

We trust, therefore, that his Excellency will, with much earnestness, move Lord Goderich not to abandon his benevolent scheme for securing us a permanent fund of industrious labourers, a scheme so well calculated to add value, importance and stability to the colony, and at the same time to secure the happiness of those who may become more especially its object.

Should indeed the suggestion thrown out by his Lordship, that the system of transportation may not much longer be continued, be in truth realized, we know not how the Colony can preserve anything like its present prosperity, unless Government zealously and anxiously encourage, by every possible means, the influx of fruitful and industrious families, for, otherwise, in a few years, there may not be a sufficient number of labourers to maintain the improvements done in better days, and much less to bring new lands into cultivation.

We do therefore most respectfully represent the paramount importance of free Emigration, and the necessity of encouraging almost every class of labourers, by making them such advances as those given to the mechanics mentioned in the despatch.

There can be no doubt that they will be able very soon to repay by instalments what they have thus received from Government, while it is equally certain that it is expedient rather to create the advance an ordinary debt, than to bind the Emigrants under indenture to private individuals, in order to secure its liquidation, a measure we are convinced which would be attended by anything but advantage or satisfaction to parties interested.

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We are satisfied that until wages fall very considerably, it would serve little purpose to render any part of the advance a mere gratuity or bounty, for a few pounds payable by an industrious labourer in instalments, will by no means press heavily upon him, while, were the plan of giving bounties adopted, the sums which would thus be lost to the Treasurer's chest might in the aggregate be far from unimportant, and would have the direct effect of checking the accumulation of the Emigration capital, which should be fostered in every possible manner not injurious to the interests of the Colony, and we anticipate that this will receive, upon the plan of giving advances, yearly accessions, not only from the revenue appropriated to it, but also from the repayments made by the Emigrants, so as very soon to amount to a very large sum.

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EXTRACT of a LETTER from the Members of the Emigration Committee to *John Burnett, Esq.* the Colonial Secretary, dated Van Diemen's Land, 30th July 1832.

WE have the honour to state, that the following additional observations, on the subject of the despatch of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, have occurred to us.

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Lord Goderich is of opinion; that the arguments which go to prove the impolicy of remitting money to England are quite conclusive, but he imagines that the objection may be obviated by covenanting with the masters of the vessels who are to bring out the labourers that one half of the passage-money shall be made payable here, under the impression that the expenditure of a large proportion of it in Hobart Town will thus be secured in refitting and laying in provisions and stores for the homeward voyage, thus realizing to the Colony, at least in some measure, the advantages which the Committee anticipated from remitting the debt which might become due to England in wheat. Upon this we beg most respectfully to state, that vessels leaving Great Britain with passengers for this place are usually supplied with stores for a six months' voyage, and that nevertheless they usually accomplish it in less than four months.

That when they arrive they are in consequence supplied with provisions for two months, for their original complement of crew and passengers.

The Emigrant transports would, therefore, probably bring with them a large quantity of salt provisions, of which they would require only a small proportion for their return voyages. The masters would therefore sell these stores, for which there is in Hobart Town a tolerable market, and thus realize a much larger sum than could be ever expended for the ship or by the crew during their continuance in port, more particularly if they went on to Sydney to refit, where provisions and ships' stores are much cheaper.

The expenditure of a ship-master and his crew in this harbour, under ordinary circumstances, scarcely ever exceeds 150 £, and is frequently much under that sum.

It follows, therefore, that in all probability the ship-masters will rather compete with us in our own market in the sale of provisions, than purchase any from us.

We do not make any remark upon this, nor draw any inference from it, nor do we know whether it be of importance, or capable of any practical application, we consider it however necessary to state the fact, as Lord Goderich seems to rely on the purchases by the ship-masters as a substitute for our remittance of wheat, while he coincides with the Lieutenant-governor in the opinion that to send our money in payment will, in our circumstances, be a ruinous measure!

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