

46.23

29

PAPERS

RELATIVE TO EMIGRATION

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

to be laid on the table of the Council of Government.

MALTA,
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE,
1873.

[Price 1s.]

The printing of these papers has been delayed, the requisite permission to publish some despatches, or extracts from despatches, not having been received till the 1st November 1873.

PAPERS RELATIVE TO EMIGRATION.

The Chief Secretary to Mr. Saverio Laferla.

No. 10927.

Chief Secretary's Office,
Valletta, 14th December 1863.

Sir,

I am desired by His Excellency the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 10th instant, and to acquaint you that the memorial therein enclosed will be forwarded to His Grace the Duke of Newcastle by an early opportunity.

I have &c.,

(Signed) VICTOR HOULTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Mr. Saverio Laferla,
&c. &c. &c.

The Governor to the Secretary of State.

No. 85.

Palace, Valletta,
December 16th, 1863.

My Lord Duke,

I have the honour to forward a memorial addressed to Your Grace by Mr. Saverio Laferla, a native of this island, relative to the proposed establishment of a Maltese Colony in the neighbourhood of Bomba on the northern coast of Africa.

I have &c.,

(Signed) J. GASPARD LE MARCHANT,
Governor.

To His Grace,
The Duke of Newcastle,
&c. &c. &c.

The Secretary of State to the Governor.

Malta.
No. 392.

Downing Street,
22 December 1863.

Sir,

I have received from Lord Palmerston a letter addressed to His Lordship and signed Saverio Laferla, Master Mariner at Malta, submitting a project for the colonization of a site on the Coast of the Gulf of Sydra by Maltese Emigrants.

You will have the goodness to inform the writer that Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to encourage the project.

I have &c.,

(Signed) NEWCASTLE.

Governor,
Sir G. Le Marchant,
&c. &c. &c.

The Secretary of State to the Governor.

Malta.
No. 393.

Downing Street,
2 January 1864.

Sir,

I have received your despatch, No. 85, of the 16th and have the honor to refer you to my despatch, No. 392, of the 22nd ultimo, acquainting you that Her Majesty's Government is not prepared to encourage the project of Mr. Laferla for colonizing Bomba.

I have &c.,

(Signed) NEWCASTLE.

Governor,
Sir J. G. Le Marchant, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Resolution passed by the Council of Government at Sitting No. 13, of the 5th of June 1865, to report on the state of the Maltese Emigration in Barbary, and on the best mode of encouraging and regulating it.

Risoluto,

Che un Comitato Speciale sia nominato per rapportare sullo stato dell'Emigrazione Maltese nella Barberia, come pure sul mezzo migliore d'incoraggiarla e di regolarizzarla; rimanendo il Comitato incaricato di rapportare su tutto ciò che può interessare una simile questione.

Che il suddetto Comitato sia munito delle solite facoltà, e del diritto di ordinare la produzione di documenti e l'attendanza di testimonj.

Che i Membri del Comitato siano,

SIR VICTOR HOULTON,
SIGNOR MUSCAT,
DR. TORREGGIANI,
SIG. SCICLUNA, e
Dr. SCIORTINO.

Proceedings of the Select Committee.

[Meeting No. 1.]

Held at the Chief Secretary's Office, Wednesday the 6th of June, 1865, at 2 p.m.

Members present:

The Hon. The Chief Secretary to Government, in the chair,
,, Dr. Ruggiero Sciortino,
,, Mr. Carlo M. Muscat,
,, Dr. Francesco M. Torreggiani.

The Resolution passed by the Council of Government, on the 5th of June 1865, for the appointment of this Committee was laid on the table.

Colonel G. F. Herman was called in and examined. He said:—

The whole population in the Regency of Tripoli are about 2,000, of whom 1,700 are in the town—Maltese are about 3 to 1 of other foreigners—Very little emigration has been of late going on, and they are chiefly born there—The chief source of profit is lending money on pledges on which they charge an interest of 3 to 4%—I have known as much as 140% a year paid for interest, the legal interest of the place is 8%—The Arabs who borrow the money are chiefly agriculturists and pasturers—This high rate of interest does not show that the profits are great, but with a better administration the profits would be great—The customs and habits of the Maltese population are quite Arabic: they only differ from the Arabs in their great hatred to the Mussulman Religion and their being very pious Catholics—Water for irrigation and agricultural purposes may be easily had by digging 2 or 3 feet.—The Hatti Shereeff stipulates that foreigners should have the privilege of acquiring lands, but with the condition of renouncing their religion and Consular protection.—Mortgages are very precarious—Leases are granted but for not more than 5 years—Government are getting rid of their property by sale, the property chiefly

belongs to the tribes : but there is still sufficient property in the hands of the Government—Property is held by different tenures in different parts of the Regency: at Bengazi, for example, if you get permission, either from the tribes or from the Government, to sow, you pay no rent but a tithe on the produce, but at Tripoli under same conditions you pay 10s. on the tithe and also 10% on export; but this law is still in confusion: the tithe is only paid when the produce is brought to the town. Europeans always pay the tithe. According to the last commercial treaty with England, the export duty was fixed at 8% to be diminished at the rate of 1% per annum, to be entirely struck off at the end of the 8 years—but this is added on by the Arab population, consequently the Europeans have no advantage.—If the produce were grown by British subjects it would depend upon negotiations between the two Governments whether and what duties would have to be paid.—One of the reasons why emigration has grown less in Tripoli, is the abolition of the slave trade; the Maltese emigration was never more numerous, but there was a better class of merchants; at Bengazi there are some rich Maltese merchants, probably owing to the great exportation of cattle. If land were made available and the Maltese had capital, it would be advantageous for them to emigrate, provided there is security and protection. The 1st source of insecurity is the want of administration of justice, as the European plaintiff must summon the defendant before a Turkish tribunal, the 2nd source is the depredation of the wandering tribes, though this would have to be feared in the interior. With an equal administration of justice, a good fiscal system, proper tenure of lands and capital, there would be no difficulty to encourage emigration.—All the land on the coast is susceptible of cultivation, and although distant from the towns, with the exception of the eastern and western extremities, there is no fear of predatory tribes.—The most safe spot would be from Tripoli down to Cape Misurata, a distance of about 200 miles.—The Maltese would be safe there they being a cognate race.—The population at and about Tripoli are not at all fanatic, and I do not think they would at all resist any establishment of an agricultural colony, but I consider there would be great difficulties in a diplomatic sense.—With regard to any other population but the Maltese I also consider there would be other difficulties.—Notwithstanding that the price of everything is enhanced during the last 10 years, the price of labour is the same.

The Committee adjourned at 3 30 p.m. to a day to be fixed.

[Meeting No. 2.]

Held at the Chief Secretary's Office. *

Members present :

The Hon. The Chief Secretary to Government, in the chair,
 ,, Dr. Ruggiero Sciortino,
 ,, Dr. Francesco M. Torreggiani.

The Minutes of the preceding sitting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Dennis, H. B. M.'s Consul at Bengazi was called in and examined. †

The Committee adjourned to a day to be fixed.

[Meeting No. 3.]

Held at the Chief Secretary's Office, on Monday, the 25th September 1865,
 at ½ past 12 m.

Members present :

The Hon. The Chief Secretary to Government, in the chair,
 ,, Dr. Ruggiero Sciortino,
 ,, Dr. Francesco M. Torreggiani.

The Minutes of the preceding sitting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman laid upon the table an Extract of a letter from Mr. C. H. Dickson H.M.'s Consul at Candia addressed to H. E. the Governor of Malta.

Dr. Sciortino read the Extract (*V. infra*) and said that the object of the present meeting was to see if it might be useful to address a request to H. E. the Governor, during the recess, and before the Committee lay their report before the Council, to the effect of ascertaining the practicability of acquiring land at Crete for British subjects or for a Colony. The climate seemed to be excellent. The population was chiefly Greek; and there was a large tract of waste land of very fertile quality.

The Chairman was requested to draft a letter to H. E. conveying the above recommendation on the part of the Committee.

The Committee adjourned to ‡

* No date in the original.

† The deposition of this witness has not been found with the papers.

‡ No date.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Dickson H. M's Consul at Candia to the Governor of Malta.

I often think what a fine field this would be for Maltese enterprise: the superabundant population of Malta might immigrate hither to the advantage of both Islands. There is no lack here of rich land which lays waste for want of hands to cultivate it, and hitherto Statistics tend to prove that the rural population has diminished considerably. This is essentially an agricultural country; but I have little hope of its rising in prosperity and importance so long as the disabilities on Foreign subjects holding landed property be not removed. This important question however, has already been mooted at Constantinople; and may be before long we shall hear the result.

The Chairman of the Emigration Select Committee to the Governor.

Emigration Committee,
Valletta, 26th September 1865.

Sir,

At a meeting of the Emigration Committee held yesterday, an extract from a letter of C. H. Dickson, Her Majesty's Consul at Candia, addressed to Your Excellency, and of which Your Excellency was so good as to favor the Committee with a copy, was laid on the table for the consideration of the Members.

The Committee were unanimously of opinion, judging from the favorable report made by the Consul, that the Island of Candia might become a fine field of enterprise for the Maltese, and an advantageous locality for the superabundant population of these Islands, supposing that previous to any immigration taking place from these Islands, certain preliminary measures of security which would establish the safety and status of the Maltese immigrants, could be obtained through the influence and exertions of Your Excellency.

The first and most important of these steps would be the removal of the disabilities now existing on foreign subjects holding landed property in that Island, and from the Consul's report, it appears that this question has been raised already at Constantinople; and the Committee therefore are sanguine that, should Your Excellency advocate the removal of the disabilities through Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, similar steps to those lately taken with so much advantage to the Maltese at Tunis, might be followed in Candia. Should Your Excellency be so good as to accede to the wishes of the Committee in that respect, meanwhile a letter should be officially addressed to the Consul at Candia from this Government, requesting him, on the part of Your Excellency, to state whether under present circumstances, and in consideration of the vast tracks of rich land lying unprofitable from want of culture, the local Government would be willing to assign a tract of good cultivable land to Maltese immigrants, and if they would be willing, then to state the extent and the terms, and, that which is the most important of all, the nature of the security to the person, and the protection that the Government would guarantee to Maltese agriculturists willing to emigrate there.

I have &c.,

(Signed) VICTOR HOULTON,
Chairman of the Committee.

To His Excellency,
Sir H. K. Storks, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.,
Lt. General and Governor,
&c. &c. &c.

The Governor to the Secretary of State.

No. 116.

Palace, Valletta,
September 30th, 1865.

Sir,

One of the most serious questions, as regards the safety and future prosperity of Malta, is its large and increasing population. This subject

has occupied the attention of my predecessors, and various attempts have been made to encourage emigration amongst the Maltese. The success attending these efforts has not been satisfactory, although large numbers of Maltese are located in Egypt, at Tunis, Tripoli, and in the Levant generally.

2. During the last session of the Council of Government the subject of emigration was introduced; and after a short discussion I suggested the propriety of naming a Committee of the Council to examine the question, and to propose such a scheme as would offer to emigrants some encouragement to leave this Island and settle elsewhere.

3. Although the Maltese are very industrious and very anxious to obtain the means of living, they are attached to their country and unwilling to go any distance from these Islands.

4. Any scheme therefore which would contemplate a settlement in a distant country, would certainly be unattended with success. In a letter I received from Mr. Dickson, Her Majesty's Consul at Candia, that gentleman, in praising the climate and soil of that Island, incidentally adverted to the fine field which Candia offered for Maltese emigration.

5. Concurring entirely with Mr. Dickson in his views of the advantage and facilities which Candia offers to the Maltese, I sent an extract of that letter to the Committee of the Council for its consideration. The Committee, which has devoted considerable time and trouble to enquire fully into the subject, has addressed to me a letter, a copy of which I now transmit for your perusal. I am not aware how far Her Majesty's Government would be disposed to encourage a Maltese location in the Island of Candia, but I cannot help thinking that the immigration of a large number of industrious and well-disposed labourers into an Island where whole tracts of fertile land are lying waste and in a virgin state for want of hands to cultivate them, could not be otherwise than advantageous to the Government of the Porte and certainly to the Island of Candia. Looking also to the turbulent character of the Greek population in Candia, it would appear a security to the Sultan's Government to encourage the settlement in that Island of an orderly people of a different race and religion to the Rajah population, who by example and successful enterprise might induce the latter to habits of order and industry.

6. If Her Majesty's Government therefore approves of encouragement being given to Maltese emigration to Candia, I request that the letter of the Committee of the Council of Government may be referred to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, with a view of his furnishing me with the information requested by the Committee, and with instructions to His Excellency to afford his assistance in furthering the measure.

I have &c.,

(Signed) H. K. STORKS, *Lt. General,*
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Edward Cardwell, M.P.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure.

V. page 4.

The Secretary of State to the Officer Administering the Government.

Malta.
No. 106.

Downing Street,
13 December 1865.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of Sir H. Storks' despatch, No. 116, of the 30th of September, with a communication from a Committee of the Council of Government of Malta respecting a proposed emigration of Maltese to the Island of Candia.

Having caused these papers to be forwarded to the Foreign Office, I have the honor to transmit to you copies of a despatch and of its enclosures which have been received through that Department from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, containing information relative to the general question of the right of foreigners to hold property in the Ottoman Empire.

When the expected report from the Vice Consul in the Island of Crete shall arrive, it will be communicated to you.

I have &c.,

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

The Officer Administering
the Government of Malta.

Enclosures.

Lord Lyons to Earl Russell.

No. 30.

Constantinople,
November 18th, 1865.

My Lord,

With reference to your Lordship's despatch, No. 20, of the 18th ultimo, I have the honor to enclose a Memorandum drawn up by Count Pisani, the Superintendent of the Diplomatic Chancery of this Embassy. It contains information on the general question of the right of foreigners to hold property in the Ottoman Empire, and on other matters bearing on the proposal of the Government of Malta to encourage emigration from that Island to Crete.

I have also the honor to enclose a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consul in Crete, directing him to make a report upon the subject.

I have &c.,

(Signed) LYONS.

Copy.

Memorandum.

Hattihumayoum of February 1856, (paragraph 29 of English version in part XVII of Eastern Papers).

As the laws regulating the purchase, sale and disposal of real property are common to all the subjects of my Empire, it shall be lawful for Foreigners to possess landed property in my Dominions, conforming themselves to the Laws and Police Regulations, and bearing the same charges as the

Foreigners as such are not allowed to hold real property in Turkey, but foreigners' wives, through a legal fiction by which they are considered as Rayahs, are allowed to do so.

Applications were repeatedly made to the Turkish Government by the parties who signed the Treaty of Paris to fulfil the promise held out in the *Hattihumayoum* of 1856, but the Porte's

native inhabitants; and after arrangements have been come to with Foreign Powers.

answers always exhibit a determination of granting the tenure of land only to those foreigners who accept the condition of a Turkish subject in all that regards real property.

Maltese emigrating to Candia in small parties at a time would of course be under the jurisdiction of Her Majesty's Consul according to the capitulations; but if they flocked there in large numbers, they would soon excite the suspicions of the local authorities, and more particularly the jealousies of the Greek inhabitants.

The "*Conditions arrêtées*" for colonization are in force throughout the Empire: they were officially communicated to Her Majesty's Embassy, and transmitted to the Foreign Office in Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe's despatch No. 1049, of November 30th 1857.

Constantinople,
November 18th, 1865.
(Signed) PISANI.

CONDITIONS Arrêtées par le gouvernement Impérial au sujet de la colonisation en Turquie des familles qui, venant de l'étranger, désireraient s'y établir en devenant sujets de l'Empire Ottoman.

(Traduction.)

Article 1er.

Les colons feront d'abord serment d'être toujours fidèles à S. M. I. le Sultan, et d'accepter la qualité de sujets de l'Empire sans la moindre réserve ou restriction.

Article 2.

Ils se soumettront sous tous les rapports aux lois actuelles et futures de l'Empire.

Article 3.

Ainsi que tous les autres sujets de l'Empire, les colons seront à l'abri de toute entrave dans l'exercice de la religion qu'ils professent, et ils jouiront sans aucune distinction des mêmes privilèges religieux que toutes les autres classes des sujets de l'Empire. Si dans les localités qui leur seront désignées par le gouvernement pour leur installation, il y avait des chapelles de leur rite suffisantes, ils y feront leurs dévotions; mais s'ils doivent former de nouveaux villages, ils solliciteront et obtiendront du gouvernement impérial la permission de bâtir les chapelles dont ils auraient besoin.

Article 4.

Dans les provinces de l'Empire qu'on jugera convenables à leur installation, on choisira, parmi les terres disponibles appartenant au gouvernement, celles qui sont les plus fertiles et les plus saines, et on désignera et accordera à chacun la portion de terre dont, selon ses moyens, il aurait besoin pour exercer l'agriculture ou tout autre métier.

Article 5.

Les colons qui seront établis dans les terres disponibles appartenant au gouvernement, terres qui leur seront accordées gratuitement, seront exemptés de toute rétribution territoriale et personnelle pendant six ans, s'ils sont installés en Roumélie, et pendant douze ans s'ils sont établis en Asie.

Article 6.

De même, les colons seront exemptés du service militaire ou de son équivalent en argent, ceux de Roumélie pour 6 ans, et ceux d'Asie pour 12 ans.

Article 7.

Après l'expiration de ces termes d'exemption, les colons seront assujétis à toutes les redevances sur le même pied que tous les autres sujets de l'Empire.

Article 8.

Les colons ne pourront vendre les terres qui leur seront accordées gratuitement par le gouvernement, qu'après un espace de temps d'au moins vingt ans.

Article 9.

Ceux qui, avant l'expiration de ce délai, voudront quitter le pays et sortir de la sujétion de l'Empire, restitueront au gouvernement les terres. De même ils seront obligés d'abandonner au gouvernement, sans aucune compensation, toutes les constructions qu'ils auraient élevées sur ces terres, et qui ne pourraient plus être considérées comme leurs propriétés.

Article 10.

Les colons reconnaîtront les autorités du Caza ou du Sandjak dont dépendraient les villages et les bourgades où ils seront établis, et ils en seront gouvernés et protégés comme les autres sujets de l'Empire.

Article 11.

Si, avant l'expiration des délais de leur exemption, ces colons sont obligés de changer de demeure et de s'établir dans un autre endroit de l'Empire, il leur sera permis de le faire, mais le terme de leur exemption de toute rétribution et redevances datera toujours de l'époque où la terre primitive leur a été accordée.

Article 12.

Ces colons, sans avoir été criminels dans leurs pays primitifs, ni de conduite douteuse, doivent être des gens honnêtes, agriculteurs et artisans. Et le gouvernement impérial se réserve le droit de chasser de l'Empire ceux qui plus tard commettraient des crimes, ou dont la conduite serait mauvaise.

Article 13.

Comme on doit accorder à chacune des familles qui voudront se rendre en Turquie pour s'y coloniser, autant de terre que ses moyens comporteront, avant que ces familles ne se mettent en route pour se rendre en Turquie, des registres contenant en détail leurs noms, leurs qualités, leurs moyens, la somme de leur capital et leurs professions, doivent être dressés et soumis au gouvernement impérial par ses légations et ses consulats à l'étranger dans les endroits où il y en aurait. Et il est arrêté que chaque famille doit posséder pour capital une somme équivalente au moins à soixante médjidiés d'or (environ 1350 francs).

Article 14.

Autant à leur départ de l'étranger qu'à leur arrivée en Turquie, les consuls de la Sublime Porte à l'étranger et les autorités impériales dans l'intérieur, accorderont à ces colons les facilités nécessaires pour le transport de leurs biens et de leur bagage. Leurs passeports leur seront livrés gratis par tous les consuls ottomans. Cependant le conseil du Tanzimat trouve nécessaire que, toutes les fois qu'il se présenterait des familles désirant se rendre et se coloniser en Turquie, le gouvernement impérial en fût informé au moins deux mois d'avance, afin que, d'après les résolutions déjà prises, il eût le temps de désigner, dans les provinces de l'Empire qui seraient choisies pour leur établissement, des terres convenables à être distribuées aux colons, de sorte qu'à leur arrivée en Turquie, ils n'eussent pas à souffrir des pertes de temps et des fatigues. Par conséquent, des instructions analogues seront données aux représentants et aux consuls de l'Empire à l'étranger.

Arrêté le 5 djémazi-ul-akhir 1272.

Décret.

(Ici la signature du Grand-Vézir).

L'ordre impérial étant émané pour la mise en vigueur du présent règlement, le Ministère des affaires étrangères est chargé de le mettre à exécution, d'en faire faire la traduction, d'en envoyer un exemplaire à chacune des légations de l'Empire, d'en donner communication aux consulats qui en dépendent, et de le publier par les journaux.

