

FURTHER PAPERS

RELATING TO

I M M I G R A T I O N.

REPORTS OF IMMIGRATION OFFICERS.

(In continuation of Papers presented on the 6th August.)

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BY COMMAND OF
HIS EXCELLENCY.

WELLINGTON.

—
1872.

REPORTS OF IMMIGRATION OFFICERS.

No.	Date.	Name of Ship, &c.
1	1872. 3 Feb.	"Charlotte Gladstone," Lyttelton.
2	10 July.	"William Davie," Dunedin.
3	10 Aug.	"William Davie"—Report of Engagements of Immigrants.
4	29 "	"Halcione," Wellington.
5	6 "	"Merope," Lyttelton.
6	15 "	Memorandum by Immigration Officer, Christchurch, and Comparative Statement of Dietary Scale.

FURTHER PAPERS RELATING TO IMMIGRATION.

No. 1.

Mr. J. E. MARCH to the Hon. W. REEVES.

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Christchurch, Canterbury, 3rd February, 1872.

I had the honor to inform you yesterday, by telegram, of the arrival of the ship "Charlotte Gladstone," with immigrants.

At the request of Captain Gibson, Dr. Donald inspected the ship, and I beg to forward his report, which I received from His Honor the Superintendent, and a copy of which I have retained.

I landed the immigrants at 3 p.m. yesterday, and they were conveyed, with their baggage, to Addington by special train.

Three of the young women I was obliged to send to the Hospital; one appears consumptive, the other two have frequent hysteric fits. I will report more fully on these cases as soon as they have been a little time under the treatment of the medical officer here.

The matron of the ship, two single women, and five single men were engaged in England by Mr. Cracroft Wilson, and have left for their situations.

I have selected a fair proportion for the Timaru District, and they will leave on Tuesday next.

The immigrants are now busy washing their clothes, &c., and to-morrow divine service will be held at the Barracks, and on Monday the engagements take place.

I will forward my usual report on this shipment as soon as the immigrants are placed in situations.

I have, &c.,

J. EDWIN MARCH,
Immigration Officer.

The Hon. the Resident Minister, Dunedin.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Dr. DONALD to the Hon. W. REEVES.

SIR,—

Lyttelton, 2nd February, 1872.

I have the honor to report that, at Captain Gibson's request, I this day visited the ship "Charlotte Gladstone," from London, ninety days out.

The immigrant compartments were very clean and comfortable, and the people of all classes cheerful and contented. They expressed themselves in the warmest terms of gratitude to the master, Captain Fox, for his unvarying kindness, and their satisfaction at all the arrangements of the vessel, the quantity and quality of the supplies.

Two births occurred during the voyage; no severe illness had occurred during the passage. The immigrants generally appear to have been well selected, and likely to be appreciated in the colonies. The single women were cleanly and neat in appearance, and were reported to have cheerfully attended to the suggestions of the matron.

I recommended all the officers for full gratuities.

The condenser had worked satisfactorily,—equal to 400 gallons in sixteen hours.

W. DONALD,

Pro Commissioner.

The Hon. the Resident Minister, Middle Island.

No. 2.

IMMIGRATION OFFICER'S REPORT on Immigrants per ship "Charlotte Gladstone."

Immigration Office, Christchurch, 16th February, 1872.

Date of Arrival.—2nd February, 1872.

Number Landed.—22 families, representing 53 statute adults; 45½ single men; 45 single women.

Number Engaged.—All the single men and single women who were for engagement, found suitable situations the first day the Barracks were open. All the married couples who could undertake farm work were also engaged the first day; the others have since found employment.

Character of the Immigrants.—Very good.

What Wages were given.—Married couples, £60 per annum and found; single men, £35 to £45; single women, cooks, £30; general servants, £20 to £30; nurses, £25; housemaids, £20; nurse girls, £13 to £15.

Present Demand of the Labour Market.—The demand for good domestic servants is still very much greater than the supply: more than double the number would have found suitable situations. There is a steady demand for single men and married couples thoroughly accustomed to farm work.

General Remarks.—The character of the immigrants by the ship was as a whole very good, and suited to the requirements of the Province. I would venture, however, to point out the necessity of some better medical inspection of the immigrants before sailing. Three of the single women, namely,

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Jane Johnston, Rosa Mills, and Esther Gridley, were ill the greater part of the passage, and had to be conveyed to the Hospital on arrival. I attach copy of the Surgeon Superintendent's report on the two former.

