

N^o 20.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor *Arthur* to the Right Hon. Viscount *Goderich*, dated Van Diemen's Land, 8th Sept. 1832.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 10th February, acquainting me that a vessel would be despatched at an early period with female Emigrants, intimating the lively interest your Lordship took in the measure, suggesting the formation of a Ladies' Committee, and expressing your Lordship's dependance upon my own discretion and zeal in carrying this interesting experiment into effect in the most beneficial manner on the arrival of the females in Van Diemen's Land.

On the 24th ultimo it was telegraphed that the Princess Royal, with the female Emigrants, in the midst of thick and hazy weather, had taken the wrong passage, and run into Frederick Henry Bay, about 10 leagues to the North-east of the Derwent. Throughout that night, and following day, there was one continued violent gale, during which the Princess Royal dragged her anchors, and at length, to avoid inevitable destruction, it was necessary to run her on shore. This information reached me on the evening of the 25th; immediate orders were given to send off the colonial vessels, with some trusty constables, who were married men; and contemplating that there would be much confusion, I deemed it expedient to proceed myself, accompanied by the chief police magistrate. Every effort to get the vessel off having proved ineffectual, it became necessary to adopt the most unpleasant and troublesome task of removing the women into small vessels, for the purpose of conveying them to Hobart Town: this was accomplished with less inconvenience than could have been anticipated, and the whole of the women were safely brought up and lodged in the Female Orphan School, which had been previously prepared for their reception.

I have the honour to apprise you of the formation of a Ladies' Committee, consisting of 42 members, arranged in seven Sub-committees. These ladies have manifested the most zealous activity in making every previous arrangement for domiciliating the female Emigrants, and in consequence of their benevolent exertions, in the course of nine days 72 women have been provided for as milliners and dress-makers, or placed in the most respectable service.

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I submit that if more females be sent out as free Emigrants, a surgeon superintendent of the Royal Navy be placed in charge, and, by an Act of Parliament, he should be invested, for the protection of the females, with the same powers that are given to surgeon superintendents of convict vessels, which, in fact, will invest him with magisterial control and authority; that neither wine nor spirits be allowed, except as a medicine; that the females sent in any vessels shall be as nearly as possible of one class, either countrywomen from the agricultural districts; or women of known respectable characters, as housemaids, or servants of all work, cooks, &c., and that the selection be confided to persons officially responsible.

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N^o 21.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor *Arthur*, to the Right Hon. Viscount *Goderich*, dated Van Diemen's Land, 12th Oct. 1832.

I HAVE the honour to refer your Lordship to my despatch of the 8th ultimo, wherein I had the honour to report the arrival of the Princess Royal with the female Emigrants on board, and detailed the measures which had been taken to provide for their reception in the Colony, and for their accommodation until they should obtain suitable situations in respectable service, or be enabled otherwise to provide for themselves.

The Ladies' Committee, who kindly undertook to watch over the interests of these young women, have been unremitting in their attentions to promote the interest of the female Emigrants.

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