Le 1 Rédjeb 1273.

*(L.S.) Sceau du Conseil du Tanzimat.**Lord Lyons to Mr. Dickson.*Copy.Constantinople,
November 18th, 1865.

Sir,

I transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Office to the Foreign Office and copies of its enclosures. These papers relate to a desire entertained by the Government of Malta to promote emigration from that Island to Crete. I have to instruct you to make a report to me, containing as much of the information called for by the Government of Malta, as you are able to supply, and including also any observations on the subject which may occur to you. You will send a copy of the report to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I have also enclosed for your information a copy of a Memorandum drawn up by the Superintendent of the Diplomatic Chancery of the Embassy which shows the present state of the general question concerning the right of foreigners to hold real property in the Ottoman Empire.

I am &c.,

(Signed) LYONS.

C. Dickson, Esq.,
Canea.*The Secretary of State to the Officer Administering the Government.*Malta.
No. 120.Downing Street,
21 February 1866.

Sir,

With reference to Sir Henry Storks' despatch, No. 116, of the 30th of September, and to the reply which I addressed to you, No. 106, of the 13th of December, relative to a question of Maltese immigration into Crete, I have the honor to transmit to you the enclosed copy of the report which was expected from Her Majesty's Consul in that Island.

You will not overlook the opinion which he expresses that "no permanent settlement of Maltese on the Island would be attended with success so long as the present disabilities on the tenure of land by foreigners be not removed in the first instance."

The subject is one which for various reasons would require to be acted upon with much caution.

I have &c.,

(Signed) EDWARD CARDWELL.

The Officer Administering
the Government of
Malta.

Enclosure.

Extract.

I apprehend there is little doubt but that the presence of a Maltese, or any other foreign Colony, in this island, would at first rouse the susceptibilities and jealousies of a considerable part of the population. I cannot conceive nevertheless, how the immigration of Maltese agriculturists of good character could be other than beneficial to all parties. Such of the inhabitants as are prone to be turbulent and indolent would thus have a fair opportunity afforded them for emulating the enterprise and industry of their more orderly Maltese brethren.

To Turkey on the other hand, the benefits accruing to her from an increase in the population, with a corresponding augmentation of revenue, appear to me manifest enough and need no further comment.

In regard to the question submitted "whether the local Government would not be willing to assign a tract of good cultivable land to Maltese Immigrants &c." I consider Her Majesty's Diplomatic Representative the authority most competent to reply thereto. If I may venture to express an opinion on the general subject no permanent settlement of Maltese in the island would be attended with success so long as the present disabilities on the tenure of land by foreigners, be not removed in the first instance. The "*Conditions*" relative to foreign colonization in the Turkish Empire, specified in the Imperial Decree of the 5th of Djemazi-ul akhir 1272 (February 20, 1855) might be deemed somewhat sentimentally objectionable, and are therefore impracticable as a preliminary law. Yet in course of time, the carrying into execution of these, might be made a natural consequence to the first step I have taken the liberty to suggest with perhaps some slight modification.

Adverting to the concluding and not less important part of the question, namely: "The nature of the security to the person and the protection that the Government would guarantee to Maltese immigration," I would beg leave to observe whether the geographical position of Crete may not be deemed at all times sufficient security for its inhabitants? Although there is every reason to hope that the time may be passed which rendered the presence of ships of war necessary for preserving internal order in the island, instances can be numerous recorded when such measure has been resorted to with the happiest results for the safety to the lives and property of the peaceable inhabitants indiscriminately, as well as being a support to the local authority itself.

The British Vice Consul at Bengazi to the Chief Secretary.

Bengazi, February 28th, 1866.

Sir,

With reference to your despatch of July last, enclosing a list of questions put by Dr. Sciortino, relative to emigration from Malta to this part of the Barbary coast, to which you requested me to reply, I have the honor to forward my answers, which I trust will be found satisfactory. I have only to remark that while the whole tenor of my reply is highly favorable to such an emigration, I think it would not be advisable that the Maltese should come hither in large numbers, i. e. in hundreds at a time, in order to avoid exciting the prejudices of the Arabs, as well as to obviate the difficulty that might arise in finding accommodation for them in such a place as Bengazi. I should add that my own opinion of the favorable prospects offered to emigrants from Malta in this land, is fully confirmed by the few leading Turkish and Arab inhabitants whom I have consulted on the subject.

I have entrusted this despatch to Mr. Antonio di G. Vella, the principal Maltese merchant at Bengazi, who from his residence here of

Forwarded in
January last

nearly 30 years, is intimately acquainted with the country and inhabitants, with its resources and its requirements, and who has promised to present himself to you that he may answer any further enquiries you may wish to make on the subject.

I have &c.,

(Signed) GEO. DENNIS, *H. M. V. Consul.*

Sir Victor Houlton,
Chief Secretary to Government
&c. &c. &c.
Malta.

The Governor of Bermuda to the Governor of Malta.

Bermuda,
16th January 1867.

Sir,

Having been informed by an Officer lately at Corfu that many Maltese labourers were thrown out of employ at the time when the Ionian Islands were given up by Great Britain, and that there is a redundant population in Malta which would be willing, and would be permitted, to emigrate could a fitting field be found for their labours; I have the honor to request that Your Excellency will be pleased to inform me whether the case remains as stated to me, and, if so, whether it may be possible to obtain from Malta from 100 to 200 able-bodied agricultural and domestic servants of both sexes for Bermuda. It has been represented to me that our rocky lands much resemble those that the Maltese are known to cultivate to advantage. Our climate is probably somewhat cooler than that of Malta, but still it is warm. Labour is much wanted and there can be but little doubt of the number I have named finding immediate employment. This colony would, I am certain, provide the means of passage, and probably pay a premium to every immigrant that would submit to certain conditions regarding a fixed stay in the colony &c.

We have two Catholic Clergymen here — one a Chaplain to Her Majesty's Forces, the other ministering to a civil congregation. Wages are very high, from 3s. to a dollar a day for labourers; but an increase to the numbers would probably reduce this. Provisions and rents are, in general, dear.

Your Excellency will further oblige me if you state whether, in case of an immigration from Malta into Bermuda being possible, a ship could be taken up at Malta for emigrants' passage.

I have &c.,

(Signed) W. G. HAMLEY,
Lieut. Governor.

His Excellency
The Governor of Malta.

Mr. Torreggiani to the Chief Secretary.

Valetta, 18th May, 1869.

Sir,

I avail myself of the opportunity you have been kind enough to offer me in order to submit to your consideration certain suggestions, which could be adopted by the Government to the advantage of the community.

The first suggestion is relative to the colonization of Porto Bomba and Tabarca situate in the Regency of Tripoli. It has been reported by Mr. Naum, Ottoman Consul in this island, that that Government gratuitously

grants to persons settling there, also to foreigners, lands, animals adapted for work and pasture, dwellings and seeds, besides exempting them for ten years from the payment of taxes and imposts of any kind. Those two localities will enjoy the privileges of *porto franco* for ten years, and it is already thought of establishing a police and a local administration. I believe that several Maltese would avail themselves of such favourable conditions, if they were only assured of such a state of things officially and positively. You could, therefore, procure upon this subject precise information from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in order to inform the public of the state of things.

(The rest of this letter refers to copper coin in Malta.)

The Chief Secretary to Mr. Torreggiani.

Chief Secretary's Office,
Valletta, June 1, 1869.

Sir,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to transmit herewith for your information, a copy of a letter received by His Excellency from Her Majesty's Consul General at Tripoli conveying information relative to the proposed colonization of Porto Bomba and Tabruk referred to in your letter of 18 ultimo.

I have &c.,

(Signed) VICTOR HOULTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

The Honourable F. M. Torreggiani, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure.

V. next page, Letter from the British Consul at Tripoli, dated 25th May 1869.

The Chief Secretary to H. B. M. Consul at Tripoli.

No. 3620.

Chief Secretary's Office,
Valletta, 20th May, 1869.

Sir,

A report having reached His Excellency the Governor that the Government of Tripoli, with a view of encouraging colonization at Porto Bomba and Tabarca, in that Regency, offers gratuitously to foreigners wishing to settle there, lands, animals adapted for work and pasture, dwellings, seeds, &c. besides exemption for ten years from payment of imposts and taxes of any kind, and the privilege of constituting those places as free ports for a like period, with, lastly, the establishment of a police and local administration ;

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to request you to be good enough to state, for the information of this Government, whether such report is true in all its bearings, together with any other information you can afford on the subject ; as if such facilities were officially made known to this population, which is so adapted for colonization in Barbary, it would be most conducive to the object in view, besides relieving these islands of a superabundant population.

I have &c.,

(Signed) VICTOR HOULTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul,
Tripoli.

The British Consul at Tripoli to the Chief Secretary.

Tripoli, 25th May 1869.

Sir,

In reply to your letter, No. 3620, of the 20th instant, requesting information with reference to the report respecting the encouragement and advantages offered by the Local Government of this Regency to foreigners wishing to settle at Bomba and Tobruck, I have the honour to state, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, that some time ago, when the project for the colonization of these places was first mooted, being fully alive to the fact of the importance these colonies might prove as advantageous settlements for the superabundant population of Malta, I requested information from the Governor General on the subject, but was unable to obtain any decisive or satisfactory reply. On the receipt of your letter I again applied to the Governor General for the information required, and His Excellency informs me that he does not intend to invite or encourage any foreigners to colonize those places. He will proceed in a few days by sea to inspect the sites of the projected colonies, which, for a certain number of years (not yet determined upon) will be free ports, and he will offer, gratuitously, certain advantages, such as land, dwellings, and seed, to the first twenty Arab or Ottoman settlers.

The exemption from taxes and imposts, even in the case of these first settlers, will not be for more than five years. But to foreigners he will for the present make no offers nor grants whatever, leaving to the Sublime Porte, to whom he will report on the subject, the initiative so far as foreigners are concerned.

His Excellency further states that foreigners who may hereafter settle there will have to submit altogether to the jurisdiction of the Ottoman Authorities.

The prospect therefore at the present moment for Maltese wishing to settle there, is any thing but encouraging.

I may observe here that no reliance is to be placed on the highly coloured accounts of the project which have appeared in some of the Malta newspapers.

Should I hereafter learn any thing further on the subject which may be of interest to the Malta Government, I will not fail to report it for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

I have &c.,

(Signed) F. R. DRUMMOND HAY.

The Honourable,
Sir Victor Houlton, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Malta.

The British Consul at Tripoli to the Chief Secretary.

Tripoli, 7th July 1870.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of 25th of May, of last year, respecting the projected colonization of Tubrook and Bomba, I have the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, a translation of the Regulations to which foreign subjects wishing to establish themselves at those places will have to submit, which have been officially communicated to me by the Governor General of this Regency.

I have &c.,

(Signed) F. R. DRUMMOND HAY.

The Honourable,
Sir Victor Houlton, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.
Malta.

 Enclosure.

Translation.

Regulation (Law) for foreigners who emigrate from their countries, and wish to settle themselves in the Dominions, and under the protection of the Sublime Porte.

Art. 1.

It is required in the first place that the immigrants shall take the oath of allegiance to the Government, become irrevocably their subjects, submit to their laws, and under no pretence claim their former protection, but remain always faithful subjects of the Sultan and obedient to the laws of the Empire.

2.

The immigrants shall be subject to the laws as they now exist, and to any others that may be hereafter enforced in the Empire.

3.

The immigrants will be entirely free in the exercise of their religion, whatever it may be, and no one will interfere with their ceremonies and rites;— they will be respected and protected as they are at present in all parts of the Empire;— should there be, in the place where they settle, any churches or chapels of their religion, they will make use of them, and if there be none the Government will build for them sufficient places for their religious ceremonies. And, moreover, should the number of immigrants necessitate the building of small towns or villages, the fact will be reported to the Government, who will build at its expense houses and churches as may be considered necessary.

4.

A portion of fertile land, in the best situation of the place the immigrant may choose, will be given to him in order that he may cultivate it.

5.

The land so given by the Government will be given gratis, and will be exempt from any tithes, taxes, or duties whatsoever, for a period of twelve years if given in Africa, and for six years if in Asia or Europe.

6.

The immigrants will enjoy all the privileges of Ottoman subjects, and moreover will be exempt from all taxes, dues, and poll tax, as also from conscription or any other military or municipal service, for a period in Africa of twelve years, and of six in Asia or Europe.

7.

After the termination of the periods mentioned in the two foregoing articles the immigrants will be liable to all taxes, land dues, &c., &c., paid by other subjects of the Sultan.

8.

The land being Government property, and so disposed of by gift from the Government, the holders will have no right to dispose of it by sale, mortgage, or otherwise, notwithstanding that they may have improved it, or expended money on buildings &c., until after the lapse of twenty years, when it will be considered their property absolutely.

9.

Should the immigrant voluntarily abandon his property before the above mentioned period of 20 years, he will have no claim whatever on the Government for the expenses he may have incurred, nor can he transfer it, but it will become the property of the Government.

10.

The immigrants will be entirely under the direction of the Chief Authority of the place — will obey the laws, and existing regulations, and submit to such other regulations as the chief of the place may think proper to issue from time to time.

11.

Should an immigrant wish to leave the place he has settled in and exchange it for another place, climate, or country, he will be allowed to do so, but in so doing he will be considered entirely as a new immigrant and settler, viz. he will lose all the advantages and privileges already acquired, and must begin entirely anew.

12.

The immigrant must be of good reputation, and good conduct, without any criminal accusations in his own country, or other bad reputation. He must be an agriculturist, or practice some art or profession — the Government reserving the right to expel any one who may be discovered to have been of bad conduct in his own country before emigrating.

13.

The lands given to the immigrants and their families on coming to establish themselves on the Ottoman territory, will be proportionate to their wants, and the amount of labour they are capable of. The emigrants on leaving their country must present themselves to the Ottoman representative in that place, who will take down their names, age, sex, profession, and number of family, and ascertain that every chief of a family possesses at least sixty pounds in cash.

14.

The Ottoman Agent will provide gratis, to the emigrants, passports, and will endeavour facilitate and assist their departure from the country in the best manner he can. And the authorities of the place where they first land will take all the necessary steps and means to assist them and facilitate their landing, and their proceeding to the spot assigned to them.

Additional Articles.

1.

Should the immigrant to whom land has been given by the Government die before the lapse of twenty years, the property may pass to his heirs, present and living with him, who may continue to enjoy under the same conditions as if he were living, whether in common between them, or in the name of one of them, but it can never be sold or disposed of before 20 years, dating from the time it was given. After the 20 years the heirs and successors may dispose of it as they please.

2.

It is understood that any property left by the immigrants, in the Ottoman dominions, cannot under any circumstances pass over to their heirs abroad not being Ottoman subjects, nor residing in the Ottoman dominions.

Dated 5 Refer 1272.

(1855).

*Extract of a despatch from Earl Granville to Sir Patrick Grant, dated
Downing Street, 4th September, 1869.*

“Having regard to the correspondence * * * which took place in 1865, regarding a proposed emigration of Maltese to the Island of Candia, I have to suggest that, as there appears to be a desire on the part of some of the crowded population of Malta to emigrate to neighbouring countries, it might be advisable that you should consider with your Council the propriety of establishing an Emigration Agency at Malta for the purpose of obtaining and publishing information (which should be given in the Italian language and circulated throughout the Island) regarding the various fields of emigration; the rates of wages, climate, &c. of the countries to which emigration is contemplated,—

(Extract
herewith)
24 July 1869.

Protocol.

Extract
herewith.

I have * * to enclose a copy of a Memorandum drawn up by Mr. G. Dennis, Her Majesty's Consul for Crete, with reference to the proposed colonization of Maltese on the north coast of Africa, and a copy of the Protocol relative to the admission of British subjects in Turkey to the right of holding real property, signed at Constantinople, July 28th, 1868, and also a copy of a note which has been addressed from the Foreign Office to Musurus Pacha."—

Enclosures.

Extract from Notes on the Scheme for planting Colonies of Maltese on the coast of the Cyrenaica.

The Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs in his despatch to Musurus Pasha, June 9, 1869, speaks of a demand made by a considerable number of Maltese to settle at the newly formed Ports of Bozia and Sobref in the Regency of Tripoli. I do not know those Ports but when very recently at Malta I heard that it was projected to send some of the surplus population of the Island to the uninhabited ports of Bombah and Marsa Tabrook, on the coast between the Cyrenaica and Egypt.

On the proposed colonization of the Cyrenaica I will offer a few remarks which will apply equally to the adjacent coasts.

Any Maltese who may wish to emigrate to Barbary are free to settle in the towns of Bengazi and Dernah where some would find employment as Shopkeepers or small Traders, or as Artizans, others as Agricultural labourers.

Around Bengazi are vast tracts of rich arable land lying waste or only occasionally cultivated, which would yield grain in abundance, and might with proper irrigation be made to produce cotton or fruit and vegetables. Those who could not purchase land could work it on paying an almost nominal rent to the proprietor and a tithe of the produce to the Government. But as by the Imperial Rescript of 7 Sepher 1284, foreigners are allowed to hold real property in Turkey on condition of subjecting themselves to Ottoman law in all that concerns such property, there is little doubt that some would in time become proprietors.

In the country around Bengazi and Dernah they would not be liable to molestation from the Arabs who are there accustomed to Christians and have some respect for the Turkish authorities.

If it be proposed, however, to plant Colonies of Maltese on spots on this coast not yet inhabited and at a distance from those towns, there are serious difficulties in the way.

The first is the scarcity of water. This is a dry and thirsty land. Wells are few and far between. Springs are still more rare and are mostly dried up in summer. Artesian wells might possibly be sunk with success. But no Colony can exist in the Cyrenaica without an adequate supply of water all the year round.

Suppose this difficulty overcome. The next more formidable one is the hostility of the Arabs. Such is the wild and lawless character of the wandering tribes, such their fanatical hatred of Christians, a fanaticism kept alive or rather inculcated by the Suousies, a sect of Mohamedan Reformers whose aim it is to revive the intolerant principles of the Koran, and into whose hands the religious education of these Arabs has of late years entirely fallen, that the invasion of their coasts by a body of Maltese could not fail to provoke feelings fraught with danger to the Colonists. I believe that a Crescentade would be preached, I feel certain that at least they would seek every opportunity of insulting and maltreating the Maltese, and that they would not hesitate to cut off stragglers from the camp or settlement, especially if these excited their cupidity as well as fanatical wrath. Time and habit may diminish this hostility, but at first the Colonists would be exposed to great danger and would require protection. In such districts the Turkish Government has no moral power. The Arabs have no respect for law, every one is a law to himself. Force alone commands respect. The Maltese . . . could hardly protect themselves: indeed, had they no other defenders, the Arabs would look on them as their legitimate prey.

On this question * hinges that of the practicability of planting Maltese Colonies on the coast of the Cyrenaica. If the protection of Turkish Troops cannot be obtained, the only safe and practicable mode of colonizing this land would be to send the Maltese to the established centres of population, Bengazi and Dernah.

Were a new settlement effected on any part of the coast, it could not be purely Maltese. It would necessarily attract a Mussulman population also, Turkish custom-house and sanitary officers—people to supply their wants and those of the Troops, and a Governor and a Cadi to keep them in order. The Maltese not being amenable to Turkish law would require a British Vice-Consul to govern them. They would have to pay no tribute but the usual export and import dues and licences for the sale of strong drinks, besides indirect taxes on articles of consumption, the products of the country.

I should add that my acquaintance with the Cyrenaica has been acquired by a residence of more than 4 years as H. M. Vice-Consul at Bengazi, by journeys into the interior and by protracted visits to several spots along the coast, when I have conducted excavations for the British Museum.

(Signed) GEO. DENNIS,
H. M. Consul for Creto.

London, July 24th, 1869.

* Viz.—Protection to be afforded to the Colonists.

Translation.

PROTOCOL relative to the admission of British Subjects in Turkey to the right of holding real property.
Signed at Constantinople, July 28, 1868.

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, being desirous to establish, by a special Act, the understanding arrived at between them with regard to the admission of English subjects in Turkey to the right of holding real property, conceded to foreigners by the law promulgated under date of the 7th Sepher, 1284, have authorized—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, His Excellency the Right Honourable Henry Elliot, Her Ambassador at Constantinople ;

And His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, His Highness Fuad Pasha, His Minister for Foreign Affairs ;

To sign the Protocol which hereinafter follows :—

PROTOCOL.

The law which grants to foreigners the right to hold real property does not in any way affect the immunities sanctioned by Treaties, which will continue to cover the person and the personal property of foreigners who may have become proprietors of real estate.

