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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Public Department
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

No. 56, dated India Office London, the 18th May 1876.

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

In continuation of my despatch dated the 11th of November last, No. 140,
 * 9th March 1876, No. 57. I forward herewith, for the information of your
 † 17th February 1876. Excellency in Council, copy of a despatch* from the
 Governor of the Leeward Islands, enclosing the
 report,† with its accompaniments, of the Immigration Agent of Nevis for the
 half-year ending the 31st of December 1875.

No. 57, dated Leeward Islands, Antigua, the 9th March 1876.

From—GOVERNOR BERKELEY, Leeward Islands,
 To—Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to Your Lordship the report of the Immigration Agent of
 Nevis for the half-year ending 31st December 1875.

While it is satisfactory to note an improvement in the health and general condition of the
 coolies, I regret to observe from the returns appended to the Immigration Agent's report
 that there has been no increase in the amount of wages earned by them.

*Report by R. H. A. DYETT, Esq., Immigration Agent, upon the coolie immigrants in Nevis, dated
 17th February 1876.*

THE condition of the coolie hospitals during the half-year ended the 31st December 1875
 has been satisfactory. They have been ever ready for the reception of those coolies who were
 in need of medical or surgical aid, and they have been well supplied with bedding and all
 hospital requirements. The ventilation has been well arranged and sufficient, and intelligent
 and attentive nurses have been kept in regular attendance.

The house accommodation of the coolies has proved satisfactory, and I have noticed on
 my frequent visits to the several plantations that the cleanliness of these houses is very
 carefully looked after by the managers.

The general sanitary condition of these labourers has very much improved since the date
 of my last report. The numbers in hospitals at the time of my last general inspection
 (between the 25th and 29th of January last) were as follows, viz. :—

From Hamilton	...	...	...	...	...	3
" Stony Grove	...	...	...	...	...	4
" Farm	...	...	...	...	...	0
" Old Manor	...	...	...	...	...	2
" Fothergill	...	...	...	...	...	1
" Tower Hill	...	...	...	...	...	5
" Clifton	...	...	...	...	...	1
" Round Hill	...	...	...	...	...	2
" Spring Hill	...	...	...	...	...	0

18,

making a total of 18 from 9 estates, or an average of two for each estate.

The annexed tabular statement, compiled from the returns of the medical officers, shows
 the number of cases treated at the coolie hospitals during the half-year ended the 31st
 December 1875 to have been 100, being 98 less than the previous half-year.

Dr. Burke appends to his report a list of those indentured coolies (7 in number) whom
 he considers are physically unable to perform one-fifth part of their daily task, and he also
 points out one who is unfit for any work; but he states that, with these exceptions, the
 coolie labourers are able to perform their daily field task.

Dr. Haggins in his report merely points out the improved sanitary condition of the
 coolies under his supervision, and states that they have been free from any serious illness,
 although the native labourers have been suffering from a very fatal epidemic of dysentery,
 and he attributes this immunity to the attention paid to them and to their dwellings and
 hospitals.

The abstract of the returns of the employers of coolie labour shows that on the 1st of January 1876 there were under indentures in this presidency 284 Indian immigrants, being a decrease by death of only 1 since my last report.

The number of births during the last half-year was 10, as will be shown by the annexed table, while the deaths were only three, being one adult and two infants, making the total number of births during the year 1875, 23, and the total number deaths of during the same period 5, showing an excess of births over deaths of 18.

The annexed table of the wages earned by coolie labourers on the several plantations in Nevis during the last half-year shows the following averages, viz. :—

			s.	d.
On Stony Grove	...	...	3	2
" Hamilton	...	...	2	1
" Farm	...	...	2	10
" Old Manor	...	...	2	9
" Fothergill	...	...	3	4
" Tower Hill	...	...	2	2
" Clifton	...	...	2	6
" Round Hill	...	...	2	2½
" Spring Hill	...	...	2	11½
			£1	4 0,

giving a resultant average of 2s. 8d. for each labourer per week. This calculation does not appear to show a satisfactory state of affairs, but when it is remembered that in making out the table of wages the total earnings of all the coolies are placed in it, and that no difference made between the earnings of the industrious and the indolent, or between those of the strong and the feeble, and since no deduction is allowed for loss of time arising from wet weather, nor for cases where the labourer works for only one or two days and spends the remainder of the week in hospital, it will show a more favourable state of matters than appears upon the first aspect.