On inquiry, I find that these girls were in a state of ill-health before embarking.

J. EDWIN MARCH,
Immigration Officer.

Enclosure in No. 2.

SURGEON SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Rosa Mills, aged 21.

ROSA MILLS, age 21, has been subject to hysterical fits since the age of 17. She seemed well on board till 15th November, when a very severe fit occurred while writing a letter in a compartment below. Convulsions were severe; the consciousness partial; paralysis continued for a few days after. She has had fits daily ever since, but less and less severe. She is now beginning to walk a step or two. Her character is excellent, and she resists the fits as much as possible, but she is prone to sentimental dreaming. She began to improve directly after leaving the tropics.

Jane Johnston, aged 22.

This patient is consumptive, and attended the Brompton Consumptive Hospital for twelve months under Dr. Williams, for spitting of blood, &c. Her sister on board, Mrs. Gledhill, is likewise consumptive, and has required medical comforts all the voyage. Jane Johnston has been confined to her bed or carried on deck ever since 25th November, when fainting fits with spasms commenced, and lasted through the tropics. She is now improving.

No. 3.

REPORT on Ship "William Davie,"

Immigration Office, Dunedin, 10th July, 1872.

SIR,—

I have the honor to report that the ship "William Davie," from Glasgow, arrived in port on Monday, the 8th instant, having made a passage of ninety-one days from port to port. She brought to the Province 113 statute adults, of whom 70 were assisted by the Home Agent and 21½ nominated in the Colony, making a total of 91½ statute adults assisted by the Government.

The immigrants arrived in excellent health, there being no sickness of any description during the voyage. The provisions were excellent, and were served out in accordance with the dietary scale. There were no complaints. The several compartments were properly fitted up, and were very clean, particularly the young women's. The matron reports favourably of the young women's conduct on board as being exemplary. Captain Peacock, Mr. Millar, surgeon, and the officers of the ship, appear to have performed their respective duties in a manner deserving of the highest praise. I have much pleasure in recommending that their services to the immigrants should be recognized by the Government.

I have, &c.,
COLIN ALLAN,
Immigration Officer

No. 4.

MEMORANDUM by Mr. J. R. MONSON.

THE ship was properly fitted according to Passengers Act, 1855-63. Passengers mustered and expressed themselves satisfied with treatment received, provisions and water issued, and made no complaint to me. One death of an infant occurred on board, and some sixteen cases of measles had taken place. The passengers, however, arrived here in good health, excepting one lady in the saloon, insane.

J. R. MONSON,
Immigration Officer,
Dunedin.

No. 5.

MEMORANDUM for Chief Immigration Officer, Christchurch.

WITH regard to the insane passenger in the cabin, referred to by Mr. Monson, I have to state that she is now quite well, on joining her friends. Her insanity consisted of a nervous excitement.

COLIN ALLAN,
Immigration Officer.

13th July, 1872.

No. 6.

MEMORANDUM by Dr. O'DONOUGHUE.

IN RE Ship "William Davie," I have much pleasure in stating that the ship and passengers appeared in good order, and, with the exception of measles, from which one death out of sixteen cases occurred, no other disease of consequence took place; and all on board expressed their full satisfaction with officers and crew.

DAVID O'DONOUGHUE,
Medical Officer to Board of Health.

No. 7.

REPORT on Engagements of Immigrants by ship "William Davie."

SIR,— Immigration Office, Christchurch, Canterbury, 10th August, 1872.
I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of the Immigration Officer's report on engagements of immigrants per ship "William Davie," with rates of wages given.
I have, &c.,
J. EDWIN MARCH,
Chief Immigration Officer.

The Hon. the Resident Minister.

Enclosure in No. 7.

Mr. C. ALLAN to Mr. MARCH.

SIR,— Immigration Office, Dunedin, 7th August, 1872.
I have the honor to report that the immigrants per ship "William Davie" were engaged on the day appointed, namely, 12th July, and the two succeeding days, with the exception of one family, consisting of man, wife, and two children, the husband being unable to take service on account of a disabled foot.
The demand for good ploughmen and female servants was brisk ; even a larger number could have been engaged.
I enclose a copy of the report of the Labour Exchange, where the wages are quoted.
The immigrants were, on the whole, suitable for the requirements of the Province.
I have, &c.,
COLIN ALLAN,
Immigration Officer.

