

1855.

VICTORIA.

IMMIGRATION UNDER REMITTANCE REGULATIONS.

*LAI*D upon THE COUNCIL TABLE by THE COMMISSIONER OF TRADE AND CUSTOMS,
by command of HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, and ordered by THE COUNCIL
to be printed, 14th December, 1855.

[COPY.]

No. 3.

Downing-street,
28th July, 1855.

SIR,

I transmit herewith, for your information, the accompanying copy of a letter 16 July, 1855.
from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, relative to the desire expressed by
your Government, that families comprising a greater number of young children than the
Commissioners have been in the habit of considering admissible, should be sent out by them
to Victoria, under the "Remittance Regulations."

It appears that the Commissioners are prepared to carry out, so far as may be in
their power, the instruction which has thus been conveyed to them, although they have
thought it right to place on record the apprehension which they entertain—that some
increase of sickness and mortality may be expected to arise from the change.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,
WM. MOLESWORTH.

(Signed)

Governor Sir Charles Hotham,
&c., &c., &c.,
Victoria.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
16th July, 1855.

SIR,

We have the honor to state, for the information of Lord John Russell, that we
have recently received, from the Authorities in South Australia and Victoria, instructions to
send out, under the "Remittance Regulations," families comprising a greater number of
young children than would be admissible under the general regulations of this Department.

2. The Colonial Authorities point out—that many men have, in the last few years,
emigrated to those Colonies leaving their wives and children behind them until they should
be able to earn the sum necessary to pay for their passages; that it is, on every account,
desirable to encourage the reunion of such families, and that the fact of a man sending for
his family is an earnest of his intentions to settle in the Colony, which it is to the advantage
of the Colony to assist.

3. Looking at the question from the point of view taken in the Colonies, it is, we
think, impossible to dissent from their conclusion.

But the question as to the admissibility into our ships of large families of young
children, has been regarded by us, necessarily, more in a sanitary than a moral point of view.
We had experience in the Emigration of 1852, that a comparatively small relaxation of our
rule on that point led to a great deal of sickness and mortality, a state of things which was
at once cured by a return to the former limitations. It was upon this ground that we have
enforced the limitation with absolute strictness against ordinary emigrants, and with some-
what less rigour against remittance cases.

A.—No. 40.

4. The Colonial Authorities now desire that this rule shall not be enforced against remittance cases, where the Colonial depositor pays in full for the passages of those persons who are in excess of our regulations.

As this request is made by the Authorities with a full knowledge of the circumstances, we should comply with their wishes, although we have thought it right to record our apprehension that some increase of sickness and mortality must be looked for in consequence.

5. In carrying out the system we shall endeavour so to distribute large families, as not to have many of them in the same ship; there might however be great difficulty in always effecting this, as those who have received remittance papers are generally anxious to get away, and could not be kept back for the purpose of being widely distributed, without giving rise to inconvenience and complaint.

We have, &c.,

(Signed)

C. ALEXANDER WOOD,
FREDERIC ROGERS.