

PAPERS RELATING TO IMMIGRATION.

CIRCULARS TO SUPERINTENDENTS.

No. 1.

CIRCULAR from the Colonial Secretary's Office to their Honors the SUPERINTENDENTS of TARANAKI, HAWKE'S BAY, and WELLINGTON.

SIR,— Colonial Secretary's Office, Wellington, 24th January, 1871.

I have to draw your Honor's attention to the Fifth Part of "The Immigration and Public Works Act, 1870," relating to immigration, and to request you to be good enough to furnish me with such information, under the 39th and 41st sections, as will enable steps to be taken for the introduction of such classes of immigrants, and in such numbers and sexes, as in your opinion the requirements of the Province would justify during the next twelve months.

It is important that in furnishing this information your Honor should state whether you desire that immigrants should be introduced upon the basis of the payment of the passage money in each case, or on part payment; whether you desire to afford facilities to persons now resident in the Province, to secure the sending out of emigrants upon arrangements being made in the Province by such residents; whether you desire that to those immigrants whose passage money may be wholly or partly paid there should be given grants of land; whether you desire that arrangements should be made with associations or companies, by which, in the event of the introduction by them of a large number of immigrants, land shall be made available for the settlement of such immigrants, subject to such conditions as may be agreed upon for the expenditure of stipulated amounts of capital by the occupation and cultivation of such lands.

I would also draw your Honor's attention to the Fourth Part of the same Act, which enables the Governor, at the request of the Superintendent, to purchase to a certain extent land in the North Island, the cost of which is to be charged to the Province, and the land thereof to be available for purposes of railways and immigration.

Their Honors the Superintendents, Wellington, Taranaki, and Hawke's Bay.

I have, &c.,
W. GISBORNE.

[The above circular, with the omission of the last paragraph, was also sent to their Honors the Superintendents of Nelson, Marlborough, Canterbury, and Otago, and the Chairman of the County Council, Westland.]

No. 2.

CIRCULAR from the Colonial Secretary's Office to their Honors the SUPERINTENDENTS of PROVINCES and the CHAIRMAN of the COUNTY COUNCIL.

SIR,— Colonial Secretary's Office, Wellington, 31st May, 1871.

An indispensable feature of the Colonial policy of last Session is the concurrent progress of immigration and of public works (such as roads and railways), in due relation of each to the other, so that while on the one hand the construction of those works supplies a market for labour, and their creation encourages industrial enterprise, so, on the other hand, the increase of population facilitates the construction of those works, and utilizes them to the greatest extent when constructed. By the term "immigration" I do not mean the mere introduction of immigrants, but their permanent settlement on the soil. Public works without immigration in that sense would, I fear, be a failure and waste of public funds.

In order to secure this essential object, it is necessary that sufficient blocks of land in the vicinity of the lines of the roads and railways should be marked out and reserved for immigration purposes,—that their disposal should be subject to regulations agreed to by the Provincial and General Governments,—and that, when this has been done, the Agent-General in London should be instructed to make arrangements for the settlement of suitable emigrants on such lands upon the terms prescribed.

Fully anticipating your Honor's concurrence in these views, and your desire to insure by every practicable means the success of a policy the object of which is to people and open up, or, in one word, to colonize waste lands, I invite with confidence your Honor to take the necessary steps for the reservation, in convenient areas, and in sites contiguous or adjacent to lines of railway and roads now in course of construction, of blocks of agricultural land, to be laid off in villages and farms for the purposes of immigration. It will also be necessary that your Honor should submit to the Government a scheme of regulations for the disposal of such land on such terms as will best secure the introduction of immigrants representing in due proportions capital and labour, and their permanent location in the district reserved for them. When these regulations are approved by the General Government, and, should it be found necessary, legislative authority for such approval obtained, they will be communicated to the Agent-General, who will be instructed to make the necessary arrangements without delay.