

No. 7.

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

SIR,

Dover House, Whitehall, April 28, 1888.

I AM directed to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that, in accordance with the negotiations and arrangements which have recently taken place in regard to the Scheme of Colonisation for Crofters and Cottars, his Lordship proposes to authorise Mr. McNeill of the Board of Supervision, or some other competent person, to undertake the selection of the emigrants in conjunction with an agent of the Canadian Government, with the least possible delay.

The Secretary for Scotland presumes, therefore, that their Lordships will give their sanction to any moderate outlay by way of remuneration and expenses which may be necessary to enable such person to carry out the work entrusted to him.

The Colonial Office are at present considering in what manner the Board contemplated under the scheme shall be ratified by the Canadian Legislature, and it appears, therefore, to the Secretary for Scotland that possibly some ratification by Act, warrant, or otherwise, may be required on the part of the Imperial Government. This is a point, unless their Lordships otherwise direct, which perhaps rests more properly between the Treasury and the Colonial Office, but the Secretary for Scotland will at the same time be glad to learn their Lordships' views thereon.

In the meantime, if the colonisation scheme is to go forward at all this spring, some person must be at once appointed to do the practical work, and in order to enable him to do this his necessary expenses must be paid, and the funds required for assisting the transit of emigrants to Canada, and with a view to preparing their homesteads there, will have to be placed at his disposal.

I am accordingly to request that you will be so good as to move their Lordships' to sanction the employment of an emigration agent, as indicated above, and to inform the Secretary for Scotland whether their Lordships are agreeable that the money shall be administered and expended under his authority, subject to any financial control which may hereafter be imposed on the proposed Board, which is not yet practically established.

I need not add that, unless the work of selecting the emigrants is begun next week, the scheme must of necessity be abandoned until next year.

I am, &c.,

R. W. COCHRAN-PATRICK.

No. 8.

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

SIR,

Treasury Chambers, May 2, 1888.

I AM directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request you to inform the Secretary for Scotland, in reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo, that they are pleased to sanction the appointment of an emigration agent in connexion with the Scheme of Colonisation for the Crofters and Cottars, as indicated by his Lordship.

I am to ask on what basis Lord Lothian proposes that the officer to be appointed emigration agent should be remunerated, and their Lordships would request that the details regarding the proposed Board may be submitted to them as early as convenient.

It should be made clear that the emigration agent is to account to the Secretary for Scotland for the money advanced to and the expenditure administered by him.