

The Government is to charge for these rations only the cost prices, in no event more and above the average prices ruling in the market for each article during the time these rations have been provided.

These rations are to be paid for by the Immigrant before receiving the title to his land in the same proportions, and at the same intervals, as the repayment for passage money and purchase of land.

No interest to be charged by Government on the price of the rations.

19. Every Emigrant can at once be naturalized in the Colony, and take the Oath of allegiance to the British Sovereign.

JOHN CESAR GODEFFROY AND SON.

Hamburgh, 20th April, 1863:

No. 22.

MESSRS. GODEFFROY TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Hamburgh, 23rd April, 1863.

YOUR EXCELLENCY.—

The December mail brought us a letter from the Honorable Colonial Secretary, Mr. Domett, advising the speedy arrival of Mr. Kelling, whom your Excellency had chosen to arrange with our firm the Immigration into New Zealand.

In thanking your Excellency for this new mark of confidence we beg to advise the safe arrival of Mr. Kelling, but at the same time we must express the sincere regret we felt in perceiving by the instructions of which Mr. Kelling was bearer, the utter impossibility of furthering the views of your Excellency regarding German Immigration into New Zealand upon the proposed basis.

We have fully explained to Mr. Kelling the alterations which are quite essential to be made in the conditions if we are to take charge of this difficult task.

We do not doubt that Mr. Kelling has referred all our objections to the decision of the Honorable the Secretary of State; nevertheless we cannot refrain also from making some observations to your Excellency.

The propositions held out to the Emigrants to New Zealand as proposed are much more unfavourable than those to many other Colonies; the Emigrants are to refund all favors received in passages, rations and land; the price for the latter is too high, they have not got the choice of it, but must take what is assigned to them. Utterly impossible it is to enrol Emigrants to serve as border-militia, or to perform road work at a salary fixed beforehand.

These distinctly worded proposals would be considered as enrolling troops on foreign service, which is strictly prohibited all over Germany; and as to the wish to get road work performed by the German Immigrants below the current rate of wages to other workmen in the Province of Taranaki, it resembles the Coolie importation into the West Indies.

All these conditions must be entirely done away with, if success is to attend the German Immigration into New Zealand, and if we are to take charge of it in Europe.

Your Excellency knows us sufficiently well to be convinced that only if we are sure that the Emigrants we induce to choose New Zealand as destination, will feel happy in their home, we can further this emigration. We must therefore in the first instance be perfectly and morally satisfied that the conditions offered to the emigrants will lead to their happiness, and in the second instance a proper person should be appointed by your Excellency to act as Government Immigration Superintendent to receive and instal the immigrants, to see to their rights, wishes and necessities, at least in the beginning, when these people are unacquainted with the country, its habits and its language.

Mr. Kelling, by his frank and loyal character, by his knowledge of the habits of his countrymen, and of all the customs of New Zealand seems to be the proper person for this office, and we beg to draw your Excellency's attention to his paramount fitness for this most necessary Government office.

It is with the highest respect that we sign—

Your Excellency's
Most obedient and humble Servants,
JOHN CESAR GODEFFROY & SON.

To His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,
H.M. Governor of New Zealand,
Auckland.
