

EAST AFR. PROT.

N^o 21137

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PRINTED FOR PARLIAMENT
Cd. 5194 JUNE 1900.

Indian Immigration

In my opinion of the ... as regards the ...
available and ... of application of ...
labour ... of ...

(Minister)

Mr. Keble

1/2 ...
1/2 ...
1/2 ...
1/2 ...

The Council of boards is on the
whole opposed to the immigration
of Indians on ... of the terrible
at all ... when the ... becomes
self-governing ...
is ... long ...
with no ...
more ...
not go to meet that trouble

W. Keble 15/6

W. Keble 15/6
1876

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The Governor of the East African Protectorate

The Secretary of State

I have the honor

21137	88
Governor of the East African Protectorate	
Nairobi, 14 June 1910	



PRINTED FOR PARLIAMENT
Cd. 5194 JUNE 1910

In continuation of this office despatch No. 200 of the 1909-1910 year, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a minute by the Secretary of State on the general question of unassisted Indian immigration.

As soon as funds available during the year for such immigration, and which will be the result, shall be available, the applications for indentured labour which are being received from the West Indies:

Respectfully,
The Secretary of State

For the Governor

[Signature]

1137/16

INDIAN IRRIGATION

I have lately been reading through a file of reports relating to Indian Irrigation.

After having viewed various opinions the Inspector's Commissioner appointed a committee to make proposals regarding the terms under which Indians should be invited to settle in the "proposed" areas.

The committee, consisting of Mr. J. G. Ainsworth, Mr. W. H. Wright, and Mr. G. H. G. sent its report to the Commissioner with Local Officer's No. 870 dated 24th July 1906. The proposals made were briefly as follows:-

- (1) Resettlement areas should be marked out in places between the coast and the sea, and between Port Jervis and the Lake, and land allotted to them on the Village Community System.
- (2) Each settler to receive 20 acres, providing 100 acres. At least 20 acres to be brought under cultivation in three years before resettled area was to be taken up. Price of land to be Rs. 2/ per acre outside the Railway zone.
- (3) Land to be free of taxation for 5 years, after that the "Financial System of Permanent Settlement" to be in force.
- (4) Irrigation works where practicable to be carried out by Government, and a charge made for water used.
- (5) Following assistance to be given to each settler:-
 - (a) Advance for settler and family with food from day to place of settlement.
 - (b) Rs. 1/ 6 month per acre till first crop is harvested.

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- (a) Four acres for ploughing.
 - (b) Agricultural implements.
 - (c) Assistance in case of failure of crops.
 - (d) Total sum per settler not to exceed Rs. 500 /
- and to be repaid with all other dues within 5 years.

Shortly afterwards Mr. Waller was sent to India, apparently that he might bring over 18 families of Indians to settle at Kites, where there is already the beginning of an Indian settlement.

His visit to India appears to have borne little fruit, and it must have cost the Government a large sum of money.

The families were brought over, Mr. Waller reported that larger numbers would come, but not a few; and he gave it as his opinion that it would be better to import indentured labour, hoping that many of the labourers would be induced eventually to remain and settle in the country.

The question of Indian immigration is a difficult one, and should not be lightly adopted without great careful consideration. We must remember that this is gradually becoming what is called a white man's country; that is, an increasing number of white men are taking up land, not only in the highlands, but also on the coast. It is probable that in course of time all available coast land will be taken up in large grants for cotton and other products suitable for the tropics.

This being the case it follows that in due course this will become a self governing colony. The history of all self governing colonies in Africa teaches us that directly

directly self-government is given restrictions are placed upon Indians. These restrictions are of a nature very galling to Indians, who naturally object to be classed with African natives.

The question then is are we justified in encouraging immigration from India, when we may be sure that after a time all Indians who shall have settled in the country will receive treatment different to what they may naturally expect in the British Dominion?

It is true that the sooner we do colonize the country the quicker will be its development, and by planting Indians in large numbers in the lowlying parts of the country we should be the sooner increasing the prosperity of the country.

But we cannot look upon the case only from the financial side. And I firmly believe that the introduction of any large scheme of Indian immigration would cause both present dissatisfaction among the white settlers, and future troubles to the Indians themselves.

There is a small Indian settlement at Ribou, and I see no reason why we should not extend it to some extent by giving small grants to Indians of the right class already in the country who show an inclination to settle down. But as at present things I do not wish any new Indian Settlement.

It may be that some of the settlers in the desert will of their own motion import Indian labour for their cotton farms, and perhaps give them small grants of land to induce them to settle. We need not interfere with such action.

W. H. H.

But I do not think the Government should commit itself to any general scheme of Indian immigration on its own.

This question has heretofore been treated without reference to me. But it is one that is concerned with the department of lands, and I have therefore ventured to give my opinion.

J. Montgomery
J. Montgomery

COMMISSIONER FOR LAND.

9-2-1874.