

you approve, and will Minister of Works object to building being erected on ground taken for railway station purposes? Plenty of room without interfering with railway.

The Hon. J. Vogel, Wellington.

W. ROLLESTON.

Wellington, 12th March, 1874.

Am willing to authorize erection of depôt at Rangiora. £900 seems rather a large amount. Can it not be done for less? With respect to site, I append memorandum by Mr. Richardson. Will you advise concerning it?

His Honor W. Rolleston, Christchurch.

JULIUS VOGEL.

3rd March, 1874.

THE Government bought the land referred to by Mr. Rolleston to save legal trouble, with intention of re-selling that portion which is not wanted for railway. Would recommend that His Honor be requested to point out to District Engineer O'Connor what land he proposes to take, and if found not likely to interfere with the railway in the future, I see no reason to object to the land being so occupied, except that a proportionate part of the cost of the land ought to be paid by Immigration Department, and be credited with proceeds of sale, should it be hereafter determined to sell the whole with the buildings.

E. RICHARDSON.

Christchurch, 16th March, 1874,

RANGIORA depôt. Will restrict expenditure to £700, to include all fittings, &c.

The Hon. J. Vogel, Wellington.

W. ROLLESTON.

No. 119.

TELEGRAMS between the Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION and His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Canterbury.

Wellington, 26th March, 1874.

Re Rangiora depôt. Would it not be better, instead of erecting this depôt, to erect a number of small cottages, to be let to immigrants? Could you not have portable cottages made, which it would be useful to erect in different parts of the Province? The want of house-room in the Colony is a most serious matter to be considered in connection with the number of immigrants arriving, and who will arrive during the winter months. I shall be glad to know whether your Honor is willing to accept the responsibility of finding employment for those who are arriving, or will arrive during the winter? Or would you like the Public Works Department to set apart some particular work on which the unemployed could find occupation at rates of wages below those which contractors offer, so that employing day labour, the Government would not be competing with contractors? I should be glad also to know whether your Honor does not consider it desirable, at different points on the line of railway works, to establish small villages. A few cottages might be erected, and let to immigrants, and be made the nucleus of small communities. If your Honor desired it, I would forward you plans of portable cottages. Under the Canterbury Act, land is, I believe, readily obtainable by those who wish to settle. Therefore, your Honor will be the best judge whether it will be desirable, under the Immigration and Public Works Act, to take any special blocks to be put apart for immigrants upon other than ordinary terms. I will only say that if your Honor recommends such a course, I shall be prepared to favourably consider it.

His Honor the Superintendent, Christchurch.

JULIUS VOGEL.

Christchurch, 28th March, 1874.

SMALL cottages are being built in various places. At Rangiora the depôt is the same as a number of cottages of small size, and being in a central place, will be better than a number of cottages short distances apart, as better supervision can be exercised. Do not think portable cottages will suit. Without absolutely accepting responsibility of providing employment for all the immigrants that may arrive during the winter, the Provincial Government will cordially co-operate with you in making such arrangements as may be necessary to provide employment, and will be prepared to spend £10,000 for this purpose. Establishment of villages or special settlements is receiving the attention of the Provincial Government. I do not think it will be necessary to acquire land for this under the Immigration and Public Works Act.

The Hon. the Minister for Immigration, Wellington.

W. ROLLESTON.

Wellington, 31st March, 1874.

THANKS for your telegram of 28th. I do not understand you advise any action *re* employment of immigrants or otherwise. If, however, I am mistaken, and you think some alternative provision desirable, will you see Minister for Public Works, who is at present in Christchurch?

His Honor W. Rolleston, Christchurch.

JULIUS VOGEL.

No. 120.

TELEGRAMS between His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Canterbury and the Hon. the MINISTER for IMMIGRATION.

Christchurch, 14th April, 1874.

IMMIGRATION Officer strongly recommends the purchase of a thirteen-roomed house at Oxford, at a cost of £250, in view of the large number of immigrants to be expected. We cannot wait until the