The Chief Immigration Officer, Christchurch.

DUNEDIN LABOUR EXCHANGE.

The following Return shows the transactions at this Institution during the months of June and July, 1872.

Occupations.	Applications by Employers.	Applications by Servants.	No. engaged.	Rate of Wages.
Blacksmiths	1	...	...	...
Coppersmiths	1	1	1	10s. per day.
Dairy Maids	2	1	1	£36 per annum and found.
Farm Servants	18	15	15	£45 per annum and found.
Female Cooks	2	2	2	£40 per annum and found.
Female Servants... ..	38	30	30	£25 to £35 per annum and found.
Labourers	1	1	1	6s. per day.
Married Couples	6	4	4	£60 to £65 per annum and found.
Male Cooks	2	2	2	20s. to 24s. per week and found.
Milkers	2	1	1	10s. to 15s. per week and found.
Nursery Maids	2	2	2	6s. to 8s. per week.
Shepherds	2	1	1	£50 to £52 per annum.
Shoemakers	1	...	...	...
Stewards	1	2	1	£5 per month.
Storemen	1	3	1	25s. per week and found.
Wheelwrights	1	...	...	...
Totals	81	65	62	...

Though June and July are reckoned the slackest months in the year for labouring men, yet the demand for certain classes has this season been better than usual. Farm servants, particularly good ploughmen and married couples for farms and stations, are in great request at present, and command good wages. Female servants of every description are still in great demand.
The ship "William Davie," from Glasgow, arrived in port on the 8th of July, having upwards of ninety immigrants, a fair proportion being female servants, for whom applications had been received before the arrival of the ship. The whole of the females and the farm servants were engaged, on the day appointed for that purpose, at the wages quoted above.

COLIN ALLAN, Agent.

No. 8.

REPORT on Ship "Halcione," by Mr. J. KNOWLES.

SIR,— Public Works Office, Wellington, 29th July, 1872.
I have the honor, in the absence of Mr. Halcombe on service at Palmerston, to report the safe arrival of the emigrant ship "Halcione," at this port, on Saturday evening, after a pleasant voyage of ninety-two days.

As there were several nominated immigrants whom their friends were anxious to get ashore, I inspected the ship and mustered the immigrants early yesterday morning. I found the accommodation, general arrangements, and cleanliness all that could be wished.

The health was good. There had been four deaths—young children—and four births.

Finding that the surgeon, matron, and constables, and that the captain and his officers have performed their respective duties satisfactorily, I recommend the payment of all their gratuities.

This recommendation is, however, so far as the captain and surgeon are concerned, subject to an inquiry (which I have promised shall take place) into the matters mentioned in the enclosed paper, signed by many of the immigrants.

The quality of the meat is a matter which rests on the shoulders of Messrs. Shaw, Saville, and Co.; the cooking, on those of the captain and surgeon.

The inquiry is of so simple a character, that I think it may be left to Mr. Halcombe; but if it is desired to associate one or more officers with him, I suggest the Collector of Customs and the Health Officer, who is also Harbour Master.

The ship came alongside the wharf this morning, when the immigrants were landed, and located at Mount Cook Barracks. A number of the immigrants are for Messrs. Brogden, but as those gentlemen have not yet provided accommodation for their workmen, I offered a portion of the Barracks temporarily, which was gladly accepted.

I have, &c.,

JOHN KNOWLES,

Under Secretary.

The Hon. the Minister for Public Works.

Enclosure in No. 8.

REPORT of the Board appointed to Inquire into certain Complaints made by Immigrants, ex "Halcione," of their treatment during the voyage from London.

SIR,—

Wellington, 2nd August, 1872.

Having carefully examined several witnesses touching the treatment of the Government immigrants on board the "Halcione," from London to Wellington, we beg to present the following report:—

As will be seen by reference to the evidence attached, the testimony of witnesses is most conflicting. We are, however, of opinion that the meat served out to the immigrants on board was, at the time of serving out, of fair average quality, with one or two exceptions, and that there is no substantial cause for complaint.

We are also of opinion that the cooking was as good as the requirements of so large a body of immigrants, and their want of knowledge how to prepare their food, would allow.

We have, &c.,

A. F. HALCOMBE,

JOHN HOLLIDAY,

J. HACKWORTH.

The Hon. J. D. Ormond,
Minister for Public Works.

FRIDAY, 2ND AUGUST, 1872.

