

— No. 7. —

(No. 51.)

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

Government House, Fredericton, 17 May 1849.
Received, 5 June 1849.)No. 7.
Lieut.-Governor
Sir E. Head to
Earl Grey,
17 May 1849.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of a letter from the Emigration Agent at St. Andrews, enclosing the Ship Return for the ship "Susan," and one of the original passenger tickets.

Your Lordship will see that the apprehensions which I expressed in my despatch of the 24th of April (No. 42),* as to the character of emigrants likely to arrive at St. Andrew's, were not without foundation. I have written for a list of the names of all the emigrants, and the poor-houses whence they came. * Page 47.

The latter part of Mr. Boyd's letter, relates to a proposal to give the emigrants by the "Star," a small sum of money, and simply to turn them over to the American frontier, which he declined to sanction.

With regard to the ship "Susan," your Lordship will see that gross deception has been practised. On the ticket the tonnage of the ship is stated as 600 tons, whereas she is really of 165 tons. On the other hand, there was no disease on board, and there seems to be no complaint of the food or water.

I would especially direct attention to the postscript on the Ship Return.

I have, &c.
(signed) Edmund Head.

Enclosure 1, in No. 7.

Sir,

St. Andrew's, 12 May 1849.

HEREWITH I enclose duplicate returns of passengers by barque "Susan," from Cork.

Encl. 1, in No. 7.

The passengers are all in good health, and I have been busily employed since yesterday morning in writing to their friends in the United States for money, to pay their passages from this place.

From letters in possession of some of the emigrants, I am in hopes money will be sent.

With very few exceptions they are miserably poor, and have no means to subsist upon even for a day; widows with large families, and the most of them cannot speak English.

A large number of them have been sent from different poor-houses in Ireland, principally from Kerry. I shall be compelled to get some temporary shelter for them for a few days, until I know what to do with them. In the mean time I shall serve them out with meal and molasses, unless instructed to do something better for them. Two more ships are daily expected.

I have been waiting for instructions about the repairs and improvements on Hospital Island. If the expected passengers are as destitute as those now landed, there is no other place for them, even should they be in health, as the owners of houses in the town will not let them in when they have no money.

Will you be good enough to inform me if there is any way in which I can legally demand from the master of the "Susan," or from the other vessels expected, any security that the passengers shall not become immediately chargeable? I enclose one of the shipping receipts, to show the deception practised upon these people. The vessel is made to be 600 tons, when she is in reality but 165. The whole number of passengers by the "Susan" receiving relief is 102.