

made, or if the Crown is precluded from allowing a delay of the payment money, taking interest for the same; and if an occupancy on these terms would create any rights against the Crown from long possession, and whether any form or instrument would be required to hold the land until a grant was made."

As to the first query, I am of opinion, that under the Civil List Bill the Crown is not compelled to demand immediate payment from a person purchasing Crown Land at auction, and that the purchaser may be allowed such period of time for payment as the Crown may deem expedient, provided there be no Royal Instructions to the contrary.

Secondly, that an occupancy of the land under the terms of the agreement for purchase, would not create any rights against the Crown, unless that occupancy should continue without interference on the part of the Crown for a period of forty years, after the time limited for such person to occupy, in which last case, under our Provincial Statute, it may be questionable whether the Crown might not be barred from entering.

And lastly, I consider a license to occupy, should be given in proper form in writing.

But I think the better way would be to give the person agreeing to purchase, a grant at once, taking a bond from him for the purchase money, payable by instalments, with interest, which bond would bind the lands until the money shall be paid. The obligation being endorsed upon the grant.

Hon. Wm. F. Odell,  
&c. &c.

(Signed)

I have, &c.,  
CHARLES J. PETERS, Attorney-General.

(No. 38).

No. 7.

No. 7.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Sir W. M. G. COLEBROOKE to Earl GREY.

MY LORD,

Fredericton, N. B., May 13, 1847.

IN my Despatch, No. 33, of the 27th April, I explained to your Lordship, at some length, the measures by which a settlement of the forest lands of this province might be progressively effected. Being aware that a considerable number of emigrants from the United Kingdom were likely to come out, chiefly consisting of the class of small farmers, I felt anxious to meet your Lordship's inquiries, as to the degree of encouragement that might be reasonably held out to them in the prosecution of any extensive plan of systematic colonization, by pointing out the inducements and facilities which might be calculated to render such an undertaking successful.

Since the date of my Despatch, overtures have been received from some extensive proprietors in Scotland for the purchase of large tracts of Crown land, with a view to the settlement of emigrants upon them, and some discussion has also been raised upon a plan which has been promulgated for the formation in these provinces of extensive settlements of emigrants from Ireland. Notwithstanding that the views of those who have projected these undertakings are patriotic and benevolent, it nevertheless becomes my duty upon this, as upon former occasions, to express my conviction that such plans which contemplate the removal of large numbers of the most indigent class of labourers with their families with a view to their settlement in this country are altogether delusive.

In my Despatch, No. 77, dated August 29th, 1845, I had occasion to point out the consequences which had resulted from a number of poor persons of this class having been sent out who became dependent during a long and severe winter on parochial support; and the failure, some years ago, of the New Brunswick Land Company in an undertaking to settle a large body of cottier emigrants from Scotland, who, after the disbursement on them of a large capital, abandoned their locations, affords sufficient evidence of the impracticability of all such projects.

The limited extent to which persons of that class can obtain employment in the province has hitherto discouraged them from coming out in any numbers; but as the parochial charges for relief have chiefly arisen from their destitution, and as their inability to perform any kind of labour in the woods during the long winters which prevail in this climate would deprive them of this resource if they should emigrate in any numbers, the Legislature, however liberally disposed, would be called on to amend the provincial Poor Laws, and to appeal to Her Majesty's Government to obtain indemnification for the charge to which the community would become liable, and which it would be wholly incompetent to sustain.

Even to the small farmers, who for the most part emigrate to these pro-

EMIGRATION.

Encl. 3 in No. 6.