

THE
COLLECTED
WORKS
OF
MAHATMA
GANDHI

VOLUME TWELVE



THE PUBLICATIONS DIVISION

THE
COLLECTED
WORKS
OF
MAHATMA
GANDHI

XII
(1913-1914)

XII
GANDHI



331. JOTTINGS¹

[CAPE TOWN,
About June 10, 1914]

Any marriage whether before or after should be legalised.

Sec. 3: What about the children of other wives, children living here?

The definition of child

The other wives

Their children

The Cape entry

The Free State

The number of entrants

The administration of existing laws—Gold Law, Townships licensing law, Immigration

The other recommendations

Free Pardon

Camay

Ficksburg

Anjuman

Bhayad

Educated Indians who entered before the Act of 1913

Guns for old holders and new ones who may need them

Registration of those who legally enter

From a photostat of the draft in Gandhiji's hand: S. N. 5965

332. LETTER TO E. M. GORGES

[CAPE TOWN,]
June 11, 1914

DEAR MR. GORGES,

The enclosed speaks for itself. I do not understand the *Mercury* reading of the measure.² But, as the principle involved

¹ These concerned various matters obviously requiring Gandhiji's attention. The date is assigned on the basis that on June 10 he forwarded to the Secretary for the Interior certain representations on behalf of Ficksburg Indians and the Anjuman Islam.

² *The Natal Mercury* in an article had doubted whether Indians would be allowed to remain in the Province. It had contended that, when the £3 tax is

is so great, I would value an assurance that the meaning given to the Bill by the *Mercury* is not the meaning Government attach to the Bill.¹

[I have, etc.,]
M. K. GANDHI

Indian Opinion, 1-7-1914

333. LETTER TO RAOJIBHAI PATEL

CAPE TOWN,
Saturday [June 13, 1914]

DEAR SHRI RAOJIBHAI,

I got your letter so late today that I am in no position to write to you by today's post or even send a telegram. I shall now send a telegram only on Monday.

Where it is a question of a mother's love or a son's affection, it is something of a moral dilemma for a third party to offer advice. But offer it I must. When you took the decision you did on the strength of your father's letter, we were able to judge your mother's feelings. Her letter does not introduce any new factor. It has given rise, however, to a new concern, and love has naturally gained the first place in your heart. If now you can take a decision, with a mind free from selfish attachment, your love can be transformed into a pure and divine thing. You can give it to the entire world, that is, strive to do so. That is the end to which one must love and serve one's mother. Any other form of love is of an earthly character, such as is common in the world, a

removed, the privilege of remaining in the country will be taken away from Indians and the only alternative left for them will be either to re-indenture or return to India. It had also pointed out that under the Immigrants Regulation Act the minister had power to declare all Asiatics "prohibited immigrants" on economic grounds and thus to deport ex-indentured Indians.

¹ On June 22, Gorges replied: "General Smuts desires me to say that it is perfectly clear from the report of the Commission that it was never intended that, by the repeal of the provisions of the existing laws dealing with the £3 licence, the position of the ex-indentured immigrant would be prejudicially affected in some other way; and had there been the slightest doubt on the subject, he is sure that the Commission—consisting as it did of three eminent lawyers—would certainly have drawn attention to it. The Minister himself is quite satisfied that the effect of the Bill as it now stands would not be to bring into evidence the position which the *Mercury* and *African Chronicle* would have us believe will be created."