That the average coolie labourer is able to fulfil his allotted task and to earn full wages if he pleases is evident, as many of the industrious regularly do so; and not only can they live upon the wages earned, but they are able to save money and to amass property, as may be proved from the fact that they purchase and keep sheep, pigs, goats and poultry, and that there are now owned by coolies in this Island 6 ponies and 4 cows, viz. :—

			Ponies.	Cows.
On Stony Grove	...	...	1	0
" Farm	...	...	1	0
" Old Manor	...	...	1	3
" Fothergill	...	...	2	1
" Round Hill	...	...	1	0
			6	4

On some of the estates there are shops kept by coolies who purchase provisions such as flour, meal, rice, fish, oil and tobacco in quantities, and retail it to the other coolies and to the native labourers on the several estates. On many of the estates the coolies raise a good supply of provisions from the lands allotted to them; their chief products being sweet potatoes, beans, pumpkins, pigeon-peas, Indian-corn and tobacco. But it will be observed that those coolies only who are located on estates remote from town cultivate their grounds in this way. Those residing near the town prefer to spend their earnings in the purchase of food to occupying their leisure hours in the cultivation of gardens.

The general conduct of the Indian immigrants in this presidency is good; their dispositions are cheerful, and their intercourse with the native labourers is, as a rule, of a most amicable character. There has been a marked improvement in their style of dress, and even a tendency to display in this particular is evinced by some of them.

I have been informed by a Clergyman of the Anglican Church here that the parents show a great desire to have their infants baptised, and that many of them are regular and well-behaved attendants at the public services of the church: and my own observation leads me to the opinion that their improvement in conduct and dress and their leaning towards the forms and observances of the Christian religion points to a higher state of civilisation for these people than could perhaps have been expected after so short a residence.

Report of Dr. U. E. BURKE, dated Nevis, February 1876.

In accordance with the provisions of the 9th section of the "Immigration Act," I beg to report that I have examined the dwellings of the coolies indentured on the plantations Round Hill, Spring Hill, Clifton, Tower Hill, Hamilton, Stony Grove and the Farm, also the central hospitals in No. 1 and 2 districts, and I have found the several dwellings in good repair and with due attention to cleanliness.

The hospitals, as I have already reported, are capacious and properly ventilated, and are supplied with good bedding and all hospital requirements. An efficient nurse is attached to each hospital, and all instructions of the medical officer with regard to medical treatment and diet are regularly and rigidly carried out.

The coolie immigrants are much improved in their physical condition since my last report; they appear to be well cared for and contented, and, with the exception of those whose names, are appended to this report, are quite able to perform their daily field task.

There have been no deaths in No. 1 district during the past year. The diseases treated in hospital have been slight cases of intermittent fever, cutaneous affections, and ulcers.

Names of coolies indentured on Tower Hill Plantation, who are physically unable to perform the fifth part of their daily task.

Males.	Females.
Gobobee. Gungoye. Hashamoodin.	Gungia. Kutaye. Peary. Goolgonia.

Name of a coolie indentured on Round Hill Plantation who is physically unable to work.

Female.	Disease.
Foolghurrea	Chronic asthma.

Report of Dr. P. T. HUGGINS, dated Nevis, 16th February 1876.

In this my half-yearly report for December 1875 it gives me much pleasure to bring to your notice the great improvement in the coolies under my immediate supervision—that is, on the estates Fothergill and Old Manor and Indian Castle—in regard to their work and general conduct. The dwellings and hospitals still receive the usual attention from the managers and overseers in regard to their sanitary condition, being scrubbed, white-washed, &c., as usual.

