

The Acting Minister of Agriculture, to whom the Despatch was referred, reports that in view of the fact of the difficulties which were found in the way of satisfactory settlement of a considerable per centum of the assisted emigrants from the congested districts of the south and south-west of Ireland sent out last year by the Poor Law unions arising from the unsuitability or indisposition of those persons to earn a subsistence for themselves; and also in view of the fact of the prejudice which has been created from this cause against the class of assisted emigrants from the districts in question, he recommends that the dominion assisted passages should not be afforded to inmates of workhouses, nor to persons subsisting on workhouse relief, and further that the Dominion Government should not take any responsibility of settling such persons.

The Acting Minister observes if, however, the Irish Emigration Commissioners send out such persons it should be upon the understanding that they provide the expense of maintenance during the winter in Canada following their arrival, and that one or more of the members of each family, and individual emigrants, shall be of physical ability to earn a living.

The Acting Minister states that the arrangement which has hitherto existed as respects other classes of emigrants remains.

The committee concur in the foregoing report and the recommendations therein made, and they respectfully advise that your Excellency be moved to despatch a cable message in the sense of this report, if approved, to the Earl of Derby, in answer to his Despatch of the 13th of March instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN J. MCGEE,
Clerk, Privy Council for Canada.

No. 15.

COLONIAL OFFICE to the CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE LORD
LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

SIR,

Downing Street, April 17, 1884.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the emigration to Canada of paupers from Ireland, I am directed by the Earl of Derby to transmit to you, for the information of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, the accompanying copy of a Despatch* from the Governor-General of Canada, transmitting a copy of a report of a Committee of the Privy Council for Canada in which the future policy of the Dominion Government in regard to immigrants from Ireland is set forth.

I am, &c.

The Chief Secretary to the
Lord Lieutenant.

(Signed) EDWARD WINGFIELD.

* No. 14.