

(1) Number of pages 14

(2) Date of repair 28 2 20

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rw DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<u>2280</u>	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	<u>30.9.1876</u>	196

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6. On the whole the deaths at sea appear to have been remarkably few; no disaster of any kind occurred, and no complaints except of the most trifling character were made. These results generally appear to reflect credit upon the arrangements made in India, and on board the several vessels, to secure the health and comfort of the emigrants.

7. The return marked B in the appendix shows the distribution of the indentured immigrants and also the births and deaths on each estate; out of an aggregate of 5,374 souls allotted, 248 deaths or 4.1 per cent. occurred in eighteen months, say 2.7 per cent. per annum. I would submit that considering the sudden change of climate, diet, habits, and occupation to which these people are subjected on their first arrival, this rate cannot be called otherwise than very moderate. It will be certainly improved as they become acclimatized and accustomed to the life and work, a marked improvement in their health and appearance will take place, and a corresponding decrease in the rate of mortality will be the result.

During the same period only 106 births were reported among the indentured immigrants. This number is no doubt much below the reality, and steps have been taken to secure more regular reports being made in future.

Time-expired Indian immigrants.

9. Prior to 1873 there was no provision for securing accurate returns of births and deaths of Indians whose period of indenture had expired, but the numbers in the colony were carefully estimated at the close of 1872 as follows, and the figures may be regarded as closely approximate:—

Males	...	...	...	...	3,684
Females	...	...	...	...	1,709
Total	...	...	...	...	5,393

10. The deaths of time-expired Indians registered during the three years 1873, 1874 and 1875—

Men	...	...	...	...	125
Women	...	...	...	...	64
Boys	...	...	...	...	26
Girls	...	...	...	...	30
Total	...	...	...	...	245

or 1.5 per cent. per annum.

During the same period births were registered of—

Boys	...	...	...	...	138
Girls	...	...	...	...	142
Total	...	...	...	...	280

11. The following statement shows the numbers of time-expired immigrants sent back to India in 1873, 1874 and 1875:—

Ship.	Date of sailing.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Umbla	...	...	...	263
Ailes	...	...	...	304
Ganges	...	...	...	530
(1873—Nil)	...	...	...	1,097

I am unable to give the numbers landed in India; but no disaster of any kind occurred, and no extraordinary sickness or complaints have been brought to notice.

12. The following abstract shows in detail the increase and decrease of the Indian population since 1872, and the numbers now in the colony, exclusive of 249 who have obtained licenses to proceed into the interior to the Diamond Fields and other South African settlements:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Estimated number in 1872	...	1,709	5,393
Arrived in 1874	...	1,279	3,708
" 1875	...	562	2,266
Born in the colony	...	190	386
Returned to India, 1873-75	705	392	1,097
Deaths reported, "	330	163	493
Left the colony	228	21	249
	1,263	576	1,839
Approximate number in the colony, 31st December 1875	6,750	3,164	9,914

13. With the view of removing the great difficulty which had been found to exist in proving the validity of Indian marriages in our Courts, the Commission of 1872 recommended the formation of a register distinguishing the married women from others, that all past marriages so registered should be held valid, and that thereafter the registration of marriages should be held to be compulsory and necessary to secure their validity. This recommendation was adopted and led to the passing of Laws 13 and 14 of Law XII of 1872. In accordance with the provisions of that law, registers were opened early in 1873, and with the best effect, as will be hereafter seen.

14. The first step was to have the provisions of the new law, together with a brief explanation of its objects, translated into the current Indian languages.* Copies were made and circulated as widely as possible among the Indian communities. One or more copies were sent to each estate, and the contents were read to the assembled gangs by the "sirdar." It was then arranged that the Protector with his clerk would visit certain central places on days duly named, and employers were requested to permit those who wished to do so, among their Indian work-people, to attend for the purpose of the registration.

