

vessels, and I could allow the amount of rate of passage-money payable under the existing shipping contract towards the cost of their passage, they making in other respects their own arrangements with the shipowners.

I do not think, presuming that not less than 150 could be taken, that it is probable that a sufficient number of nominated emigrants could be got together so as to fill a separate vessel for each port of New Zealand, but, if it were thought a more desirable course than to allow them to take separate passages by any vessel, arrangements might be made by which a vessel could be despatched, say in April, for Wellington, conveying nominated emigrants for all parts of the colony, to be transhipped from Wellington to their respective destinations. Notices to that effect could be issued to all persons nominated, and if they did not avail themselves of the opportunity they would then have no reason to complain. I merely point out one or two ways in which the difficulty could be met, but, on the whole, I would venture to suggest that the necessary arrangements might be left to my decision at the time, subject to any general instructions which you think fit to give me on the subject.

I have not the proposed conditions for the new shipping contract, so that I cannot say how far it would be consistent with such conditions to give passages as I have suggested. If there were yet time it would be desirable to embody a clause in the contract that by any ship of the contractors sailing to New Zealand, not emigrant ships, I might send a few emigrants at contract rates.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister for Immigration,
Wellington.

JULIUS VOGEL,
Agent-General.

No. 14.

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

(No. 923.)

SIR,— 7, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., 5th October, 1877.

I have the honor to inform you that I have granted an assisted passage to Mr. S—— C—— and family, under the following circumstances:—

Mr. C—— has a family of seven sons and three daughters. One of the sons, having recently married, takes his wife with him, and five out of the seven are over fifteen years of age. I had a personal interview with Mr. C——, and satisfied myself that he would in all probability prove to be a desirable colonist. He takes a small capital and some goods with him, and on the whole he appeared to belong to that class of superior emigrants to which your letter No. 96, of 22nd May, refers. I therefore offered, on his representing that if he obtained assistance he would emigrate to and settle in New Zealand, to assist him to the extent of paying, towards the cost of the passage of himself and family, half the present contract rate of passage-money; and, with the concurrence of the New Zealand Shipping Company, as to the passage being taken by one of Messrs. Shaw, Savill, and Co.'s ships, Mr. C—— and his family have proceeded, under the above-mentioned arrangement, by the ship "Adamant," to Nelson.

In connection with this matter I may add that I have offered to entertain another application of a similar nature from one who proposes to take out a small capital and settle in New Zealand. I do not, however, intend to continue the system without further definite instructions from the Government. I shall be glad, therefore, if you will inform me whether the Government deem emigration of this description of sufficient importance to justify my continuing to act as I have done in Mr. C——'s case.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister for Immigration,
Wellington.

JULIUS VOGEL,
Agent-General.

No. 15.

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

(No. 95.)

SIR,— 7, Westminster Chambers, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.,
30th January, 1878.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 196, of the 28th November, respecting the cases of nominated emigrants during the period of suspension of free emigration, from which I understand that, in accordance with the suggestion contained in my letter No. 908, of the 24th of September, I am to send nominated emigrants out during the suspension of ordinary free emigration, provided the necessary arrangements are not inconsistent with the provisions of the shipping contract, and do not involve transhipment of the emigrants, after their arrival in the colony, to a greater extent than has hitherto been the case.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Minister for Immigration,
Wellington.

JULIUS VOGEL,
Agent-General.

No. 16.

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

SIR,— 7, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., 26th March, 1878.

I have the honor to forward you copy of a paper I read at the Colonial Institute. It is my duty to say (though I regret to lay myself open to the imputation of egotism) that the paper has given a great deal of satisfaction, and that I have been much congratulated on it.