

RETURN

To an Address of the Legislative Assembly, dated 14th March, 1872, for copies of the Instructions to the Delegate who represented the Province of British Columbia, at the Immigration Conference held at Ottawa, last Summer, together with the Report of the said Delegate, and papers and correspondence touching the same.

21st March, 1872.

A. ROCKE ROBERTSON,
Colonial Secretary.

The Colonial Secretary to Mr. Stahlshmidt.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
31st August, 1871.

SIR,—I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to forward to you, herewith, copy of a Report of the Honorable the Privy Council of Canada, approved by His Excellency the Administrator in Council on the 18th December, 1868, and of the covering Despatch from Lord Lisgar, in which a hope is expressed that the Province of British Columbia may be represented in the forthcoming Conference of Delegates on Immigration, to be held at Ottawa on the 13th proximo.

In pursuance of the above Despatch, and of your having consented to allow His Honor to avail himself of the opportunity afforded by your visit to Ottawa, to obtain your services in that capacity, he has appointed you Delegate for the Province of British Columbia, and hereby authorizes you to attend at the Conference in question on that behalf.

Your duties as a Delegate will be to attend the meetings regularly, to furnish all the information in your power as to the position, requirements, resources, and inducements of this Province as a field for Immigrants, and such suggestions as may offer themselves to you as best calculated to foster any scheme of Immigration that may be set on foot.

You will hear and take note of the propositions made by other Delegates, and the arguments brought forward in their support; and at the close of the Conference you will, for His Honor's information, make as full a Report as possible of the proceedings that have taken place, and the result thereof.

You are, however, not to pledge this Province in any way, pecuniarily or otherwise.

The minute alluded to in the Report is a printed document, entitled "The Second Report of the Standing Committee on Immigration and Colonization, 1869," and is one which it would be advisable for you to procure in Ottawa, as it contains much valuable information.

Any expenses you may incur through detention at Ottawa, or otherwise, on the service with which you are hereby charged, will be refunded to you on presentation here of your vouchers of receipt for the same. I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES GOOD,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

OTTAWA, 28th September, 1871.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit to you herewith, a copy of an Order of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, together with a copy of the Memorandum of the Honorable the Minister of Agriculture, and of the terms of arrangement therein referred to, respecting Immigration matters between the Dominion Government and the Governments of the several Provinces, as represented at the Conference on Immigration held in this City, on the 19th, 20th, and 22nd instant.

May I request that you will have the goodness to submit these documents for the early consideration of your Government. I have, &c.

(Signed) G. POWELL,
for the Under Secretary of State.

The Hon. J. W. Trutch,
Lieutenant-Governor, Victoria, B. C.

Copy of a Report of the Honorable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, on the 25th September, 1871.

The Committee of Council have had under consideration the annexed Memorandum, dated 23rd September, 1871, from the Honorable the Minister of Agriculture, submitting the subjoined terms of proposed arrangement in reference to Immigration matters between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, adopted at the recent Conference held by their respective representatives, subject to ratification by those Governments respectively, and recommending that the same receive the sanction of Your Excellency in Council, and be communicated, as having been so sanctioned, to the several Provincial Governments.

The Committee advise that the said terms of proposed arrangement be sanctioned, and be communicated as having been so sanctioned to the several Provincial Governments.

(Certified) W. M. H. LEE,
Clerk Privy Council.

The undersigned has the honor to report that at the Immigration Conference lately convened for the 19th instant, and which met on that day, and was continued, by adjournment, over the 20th, 21st, and 22nd instant; the Province of Ontario was represented by the Honorable John Carling, Commissioner of Agriculture and Public Works; the Province of Quebec, by the Honorables Pierre, Jacques, Oliver, Chauveau, Provincial Secretary; the Honorable Gedeon Ouimet, Attorney-General; the Honorable George Irvine, Solicitor-General; and the Honorable Joseph Gibb Robertson, Treasurer; the Province of Nova Scotia, by the Honorables E. P. Flynn, Commissioner of Crown Lands, and William Garvie, Commissioner of Public Works; the Province of New Brunswick, by the Honorable G. F. Hathaway, Provincial Secretary; the Honorable W. M. Kelly, Commissioner of Public Works; and John Pickard, Esq., M. P.; the Province of Manitoba, by the Honorable Henry J. H. Clarke, Attorney-General; and the Province of British Columbia, by Thomas Lett Stahlschmidt, Esq.; and that the subjoined terms of proposed arrangement in reference to Immigration matters between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, were thereat unanimously adopted, subject to ratification by such Governments respectively.

The undersigned recommends, accordingly, that the same receive the sanction of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, and be communicated as having been so sanctioned to the said several Provincial Governments. The whole respectfully submitted.