15. The eagerness with which they flocked to meet the Protector, on the days fixed, gave most satisfactory proof that the proposed measure was acceptable to, and approved by, the Indian community, and it must be added that the movement was generally encouraged by employers. It had been generally declared, and in each instance it was carefully explained, that no one would be registered as "married" without the full and free consent of both man and woman, and that every marriage when so registered would thereafter be held valid and indissoluble. The result was that in the first two months 826 names were registered, and on the 31st December 1875 the register exhibited the following returns:—

Women registered as married	...	1,539
" " single	...	697
Women living in concubinage	...	56
Total	...	2,292

Those entered as "single" include many aged widows and respectable persons, but the majority are no doubt dissolute and abandoned characters.

16. It is not of course supposed that registration has put a stop to adultery among the Indians, but it at least affords the means of establishing the validity of their marriages, and thereby facilitates prosecution for adultery if committed. The best effect however is that it has certainly raised the women as a class; it has given married women a proper status; making them respectable in the eyes of the men, and thereby raising their own self-respect.

Under section 18, Law XII of 1872, the Protector has power to investigate complaints of adultery and seduction, and to adjudge that the adulterer or seducer be fined the sum of ten pounds (neither more nor less) and be imprisoned for any period not exceeding 30 days, and, at discretion, receive a whipping not exceeding any lashes. The wife convicted of adultery may also be imprisoned without labour for any period not exceeding one month.

The return marked C shows the cases adjudicated under this section from the passing of the law to 31st December 1875.

18. I have always held that the Protector has no power to cancel any marriage once registered, or to grant a divorce; but this was not the opinion of the late Acting Protector of Immigrants, Mr. H. C. Shepstone, who granted divorces in four or five cases during his incumbency of office.

I have, notwithstanding, refused all applications since made. Legislation on the subject will no doubt become necessary by and-by, but I am inclined to think that at present it is not advisable.

19. During the latter part of 1874 and early part of 1875 the estates were visited by the Acting Protectors, Captain Elton and Mr. Shepstone. In June 1875 I resumed office, and in July, August and September made a tour of careful inspection.

20. As the majority of the immigrants come from Bengal and Northern India, I was able to dispense entirely with an interpreter, and my visits were made alone and frequently without any warning of my approach. I had thus the best opportunity of ascertaining the true condition of the people under my charge. In crossing the country, too, from one estate to another, I had frequent conversation with Indians whom I met accidentally, and thus learned from independent sources many circumstances connected with them, which I should probably otherwise never have heard of. In such way-side talks too, the true value of statements made to me by others, was often ascertained by the independent testimony of neighbours disinterested and well acquainted with the occurrences and general opinions of the locality.

21. General complaints by servants against their masters were remarkably few, and there were none that require special remark. I am quite convinced that, as a rule, the immigrants are well and kindly treated. It would in fact be impossible that it should be otherwise, where the demand for labour is so great and the interests of the employers are so largely concerned in the well-being of their work-people. If there are occasional instances of a hasty blow or abusive language, they are really rare, and the Indians knowing that redress can certainly be obtained are but too ready to complain.

22. Wages are universally paid monthly, and I have reason to think that this is everywhere preferred alike by employers and employed to more frequent payments. The rates of wages of the indentured Indians are from 10s. to 14s. per month with food and lodging; those of time-expired men vary according to agreement; skilled hands earn from £3 to £5 per mensem; ordinary labourers from 18s. to 25s., besides rations and lodging according to circumstances. No complaints of non-payment or of irregular payments were anywhere made. The wages books, except in three instances, were kept in the prescribed form. As regards deductions for unlawful absence and on account of sickness, there was some misunderstanding of the law, but in all these cases I found that the deductions actually made were less than would have been warranted by law.

23. The scale of deductions fixed by section 29, Law II of 1870, involved the keeping of accounts of complicated fractions, difficult for the overseers to compute, and impossible to explain satisfactorily to Indian peasants, ignorant of the English language, and unfamiliar with the value of English money; while to make matters still worse the lowest coin in general use throughout the colony is the silver three-penny piece; for though pence and half-pence are a legal tender, there is practically no copper coinage in general circulation. These reasons induced me to recommend the changes of the law in this respect, which were effected by the enactment of Law XIV of 1875, regarding which full reports have already been supplied.