The exercise of such right of property being likely to induce foreigners to establish themselves in greater numbers in Ottoman territory, the Imperial Government deems itself bound to anticipate and prevent the difficulties to which the application of that law may give rise in certain localities. This is the object of the following arrangements.

The dwelling of every person inhabiting the Ottoman territory being inviolable, and no one being entitled to enter it without the consent of its master, unless in virtue of orders issued by the competent authority, and with the assistance of the magistrate or functionary invested with the necessary powers, the dwelling of a foreign subject is inviolable by the same right, in conformity with Treaties; and the officers of police cannot enter therein without the assistance of the Consul of the country to which the foreigner belongs, or of his delegate.

By the term dwelling is understood the house of residence and its appurtenances, that is to say, the out-houses, courts, gardens, and contiguous inclosures, to the exclusion of all other parts of the property.

In localities distant less than nine hours from the Consular residence, the officers of police cannot enter the dwelling of a foreigner without the assistance of the Consul, as above stated. On his part the Consul is bound to afford his aid immediately to the local authority, so that not more than six hours shall elapse between the moment when he shall have been apprized, and the moment of the departure of himself or of his delegate, in order that the action of the authorities may never be suspended for more than twenty-four hours.

In localities distant nine hours, or more than nine hours' journey from the residence of the Consular Agent, the officers of police may, on the requisition of the local authority, and with the assistance of three members of the Council of Ancients of the Commune, enter the dwelling of a foreign subject, without the presence of the Consular Agent, but only in case of urgency, and for the investigation or the proof of the crime of murder, of attempt to murder, of arson, of robbery with violence, or with house-breaking, or at night in an inhabited dwelling, of armed rebellion, and of the fabrication of false money; and whether the crime shall have been committed by a foreign subject, or by an Ottoman subject, and whether it shall have taken place within the habitation of the foreigner, or outside of such habitation, and in any other place whatever.

These arrangements are applicable only to those parts of the property which constitute the dwelling as defined above. Beyond the dwelling, the action of the police shall be free and without reserve; but in case an individual accused of a crime or offence should be arrested, and the accused be a foreign subject, the immunities attaching to his person shall be observed with regard to him.

The functionary or officer charged with the performance of the domiciliary visit, under the exceptional circumstances above described, and the members of the Council of Ancients who shall assist him, shall be bound to draw up a Minute of the domiciliary visit, and to communicate it immediately to their superior authority, who shall himself transmit it without delay to the nearest Consular authority.

A special regulation shall be promulgated by the Sublime Porte, in order to determine the mode of action of the local police in the different cases above contemplated.

In localities distant more than nine hours from the residence of the Consular Agent, and in which the law relative to the judicial organization of the *vilayet* shall be in force, the cases of foreign subjects shall be tried, without the assistance of the Consular delegate, by the Council of Ancients fulfilling the functions of Judge of the Peace, and by the Court of the *Caza*, as well in actions the subject-matter of which shall not exceed 1,000 piastres, as in offences punishable by a fine not exceeding 500 piastres.

Foreign subjects shall, in all cases, have the right to appeal to the Court of the *Sandjak* against decisions given as above described; and the appeal shall be heard and decided with the assistance of the Consul, in conformity with Treaties.

An appeal shall always suspend execution.

In no case can the forcible execution of decisions given under the circumstances above described take place without the concurrence of the Consul or his deputy.

The Imperial Government shall issue a Law which shall determine the rules of procedure to be observed by the parties in the application of the foregoing arrangements.

Foreign subjects, in whatever place, are authorized to make themselves voluntarily amenable to the Council of Ancients, or to the Courts of the *Cazas*, without the assistance of the Consul, in actions the

subject-matter of which does not exceed the competence of those Councils or Courts, saving, however, the right of appeal to the Court of the *Sandjak*, where the cause shall be heard and decided with the assistance of the Consul or his delegate.

The consent, however, of the foreign subject to submit to the jurisdiction above described, without the assistance of the Consul, must be given in writing, and previously to any proceeding.

It is well understood that all these restrictions do not concern suits involving a question of real property, which shall be carried on and decided under the conditions established by the Law.

The right of defence and of publicity of hearing are secured in all matters to foreigners who shall appear before the Ottoman Courts, as well as to Ottoman subjects.

The preceding arrangements shall remain in force until the revision of the ancient Treaties, a revision with regard to which the Sublime Porte reserves to itself to come hereafter to an agreement with friendly Powers.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Protocol, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Constantinople, the twenty-eighth day of July, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-eight.

(L.S.)

HENRY ELLIOT.

(L.S.)

FUAD.

Law granting to Foreigners the right to hold Real Property in the Ottoman Empire.

Imperial Rescript.

“ Let it be done in conformity with what is herein contained. ”

Sepher 7, 1284.

With the view to develop the prosperity of the country, to put an end to the difficulties, abuses, and uncertainties which arise relative to the exercise of the right of property by foreigners in the Ottoman Empire, and to complete, by means of precise regulations, the guarantees due to financial interests and to administrative action, the following legislative arrangements have been determined by order of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan :—

Article I.

Foreigners are admitted, on the same footing as Ottoman subjects, and without other conditions, to the enjoyment of the right of holding urban or rural real property throughout the whole extent of the Empire, with the exception of the province of the Hedjaz, submitting to the laws and regulations which govern Ottoman subjects themselves, as hereinafter stated.

This arrangement does not concern Ottoman subjects by birth who have changed their nationality, and who shall be governed in regard to this matter by a special law.

Article II.

Foreigners who are proprietors of real property, urban or rural, are in consequence assimilated to Ottoman subjects in all that concerns their real property.

Such assimilation has for its legal effect :—

1. To oblige them to conform to all the laws and all the police or municipal regulations which at present govern, or may hereafter govern, the enjoyment, transmission, alienation, and hypothecation of landed property.
2. To pay all the charges and contributions, under whatever form or denomination, which are now or may hereafter be imposed on urban or rural real property.
3. To render them directly amenable to the Ottoman Civil Courts in regard to all questions relative to landed property, and to all real actions, both as plaintiffs and as defendants, even when both parties are foreign subjects, the whole on the same footing, under the same conditions, and in the same forms as Ottoman proprietors, and without the power of availing themselves in such matters of their personal nationality; but under the reservation of the immunities attaching to their persons and their personal property, according to the terms of Treaties.

Article III.

In case of the bankruptcy of a foreign owner of real property, the syndics of his bankruptcy shall take the necessary steps before the Ottoman authorities and Civil Courts, in order to demand the sale of the real property possessed by the bankrupt, which, from its nature and in accordance with the law, is liable for the debts of the owner.

The same course shall be observed when a foreigner shall have obtained against another foreign proprietor of real property an adverse judgment before foreign Courts.

For the execution of such judgment on the real property of his debtor, he shall apply to the competent Ottoman authority in order to obtain the sale of such part of that real property as is liable for the debts of the owner; and such judgment shall not be carried into execution by the Ottoman authorities and Courts until after they shall have ascertained that the real property which is required to be sold really belongs to the class which may be sold in order to pay the debt.

Article IV.

The foreign subject has the right to dispose by gift or by will of such part of his real property as the law permits to be disposed of in that manner.

With regard to the real property which he may not have disposed of, or which the law does not allow to be disposed of by gift or by will, the succession thereto shall be governed by the Ottoman law.

Article V.

Every foreign subject shall enjoy the benefit of the present Law, so soon as the Power to which he belongs shall have acceded to the arrangements proposed by the Sublime Porte for the exercise of the right of property.

Constantinople, June 18, 1867.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Otway, to H. E. Musurus Pasha, dated August 31, 1869.

“With respect to the proposed Emigration itself, I have to state to Your Excellency that Her Majesty’s Government would not regard it with disfavour nor in any way interfere to prevent the Maltese from proceeding to any part of the world in which they considered that they could better their condition. Her Majesty’s Government could not however adopt any responsibility in respect to such Emigration nor engage to recommend it in any way to the Maltese.”

Earl Granville to Sir P. Grant.

Copy.

Confidential.

Downing Street,
31 March, 1870.

Sir,

I should be glad to receive your Report on the question of the desire of certain Maltese to emigrate to Tripoli, which formed the subject of my confidential despatch of the 4th September last.

I have &c.,

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Sir Patrick Grant,
&c. &c. &c.

Governor Sir P. Grant to Earl Granville.

Copy.

Malta.

Confidential.

Palace, Valletta,
April 14th, 1870.

My Lord,

With reference to Your Lordship’s confidential despatches of 31st ultimo, and 4th September 1869, on the subject of a proposed emigration of Maltese to Tripoli, I have the honor to state that, owing to circumstances with which Your Lordship is fully acquainted, there have been no meetings of the Council of Government and I have been unable therefore to carry out Your Lordship’s suggestion of considering this question with the Council, but I propose to communicate the papers in connection with this subject to the Council at an early sitting.

2. The question of emigration as a relief to the crowded and yearly increasing population of these Islands is one of grave importance, and my predecessor in the Government appointed in 1865 a Committee of the Council consisting of the Chief Secretary as Chairman and five of the elected Members to examine into this question, and propose if feasible, such a scheme as would offer to Emigrants an encouragement to leave these Islands and settle elsewhere.

3. At that date the Island of Candia was specially selected as peculiarly fitted from the nature of its climate and soil for Maltese Emigration and a correspondence took place between the Secretary of State the Foreign Office and Lord Lyons on the subject, but owing to the unfavorable report of Her Britannic Majesty’s Consul on the special points of want of personal security, as also the disabilities on tenure of land by Foreigners, the matter dropped both as regards Candia as also any other place under the Government of the Porte.

4. On the 18th of May 1869, one of the elected Members, Dr. Torreggiani, requested the Government to make enquiries through the Consul, whether it was true that the Government of the Porte offered certain alleged advantages to Emigrants at Port Bomba and Tabrouk situated in the Regency of Tripoli, and I have the honor to forward to Your Lordship a copy of the Consul's reply to my enquiries, which Your Lordship will see is anything but favorable or encouraging to the scheme, and I gave a copy also to Dr. Torreggiani, at whose instance the enquiry was made; but since that date, though the Consul had engaged to report for my information anything further on the subject which might be of interest to the Malta Government, or community, I have received nothing more on the subject.*

5. As matters stand, there is no such thing as Emigration in the strict sense of the term from Malta. The Maltese leave these Islands and settle temporarily at Tunis, Tripoli, Bengazi, Dernah, Alexandria, and Constantinople, *i.e.* at established centres of population, but most of those who leave these Islands, do so with an ultimate view of returning here.

6. With these places they are also thoroughly acquainted and they know as well as the Government, or any Emigration Agent that might be appointed, the rates of wages, climate, means of employment, &c., of any or all the places above specified.

7. Perhaps upon discussion some new light may be thrown upon this most interesting subject, for with a population of 134,000 natives increasing at the rate of a thousand annually, it is most important that the Government should, if an appropriate spot can be selected, lend every assistance in its power to further a well considered scheme of Emigration for the Maltese.

I have &c.,

(Signed) PAT. GRANT, *Lt. General,*
Governor.

The Right Honourable,
Earl Granville, K.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure.

V. page 13, Letter from the British Consul at Tripoli, dated 25th May 1869.

Earl Granville to Sir P. Grant.

Copy.

Confidential.

Malta.

Downing Street,
9th May 1870.

Sir,

With reference to your confidential despatch of the 14th ultimo regarding the proposed emigration of Maltese to Tripoli, I have to acquaint you that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to whom a copy of your despatch was forwarded, is of opinion that, considering the questions of jurisdiction which would arise from it, and the difficulties that would ensue, it is not advisable that this emigration in the direction of Turkish Territories should meet with encouragement.

I have &c.,

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

Sir Patrick Grant,
&c. &c. &c.

* V. page 13, Letter from the British Consul at Tripoli, dated 7th July 1870.

Government Notice.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct the publication of the annexed copy of a letter received on the 27th ultimo, with a view to ascertain whether the proposal contained in that letter, would be accepted by a considerable number of persons of the agricultural class, if the terms therein expressed should be guaranteed for a certain number of years.

Persons disposed to accept those terms are to give their names to the Superintendent of Police, the Syndics of the Country Districts in Malta, or the senior Police Officer in Gozo, according to their respective residence, until the 15th July next.

Palace, Valletta,
June 22, 1872.

By command,

VICTOR HOULTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Dawkins Caymanas, Spanish Town,
Jamaica, April 8th, 1872.

Sir,

In consequence of the want of a greater supply of regular agricultural labour in Jamaica, and having heard that the Island of Malta is thickly populated, we respectfully desire to inquire of Your Excellency the Governor of Malta, whether emigrants could be obtained by us from thence, and whether the following considerations appear favourable to the project.

1. Whether the Maltese could work at field labour in the climate of Jamaica, averaging about 82° in the shade.

2. Whether they would work for the pay of the East India Coolies here, viz., at least one shilling per day, for a fair day's work, for men, and 9d. a day for women, if they work; all sometimes earning more by the piece.

3. Whether about 400 in all, of men women and children, would emigrate soon.

4. We would engage to supply cottage, garden, and medical attendance free, if not less than five days' labour per week is supplied during not less than twenty-six weeks in the year. The periods of work being at those times when it is required for the estates.

5. The labour consisting in sugar cane field cultivation, such as hoeing, planting, cutting, &c.; and in manufacture, such as engine driving, cane grinding, boiling, &c.; and in the care of wains and cattle.

6. We wish to make no contract with them if they will pay half the cost of their own passage to Jamaica from Malta, but should they pay no part of such cost, we should wish to know what return they would contract to make to us, with regard to work.

7. We should wish to receive no men but those fit for agricultural labour.

We trust Your Excellency will permit us to lay the above project before You, although it is a private one not connected with any Government measure of Jamaica.

We shall feel obliged if Your Excellency shall direct that a reply shall be sent to us at

12 Arlington Street,
London S. W.
England.

We have &c.,

(Signed)

{ W. G. DAWKINS, *Lt. Col., of Clarendon,
Vere, and other parishes of Jamaica.*
JAS. C. MELVILLE, *Prop. of 2 Sugar
Estates and Atty. for Lord Penrhyn.*

To His Excellency,
The Governor,
Malta.

The Chief Secretary to the Syndics of the Country Districts.

Circular.

Chief Secretary's Office,
22nd June 1872.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to request that you will call the attention of the agricultural labourers in your districts, respectively, to the letter published by the Notice of this day's date, and to explain to them the nature of the proposal therein contained.

You will be good enough to inform them that the object of this inquiry is merely to enable His Excellency to reply to the question, whether there is any probability that, if the terms expressed in that letter will be guaranteed for at least a certain number of years, a considerable number of Maltese labourers would be disposed to accept the proposition.

You will forward your report as soon as practicable after the expiration of the period specified in the Notice.

I have &c.,

(Signed) VICTOR HOULTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To the
Syndics of the Country Districts.

The Syndics of the Country Districts to the Chief Secretary.

Campagna, Distretto Terzo,
Birchircara, 16 Luglio 1872.

Signore,

In riferenza alla vostra lettera del dì 22 Giugno passato, No. 122, sono nel dovere di sottomettere alla vostra considerazione che sessantasei individui residenti in questo Distretto, addetti abitualmente a lavori di agricoltura, sono disposti di emigrare per ottenere lavoro, ma per un numero determinato di anni, e con essere liberati dall'intero pagamento delle spese del loro viaggio per Giammaica.

Ho l'onore ec.,
(Firmato) M. A. BARDON,
Sindaco.

All' Onorabile,
Sir V. Houlton, G.C.M.G.,
Segretario Principale di Governo,
ec. ec. ec.

Office of the Syndic of the 6th District,
Zurricco, 16th July 1872.

Honorable Sir,

I have the honor, in reference to your letter dated 22nd ultimo, to report that the desire of His Excellency therein expressed has been carried out, and that from the class of persons alluded to, one hundred, whose names, nicknames, residence, and ages, are in a list in my possession, have declared their inclination to accept the proposal.

I have however to remark that I have no ground for assuring that, in case they are called upon to carry out their present intention, they may not retract. I make this remark in consequence of certain questions put by some of them, and of rumours that have reached me.

I have &c.,

(Signed) R. CARBONE,
Syndic.

To
The Honorable,
Sir Victor Houlton, G.C.M.G.,
Chief Secretary to Government,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 506.

Zeitun, 16 Luglio 1872.

Onorabile Signore,

Eseguite le istruzioni avute con lettera di V. S. Onorabile in data 22 Giugno p.p., mi fo un dovere rassegnare la nota degli agricoli del Distretto, disposti ad emigrare per la Giamaica.

Varj dei riportati in nota nutrono il desiderio di essere accertati della spesa che nella Giamaica sarebbero ad incontrare per le necessità urgenti, e dei comodi che troverebbero nel paese per adempire i doveri della religione che professano.

Generalmente i disposti ad emigrare trovano misera la mercede assicurata, e non bastantemente esplicita la lettera pubblicata con Notificazione del 22 Giugno p.p.

Ho l'onore ec.,
(Firmato) P. CURMY,
Sindaco.

A S. S. Onorabile,
Sir Victor Houlton, G.C.M.G., M.A.,
Principale Segretario del Governo,
ec. ec. ec.

Enclosure.

A list of 130 men of the agricultural classes, besides the wives and children of some of them.

Ufficio del Sindaco del 4to Distretto,
Naxaro, 17 Luglio 1872.

Onorabile Signore,

In referenza alla lettera di V. S. O. del 22 dello scorso mese, ho l'onore di rapportarle, che quarantacinque individui della classe agricola di questo distretto, sarebbero disposti ad emigrare per la Giamaica, qualora le condizioni offerte, fossero per loro più vantaggiose.

Ho l'onore ec.,
(Firmato) G. DARMANIN.

All'Onorabile,
Sir Victor Houlton, G.C.M.G., M.A.,
Principale Segretario di Governo,
ec. ec. ec.

Quinto Distretto,
Casal Curmi, 17 Luglio 1872.

Onorabile Signore,

In referenza alla lettera spedita dalla Signoria Vostra Onorabile in data 22 Giugno 1872, ordinando d'informare la classe agricola della proposta di emigrazione menzionata nella lettera che è stata pubblicata per mezzo della Notificazione di Governo dello stesso dì 22 Giugno ultimo, ho l'onore di trasmetterle qui inclusa una lista delle persone che dietro avviso, fatto pubblicare in ciascuna Parrocchia di questo Distretto, si sono presentate, e che, informate del contenuto di detta lettera, hanno detto essere disposte ad accettare le condizioni nella medesima lettera espresse.

Ho l'onore ec.,
(Firmato) GIO. GIAPPONE TESTAFERRATA,
Sindaco.

All'Onorabile,
Sir Victor Houlton, G.C.M.G.,
Principale Segretario di Governo,
ec. ec. ec.

Enclosure.

A list of 20 men and 6 women : the latter being the wives or daughters of those men.

Ufficio del Sindaco del 2do Distretto,
Casal Zebbug, 20 Luglio 1872.

Onorabile Signore,

In riferenza alla lettera di V. S. Onorabile in data 22 Giugno ultimo, colla quale mi ha richiesto di chiamare l'attenzione dei lavoratori agricoltori del mio Distretto, alla lettera pubblicata colla Notificazione di quella stessa data, e di spiegare loro la natura della proposta contenuta in quella lettera, ho l'onore di rapportare a V. S. O. per informazione di S. E. il Governatore, che io ho adoperato ogni mezzo possibile onde richiamare l'attenzione delle persone suddette alla succitata lettera, ed informarle dell'oggetto della medesima, e che da fra le persone della classe agricola residenti nel mio Distretto, quelle che mi si sono presentate come disposte ad accettare la detta proposta, sono in numero di diciotto, tutte del Zebbug, e hanno dato il loro nome nella nota qui acclusa.

Ho l'onore ec.,

(Firmato) G. PREZIOSI,
Sindaco.

All'Onorabile,

Sir V. Houlton, G.C.M.G.,
Principale Segretario di Governo,
ec. ec. ec.

Enclosure.

List of 18 men.

Onorabile Signore,

In risposta alla lettera direttami da S. S. Onorabile del 22 Giugno 1872, ho l'onore di dirle, che gli individui di mestiere braccianti, che a me si presentarono, e che accettarono le condizioni menzionate nella Notificazione di Governo del dì suddetto sono i seguenti:

(Names (five) omitted.)

Città Notabile, 29/7/72.

Ho l'onore ec.,

(Firmato) P. BORG CARDONA,
Sindaco.

All'Onorabile,

Sir Victor Houlton, G.C.M.G.,
Principale Segretario di Governo,
ec. ec. ec.