Present:—MESSRS. HALCOMBE AND HACKWORTH.

MR. WRIGHT, first mate of "Halcione," was present on behalf of the master of the ship "Halcione."

MR. RALPH CRAWFORD on behalf of the complainants.

MR. R. CRAWFORD being called as witness stated: On five occasions the whole of the pork served out to the single men's compartment was putrid and unfit to eat. I took it to Captain Bishop on one occasion, and showed him the portion of the meat served out to our mess; he tasted it and admitted that it was not good. Other of the passengers had gone on previous occasions and made the same complaint. No other meat was served out to me on that occasion, and we went without meat at all on this and several other times. I did not go to the doctor, because other people had gone to him on the same errand and could not obtain redress. For four weeks we had no molasses served out to us, as we should have had under our contract passage ticket. Our rice, which we took to the galley to be cooked in bags given for the purpose, was returned uncooked; and as this constantly occurred, we did not for the last four or five weeks send it up at all. Moneys were given to the cook by many of the Danes, and they were thereby enabled to get their food cooked, when other people who did not pay could not do so.

ROBERT PORTEUS, steerage passenger in the single men's compartment of the ship "Halcione," being called, confirmed the statement of R. Crawford, except that he states that he did not, and is not aware that any others did, complain to the doctor, the captain having ordered that all such complaints should be made to him. He also states that puddings made of flour, suet, and raisins, were returned from the cook's galley uncooked. The Doctor was present on several occasions when these complaints were made. On one occasion, when he was captain of one mess, he took up a cake to be cooked. A Dane was just before him with provisions to be cooked; he handed them to the cook, and they were taken in and cooked. There was money placed on the top of the dishes handed in by the Dane, which money was taken by the cook. There was plenty of room in the oven after the Dane's provisions were put in, but the cook refused to take mine in. I complained immediately to Captain Bishop, who promised to look into it, and he sent for the cook. Since then we got our cakes cooked, but not our rice or our puddings.

EDWIN HIBBERT, steerage passenger by the "Halcione," in the married men's compartment: I read from notes made at the time:—On 21st May we had no dinner, because the meat was bad and the soup was burned. On the 24th May, no dinner again for wife and children, the meat being bad. May 28th, the same. The meat was taken on each occasion up to the captain in my presence, and, as far as I recollect, the captain said the meat was fit to eat, and refused to serve out other meat in place of it. On the 17th July, the cook refused to warm our preserved meat except in the tins in which it was

served out; these tins would not hold sufficient water, and without the addition of water the preserved meat could not be used: in consequence, my family had to go without dinner. Instead of a quarter of a pint of preserved milk, to which I was entitled by my contract ticket for my infant child, I received only a quarter of a pint of water with about half a teaspoonful of preserved milk mixed with it. The 4 oz. of rice and the 4 oz. of oatmeal to which I was entitled weekly for my infant, were not served out at all. Our mess was entitled to receive $2\frac{1}{2}$ pints pickles weekly, but we never received more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ pints, except on one occasion. We never got our rice cooked properly, it was always returned to us raw. The cook was in the habit of using most offensive language to both the male and female passengers. On one occasion I took twopence to the cook and he cooked my food, but the captain, finding that the cook was receiving money, ordered us not to give it. On one occasion I made five attempts in one day to see the captain and lay my complaint before him, but, for various reasons alleged, was not permitted to see him. I did not, therefore, make any other efforts to represent these matters to him.

Dr. F. W. H. POPHAM, Surgeon-Superintendent on board the ship "Halcione," states: Once on the voyage, when in the tropics, complaint was made to me personally by one of the single men of the state of a piece of meat which was brought to me as being stinking, upon which I tasted it, it being cooked, and found that it was slightly tainted, but perfectly wholesome. As far as my knowledge goes, there was never any putrid meat unfit for human food served out. I examined many of the casks of meat and found them good. In the saloon, we had sandwiches every night made out of the meat taken from every cask as it was opened, and we found none of the meat bad. There was one cask opened as to which complaints were made by the steerage passengers, and the captain ordered that no more of it should be served out to them from it. This meat was, however, subsequently served out to the crew, and I am not aware that any complaints were made about it. On this occasion a fresh cask was immediately opened in my presence, and the meat served out to the passengers. On one occasion I saw meat thrown overboard, a piece of which was rescued when on the point of being thrown overboard. It was put on the cabin table, and partaken of by the Captain, myself, and three of the passengers at least: they all pronounced it wholesome. Complaints were made to the captain direct without any previous reference to me as Surgeon-Superintendent, but I am not aware that the Captain gave any orders to the passengers to that effect. I frequently, in fact almost daily, visited the galley, and, as far as my observations went, the cook did his duty towards the passengers, and the food was cooked as well as it could be, considering the character of the materials when sent to the galley. There was one cooking galley for the immigrants, who numbered 200, the cabin passengers, and crew, and I consider the cooking accommodation sufficient; at the same time, I think it would be advisable that the immigrants should have a galley of their own. No complaints were made to me that the rations were short served, and I only once heard a complaint made to that effect. One day a complaint was made to me that the rice was not cooked, but on examining it I found that it was sufficiently boiled.

