

Nelson Settlement – Inward despatches from the NZ Company Secretary 03 Mar 1848 to 23 Oct 1850

Archives NZ Reference AAYZ 8985 NZC 102/17/25 (some transcripts)

Folios 153-158

Letter to William Fox, Esq., Principal Agent of the NZ Company Wellington 04 Aug 1849

Sir, I do myself the honor to communicate to you the decisions of the Court upon sundry matters relating to the Settlement of Nelson, which time did not permit to be noticed in the Despatches by the Kelso

[1] 14/48 The arrangements reported in your Despatch of 13th January 1849 Nelson No.4/49 regarding the German Emigrants who had claims for land upon the Messrs Beit are approved

[2] 1/49 The Resolutions of the Landowners have been referred, with the previous Correspondence, for the opinion of the Company's Solicitors; and upon receiving their reply, I shall probably have occasion to address you on the subject

[3] 2/49 The enclosed Memorandum together with that before transmitted in my Despatch of 1st June last, Wellington No.35/49, will give you full information respecting the Emigrants complained of by Mr Jollie.

[4] 4/49 On the Subject of Pasturage and the power of the Company to grant Licenses, I shall have the honor to address you separately, hereafter.

[5] 5/49 The question of the permanent employment of a Surveyor awaits your promised further report

[6] 6/49 Respecting the Application of the Revd Mr Aldred for pecuniary aid towards the support of a Wesleyan Ministry, a Reply has been prepared but will be detained until the next opportunity.

[7] Mr Brunner – The payments and subscription to Testimonial on account of Mr Brunner's Exploring Expeditions, as reported in your Despatch of 23rd February 1849 (No.6/49) are approved; and I am instructed to request that you will express to that Gentleman the sense entertained by the Court of the very great exertions which he has made in exploring the West Coast and Interior, and of the valuable service which he has thereby rendered to the Colony.

Copy of Memorandum signed 11 Jul 1849 by John Knowles

On Mr Jollie's Despatch No.2/49, 6th January 1849, I beg to make the following report. William Wright stated to be a shoemaker is described in his application as a Gardener, and formerly worked for Mr Budd a Market Gardener of Hounslow. Jonatham Haslam tho' formerly a Calico printer had for the past two years been employed as a Day Labourer in making and repairing roads. His testimonials are very good and his wife and family are spoken of as very desirable Emigrants. They were strongly recommended by Mr Field, a Brother in law of Dr Greenwood's of Nelson. I saw these people when down at Gravesend on the Eve of the Bernicia's sailing and recollect particularly noticing them as a more than usual comfortable and apparently useful Family. William Fox's application is signed by Mr Broom gardener of Southwark Bridge Road with whom he worked off and on for four years. John Kenny's application states him to have been employed as a Labourer for six years by Seth Smith Esq of Eaton Square. He is well recommended by Mr W. G. Gover. Joseph Webb was brought up to Farm Labour and is recommended by Mr J. A. Smith, M.P. William Walker's application is recommended by Mr U. Brandon, Market Gardener, with whom he worked three years. William Hales application as a Ground Labourer is respectably recommended. The case of deception said to have been practised by William Wright with regard to his Children is one which if

ascertained by Mr Jollie in sufficient time should have been communicated to the Principal Agent with a view to his deducting from the Surgeon's Gratuity, such amount as he should have considered fit – As Mr Jollie only makes the statement on "tolerable" authority – it may possibly turn out incorrect as it seems unlikely that Mr Williams the Surgeon of the Bernicia could in the course of embarkation have examined the children twice, under different names, without detecting the imposition. The Case of William Walker I have already reported on.

