

Crown lands, and the distribution of emigrants; and I shall take an early opportunity of furnishing you with such further instructions on the subject as may appear to be required.

At present I shall only advert to that part of your despatch which relates to the injurious effect of the present system, by which free grants of land are made to discharged soldiers and sailors, and commuted pensioners.

It has been a principle laid down by my predecessor, and one in which I entirely concur, that indigent emigrants should, under no circumstances, be allowed to possess themselves of land from the Government on more favourable terms than other settlers. The policy of such a regulation has been so clearly explained in the despatch above alluded to, that I do not think it necessary to enlarge upon it. It is, however, a principle which appears to me to be particularly applicable to the cases of discharged soldiers and sailors. It is not intended any longer to afford the means of emigrating to military pensioners by commuting their pensions. The pensioner, therefore, who emigrates at his own expense, may with propriety be considered a pauper emigrant; and his own interest, and that of the colony of his adoption, will be best consulted by including him in the class of labourers, rather than in that of landowners. It is, therefore, my desire, that the system of making free grants to discharged soldiers and sailors may be altogether discontinued. I am not prepared to say that there may not be cases in which this rule may be, in a certain degree, modified. In the cases of persons in the staff corps, for instance, who have been employed in the construction of canals and government works, and also of soldiers who have been discharged from regiments serving in the province, it may not be improper that some small grant should be made. The previous residence of such persons in the colony, and the experience which they may have had the means of acquiring of the mode of life of a settler, may justify a reward for their former services which would not be attended with public inconvenience. But on no account should grants of this description be sanctioned to an extent which would place the lands of the Crown in any quantities in the hands of persons who have not the means at their disposal of bringing them into cultivation, and who may be again tempted to throw them again in the market, to the deterioration of the property belonging to the Crown.

I have, &c.  
(signed) *E. G. Stanley.*

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—No. 22. —

(No. 12.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Mr. Secretary *Stanley* to Major-general Sir *John Colborne*, K.C.B., dated Downing-street, 4 June 1833.

Sir,

Mr. Secretary  
*Stanley* to Sir *J.*  
*Colborne*, 4 June  
1833.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 16th April last (No. 26), in answer to the instruction which was addressed to you by my predecessor on 1st January, on the subject of the sale of Crown lands and the distribution of emigrants, and I shall take an early opportunity of furnishing you with such further instruction on the subject as may appear to be required.

At present I shall only advert to that part of your despatch which relates to the injurious effect of the present system, by which free grants of land are made to discharged soldiers and sailors, and commuted pensioners.

It has been a principle laid down by my predecessor, and one in which I entirely concur, that indigent emigrants should under no circumstances be allowed to possess themselves of land from the Government on more favourable terms than other settlers. The policy of such a regulation has been so clearly explained in the despatch above alluded to, that I do not think it necessary to enlarge upon it. It is, however, a principle which appears to me to be particularly applicable to the cases of discharged soldiers and sailors. You have already been informed that it is not intended any longer to afford the means of emigrating to military pensioners by commuting their pensions. The pensioner, therefore, who emigrates at his own expense may with propriety be considered a pauper emigrant, and his own interest and that of the colony of his adoption will be best consulted by including him in the class of labourers rather than that of land-owners. It is therefore my desire that the system of making free grants to discharged soldiers and sailors may be altogether discontinued. I am not prepared