

No. 26.
Lord Sydenham to
Lord John Russell.
26th January, 1841.
Encl. 2, in No. 26.

7th. About 100 families have settled themselves on lands in this section of the country, but being chiefly at a distance from me, and their location very much scattered, I have no opportunity of knowing what progress they are making.

8th. I have great pleasure in stating that there are no emigrants out of employment here : neither are there any under the necessity of applying for charitable assistance.

9th. It gives me great satisfaction to bear testimony to the general good conduct of the emigrants who arrived here this year. Cases of intoxication were very rare indeed, as was also any tendency to quarrelling or rioting. I consider the crowding into small boats, of so many persons of both sexes to have a very bad effect on their morals, particularly, as it sometimes, though seldom happened that persons of loose character would unavoidably introduce themselves ; upwards of 200 souls have frequently been huddled together along with their baggage, and at times, a quantity of merchandize.

If the agency is to be continued at this place, I would suggest that on the arrival of barges having emigrants on board, the forwarders ought to be obliged at once to pass them through the locks, and allow them to remain at some convenient place above the locks to enable such passengers as intend landing here to get themselves and their baggage easily ashore, and to facilitate the transaction of any other business with them that may be found necessary. It frequently happened that boats loaded with passengers have been for hours at the foot of the locks without a possibility of communicating with them, except at the risk of personal injury.

An arrangement ought to be entered into with the proprietors of the " Lady Colborne " steamer, for the transport of emigrants from Aylmer, up the Ottawa to Fitzroy Harbour, a distance of about 25 miles, the present charge of 3s. 9d. per head, being, in my opinion, too high.

10th. The expenditure at this Agency, exclusive of the charge for transport of emigrants is as follows :—

	£.	s.	d.	
Emigrant agent	89	10	0	Currency.
Ditto physician	50	0	0	"
Building shed	30	3	4	"
Provisions, including necessities for sick .	98	16	9	"
Board, lodging, nursing, and attendance for sick, including some small items for necessaries	26	9	9	"
Making coffins	1	10	0	"
Ferrying	1	3	9	"
Postage	2	4	8	"
	£299	18	3	"

The account for transport of emigrants to Fitzroy Harbour (not yet received) will amount to about 16l. 10s.

I transmit herewith the account with which I have been furnished by the agent of the Ottawa and Rideau Forwarding Company at this place. I have examined it carefully, and find it to agree perfectly with my book. The moment I receive the account from Aylmer, I will transmit it to you.

Any other information that you may require I shall at all times feel much pleasure in giving.

A. B. Hawke, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. R. BURKE.

No. 3.

SIR, Emigrant Office, Kingston, November 19, 1840.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, which came to hand yesterday. I now proceed to reply to the queries therein contained.

1st. "The number of emigrants arrived at your Agency this year, and their destination, stating as nearly as possible the number that have gone to the United States."

The number of emigrants arrived at this Agency this year are 10,978, the greater part of them no doubt left their home expressly to settle in this country. The number gone to the United States from this part is 1,200. A large proportion of them went upon the invitation of relations, and friends, living in that country ; some from a love of change, and others from a discontented spirit, that would not be satisfied anywhere.

2d. "The general condition of the emigrants as to property, appearance, health, &c."

The general part of the emigrants were poor ; I kept a memorandum from the commencement of July, of the sums brought by them, taking no notice of any amount less than 50 sovereigns in the possession of one individual, and it amounts to 61,340l. sterling. I am inclined to think this is less than the actual amount, as emigrants (especially the Scotch) do not like to tell how much money they have ; they were, with few exceptions, sober and orderly, and it is not within my knowledge, that a complaint has been made against any of them for a violation of the law of the land. At the commencement of the season, measles, small-pox, and whooping-cough, were very prevalent, and there were a good many cases of fever : 167 patients have been admitted into the hospital, and I think that more than that number were