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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2356	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	27-4-1877	197-

R.R.
Not to be folded or roughly handled.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

17th April 1877, No. 516.

Emigration.

Read the following paper:—

No. 90. *From the Honorable the Colonial Secretary of Colombo, to the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated 29th March 1877, No. 33.*

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, No. 260, which I may mention was received here only on the 20th instant.

2. I am to acquaint you, in reply, for the information of His Grace the Governor of Madras, that the number of immigrants arriving from the coast this year has been far in excess of the average, while there has been a corresponding diminution in the number of departures. The labor market in Ceylon is in consequence very fully stocked, but owing to the measures taken by Government to relieve the destitute on arrival, and to the largeness of the present crop having enabled the coffee planters to employ an ample force of labor on their estates, distress has not up to this made itself felt, and it has not yet been necessary for Government to provide relief works. A considerable proportion of the estate labor will be paid off next month, and it is anticipated that but a small proportion will return to the coast owing to the distress that at present prevails there. There will thus be a large number for whom this Government will have to find employment on public works, and it is not improbable that relief works may have to be undertaken.

3. Under these circumstances the Lieutenant-Governor considers that further emigration should not be encouraged at present, and that at all events intending immigrants who propose to come over, not to work on estates for which they may have been engaged, but to avoid the task they are required to perform on relief works in India, should be informed that they can expect no more than a bare subsistence here.

4. His Excellency desires me to add that, after conferring with the Superintendent of Immigration when on a recent visit to Paumben, he despatched the Assistant Agent of Mannar to Madura to explain to the Collector at that station the present state and the prospects of the Ceylon labor market.

5. As regards quarantine I am to state that it has been established only in Negombo, Kalpentyu, Colombo, and the ports south of Colombo from which the routes to the Coffee Districts are thickly populated, and that the Paumben route is and will be left free, the population being sparse and the Government having the means at its command in the machinery of the immigration service to deal effectually with any outbreak of disease along that line.

6. I am to add that quarantine was established here only after several cases of cholera had been removed from native vessels to the Cholera Hospitals, and that it is absolutely necessary to maintain it for the present in the interests of the native population who have suffered severely from cholera introduced by the coolies along

several lines of immigration. It is undoubtedly the case that the Quarantine Regulations have incidentally tended to check the influx of destitute immigrants, but no records can be found here of any vessel having returned from Ceylon without landing the coolies on board.

No. 91.

ORDER THEREON, 17th April 1877, No. 516.

Ordered that this letter be communicated to the Collector of Madura, who will give due publicity to its contents, taking care to make it clearly understood that it is done at the instance of the Ceylon Government.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Offg. Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Madura.
" Board of Revenue.
" Revenue Department. ✓

Ed. J. Wright.

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PUBLIC.

To THE COLLECTOR OF MADRAS.

For

As

Dated April 17th.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, No. 511.

APRIL.
Nos. 90-91.

Enquiry. — Communicating, with certain instructions, letter from Colonial Secretary, Colombo, reporting on the large number of immigrants and their mode of subsistence, as well as on the subject of the introduction of quarantine at certain seasons in that country.

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Logan

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