Folio 254- 260

Letter to William Fox, Esq., Principal Agent of the NZ Company Wellington 21 Sep 1849

Sir, In transmitting with a request that it may be forwarded after perusal, the accompanying reply to the Application of the Reverend Mr Aldred (which was enclosed in Mr Jollie's letter of 11th January 1849) for pecuniary aid towards the support of a Wesleyan Ministry, I am at the same time to request Your consideration of the general question which is therein involved. The objects desired to be kept in view by the Court in the administration of the Fund for Religious Purposes cannot be better explained than by the letter which was addressed to the Bishop of New Zealand on the 30th of November 1841 (printed in Appendix G to the Directors Twelfth Report No.21 and the appendix to the Parliamentary Paper No.556/1844 page 657) and by the arrangement which was concluded with His Lordship in accordance therewith, and which forms the subject of my Despatch of 4th August, Nelson No.8/49. The principles of that arrangement were that a Sum to be advanced by the Company from the proper Funds of the Settlement, having reference to the probable wants of the Members of the Church of England and to the proportion borne by them to the Members of other Religious Communities in the same Settlement, should be met by a corresponding Sum from other Sources; that the principal of both sums united should be vested in the first instance in Government Securities and ultimately in Landed Securities within the Settlement; "that no land contributed by or through the Directors should be permanently alienated, the object being to constitute a permanent and local property continually increasing in value with the progress of Colonisation;" and that the current annual interest, and that alone should be applied to current temporary purposes. The proposal implied of course that the Trustees to be appointed should be persons in whom the Directors had perfect confidence reposed personally in the Bishop, and if the largeness of the amount, it was agreed that the corresponding amount from other sources instead of being raised at once, should be paid over in successive instalments. To a departure from the principles herein laid down the Directors have so far consented in the two instances of Mr Aldred's former application in 1846, and that of the Free Church of Scotland on behalf of Mr Nicholson in 1847, that a portion of the Principal Sum, was applied in the former case to defray the expenses of a Building, and in the latter to payment of a Salary, instead of such Principal being vested in permanent securities bearing interest, and the interest only applied to current purposes. But although assented to under the exigency of the respective circumstances such a mode of expenditure does not appear to the Court to be by any means generally expedient. And they would consider it far preferable that the principles adopted with regard to the Church of England were adopted also with regard to such other Religious Communities as may from time to time be deemed entitled to a proportionate Share of the Settlement Fund.

Copy of Letter to John Aldred 21 Sep 1849

Reverend Sir, I have had the honor to receive and lay before the Directors of the New Zealand Company your letter of 20th November 1848 requesting either a yearly allowance or pecuniary aid in some other form towards the support of a Wesleyan Ministry in the Town and Settlement of Nelson. The object of this application the Directors understand in substance to be, that a portion of the General Religious Fund of the Settlement shall be appropriated to the permanent support of a Wesleyan Ministry, upon the principles and in the manner that have been recognised in the case of the Church of England; that is to say that the sum so provided from the General Fund shall be met by a corresponding sum from other sources; that these sums united shall be delivered to Trustees, to be vested in the first instance in Government Securities bearing interest, and ultimately in Landed Securities within the Settlement, that such Lands shall be inalienable, and that the current annual interest, and this alone, shall be applicable to current or temporary purposes. If the understanding of the Directors be correct, as to the object of your application, they will be happy, subject to these conditions, and to the approval of the proposed Trustees by their Principal Agent, whenever the requisite sum shall have been provided from other sources, to appropriate to the object stated out of the General Fund at their disposal, such sum as having reference to the probable wants of the entire settlement and of the Wesleyan portion of it, shall be considered by their Principal Agent to be reasonable and fair.

