NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mr. Secretary Stanley to Majorgeneral Bourke.

"Red Rover,"
"Bussorah Merchant."
Vide Sessional
Paper, 141, April

1833, p. 36. Ditto, p. 31. ment to ascertain the probable amount of funds which would be available for the same purpose during the year 1834.

Since the first commencement of the arrangements for granting loans and bounties up to the present time, 397 families, consisting of 1,538 persons in number, and 361 single females, have received assistance from these funds, in addition to which, the two ships named in the margin, each containing about 200 young women, have been despatched to New South Wales; the one is reported in your despatch of the 24th September to have reached the colony, the other sailed in April of the present year. A third vessel, named the "Layton," similarly freighted, will, as you were informed, be despatched for the same destination in the course of next month.

It is stated in your despatch of the 27th February 1832, that you think His Majesty's Government may count upon an annual payment of 10,000 l. for the next three years from the revenue of Crown lands; and that if the sale of Crown lands should proceed with spirit, the sum might be taken still higher. Acting upon this information, His Majesty's Government have considered themselves warranted in incurring an expenditure of 20,000 l. (for the years 1832 and 1833) for purposes connected with emigration. Of this sum there has been expended,

According to the above statement there would appear to be an excess of expenditure, beyond the amount provided, of 643 l.; but in consequence of the dreadful calamity which befel the "Hibernia," a ship freighted with emigrants from Liverpool, which was destroyed by fire on her passage to New South Wales, a reduction of 454 L, which corresponds with the amount of the payments ordered in the case of the emigrants who embarked in that vessel, may be made from the excess stated, which will be still further diminished by the repayments from the emigrants who proceeded the earliest to the colony; several of which repayments, if not already made, may be shortly expected to be received into the Colonial Treasury. Notwithstanding these circumstances, however, it has been deemed advisable to suspend for the present any further assistance, and the notice has accordingly been issued, of which the enclosed is a copy; His Majesty's Government deeming it more expedient to keep the expenditure within the minimum amount of funds available for this purpose, than to risk the inconvenience which could not but result to the local government from a contrary proceeding: the balance, if any remains, of the funds which may be expended for the two years before-mentioned being added to the sum which it may be in your power to appropriate for the same object in the ensuing year. And, in order that as little time as possible may be lost in renewing the assistance which the emigrants so anxiously seek, I have to request, if you should not have already forwarded to this department the statement alluded to in my Under-secretary's letter to you of the 10th of March last, that you will, on the receipt of this despatch, lose no time in furnishing me with the desired information.

I entertain considerable apprehension that in many cases the persons who have been assisted from the above funds may not belong to that class to which it was the intention of His Majesty's Government to confine it; but you must be too well aware of the difficulties attending the complete success of a measure upon the extensive scale of that which has been undertaken, to make it necessary for me to enter into a minute detail of them; and I deem it therefore sufficient to remark, that every endeavour will be used, on the renewal of the encouragement next year, to establish a better system of control over the selection of the persons who may in future be permitted to participate in the benefit. At the first stage of the proceedings it became advisable to leave generally to the shipowners much latitude in collecting persons of the description required; and although the certificates which were required to accompany each application, signed by the clergyman of the parish in which the emigrant resided, and by other respectable persons, were, as it was supposed, a sufficient guarantee that no deception would be practised upon the Government, yet I am concerned to state, that the precaution was not in all cases attended with the desired effect; and that other checks than those which were at

first

April 1833.