

Despatches from the Right Honourable Earl Grey, Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 115.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl Grey to Lieutenant-Governor
Sir E. Head, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 23 February 1849.

No. 1.

HAVING referred your despatch, No. 10, of 16th January last* for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, their Lordships have informed me in answer, that the officer in charge of the Commissariat at New Brunswick, has been directed to make a further repayment to the Provincial Treasury on account of expenditure for the relief of destitute emigrants from the United Kingdom in the year 1847, of the sum of 7,108 £. 9 s. 8 d. being in full of the amount of 14,518 £. 9 s. 8 d. expended from the provincial funds for that service.

Earl Grey to
Lieut.-governor
Sir E. Head,
23 February 1849.

I have, &c.
(signed) Grey.

— No. 2. —

(No. 127.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Earl Grey to Lieutenant-Governor
Sir E. Head, Bart.

Sir,

Downing-street, 10 May 1849.

No. 2.

1. HAVE the honour to state that I duly received your despatch, No. 14,† of the 3d of February last, and that I have considered with attention the report which it contained from a committee of your Executive Council upon the subject of immigration and the settlement of the wild lands.

Earl Grey to
Lieut.-governor
Sir E. Head,
10 May 1849.
† Page 16.

2. The description which the committee have furnished of each county, of the nature of its soil and produce, and its general features, is very interesting, and I cannot but receive with pleasure so favourable a description of the province by gentlemen possessed of such good means of information. With a view of giving it all practicable publicity, I have instructed the Commissioners of Emigration to include this document in the Appendix to their forthcoming Annual Report.

3. At the same time there are some strong reasons for hoping that the colony cannot have suffered that injury which the committee apprehend to have occurred from ignorance or false impressions in this country. It must be remembered, that only last year the Agent for Emigration found it necessary to report that in the course of the twelvemonth "at least 5,000 persons, natives and residents," had left New Brunswick for the United States, many of them being capitalists, and nearly all possessing some money. It is plain therefore, that no impression was then prevailing in England, which had prevented even a much greater number of persons from resorting to the province, than found that they could eventually establish themselves there. And as far as regards the influence of persons of a humbler class, you are doubtless aware, from the records of your government, that the local authorities have repeatedly found it necessary to address requests to the Government of this country that emigration to the province should be checked.

4. I have perused with much care the committee's account of what appear to them the principal defects in the present system of disposing of the Crown lands.

These

* Page 66, of Parl. Paper on North American Emigration, presented by Command, Feb. 1849.
593.—II.