*Department of Agriculture,
Ottawa, 23rd September, 1871.*

(Signed) CHRISTOPHER DUNKIN,
Minister of Agriculture

1. The Dominion Government will maintain an efficient system of Immigration Agency in the United Kingdom, on the Continent of Europe, and, if deemed requisite, elsewhere beyond Canada.
2. It will maintain efficient Quarantine Establishments at Quebec and Halifax, at St. Johns in New Brunswick, at Victoria in British Columbia, and wherever else the same may be deemed requisite.
3. It will maintain efficient Immigration Offices at Quebec, Montreal, Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, and Halifax, at St. Johns, New Brunswick, at Miramichi, or some other point contiguous to the line of the Intercolonial Railway in Manitoba, at Victoria in British Columbia, and wherever else the same may be deemed requisite.
4. It will maintain a liberal policy for the settlement and colonization of the Crown Lands in Manitoba and the North-West Territories.
5. It will disseminate such information, with reference to the Dominion generally, and to Manitoba and the North-West Territories in particular, as may be deemed requisite for the advancement of Immigration.
6. Such grants as shall be deemed requisite, in aid of Immigration, will be asked of Parliament yearly.
7. The several Provinces will maintain an efficient system of Immigration Agency within their respective Territories, and will connect the same, as far as possible, with a liberal policy for the settlement and colonization of the uncultivated lands therein.

8. They may appoint such Immigration Agents in Europe, and elsewhere beyond Canada, as they think proper; and such Agents, on requisition to that effect, will be duly accredited by the Dominion Government.

9. Each Province will disseminate such information as it may deem requisite for the advancement of Immigration; and to that end will furnish to the Department of Agriculture, and to the Immigration Agents of the Dominion, full information as to its system of settlement and colonization; the lands assigned for free grants to settlers, if any, and the conditions of such grants; and all other information, and all documents deemed requisite for the advancement of Immigration.

10. To prevent disappointment of intending Immigrants, no Province will alter the terms of its system, as so communicated, without reasonable notice; and, if possible, the information in question will be so communicated before the Winter of each year, and will not be restrictively changed during the ensuing season of navigation.

11. Conferences of Delegates of the Dominion and Provincial Governments will be convened, from time to time, at the Office of the Minister of Agriculture, by the Governor in Council, at the request of one or more of the Provincial Governments, or without such request; and it is understood that such a Conference will be so convened for some date during each Session of Parliament.

Mr. Stahlshmidt to the Lieutenant-Governor.

OTTAWA, 23rd September, 1871.

SIR,—As Delegate for British Columbia, at a Conference held here this week, to take into consideration the question of Immigration to the Dominion, I beg to report as follows:—

The Conference met on 19th instant, and continued until the 22nd instant.

The Members consisted of the Honorables Sir J. A. Macdonald, Sir George Cartier, Sir Francis Hincks, C. Dunkin, — Morris, — Aiken, representing the Dominion;

The Honorable John Carling, representing the Province of Ontario;

The Honorables Chauveau, Oumet, Irvine, and Robertson, representing Quebec;

The Honorables Flynn and Garvie, representing Nova Scotia;

The Honorables Hathaway and Kelly, and John Pickard, Esq., M.P., representing New Brunswick;

The Honorable Clarke, representing Manitoba;

Myself, representing British Columbia.

With the exception of Mr. Pickard and myself, all the above gentlemen were Members of their respective Provincial Cabinets.

The Honorable Mr. Dunkin, Minister of Agriculture, under whose auspices the Conference had been convened, was in the Chair. The proceedings throughout were of an informal character.

In view of the depressed financial condition of New Brunswick, Mr. Hathaway urged that the Federal Government should afford material assistance to his Province, in the shape of an Immigration Subsidy; and Mr. Garvie, for Nova Scotia, took similar grounds for the same reason. These gentlemen considered that a sum of \$10,000 would be a satisfactory amount for each of their Provinces to receive.

Sir John Macdonald was not unwilling to ask Parliament for an appropriation to be generally distributed among all the Provinces, and considered that the basis of distribution should be, to some extent, that of population. It was, on the other hand, contended that the principle of distribution of an Immigration Subsidy should be paucity of population. There would appear, however, little chance of carrying the latter scheme, owing to the preponderating influence of Ontario in the Legislature. It was finally agreed that the subject of an Immigration Subsidy should be brought before Parliament, notwithstanding which, however, each Province was expected to do its utmost to foster Immigration individually, and the Dominion Government would, in the meantime, not commit itself as to the mode of distribution. Any funds contributed by the Federal Government would be under its control. Your Delegate received Sir John's assurance that the claim of British Columbia should have full consideration by the Cabinet.

New Brunswick had voted \$2,000 for Immigration last Session, and would doubtless continue a similar appropriation. Quebec was willing to continue her vote as before. Ontario had expended \$80,000 during the last three years for Immigration purposes, and

was offering special inducements in the shape of free grants of 200 acres, with from 3 to 5 acres cleared, and with a house erected thereon, to heads of families.

