berlijn	"	1.94 "	54
13. la Liberté	"	1.94 "	67

C.—Names of the Estates where the mortality in 1895 was above the average rate—

1. Sorgoliet, Cocoa Estate in Lower Commenyne		2.08 per cent.	50
2. Johannesburg	"	2.15 "	51
3. Meerzorg, Sugar	"	2.15 "	241
4. Margarettenburg, Cocoa	"	2.20 "	27
5. Vertrouwen	"	2.35 "	32
6. Peterszorg	"	2.44 "	32
7. Marienburg, Sugar	"	2.51 "	963
8. Vreeland, Cocoa	"	2.57 "	44
9. Lust and Rust	"	2.63 "	34
10. Rust and Werk	"	2.64 "	441
11. Jagtlust, Cocoa and Coffee	"	2.73 "	291
12. Constantia, Cocoa	"	2.78 "	36
13. Accarillu	"	3.51 "	29
14. St. Barbara	"	4.00 "	25
15. Croppschok Cocoa and Coffee	"	4.35 "	64
16. Lotland No. 36	"	4.51 "	69
17. Hazard, Sugar	"	4.60 "	235
18. Waterloo	"	4.64 "	285
19. Broederschap, Cocoa	"	4.82 "	50
20. Katayh	"	5.55 "	20
21. Vriendsbeleid and Onsezzorg	"	5.84 "	69
22. Frederiksdorp	"	6.67 "	29
23. Schoonoord	"	7.55 "	26
24. Montresor	"	10.91 "	26

Section 14.—Cause of death—

Marasmus	8
Debilitas	15
Febris	39
Diarrhoea	1
Dysentery	4
Septicæmia	1
Phthisis	15
Pneumonia	2
Diphtheritis	1
Peritonitis	1
Bronchitis	8
Catarrh intestinum	2
Anchylostomiasis	1

Lepatitis	1
Dyspepsia	2
Heart disease	3
Nephritis	6
Hydropsia	1
Convulsiones	18
Insolatia	1
Abscessus	1
Insanity	1
In childbed	1
Eclampsia post partum	1
By drowning	2
Fy suicide (hanging)	1
Murders	1
Shot by police whilst escaping from justice	1
Died from effects of assault	2
Accidental death (fall over a cane punt)	1

Section 15.—Statement showing medical services to indentured British Indian immigrants during 1895—

On the 1st January 1895 there were under medical treatment	259 British Indian immigrants.
Number of cases during the year 1895	15,447
	Total 15,706
Recovered	15,301
Deceased	114
	15,415
Remained under treatment in the hospital on December 31st, 1895	291

The total number of sick days in 1895 amounted to 96,012½, giving an average for each British Indian indentured immigrant 14.8 sick days during the whole of 1895.

Section 16.—Table showing the mortality since 1877, exclusive of cases of violent and accidental deaths of indentured British Indian immigrants in comparison with Creole labourers and other unindentured labourers on the same estates—

IN THE YEAR	MORTALITY EXCLUSIVE OF VIOLENT AND ACCIDENTAL CASES OF DEATH.	
	Indentured British Indian Immigrants.	Creole and other un-indentured labourers.
1877	3.73 per cent.	6.16 per cent.
1878	2.71 "	4.07 "
1879	2.08 "	3.32 "
1880	1.81 "	3.59 "
1881	3.26 "	4.25 "
1882	2.60 "	2.70 "
1883	2.57 "	3.84 "
1884	2.60 "	5.0 "
1885	2.40 "	3.26 "
1886	1.88 "	2.82 "
1887	1.54 "	3.15 "
1888	1.62 "	3.36 "
1889	1.57 "	2.31 "
1890	1.93 "	2.45 "
1891	3.04 "	2.90 "
1892	2.62 "	2.71 "
1893	2.38 "	1.81 "
1894	2.43 "	2.24 "
1895	2.07 "	2.31 "

The mortality among labourers on the same estate has always been greater among Creoles and unindentured immigrants than among immigrants under indenture with the exception of the years 1891, 1893 and 1894. The reason being that the indentured labourer is compelled to submit to medical treatment, whereas the other labourer has the option of rejecting all medical service offered to him.

