

here mention, that at the time of the immigrants' leaving Scotland, if the place of their destination accompanied their names on the ship's manifest, a similar difficulty might be avoided, as it would only be collected in the quarter where they were bound for. I shall at all times take great pleasure in furthering the interest of my countrymen on their arrival here, and I trust you will appreciate the manner in which I have acted since receipt of yours. In consequence of the destitution which prevails here at present, owing to the failure of the crops during the past year, I think, at present, it would be an imprudent step to send out immigrants for some time at least, and do assure you that those who arrived by the "Ellen" would find it a great relief if a small amount were sent to the head of each family to enable them to purchase seed.

NOVA SCOTIA.

E. M'Iver, Esq.

I remain, &c.

(signed) *Alexander G. M'Kay.*

Enclosure 5, in No. 1.

Hon. *T. H. Haviland*, Colonial Secretary, Charlotte Town, to Mr. *Alexander M'Kay*.

Secretary's Office, Charlotte Town,

22 March 1849.

Sir,

I HAVE received and laid before his Excellency Sir Donald Campbell, your communication of the 12th instant, and also the enclosure from Mr. M'Iver, relative to the Immigrants who arrived here from Scotland via Pictou, in the early part of the last summer, and whose luggage was detained for the payment of the head-money, to which they were rendered liable by law, until released by his Excellency upon their entering into a bond to await the decision of the Legislature in their peculiar case.

Encl. 5, in No. 1.

I am desired by his Excellency to acquaint you, for the information of Mr. M'Iver, that the Legislature which is now in session, has not yet expressed any opinion upon the question, although there can be no doubt of the legal responsibility of the immigrants to pay the amount of the head-money demanded of them upon their landing here, although they have just cause to complain of a law which compelled them to pay head-money in Pictou, where they remained, as his Excellency understood, but a few hours; the object of the law which is general throughout the British North American Colonies, is to protect each colony against the evil consequences of the introduction of pauper immigrants, by raising a fund, out of which to provide for the necessities of those who may become chargeable to the colony in which they locate themselves; consequently, as the ultimate destination of the immigrants referred to by Mr. M'Iver was this colony, the right to demand head-money upon their arrival here was indisputable, and I would recommend Mr. M'Iver, in any future arrangements he may make for sending out emigrants to this part of the world, to cause them to be landed in the colony which they propose to make their home, and thus prevent a recurrence of the vexatious proceeding to which the emigrants by the "Ellen" were subjected.

I remain, &c.

Mr. Alexander M'Kay.

(signed) *T. H. Haviland*,
Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 6, in No. 1.

H. Blackadder, Esq., Member for the Township of Pictou, to Mr. *Alexander M'Kay*.

Sir,

I HEREWITH enclose to you a copy of the Act passed during the last session, regulating the arrival of emigrants in this Province from any part of the United Kingdom. This Act is in no way changed or altered by any legislation during the present session; such, therefore, as wish to emigrate to Nova Scotia, will see what they will have to provide for.

Encl. 6, in No. 1.

I am, &c.

Mr. Alexander M'Kay.

(signed) *H. Blackadder*,
Member for the Township of Pictou.

Enclosure 7, No. 1.

SECTION XIV. of an Act to Regulate Immigrant Vessels and Passengers.

XIV. AND be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council, on the arrival of any ship or vessel at any port or place in this Province, with passengers or immigrants, and liable to quarantine or head-money by the 2d section of this Act imposed, to relieve the owner, charterer, captain or agent of said ship or vessel from the payment of the said quarantine or head-money, in whole or in part, as to the said Governor in Council as aforesaid may appear just and reasonable, and on such terms as they may think it necessary to impose.

Encl. 7 in No. 1.