

No. 23.

The Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION to the AGENT-GENERAL.

(No. 67.)

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 10th April, 1877.

I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of the following documents relating to the "Fernglen," which arrived at Napier upon the 20th ultimo:—1. Immigration Commissioners' report. 2. Immigration Officer's report. 3. Certified list of births and deaths.

I have, &c.,

GEO. McLEAN,

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

(for the Minister for Immigration).

Enclosure in No. 23.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT on Ship "FERNGLEN."

SIR,—

Commissioners' Office, Napier, 31st, March 1877.

We have the honor to report the arrival of the ship "Fernglen" in the Ahuriri roadstead, on Tuesday, the 20th instant, and have again the pleasant duty of stating that all is well. In accordance with the instructions furnished, we proceeded to examine the ship—immigrants, accommodation, provisions, inquiring minutely whether the people were satisfied with the treatment, &c., which they had received from the officers of the ship. All unanimously expressed themselves in unqualified terms of gratitude of the way they had been treated on board. The stores and provisions, which we examined, were of very good quality. The ship very clean, well lighted and roomy between decks. The fire brigade, called without a moment's notice, were in good working order, expeditiously throwing water all over the vessel within two and a half minutes from the word "Fire" being called. The passengers speak well both of the captain and doctor—the former getting up sports in order to relieve the ennui of a long passage, the latter for looking after their bodily welfare.

The Hon. the Minister for Immigration,
Wellington.

We have, &c.,

H. P. TIFFEN.

THOS. HITCHINGS.

No. 24.

The Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION to the AGENT-GENERAL.

(No. 78.)

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 26th April, 1877.

I have the honor to transmit herewith the following documents relating to the "Northampton," which vessel arrived at Nelson on the 3rd instant, viz.,—1. Commissioners' report. 2. Certified lists of births and deaths.

I have to direct your attention to the portions of the report of the Commissioners in which complaints are made as to the faulty construction of the deck hospitals, the annoyance caused by the single-men saloon passengers, and also the question of the issue of water. Inquiry should also be made as to the construction of the hospitals, as the result might have been very serious had there been much sickness during the voyage. With regard to allowing single-men saloon passengers to proceed in emigrant vessels, I have to request that the utmost caution should be exercised before granting permission under clause 26 of the contract of 16th November last. I have also to request that full inquiry may be made into the circumstances under which the unfortunate man S— was allowed to come out as a Government immigrant after having been refused a saloon passage. Had he come as a private passenger, the provisions of "The Imbecile Passengers Act, 1873," would have applied to the owners of the vessel which brought him to the colony. With regard to the question of the issue of water, it appears to be clear, by clause 22 of the contract above referred to, that full rations of water, in terms of Schedule A thereto—viz., three quarts daily, are to be issued to each statute adult, the quantity required for cooking being separate and distinct. I am glad to note that, after full inquiry, the Commissioners at Nelson did not consider the dispute between the captain and the surgeon-superintendent of sufficient importance to call for the interference of the department. The "Northampton" arrived safely in Wellington Harbour on the 12th instant, and the immigrants selected for the Emigrant and Colonist's Aid Corporation were sent direct to Foxton on the following day.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

I have, &c.,

D. REID.

Enclosure in No. 24.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT on Ship "NORTHAMPTON."

THE ship "Northampton," A1 at Lloyds, 1,161 tons, arrived at Nelson outer-anchorage on Tuesday, the 3rd of April, with 336 immigrants, equal to 283 adults. At 9.30 a.m. the Immigration Commissioners, with the Health Officer and pilot, went off to the ship, notice having been previously given to the agents. The usual questions from the Health Officer having been satisfactorily answered, the Commissioners went on board, and found all the passengers in good health, excepting one suffering from acute mania, and two or three of the female passengers from weakness; and the surgeon reported that the health of the passengers had been exceedingly good all the voyage. Two children died and two births occurred. The Commissioners then proceeded to examine the