Section 17.—The number of legal marriages contracted by British Indian immigrants during 1895 was: 25, among which there was 1 of a British Indian immigrant with a Creole girl.

The marriages were contracted as follows:—

- 3 at Paramaribo,
- 15 in Lower Commenyne,
- 1 in Cottica,
- 2 in Lower Para,
- 1 in Lower Surinam, and
- 3 in Lower Saramacca.

By 3 of these marriages 17 children were legitimated.

The proportion between men and women was 344 women against 1,000 men.

The number of births 160, i.e., 11.79 births on 100 women.

Section 18.—Table showing the number of working days with maximum and average amount of wages earned by indentured British Indian immigrants during 1895—

Indentured Immigrants.	NUMBER OF		Wages earned.	Daily average wages.	Maximum earned in one week.
	Immigrants.	Working days.			
Men	3,762	705,981½	F. 497567.14	F. 0.705	F. 11.20 on the Sugar estate Rust and Werk.
Women	1,277	176,377½	100811.67	0.582	F. 9.44 on the Cocoa estate, Peterzorg.
Boys and girls	43	3,295	1244.74	0.378	

The other days not included in the last given Statement are accounted for by illness, by absence on leave, absence to give evidence or to lodge complaints, by wilful absence from work, by imprisonment, by Sundays, by festivals acknowledged by Government and Indian Holidays, the latter being 16 for Mahomedans and 32 for Hindus.

Section 19.—Statement of the number of working days and amount of wages earned by unindentured labourers on estates, to which indentured immigrants are allotted—

Labourers.	NUMBER OF		Earned wages.	Daily wages in average.
	Labourers.	Working days.		
Creoles	Men 626 Women 280 Boys and girls 77	154,361½ 56,361 8,990½	F. 160471.21½ 34817.14 4040.15	1.040 0.618 0.449
Unindentured immigrants under which head, the free coolies are included.	Men 1,559 Women 544 Boys and girls 194	333,957½ 88,065½ 22,575	275134.55 51884.62 9067.12	0.824 0.589 0.402

The free labour population being a very floating one, the above and the next following statement are arrived at by adding the number present on each estate on the 1st of each month and dividing this total by 12 to obtain an average.

Section 20.—Table showing the number of working days or tasks and the amount of wages earned by unindentured labourers on estates where no indentured immigrants were employed in 1895—

Labourers.	NUMBER OF		Wages earned.	Daily average wages.
	Labourers.	Working days or tasks.		
Men	244	50,833½	F. 43569.43	0.857
Women	256	44,928½	27699.28	0.617
Boys and girls	59	7,088½	3420.30	0.482
Unindentured immigrants under this head, the free coolies are included.	Men 178 Women 71 Boys and girls 8	39,365½ 10,496½ 1,132½	30298.55 6666.88 529.35	0.770 0.635 0.487

Note.—Indentured or unindentured labourers receive the same wages for the same work performed by either of them.

Work that requires more skill or is heavier, i.e., mechanical work in the buildings or shovel work, is paid at a higher rate than weeding or other light work.

Section 21.—Statement of complaints against British Indian labourers by employers and others together with an account of the disposal of such complaints during 1895—

NATURE OF THE COMPLAINTS.	WILFUL NEGLECT OF WORK.			OTHER OFFENCES AGAINST THE LABOUR LAW.			Total number of complaints.	Convictions.	Acquittals and dismissals.	Untried.	Percentage of complaints to population of indentured immigrants.
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.					
Offences against the labour law	454	46	500	100	8	108	608	523	85	...	940
Other petty offences	...	...	...	...	...	...	304	236	68	...	470
Correctional cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	15	4	2	0.32
Criminal	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1(1)	0.031

(1) Sentence pronounced in 1896.