Memorandum by the Crown Advocate.

The total number of men apparently disposed to emigrate to Jamaica is, according to the Syndics' reports, 446, besides the wives and children of some of them. Some of those persons are said to require better terms than those offered in Colonel Dawkins and Mr. Melville's letter of the 8th April last, without specifying what improvement they wish for. — Some appear to be inclined to accept the terms of that letter, with the modification only that the passage should be *entirely* free, and that a number of years should be determined, during which the employers should be bound to continue the arrangement. — And others declared to be ready to accept the terms of that letter as they stand.

By those reports, the Government is now in a position, in reply to the said letter, to inform Colonel Dawkins and Mr. Melville that there is a probability of a considerable number of Maltese labourers emigrating to Jamaica, if such terms are offered as those persons can be expected finally to accept. But I am convinced that, with the terms offered in that letter, many, if not all, of those who now say that they are prepared to go, would, at the last moment, raise objections, ask for explanations, &c., and ultimately decline the proposal.

It is not clear from that letter, whether the writers are prepared to undertake to find work for the emigrants, even at the rate of one shilling a day, all the year round. If not, the proposal, when clearly explained, will undoubtedly be rejected. If, on the contrary, they will bind themselves to provide work for six days in the week, all the year round, the terms proposed are, I believe, acceptable, and likely to be finally accepted by a considerable number, with only the following modifications :

The passage to Jamaica should be entirely free.

The passage from Jamaica back to Malta, should also be free, if the emigrant continues his engagement in the former island for, say, eight years, or is compelled by the effects of the climate on his health, certified by two Physicians attached to the public service, to return home before the lapse of that period. If, on the contrary, the emigrant wishes to leave Jamaica before the expiration of that period, except on the said ground of health, he should be allowed to do so at his own expense. This offers to the emigrant's employer a sufficient guarantee that the former will not give up his engagement before a considerable time, *i. e.*, before he will have saved an amount equal to that of the passage money.

The proposal respecting the wages should be improved. As above stated, it should be made clear that, although the emigrant will not be bound to work more than five days per week, or for more than twenty-six weeks in the year, as stated in the above quoted letter, the employer, however, would be bound to give him work all the year round, Sundays, of course, and other days on which Roman Catholics do not work, excepted, at the established wages, if he, the emigrant, asks for it :— so that, whatever may be the amount of the wages, the emigrant should be sure to have them every working day, the whole year.

What should be the amount of those wages, depends upon the cost of living in Jamaica. A shilling a day is, according to information, more than sufficient for the cost of living and clothing, supposing that a Maltese labourer will easily accustom himself to yam, a kind of food said to be similar to potatoes, instead of bread, which, I am told, is very dear. But the scheme is not likely to succeed unless the emigrants obtain wages sufficient to enable them, without depriving themselves of necessaries, to save between two and three pence a day,—so that, at the expiration of eight years, they might return home with some money in their pockets. Whether the garden, which is proposed to be given in addition to the shilling a day, is likely to secure that profit, depends upon the extent of the ground, its fitness for tillage, the time which the labourer can spare to cultivate it, and the capital necessary for that purpose.

Colonel Dawkins and Mr. Melville offer medical attendance free. But that is not enough in sickness. Are there hospitals on, or in the vicinity of, their estates, where sick labourers can be received? It is not unlikely that, in the first year and before he will be able to put any money by, a Maltese will, not unfrequently, be, from sickness, unable to work for several days. How is he to live in that case? It appears to me that it should be explained that medical attendance includes all that is necessary for a sick man's living and restoration to health, under the directions of the medical attendant.

To ensure success it is, besides, necessary that the emigrants, if they will be in a considerable number, should be accompanied by a Maltese Priest,—perhaps, best of all, a Capuchin Friar, whose services might, I believe, be obtained without difficulty for about 2s. 6d. a day, besides a decent cottage and a garden fit for tillage. No difficulty, I presume, will be found to the erection, at the expense of the employers, of a small Roman Catholic Chapel. From what I hear of the cost of building, such a small Chapel could be built at a very small expense:—perhaps some one of the existing cottages might easily be converted into a decent Chapel. A small sum also, say £ 20, should be granted to the Priest for the utensils necessary for divine service; and about £ 2 a year should be allowed to him for keeping the Chapel and furniture in good condition.

The employers should send to Malta some proper person as their Agent, to make the requisite arrangements with the emigrants, to protect them during the passage, to lodge them and feed them, on arrival, until the agreement can fairly be set agoing. It is very unlikely that any such men will carry with them any money; and being ignorant of the language of the place, it would be next to impossible for them to find their way to their destination, and support themselves in the meantime, without such guidance and protection. If there is in Jamaica any native of Malta, fit for such duty, he would be preferable to any other person, as he could, by direct intercourse with the men in Malta, explain to them the terms of the proposed agreement, better than any Englishman.

The continuation of the agreement on the part of the employers, for a period of, say, eight years, and the payment of the passage money back to Malta, at the expiration of that period, should be guaranteed by the Jamaica Government, or some other party of undoubted means, who should undertake to support the emigrants, and provide for them passage back to Malta, in the event of a failure of the employers.

With all this, however, the remark made by the Syndic of the 6th Country District (Dr. Carbone) that the very men who now seem prepared to emigrate might change their mind when the time of departure arrives, should not be lost sight of, in any communication with Colonel Dawkins and Mr. Melville; so that, if they will appoint an Agent to carry out their scheme, they will do so with full knowledge that the Malta Government will not guarantee the final departure from Malta of any considerable number of men, whatever may be the terms definitely proposed. If, at the time of the Agent's arrival, there should happen to be plenty of work in Malta, the probability is that very few, if any, will be found disposed to go on any reasonable terms.

Thus much for the scheme proposed by Colonel Dawkins and Mr. Melville, if it is to be considered independently of any aid from Government. But it is well to consider also whether and to what extent the Malta Government should give any assistance to encourage emigration to Jamaica. That these islands are overcrowded, and that occupation for the working classes is diminishing and will probably continue to diminish, is unquestionable; and all those who have ever given a thought to the unfavourable prospects of this community, have come to the conclusion that, without emigration on a large scale, the population of these islands will, in a comparatively short period of time, fall into a state of great misery. Emigration to the Ottoman Dominions, including the Coast of Barbary, has lately been checked by the severe regulations introduced in those places respecting foreigners. To Algeria, and particularly to Bona, a large number of Maltese have, it is said, lately emigrated. But that place is not the most favorable to relieve these islands of a considerable portion of their excessively dense population, owing, chiefly, to the facility of the emigrants indulging the strong inclination of the Maltese, to return home after a short absence.

If the climate of Jamaica is suitable to the people of Malta, and if they can there find means of subsistence with such comforts as they enjoy at Malta, the Government, in my opinion, should, by way of encouragement, contribute something towards an experiment (by the emigration of some four or five hundred men) to the extent, at least, of paying for the whole of the passage out, or, if Colonel Dawkins and Mr. Melville agree to undertake that expense, of giving the emigrants a small bounty.

A better plan, perhaps, would be that of sending at once to Jamaica, some eight or ten Maltese picked labourers, to be employed by Colonel Dawkins and Mr. Melville on their own estates, for a period sufficient for them to test the place, on condition of their returning to Malta to impart to their countrymen the result of their experience, the Government paying for the passage out and back to Malta, besides a small sum (say, £ 5 a head) on their return to Malta after, at least, one year's stay at Jamaica. If those men should practically find the climate, and the terms offered, suitable to Maltese of the labouring class, they might come back in company of any Agent Colonel Dawkins and Mr. Melville would appoint to make arrangements for the emigration of a large number. The language is a serious difficulty. But, I am clearly of opinion, that it would not be too much for Government to send also with those men, some educated person conversant with the English language, and able to collect satisfactory information by actual experience, and report it to Government for publication. I believe that it would not be difficult to find such a man for a moderate sum.

17th September 1872.

(Signed) A. DINGLI,
Crown Advocate.

The Chief Secretary to Lt. Col. Dawkins and J. C. Melville, Esq.

No. 641.

Chief Secretary's Office,
Valletta, September 30, 1872.

Gentlemen,

I am desired by His Excellency the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th April, and to acquaint you in reply, that, upon the receipt of the same, the Local Government took steps, by the publication of your project in the Government Gazette with instructions to the Syndics of the various rural Districts, to call the attention of the agricultural labourers to the terms offered, as well as to explain to them the nature of the proposals contained in your letter: to give all possible encouragement to a scheme which promises to assist Emigration from these islands, and to relieve them, on equitable and remunerative terms to the parties emigrating, of a portion of their dense population.

It has resulted from the publicity given to your project, and the explanations offered by the Syndics that some 400 persons of the classes indicated in your letter, have expressed their willingness to emigrate, but some of them ask for further modifications, others new conditions, and points of enquiry, which are recapitulated under the following 8 heads, and to which, before any further steps are taken, it is desirable that you should give a distinct reply in each case.

1. It is not clear from your letter, whether you are prepared to find work for the Emigrants all the year round, that is beyond the days

specified in par. 4; and it should be clearly stated whether you will bind yourselves to find work on 6 days of the week all the year round, Sundays and other days on which Roman Catholics do not work excepted, at the established rate of wages, should the Emigrant wish to work.

2. The passage to Jamaica to be entirely free.

3. The passage back from Jamaica to Malta to be free if the Emigrant continues his engagement for (say) 8 years, or is compelled by the effects of the climate, certified by 2 Physicians attached to the Public Service, to return home before the lapse of that period. On the other hand, if the Emigrant wishes to leave Jamaica before the expiration of that period, except on the ground of health, he should be allowed to do so but at his own expense.

4. With regard to wages, the rate of a shilling a day appears to be sufficient, but it is necessary for the Maltese Emigrant that out of such rate he should be enabled, without depriving himself of the necessaries of life, to save between 2 and 3 pence a day, so that at the expiration of the 8 years he might return with some money earned. Will the profits of the garden, which is proposed to be given in addition to the shilling a day, enable him to secure a saving per diem to this amount?

5. Does the medical attendance offered, mean also reception in hospitals, *i. e.* does it include all that is necessary for a sick man's living and restoration to health, under the direction of the Medical officer, or does it mean mere medical attendance only?

6. If Emigrants from Malta are numerous, they should be accompanied by a Maltese Priest. The services of such priest would cost (say) 2s. 6d. per diem, besides a decent cottage and a garden fit for tillage. This expense, and the small expense of converting one of the cottages into a Roman Catholic Chapel, would have to be defrayed by the employers.

7. The employers should send a proper person as their Agent to Malta to make the requisite arrangements with the Emigrants, protect them during their passage, lodge and feed them on arrival and until the agreement is set going. If in Jamaica there is any native of Malta fit for such duty, he would be preferable to any other.

8. The continuation of the agreement on the part of the employers should be guaranteed by the Jamaica Government or by some persons of undoubted means and position, who should undertake to support the Emigrants, and provide for their passage back to Malta, in the event of a failure of their employers.

His Excellency the Governor would be glad to receive from you replies to these proposals and queries in each case; but I am to add that even should the replies be very favourable, also that should you appoint an Agent to Malta to carry out this project, it would not be in the power of the Malta Government, supposing that there should happen to be in Malta a great deal of work giving employment to the agricultural population at the moment of the Agent's arrival, to *guarantee* the final departure of the Emigrants, whatever may be the terms definitively proposed.

I have &c.,

(Signed) VICTOR HOULTON.

Lt. Colonel Dawkins,
Jas. C. Melville, Esq.,
12 Arlington Street,
S. W. London.

Lt. Col. Dawkins and J. C. Melville, Esq., to the Chief Secretary.

12 Arlington Street,
London S.W.

October 17th, 1872.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of September 30th, in reply to the application made for Emigrants from Malta, by Mr. Melville and myself.

Before replying upon the eight points which you name, I beg leave to represent that they indicate a character of emigration and of labour, of which sufficient already flows into Jamaica from the East Indies.

In answer to point No. 1,—

We should not engage to give labour all the year round, nor for more than five days per week, but we might sometimes give labour for six days per week, and should generally employ labourers for much more than six months in the year, if willing to work.

No. 2. — We should not give a passage entirely free, unless under the stringent conditions of Coolie immigration, the advantages and disadvantages of which system, we do not wish to incur.

No. 3. — We should make no engagement to assist them to return to Malta, as we wish them to settle in Jamaica with their families.

No. 4. — The rate of pay of one shilling per day (*i. e.* five shillings and sixpence per week) enables Coolies to amass considerable sums, but we should prefer to pay them and Maltese by piece work, as the Creoles are paid, on which terms they live without working all the year, usually cultivating grounds for their own use or profit, besides working for pay.

No. 5. — Under the terms we proposed, medical attendance does not include hospital reception. The only Jamaica hospitals are those for Coolies, and there is a public hospital at Kingston. Arrangements might probably be made for the admission of Maltese to Coolie hospitals, and we would assist regular labourers to defray the expence, which is six-pence per day.

No. 6. — Cottage, and ground for garden would be provided for a Priest, and a Chapel, but he would receive no pay from the Estate proprietors.

No. 7. — An emigration manager could be sent to Malta.

No. 8. — The laws of Jamaica at present legalize and enforce a contract for 3 years, between an employer and a labourer.

The West India Committee in London have a few days ago addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, a request that he would communicate with their Excellencies the Governors of Malta and of Jamaica, with regard to emigration. I have since placed in the hands of the West India Committee, your communication to Mr. Melville and myself, with the view of the valuable information therein contained, being laid before the Colonial Office.

It is to be regretted that Maltese apparently will not emigrate to Jamaica as practically free settlers, which was the general intention of our project, although we would have entered into contract of less stringent terms than they desire to enact.

I consider that the Maltese will not submit to the long imprisonments for trifling absences &c., which, by the laws of Jamaica (alone, of all the British West India Colonies) are arbitrarily inflicted upon East India Coolies, by the local immigration Agents.

Mr. Melville is in Jamaica, but I believe the above replies upon the 8 points, are in accordance with his views, as with my own. I am sure he will unite with me in returning our best thanks to His Excellency the Governor of Malta, for having given publicity there to our project for emigration, and for having so obligingly entered into the matter.

I have &c.,
W. G. DAWKINS,
Lt Colonel.

Victor Houlton, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to His Excellency
the Governor of Malta,
&c. &c. &c.

The Governor to the Secretary of State.

No. 131.

Palace, Valletta,
October 1, 1872.

My Lord,

I avail myself of the opportunity of forwarding copies of a correspondence that has taken place between certain gentlemen of Jamaica and this Government, on the subject of Agricultural Emigration from this Island to Jamaica, to bring to Your Lordship's notice the great want of an outlet for this teeming population.

2. Your Lordship is aware that no country of a like nature, is made to produce more by the never-ceasing industry of its people, than this rocky Island of Malta; but that this produce is but a tithe of the wants of the inhabitants, and that the increase in population by last Census averaged 1000 per annum, with a rise in price of provisions and no extra work or outlet for this enlarged population, and consequently there has been a constant increase in the number of poor with additional privations to a very hard working and most orderly labouring class.

3. On these grounds I forward this correspondence which I have entered into, not so much with the hope of its resulting in that relief to this Island which is so necessary for its future welfare, but rather from a desire that no one opportunity should be set aside that might possibly lead to it.

4. I would venture to bring to Your Lordship's notice that this occurs at a fortunate moment, as I learn by the public press that Sir John Peter Grant, the Governor of Jamaica, is at present in England, and consequently if the wants of labor in Jamaica are as great as they are represented by some individuals to be, he, on the part of that Government might be induced to undertake the guarantees required, should under such circumstances, any of this population be induced to emigrate. At all events Sir J. P. Grant might give the necessary information, whether it is advisable or not to attempt to carry out the project of Colonel Dawkins, or whether it would not be more advisable that this Government at its own expense should send a few selected labourers under engagement for one year to test the probabilities of success, and on their return to give their countrymen the benefit of their experience, which, if satisfactory, might then prove one of those outlets for this population which are so earnestly to be desired.

I have &c.,
(Signed) P. GRANT,
Governor.

The Right Honourable,
Earl Granville,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosures.

V. pages 21 and 27.

The Secretary of State to the Governor.

Malta.

No. 298.

Downing Street,
20th November 1872.

Sir,

With reference to your despatch, No. 131, of the 1st ultimo, on the question of Emigration from Malta to the West Indies, I transmit to you copy of a letter from the West India Committee and of Minutes by the Emigration Commissioners on this subject, with the documents noted in the margin.

2. It is probable that in British Guiana the number of working days (Immigration Bill, Section 91) will be increased from five to six per week, and that reindentures instead of being limited to periods of one year (Section 75), as in Trinidad, will be allowed to be for any period not exceeding five years terminable on three months' notice. In Jamaica there is no provision for reindentures.

3. Employers would doubtless require, in order to indemnify themselves for the cost of passages &c., that Maltese Immigrants should enter into a contract of service as agricultural labourers for some given period.

4. Such contract may be for five years or less in Trinidad, and for three years or less in Jamaica. If the contract be made before arrival in British Guiana the period is not limited (Bill, Section 44), but if it be made after arrival it is limited to two years (Section 49).

5. On the expiration of this contract the Immigrant may follow what calling he pleases.

6. The wages of an able bodied Immigrant are at least 24 cents in Jamaica, and 25 cents in Trinidad, per working day of nine hours, but it is found that the Indian Immigrant can earn the same amount in considerably less than nine hours at task work. In British Guiana wages are 24 cents per working day of seven hours in the field or ten in the factory.

7. Indian Immigrants are entitled to a return passage after ten years' residence unless they commute this right for a grant in land or money.

8. Asiatic Immigrants frequently return to their native country with considerable sums of money saved during their residence in the West Indies.

9. Maltese desiring to emigrate to the West Indies would have to consider for how long they would be willing to bind themselves as agricultural labourers, whether they would be content with a return passage after ten years or would stipulate for a less period of residence, and whether they are satisfied with the hours of labour, wages, dietaries, provision for the sick, and the other conditions to which I have referred, or would require any special arrangements to be provided to meet their case.

10. In the meantime I have referred the question to the Governors of Jamaica, Trinidad, and British Guiana, for their consideration, in a despatch of which I enclose a copy.

I have &c.,

(Signed) **KIMBERLEY.**

Governor

Sir Charles Van Straubenzee, K.C.B.,

&c. &c. &c.

Minute by
Em. Commrs.

16 Oct. 72.

W. I.
Committee, 16
Oct. 72.

Minute by
Em. Commrs.

22 Oct. 72.

Despatch from
Governor of
Jamaica No. 67,
19 Ap. 72.

describing
Immigration
system of
Jamaica.

Pamphlet
containing
Jamaica
Immigration
law of 1869.

Report of
Emigration
Commissioners
containing
Trinidad Law
of 1870 No. 13.

Trinidad law
of 1872.

Report of
British Guiana
Commission.

"Further cor-
respondence"
containing
British Guiana
Immigration
Bill.

14th Nov. 72.

Enclosures.

Mr. Maryat to the Earl of Kimberley.

Copy.

West India Committee,
9 Billiter Square,
London, 16th October, 1872.

My Lord,

I am desired by the West India Committee to draw your Lordship's attention to the great desirability of supplementing the labouring population of the West India Colonies by means of Immigration from Malta.

In Malta there is a superabundant population, calculated at more than fourteen hundred inhabitants to each square mile. It may be therefore assumed that Emigration to a certain extent, would be beneficial to that island, as well as to the emigrants themselves.

Your Lordship is aware that the West India Colonies present great advantages to emigrants accustomed to agricultural labour and who desire to better their condition. The Maltese might be expected to adapt themselves readily to the work in the cane field and Estates' Buildings; and in the cultivation of the different staples of Jamaica and Trinidad, such as Coffee, Cocoa, &c., their services would be peculiarly useful. Owing to the urgent want of this class of labour the rate of wages is sufficient to enable a steady labourer not only to live in comfort, but to acquire comparative wealth. The Maltese are accustomed to work in the fields in a very hot climate, and their location in the West Indies would in this respect be suitable for them, whilst they would have the benefit of the complete and effective means which already exist for the preservation of the health of labourers on the Estates. At the expiration of their term of agricultural service, they would have the opportunity of engaging in any other occupation which they may deem best for themselves, after the example of the Portuguese who emigrated to the West Indies under similar conditions to those now proposed, and who, at the present time, constitute one of the most successful and valuable classes of the population, especially in British Guiana. The Committee therefore have no doubt that if Your Lordship and the Government of Malta approve of the Emigration, and its advantages were known in that island, many of the class of people required in the West Indies would be willing to proceed thither, perhaps in families.

