

Secretary of the Agricultural Labourers' Union, should be invited to visit New Zealand, with a view to his satisfying himself of the advantages offered by the colony to immigrants.

In reply, I have to inform your Honor that Mr. Reed has communicated with the Government upon the same subject, and I enclose for your information copy of the reply which was sent to him.

I have, &c.,

His Honor the Superintendent, Wellington.

JULIUS VOGEL.

Enclosure in No. 57.

The Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION to Mr. CHARLES REED:

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 31st March, 1874.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 22nd January ultimo, and desire to thank you for the suggestion afforded in the cause of emigration to this colony.

I have by the mail forwarded a copy of your letter to the Agent-General, who has full powers in the matter, and with whom I recommend you should place yourself in communication, either personally or by letter.

I have, &c.,

Charles Reed, Esq., 11, The Crescent, Park Town,
Oxford, England.

JULIUS VOGEL.

No. 58.

His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Wellington, to the Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION.

SIR,—

Superintendent's Office, Wellington, 22nd June, 1874.

Having made inquiries for a site on which to erect cottages for immigrants at Masterton, the result is an offer from Mr. Renall to dispose of an acre and a half for the sum of £90. As I consider the site a convenient one and the price reasonable, I recommend that the land be purchased.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister for Immigration, Wellington.

WILLIAM FITZHERBERT,
Superintendent.

No. 59.

The Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION to His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Wellington.

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 24th June, 1874.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, in which you recommend that an acre and a half of land at Masterton be purchased by the General Government, as a site upon which to erect cottages for immigrants.

In reply, I have to inform your Honor that I shall be prepared to authorize the expenditure necessary for building the cottages under the conditions laid down in my letter of 7th February ultimo, but I regret that I am unable to assent to your recommendation as to the purchase of the land for a site. In making the proposals I did to the Superintendents of provinces relative to the erection of cottages or huts for newly-arrived immigrants, I did not in any way contemplate that the General Government would be called upon for the additional outlay the purchase of land for sites would entail; and this has been clearly understood in other provinces, where, although considerable sums have been authorized for the erection of cottages, in no instance has any request been made for the purchase of sites. The terms of my letter referred to, distinctly point to the fact of the cottages being the property of the Provincial Governments, who have to recoup the money expended in their erection by instalments, and are also left to make their own arrangement as to leasing the same. Under these circumstances it is only reasonable that, having the disposal of the waste lands of the Crown, the Provincial Governments should provide the necessary sites.

It may be, however, that the cottages you propose to build at Masterton are not meant to be brought under the terms of my letter referred to, and that you rather propose them as substitutes for a dépôt. If this be your Honor's intention, the question will be placed on a different footing.

I have, &c.,

His Honor the Superintendent, Wellington.

JULIUS VOGEL.

No. 60.

His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Wellington, to the Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION.

SIR,—

Superintendent's Office, Wellington, 25th June, 1874.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, stating that you are unable to assent to my recommendation as to the purchase of land for a site upon which to erect cottages for immigrants at Masterton.

In reply, I have to inform you that when I made the application in question I was quite aware of the terms of your letter of the 7th February last, and in places where this province is fortunate enough to possess suitable reserves, there is no difficulty with regard to sites for cottages; for instance, the reserve in the Adelaide Road, in this city, upon which it has been recently decided to erect cottages for the purpose of being let to newly-arrived immigrants.