

The only possible ground upon which you could attribute to the Government a desire to withhold from you the authority referred to, was the non-agreement with your proposal to sell lands in England upon exceptionally favourable terms. In declining to accede to this proposal the Government did not consider that it implied the withholding of information as to land, or any relaxation in your efforts to induce small farmers to come to the colony and acquire land, as thousands now resident in the colony have done.

I regret that you should have acted in any way that may have prevented farmers with capital—small or large—emigrating. I may add that I recognize your efforts for the advancement of the colony, but, whilst I do so, I must say that many emigrants have been despatched that had better not have been sent. If the lecturers can promote a higher class of emigration, their expenses will be recouped a hundredfold to the colony.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT STOUT.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

No. 25.

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

SIR,— Immigration Office, Wellington, N.Z., 18th February, 1879.

This letter will be handed to you by Mr. Clements, who is about visiting the United Kingdom, and who is desirous of offering his services gratuitously in procuring suitable immigrants for this colony. I shall be glad to hear that you have availed yourself of Mr. Clements' offer, as I understand he is well acquainted with the classes and description of immigrants required in the northern portion of the colony.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT STOUT.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

No. 26.

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

SIR,— Immigration Office, Wellington, N.Z., 18th February, 1879.

I have the honor to request you will be good enough to grant free passages to such agricultural farm labourers to Auckland as may be selected by W. A. Hunter, Esq., Royal Bank of Scotland, Dunse, as agent for Mr. W. A. Murray, M.H.R.

Of course the persons to whom passages are to be granted will be required to pass the usual medical examination, and conform generally to the rules and regulations of the Department.

This appears to be a good opportunity of procuring suitable immigrants without incurring the expense of the agency fee; and the Government will be obliged by your assisting Mr. Hunter, so far as you may be able, in sending out the persons whom he selects for Mr. Murray.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT STOUT.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

No. 27.

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

SIR,— Immigration Office, Wellington, N.Z., 24th February, 1879.

This letter will be handed to you by Mr. W. Sutherland, of Livingstone, Otago, who is about to visit the United Kingdom, and is desirous of offering his services gratuitously, in procuring a number of shepherds, and men of that stamp, to emigrate to this colony. I shall be glad to hear that you have availed yourself of Mr. Sutherland's offer.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT STOUT.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

No. 28.

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

SIR,— Immigration Office, Wellington, N.Z., 26th February, 1879.

This letter will be handed to you by Mrs. Michael Hart, of Christchurch, who is about visiting Great Britain, and who is desirous of offering her services gratuitously in procuring suitable domestic servants as immigrants for this colony. I shall be glad to hear that you have availed yourself of Mrs. Hart's services.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT STOUT.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

No. 29.

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

SIR,— Immigration Office, Wellington, N.Z., 26th February, 1879.

This letter will be handed to you by Mr. J. W. Feger, who is about visiting the United Kingdom, and who is desirous of offering his services gratuitously in procuring suitable emigrants for this colony. I shall be glad to hear that you have availed yourself of Mr. Feger's offer.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT STOUT.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.