

No. 8.

The IMMIGRATION OFFICER, Christchurch, to the UNDER SECRETARY for IMMIGRATION.

SIR,— Immigration Office, Christchurch, 30th June, 1877.

I have the honor to submit, for the information of the Hon. the Minister for Immigration, the following report upon the immigration operations in this district, for the year ending 30th June, 1877:—

1. *Labour demand and supply.*—There has been a steady demand for labour throughout the year, and during the summer months it was very brisk. Since the 1st July last, seven ships have arrived direct to Lyttelton with immigrants, and two part shipments have been forwarded from other ports. The total number introduced has been 2,014 souls, equal to 1,738 statute adults, as against 3,669 souls, equal to 3,168½ statute adults, introduced during the previous year. The total number of immigrants introduced into this district, since the passing of the Public Works to date, has been 21,344 souls, equal to 17,803 statute adults. The following is the return of the ships conveying immigrants during the past year, showing the date of arrival, length of passage, number shipped, number landed, and the births and deaths on the passage:—

NAME OF SHIP.	DATE OF ARRIVAL.	DAYS OUT.	NO. SHIPPED.		NO. LANDED.		BIRTHS.	DEATHS.
			Souls.	Adults.	Souls.	Adults.		
1876.								
City of Dunedin	July 1...	98	276	237	276	237	1	1
Waitangi	Sept. 16...	84	337	281½	341	281½	4	...
Rangitikei	Dec. 11...	94	320	277½	318	274	6	8=3½
1877.								
Cardigan Castle	Jan. 6...	95	324	280½	313	272	4	15=8½
Waipa	" 24...	88	282	249	281	248½	2	3=½
Wiltshire	Feb. 17...	97	282	251½	281	250½	...	1=1
Carnatic	April 14...	...	32	25½	31	25½	...	1
Camperdown ... ..	...	...	68	67	68	67	...	...
Leicester ... ..	...	...	105	82	105	82	...	...
Total ... ..	...	...	2,026	1,751½	2,014	1,738	17	29=13½

This number is classified as follows, viz.—

291 families, comprising 1,085 souls ... ..	...	...	=809 statute adults.
Single men ... ..	...	...	533 "
Single women ... ..	...	...	396 "
Total 2,014 souls ... ..	...	...	=1,738 "

2. *Character and Suitability of Immigrants.*—The immigrants introduced have been of good character, and were generally suitable for the requirements of the district.

3. *Rates of Wages.*—Married couples, for farms and stations, £60 to £70 per annum; married men with families, 4s. to 6s. per day, with cottage found; ditto, for bush-work, 6s. to 9s. per day; grooms and coachmen, £40 to £50; shepherds, £50 to £60, and found; gardeners, £50 to £55; single men, for farms and stations, £40 to £55; masons, bricklayers, carpenters, and plasterers, 8s. to 12s. per day; blacksmiths, wheelwrights, coopers, coachmakers, and plumbers, 9s. to 10s. per day; shoemakers and tailors, £2 10s. to £3 per week (piece-work); general labourers, 6s. to 8s. per day. Single women (domestic servants) cooks, £30 to £40 per annum, and found; general servants, £20 to £30 per annum, and found.

4. *Nominated System, how working.*—The nominated system continues to work satisfactorily. The total number of nominations taken at this office for the past year was 682 souls, equal to 625 statute adults.

5. *Special Settlements.*—No special settlements have been formed in this district at present on any extensive scale.

6. *Recovery of Bills and Promissory Notes.*—I am pleased to report that considerable progress has been made in the collection of bills and notes during the past year. The total amount collected on immigration has been £1,847 16s. 4d., as under:—On bills and notes, £1,181 13s. 2d.; provincial notes, £192 5s. 11d.; passages in advance and outfit, £158 8s. 6d.; rents, £212 14s. 9d.; refunds, £48 14s.; sale of tanks, £54: total, £1,847 16s. 4d. I look forward to collecting a larger amount during the next twelve months.

I have, &c.,

J. E. MARCH,

Immigration Officer.

The Under Secretary for Immigration, Wellington.

No. 9.

The IMMIGRATION OFFICER, Timaru, to the UNDER SECRETARY for IMMIGRATION.

SIR,— Immigration Office, Timaru, 4th July, 1877.

In reply to your circular dated the 7th May, I have the honor to lay before you the following report on immigration in my district for the year ending 30th June, 1877:—1. The total number of