Section 22.—Number and nature of charges brought by British Indian Immigrants against their employers in 1895—

Number of complaints.	NATURE OF OFFENCES.	Rejected or withdrawn.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	REMARKS.
9	Complaints regarding wages	8*	...	...	Unfounded.
7	Too heavy work	7	...	...	7 "
6	Assault	1	3	2	1 "
1	Refusal of medical treatment to a child	1	...	...	Unfounded.
1	Refusal to allow the residence on the estate of the unindentured wife of an indentured immigrant	1	...	...	"
1	Refusal to repay money borrowed	1	...	...	"
1	Shooting of a goat	...	...	1	
26	TOTAL	19	3	3	

The percentage of the complaints to the population was nearly 0.40.

Section 23.—On the 31st December 1895 the amount deposited by British Indian immigrants in the Colonial Savings Bank reached a total of Fl.

This amount belonged to coolest
Interest at rate of 3 per cent. per annum is paid by the Colonial Savings Bank.

* In one case the balance was paid.
† The returns of the Savings Bank did not come to hand yet. The statistics will be forwarded as soon as they reach me.

LEGISLATION.

The Ordinance to promote the settlement of immigrants as colonists in the Colony of Surinam, which was referred to in the conclusion of my Report for the year 1894, became law on July 4th of 1895, the date of its promulgation. By the stipulations of section 1 of this Ordinance this law became retrospective in the case of immigrants in receipt of a grant of crownland after August 20th of 1894.

The Ordinance of 2nd May 1894 for the issue of a loan for immigration purposes was sanctioned by the law of 13th July 1895, *Netherlands Official Gazette* No. 114. The powers enjoyed by the Colony for the purposes of this loan are as follows:—To obtain Fl. 1,500,000 and 3 per cent. per annum, the amount to be applied exclusively to increase the Immigration Fund; payment of interest and amortisation being guaranteed by the Netherlands. The conditions of issue are governed by Ordinance 30 of 1895 and by decree of the Governor of Surinam, No. 43 of 1894.

Section 58 of the Royal Decree No. 27 of 1872, *Government Gazette* No. 8 of 1872, having failed of its efficacy, owing to a stipulation in the contract more favourable to the immigrant in regard to the question of rations on first arrival, it became necessary to amend the law of 1872 in order to bring the principles of the contracts and those of the law into unison. This amendment was the subject of a Royal Decree of July 29th, 1895, *Netherlands Official Gazette* No. 18, issued in the *Government Gazette* No. 39 of 1895.

By Decree of 4th September 1895 L^a B. No. 6250, the conditions for the allotment of crownland on the Alkmaar coolie settlement were regulated. Grants of 1½ h.a. and of ½ of an h.a. are made to approved free British Indian immigrants, free of cost and rent, either for agricultural or pastoral purposes.

The grantees are free from head and acreage taxation during a period of six years.

The main drainage and navigation canal, the main road, the polders, the high road along and the sluices on the settlement shall be brought and maintained in proper order at the expense of the Colonial Government.

The grants cannot be obtained in freehold, but with the consent of the Governor; the grantees may dispose of the plantings and erections on their lots to other British Indian immigrants either by contract or by will.

Two plots of land, one of 10 and the other of 22 h.a., on the settlement are destined for common pasture and shall be brought and maintained in proper condition as such at the expense of the Colonial Government. Every such grantee has the right to keep one head of cattle and as many more heads as the District Commissary shall allow.

In the latter part of 1895 the necessary funds were granted for the above-named works on the settlement. The far advanced season, however, prevented progress of said works, which will be the subject of energetic action in the coming dry season and will most probably reach completion in 1896.

The Colonial Budget for 1896 contains the necessary appropriation for the establishment of a Sub-Agent of Immigration, who will act in this Colony in the same capacity as the senior Immigration Agent according to the British Guiana Immigration Ordinance of 1891.

By decree of the Governor of Surinam of ^{4th}/_{7th} January 1896 L. A. No. 102, the school for colloquial Hindustani at Paramaribo was dis-established, owing to insufficient attendance.

Mention should be made by anticipation of the announcement in the *Colonial Office Gazette* of March 10th, 1896, No. 22, containing the conditions upon which applications for Javanese labourers will be entertained by my department.

