

The Ladies' Committee, in concluding their labours, have expressed the greatest satisfaction at the zealous and meritorious conduct of Mrs. Matthew, the matron, whose engagement expired on her arrival, but who, with her daughter, has continued to afford every assistance.

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EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Viscount *Goderich* to Lieutenant-Governor *Arthur*, dated Downing-street, 23d March 1833.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 28th June and 31st July 1832, and I am gratified to find by the Report of the Emigration Committee, enclosed in the latter, that the anxiety felt by the Government at home, respecting the important subject to which it relates, has been duly appreciated in the colony.

When I perceive in how effectual a manner the wishes of the Home Government have been seconded by yourself, and by the Council of Van Diemen's land, I can scarcely doubt that a permanent system for the accomplishment of this great object will, ere long, be effectually established, and that the colony will be ultimately much benefited by the measures which have been adopted for raising a fund for the introduction of free labour, by appropriating to this object the sums which may be raised from the sale of the Crown lands.

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The representations contained in your despatches of the serious annoyances to which settlers are exposed, from the misconduct of their convict servants, show in the strongest manner the importance of introducing free labour into the colony, and should render the settler alive to the propriety of assisting, to the utmost of his ability, those measures which have this desirable object in view.

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I am unwilling to give you any precise instructions as to the appropriation of the sum arising from the Territorial Revenue, which you describe as having accrued during the last three and a half years, viz. 12,362*l.* 13*s.* 5*d.*; but I should have no difficulty in sanctioning the application of this fund to the purposes of Emigration, in conformity with the intimations on this subject which have been already conveyed to you, and you will consider yourself at liberty so to dispose of it when the occasion may require it.

I have designedly omitted, in the calculation which I have entered into of the future resources which the colony may have at command for the introduction of free labour, the sum which may be expected to arise from the repayment of the advances which have been made to the mechanics and others sent out under the regulations of the Commission of Emigration; and I have done so, not from any doubt of the ability of the parties to make good the engagement, in which opinion I am glad to see that the local Committee of Emigration entirely concur, nor from any intention that a system of indulgent remission should be commenced, which could only in the end be prejudicial to the parties, and lead, as in the case of the quit-rents long due, to the debt being exacted at a more distant period; but as the system of advances is entirely an experiment, the complete effect of which cannot be known for some little time, I am unwilling to disturb the accuracy of the calculations which I have made, by taking into the present account a fund which must depend upon so many circumstances as to its becoming speedily available.

On looking into the state of the expenditure in this country, under the Regulations of the Commissioners of Emigration, and the number of applications for loans from mechanics, I find that the recommendation of the local Committee, in regard to the extension of the loan to agricultural labourers, may safely be complied with, and arrangements will accordingly be made for giving them this accommodation at no distant period.

You are aware that this measure was originally contemplated by the Commission of Emigration, should the loan system be found to answer in the case of mechanics; and being fully aware as we now are of the classes of artisans and labourers who are most likely to thrive in the Australian Colonies, I have no doubt that the more who are sent out the better for the colony, provided the same care be