For the purpose of diffusing information concerning the Dominion, the Federal Government undertook to publish pamphlets for distribution in Great Britain; and it is therefore necessary for each Province to keep the Central Government generally informed. I forward, under separate cover, a copy of the hand-book for Immigrants to the United States, to furnish an approximate idea of the sort of pamphlet in contemplation. It is also intended to supplement this pamphlet by the publication of broad sheets and maps, to be distributed by arrangement with the proprietors of the *Beehive*, and such other working-man's newspaper as may be deemed advisable.

Pamphlets, &c., should be circulated in England before the 1st of January in each year.

The Protocol arranged on the 30th October, 1868, was revised, and I enclose you a rough draft of the new basis of agreement which will be officially submitted to each Provincial Government for its approval. The original of this was signed by a Delegate from each Province, and by the Minister of Agriculture. Its clauses were discussed seriatim. You will find that it applies to the altered state of the Dominion. It requires no special comment on my part.

It is intended to hold the next Conference early during the next Session of Parliament.

Some persons interested in Emigration from Great Britain were attracted to Ottawa by the notification of the Conference, among them I. Standish Haly, Esq., Honorary Secretary of the British and Colonial Emigration Fund; the Rev. Horrocks Cocks, Honorary Secretary of the National and Colonial Emigration League; Captain Heller and Mr. Stynherst, Scandinavian gentlemen.

All these gentlemen waited on the Conference to explain their views, and expressed their desire to give their aid. The last named wished to treat Immigration as a matter of business, and undertook to found a Colony of Scandinavians at \$20 a head, payable only on actual settlement, if arrangements could be made for suitable location. I enclose a special proposition for British Columbia from Rev. Mr. Cocks, to which I beg to direct your attention. I shall see Mr. Haly, at his head-quarters in England, and will gain his views more in detail.

The Government is fully aware of the necessity that exists for the establishment of a Dominion Agency in San Francisco, for forwarding Immigrants to our Province. I have pointed out that our immediate absorption of population must be slow and gradual, and that I should recommend small continuous arrivals of female servants, if possible, members of families, under whose care they would come out, farmers, miners, lumbermen, fishermen, and agricultural laborers.

I find great complaint of scarcity of female servants throughout Canada. A Miss McPherson has lately been assisting a number of London street lads out here, with, I am told, very favourable results. I called on this lady, but found she was absent.

The question of Immigration is exciting great general interest, and the idea of the Dominion Cabinet seems to be that a scheme can be devised that will be self-supporting. The Conference will, I am convinced, be productive of much good. Every Province was represented, minutely discussed, and there appeared a strong desire to work together for the general benefit of all.

Mr. Dunkin desires me to remind you of the advisability of putting the Department of Immigration under the control of a responsible officer as soon as possible, and to acquaint him of the fact, to save delay in minor matters.

I cannot conclude this Report (in which I have for obvious reasons travelled a little out of the record) without acknowledging the courtesy extended to me by the Dominion Ministers, and the gentlemen representing the various Provinces. I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. LETT STAHLSCHMIDT.

Mr. Stahlshmidt to the Lieutenant-Governor.

ST. LAWRENCE HALL, MONTREAL,
3rd October, 1871.

SIR,—In the course of my business here, I have made enquiry as to the through rates at which Immigrants could be conveyed to British Columbia, and now enclose a statement published by the Grand Trunk Railway, advertising the through fare at

£14 1s. 6d. I am informed by the General Ticket Agent, that for parties of 50 or 100 Immigrants, the Grand Trunk Railway would reduce their price by 8s. It would, I think, also be possible to get a further reduction for that portion of the passage between Detroit and Omaha, where competing lines of Railroad exist.

The passage across the Atlantic varies from £4 10s. to £5 5s. I am, &c.

(Signed) THOS. LETT STAHLSCHEMIDT.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The National Colonial Emigration League is willing to act for British Columbia in the United Kingdom, in order to promote Emigration to that Colony. The authorities of British Columbia will, it is believed, do their utmost to aid Immigration, and will doubtless specify the class of Immigrants they need. The great distance from England is an obstacle, as it is attended with inconvenience and expense, but, with those and other self evident considerations, the authorities will know how effectually to deal. Free grants of good land, with the necessary conditions, will, no doubt, be granted; and when any document, having the impress of the Government, is published, the League will do its best to put it in circulation. Artizans, general labourers, domestic servants, and farmers of small capital, may be induced to settle, if moderate but sure advantages are offered to them. Domestic servants and artizans would be willing to repay, by easy instalments, a portion of the expense if advanced by private individuals or given to the Government.

Lectures on the resources of British Columbia would be useful, and the press be employed for the circulation of well digested news. The money expended for this purpose will be a capital investment.

(Signed) REV. HORROCKS COCKS,
19, *Edwards Square*,
Kensington, London.

Ottawa, 21st September, 1871.