24. I found on several estates that no deductions are made, although lawful, in cases of real illness, and no deductions are made for illness on Sundays and holidays.

No ordinary labour is exacted on Sundays, and an extra allowance for the case of domestic duties and for other work necessary to be done on that day is very generally given.

25. The usual hours of labour are from soon after sun-rise to sun-set, with intervals for breakfast and dinner; overtime is always paid for, and is not compulsory. Some few complaints were made to me about long working hours, but none of such a nature as to deserve special mention; and in all cases I found the employers reasonable and anxious to act fairly and equitably.

26. The whole system of medical attendance and hospital management having been recently revised and amended by the enactment of Law XIV of 1875, it is unnecessary to dwell upon the subject in this report. The new arrangements will take place and effect from the 1st April next, and I am sanguine enough to anticipate the best results from them. The defects of the present system are undeniable, but fortunately the climate of the colony seems to be congenial, in a remarkable degree, to the constitution of Indians, and disease in the nature of any epidemic may be said to have been hitherto unknown among those here.

27. Many of the new arrivals suffer from the painful ulcers known as "Natal sores," but with care and treatment recovery, though sometimes very tedious, is certain.

Veneral disease it is to be feared is very prevalent. The establishment of the proposed hospitals, and the constant medical attendance that will shortly be made available, will afford the means of mitigating in some degree at least this terrible scourge.

Small-pox is unknown; and notwithstanding the alarm on the *Blenheim* already alluded to, I venture to assert that cholera has never yet appeared in Natal.

General condition of Indian population.

28. The indentured immigrants are divided amongst estates situated in the counties of Victoria, Durham and Alexandra. These estates extend along the sea-board and occupy a tract of about one hundred miles in length, with an average breadth of perhaps ten or twelve miles. Almost all these estates are now cultivated for the growth of sugarcane, the growth of coffee having been nearly abandoned. In regard to climate and proximity to the sea, therefore, the Indian population is most favourably situated. No doubt during the first year after their arrival fresh immigrants suffer much from home sickness and from the feeling of utter strangeness* which must be inseparable from their situation; but habit is second nature. The physical economy becomes reconciled to the change of climate of food and of occupation; muscle is developed; and long before the five years of indenture has expired, the emaciated and perhaps half-starved lad who arrived here has become an active strong man,—far more energetic and capable of much greater physical exertion than he would probably ever have been in India under the most favourable circumstances.

29. In this colony the Indian immigrants are indeed bound by their indentures for five years, but if steady and at all thrifty they may (and very many do) both save and make money. On almost all estates they are allowed small garden plots and are encouraged in the growth of vegetables, tobacco, fruit, condiments, &c., and also to keep poultry, which they consume themselves; or, should they so desire, a ready market is at hand.

30. On the expiration of the five years' indenture, the immigrant becomes free in every sense. He is free to reside where he likes within the colony, free to work where he likes or not to work at all, if he prefers not to do so. He is absolutely free from taxes or imposts of any kind, unless he purchases imported commodities subject to the customs tariff. He is in fact free in every sense of the word, except that he is not allowed to leave the colony without a license. If he chooses to pay his own passage to India, he is free to return to his home. If he prefers to leave the colony in any other direction—north, south, east, or west—he is allowed to do so on his abandoning his claim to a gratuitous passage to India, which he would otherwise be entitled to on the expiration of his term of ten years' residence in the colony.

31. It may be generally stated that while between seven and eight thousand are employed on the estates along the coast, the remainder are scattered over the colony in various capacities, as domestic servants, traders, store-keepers, market gardeners, boatmen, fishermen, &c. The Indians still enjoy almost a monopoly of the fish trade, and a very large proportion of the vegetables, and not a little of the fruit, consumed by the Europeans in the towns of Maritzburg and Durban, is grown by them. They are rapidly acquiring land, and many are now competing with their former masters in agricultural pursuits.

