

1853.

VICTORIA.

EMIGRANTS TO PORT FAIRY.

RETURN TO ADDRESS,—MR. WILKINSON,—8TH NOVEMBER, 1853.

*LAI*D upon THE COUNCIL TABLE by THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, by Command of HIS EXCELLENCY THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, and ordered by THE COUNCIL to be printed, 25th November, 1853.

Copies of all Correspondence which may have taken place between His Excellency and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reference to Emigrants being forwarded from Great Britain to Port Fairy.

[COPY.]

No. 182.

Melbourne,
31st December, 1852.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward the accompanying Memorial from certain Agriculturists, Landowners, Stockholders, and others, residing in the Portland and Port Fairy districts, praying for the introduction of Immigrants into the Ports connected with that part of the Colony.

The wishes of the Memorialists have, however, been anticipated by the recent arrangements of Her Majesty's Land and Emigration Commissioners, for despatching Emigrant Ships to Portland Bay.

(Signed) I have, &c.,
C. J. LA TROBE.

The Right Honorable Sir John Pakington,
&c., &c., &c.

[COPY.]

No. 50.

Downing-street,
20th April, 1853.

SIR,

I have received your despatch No. 182, of the 31st December last, accompanied by Memorials from Landowners and others residing in the Portland and Port Fairy districts, praying for the introduction of Immigrants into the Ports connected with this part of the Colony.

It has not been thought safe to send ships to Belfast, which is the Harbor more immediately connected with the Port Fairy district; but by a Report from the Emigration Commissioners I find that there have been sent to Portland Bay, since the beginning of 1852, eleven ships, containing no less than 3257 persons, and I am happy to find that the wishes of the Subscribers to the Memorials which you have forwarded have been thus liberally anticipated.

(Signed) I have, &c.,
NEWCASTLE.

Lieutenant Governor La Trobe,
&c., &c., &c.

C—No. 23.

EXTRACT FROM DESPATCH (No. 147) TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, dated 5th September, 1853.

I also consider with him,* that if the Emigration Commissioners could charter a vessel with a full complement of Emigrants for the Western District, and give timely notice, there would be little difficulty in making arrangements so that a proportion of the Immigrants allotted to the Ports of Belfast and Warrnambool, could be landed from the vessel at those Ports, without much risk or detention. The fact that the Portland Immigration is of much less advantage to the two latter places than might be supposed from their apparent proximity on the map is incontestible.

(Signed) C. J. LA TROBE.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE IMMIGRATION AGENT, dated 22nd August, 1853,
(forwarded with the preceding Despatch.)

I have, therefore, to request that you will lay before His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor the following modification of the proposed distribution of the forty-eight ships which it is proposed to despatch to the Colony in the ensuing year.

I would suggest that seventeen of these ships should be sent to Melbourne, seventeen to Geelong, and fourteen to Portland Bay; which would give the relative proportions of 5100, 5100, and 4200 souls to Melbourne, Geelong, and Portland respectively.

With regard to the latter place, I would request His Excellency's attention, as to whether it might not be expedient that arrangements should be made in England, by which some of these ships, after landing some of their passengers at Portland, might proceed with the remainder to Belfast and Warrnambool, where arrangements might be made for their reception, a system which is at present impossible, as any change in the destination of a Ship would usually vitiate the insurance.

(Signed)

EDWARD GRIMES.
Immigration Agent.

* Immigration Agent.