HENRY INNISS, purser and chief steward on board the "Halcione," states: I always served out the meat to the immigrants; it was all of good quality, both beef and pork; some of it, possibly a piece in a cask, might have been a little tainted, but I do not remember noticing any, and the whole of it was certainly fit for human food. I never had to throw any away. One piece was on one occasion complained of by a passenger, but the other passengers standing round pronounced it good. On several occasions complaints were made, and on one special occasion several pieces of meat were thrown overboard by the immigrants. I got a piece of this from No. 21 mess (single men), and put it on the saloon table; it was all eaten by the cabin passengers, it being known that it had been discarded by the steerage passengers. It was pronounced good by all the cabin passengers who partook of it. In one or two instances complaints were made of tea and bread being short served. With regard to the tea, it was not till nearly an hour after being served out that it was brought back, and then found to be only $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. short weight, and the passengers, in attempting to divide it amongst themselves, had probably lost some; I made up the full weight. As to the bread, one man brought his bread back, saying it was short; this might easily have occurred in the division of a 3 lb. loaf into six pieces, but I made up the full weight to the complainant. I remember no complaint as to short measure of pickles.

JAMES JOSS, cook on board the "Halcione," states: I cooked for the Government immigrants on board the "Halcione," as well as for the cabin passengers and crew. I have been cook or steward on board immigrant ships for the last twelve years. The immigrants on board used to bring me their pudding bags with rice so full that it was impossible for the rice to swell and take up the water as it should do. In consequence the inside could not get cooked. I called the attention both of the steward and the passengers to this, and most of the passengers took out a portion. I am not aware that any of the messes ceased to send their rice to the galley because they could not get it cooked. I cooked everything as it was brought by the immigrants, provided I had sufficient room for it. I never refused to cook anything I had room for. I consider the galley accommodation sufficient for the number on board. I had two assistants constantly at work. I received money throughout the voyage from the Danish immigrants. I do not know what they gave it for. I did not ask any passenger for money, and I was told by the captain not to ask any one for money, but the captain told me I might take any that was given me. There was one special day a week for cooking rice in bags. Rice, to more or less extent, was cooked in hook-pots every day. I commenced cooking at half-past six in the morning and continued till half-past seven at night. The galley fires were lighted at about half-past four in the morning.

(Carl E. Warnecke acting as Interpreter.)

N. C. CHRISTENSEN, Danish immigrant per "Halcione," states: Most of the time after we crossed the line, the meat served out, both beef and pork, was bad—so bad that we could only eat a little of it; we threw the rest overboard; sometimes we had to throw it all away; but sometimes the meat was good and we could eat it all. We cooked the meat, as a rule, the day after we got it, and put it in water in the meantime—in salt water I mean. Sometimes we kept the meat in a tin dish and left it down below all night. The meat was often bad when served out. We complained several times to the captain. The captain said it was good, and gave us no more in the place of it. I had great difficulty in getting my food cooked, especially what wanted boiling. Sometimes the food at the bottom was burned and

that at the top uncooked. I often gave the cook money, and then I got my food quickly done. The captain returned me the money I gave the cook. All the other Danes also had their money returned.

ROBERT WRIGHT, first mate on board the "Halcione," states: I myself examined the principal part of the meat served out, both beef and pork. I consider it, without exception, perfectly sound, good, and wholesome. The same meat was used all through the ship. No complaints of its bad quality were made by either the cabin passengers or crew. I know that the captain ordered the cook not to take any money from the passengers, and he had a list made out of money received from the passengers and refunded it.

ROBERT C. BLACK, steerage passenger by the "Halcione," having heard Mr. Crawford's statement read, confirms it in every particular, and adds that money was received by the ship's cook from some of the English passengers as well as the Danish.