The Committee beg to refer Your Lordship to the Colonial Laws under which this system could be established.

By the Jamaica Act, 22 Victoria (1858) Cap. 1, the Governor is empowered (Section 4) to issue a proclamation "naming the Ports or Places from which immigration into this Colony within the meaning and subject to the provisions of this Act shall be permitted, and the conditions under which such immigration may be carried on." By the 6th Section of the same Act it is provided: "If any immigrant arriving in this island from Madeira, the Azores or the Cape de Verd islands, or from any part of Europe * * shall before his arrival have contracted with any person to perform service in this island such contract * * shall be valid in this island for the full period named therein not exceeding three years." The remainder of the Section secures the voluntary character of the contract. The above mentioned Act of 1858, and the amending Acts would, so far as Jamaica was concerned constitute the Law under which the system could be established. The expense would be provided for in the same way as that of the Indian Emigration, the direct payments by the employers being spread over three instead of five years. The Trinidad Ordinance, No. 13 of 1870 (Section 5), confers similar powers upon the Governor, and also renders contracts for five years valid in the Colony. But it would probably be more satisfactory to Your Lordship and the Government of Malta that a short Law should be passed in Jamaica Trinidad and British Guiana especially authorizing this immigration rendering valid contracts for five or three years agricultural labour, and placing the Immigrants in all other respects upon the same footing as the indentured Coolie.

It may not however be considered necessary to subject this Immigration to all the regulations of the Coolie system. The 8th Section of the Trinidad Ordinance No. 13 of 1870, as well as some passages in the other Ordinances referred to, seem to contemplate the possibility of contracts being made by emigrants with private persons at the Port of embarkation, all the necessary means being taken to secure that such contracts are voluntarily entered into, and to satisfy the Agent General in the Colony "that the Immigration has been carried on in accordance with all existing regulations of the Imperial and Colonial Governments," presumably leaving (and this could be made quite clear by further legislation if requisite) the enforcement of the agreement by either of the contracting parties, to the ordinary course of law, which appears to be quite sufficient for that purpose. This would give more freedom in settling the terms of contracts within certain specified limits, and would preclude the necessity after the Immigration Agent General had examined and approved the contracts in the Colony, of further direct action by the Government, which would in any event from the more intelligent character of the people be less necessary than in the case of the Coolie. Some different arrangement for the payment of the expenses would probably be required, but as the Immigration would benefit the whole Colony, the same proportion of assistance from the public revenue now granted in the case of the Coolie

and Portuguese Immigration might fairly be expected. The Committee need not, however, trouble Your Lordship at present with any further remarks in respect to this alternative plan, but they submit that the principle of giving as much freedom to both employer and employed as would be consistent with a proper security of the rights of each, is well worthy of consideration.

Should Your Lordship decide that the Maltese Immigration must be placed upon the same basis as the Indian system, and should the Colonial authorities inform Your Lordship that no further legislation is necessary all that seems to be required, provided the Government of Malta gives its assent, is that Valletta should be proclaimed an Emigration Port. It is probable that if either plan were adopted, a simple proclamation of the Port would meet the case and allow of an Agent commencing operations without loss of time. Under the first plan the Agent would be appointed jointly by the Governments of Jamaica, Trinidad, and British Guiana, and under the alternative plan, the employers requiring this labour would make their own arrangements as to Agency.

The Committee venture respectfully to make this application to Your Lordship, because in the present state of the West India Colonies, the opening of a new source of labour supply would be a great boon. They believe that the Governors of Jamaica and Trinidad, who are now in England, are in favour of the scheme, and they earnestly hope that Your Lordship will likewise approve of it, and will be induced to recommend it to the favourable consideration of the Government of Malta.

I have &c.,
(Signed) CHAS. MARYAT,
Chairman.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Copy.

Minute.

Mr. Herbert,

This correspondence has not yet reached the point at which Government intervention is required. Until Colonel Dawkins' answer to Sir V. Houlton's letter has been received, no opinion can be formed whether any or what assistance may be required from the Government of Jamaica. The stumbling block will probably be the free passage out and home. By the Jamaica Immigration Act of 1858, the Governor has power to name the places from which Immigrants may be introduced, and he could therefore give the necessary sanction to Maltese Immigration if it were thought desirable. But in that case it would be necessary that he should have a guarantee from the proposed employers that the expense of the Immigration should be borne by them in the proportion prescribed by the Act 24 Vict. 16 (1861). The correspondence should, I think, be communicated in the first instance to Sir J. P. Grant. The Maltese are generally industrious and hard-working, but they would probably, like the Madeirans, be more disposed to work as hucksters, and small traders than in the fields. If so their labour would not be of a nature which the public revenue of Jamaica could be expected to pay for.

(Signed) T. W. C. MURDOCH. *

16th October 1872.

Copy.

Minute.

There can be no doubt that it is desirable on the one hand to find an outlet for the excessive population of Malta, and on the other that this Emigration to the West Indies would be a benefit both to themselves and the West India Colonies. But unless the Maltese were willing to come under engagements to labour for the same term as Indian Coolies it may be matter of question whether it would be worth the while of the planters to bear the expense of their passages out and home.

The correspondence with Colonel Dawkins (Malta No. 9911) does not clear up this point. He proposes that the Maltese should pay half the costs of their own passages, and be free to accept his offers of employment or not. But if free passages are found them he asks what return they would contract to make with regard to work. Sir V. Houlton in answer stipulates for a free passage to Jamaica, and a free return passage "if the Emigrant continues his engagement for (say) 8 years." But this evidently does not bind the Emigrant to work for wages a single day after his arrival in Jamaica.

The first thing to be done is to ascertain whether the Maltese would be willing to come under indentures to work in the fields and for how long, and then to consult the Colonial Authorities as to whether they think the Emigration worth the cost of introducing the Emigrants, and upon what conditions as to residence. Of course if private individuals wish to introduce Maltese at their own expense, there could be no objection to their doing so. On the contrary it would be a very advantageous mode of trying the experiment of Maltese Immigration.

(Signed) T. W. C. M. *

22/10/72.

* Sir T. W. C. Murdoch, K.C.M.G., Chairman of Emigration Commissioners.

Governor Sir J. P. Grant to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley.

(No. 67. Jamaica.)

My Lord,

King's House, April 9, 1872.

In my despatch No. 13 of the 24th January last, I forwarded, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions conveyed in your circular despatch dated the 6th December, 1871, twelve copies of the laws in force in Jamaica relating to Indian immigrants, and in doing so I advised your Lordship that further official papers, tending to illustrate the position of Indian labourers in Jamaica, should be forwarded as soon as they could be got together and had been printed.

2. I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship twelve copies of a pamphlet in which have been collected all the Circulars and general instructions of importance under which the sub-agents of immigration are now acting.

3. I have also the honour to forward twelve printed copies of an analysis of the last monthly returns which are complete, made in usual course by the several sub-agents to the Agent-General of Immigration, and by him, after inspection and disposal, submitted in usual course to the Government Office, together with these original Returns themselves, which, perhaps, may be sent back when no longer required. These I forward for the purpose of showing how far the laws and rules in force are actually worked out in practice.

4. In thus furnishing the laws now governing the employment of Indian labour in Jamaica, and the rules in force to insure a careful and intelligent application of these laws, it may not be out of place that I should at the same time submit to your Lordship, as shortly as I can, a comprehensive statement of what the law and the practice really are in this Colony in respect of the maintenance and treatment of indentured Indian immigrants.

5. The present system on which Indian labourers are engaged and introduced as immigrants into this Colony, is governed principally by the Acts 22 Vict. cap. 1, and the 27 Vict. sec. 2, cap. 5. It is unnecessary here to do more than to mention these Acts, inasmuch as my object is to give information as to the maintenance and treatment of Indian immigrants when in the Colony; and this matter is now regulated almost exclusively by Law 34 of 1869.

6. On the 30th of September, 1866, there were only some 1761 Indian immigrants under indenture in Jamaica. 1625 were introduced in the year 1867; but none were introduced in the year 1868. Advantage was taken of this interval of cessation to review the system, and to mature a reform, both of law and practice. The state of things in this Department, in this Colony, had been so bad that I became convinced that if it could not be thoroughly reformed the whole system must be abandoned, Law 34 of 1869 was passed, and all subsequent executive action has been taken with a view to this indispensable reform.

Indenturing.

7. When an immigrant ship arrives in Jamaica, the immigrants are allotted by a responsible Officer of the Immigration Department, to such of the Managers of Estates as may have previously made application for them, under an indenture of service for five years.

8. But before any immigrants are allotted to any estates, or before any increase in the number of indentured immigrants is sanctioned, the sub-agent of the district in which the estate may be situated, is required to inspect the quarters in which it is proposed to place the immigrants and to report to the Agent-General of Immigration, the description of buildings provided, whether they be new or old, whether the site is on dry ground and properly drained, whether the buildings are properly ventilated, and whether they are in a proper state of repair. And in all cases in which the accommodation has to be built, the sub-agent is instructed to urge upon the employers to provide detached cottages for residences, in preference to barracks; the cottage system being found to tend more to the health of the coolies, and to be preferred by them; and such description of dwelling being, moreover, what they have been accustomed to at home.

9. As a matter of fact the planters have most readily met my wishes in this respect, and the building of barracks has ceased. All fresh accommodation now provided for the immigrants is upon the detached cottage system. In his Annual Report dated the 10th November, 1871, the Agent of Immigration observes "the new system of building detached cottages seems to have improved the condition of the immigrant. I am glad to say that, generally speaking, these cottages have been carefully erected by the different employers, and they are considered a great improvement on the barrack system."

10. With regard to this remark as to the manner in which the cottages have been erected, I am given to understand that on some of the estates, particularly the Holland Estate in the parish of St. Elizabeth's, the Frome and Fontabelle Estates in the parish of St. Mary's, and the Plantain Garden River Estate in the parish of St. Thomas, not only are the cottages well built and comfortable, but pleasing as well as healthy localities have been selected for their site; and that the scattered groups, in which form they have in some instances been distributed, present a cheerful and picturesque appearance.

11. The law in respect of indenturing is the 27th Vict. (Session 2), cap. 5; and it provides that it shall be lawful for the Immigration Agent to "allot and assign" any Indian immigrant for "any term not exceeding five years;" but the practice ever since the passing of that law has been to indenture the immigrant to one employer for the full term of five years. This practice seems to work well, and no complaints are made against it.

Cancellation of indentures.

12. The provisions as to cancellation of indentures are contained in the 24th and 25th sections of the Act 22nd Victoria, cap. 1. The Immigration Agent is empowered, with the sanction of the Governor, to cancel the indenture of any immigrant who shall not have been duly paid, or who shall have been ill used by his employer, or in case there shall have been any neglect of duty or breach of contract on the part of the employer; and the Immigrant Agent may also, with the sanction of the Governor, at the request of the employer and immigrant, cancel any indenture for the purpose of re-indenturing the immigrant.

Feeding.

13. By law 34, of 1839, sec. 4, the employer is bound to issue rations in kind, uncooked and including fuel, to each immigrant, according to a scale set forth in the law. The cost of these rations is fixed for each locality by the Governor from time to time by notice in the "Jamaica Gazette," and the employer is allowed to deduct the amount of such cost so fixed, and no more, from the monthly wages payable to the immigrants.

14. There is no doubt as to the sufficiency of the scale of rations, and no complaints in regard to that scale have been made. The cost may be taken at 3s. 6d. a week, or 6d. a day. This is the smallest amount which an indentured immigrant obtains, under any possible circumstances, unless he happens to be in prison, or unless he deserts. Desertion is now rare. And this amount is equivalent to four annas a day for every day in the year.

15. The law requires that rations in kind shall be supplied to every immigrant under indenture; and, if no special order is passed, this rule applies for the whole term of his five years' indentures. The law also requires, absolutely, that rations shall be supplied for at least three months after arrival in Jamaica. But if at any time after the expiration of three months the Agent-General of Immigration is satisfied that the immigrant is regularly earning and receiving, if a male, 6s. a week, or if a female, 4s. 6d. a week, and is further satisfied that the immigrant can without difficulty obtain a sufficiency of wholesome food, then the Agent-General, on the application of the immigrant, may by a written order direct that the immigrant shall no longer receive rations, but shall receive the whole of his or her wages in money, payable weekly. If at any time after thus being permitted to provide his or her own food, the immigrant shall cease to earn and receive regularly, whether in the case of a male or female, at least 3s. 6d. a week, the Agent-General or the Sub-Agent of the district is required to revoke the order taking the immigrant off the ration list, and by written order again to place him upon it.

16. By these provisions it will be seen that a supply of good and wholesome food, such as he has been accustomed to, is secured to the immigrant for, at the very least, three months after arrival, embracing the most critical period of his residence; and that it is only when an immigrant who is actually earning wages much more than sufficient weekly to enable him to purchase his own food according to his own tastes, has the opportunity readily to procure such food, that the estate is relieved from the obligation of providing good, wholesome, and customary food for him. And further, it will be observed, that whenever the immigrant may cease to earn such an amount of wages as shall be sufficient to enable him to purchase a proper amount of good and wholesome food, no matter from what cause soever, whether sickness, or bad weather, or leave, or misconduct, or any other reason, good or bad, then the obligation of the estate to provide him with such food is again imposed. Out of 4,608 indentured immigrants there were, on the 12th of February last, 513 receiving rations in kind; the rest, at their own desire, having been permitted by the Agent-General of Immigration to provide themselves with food under the circumstances before explained.

Supply of clothing.

17. When the immigrants are first allotted to the estates, the employer is required to issue gratis to each man a shirt and a pair of trousers, and to each woman a jersey with sleeves, and a petticoat.

Work and wages.

18. Every immigrant is bound by law to work for his employer for six days in each week, and for nine hours of each day; Sundays, Good Friday, and Christmas Day excepted, and except in case of sickness, such bad weather as prevents field work, or other cause beyond his control. The working day is fixed at nine hours, as was also nominally the case under the old laws. But in practice the indentured labourer on day wages goes home whenever he has done what is here recognized as a fair day's work, which is all that is incumbent on him to do. And this is accomplished in much less than nine hours by a man who does not waste his time. The employer is bound to give work for the immigrant to do, for six days in the week, unless the weather be so bad that field work is impossible, under penalty of having to compensate the immigrant for every day's wages lost to him through having no work given him to do. For each day's work an immigrant is entitled to be paid, if a male adult, not less than 1s. a day; if a female adult, not less than 9d. a day; and the immigrant on his part is bound, in consideration of such payment, to do every working day a fair day's work of nine hours, having regard to age and strength. By mutual consent, however, leave for one or more days may be given and taken, and for such days no wages are payable. But should both the immigrant and his employer desire it, an agreement may be entered into for working by task. The rates of task work, in this event, must be sanctioned by the Agent-General of Immigration; and this officer is bound, before recognizing the agreement, to ascertain that it is freely and intelligently made by both parties. And, further, the Agent-General has to satisfy himself that the rate of task work is sufficient to afford wages of at least 1s. a day, with only ordinary exertion. This agreement can be put an end to at any time by the Agent-General of Immigration, should he find sufficient cause for so doing. Out of 4,608 indentured immigrants there were, on the 12th of February last, 1,056 upon task work, the remainder being upon day wages.

19. It is necessary here to state that, when under the Jamaica Law, 34 of 1869, "day wages" are mentioned, day wages are meant. Under the old Jamaica Laws, and indenture bonds, the only stipulated pay was day wages. But in practice neither day wages nor anything having a resemblance to day wages were known. Thus, when a man was too weak to do the day's work of a strong man he was half starved, or more than half starved, and so was made weaker still, recovery of strength being often made impossible to him. By the new law, if a weak man works fairly in proportion to his strength for working hours, he gets not only his full meals, but his full day's wages. It is not his fault if weakly men are imported from India.

Penalties for
not working.

20. No employer of an indentured immigrant has any power in his own hands to stop an immigrant's wages, either for a day or for any portion thereof. For every working day upon which work could be performed, and the immigrant was not on leave or sick, or on task work, the employer is bound to pay the full amount of the day's wages, 1s. in the case of a male, or 9d. in the case of a female. The employer is not permitted to be the judge as to whether the work was performed and the money earned or not; but in cases of failure to work fairly, the employer's remedy is by complaint to the Immigration Officer upon his periodical visit to the estate, who, after a summary investigation, on being satisfied of the justness of the complaint, may adjudge the offender to forfeit to his employer one day's wages (exclusive of rations), or such portions thereof, as may appear to be proper, for every day's default or portion thereof. And the Immigration Officer is entrusted with the further power of sentencing and committing the offender to the nearest prison for any term not exceeding one month, with hard labour. And in cases of persistent idleness and determined breach of agreement, for which the limited powers of the Immigration officers may be considered insufficient, the offender can be brought before the District Court, and may be punished by a fine not exceeding an amount equal to three day's wages for every day's default, or by imprisonment with hard labour for a term not exceeding two months; or both penalties may be inflicted; and besides the offender being adjudged to forfeit to his employer the whole, or a portion of the wages payable for the days on which default was made; and in cases of a second conviction before a District Court, the term of imprisonment with hard labour may be extended to four months. I am not aware, however, of one single instance in which a case of complaint has been brought before the District Court. I believe that all the cases of complaint which have occurred have been disposed of, and, as the absence of resort to the District Court would tend to show, satisfactorily disposed of, by the officers of the Immigration Department.

21. While, therefore, the law carefully protects the immigrant, and compels the employer to pay him the stipulated rate of wages, whether he considers those wages to have been earned or not, and does not permit the employer to be the judge in his own cause, so does it protect the employer, and furnish him with the means of recovering wages paid but not earned, and of punishing an immigrant's idleness or misconduct by means of a summary and quasi-judicial process, conducted by a disinterested officer.

Penalty on
employer for
breach of law.

22. Due provision has also been made in "Law 34 of 1869" for the protection of the immigrant against his employer in cases where the employer shall, to the injury of the immigrant, commit a breach of any requirement of the Immigration Law. Besides the power of fining the employer given to the officers of the Immigration Department by the old laws, the Agent-General of Immigration, or a Sub-Agent of Immigration is empowered, under the 14th section of the new law, in cases of complaint made by any immigrant labourer, for non-payment of wages, or for breach of any requirement of the Immigration Law, or for any injury or damage sustained, to file an action, on behalf of such immigrant, in the Court of the District Judge, at the risk and cost of the Immigration Fund. And in cases of persistent breach of the requirements of the law by any employer of immigrants, the Officers of Immigration may have recourse to the District Court, without any complaint being in the first instance made by any immigrant labourer; and should the employer be adjudged guilty of such breaches of the law, he is punishable by a fine not exceeding 50l., with costs.

23. I am happy to say, however, that I believe there is but one instance on record in which any necessity has arisen for putting this provision of the law into force; and in that instance, although the case was entered for trial, it was afterwards withdrawn by the Immigration officer, as, before it could proceed for trial, the wages claimed by the Immigration officer on behalf of the coolies were all paid.

The care of sick.

24. The care of the sick is provided for in Jamaica by sections 21 to 31 of the new Law. The provisions for this purpose are upon a new principle, as making the medical attendant of the coolies a Government officer, instead of a servant of the employer. They empower the Government to establish and maintain union hospitals, that is, hospitals common to several estates lying near together. There are already eleven of this union hospitals in Jamaica, by which medical care of the indentured immigrants on forty-four estates is provided for. Every estate not connected with a union hospital is required to provide its own hospital on the estate. Government medical officers are appointed to attend to every estate. The medical officer is required by the law to visit every estate to which he is appointed at least once every fortnight, and where there may be no union hospital attached to such estate, as much oftener than once a fortnight as may be necessary, in case of sickness occurring. He is also bound to attend at any time, when summoned by the person in charge of the estate on account of the sickness of an indentured immigrant. The medical man

being no longer the servant of the employer, but a Government officer, has nothing to influence him except his professional feeling of interest in his patients; and thus he becomes an unimpeachable witness in all cases turning upon questions of health.

25. It is satisfactory to find that these measures have not been without good result. Last year the average death rate of indentured immigrants, which has been in Jamaica much higher, was not more than 2.6 per cent.; and on forty-one estates, upon which 1,575 indentured immigrants are employed, out of the 87 no deaths at all occurred.

Immigration staff.

