

delay. It may be said that, without issuing such a notice, you will be able to obtain the number of immigrants you require, but the larger the number of applicants, the wider will be your range of selection, and most careful selection is, as I have said, particularly insisted on by the Government. Even if you are not able to accept, during the year ending April 30th, 1876, all those persons who desire to go to New Zealand, and who would make good immigrants, you may be able to accept them at some future time; for I am of opinion there is no probability that the system of free or assisted immigration will be discontinued for a considerable period.

The Agent-General for New Zealand.

I have, &c.,
JULIUS VOGEL.

No. 3.

The Hon. Sir J. VOGEL to the Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION.

7, Westminster Chambers, Victoria Street, Westminster,
June, 1875.

SIR,—

I have the honor to inform you that, after considerable negotiation, the terms of a new charter-party and fresh arrangements for shipping have been agreed to with the New Zealand Shipping Company (Limited), and with Messrs. Shaw, Savill, and Company.

2. The course which I proposed should be followed in the negotiations will be found stated in section 12 of my letter of 30th April, to the Agent-General. In pursuance of those proposals, the Agent-General met me and Mr. Mackrell, and with the assistance of Mr. Kennaway, and the Shipping Officer (Mr. Smith), we went through the existing charter-party. A great many memoranda on the subject had previously from time to time been supplied to me by Mr. Smith. When we had agreed to the modifications of the charter-party we should require, representatives of the Shipping Company were invited to meet us, in order that they might be informed of and discuss the alterations required. I enclose copies of the correspondence which passed between the Manager of the Shipping Company, and the Agent-General and myself. Several interviews also took place, and finally the Shipping Company made arrangements to give Messrs. Shaw, Savill, and Company part of the business. Part of the London-Otago business was left free, for possible arrangement with Mr. Galbraith, as well as all the Glasgow business.

3. You will observe that it has been agreed to pay £16 per adult emigrant, or £1 10s. in excess of the present rate. The letter of 2nd June, from the Manager of the Shipping Company, contains calculations showing the Company's views as to the increase. I am of opinion, from all the information I could obtain, that the Company have only moderately estimated the additional cost of the requirements under the new charter-party. It would not, however, be right to suppose that what has now been done throws upon the colony an additional cost of £1 10s. per adult emigrant, as compared with the cost that has been of late incurred. Since your telegraphic despatch to Auckland (to catch the San Francisco mail of 29th October, 1874) directing an increased dietary, the provisions necessary for that increase have been put on board each vessel by the Agent-General's Department; and the cost thus incurred, commencing with the "Fernglen," which sailed on 3rd January, has to be added to the £14 10s. paid to the Company for each statute adult. The additional cost as shown by the return attached has been £1 11s. 5½d. per statute adult, thus making the total cost to the colony £16 1s. 5½d. per statute adult. The new arrangement includes advantages in addition to those of the increased dietary scale. Those advantages are described in the Company's letter as—increased space for emigrants, extra space of 5 feet for luggage, improved dietary for infants (which, as infants are not charged for, has to be averaged over the total number of adults), cost to the Company from payment of a moiety of the passage money in the colony.

There are, besides other advantages secured, such as a saving of 2s. 6d. a ton freight on all cargo, a larger power of enforcing penalties, and more substantial payment for demurrage, and larger powers to prevent objectionable cargo.

I should also not omit to mention that, as the rate for emigrants to Hawke's Bay and the Bluff is now to be the same as to ordinary ports, there will be an actual saving in the cost of emigrants to Hawke's Bay, which has hitherto been £16 10s., £2 in excess of ordinary rates; the same addition has hitherto been asked for rates to the Bluff. Mr. Smith estimates the increased space per adult as equal to 7s. 6d. per head; the extra cost for provisions and medical comforts for adults at 17s. 6d. per head; the extra provisions for children at £1 8s. per head; and the additional space for luggage at 5s. per head. The payment in the colony of a moiety of the passage money represents 5 per cent. on that moiety. There still remains unestimated the value to the colony of the extra demurrage, the increased power as to penalties, the cost to the Company of insurance upon the moiety of the passage money, as well as the reduced rate of freight, and other advantages to which I have already alluded.

4. Many of the alterations in the charter-party have been made in consequence of instructions from the colony, such for instance as the improved dietary scale and the increased space per adult. The extra room for luggage has been required because experience has shown that the allowance under the old charter-party is not sufficient. The payment in the colony of half the passage money has more than once been insisted upon in despatches from the colony. The extra demurrage I thought it right to stipulate for.

5. I am of opinion that the increased cost under the new charter-party is reasonable; and it must be remembered, in considering that cost, that emigrants will receive, in other things than food and medical comforts, far more than the bare terms of the law require. It is proposed that the duration of the arrangement now made shall be until the end of April 1876.

6. After much consideration, I determined to take upon myself the responsibility of modifying, as you permitted me to do, the instructions contained in your letter of 22nd December, 1874. Had I