32. The Chairman of the Victoria County Planters' Association writing on the 20th December last, says: "I am glad to say that the increasing number of free coolies now renting land will keep many of them here as useful and enterprising colonists." I am of opinion that the coolies hold over 1,000 acres of land in the Manda Division alone; they pay an average of £1 per acre per annum, and are most industrious, working morning, noon and night.

* NOTE.—I found that the recently arrived immigrants were generally most anxious for news from their homes, none having, so far as I could learn, reached them since leaving India. I made a point of explaining the social arrangements between this and India. I also addressed the circles, of which copy is enclosed, to employers, who have all promised to help.

33. There is good reason to believe that if any Crown lands were now available near a market many would gladly exchange their free passage home for a few acres granted in fee-simple, and I have already brought this subject to notice.

34. If further proof be necessary that the colony of Natal is suitable and agreeable to emigrants from India, it may be found in the numbers that remain after their period of service is complete, and in the fact that when despatching the *Umote*, a well-known and favourite vessel in February last, although there were 4,086 immigrants entitled to return passage, and 400 applications for berths had been registered, only 176 would avail themselves of the opportunity, and eventually the vessel sailed with 36 less than she was chartered to carry.

35. The necessity of providing means of educating the large number of Indian children now in the colony has been frequently urged. There cannot now be less than 3,000 boys and girls for whom schools are required, and the number is fast increasing. The special difficulty which everywhere presents itself is that of obtaining qualified teachers for schools on estates and providing their salaries. It is impossible to over-estimate the importance of this subject; but as I am aware that the whole question of education in the colony will shortly come under the consideration of the Government, it seems unnecessary to take His Excellency's time by further remarks here.

36. It is satisfactory to record that the salary of the Indian interpreters to the Magistrates' Courts were raised by a vote of the Legislature on the estimates for 1876 from £60 to £120 per annum, and that a correspondence is in progress between this Department and the Agent in Calcutta on the subject of procuring persons qualified for the situations.

37. I cannot conclude this report for the length of which I must apologize) without bringing to the notice of Government the valuable services of Mr. L. H. Mason, Assistant to the Protector of Immigrants, to whose ability, zeal and assiduity much of the successful working of the department, in my own frequent absence, is due.

Mr. F. Colepeper, second clerk, has also been most attentive to his duties and has given me every satisfaction.

A.

Return of deaths of indentured Indian immigrants since arrival of first ship "Jason" in June 1874 to 31st December 1875.

SHIP.	ARRIVED.	EMBARKED.					DIED AT SEA.					BORN AT SEA.					LANDED.					DEATHS IN THE COLONY.				
		Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.				
Jason	...	343	183	44	32	42	629	2	1	2	4	5	14	1	2	3	341 Boy 1	167	41	28	40	618	17	6	4	33
Blenheim	...	363	167	52	54	53	632	4	7	2	5	7	25	1	1	2	359	160	50	49	51	669	13	2	4	24
Alma	...	272	118	42	33	37	502	...	2	...	...	2	4	1	...	1	272	116	42	33	36	499	11	1	2	16
Wilcocks	...	242	97	34	22	23	418	1	...	3	...	1	5	...	2	2	241	...	31	22	24	415	11	1	8	24
Enmore	...	296	188	63	30	50	627	1	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	295	188	63	50	49	624	9	7	1	21
Blenheim	...	385	165	51	24	38	663	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	385	165	51	24	37	662	20	8	7	38
Umote	...	111	67	15	10	19	222	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	111	67	15	10	18	221	4	1	1	7
Enmore	...	860	140	48	21	31	1000	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	3	856	140	47	21	34	1000	17	7	2	27
Plasi	...	406	129	53	23	37	648	1	...	...	...	1	2	1	1	2	403	129	53	23	38	648	19	6	4	29
Peterborough	...	461	114	26	15	23	639	5	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	456	114	26	15	23	634	11	3	2	19
Gainsboro	...	288	54	21	6	16	385	2	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	286	54	21	6	1	382	11	2	...	13
TOTAL	...	3,527	1,407	449	270	372	6,025	16	10	8	16	3	61	7	13	13	3,512	1,397	440	260	365	5,974	143	44	97	24

One boy, ex Jason allotted as full adult.
One woman ex Alma entered on ship's list as male adult.

IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT,
DURBAN, NATAL;
27th January 1876.

(Sd.) R. E. LLOYD,
Protector of Immigrants.

2286
A

Return of Births and Deaths in the Colony of indentured Indian immigrants since the arrival of the first Ship "Jason" in June 1874 to 31st December 1875.

Estate where employed.	TOTAL NUMBER ALLOTTED.						DEATHS.						Buried.
	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	
Urushanga Valley Co.	234	102	27	26	27	416	8	4	1	1	...	14	6
Trenance	60	24	13	6	11	114	2	2	1	...	...	3	2
Riverton	20	10	7	2	2	41	...	...	...	1	...	3	6
Sacebartin Hill	40	18	6	2	2	68	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Clare	79	35	12	6	7	139	...	...	...	1	...	6	5
Colonization Co.	150	76	24	22	23	295	5	...	...	...	...	32	1
Glasgow Natal Co.	450	126	39	17	18	650	23	6	1	...	...	15	2
Redcliffe	150	73	19	16	24	282	10	2	...	2	1	4	7
Prospect Hall	89	37	10	12	15	163	2	1	...	...	...	6	6
Waterloo	98	49	21	7	18	193	6	...	2	...	...	2	4
Meadow Bank	81	34	10	6	8	139	1	1	...	...	...	2	2
River Prospect	...	...	...	...	...	62	1	...	...	...	...	2	3
Cato Manor	...	...	...	...	...	61	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Spring Vale	...	...	...	...	...	68	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Milkuror Kreal	...	...	...	...	...	11	160	1	1	...	...	1	8
Réunion	172	68	21	14	18	293	5	2	1	2	3	23	9
Umgeni Sugar Co.	344	101	46	23	38	644	15	5	...	1	...	4	1
Berkeley	20	12	5	1	2	40	2	...	1	...	...	3	...
Muckle Nenk	30	14	4	4	7	59	2	1	...	...	...	...	5
Natsworth	6	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	3	8
Ottawa	65	26	8	2	4	105	3	...	...	...	...	1	2
Oakford	98	65	22	10	12	197	3	...	...	...	...	8	2
North Bank	17	9	2	2	3	33	1	...	2	1	2	8	1
Kearney	43	19	10	5	9	86	2	1	...	...	...	3	1
Michelham	20	13	5	3	4	45	1	3	...	1	...	...	3
Rose Hill (Avoca)	24	11	2	1	4	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Prospect	4	3	3	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	6	15	9
Natal Plantation Co.	222	79	21	11	23	356	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
Killarney Isles	4	2	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Eginfa	83	21	8	4	7	123	2	1	...	...	...	1	3
Southburn	29	15	2	1	2	49	1	...	...	...	...	2	...
The Grange	20	15	2	4	2	43	1	1	...	...	...	1	1
Bishopstoke	20	6	...	1	1	28	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Rose Hill (Umgeni)	10	5	1	...	1	17	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Ocean View	10	5	...	...	2	17	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Attercliffe	10	4	2	...	...	16	1	1	...	...	...	1	...
Igaga	20	4	...	...	1	25	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abergeni Sugar Co.	39	9	4	1	3	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Woodlands (Umgeni)	26	10	1	...	3	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Kirkley Vale	3	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Clifton	10	6	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Woodlands (Umgeni)	20	6	...	...	2	28	1	1	...	...	...	2	...
Virginia	68	25	7	2	6	108	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Restalrigg	11	4	2	1	2	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madgville	17	5	2	4	3	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Belmont	11	3	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Corumbia	2	1	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
S. Hill and Co.	17	4	...	1	1	23	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
F. B. Cotton	10	3	...	...	...	13	1	...	...	...	...	4	...
R. Wilhelm	6	4	2	...	...	12	2	1	1	...	...	7	...
Railway Co.	100	38	11	5	4	158	6	1	1	...	...	12	...
Henry Viner	122	42	19	7	13	203	10	1	1	...	...	1	...
Josiah Hervey	15	8	2	...	2	27	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
F. Lella	5	4	...	1	1	11	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
W. Green	2	1	...	...	1	4	...	1	...	...	...	7	...
Durban Corporation	83	27	10	3	2	125	5	2	...	...	...	...	...
Hospital	5	1	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Civil Engineer	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mugeni Wool Works	15	9	1	1	1	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
H. Scambo	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
E. Collard	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
C. Porall	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
H. Pepworth	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
G. Rutherford, Junior	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
W. Queter	10	6	...	1	1	18	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trustees (late J. C. Blanney)	6	5	2	...	3	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
N. Abboyes	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Return of Births and Deaths in the Colony of indentured Indian immigrants since the arrival of the first Ship "Jason" in June 1874 to 31st December 1875—(continue.)