26. In Jamaica on the 12th day of February, 1872, there were on the books of the Immigration Department 4,608 indentured immigrants. These are employed on eighty-seven estates, which are allotted into six regular districts, each district being in charge of a Sub-Agent of Immigration. There are besides two small outlying districts in which the Government medical officer acts as sub-agent. It is the duty of the sub-agent to visit such estate at least once every month, although as a matter of fact estates are visited oftener. Travelling charges being allowed to sub-agents on the principle of mileage, there is no difficulty in securing their frequent visits. Indeed, it has been found advisable to desire them not to visit estates without special necessity oftener than twice a month; whilst they are required to visit all their estates at least once a month. The sub-agent on his visits examines the books, to see that all the wages that should have been paid, have been paid; he hears and adjudicates complaints both on the part of the employer and employed; he ascertains that the rations have been duly furnished; he inspects the hospitals; he is required to keep up a "Summary Case Book," and a general Note Book in the form of a diary; and, in short, it is his duty to examine minutely and carefully into the general condition of the indentured immigrants, and especially to ascertain whether the law has been fulfilled in all its provisions, or not. The result of his investigation, in regard to earnings and health, he records in monthly Returns, — the forms of which will be found in the accompanying pamphlet. These Returns are rendered to the Agent-General of Immigration, who, after examination and calling for any further report or explanation that may be necessary, sends them up to the Governor with a certificate that the wages have been duly paid to the indentured Immigrants according to law, and that in cases where the full weekly amount is shown not to have been paid, the deficiency is owing to lawful causes duly ascertained.

27. It is to these Returns that the inclosed analysis relates; and the manuscript papers, which accompany it, are a set of these Returns, in original, for one month. As the visits of the Sub-Agent for the above purposes must never be less frequent than monthly, except in consequence of his insufficiency or negligence, no abuse can have long existence; and it is for the Agent-General to see that the Sub-Agents are neither inefficient nor negligent.

Condition of immigrants after expirations of indentured service.

28. After the five years' term of indentured service has expired, the immigrant is then at liberty to follow any occupation he may please. As a fact, the great majority continue to work as free agricultural labourers on the estates; but some become shopkeepers, and several have amassed considerable sums of money in following this pursuit. In my opinion this period of five years free labour is by far the most valuable feature in the whole system, not only in respect to the immigrant himself, but also in respect to the planters of the Colony as a body. There are planters who employ free immigrant labour largely, who have no immigrants indentured to them. After a residence of ten years in Jamaica, every Indian immigrant becomes entitled to a free passage back to India, or he may forego this right by accepting a grant of ten acres of land, or a money payment of 12*l.*, or a proportion of each; and every immigrant who becomes entitled to a return passage, and claims it, is entitled to a payment on account of demurrage, at the rate of 25*s.* for every six months he may be detained for want of a ship, after he has become entitled to his return passage.

29. Last year 2,140 of the Indian Immigrants in Jamaica were entitled to back passage; and of these 925 took advantage of the opportunity and returned to India; and 1,215 commuted their claim for a payment in money, preferring to settle in Jamaica as permanent colonists. This year the proportion who will elect for bounty is expected to be very much larger.

Invalids.

30. Return passages are also granted to immigrants at any time during their industrial term of ten years, who from chronic sickness, or from accident, or from other cause, become incapacitated for labour. In certified cases of this nature, an estate is relieved from an indentured immigrant thus incapacitated, and the invalid is removed to the Coolie Depôt, established in Spanish Town, where he receives careful medical treatment, and all his necessary wants are supplied until an opportunity occurs for returning him to India. This Depôt is also open for the reception of all non-indentured sick and destitute Indian immigrants; from amongst whom, also, incapacitated invalids out of indenture, but still in their term of ten years' residence, are sent back to India. During the year ended on the 30th September last, 311 immigrants were treated in this institution, viz.:— 241 male adults, 47 female adults, 13 male children, and 10 female children. Out of these 209 were discharged cured, 40 were relieved, 9 died, and 53 were still in the Depôt on the 30th day of September 1871. About one-half of these last will be sent to India in a ship now in Kingston Harbour, chartered to convey returning immigrants to Calcutta.

Conclusion.

31. I have every reason to believe that the laws, and the practice followed under those laws, as now existing in Jamaica, in respect of Indian immigrants, are such as give pretty general satisfaction. They are certainly such as are just and equitable, both to the

employer and to the employed. On the part of the employer I am not aware of the existence of any complaint; and, on the part of the employed, it is my belief that the vigilant supervision that is exercised by the Government, through the Immigration Department, effectually secures to the immigrant his full rights, and fulfils all the expectations that are legitimately held out to him in India.

I have &c.,

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

JAMAICA—LAW 34 OF 1869.

A Law to amend the Immigration Laws.

[16th July, 1869.]

Preamble.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the laws relating to immigration: Be it enacted by the governor of Jamaica, with the advice and consent of the legislative council thereof, as follows:

Short title.

First—This law may be cited as “The Immigration Acts Amendment Law, 1869.”

Immigrants of or above twelve years of age, to be deemed adults.

Second—For the purposes of this law an Indian immigrant, under indentures made in conformity with the laws relating to immigrant laborers shall be considered an adult, when of the age of twelve years, or upwards; and the agent-general of immigration shall have power to determine, when the age of any such immigrant cannot be ascertained, whether he be an adult or not; and, in such cases, in regard to any such immigrant who is not an adult, he shall have power of fixing the date on which such immigrant shall be considered to become an adult.

So much of 27 Vic. c. 5, and of other immigration laws &c. repealed.

Third—So much of the act of the twenty-seventh of Victoria, chapter five, “The Immigration Amendment Act, 1864,” and so much of any other immigration act as authorizes the re-indenturing, or the re-allotting, or the re-assigning of an Indian immigrant, on his attaining the age of twelve years, are hereby repealed.

Employers of indentured immigrants brought to this island in 1869, or subsequent years, to supply rations as fixed by governor in privy council, and published in Jamaica Gazette.

Fourth—The employer of every Indian immigrant under indentures made in conformity with the laws relating to immigrant laborers, and introduced into this island any time in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, or in any subsequent year, is hereby required to supply to every such immigrant in his employment, during the whole of his indentured service, daily rations, according to such scale as the governor, in privy council, from time to time shall determine; and such scale, when so determined and published in the “Jamaica Gazette,” shall be obligatory on every such employer; and until the governor in privy council shall otherwise determine, the following shall be the scale of rations which it shall be obligatory upon such employer so to supply; that is to say.

Until otherwise determined, the following to be the scale:

For every such adult immigrant daily, one pound and one-half of a pound of rice, or, with the consent in writing, of the agent-general of immigration, instead of rice, two pounds of cornmeal (ground maize), or two pounds and one-half of a pound of cooked cassava (manioc), or five pounds of raw cassava (manioc), or four pounds of raw yams or raw cocoas; and with the consent in writing, of the agent-general of immigration, the daily ration aforesaid may be varied, so that on certain days one of the aforesaid articles may be given, and on certain other days other of the aforesaid articles may be given, instead of rice; and also for every such person monthly, eight pounds of split peas, and six pounds of saltfish, or eight pounds of mutton, beef, or goat's flesh; and one pound of ghee, or one pint of sweet oil, or of cocoanut oil; and one pound of salt; and two ounces of dry pepper or pimento; and sufficient wood for fuel; and for every such non-adult immigrant, being of the age of one year or upwards, half the aforesaid rations, at the expense of the employer of such immigrant.

Proviso.

And all such rations shall be supplied by the employer; and no order for goods on any shopkeeper or other person shall be given instead of such rations, or of any part thereof; and no rations, supplied otherwise than is hereby provided, shall be allowed in the employer's account as a charge against an indentured immigrant: Provided, That at any time after any such adult indentured immigrant shall have been three months in Jamaica, if the agent-general of immigration is satisfied that such immigrant is regularly earning and receiving, if a male of sixteen years of age and upwards, six shillings a-week, and if a male between twelve and sixteen years of age, or a female of any age, four shillings and sixpence a-week, and is also satisfied that such immigrant can, without difficulty or loss of working hours, or immoderate cost supply himself or herself with a sufficiency of wholesome food, then, on the application of such immigrant, and subject to such general or other instructions as the governor may give, the agent-general of immigration may direct, by written order, that such immigrant shall no longer receive rations, but shall receive the whole of his or her wages in money payable weekly; but if, at any time after having given such an order, and during the term of indenture of such immigrant, the agent-general of immigration, or the sub-agent is satisfied that such immigrant has ceased regularly to earn and receive wages at the rate of at least three shillings and six-pence a week, the agent-general of immigration, or the sub-

agent shall, by a written order, revoke the said direction, and thereupon notice of such revocation being given to the employer, or his agent, or manager, all the provisions of this clause, requiring the supply of daily rations, shall immediately come again into effect in relation to such immigrant.

Rations to be charged at cost price, and governor may from time to time declare in Jamaica Gazette such cost price.

Fifth—Rations duly supplied according to this law to an adult indentured Indian immigrant laborer, may be charged for by the employer supplying the same against such immigrant, at the usual cost price of the several articles supplied at the place where such immigrant is employed; and the governor from time to time may fix, and by notice in the "Jamaica Gazette" may declare for this purpose, the cost price of such rations in all or any of the places where such immigrants are employed.

Adult immigrant in the absence of express agreement, and except under certain conditions bound to work six days of each week, and nine hours of each day, certain holidays excepted.

Sixth—Every such adult immigrant as aforesaid, in the absence of any express agreement to the contrary, such agreement being notified to the agent general of immigration, or to the sub-agent, whose duty it shall be, before recognizing it, to ascertain that the agreement is freely and intelligently made by both parties, and except in case of such bad weather as prevents field work, or of illness, or of other good cause beyond his control, shall be bound to work upon the estate mentioned in his indenture, or otherwise, for the service of his employer for six days of each week, and for nine hours of each day, except only on Sundays, Good Friday, and Christmas day.

Rate of wages not less than one shilling per diem for males of above 16, ninepence per diem for males between 12 and 16, and for females of any age.

Seventh—Every such adult immigrant, being a male of the age of sixteen years or upwards, shall be paid, by day wages, at the rate for each working day of not less than one shilling a-day; and being a male of any age between twelve and sixteen years, or a female of any age, shall be paid, by day wages, at the rate for each working day, of not less than ninepence a-day; and every such immigrant shall be bound to do every working day a fair day's work of nine hours a-day, having regard to his or her age and strength.

By mutual agreement sanctioned by agent-general, immigrant may do task work if he shall thereby earn at least one shilling per diem.

Eighth—Any such adult immigrant, instead of working for days' wages, may, if desired both by himself and his employer, do task work at rates sanctioned by the agent-general of immigration; and such sanction may at any time be revoked by the agent-general of immigration; and no rate of task work shall be approved unless it is sufficient to afford to a male of sixteen years of age or upwards, at least one shilling a-day, with only ordinary exertion, and more with extraordinary exertion: Provided, That nothing in this or any other immigration law shall be deemed to prevent any such immigrant from making any bargain he pleases with his employer for working at any time extra hours by night or otherwise.

Employer to find work for every adult immigrant for six days in a week.

Ninth—Every such employer as aforesaid shall be bound to give work to every such adult immigrant as aforesaid for six days in every week, except the authorized holidays above-mentioned, and days when field work is impossible by reason of very bad weather; and if any such adult immigrant, being willing and able to work, has no work given him to do on any working day, then he shall be entitled to his full day's wages for every day so lost to him: Provided, That by mutual consent one or more days' leave may be given and taken without wages.

Excess of wages beyond rations to be paid monthly.

Tenth—The excess earned by every such adult immigrant, beyond the authorized charge for his own rations, shall be paid to such immigrant in cash, at the end of every calendar month.

Penalty on adult immigrant who, unless prevented by good cause, shall fail to do each day a fair day's work.

Eleventh—Every such adult immigrant who, unless prevented by illness or other good cause, shall fail to work, as required by section seventh of this law, or who, without good cause, shall fail on any working day to do a fair day's work, may, on complaint being made to the agent general of immigration, or to a sub-agent of immigration, after a summary investigation be adjudged by such officer to forfeit to his employer one day's wages, or a portion thereof for every day's fault, and may also be sentenced and committed by such officer to the nearest prison, there to be kept at hard labor for any term not exceeding one month: Provided, That nothing in this law contained shall be deemed to effect any power of fine or imprisonment now by law given to the agent-general of immigration, or to a sub-agent.

Proviso.

Penalty on adult immigrant who without reasonable cause shall persist in not doing a fair day's work, regularly every working day.

Twelfth—Every such adult immigrant, who, without just and reasonable cause, shall persist in not working regularly every working day, or in not working for the full time required every day, or who shall, without such cause, persist in not doing every working day a fair day's work, regard being had to his age and strength, on complaint made to the judge of the district court, whether by the agent-general of immigration, or by the sub-agent, or by the employer, or his agent, may, after summary trial by such judge, be punished by a fine, not exceeding an amount equal to three days' wages for every day default, or by imprisonment with hard labor for a term not exceeding two months, or with both penalties, besides being adjudged to forfeit to his employer the whole or a portion of the wages payable for the days on which default was made; and in case of a second conviction under this section a sentence not exceeding four months' imprisonment, with hard labor, may be passed by the judge.

Compensation to immigrant, in case of unjust charge.

Thirteenth—In cases of complaint, made under the last preceding section of this law by the employer or his agent, it shall be lawful for the judge, if the accused immigrant is acquitted, to award him, as against the complainant, compensation for time lost in consequence of the charge, as well as other costs and expenses, if the judge thinks proper to make such award under all the circumstances of the case.

Agent-general may on complaint of immigrant, file action on his behalf in district court and without complaint where employer persistently commits a breach of any requirement of the immigration law.

Proviso, giving appeal to the supreme court.

Agent-general or sub-agent may try all cases on which he shall consider hard labour for one month to the immigrant, and a fine not exceeding £ 5 to the employer sufficient penalty.

Except charges which may be determined by agent-general or sub-agent, all charges to be heard and determined in the first instance by the judge of the district court.

To secure payment of penalty by employer, &c. goods on the estate may be distrained.

Fines to be carried to immigration fund.

22 Vic. c. 1, sec. 53 repealed, and penalties imposed by agent-general or sub-agent to be enforced as penalties by justices of the peace.

Goods distrained to be kept 14 days if not sooner redeemed.

Governor may constitute in any district union hospitals.

For such purpose governor may contract for purchase or lease of land and buildings.

Fourteenth—It shall be lawful for the agent-general of immigration, or a sub-agent of immigration, in cases of complaint made by any immigrant laborer under indenture, in accordance with the immigration acts, whether such laborer was introduced into this island before or after the commencement of the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, against his employer, or an attorney, agent, or servant of his employer for non-payment of wages, or for breach of any requirement of this law, or of any other law in force, or for any injury or damage sustained, to file an action on behalf of such immigrant in the court of the district judge, at the risk and cost of the immigration fund; and, without complaint made, it shall be lawful for such officer, when he is of opinion that an employer, or an attorney, agent, or servant of an employer of any such immigrant persistently commits a breach of any requirement of this or any other immigration law in force, to lodge a complaint in the district court; and the judge of such court shall have full power to determine the matter, and if the employer, or his attorney, agent, or servant be adjudged guilty, to inflict a fine upon him not exceeding fifty pounds, with costs, which fine however may be made subject to reduction, at the judge's discretion, on compliance by the defendant with the requirements of the law: Provided, That in all cases tried under this law an appeal shall lie from the decision of the district court judge to the supreme court.

Fifteenth—The agent-general of immigration and sub-agent shall have power to try and determine in a summary manner all cases of alleged breach of this or of any other immigration law, where he may be of opinion, when an indentured laborer is defendant, that imprisonment, with hard labour for a term not exceeding one month, will be a sufficient penalty; and when an employer, or any attorney, agent, or servant of an employer is defendant, that a fine not exceeding five pounds will be a sufficient penalty; and these officers are hereby authorized, in all such cases, to inflict the penalties authorized by law to such extent.

Sixteenth—Except charges which by this or any other immigration law in force for the time being, may be taken up and determined by the agent-general of immigration or a sub-agent, all charges against immigrant laborers under indentures, and against the employers of such immigrants, or their attorneys, agents, or servants for any breach of this law, or of any other immigration law, shall be heard and determined in the first instance by the judge of the district court, within the jurisdiction of which the breach, as charged, was committed, and no other court hereafter shall have jurisdiction in the first instance in any such cases.

Seventeenth—Whenever under this law judgment is given against, or a penalty is imposed upon an employer, or an attorney, agent, or servant of an employer of an indentured immigrant laborer for non-payment of wages, or for breach of this or any other immigration law in force for the time being, such judgment and penalty, if not immediately satisfied and paid by the defendant, may be levied by process of distress either against his goods, or against any produce, stock, or other property on the estate on which the complainant was employed.

Eighteenth—All fines inflicted under this or any other immigration law shall be carried to the credit of the immigration fund.

Nineteenth—The fifty-third section of the act twenty-second Victoria, chapter one, "The immigration Act, 1858," is hereby repealed; and all penalties and forfeitures imposed by the agent-general of immigration, or a sub-agent under the said or under this law, or under any other immigration law, may be enforced in a summary manner by such agent-general, or sub-agent, in like manner as penalties and forfeitures imposed by justices of the peace may by law be enforced; and the agent-general of immigration, and the sub-agent shall be entitled to the like protection as is or shall be afforded by law to justices of the peace; and the aggregate amount of several penalties, in respect of any number of immigrants under one employer, may be included in one conviction.

Twentieth—It shall be lawful to keep all goods and chattels distrained under this law for the space of fourteen days, if not sooner redeemed; and no distress shall be repleviable unless the claimant shall file in the district court of the district wherein such estate is situate, an affidavit, showing how, and in what manner the goods and chattels so distrained on were not so liable, and the grounds upon which the adverse claim is founded, and shall procure an order of the judge of the said district court, authorizing the issuing of such replevin, an attested copy of which order shall be served with the copy declaration of replevin.

Union Hospitals.

Twenty-first—It shall be lawful for the governor from time to time as he shall see occasion, to constitute in any district wherein there shall be several estates, or other properties on which indentured immigrants shall be located, a union hospital, or union hospitals, for the reception therein of sick and infirm immigrants, and to determine and fix the estates and properties which shall be entitled to have the benefit of the said hospitals respectively.

Twenty-second—For the purpose aforesaid it shall be lawful for the governor to make arrangements with the proprietors or lessees of any particular estate or other property, for the purchase or lease of such lands and buildings, or lands only, as to the governor shall appear necessary and proper, and for full and free right of access, ingress, egress, and regress to and from the same, over other the lands of the said estate or property where necessary;

and the titles or leases shall be vested in the colonial secretary of Jamaica, and his successors, for the immigration service of the colony.

Governor may authorize erection of new buildings, or improvement of others.

Twenty-third—The governor may from time to time authorize the erection of new buildings, or the improvement and enlargement of any existing buildings, and the erection or extension of the necessary offices upon the said premises, to render them fit and convenient for the purposes aforesaid.

Purchase money or rent to be paid from immigration fund and to be re-imbursed by annual rent charge, on employers of immigrants entitled to the use of the hospital.

Twenty-fourth—The purchase money or rent to be paid for the said premises, and the cost and expense of such erections and improvements shall be paid in the first instance out of the immigration fund, and shall be reimbursed in the form of an annual rent charge, to be fixed by the governor to the said fund by the several employers of indentured immigrants entitled to the use of such hospital or hospitals, in a fair and due ratio and proportion, according to the number of immigrants indentured to them respectively.

Governor may appoint to union hospital medical officers, &c.

Twenty-fifth—It shall be lawful for the governor to appoint to every such union hospital such medical officers, matrons, nurses, attendants, and persons as to him shall seem fit, and their appointments shall be during pleasure; and the medical officers of every such hospital shall have the medical charge of all immigrants received therein.

Salaries, &c., to be paid from immigration fund, employers to pay for medicines and nourishment.

Twenty-sixth—The salaries and allowances to such medical officers, matrons, nurses, attendants, and other persons, shall be paid out of the immigration fund; and the employers of indentured immigrants sent as patients to any such union hospital shall pay for the medicines and nourishment supplied to such immigrants when in any such union hospital, after such daily rate for each such immigrant as shall be for that purpose fixed by the governor, in privy council, not being more than sixpence a-day.

Employers to send all indentured immigrants to union hospitals. Obligations to provide hospitals on estates to cease.

Twenty-seventh—The several employers of indentured immigrants, who shall be declared by the governor entitled to the benefit and use of any such union hospital as aforesaid, are hereby required to send to such hospital all such immigrants who shall, from sickness or other cause, be in need of medical care and attention; and the obligation heretofore imposed upon such employers to provide on each estate an hospital for sick immigrants, shall from that time cease and determine.

After notification in the Jamaica Gazette of the establishment of a union hospital, or appointment of a government medical officer proprietors of the estates specified shall no longer be required to procure the services of a medical man, government medical officers shall thereafter attend the immigrants.