The coolies have been particularly exempt from illness of any serious nature, which will be seen in the annexed report; that no deaths are reported, although I have had in my district a very fatal epidemic of dysentery and fever amongst the natives. This I can only attribute to their dwellings being in good order and their being sent to the hospital on any complaints of feeling ill, which prevents anything serious happening.

Return of cases treated at the coolie hospitals in the Presidency of Nevis during the half-year ended the 31st December 1875.

Bite of dog.	Compunctura.	Chilgoye.	Diarrhoea.	Dysentery.	Fever.	Flooding.	Headache.	Impetigo.	Pain in bowels.	Pain in back.	Rheumatism.	Syphilis.	Toothache.	Ulcers.	Venerable disease.	Yaws.	Cough.	Total number of cases treated.
1	1	1	3	3	39	1	2	7	4	3	5	1	1	17	5	1	5	100

Return of coolies under indenture in the Presidency of Nevis on the 31st day of December 1875.

Names of Plantations.	Names of Employers.	NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.
Stony Grove	Sir T. G. Briggs	25	4	29
Hamilton	"	21	8	29
Round Hill	"	31	10	41
Old Manor and Indian Castle	"	23	4	27
Fothergill	"	19	3	22
Tower Hill	"	21	10	31
Farm	J. Connell, Jr.	10	12	22
Spring Hill	J. Connell	17	11	28
Clifton	Bovell and King	15	4	19
Total		192	66	248

Return of births of children of coolie immigrants in the Presidency of Nevis during the half-year ended 31st December 1875.

Plantations on which born.	No. of births.
Round Hill	2
Farm	2
Spring Hill	2
Tower Hill	2
Stony Grove	2
Total	10

Return of deaths of coolie immigrants in the Presidency of Nevis during the half-year ended 31st December 1875.

Estates on which deaths occurred.	NUMBER OF DEATHS.		
	Adults.	Minors.	Total.
Spring Hill	0	1	1
Clifton	1	0	1
Tower Hill	0	1	1
Total	1	2	3

Return showing the wages earned by indentured coolie labourers in the Presidency of Nevis during the half-year ended 31st December 1875.