An advertisement containing the conditions of applications for British Indian immigrants for the same reason appeared in the *Government Gazette* of October 11th, 1895, No. 86, and, as a result, 16 applications for 830 adults destined for 5 sugar and 18 cocoa and coffee estates were received.

The number applied for was afterwards reduced to 450 adults, the order for recruiting and embarking of whom was cabled to our Emigration Agent at Calcutta on March 11th, 1896.

The diminution of the number of British Indian immigrants ordered for next season is to be attributed in the first place to the opportunity offered for obtaining Javanese immigrants and also to the fact that about 100 immigrants ordered for the present season had to be allotted to one of the applicants for the next season, owing to the occurrence of serious financial difficulties in connection with the affairs of the original applicants.

RETURN IMMIGRANTS.

In the report of the year 1894 particulars were given of the immigrants who left this port for Calcutta on February 1st, 1895, in the ship *Grecian*. There only now remains to be mentioned that after a rather long voyage, principally due to rough weather round the Cape, the *Grecian* arrived at Calcutta on June 21st, 1895.

During the voyage 5 deaths occurred, viz.:—1 man, 1 woman and 3 children and as many births, so that the same number of souls embarked, were landed at Calcutta, i.e., six hundred and five.

The immigrants were disembarked in good condition. Our depôt being occupied by the immigrants shipped to this port in July, in the ship *Erne*, the return immigrants were accommodated in the French depôt.

On June 22nd the ornaments remitted to me for transmission to Calcutta were handed to the returned immigrants, and on June 27th their savings were paid out to them.

With the exception of one complaint against one of the compounders, which, however, could not be proved, no complaints were made.

On July 2nd all the immigrants had quitted the depôt.

Under the stipulations of Ordinance 23 of 1863 plots of crownland were granted to the following number of approved British Indian immigrants for their use:—

In Lower Saramacca	78 h.a. to 37 immigrants.	•
„ Cottica	6 „ „ 3 „	
„ Lower Commeyne	8 „ „ 8 „	
„ „ Para	8 „ „ 4 „	
„ Upper „	1 „ „ 4 „	

making a total of 101 h.a., 11 of which were allotted to 7 immigrants in extension of grants already obtained by them.

One plot of 2 h.a. allotted in 1895, was transferred in the same year to another immigrant, a lot of 2 h.a. was given in exchange for a lot granted in 1894, so that besides the 11 h.a. above mentioned in extension of plots formerly granted, and to transfer of a plot in the same year that it was granted to another immigrant, 41 plots of land, together measuring 88 h.a., were granted to 41 British Indian immigrants.

In accordance with the conditions of said Ordinance the freehold was granted of 2 h.a. in Lower Saramacca to 1 British Indian immigrant; of 2 h.a. in Upper Commeyne to 1 British Indian immigrant and the freehold of 4 h.a. in Lower Para to 2 British Indian immigrants.

On the coolie settlement Alkmaar 25.60 h.a. were granted to 16 British Indian immigrants and 164.618 h.a. were provisionally allotted to 121 British Indian immigrants.

During the year 1895, 64 British Indian immigrants transmitted F1 2,300 through this department to their relatives and friends in British India.

Colonisation by British Indians, Chinese and British West Indians.

According to official data supplied by the District Commissaries there were on the 31st December 1895:—

In the Upper Para and Upper Surinam Districts—46.90 h.a. of crownland rented by 27 immigrants. The rent being F1. 10 per annum per h.a., of these—

19 immigrants were from British India.
6 „ „ „ the British West-Indies.
2 „ „ „ China.

There were 35.13 h.a. of crownland in free use by 20 immigrants from British India. Two immigrants from China had together received in freehold from the Government 3.04 h.a.

One immigrant from British India and one immigrant from China had rented from private individuals each a piece of land at a rent of F1. 25 per annum and a rent of F1. 14 per annum, respectively, whilst 5 immigrants were proprietors of land belonging to the abandoned estates Heysrlit and Ornamibo amongst whom 3 immigrants originated from British India and 2 from China.

