

2. That instructions as to the number and description of emigrants required, and other matters relating to emigration, should be given to such agent by the Provincial Government; such instructions to be, nevertheless, subject to the approval of the General Government.

3. That the salaries and other necessary expenses connected with this agency should be defrayed out of the Immigration Loan.

4. That the system of free passages should extend, not only to emigrants selected by the English agents, but also to those who are nominated by persons already settled in the Province.

5. That His Honor the Superintendent be respectfully requested to place on the estimates a sum not exceeding £20,000, to be used for the purpose of promoting immigration to the Province in case arrangements cannot be made with the General Government in accordance with the above resolutions.

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Enclosure 2 in No. 8.

SIR,—

Wellington, 3rd July, 1873.

Referring to the interview which we had the honor of holding with Ministers yesterday in which the question of immigration to the Province of Canterbury was discussed, and in accordance with the wish then expressed, we have the honor to communicate with you regarding the proposals which the Provincial Government of Canterbury have made in accordance with the resolutions of the Provincial Council already forwarded to you by His Honor the Superintendent.

We understand that the General Government are not prepared to meet out of the Immigration Loan the expenditure involved by the appointment of a Provincial Emigration Agent for the United Kingdom, but that if the Provincial Government appoints and pays such an officer the Agent-General will co-operate with him in sending emigrants to Canterbury.

In making such an appointment the Provincial Government would have in view the desirability of the Provincial Agent being able to grant such extra assistance by means of Provincial funds as he may deem requisite in particular cases.

The General Government having already intimated that any recommendation of the Provincial Government as to the number and description of immigrants which it would be advisable to introduce into any Province would meet with their favourable consideration it would appear that the duties of the Provincial Agent would be confined to the collection of the number and description thus agreed upon, and to his supplementing the assistance given by the General Government in such cases as he may think necessary.

As intimated to us at the interview of Ministers yesterday we understand that subsequent to your telegram of 20th June the question as to whether the system of free passages should not be extended to nominated immigrants has been re-opened, and will be again considered by the General Government.

The Provincial Government when making the proposal contained in His Honor the Superintendent's telegram of the 26th ultimo did so with the understanding that as stated in the Hon. Mr. O'Rorke's memorandum addressed to His Honor the Superintendent, of 22nd April last, free passages were being offered to emigrants by the Agent-General, and that the General Government's decision as regards nominated emigrants conveyed in your telegram of the 20th ultimo was final, it will therefore be understood that the Provincial Government on their part hold themselves free to re-consider their decision in case any alteration has been made in either of these points.

Pending the final decision of the General Government we desire to give some further information on some points which were raised at the interview of yesterday relative to this proposal.

It will be seen by reference to His Honor the Superintendent's telegram of 26th June that the Provincial Government submitted for the consideration of the General Government alternative proposals as to the mode in which their decisions to grant free passages to nominated immigrants might be carried into effect.

In the first place, the Provincial Government asked that authority be given to the immigration officer at Christchurch to make such arrangements as would most readily meet their views.

As was pointed out yesterday, it is obvious that some restrictions and limit must be placed on the number and description of such immigrants; and it is chiefly on that account, in addition to their wish to act in co-operation with the General Government, that the Provincial Government in dealing with the matter desire to avail themselves of the machinery already established in the Province of Canterbury for the purposes of immigration.

We understand that the General Government give free passages to single females nominated in the Province, so that the extra assistance given by the Provincial Government would be confined to married couples and single men. If extra aid is therefore given through the Immigration Office, the Provincial Government would propose that it should only be finally granted to persons approved of by the Agent-General or the Provincial Agent, under similar conditions as regards age, character, health, and so forth, as may from time to time be in force, as regards assisted or free passages, granted direct by the Agent-General.

Again, with reference to the construction that should be put upon the term "nominated" immigrants. We understand that under the present system it includes both those nominated by name, and those nominated by persons who merely specify the vocation of those whom they wish to bring out.