

Enclosure in No. 26.

His Honor W. ROLLESTON to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,—

Superintendent's Office,
Christchurch, Canterbury, 25th November, 1872.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters containing information as to the sailing of the "Pleiades" with 100½ statute adults for Canterbury.

I take this opportunity of calling your attention to the desirableness of despatching ships for Canterbury to arrive as far as possible in the spring and summer, to meet the requirements of the agricultural districts in the time of harvest.

I have, &c.,
W. ROLLESTON,
Superintendent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

No. 27.

MEMORANDUM No. 38, 1872, for the AGENT-GENERAL, London.

A COMMUNICATION has been received from His Honor the Superintendent of Hawke's Bay stating that immigrants are much required in that Province, and that a large number could obtain immediate employment. You will gather from the various communications lately forwarded to you that the demand for immigrants is urgent throughout the whole Colony.

G. M. WATERHOUSE.

Immigration Office, Wellington, 9th December, 1872.

No. 28.

MEMORANDUM No. 39, 1872, for the AGENT-GENERAL, London.

I HAVE to call your attention to the following minute by His Honor Mr. Ormond, with reference to an emigrant family named Thompson, who came to the Colony in the "Ballarat" for Napier.

"Thompson is an invalid, and ought never to have been allowed a passage; he has a wife and five children, and was, I am informed, ill for three years before he left England. He is not able to work, and draws Government rations for himself and family."

I have simply to repeat the instructions contained in Mr. Hall's letter of the 16th October last, with reference to an emigrant named Dewey who came to Canterbury in the "Charlotte Gladstone," that all immigrants sent to the Colony should be physically able to provide for themselves and their families, as any other class of emigrants must ultimately become a charge on either the General or Provincial Government for charitable relief.

G. M. WATERHOUSE,
(for the Hon. Minister for Immigration).

Immigration Office, Wellington, 12th December, 1872.

No. 29.

MEMORANDUM No. 41, 1872, for the AGENT-GENERAL, London.

INSTRUCTIONS have already been transmitted to you that no lengthened arrangement for the charter of vessels should be entered into with Messrs Shaw, Saville, and Co. or any other firm. I desire now to call your attention to certain details in the printed charter-party forwarded by you, which is understood to be a copy of the charter-party under which the vessels provided by Messrs. Shaw, Saville, and Co. have conveyed emigrants to the Colony during the past and present year.

In case of quarantine, there is a provision that the immigrants shall be rationed at the expense of the owners of the ship for "five days." I find on reference to the ordinary charter-party under which ships are chartered by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, that the period fixed is "fourteen days;" and I desire that in future, if any definite time be fixed in the contract when the liability of the owners under such circumstances for victualling the immigrants shall cease, such period shall not be less than "fourteen days" from arrival in port.

The scale of rations, as detailed in the schedules to the charter-party, appear to me, and my opinion is very strongly borne out by the report of the Commission upon the ship "Bebington," to be very insufficient in two very essential points—"medical comforts" and "medicines." The supply of the former is very meagre, and contrasts most unfavourably with the scale authorized by Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, whilst the supply of medicine is not only insufficient and unsuitable to the service, but, not being obtained from Apothecaries Hall, must of necessity be very uncertain as to its quality. The charter-party for vessels in our service should at once be altered in these particulars, the schedule of "medical comforts" being assimilated to that authorized by Her Majesty's Immigration Commissioners, and the list of medicine so revised by competent professional men, acquainted with the ordinary necessities of the voyage to the Colony; and it must be a *sine qua non* that all drugs and requisites for the hospital and dispensary should be obtained from Apothecaries Hall.

With regard to the ordinary rations, I observe that the quantity of milk provided is in proportion to the number of statute adults, irrespective of the actual number of children who may be on board; this appears to me a very grave error, and likely to lead, as in the case of the "Bebington," to a total deprivation of this necessary article of diet for children in the event of a prolonged voyage. I observe, also, that the scale of quantity of milk issued is only half what is provided under the regulations of Her Majesty's Emigration Commissioners, and that no "condensed eggs," a most valuable nutriment,