

dent of Auckland, No. 2194, of 12th July last, I beg to state that, in consequence of the Government not being in a position to appoint a special agent, I am about to obtain the assistance of my brother (Mr. F. Chamberlin, who is shortly returning to England) to act for me in Belgium and England, to do all things required to locate pottery workers at Drury. As of course it will be necessary for him to see the Agent-General, and, being unknown to him, I hope that I shall not be asking too great a favour if I trouble the Government to give my brother a letter of introduction to the Agent-General. My brother will arrange for the transit of the emigrants to London. As to their numbers, I could not possibly say, as it is impossible to say how many could be induced to come out; their names and ages it would also be almost impossible to give to the Government in New Zealand, without such loss of time as would completely interfere with the success of the project. I do not contemplate at present getting out more than twenty families or about one hundred souls. If the Government think that number too many, they will oblige by informing me of it; so I hope under the circumstances the Government will lose no time, and advise the Agent-General to facilitate in every way their passage to the colony.

I have, &c.,

H. CHAMBERLIN.

The Hon. the Minister for Immigration, Wellington.

No. 16.

The Hon. H. A. ATKINSON to the AGENT-GENERAL.

(No. 28.)

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 9th February, 1876.

In order that you may be kept fully informed of the rates of wages and prices of provisions ruling in the colony, I directed a circular to be sent to each Immigration Officer, instructing him to furnish the necessary information, and I now transmit the returns received from the officers as per schedule attached.

I have, &c.,

H. A. ATKINSON.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

(For Enclosures see page 9.)

No. 17.

The Hon. H. A. ATKINSON to the AGENT-GENERAL.

(No. 33.)

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Wellington, 10th February, 1876.

I have the honor to forward herewith, for your information, copy of report by the Immigration Officer for Invercargill, recommending the stoppage of immigration other than nominated and female domestic servants to his district.

This report was received too late to countermand the ship appointed by you to sail about 15th January, but you will now be good enough, pending further instructions, to give effect to the recommendation of the Immigration Officer.

I have, &c.,

H. A. ATKINSON.

The Agent-General for New Zealand, London.

Enclosure in No. 17.

The IMMIGRATION OFFICER, Invercargill, to the UNDER SECRETARY for IMMIGRATION, Wellington.

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Invercargill, 26th January, 1876.

I beg to forward copy of a letter to His Honor the Superintendent of Otago, having reference to the further introduction of immigrants into the district, and in doing so would bring under the attention of the Government the fact that even already the labour market shows signs of being fully stocked, if not more than so. As the harvest gets gathered and winter advances the demand for labour will slacken considerably.

I have, &c.,

WALTER H. PEARSON,
Immigration Officer.

The Under Secretary for Immigration, Wellington.

Sub-Enclosure.

The IMMIGRATION OFFICER, Invercargill, to His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Otago.

SIR,—

Immigration Office, Invercargill, 24th January, 1876.

Referring to my quarterly report for the three months ending 31st ultimo, to prevent any misconception as to the future demand for labour in this district, I beg to state that from my personal experience, and the information I can gather, I am inclined to think that great caution should be exercised in the introduction of further supplies, for more than one reason. Although really good farm servants without encumbrances are in demand, I fear few such are to be obtained amongst the immigrants introduced. The majority of those describing themselves as such have proved on employment either to be very indifferently acquainted with agriculture in any of its branches, or, as more frequently is the case, to be entirely ignorant of it, having described themselves as agricultural labourers, believing such a designation to be the best passport. Though such men have up to the present found employment on the public works in progress, as these necessarily cease there will be