In the Cottica District—One immigrant from British India rented 1½ h.a. of crownland at a rent of F1. 10 per h.a. per annum, whilst 18 h.a. of crownland were given in free use to 9 immigrants from British India.

Two British Indian immigrants were proprietors of 22 h.a. of land acquired from private individuals.

In the Upper Commeyne District—2 h.a. of crownland were in free use by one immigrant from China.

One British Indian immigrant had obtained in freehold from the Colonial Government 2 h.a. of land, and 12 British Indian immigrants had acquired from private owners part of the former estates Vossenburg and Brenkelerwaard.

In the Nickerie District—14 immigrants originated from British India and 6 immigrants per h.a. per annum, of whom 8 immigrants rented 22,903 h.a. of crownland at F1. 10 per h.a. per annum, originated from the British West-Indies.

Four immigrants from the British West-Indies had acquired in freehold from the Colonial Government 40 h.a. of land, and 15 immigrants, amongst whom 5 from British India and 10 from the British West-Indies, owned together 13,274 h.a. of land acquired from private individuals.

In the Saramacca District—58 h.a. of crownland were rented on the same condition as above-mentioned by 27 immigrants, amongst whom:—

18 immigrants originated from British India
3 „ „ „ the British West-Indies
6 „ „ „ China;
275 h.a. of crownland were in free use by 133 immigrants, of whom—

127 immigrants originated from British India
4 „ „ „ the British West-Indies
2 „ „ „ China;

36 immigrants had obtained together 318 h.a. in freehold from the Colonial Government, of whom—

24 immigrants originated from British India;
4 „ „ „ the British West-Indies;
and 8 „ „ „ China.

From private persons 2 British Indian immigrants rented together 4 h.a. of land at a rent of F1. 10 per h.a. per annum and 2 h.a. free of rent, but under the obligation of planting cocoa, whilst 3 British West-Indian immigrants rented together 27 h.a. of land, of which 2 h.a. free of rent, but under obligation of planting cocoa, and 25 h.a. at a rent of F1. 2 per h.a. per annum.

In the Lower Commeyne District—One immigrant from British India rented on the conditions above-mentioned 1.1175 h.a. of crownland, whilst 10 h.a. of crownland were in free use by 5 immigrants from British India.

Twenty-four British Indian immigrants had purchased together 636,743 h.a. of land from private individuals.

On the Alkmaar coolie settlement 16 lots of land of an area together of 25.6 h.a. were allotted to 16 British Indian immigrants, whilst 85 lots of an area of 1.6 h.a. each and 26 lots of an area of 0.8 h.a. each, i.e., together 164.8 h.a., were provisionally allotted to 121 British Indian immigrants.

In December 1895 and the first three months of 1896 the rights of occupancy were, with the consent of the Governor, transferred by the original occupiers:—

of lot No.	3 for F1. 54
„ 11 „	50
„ 37 „	125
„ 10 „	215
„ 9 „	240 to other coolies to whom in lieu of

the original occupiers said lots were allotted.

N.B.—The lots are equal in extent. The difference in the purchase-money is the result of the greater industry of one man in comparison with another.

In the Lower Para District—10 h.a. of crownland were rented at the above named conditions by 5 immigrants from British India.

Two British Indian immigrants had obtained from the Colonial Government together 4 h.a. of land in freehold.

Eighty-three British Indian immigrants rented 316.5 h.a. together from private individuals at an average rent of F1. 395 per h.a. per annum.

One immigrant from British India had acquired the property of 23 h.a. from the former owner.

In the Lower Surinam District—8.5 h. a. of crownland were rented on the abovementioned conditions by 7 British Indian immigrants.

Forty-one British Indian immigrants rented 80.75 h. a. at an average rent of Fl. 11.22 from private individuals.

Recapitulating briefly the whole of the above official data there were—

92 immigrants, of whom 69 originated from British India;

15 " " the British West-Indies; and

8 " " China, who rented together 146.92 h. a. of

crownland at Fl. 10 per h. a. per annum.