Folios 291-297

Letter to William Fox, Esq., Principal Agent of the NZ Company Wellington 03 April 1850

Sir, In transmitting to you the accompanying copies of communications from Mr Millar, the Honorary Secretary of the Edinburgh Ladies Female Emigrant Association, I am instructed – with reference to my letter of 27th September last, to express the hope of the Court that you have succeeded in procuring the organisation of Local Ladies' Committees, and in the meantime to request that you will afford all requisite protection and assistance to the Three Young Women named in the margin [Mary Mitchell, Janet Cook, Catherine Cameron], who have been selected by the Association and proceed to Nelson in the 'Marriner' under the care of a Married Family named Burns. It was at one time proposed that twelve should have been sent by this opportunity, but the Association having only recently commenced its operations, had not on their list that number of eligible applicants. Partly for the same reason, none have been sent by the Society established for the like purpose by the Right Honourable Sidney Herbert, a statement of whose objects is enclosed; but it is probable that, if acceptable to the Colonists, and satisfactory to the parties themselves, arrangements may be made hereafter, for sending out a considerable number of Female Emigrants, selected by each of the Societies in question. It is scarcely necessary to impress upon you the importance of making arrangements such as shall effectually provide for the security, and welfare, on arrival in the Colony, of the persons so selected and sent out.

Copy of letter from Mrs Millar, 13 Annandale Street, Edinburgh 12 Feb 1850

Sir, As Secretary of the Edinburgh Ladies Female Emigrant Association I beg to place myself in official communication with you for information. The enclosed Statement will shew you the peculiar considerations under which the Association was formed in the hope of providing situations in the Colonies for young females of good character and active habits; and the Lists of the Patronesses and Committees will satisfy you as to the character and prospects of the Association. In passing it may be well to state that the necessity was felt in ignorance of Mr Sidney Herbert's movement and the arrangements now in nearly simultaneous progress. I am anxious to learn through your kindness how far the New Zealand Company can assist us by means of information relative to the Settlements under their Charter; and particularly if the same facilities can be afforded to the Girls we would select

for aid as are provided for such as proceed to Otago in connexion with the Scottish Society namely a reduction of two thirds of the passage money. I observe that Nelson and New Plymouth afford the advantages for Household Servants arising from a demand for labour and a disproportion of sexes. Indeed these two Settlements as older and more populous than Otago appear the more hopeful for our particular class of girls provided the arrangements made by your Company for Otago apply to them. The Edinburgh Ladies Association are deeply alive to the importance character and activity as qualifications for Emigration under their auspices. They propose therefore only to select such as are suitable for service by previous training and too young to have contracted adverse habits; and in the hope of thereby securing for them more speedily suitable situations on their arrival intend to send not more than 10 or 12 in any Vessel and that under the care of a person superior education and qualities. I trust I have thus briefly enabled you to understand the nature of the Association of which I am Secretary and would only add that besides aiding selected young women to pay for their passage the Ladies propose to provide them with the means of industry and improvement during the voyage. Signed Emma Millar.

Copy of letter from Mrs Millar March 1850

Sir, I beg to enclose the acknowledgment to the credit of your passage account for £31 10s for passages charges &c of Mary Mitchell, Janet Cook and Catherine Cameron to embark for Nelson on board the 'Mariner'. They are to sail from Granton with the other Emigrant passengers from Scotland for Nelson and Otago. The necessary arrangements for their reception accommodation embarkation orders I have no doubt you will direct to be attended to. In consequence of the favourable opinion formed of Mr Burns the Committee have made arrangements with him to give daily instruction in Reading &c to the Six Girls going out under the auspices of the Edinburgh Ladies Association and I presume every facility for discharging this duty will be afforded to him. The Ladies felt great confidence in the families under whose charge the young women are to proceed to Nelson. But they are anxious from the good character of the Girls as well as the credit of the Association to bespeak for them every attention on their arrival which your kindness and official influence can secure. The Association has been formed under a deep conviction that Edinburgh contains a large number of young women of very hopeful character and industrious habits for when Emigration is highly desirable and calculated to be a boon to any Colonial Settlement, much will of course depend upon the success according to reasonable expectations, of this first selection and experiment. The Girls besides other Letters will be specially introduced to the kind offices of the Episcopal Clergyman and the Wesleyan Superintendent, and have a Letter to the Lord Bishop of New Zealand.

Folios 298-318

Papers about the Edinburgh Ladies' Female Emigrant Association including lists of committee members, subscribers and general background information.
