

No. 20.

MEMORANDUM No. 22, 1872, for the AGENT-GENERAL, London.

HEREWITH are forwarded for your information copies of a correspondence (noted in the margin) that has passed between the Messrs. Brogden and the Government, with reference to their immigration contract of the 27th June, 1872. The Government have invited the Messrs. Brogden to place themselves in immediate communication with you, and have promised to favourably consider any suggestion or recommendation you may make on the subject.

G. M. WATERHOUSE,
(in absence of the Hon. the Minister of Immigration).

Immigration Office,
Wellington, New Zealand, 23rd November, 1872.

Mr. Brogden to
Hon. Minister of
Lands and Immi-
gration, 28th Oct.,
1872.

Hon. Minister of
Lands and Immi-
gration to Mr.
Brogden, 2nd
Nov. 1872.

Mr. Brogden to
Hon. Minister of
Lands and Immi-
gration, 4th Nov.,
1872.

Enclosure 1 in 20.

Mr. J. BROGDEN to the Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION.

SIR,—

Wellington, 28th October, 1872.

Having reference to our conversation on Saturday last, I have now the honor to submit in writing the proposition which I then made. It is that the Government should at once relieve my firm of all further obligations (if any) under the contract of 27th June, 1872, and that the Government should repay to us all actual outlay incurred by us in connection with that contract, we indorsing to the Government the promissory notes given to us by the immigrants, and undertaking to aid the Government as far as we can in recovering the amounts payable under those notes.

I need not repeat in writing the reasons which I urged why the Government should adopt this course.

Should the Government consent to it, I shall be willing, on the part of my firm, to enter into arrangements with the Government for obtaining emigrants in England; but I think it inexpedient to propose terms for that service, which had perhaps better be discussed after the Government have signified their determination in regard to the matter in the former part of this letter.

This letter is of course without prejudice.

The Minister for Immigration, Wellington.

I have, &c.,
JAMES BROGDEN.

Enclosure 2 in No. 20.

The Hon. G. M. O'RORKE to Mr. J. BROGDEN.

Lands and Immigration Office,

Wellington, 2nd November, 1872.

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, in which you propose that the Government should at once relieve your firm of all further obligations (if any) under the immigration contract of 27th June, 1872, and that you should be repaid the actual outlay incurred in connection with that contract; the promissory notes given by the immigrants being indorsed to the Government, and your firm undertaking to assist in recovering the sums due under these promissory notes.

In reply I have to express to you the regret of the Government that, after the gravest consideration, they find themselves unable to meet your views so far as to relieve the firm from their liabilities in connection with the conduct of immigration under the agreement referred to; but I may state that, so far as regards modification in the terms of the contract as respects future operations, favourable consideration will be given to any suggestion or recommendation which may be made by the Agent-General, with whom, upon the subject, your firm are invited to place themselves in immediate communication.

J. Brogden, Esq.

I have, &c.,
G. MAURICE O'RORKE.

Enclosure 3 in No. 20.

Mr. J. BROGDEN to the Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION.

SIR,—

Wellington, 4th November, 1872.

Having reference to our recent correspondence respecting the immigration arrangements of the 27th June, 1872, I desire especially to put upon record one of the grounds upon which I, at several interviews, urged the Government to relieve my firm from their obligations (if any) under it—namely, that it places the immigrants in a far worse pecuniary position than those who are introduced under the ordinary Immigration Regulations of the Government, whilst it also places my firm in the invidious position of endeavouring to enforce upon such of them as we may be desirous of employing conditions more unfavourable than those under which we can employ other persons of the same classes.

This letter must, however, not be treated as any recognition on my part of any obligation under the arrangement above referred to.

The Hon. the Minister for Immigration.

I have, &c.,
JAMES BROGDEN.