

THE HONORABLE THE COLONIAL SECRETARY TO MR. KELLING

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 6th January, 1863.

SIR,—

In reference to your appointment as agent for this Government, in bringing out emigrants from Germany, I have now the honor to give you the following instructions:—

The Government intends to take advantage of the emigration scheme, which has for years been carried out by Messrs. Godeffroy and Company, of Hamburg. That firm, as you are aware, offers to advance the passage money of emigrants in the first instance; the Government of the Colony to which the emigrants are sent, undertaking to repay the same in ten years, paying interest in the meantime at 6 per cent. This passage money has to be recovered by Government from the immigrants, together with other advances for their benefit.

You will therefore place yourself in communication with Messrs. Godeffroy and Co., on your arrival in Hamburg, and make such terms, on behalf of this Government, with respect to the amount of passage money to be paid per head for the emigrants, as you consider reasonable, with reference to the price paid for passages to New Zealand from Hamburg at the time. The price stated by Mr. Petschler, Messrs. Godeffroy's agent at Auckland, is Eighteen pounds per adult. This seems very high, and is perhaps intended to cover the expense of selecting and collecting the emigrants, part of which duty would, in this instance, no doubt be performed by yourself.

At the same time, I have to impress upon you that the Government is desirous that these emigrants should be sent out by Messrs. Godeffroy, because that firm, some years back, was employed by His Excellency Sir George Grey, to select and send out a body of two thousand emigrants to the Cape of Good Hope, on the arrangements above stated, which service they performed to the entire satisfaction of His Excellency; the settlements then formed having been, by the latest accounts very successful. As their plans have been so long, and are now in actual operation, it is possible that some delay would be avoided by employing them, which would have to be incurred were the emigrants to be sent out through the medium of any other firm, either new to the work, or of less experience in it. And I wish you particularly to understand that the saving of even a few weeks in the arrival of the emigrants in New Zealand is of much greater importance, than the reduction of the passage money, below the sum stated by Mr. Petschler.

The most important object the Government have in view, in employing yourself as their agent in this business, is to secure the selection of a body of immigrants of the right class for the sort of settlement it is proposed to found. The accompanying copy of regulations specifies the classes particularly. It is proposed to settle five hundred men, with their wives and families, in the interior of the Province of Taranaki. The settlement is to have a military character, and for this purpose not less in any case than two hundred out of the five hundred men, must be such as have been trained to arms. If you find it easy to obtain emigrants of this class, you will select the whole five hundred from them. But on no account whatever are there to be less than two hundred so trained. They should be young men (in no case above forty years of age) in sound health, and accustomed to bush work, such as felling timber, splitting rails and shingles, charcoal burning, &c., or to rough farm work.

You will yourself inspect the emigrants before sailing, and satisfy yourself that they are fitted for the life they are to enter upon; and sign in each case a certificate of such inspection and satisfaction.

It is desirable there should be as few children as possible among them, so that young or newly married couples would be preferable.

It is understood that you will proceed by the February Overland Mail to Europe. In April you may arrive in Hamburg, and it is highly desirable that the body of Emigrants should leave that port before the end of June, so as to reach New Zealand before the end of October. Of course should you find it possible to get them out sooner, you will use every exertion to do so.

Every necessary arrangement for the reception and location of the Emigrants will be made at Taranaki before their arrival.

A certain number of non-commissioned officers will be selected from among the Emigrants themselves, to whom larger grants of land, of different sizes up to sixty acres, will be given in proportion to their rank.

Your knowledge of New Zealand will enable you to give such information to the Emigrants as will make them fully cognisant of the sort of life they will have to lead, the advantages it presents, the difficulties that necessarily attend it, the duties they will be required to perform. It is particularly desired by Government that no statements should be made to them which will lead them to form any delusive hopes, or expectations, which may not be realized. The land they are to be located upon is forest land of good quality. It will require hard labour to clear it, but with industry and perseverance there is no reason to doubt that before many years are over, they will reach a condition of comfort and competence.

With respect to the Natives, you may assure them that the probabilities are in favor of their never coming into collision with them. But of course there is a possibility of this, and the character of the settlement is to be such as is proposed, simply because of the existence of such a possibility. But the best safeguard against hostile interference on the part of the Natives, will be