No. 9.

REPORT ON SHIP "MEROPE."

THE Immigration Commissioners express their gratification at the appearance of cleanliness and order in every compartment of the vessel. The fittings and arrangements generally were satisfactory; the distilling and cooking apparatus particularly so, and also the bath-room in the single women's compartment.

The surgeon expresses strongly his sense of the advantage of a hospital on deck as provided in this vessel.

The health of the immigrants, with one exception only (that of a case of organic disease), was and had been good.

The supply of rations in quantity was satisfactory, but the complaint was universal of the insufficiency of the supply of flour in the dietary scale, being only 8 oz. per adult per day for bread and other food for six days in the week—none being issued on Friday. The Saturday's rations appear absurdly insufficient; 4 oz. of salt meat served out uncooked (bone included), and 2 oz. for children. This was so obviously deficient, that the captain had substituted soup made of preserved meat, with rice, &c., throughout the voyage. There was a large proportion of children between four and twelve years, and the Commissioners consider that in such cases especial dietary allowance should be made, say oatmeal, extra flour, and soup. It was strongly urged by some on board that Roman Catholic passengers should be allowed salt fish on Fridays. Several of the immigrants pleaded hard for cheese as a part of the ration, stating that their wives and children, when suffering from sea sickness, earnestly desired it, when they refused everything else. The surgeon expresses strongly the necessity for including gin among medical comforts.

The supply of arrowroot and sago was insufficient as laid down in the dietary scale for infants under four years.

There should also be a sufficient supply of porter to permit a daily allowance to nursing women.

The matron appears to have fulfilled her duties satisfactorily. The conduct of the single women was well reported of, and the Commissioners were much pleased with the appearance of the immigrants generally.

The person acting as schoolmaster was highly commended.

The Commissioners recommend all officers for full gratuities.

The Commissioners append extracts from the surgeon's diary, and evidence taken by them on board.

WM. DONALD
FRED. D. GIBSON
JOHN H. ROUSE
J. EDWIN MARCH.

Lyttleton, 6th August. 1872.

Enclosure 1 in No 9.

SHIP "MEROPE."—Extract from the Surgeon-Superintendent's Diary.

"WITH regard to the provisions on board for medical comforts, clause 15 in the contract states that 'Children between one and four years of age are to receive 8 oz. of arrowroot or sago weekly; children under one year old, and if above four months old, 4 oz. of sago or arrowroot weekly.'

"There are 56 lbs. of arrowroot and 40 lbs. of sago, 96 lbs. altogether. There are twenty children between one and four years of age who, according to clause 15, should receive 8 oz. of sago and arrowroot weekly, and six who should receive 4 oz. of sago or arrowroot weekly. That would be equal to nearly 12 lbs. per week; so that if this quantity were allowed, it would not last out the voyage, irrespective of any I might require on emergency; therefore, I have arranged that only those should receive arrowroot or sago weekly for whom I give orders.

"I find the hospital on deck a great convenience. For comfort, ventilation, quietude, and everything necessary for a patient in a critical condition, it is far superior to the hospital 'tween decks; in fact, I would rather that such a case as that of Isabella Clyde had remained in her own berth than in the hospital 'tween decks. I am of opinion that a hospital on deck should be provided, where practicable, in every ship carrying emigrants.

"All the emigrants have behaved well, and deserve every credit for obedience. The constables did their duty thoroughly.

"There was no gin as medical comforts, or cheese."

Enclosure 2 in No. 9.

EVIDENCE taken by the Immigration Commissioners on board the ship "Merope," in presence of the Officers and Agents of the Ship.

CHARLES WOOD, steerage passenger, states the supply of bread and flour was insufficient, especially for families of children; thinks extra allowance wanted; cheese would be a great comfort, often begged for by sufferers during sea-sickness. On Saturdays the captain supplemented 4 oz. of salt meat by preserved meat made into soup, with rice and barley.

JAMES CHILDS.—I have a wife and five children. The bread and flour were insufficient, especially for children. The Saturday's allowance was not enough; if we had not soup on Saturdays we should not have had enough. I believe we had all our rations and more. Officers and all on board behaved always very kindly to us.

JAMES PAGET.—I have a wife and six children. The bread and flour were insufficient; the Saturday's ration was also insufficient. The captain gave us soups from preserved meats instead of the ordinary ration.

