

CANADA

representation should be made that may lead to the reimbursement by Colonel Gordon of the expenses incurred by this department on account of his people.

The Honourable J. Leslie,
Provincial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

No. 2.

(No. 136.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Earl of ELGIN to Earl GREY.

Government House, Quebec, November 27, 1851.

MY LORD,

(Received December 15, 1851.)

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch*, No. 654, of the 4th instant, I have the honour to enclose the copy of a letter which has been addressed to the chief agent for emigration at this port by Colonel Gordon's factor, with the copy of Mr. Buchanan's reply. I also take the liberty of sending, for your Lordship's perusal, the copy of a letter which Mr. Buchanan has received from Sir James Matheson, which is highly creditable to him, as well as to the benevolent writer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,
&c. &c. &c.

Encl. 1 in No. 2.

Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

SIR,

South Uist, August 9, 1851.

I HAVE been here for the last three weeks, superintending the emigration of about 1,500 souls from this country to Canada; and I have just learnt with regret, that, owing to the sudden and unexpected illness of Colonel Gordon, the proprietor of this island and Barra, no previous notice has been sent to you.

The "Brooksby" and "Montezuma" were despatched with passengers last month; the "Perthshire" on the 5th instant; and I expect the "Admiral" to be cleared out a few days hence. The emigrants from South Uist have been employed for some years past at draining, ditching, road making, &c., and I trust they may be advantageously employed when they reach Canada in similar work, or at railway operations, where I am glad to learn there is an opening for a number of hands. Of the Barra people, part have found employment at similar work, and part have supported themselves as fishermen, of which they have considerable skill.

About 1,000 people were sent from these islands to Quebec about two years ago, many of whom have done well, and send home encouraging accounts to their friends here, which induced them to emigrate also; a free passage, clothing, and shoes being provided by the proprietor; and I hope these that are now leaving the land of their fathers may earn a competency in the land of their adoption. I have no doubt but that at the Emigration Office, Quebec, every information and facility will be given to direct the emigrants from Uist and Barra to such places as they may find employment.

I respectfully am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN FLEMING.
Factor for Colonel Gordon.

To _____
Emigration Officer, Quebec.

Encl. 2 in No. 2.

Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

SIR,

Emigration Department, Quebec, November 26, 1851.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt on the 15th of September of your letter of 9th August, the first and only intimation afforded me of the shipment of 1,500 Highlanders, the tenantry of Colonel Gordon, from his estates in South Uist and Barra.

The vessels arrived as follows, the three first previously to the receipt of your letter:

August 28, Brooksby,	-	-	285 passengers.
August 30, Montezuma-	-	-	442 "
September 10, Perthshire	-	-	437 "
October 1, Admiral	-	-	413 "
October 18, Liskeard	-	-	104 "

A total of 1,681 souls, less five adults and three infants, who died on the passage or in quarantine.