Twenty-eighth—From and after the notification in the "Jamaica Gazette" of the fact that a union hospital has been established in any district for certain specified estates, or of the fact that a government medical officer has been appointed to attend the indentured immigrants of any specified estate, proprietors of estates so specified shall no longer be required to procure the services of a medical man, whether at the cost of the estate, or at the cost of the immigrants, to attend indentured immigrant laborers on their estates: Government medical officers shall be appointed to attend estates for this purpose, whose salaries shall be a charge upon the immigration fund; and the persons in charge of estates whereon indentured immigrant laborers are employed, are hereby required to give to such medical officers, whenever they visit the estate, all reasonable facilities for ascertaining the state of health of all the immigrants on the estate, and to follow the reasonable directions of such medical officers, for the purpose of maintaining the immigrants generally in good health, and to send, at the cost of the estate, to the union hospital, any immigrant whom such medical officer may direct so to be sent thither; and the governor shall have authority, if he shall think fit, to appoint any such medical officer to be sub-agent of immigration in respect to any estate to which he is appointed to give his medical attendanee.

Government medical officer to visit every estate to which he is appointed at least once a fortnight, and when no union hospital as much oftener as may be necessary.

Twenty-ninth—It shall be the duty of the government medical officer, appointed to attend the indentured immigrants of an estate, to visit every estate to which he is appointed at least once a fortnight, and where there is no union hospital, as much oftener as may be necessary in cases of sickness occurring; and whether there be a union hospital or not, at any time when summoned by the person in charge of the estate, by reason of the severe sickness of an indentured immigrant, or of an accident to such immigrant, such as to prevent his being immediately sent to the union hospital, if there be one.

Deduction to be allowed to employers in monies payable to government when immigrant in union hospital more than 30 days in one year.

Thirtieth—In case any immigrant shall be in an union hospital from sickness or other infirmity for any number of days in the aggregate, in any one year exceeding thirty days, the employer of such immigrant shall be entitled to a proportional rebate or allowance for the loss of the service of such immigrant beyond the said thirty days, from the monies payable by such employer to the government of this island; and every such indentured immigrant shall be required to make good, after the expiration of his term of five years, the time beyond thirty days in any one year so lost to his employer: Provided, That the employer shall be bound to continue payment to the government in the respect of such additional service.

Governor may relieve employer from the charge of an immigrant incapable of service from permanent infirmity or sickness.

Thirty-first—It shall be lawful for the governor, whenever he shall see fit, to relieve any estate or property, or the employer of an indentured immigrant from the charge of an immigrant incapable of service from permanent infirmity or sickness; and to direct that such immigrant shall be received into and retained in any union hospital, or in any general depot which may be established, at the charge of the immigration fund.

Payments of cost of immigrants may be made by moieties.

Thirty-second—The payments required by the laws in force to be made by employers for the repayment of the cost of importation of Indian immigrants, shall from and after the coming into operation of this law, be payable by moieties half-yearly, instead of by annual payments; and the laws for the recovery and enforcement of such annual payments shall be applicable to the recovery and enforcement of the moieties thereof.

Vic. 22 c. 1 sec. 38 repealed, and sub-agent to collect and administer property of deceased immigrant.

Thirty-third—The thirty-eighth section of "The immigration Act, 1858," is hereby repealed, save as to acts done under or in pursuance thereof; and it shall be the duty of the sub-agent of immigration to collect and take possession of all property, monies, and assets whatsoever of any immigrant who shall die in this island, and, with the sanction of the governor, to deliver or pay such property, monies, and assets to any person in this island who shall establish a right to the same, or, in the absence of any such person, to convert all property of such immigrant, which shall not consist of money, into money, and pay the proceeds thereof, as well as all monies of such deceased immigrant, to the treasurer of this island, to be remitted to the person or persons in India or elsewhere who may be entitled thereto.

Applications in 1868 in form on schedule A, sufficient to bind applicants.

Thirty-fourth—An application made in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight for Indian immigrants, to arrive in the course of the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, in the form A, in the schedule to this law annexed, or in any like form, is hereby declared to be a sufficient application for Indian immigrants under the laws relating to immigration, to render the proprietor or manager, who shall have made such application, liable to the forfeiture by "The immigration Act, 1858," imposed in case of neglect or refusal to enter into the indenture and contract, in case such proprietor or manager shall neglect or refuse to enter into the indenture and contract by this law required to be entered into in the case of immigrants arriving in or after the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine.

The forms B, C, D, and E to this law may be used for forms under previous act.

Thirty-fifth—For all future cases of application and indenture under the immigration laws, the form of application, and the form of indenture, and the form of contract for service, and the form of authority to distrain, set forth in schedules B, C, D, and E to this law annexed, or forms to the like effect, may be used for the form of application No. 2, and the form of indenture No. 4, in the schedule to the "Immigration Act, 1858," annexed, and the form of contract No. 1, and the form of authority to distrain No. 2, in the schedule annexed to the act twenty-fourth Victoria, chapter sixteen; and every such indenture and contract of service shall be entered into by and with the agent-general of immigration.

Not necessary to prove indenture or contract by attesting witness.

Thirty-sixth—It shall not be necessary to prove by the attesting witness any indenture or contract entered into under the "Immigration Act, 1858," or under this law, or any other law or laws relating to immigration; but such indenture or contract may be proved by admission or otherwise, as if there had been no attesting witness thereto.

Sections of laws in force to be read as if schedules B, C, D, and E were the forms in those laws.

Thirty-seventh—The several sections of the acts in force relating to immigration shall, as to all applications, indentures, contracts, and authorities to distrain, entered into, or put into operation after the passing of this law, where necessary, be read as if the several forms in the schedules B, C, D, and E to this law annexed, were the forms included in the schedules annexed and referred to by the said acts, and all such sections shall be incorporated with this law.

SCHEDULE A.

Sir,

Pursuant to the notice in the "Gazette by Authority," dated _____ I beg to intimate to you, on behalf of my constituent, _____ the proprietor of _____ estate, in the parish of _____ that he is desirous to indenture on that estate immigrants to be introduced here from India, and, on behalf of my constituent, I hereby express his willingness to accept the services of so many of such immigrants as shall be allotted to him, not exceeding the number above applied for, upon the terms and conditions of "The Immigration Act, 1858," and any other act or acts relating to immigrants, immediately after the arrival of such immigrants, or that he will forfeit and pay to the agent-general of immigration for the time being, a sum equal in the whole amount he would be required to pay for immigrants allotted to him, if, after their introduction, such immigrants should have been indentured to him, according to the provisions of the said act or acts; and the description of the buildings in which the immigrants are to be located is as stated hereunder.

My power of attorney bears date the _____ folio _____

and is recorded in the secretary's office, libro _____

I have &c.,

attorney for

DESCRIPTION OF BUILDINGS.

(Here state them.)

T. W. M. Anderson, Esq. agent-general of immigration, Spanish-Town.

SCHEDULE D.

FORM OF CONTRACT FOR PAYMENT BY EMPLOYERS.

I, _____ of, &c. (or we _____ and _____ of, &c. by _____ our attorney," duly authorized in this behalf, as the case may be), do hereby contract with the agent-general of immigration in respect of _____ Indian immigrants, whose numbers and names are hereupon endorsed and written, indentured to me (or "us," as the case may be), the said _____ for five years, by indenture of equal date herewith, and located on _____ estate, in the said parish of _____ to pay to such officer as may be appointed by the governor for the purpose for the time being at the rate of one pound ten shillings for each such immigrant of or above the age of twelve years, and fifteen shillings for each such immigrant under the age of twelve years, in advance for each year of service, during which such indenture shall continue in force, by equal half-yearly payments on the _____ day of _____ and the _____ day of _____ in each and every year, the first of such half-yearly payments to be made on the _____ day of _____ 18 _____ and the moneys hereby intended to be secured shall be deemed a prior charge upon the said _____ estate, and shall be recovered and enforced under the provisions of the "Immigration Act, 1858," and the "Immigration Acts Amendment Law, 1869," or any other act or law in force relating to immigrants.

As witness my hand (or "our hands," as the case may be), this _____ day of _____ 18 _____

ENDORSEMENT.

NOMINAL ROLL of _____ Indian Immigrants, ex _____ Master from _____ Landed at _____ and Indentured to _____ as Agricultural Laborers on _____ Estate, in the Parish of _____

Distinguishing Letter	Distinguishing Number	Ship's Number	Names	Age	Adults		Non-Adults paying Tax		Non-Adults not paying Taxes		Remarks
					Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	

SCHEDULE E.

FROM OF AUTHORITY TO DISTRAIN FOR INSTALMENTS DUE IN RESPECT TO INDENTURED IMMIGRANTS.

Whereas default hath been made in payment of several sums of money due under the contract entered into by _____ with the agent general of immigration, and bearing date the _____ day of _____ 18 _____ in respect of _____ Indian immigrants, located on _____ estate, in the parish of _____ that is to say, of the sum of £ _____ being instalments of one pound ten shillings for each of the _____ immigrants of or above the age of twelve years named as follow : _____ and of the sum of £ _____ being _____ instalments of fifteen shillings for each of the _____ immigrants under the age of twelve years, named as follow : _____ respectively payable in advance for the year ending on the _____ day of _____ 18 _____ of which both moieties have accrued and fallen in arrear ; and also of the sum of £ _____ being the one moiety of the instalment of one pound ten shillings each in respect of (a) _____ immigrants of or above the age of twelve years, named as follow : (b) and of the sum of _____ being the one moiety of the instalment of fifteen shillings in respect of (a) _____ immigrants under the age of twelve years named as follow : (b) being the respective moieties of the said instalments, which accrued and fell in arrear on the _____ day of _____ 18 _____ and which several instalments and proportions of instalments amount, in the aggregate, to the sum of _____ These are therefore to command you to levy the said sum of _____ by distress of any goods and chattels to be found upon the said _____ estate, in the said parish, upon which a landlord might distrain for rent in arrear, and if, within fourteen days next after such distress by you taken, with or without previous appraisement, the said sum of _____ and the charges distraining and keeping the same shall not be paid, then that you do sell the said goods and chattels so by you distrained, and out of the money arising by such sale that you do pay the said sum of _____ to me, to be accounted for under the provisions of the "Immigration Act, 1858," and the "Immigration Acts

Amendment Law, 1869," or any other acts or laws in force relating to immigration, returning the overplus (if any) on demand, to the proprietor, overseer, or manager of the said estate, after retaining the charges of distraining and keeping such distress.

Given under my hand, this day of 18
To any Constable of the parish of

N.B. The instalments, and moieties of instalments, will be filled up according to the fact. If the moiety is in respect of the same immigrants as before named, substitute for the words between the letters (a) and (b) "the said immigrants above named, if of or above the age of twelve years," and "the said immigrants above named, under the age of twelve years."

REPORT.

The Acting Agent-General of Immigration to the Colonial Secretary.

No. 1074.

Immigration Office, 24th August, 1872.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1923 of the 16th April last, having reference to a Circular letter from the Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal, dated the 29th December, 1871; and a Circular from the Secretary to the Government of India, No. 90, dated the 1st November, 1871, on the treatment of Indian Immigrants in British Guiana, requesting me to report thereon so far as they relate to this Colony.

In reply, I beg to remark that the facts alluded to in these papers have not in my mind any application to Jamaica, as will be perceived by the following, in reference to the actual condition of Immigrants here.

Wages.

The Wages paid to all indentured East Indian Immigrants in Jamaica are day wages of one shilling a day as the minimum for a male adult, and ninepence a day for a female, for six days work in the week of nine hours a day. If task work is agreed to, a good workman may, without over fatigue, earn one shilling and sixpence a day and even two shillings. In one District, during the month of March last, a man on task earned one shilling and tenpence a day, for every working day during the month.

No general system of task work is, however, permitted, as every case of consent between labourer and employer is separately considered by the Agent-General, and whenever a Cooly on task work fails to earn at least an amount equal to day wages, the question of retaining him on task work is one to be considered by the Department.

I annex an Analysis of the Returns of the several Sub-Agents for the month of May from which it will be seen that the weekly earnings of those on day labour average from five shillings and sixpence one farthing to five shillings and tenpence halfpenny for males, and from four shillings and twopence to four shillings and elevenpence for females. For those on task work during the same month the average is from four shillings and eightpence three farthings to six shillings and threepence three farthings, and from three shillings and ninepence to five shillings and tenpence halfpenny, for males and females respectively.

I may here mention, however, that the general custom in this Colony is for the employer to grant leave to all who may desire it, either for the whole, or at all events for the half, of each Saturday. The Coolies invariably avail themselves of this concession, as it enables them to purchase provisions, &c. for the coming week, as well as to visit their countrymen on the other properties. Nevertheless, it will appear that though the Coolies only worked five or five and a half days each week during the month referred to, 89.8 per cent. of the number of males at work, earned over five shillings per week, while of the females during the same period 93.03 per cent. have earned over four shillings.

Prices of food.

The Immigrants are required to be rationed by their employers during the whole period of their Indenture, the ration being on the following scale, which has been found to be ample :

" For every adult Immigrant daily, one pound and one half of a pound of Rice, or with the consent, in writing, of the Agent-General of Immigration, instead of Rice, two pounds of Cornmeal (ground Maize) or two pounds and one half of a pound of cooked Cassava

5s. 6½d.
5s. 10½d.
4s. 2d.
4s. 11d.
4s. 8½d.
6s. 3½d.
3s. 9d.
5s. 10½d.

5s.
4s.

See tabulated statement, marked A.

(Manioc), or five pounds of raw Cassava (Manioc), or four pounds of raw Yams or raw Cocoas; and with the consent, in writing, of the Agent-General of Immigration, the daily ration aforesaid may be varied, so that on certain days one of the aforesaid articles may be given, and on certain other days other of the aforesaid articles may be given instead of Rice; and also for every such person monthly, eight pounds of Split Peas, and six pounds of Saltfish, or eight pounds of Mutton, or Goat's Flesh; and one pound of Ghee, or one pint of Sweet Oil, or of Coconut Oil; and one pound of Salt; and two ounces of dry Pepper or Pimento; and sufficient Wood for fuel; and for every such non adult Immigrant, being of the age of one year or upwards, half the aforesaid Rations, at the expense of the employer of such Immigrant."

The price allowed to be charged against each for this ration, is fixed by Government Scale for each District, no higher rate being permitted. I annex lists of the Prices of Rations for the different Districts, which show that the weekly cost varies from three shillings to three shillings and threepence, and is a lower cost by over 30 per cent. than the cost in British Guiana.

If after three months residence in the Colony, the Immigrant applies to be taken off rations, and should the Agent-General be satisfied that he can, without loss of working hours or immoderate cost, supply himself with a sufficiency of wholesome food, sanction is given to him to purchase his own food, and he then receives from his employer the whole of his earnings in money paid weekly.

Clothing.

A suit of Clothing, consisting of one Oznaburgh Shirt and Trowsers for males, and a Petticoat and Jersey with sleeves for women, is supplied to all Immigrants on arrival at the cost of the employer.

Dwellings.

Much care has lately been bestowed by employers in erecting suitable accommodation for the Immigrants. On nearly all the Estates separate Cottages have been built, instead of the old Barrack ranges. Previous to location the Sub-Agent inspects these buildings to see that his directions as to site, sanitary arrangements, &c. have been fully attended to.

Medical Treatment.

The Immigrants on each Estate are now under the Medical care and supervision of the Government Medical Officer of the District, who is responsible to the Head of his Department for his treatment of the Coolies under his charge.

In Districts where there are several Estates adjoining, Union Hospitals have been established. These are entirely under Government supervision, both by the Officers of the Immigration and Medical Departments.

On outlying Estates, Hospitals are provided on the Estate, but the accommodation, fittings, attendance, &c. are also under the control of the Immigration and Government Medical Departments. A Copy of the Rules for these Hospitals is annexed.

I have the honor &c.,

A. H. ALEXANDER.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Kingston.

IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT.

An Analysis of the Returns of the Sub-Agents for the several Districts of the Island for May, 1872.

DISTRICT	Number of Estates in District.	HOW EMPLOYED												Total Wages Paid to Coolies not on Task Work.			Average Rate per Head Weekly.			Number on Task Work.		Total Wages Paid to Coolies on Task Work.		Average Rate per Head Weekly.		REMARKS.																
		Total Number of Coolies in District.				Absent from Sickness Leave or other Causes.			On Task Work.		Number actually on Day Labour.																															
		M.	F.	Ch.	Total	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Ch.	Total	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.		F.															
Westmoreland	16	396	137	54	587	144	52	35	110	47	142	38	19	587	£ 162	s. 2	d. 8	£ 32	s. 1	d. 3	£ 9	s. -	d. -	s. 5	d. 8½	s. 4	2½	2	4½	110	47	£ 139	s. 1	d. 6	£ 44	s. 10	d. 3	s. 6	d. 3½	4	8½	4 Weeks=24 Working Days.
St. Mary ...	23	560	228	103	891	152	63	92	219	80	189	85	11	891	£ 278	s. 9	d. 9½	£ 92	s. 6	d. 8	£ 5	s. 12	d. 6	s. 5	d. 10½	s. 4	4	2	2½	219	80	£ 307	s. 17	d. 10	£ 87	s. 15	d. 4½	s. 5	d. 7½	4	4½	Ditto.
Clarendon ...	13	414	144	71	629	89	38	26	106	42	219	64	45	629	£ 255	s. 6	d. 4	£ 53	s. 10	d. -	£ 12	s. 2	d. 1	s. 5	d. 9¾	s. 4	2	1	4	106	42	£ 118	s. 5	d. 4½	£ 37	s. 16	d. 2	s. 5	d. 6¾	4	6	Ditto.
St. Thomas ...	13	549	255	107	911	163	79	92	235	102	151	74	15	911	£ 220	s. 4	d. 7½	£ 84	s. 7	d. 7½	£ 13	s. 2	d. -	s. 5	d. 10	s. 4	6½	3	5¾	235	102	£ 335	s. 15	d. 6	£ 118	s. 4	d. 1½	s. 5	d. 8½	4	7½	5 Weeks=30 Working Days.
St. James ...	9	174	64	73	311	41	21	70	133	43	3	311	£ 1	s. 2	d. 6	s. 1	d. 10½	133	43	£ 128	s. 7	d. 9½	£ 32	s. 7	d. 3	s. 4	d. 9¾	3	9	4 Weeks=24 Working Days.	
St. Catherine	6	95	40	21	156	31	15	19	23	7	41	18	2	156	£ 56	s. 15	d. 5½	£ 22	s. 4	d. 2½	£ 1	s. 5	d. -	s. 5	d. 6½	s. 4	11	2	6	23	7	£ 35	s. 8	d. 3½	£ 10	s. 5	d. -	s. 6	d. 1½	5	10½	5 Weeks=30 Working Days.
St. Elizabeth	1	38	21	14	73	7	4	7	31	17	7	73	31	17	£ 36	s. 13	d. 3	£ 18	s. 17	d. 9	s. 4	d. 8¾	4	5½	Ditto.	

(Signed) A. H. ALEXANDER, A.G.I. Acting.

SCALE OF RATIONS for Cooly Immigrants in the Island of Jamaica.
Estimated for 25 Adults for One Day.

ARTICLE	Allowance	For	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated	RATE
	each per Diem	25 Ad ults	Value with Rice	Value with Yams	Value with Meal	
	lb Oz. Dr.	lb Oz. Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Rice, or Yams, or Cocoas, or	1 8 — [or $\frac{1}{2}$ quarts]	37 8 —	6 3	— — —	— — —	Rice at the rate of 16s. 8d. per 100lbs.
	4 — —	100 — —	— — —	6 —	— — —	Yams or Cocoas do. 6s. do.
Corn Meal	2 — —	50 — —	— — —	— — —	5 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{9}{16}$	Peas do. 3d. per lb.
Peas	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ —	7 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ —	1 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	Saltfish do. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. do. do.
Saltfish	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ —	5 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ —	2 — $\frac{3}{25}$	2 — $\frac{3}{25}$	2 — $\frac{3}{25}$	{ Beef do. 6d. do. do. Goat's Flesh do. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. do.
Meat * [Goat or Beef]	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ —	7 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ —	3 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	Oil do. 1s. 3d. per quart.
Oil or Ghee	— 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 pt. 16 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	Corn Meal do. 22s. p. 196lb.
Salt	— 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	— 14 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	— 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	— 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	— 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	Salt do. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.
Black Pepper or Pimento	— 1	— 1 9	— 1	— 1	— 1	Black Pepper 9d. per lb. Pimento 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. do.
			— 14 10 $\frac{27}{28}$	— 14 6 $\frac{27}{28}$	— 14 2 $\frac{57}{96}$	

* If Goat's Meat be given in place of Beef about 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. may be deducted from the above cost, making the lowest scale about 13s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

(Signed)

A. H. ALEXANDER, A.G.I. Acting.

Immigration Office, Nov. 13, 1869.