Estate where employed.	TOTAL NUMBER ALLOTTED.						DEATHS.						Buried.
	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.	
J. Gonsalves	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdool Luttiff	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
J. Bamboo Naidoo	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mahomed Hossain	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
E. Molhere	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
F. Hathome	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
F. Colepeper	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
J. A. Rugeiman	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
R. Edmonstone	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
E. Hooper	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Jane McArthur	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
R. H. N. Fisher	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sageewun (coolie)	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arrived as passenger	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unalotted, died in depot and hospital	2	3	1	1	3	10	2	3	1	1	3	10	...
TOTAL	3,512	1,397	440	260	365	5,974	143	44	13	11	37	248	106

IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT,
DURBAN, NATAL;
27th January 1876.

(Sd.) B. P. LLOYD,
Protector of Immigrants.

Return of cases in which Indians were concerned, decided by the Protector of Immigrants under Master and Servants Ordinance for the years 1873, 1874 and 1875.

Nature of cases.	Number of cases.	Number of cases decided in favour of plaintiff.	Number of cases decided in favour of defendant.	Number of cases withdrawn or amply settled out of Court.	Total number of cases.	REMARKS.
Desertion	32	14	3	15	33	
Refusing to work	6	4	...	2	...	
Unlawful absence	6	6	...	...	...	
Gross misconduct	2	2	...	...	2	
Ill-usage	3	2	1	...	3	
Insufficient food	1	...	1	...	1	
Assault	2	2	...	...	2	
Detention of certificate	4	...	2	...	4	
Claim for wages	4	1	3	...	4	
Drunk and disorderly	1	1	...	...	1	
Creating a disturbance	2	2	...	...	2	

PROTECTOR'S OFFICE,
DURBAN, NATAL;
2nd March 1876.

(Sd.) B. P. LLOYD,
Protector of Immigrants.

Return of cases decided by the Protector of Immigrants in which Indians were concerned under Section 18, Law 12, 1872, for the years 1873, 1874 and 1875.

Name of Case	Number of Cases	Number of cases in which conviction was obtained	Number of cases in which flagging was ordered	Number of cases in which withdrawn or amply settled out of Court	Number of cases in which the wife or girl was punished	Total number of cases	REMARKS
Adultery	22	10	5	2	4	23	
Attempt at seduction	1	...	...	...	1	1	
Separation	2	1	1	...	...	2	

PROTECTOR OF IMMIGRANTS

2nd Class

(Sd.) B. P. LLOYD,

Protector of Immigrants.

Circular, dated Durban, the 30th September 1875.

From—COLONEL B. P. LLOYD, Protector of Immigrants, Natal,
To—The Employers of Indentured Indian Immigrants.

It has come to notice that many of the indentured Indian immigrants are most anxious to correspond with their friends in India, but have hitherto neither forwarded nor received any letters. The immigrants here are ignorant of the mode of sending letters to India, and their addresses in Natal are unknown to their friends in India. I venture to say that they will be found very grateful for any assistance that may be rendered to them in forwarding letters, and I suggest the following plan:—

The envelope should be addressed, in English, in the following form:—

At Zanzibar and Aden.