195 immigrants, of whom 188 originated from British India;

4 " " the British West-Indies; and

3 " " China who had the free use of 396.18 h. a.

of crownland, whilst on the coolie settlement Alkmaar to 137 British Indian immigrants 190.4 h. a. of crownland had either been allotted, or provisionally allotted in free use.

45 immigrants, of whom 27 originated from British India;

8 " " the British West-Indies; and

10 " " China, had acquired together 367.04 h. a.

land of the Colonial Government in freehold.

131 immigrants, of whom 127 originated from British India;

3 " " the British West-Indies; and

1 " " China, rented 403.8 h. a. of land from private persons besides two tracts of land, the superficial area of which is not known.

76 immigrants, of whom 63 originated from British India;

11 " " the British West-Indies; and

3 " " China, were owners of 1046.78 h. a. of land

besides 4 abandoned estates purchased by them from the former proprietors.

The data from the Coronie District were not received in time to give the abovementioned statistics with regard to this district also.

The purchase price paid by some of the immigrants were the following:—

(a) A sum of Fl. 3,500 paid by a Chinese immigrant for a lot of land of 10 h. a. in Saramacca.

(b) A sum of Fl. 2,000 paid by a Chinese immigrant for 21.45 h. a. of plantation Ornamibo.

(c) A sum of Fl. 1,500 paid by two British Indian immigrants (husband and wife) for the estate Sanssouci in the Orleana Crique.

(d) A sum of Fl. 960 paid by a British West-Indian immigrant for a lot of land of 26½ h. a. in Nickerie.

(e) A sum of Fl. 900 paid by a British Indian immigrant for a lot of land of 2 h. a. in Saramacca.

(f) A sum of Fl. 900 paid by a British Indian immigrant for the plantings on a lot of 2 h. a. in Saramacca.

(g) A sum of Fl. 900 paid by a British Indian immigrant for part of the estate Vossenburg in Upper Commeyne.

(h) A sum of Fl. 800 paid for a lot of land of 15.3 h. a. in Nickerie by a British Indian immigrant.

(i) A sum of Fl. 700 paid for the plantings on a lot of land of 2 h. a. in Saramacca by a British Indian immigrant.

(j) A sum of Fl. 700 paid for the plantings on a lot of land of 4 h. a. in Saramacca by a British Indian immigrant.

(k) A sum of Fl. 500 paid by a British Indian immigrant for 19.75 h. a. of the former estate Ornamibo.

(l) A sum of Fl. 500 paid by a British Indian immigrant for about 3 h. a. of the former estate Ornamibo.

(m) A sum of Fl. 500 paid by a British Indian immigrant for the plantings on a plot of 2 h. a. in Saramacca.

(n) A sum of Fl. 500 paid by a British Indian immigrant for a lot of land of 3.3 h. a. in Saramacca.

(o) A sum of Fl. 500 paid by a British Indian immigrant for the plantings on a plot of 4 h. a. in Saramacca.

(p) A sum of Fl. 475 paid by a British Indian immigrant for 15 h. a. of the former estate Constantia in Cottica.

(q) A sum of Fl. 450 paid by a British Indian immigrant for the plantings on a lot of land of 0.89 h. a. at the settlement Domburg.

(r) A sum of Fl. 450 paid by four British Indian immigrants for part of the former estate "Nut en Schadelyk" in Upper Commeyne.

(s) A sum of Fl. 400 paid by a British Indian immigrant for the plantings on a lot of 2 h. a. in Saramacca.

To one immigrant from British India the premium at Fl. 100 was granted in 1895 according to Ordinance No. 24 of April 19th, 1895, whereby he renounced his right to a free return passage.

Besides the abovementioned immigrants, many others, by far the greater part British Indian immigrants, have settled in the vicinity of the capital occupied as stock-keepers and stock-minders; several others, amongst whom 85 British Indian immigrants, living either in the capital or in the districts, are licensed pedlars, shop-keepers, gold and silversmiths and barbers.

Others living in the capital find a means of livelihood as grass-cutters and in selling grass for fodder of horses and cattle.

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