

Enclosure in No. 30.

The COMMISSIONER of CROWN LANDS, Invercargill, to the UNDER SECRETARY for IMMIGRATION.

Crown Lands Office, Invercargill, 8th May, 1877.

IN reply to your memorandum No. 245, of 27th ultimo, *re* likelihood of employment for rabbit-trappers in this district, I beg to state that if thought necessary I could write to the various runholders on the subject, but as I am aware that thousands of pounds are spent yearly by them in payments, at an average rate of 2d. a skin, to men to destroy them with dogs and traps, I think such information should be sufficient to induce any real hard-working trapper to emigrate from England. On the farms nearer Invercargill, or in country adjoining railway stations, the trapper could do well by sending rabbits to town for local consumption or export to Dunedin, 9d. or 1s. a pair being obtainable. The best evidence to be adduced by the Agent-General to all inquiries would be the report on the Rabbit Nuisance in Southland, by Sir John Richardson and myself.

The Under Secretary for Immigration,
Wellington.

I have, &c.,
WALTER H. PEARSON,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

No. 31.

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

(No. 92.)

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 18th May, 1877.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 111, of February last, and in reply to intimate to you the approval of the Government of the arrangements you have made with Mr. Hill for terminating the lease of the Blackwall depôt.

I concur with you in thinking that Mr. Hill's offer to allow all the emigrants that may be sent from his Plymouth depôt up to 31st March, 1878, to count in reduction of those deficient on the Blackwall contract, and to waive his claim on account of such deficiency until the period named, is a very handsome one, and I shall feel obliged if you will convey to Mr. Hill the thanks of the Government on this account.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

I have, &c.,
D. REID.

No. 32.

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

(No. 91.)

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 19th May, 1877.

Referring to your letter No. 114, of the 7th February last, relating to certain representations made by the New Zealand Shipping Company with respect to the embarkation of emigrants from the Clyde, and forwarding a memorandum on the subject by Mr. Kennaway, I have the honor to inform you that the "moderate discretion for which Mr. Kennaway contends" appears to be quite consistent with the terms of the agreement between the Government and the New Zealand Shipping Company, and that the exercise of a similar discretion to that which appears to have been used in the case of the two ships "Conflict" and "Jessie Osborne" will meet with the approval of the Government.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

I have, &c.,
D. REID.

No. 33.

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

(No. 93.)

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 19th May, 1877.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 174, of the 16th February last, and to thank you for the careful inquiry which you have instituted into the alleged improper use made of Mr. Moore's agency in the engagement of surgeons for emigrant ships coming to this colony. After reading the papers forwarded by you, I concur with you in thinking that there is no reason to suppose that any officer of your establishment has been in any way improperly influenced by Mr. Moore, and I shall feel obliged by your informing the gentlemen concerned to that effect.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

I have, &c.,
D. REID.

No. 34.

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

(No. 95.)

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 22nd May, 1877.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 181, of the 19th of February last, together with a return showing the comparative cost of shipping 150 emigrants from the North