To

Village

Thannah or Police Station

Zillah

Bengal Presidency, India.

The address should be written in Indian characters on the reverse of the envelope.

A second and smaller envelope, bearing the full address in Natal and number of the sender should be enclosed for the use of the correspondent in India, in replying.

The postage of letters weighing under a quarter of an ounce, *via* Zanzibar to India, is one shilling, and this will of course have to be paid by the sender of the letter.

Minute by SIR T. W. C. MURDOCH, dated the 23rd June 1876.

COLONEL LLOYD's report on Indian immigrants in Natal is for 1874 and 1875. The number introduced between 26th June 1874 and 1st May 1875 was 5,974. The deaths on the voyage 64, equal to a mortality of 1.05 per cent. The deaths on estates during the first 18 months after allotment were at the rate of 4.1 per cent, or about 2.7 per cent. per annum.

This is not a large mortality; but it is much larger than that shown in Governor Keate's despatch of 20th September 1867, which was so small as to be incredible. Colonel Lloyd says that before 1873 there was no provision for securing accurate returns of births and deaths, which is no doubt the explanation of Governor Keate's return. It is, however, satisfactory to find that the returns obtained since that date give a rate of mortality of only 1.5 per cent. per annum, which is very small.

The number of Indians who went back to India in 1873-74 and 1875 was 1,097. The whole number now in the colony is 9,914, of whom 6,750 are males and 3,164 females. The females are therefore 46.87 per cent. of the males. Measures having been taken to make

known the Law of 1872 for the registration of marriages, the Indians eagerly availed themselves of it, and before 31st December 1875, 1,539 women were registered as married. This it is said raises the position of the women and increases their self-respect. Colonel Lloyd from his knowledge of the Indian language was able to visit the natives without an interpreter, which enabled him to ascertain accurately the condition of the labourers. His conclusion is that, as a rule, they are well and kindly treated; wages are 10s. to 14s. a month; indentured immigrants get from 10s. to 14s. a month with 10s. to 14s. with rations and lodging. No complaints were made to him of non-payment of wages. The immigrants are almost exclusively employed on the sea-board estates in the cultivation of sugar. They are generally allowed gardens, for the produce of which there is a ready sale. At the end of five years they are free, and the number who rent land and are engaged in settling in the colony is increasing. If Crown land were available, they would give up their return passage for the grant of a few acres. Thus, in February last, when a return ship was despatched, there were in the colony 4,086 entitled to return passages, and 490 had applied for them. Eventually however only 176 embarked.

The question of education is said to be under consideration.

This report is satisfactory and interesting. It shows that Natal is well supplied with Indian emigrants, and that their value is appreciated by the planters. The number of the settlers who take advantage of their service is small. There is nothing to be done on the report beyond sending it to the India Office, for which purpose Colonel Lloyd says he has furnished a duplicate copy.

1876
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

EMIGRATION.

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

N. 253 No. 84.

Dated 20th July }
Recd. 14th Aug } 1876.

SUBJECT.

FORWARDS for information copy of a report by the
Protector of Immigrants in Natal for 1874
and 1875, together with a minute thereon
by the Chairman of the Immigration Commis-
sioners.

P. Sims-29-5-76-109.

part of the ...
and Committee ...
in the ...

Copy forwarded to the
Government of Madras for
information.

Signed C. S. Lyall.
Under Secy to the Govt of India.

Recd. thereon 22 September 1876.

Copy forwarded to the
Protector of Immigrants.
Enc. Extract.
Wm. H. Cole
Copy Under Secy to the
for Chief Secy.

The Protector of Immigrants
Revenue Department

communicated to the ...

N. 4053

Rev. 1876 Dept

Pro. Public Dept

N. 1054.

Sats 22nd }
Recd 30th } Sep 76

2286

Inug copy of Proc of
for of India on report by P. K. K. K.
of Emigrants in Natal for 1874 & 75
with minute thereon by Chairman of the
Emigration Commission

do 2286

Communicated to the Board
of Revenue

20 September 1876

Dated

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Not to be folded or roughly handled