Notice to Employers of East India Immigrants in the Vere and Lime Savannah District of Clarendon, Indentured under Law 34 of 1869.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct that, until further Orders the Prices chargeable for Rations supplied to such Immigrants in the Vere and Lime Savannah District of Clarendon, in accordance with Law 34 of 1869, shall be fixed as follows, viz.:

Rice at the rate of 16s. 8d. per 100lbs.
Yams or Cocoas ditto ditto 8s. 4d. ditto ditto
Split Peas ditto ditto 3d. per lb.
Salt Fish ditto ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ditto
Beef, ditto ditto 6d. ditto
Goat's Flesh ditto ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ditto ditto
Cocoanut Oil ditto ditto 1s. 3d. per quart
Salt ditto ditto 1d. per lb.
Cornmeal ditto ditto 30s. per 196lbs.
Cassava Meal ditto ditto 3d. per quart.

H. B. SHAW, A.G.I. Acting.

RAMBLE DISTRICT OF HANOVER AND ST. JAMES.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct that, until further Orders, the Prices chargeable for Rations supplied to such Immigrants in the Ramble District of Hanover and St. James, in accordance with Law 34 of 1869, shall be fixed as follows, viz.:

Rice at the rate of 18s. per 100lbs.
Yams or Cocoas ditto ditto 6s. ditto ditto
Split Peas ditto ditto 3d. per lb.
Salt Fish ditto ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ditto ditto
Beef ditto ditto 6d. ditto ditto
Goat's Flesh ditto ditto 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ditto ditto
Cocoanut Oil ditto ditto 1s. 3d. per quart
Salt ditto ditto 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.
Cornmeal ditto ditto 30s. per 196lbs.
Cassava Meal ditto ditto 3d. per quart.

H. B. SHAW, A.G.I. Acting.

DISTRICT OF ST. CATHERINE.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct that, until further Orders, the Prices chargeable for Rations supplied to such Immigrants in the District of St. Catherine, in accordance with Law 34 of 1869, shall be fixed as follows, viz.:

Rice at the rate of 16s. 8d. per 100lbs.
 Yams or Cocoas ditto ditto 6s. ditto ditto
 Split Peas ditto ditto 3d. per lb.
 Salt Fish ditto ditto 4½d. ditto ditto
 Beef ditto ditto 6d. ditto ditto
 Goat's Flesh ditto ditto 4½d. ditto ditto
 Coconut Oil ditto ditto 1s. 3d. per quart.
 Sait ditto ditto 1½d. per lb.
 Cornmeal ditto ditto 22s. per 196lbs.
 Cassava Meal ditto ditto 3d. per quart.

H. B. SHAW, A.G.I. Acting.

PARISH OF WESTMORELAND.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct that, until further Orders, the Prices chargeable for Rations supplied to such Immigrants in the Parish of Westmoreland in accordance with Law 34 of 1869, shall be fixed as follows, viz.:

Rice at the rate of 17s. per 100lbs.
 Yams or Cocoas ditto ditto 6s. ditto ditto
 Split Peas ditto ditto 3d. per lb.
 Salt Fish ditto ditto 4½d. ditto ditto
 Beef ditto ditto 6d. ditto ditto
 Goat's Flesh ditto ditto 4½d. ditto ditto
 Coconut Oil ditto ditto 1s. 3d. per quart
 Salt ditto ditto 1½d. per lb.
 Cornmeal ditto ditto 26s. per 196lbs.
 Cassava Meal ditto ditto 3d. per quart.

H. B. SHAW, A.G.I. Acting.

DISTRICT OF UPPER CLARENDON.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct that, until further Orders, the Prices chargeable for Rations supplied to such Immigrants in the District of Upper Clarendon, in accordance with Law 34 of 1869, shall be fixed as follows, viz.:

Rice at the rate of 18s. per 100lbs.
 Yams or Cocoas ditto ditto 6s. ditto ditto
 Split Peas ditto ditto 3d. per lb.
 Salt Fish ditto ditto 4½d. ditto ditto
 Beef ditto ditto 6d. ditto ditto
 Goat's Flesh ditto ditto 4½d. ditto ditto
 Coconut Oil ditto ditto 1s. 3d. per quart
 Salt ditto ditto 1½d. per lb.
 Cornmeal ditto ditto 30s. per 196lbs.
 Cassava Meal ditto ditto 3d. per quart.

H. B. SHAW, A.G.I. Acting.

PARISH OF ST. THOMAS.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct that, until further Orders, the Prices chargeable for Rations supplied to such Immigrants in the Parish of St. Thomas, in accordance with Law 34 of 1869, shall be fixed as follows, viz.:

Rice at the rate of 17s. per 100lbs.
 Yams or Cocoas ditto ditto 7s. ditto ditto
 Split Peas ditto ditto 3d. per lb.
 Salt Fish ditto ditto 4½d. ditto ditto
 Beef ditto ditto 6d. ditto ditto
 Goat's Flesh ditto ditto 4½d. ditto ditto
 Coconut Oil ditto ditto 1s. 3d. per quart
 Salt ditto ditto 1½d. per lb.
 Cornmeal ditto ditto 30s. per 196lbs.
 Cassava Meal ditto ditto 3d. per quart.

H. B. SHAW, A.G.I. Acting.

IMMIGRATION HOSPITAL REGULATIONS.

*Government Notice.**Immigration Office, Spanish Town, 19th Aug., 1871.*

In pursuance of the 14th sec. of the 22nd Vic., cap. 1, His Excellency the Governor directs the publication of the following Rules and Regulations :

1. Every Estate on which Immigrants are located, shall have a separate Room, or separate Rooms, set apart for Hospital use, one for each sex, where there are both Males and Females on the same Estate.

2. Each such Room shall be capable of holding one Bed for every six Immigrants on the Estate, of the sex for which it is intended, leaving a clear space of three feet between Bed and Bed, if placed in a row, and of six feet between the rows, if more than one row.

3. Every Proprietor, Lessee or Manager, shall provide, and keep ready for use in such Room or Rooms as may be set apart for Hospital service, for any Number of Immigrants of either sex, on such Estate not exceeding six :

One Bedstead ; one Mattress and one Pillow, stuffed with suitable dry material ; one large Rug, and one additional Bedstead, Mattress, Pillow and Rug for every additional six Immigrants of either sex.

4. Every Proprietor, Lessee or Manager of an Estate shall furnish, when required, such additional Bedsteads and Bedding as may be directed by the Medical Attendant of the Estate.

5. Every Proprietor, Lessee or Manager shall provide for Hospital use such Utensils and other requisites as the Medical Attendant may from time to time direct, and shall employ one or more competent Nurses to attend to the sick, when required by the Medical Attendant.

6. These Rules apply to Estates which do not participate in the use of Union Hospitals.

(Signed) A. H. ALEXANDER, *A.G.I. Acting.*

The Earl of Kimberley to the Governors of Jamaica, Trinidad, and British Guiana.

Copy.

Downing Street,
14 November 1872.

Sir,

Gov. of Malta
No. 131, 1st Oct.
1872.
Minute by Em.
Com., 16th Oct.
1872.
W. I. Commit-
tee, 18th Oct.
1872.
Minute by Em.
Com. 22nd Oct.
1873.

I transmit to you for your consideration a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Malta, of a letter from the West India Committee and of Minutes by the Emigration Commissioners on the question of Emigration from Malta to the West Indies, with copy of a despatch which I have addressed to the Governor of Malta on this subject.

I have to request your attention to the enquiry on the part of the Maltese whether as agricultural labourers in the West Indies they would be able to save threepence a day, and to the stipulation that they should have the services of an Italian Priest.

I have &c.,
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

To the Governors of
Jamaica, Trinidad, and British Guiana.

The Secretary of State to the Governor.

Malta.
No. 310.

Downing Street,
27th December 1872.

Sir,

27th Nov. 1872.
3rd Dec. 1872.

With reference to my despatch, No. 298, of the 20th of November on the subject of Emigration from Malta to the West Indies, I transmit to you for your information the accompanying copies of letters from the Governors of Jamaica and Trinidad.

I have &c.,
(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

Governor,
Sir Charles Van Straubensee, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosures.

Governor Longden to the Earl of Kimberley.

Copy.75 Gloucester Place
Portman Square,
27th November 1872.

My Lord,

I have the honor to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, transmitting some papers relative to Emigration from Malta to the West Indies, and calling my attention to the enquiry on the part of the Maltese whether, as Agricultural labourers in the West Indies, they would be able to save threepence a day, — and to the stipulation that they should have the services of an Italian Priest.

With regard to the first point I believe that I may safely say that frugal men would be able to save threepence a day, and much more than that sum when they become habituated to the work and accustomed to the climate. The minimum rate of wages guaranteed by the Law of Trinidad to Indian Immigrants is 25 cents or $12\frac{1}{2}d.$ a day, the rations given to new Coolies are valued at 8 cents or $4d.$ a day, leaving to the Coolie 17 cents or $8\frac{1}{2}d.$ a day for additional food and other expenses. Out of this the Coolies do save money. It has been calculated by Dr. Mitchell that the ordinary Coolie, after he ceases to receive rations spends 10 cents or $5d.$ a day on his food. It is probable that the Maltese would not be content with the meagre diet which satisfies the Coolie, and that he will expend more on food. Assuming that he spends half as much again, — 15 cents or $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ — this would leave 10 cents or 5 pence a day from which he would still be able to save 3 pence. As Agricultural labourers on estates, the Maltese would be provided with lodging, and with medical treatment in hospital (without any charge) at the expense of his employer. In this calculation I have only reckoned the minimum rate of wages allowed by law. In practice the older Coolies and the Creoles earn much more than this, and I do not doubt that the Maltese would be able to earn from eighteen pence to two shillings if they are industrious.

3. The wages of labourers, not being Agricultural labourers on estates and not having the advantages of free lodging and hospital treatment when sick, are necessarily higher than the wages of Agricultural labourers. Mr. Tanner C.E., who examined this question of wages in order to report upon it professionally says "a labourer's pay per day is from 60 to 80 cents or $2s. 6d.$ to $3s. 4d.$ " I quote the evidence of Mr. Tanner because he is a very recent and most impartial witness, being wholly unconnected with the island or the planters, and because he approached the question from a totally different side.

4. It may therefore, I think, be safely assumed that, whether as Agricultural labourers under indenture or as independent labourers not working on estates but in public or private employment, frugal and industrious men would earn sufficient to save much more than three pence a day.

5. On the second question, that of spiritual assistance, no difficulty is likely to arise in Trinidad. A large majority of the Christian population belongs to the Roman Catholic church, and the presence of an Archbishop and 22 Parish Priests, several of whom are Italians, sufficiently meet the stipulation. Besides the Parochial Clergy, there are several Curates and regular clergy chiefly of the Dominican Order (to which the Archbishop himself belongs,) so that the interests of the Maltese in respect to their religion would be amply provided for in whatever part of the island they are likely to be placed. If, however, it were thought desirable on account of the difference between the Maltese dialect and Italian as spoken in Italy, that a Maltese Priest should accompany the Immigrants there would be no difficulty in making arrangements for his passage out, and his subsequent maintenance might, with the concurrence of the Archbishop of Port of Spain, be provided out of the sum allowed annually by the Government in aid of the maintenance of the Roman Catholic church.

6. Sir Victor Houlton in his letter to Colonel Dawkins asks whether the planters would bind themselves to find work for the Maltese six days in the week all the year round, Sundays and Holidays excepted, or only for the time specified in Colonel Dawkins' letter which is "not less than 5 days per week for not less than 26 weeks in the year." If the Maltese come under indenture to work on the plantations the proprietors will in return be bound, as the law now stands, to find them work for 280 days in the year with wages at the rate paid to unindentured labourers, provided those wages be not less than 25 cents a day. If the Maltese do not come under indenture then, as Sir C. Murdoch points out, there is nothing to bind them to work for a single day after their arrival, and in that case the planters might reasonably object to charge the Immigration fund with their passage money.

7. I believe that a moderate indenture, providing for the care and employment of the Maltese on their arrival on the one hand and on the other hand reimbursing the planters for the cost of introducing them by their steady labour would be unobjectionable.

Printed papers
for Trinidad
Railway.
"Notes taken
in the Island
on the prices
of materials
labour &c." page 1, first
paragraph.

Considering the shortness of the passage and other circumstances, I think that a three years' indenture would be a fair equivalent to the planters for the expenses to be incurred in the passage to the West Indies and the return to Malta. Three years is the term named in the British Guiana Draft Ordinance § 49 for Immigrants from the Cape de Verde Islands, and it would appear from the letter of the Chairman of the West India Committee to be satisfactory to the planters.

8. Return passages are now granted to Indian Immigrants at the end of ten years' continuous residence, but they have the option, at the end of seven years, of commuting their right to a return passage for a grant of ten acres of Crown Land. The same advantages should be offered to the Maltese.

9. With regard to the number who might be sent to Trinidad, I am of opinion that it should in the first instance be limited to about three hundred men *with their families*, say 500 to 600 in all. Such a number would I believe be readily placed among the planters, but if any difficulty were to arise, a large number could be usefully and beneficially retained in the service of Government and employed upon the public works. If the first experiment proved successful in satisfying the just expectations of the Maltese and their employers, the number of Immigrants would hereafter be limited by the number willing to emigrate.

10. There is one other point which I think might be usefully considered, namely, the expediency of making use of steamers instead of sailing vessels for the carriage of the Emigrants, if not too expensive; so as to obviate the possibility of subjecting them to the long delay which sailing vessels sometimes encounter in passing out of the Straits of Gibraltar.

11. The Maltese are described by Sir C. Van Straubenzee as a people "of never ceasing industry," and he refers to the "labouring class" as "very hardworking and most orderly." It would be difficult to exaggerate the benefit which the acquisition of people of this character would confer upon Trinidad not merely by their own labour but by their example. Sir C. Murdock apprehends that they would be more disposed to work as Hucksters and small Traders than in the Field, but they would probably have a hard struggle to maintain themselves in this way, as they would have to compete with the Portuguese, the Chinese, and the Coolies, who almost monopolize the retail trade. Many of them, it may be expected, will after the expiration of their indentures quit the sugar plantations and turn to other industries, to the growing of cacao, or to the raising of vegetables and provisions for which there are abundant facilities and a ready market. Others again would I hope show sufficient aptitude for learning the business of plantations, and supply the want of intelligent and energetic men as overseers and drivers. This is a want which is becoming greater every year. As a rule Englishmen are not able to stand the coarse fare and exposure of the life, and the domination of Africans over Coolies has manifest dangers which led to a terrible tragedy in Trinidad two years ago.

I have &c.,

(Signed) J. R. LONGDEN.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.

Copy.

Sir J. P. Grant to the Earl of Kimberley.

Willenhall,

3rd December 1872.

My Lord,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, No. 480, dated the 14th ultimo, relating to a proposal for instituting some system of Immigration of Maltese labourers into the West Indies.

How far Maltese would be able to work in the cane field of Jamaica, is a question on which I have no knowledge. Persons interested, who are likely to know something about it, seem to have no doubt upon the question, and I see no reason to presume that they are mistaken. On the other hand I think it probable that Maltese labourers introduced into Jamaica, if free to do there as they pleased, would very soon find occupation more to their advantage than working in cane fields at the current rate of wages. I think I have heard it said that the experiment was made many years ago by a private firm, in one of the smaller West India Islands, of importing labourers from the Azores, with this result. Therefore unless an imported Maltese were under an obligation to work for a considerable time as a field labourer, so as to compensate the individual planter, or the body of planters, who had introduced him, for the cost of his introduction, it is not to be expected that any system for importation of Maltese labourers into Jamaica would be successful.

Not having the Laws of Jamaica to refer to here, I cannot speak with confidence as to their effect; but my impression is that a contract to labour for any long term, formed out of the Colony, would not be valid in the Colony unless it were in accordance with the Laws relating to Immigrant labourers. I believe, however, that if Valletta were proclaimed a Port of Embarkation for emigrant labourers for Jamaica under the regulations in force, which with your Lordship's sanction could be done at once, Indentured Maltese labourers might be introduced into the Island under the existing law. I am not sure in what particulars the rules for Immigrants under indenture, not being Indian Immigrants, differ from those for Indentured Indian Immigrants; but as the expense of introducing labourers from Malta would be much less than that of introducing labourers from India, the term of indenture should be proportionately less in the former than in the latter case. And from the letter of the West India Committee, the existing Law seems framed on this principle.

I would recommend that the Jamaica Government should be authorized to declare the Port of Valletta a Port for the Embarkation of Emigrants for Jamaica, under the Jamaica Immigration Laws. I believe that no other formality is requisite for legalizing the experiment which the West India Committee recommend. The expenses would fall on the Jamaica Immigration Funds.

As the measure would be experimental, perhaps the Maltese Government might be asked to make all arrangements on behalf of Jamaica, corresponding with those now made in India by the Indian Agent of the West India Colonies. His Excellency the Governor of Malta, taking a large view of the subject, seems very willing to do this in the interest of the people under his Government.

Any modifications of the existing Laws of Jamaica, as they will affect Maltese Immigrants, which may be found advisable, might be made at any time. It would be well that all parties should be given to understand before hand, that the experiment must be made subject to any changes of regulations as to details, which may be found advisable in the case of this new class of Immigrant Indentured labourers.

I am unable to say whether a Maltese Immigrant labourer would be able, in Jamaica, to save threepence a day out of his wages, supposing him to live as well as he has been accustomed to live. Under the Indian Immigrant rules the minimum wages are a shilling a day for every working day; and the Immigrant can claim work for six days in the week, weather permitting. My belief is that on this minimum, supposing him to live as such a labourer should be able to live, a Maltese labourer in Jamaica could save nothing. It is also my belief that this minimum is below the true average market rate of labour in the Colony; by which I mean the rate at which an employer may reasonably expect to obtain whatever quantity of constant labour he may require. This rate I think cannot safely be taken at less than one shilling and threepence a day. I believe that much of the cry about the difficulty of procuring sufficient constant labour in Jamaica (a difficulty not experienced by contractors on railways or other great works, or in any Government works) arises from unwillingness to recognize the natural market rate of the day. But then the task which is considered a fair day's work in Jamaica is less than a good day's work of an able bodied man. When it is finished the day's wages are earned, though the hours of labour have not been completed. And an Immigrant labourer can always go upon task work if he pleases; on which, without excessive exertion, an able bodied man can earn daily considerably more than the minimum wages. An industrious Maltese on task work might earn, I am inclined to think, without excessive exertion, what would enable him to live fairly well, and to save something. I cannot speak positively on this point. I do not know whether a Maltese could thrive on the food on which a Negro thrives. But I have no doubt that an industrious Negro labourer can save something on his wages.

There would be no difficulty about the Italian Catholic Priest, the employer paying for his maintenance.

I feel anxious for the trial of the interesting experiment now proposed. If the necessary authority be given, no endeavours shall be spared in the Colony to make the measure work successfully, to the benefit of all parties.

I have &c.,

(Signed) J. P. GRANT.

The Right Honorable,
The Earl of Kimberley,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c. &c. &c.

The Secretary of State to the Governor.

Malta.
No. 329.

Downing Street,
27 January 1873.

Sir,

With reference to my despatch No. 310, of the 27th ultimo, I transmit to you the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Governor of British Guiana relative to the question of emigration to that Colony from Malta.

No. 182.
21st Dec. 1872.

I have &c.,

Governor,
Sir Charles Van Straubenzee, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

Enclosure.

Governor Scott to Lord Kimberley.

Copy.

British Guiana.
No. 182.

Government House,
Georgetown, 21st December 1872.

My Lord,

I have the honor to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch, No. 382, of the 14th ultimo on the subject of emigration from Malta to the West Indies.

2. The conditions under which it is stated by the Government Secretary of Malta that a limited number of Maltese might be induced to emigrate are of a character not suited to this Colony as, it appears to me, that they would require them to be settled in small communities; a system which could very probably be carried out in Jamaica or Trinidad, but which would be impracticable in British Guiana. If, however, the Maltese would emigrate on conditions similar to those of Asiatic Emigrants and accept service as labourers on the Estates, the Elective Members of the Court of Policy, speaking on the part of the planters, expressed their readiness to enter upon any scheme by which this could be accomplished.

I have &c.,

(Signed) J. SCOTT.

The Right Honorable,
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c. &c.