1875. WEEK ENDING	HAMILTON.		STONY GROVE.		FARM.		OLD MANOR.		FOTHERGILL.		TOWER HILL.		CLIFTON.		ROUND HILL.		SPRING HILL.												
	No. of coolies.	Wages earned.	No. of coolies.	Wages earned.	No. of coolies.	Wages earned.	No. of coolies.	Wages earned.	No. of coolies.	Wages earned.	No. of coolies.	Wages earned.	No. of coolies.	Wages earned.	No. of coolies.	Wages earned.	No. of coolies.	Wages earned.											
July	9	24	16	64	55	22	89	26	12	70	21	17	76	25	13	69	24	16	89	28	16	73							
	16	23	17	56	29	20	99	19	15	94	21	18	15	26	14	54	24	21	70	24	21	70							
	23	24	11	82	24	19	68	74	26	44	21	12	94	28	15	64	16	19	66	23	17	76							
	30	23	14	40	23	22	37	59	16	84	16	14	32	21	12	96	29	15	74	27	23	74							
August	6	26	11	26	27	16	11	14	15	24	21	14	23	21	14	81	17	22	88	17	86	26	16	84					
	13	21	11	88	27	15	24	59	17	18	22	19	56	20	11	62	21	16	92	29	27	26	24	92					
	20	26	11	58	26	16	09	21	13	69	23	17	94	29	19	80	29	15	76	33	24	14	28	18	62				
	27	23	12	48	28	22	55	12	12	54	14	7	00	29	13	93	18	11	40	33	15	42	27	16	09				
September	4	25	14	56	27	21	63	41	14	18	22	17	64	18	8	56	39	15	43	19	12	84	27	22	69				
	11	24	10	92	27	18	92	21	14	19	24	15	48	18	10	48	27	14	99	19	11	29	84	17	64				
	18	24	12	82	28	19	37	21	16	65	13	37	13	10	84	29	17	55	19	9	39	35	19	76	23	22	82		
	25	27	11	64	25	20	17	...	...	...	11	86	29	16	77	18	9	29	39	15	40	26	17	52	27	52			
October	2	26	14	26	27	29	72	...	24	15	56	29	13	32	29	13	43	14	11	54	33	20	92	25	20	80			
	9	27	14	72	27	24	64	...	21	17	64	29	13	29	57	11	84	11	7	92	37	17	42	23	14	34			
	16	20	14	84	26	29	68	...	21	12	84	19	13	59	28	13	36	14	3	64	34	13	12	26	11	92			
	23	26	12	88	24	16	78	18	11	79	24	15	94	19	11	52	25	13	68	17	11	88	33	12	60	18	14		
November	30	25	14	80	24	15	29	12	16	33	27	14	80	19	12	63	21	13	81	18	7	83	23	19	11	42	15	26	
	6	26	14	88	26	19	50	10	15	29	24	17	18	20	12	56	29	14	67	18	8	92	30	12	11	23	17	56	
	13	29	15	64	27	21	83	19	15	83	27	13	64	28	18	67	18	10	40	30	15	85	35	15	25	15	25		
	20	27	14	16	37	25	42	19	12	94	22	21	16	84	27	14	63	18	9	13	31	16	37	21	15	32			
December	27	28	14	90	29	17	47	20	19	56	29	16	94	20	13	92	29	16	61	16	12	85	30	15	62	23	16	82	
	4	29	14	10	24	23	63	29	15	24	29	14	46	19	14	63	28	15	13	17	9	73	30	14	93	24	15	83	
	11	23	13	66	25	23	45	19	13	76	23	16	32	21	12	62	28	14	60	16	10	83	22	60	23	17	70		
	18	23	13	66	26	16	38	10	13	74	24	15	62	21	14	61	23	15	43	15	7	92	34	31	01	23	19	94	
	24	29	9	84	28	14	23	14	72	26	13	68	24	14	51	21	14	65	27	11	47	9	20	51	17	12	24	10	38
	31	39	3	60	25	13	46	24	10	73	24	13	62	27	16	20	11	3	82	36	8	78	29	9	69	29	9	69	
		670	341	49	685	314	13	423	329	68	594	285	59	510	342	67	735	377	70	442	293	59	573	468	47	64	493	19	

1876
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

EMIGRATION.

FROM
H. M.'S SECY. OF STATE FOR INDIA.

No. 56.

Dated 18th May } 1876.
Recd. 10th June }

SUBJECT.

IN continuation of despatch No. 140 of 1875, for-
wards for information copy of a despatch from
the Governor of the Leeward Islands, enclosing
the report, with its enclosures, of the Immigra-
tion Agent of Nevis for the second-half of 1875.

Copy forwarded for information to the Government of Madras in continuation of the Government of India
this office. No 20 dated the 11th January last.

Office of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce
Calcutta, the 5th August 1876

No 220 (Emigration)

(By order)

(Signed) Chas. Fox. Esq. R. Esq.
Under Secretary to the Government of India.



2090
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Order thereon 17th August 1876. No. 941

Communicated to the
Protector of Emigrants.

(True Extract)

W. H. Lawrence Esq. Colonel
Off. Under Secretary to Govt. of India
for Chief Secretary.

I.

The Protector of Emigrants
The Consular Agent Pondicherry
— De — Karikal
The Revenue Department S. M.
The Board of Revenue.

Dec: 1876. 244

Dear Annie Deak!

254

Data 17th
 Dec 23rd } Day 196

Miss Hutchinson
of 41, Madison in a letter from
Aug. 18th says copy of our paper
the Evening of the Standard Herald
reaching April 6 during vacation of
of Davis for 22 Aug 6 1875

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Book

22 August 1896

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
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