

not only the coast but the hinterland in advance of British administration. I have no doubt in saying that this is a gross misapprehension. First, these merchants have certainly carried on business at the coast for many years, but, except in German East Africa, with which we are not concerned, all inland trade was in the hands of Arabs and Swahilis. The Indian only participated in promoting it by means of advances of money and trade goods at usurious rates and his active prosecution of it was limited to an occasional journey to Rabai, some 18 miles from the coast, to meet some returning caravan and make sure that his luckless debtor did not escape him. Of pioneer enterprise and personal risk or discomfort he had an equal dread and from my own knowledge I can confidently state that the small Indian up-country trader, as distinct from the coast merchant, is a product of our administration of the interior and particularly of the Uganda Railway.

4. The construction of the latter certainly owes much to Indian labour and something to Mr. Jivanji. The latter did not however work entirely on philanthropic lines and the handsome fortune which he is understood to have amassed may perhaps have afforded him some compensation for his efforts. I do not however wish to deprive him of the credit of having come forward to assist when Sir Harry Johnston had his connection with the Protectorate came to an end with the completion of the Railway, as at one time seemed likely, I should not refuse to let Mr. Jivanji be a contractor. The

7. A second so-called disability is ascribed to the Immigration Act, by which the amount of the Immigration Ordinance is limited.

This seems a curious complaint, as the Ordinance Indians have only to pay a fine of 50 cents (since reduced to 25c). The Ordinance could doubtless be revised so as to provide for the payment of the larger sum by all immigrants.

8. The exclusion of Indians from the Detroit Market as stated in the Memorial would appear prima facie to be a genuine grievance. It might perhaps have put a different complexion on the case if the author had not forgotten to mention that the market in question is a small new European produce market for the neighbouring farmers and that the largest market in the town, in which nine-tenths of the business is transacted, is absolutely unrestricted to any one race or colour.

To put this forward as a grievance shows either gross ignorance on the part of the Memorialist, or a deliberate desire to misrepresent facts.

9. The next disability, the condition of white occupation in the case of 5th Avenue plots, constitutes a grievance only in so far as a natural desire to keep the principal residential and business streets of the town free from insanitary conditions may be deemed to be such. It is not true that the street in question is surrounded by quarters owned and occupied by Indians, except in the sense that Park Lane is surrounded by almshouses. In both cases it is a question of distance.

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Partians do this, I think it may be well to observe that we are not dealing in Nairess with a wealthy and educated Indian community, but with a population of small traders and shopkeepers, completely ignorant of hygienic principles, and exceedingly opposed to their introduction in practice. Every consideration of health makes it imperative that these people should be segregated in one quarter in order to lighten the labour of the Medical Officers, who as it is find it a herculean task to cleanse such an Augean stable as the present Indian bazaar.

10. It will be time enough for the Indians of East Africa to make a grievance of their exclusion from the office of Justice of Peace, when they number amongst them persons who would be considered suitable for such a distinction in India itself. The fact is that the community here is a very low class one and includes practically, if not absolutely, nobody who would either by birth or education be considered an "Indian gentleman" in his native land. It was therefore desirable to give the community a representative on the Council the most worthy person who could be found was Mr. Jivanti to whom reference has already been made. This gentleman is of lowly origin and can neither read nor write.

11. In view of Sir Percy Girouard's intimate acquaintance with the subject I scarcely think it necessary to say more: I trust that I have been able to show that the Indian community so far as

the Highlands of East Africa are concerned, has but small claims and that those claims have received very adequate consideration.

The old-established merchants of the coast, even under a different category, but they are in no way connected with the propaganda of Sir J. G. Bartlett and the Moslem League, with the objects of which they have little sympathy. They are quite content with the freedom they enjoy to carry on their business without interruption or interference and have no desire to thrust themselves into prominence.

[12. As regards the proposal to introduce Indian immigrants into the country bordering on the Juba River, Sir Percy Girouard, who has recently visited that region and has, I believe, a high opinion of its capabilities, will be in the best position to advise.]

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble obedient servant,

ACTING GOVERNOR.