

My Lords will be ready to make advances from time to time as required, provided the proportion between the amount of the advance from public funds and the amount of private subscriptions be observed.

I have, &c.,
R. E. WELBY.

No. 9.

The UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND to the UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE COLONIES.

SIR,

Dover House, Whitehall, May 3, 1888.

WITH reference to my letter of the 27th ultimo, on the subject of the Crofter Colonisation Scheme and the legislation which may be required in Canada to give the necessary powers to the proposed board of administration, I am directed by the Marquis of Lothian to transmit to you herewith the draft of a short enactment which has been prepared in consultation with the Lord Advocate; and I am to request that you will move Lord Knutsford to communicate the same by cable with the least possible delay to the Canadian Government, as the suggestion of the Legal Advisers of Her Majesty's Government, subject to such modifications as may be deemed necessary by the Canadian Government.

Lord Lothian understands that the Canadian House of Commons will probably be prorogued about the 18th instant, and it is therefore of urgent importance that no time should be lost in the matter.

I am, &c.,
R. W. COCHRAN-PATRICK.

Enclosure in No. 9.

(DRAFT.)

WHEREAS a fund is in course of being raised to enable a scheme to be inaugurated for the colonisation of crofters and cottars from the west highlands and islands of Scotland in the dominion of Canada :

And whereas it is intended to establish a board for the administration of the said fund, consisting of commissioners representing the Imperial Government, the Government of the dominion of Canada, the private subscribers to the said fund, and the land company or companies who may give their co-operation and assistance to the said scheme :

Be it enacted that clause 44 of the Dominion Lands Act, chapter 54 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, as amended by 50 and 51 Victoria, chapter 31, shall apply to the said board, and the said board shall be deemed to be a "person" within the meaning of the said clause.

No. 10.

The ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND to the SECRETARY
TO THE TREASURY.

SIR,

Dover House, Whitehall, May 8, 1888.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Lothian to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, intimating the sanction of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to the appointment of an emigration agent in connexion with the Crofter and Cottar Colonisation Scheme.

As their Lordships are aware, this scheme has, in consequence of the extreme lateness of the season, to be commenced under very disadvantageous circumstances, the more especially as its details cannot at present be thoroughly worked out, owing to the fact that neither the "personnel" of the proposed Board has as yet been settled, nor the necessary legislation passed by the Canadian legislature.