THOMAS SANDERCOCK.—I have a wife and five children. The only complaint I have to make is that we were short of flour and bread.

ALFRED FLAVELL.—I have a wife and seven children. The allowance of flour and bread was quite insufficient to the wants of my family. We had sufficient meat. It would be very desirable if cheese were added to the rations.

JOHN REEVE.—I have a wife and three children. I acted as constable. I saw the provisions weighed; full supplies were always given according to scale. People generally complained of supply of flour and bread; my own family would have liked more flour and bread. I do not consider Saturday's allowance sufficient; 4 oz. of salt beef would have been useless. Soup, with barley or rice, was supplied by the ship.

The single men in a body made the same complaint of insufficient supply of flour and bread.

The captain concurs; he thinks, also, when there are so many children, there should be a special ration. Extras have been supplied from the captain's table. He also thinks it would be advisable to supply a better class of biscuits in smaller quantities.

The surgeon concurs in the above statements.

No. 10.

MEMORANDUM and COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of DIETARY SCALE.

SIR,— Immigration Office, Christchurch, Canterbury, 15th August, 1872.

In a Memorandum I had the honor to address to you on the 29th April last, on the subject of the draft contract proposed to be entered into by the Agent-General for the conveyance of emigrants to New Zealand, I alluded to the dietary scale, and remarked that, with the omission of one article (cheese), the scale was exactly similar to the one in use on board Canterbury immigrant ships for several years past.

I stated that the scale was ample, and would without doubt give the same satisfaction as heretofore.

I find, however, that the present scale, made by the Agent-General, is different from that shown in the draft contract, and I desire to direct your attention to the alterations.

The following articles are now omitted in the weekly allowance to each adult:—Cheese, 6 oz.; currants, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; carrots, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; celery seed, $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.

The following articles are reduced, as under:—Preserved meats, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. less; flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. less; rice or oatmeal, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. less; tea, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. less; coffee, 1 oz. less; suet, 2 oz. less; potatoes, fresh, 1 lb. less, or preserved, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. less.

The following additions have been made:—Salt beef, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. more; biscuit, 14 oz. more; butter, 2 oz. more; raisins, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. more.

I attach table comparing the present dietary scale with that under the Canterbury contract, and also with the scale allowed by law under the Passenger Act.

I have, &c.,

J. EDWIN MARCH,

Chief Immigration Officer.

The Hon. the Resident Minister.

TABLE showing present Dietary Scale, the Scale under the Canterbury Provincial Government, and the Scale allowed under the Passenger Act.

ARTICLE.	Present Scale.		Canterbury Scale.		Scale allowed by law under Passenger Act.	
	lbs.	oz.	lbs.	oz.	lbs.	oz.
Preserved Meat	1	0	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	0
Salt Beef	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	1	0	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	0
Salt Pork	1	0	1	0	1	0
Biscuit	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	2	10	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0
Flour	3	0	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	2	0
Rice or Oatmeal	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0
Peas	$\frac{1}{2}$	pint	$\frac{1}{2}$	pint	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	pint

TABLE showing present Dietary Scale, &c.—continued.

ARTICLE.						Present Scale.		Canterbury Scale.		Scale allowed by law under Passenger Act.	
						lbs.	oz.	lbs.	oz.	lbs.	oz.
Sugar, Raw	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1	0	1	0
Lime Juice	...	...	...	...	...	0	6	0	6	0	6
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	0	1½	0	2	0	2
Coffee, Roasted	...	...	...	...	...	0	2	0	3	...	...
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	0	6	0	4	0	4
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6	...	...
Currants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	¼	0	...	...
Raisins	...	...	...	...	...	½	0	¼	0	½	0
Suet	...	...	...	...	...	0	6	0	8	0	6
Pickles	...	...	...	...	...	¼	pint	¼	pint	...	...
Mustard	...	...	...	...	...	0	½	0	½	0	½
Pepper	...	...	...	...	...	0	¼	0	¼	0	¼
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	0	2	0	2	0	2
Potatoes, Fresh, or...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0	3	0	2	0
Preserved	...	...	...	...	...	½	0	¾	0	...	...
Molasses	...	...	...	...	...	½	0	½	0	...	...
Carrots	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	¼	0	...	...
Celery Seed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	¼	...	...
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 gill	...
Water	...	...	...	...	...	21	quarts	21	quarts	21	quarts

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