

No. 57.—VACCINATION:—Supply of VACCINE VIRUS for WORKHOUSES:—Circular to Unions.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
March 7, 1848.

SIR,

The attention of the Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland having been called to the means of supplying Vaccine Virus for the use of the Medical Officers of Unions in Ireland, and the Commissioners having had under consideration communications from the Directors of the Cowpock Institution in Dublin, from which a great number of public establishments in this country are supplied with the Virus for Vaccination, the Commissioners desire to suggest to the respective Boards of Guardians the expediency of their making arrangements for procuring the requisite supplies thereof from that Institution, as the best means of ensuring a regular and sufficient supply of effective Virus.

It appears that several Unions have already subscribed with advantage for this purpose, by payment to the Institution of a sum of one guinea annually; and the Commissioners recommend the adoption of this course by all the Unions which do not at present adopt it. The expense will be chargeable to establishment.

By Order of the Commissioners,

W. STANLEY, Secretary.

To the Clerk of each Union.

No. 58.—EMIGRATION of ORPHANS from Workhouses in Ireland:—Free Passage to South Australia:—Instructions to Poor Law Inspectors.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
March 7, 1848.

SIR,

The Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland forward for your information several copies of a communication made to Earl Grey by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, on the subject of young persons at present inmates of Irish workhouses, who may be eligible for emigration to South Australia, together with an extract from a letter addressed by Earl Grey to Sir George Grey, and communicated for the information of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, explaining the manner in which the emigration of such persons is proposed to be conducted.

The Commissioners are most anxious that advantage should be taken of this proposal of the Government, and that the selection of young persons should be so conducted as to ensure the complete success of the experiment.

You will have the goodness, therefore, to address yourself to this object with the least possible delay, and take such steps by communication with Boards of Guardians in your district, or otherwise, as may enable you to point out the names of young persons eligible in all respects and willing to emigrate, for examination by the agent who may be authorized to make the final selection.

Your attention is especially called to that part of the letter of the Emigration Commissioners which relates to the peculiar advantage of obtaining young females, eligible and willing to emigrate, in preference to males.

You will take care that such young persons are duly and properly apprised of the prospects which await them in the event of their availing themselves of the free passage to Australia; and you will ascertain from the Boards of Guardians, distinctly, their willingness to bear the cost of outfit, and the expense of conveyance to the place of embarkation.

By Order of the Commissioners,

W. STANLEY, Secretary

To each Poor Law Inspector.

Enclosures in foregoing.

The Commissioners of Colonial Lands and Emigration to the Under Secretary for the Colonial Department.

SIR,

February 17, 1848.

We have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 1st instant, in which you inform us that Lord Grey is prepared to sanction the proposal of Governor Robe to expend, in emigration, the moiety of the South Australian Land Fund not specially appropriated to that purpose, and that His lordship is of opinion that this expenditure should not be extended over a period of two years, but that the despatch of emigrants should be commenced and carried on as expeditiously as possible.

We shall not fail to use our best endeavours to carry out Lord Grey's wishes, and with that view we should propose to increase the number of ships to be despatched in the course of the present year to New South Wales, South Australia, and the Cape of Good Hope, from 54 to 72, sending them from England at the rate of six in each month. If our endeavours are as successful as we anticipate, we shall thus despatch upwards of 14,000

emigrants from this country in the course of the ensuing year, and continuing to regulate the numbers of emigrants obtained from Great Britain and Ireland by the relative population of these countries, we should hope to send to the Colonies about 10,000 British and upwards of 4,000 Irish emigrants.

In order, however, to succeed in obtaining so large a number of emigrants, it will be necessary to have recourse to some additional measures beyond those which we have hitherto employed; and we have, in accordance with Lord Grey's directions, inquired whether an eligible class of Irish emigrants might not be obtained from among the orphans now maintained in the Irish workhouses, of whom many are approaching the age of adolescence. We have the honor to report that the result of our inquiries leads us to hope that this will turn out to be the case.

We are inclined to think that males of this class approaching the age of 18, who, from no fault of their own, have been bred in a workhouse receiving such education as is there given, and submitting to the restrictions imposed in it, might prove by no means inferior to the ordinary Irish labourer.

But we should anticipate a more decided benefit from the adoption of this plan in respect of female orphans. Lord Grey is well aware of the necessity which exists for preserving the proportion of the sexes in any large emigration to a new country. Single men willing to emigrate are to be found in abundance.

But we learn from the reiterated complaints of our selecting agents, that the difficulty of procuring single females of an eligible character, is one of the greatest embarrassments against which they have to struggle. It is said, however, that a large number of well-conducted young women are to be found among these orphans; the emigration of these persons will be of material service, by placing us at liberty to accept from other sources a corresponding number of young men whom we might otherwise have been compelled to reject. We have, therefore, drawn up a paper, which, with such modifications as Lord Grey may deem fit, might, we think, be transmitted to the Irish Government, with a request that they would take the proper means for communicating it to the Guardians of the different parishes from which emigrants may be expected. It is, we think, obvious that the character of this emigration, consisting entirely of young persons, will necessitate a closer moral and religious superintendence, than has hitherto been thought expedient or even practicable in emigrant ships.

And it has been suggested to us by this view, that a teacher should be attached to each ship. It will be observed, that in the enclosed memorandum we have adopted this suggestion, but we would submit that, considering the peculiar character of the emigration, which renders this expense necessary, it could not with propriety be charged against the colony, and should therefore be defrayed from British funds; nor (we may here add) do we think it unfair, that the parishes which will be relieved from the necessity of supporting these emigrants, should have the expense of forwarding them to the port of embarkation. This suggestion we have therefore embodied in the paper which we submit for Lord Grey's approval.

We apprehend that under the Local Act, 5 Wm. IV., ch. 3, the Governor would have the power of apprenticing these young persons as proposed in the 7th clause of the accompanying paper.

We have, &c.,

J. W. C. MURDOCK,
F. ROGERS.

H. Merivale, Esq.

&c., &c., &c.

Memorandum referred to in the foregoing Letter.

1. Her Majesty's Land and Emigration Commissioners, having been instructed by the Secretary of State to make arrangements for a considerable emigration from Great Britain and Ireland to New South Wales and South Australia during the present year, and having been informed that an eligible class of Irish emigrants may be found among the orphan children now supported at the public expense in Ireland, will be prepared to offer to such of those persons as may, on inquiry, be approved, and as may be willing to emigrate, free passage to the above colonies. None will be accepted who are less than 14 or more than 18 years of age, and the nearest to 18 will be taken in preference.

2. In order that the persons in question may understand the nature of the advantages thus offered to them, it is necessary to state that the colony of New South Wales is divided into the Northern, Middle or Sydney, and Southern or Port Philip Districts. It is to the two latter districts that emigrants are in the first instance conveyed.

The climate both of New South Wales and of South Australia is remarkably healthy, and suited to European constitutions. The soil is good, and produces in abundance wheat, maize, barley, oats, and potatoes; provisions are much cheaper than in this country; clothing may be purchased at a cost but little in advance of the retail prices here, and the rates of wages, at the date of the last advices, were in all cases much above those given for the same description of labour in this country.

Besides the money wages, labourers in the country are generally provided with a dwelling, and the following allowance of provisions by their employers:—10 lbs. of meat, 10 lbs. of flour, 1½ lb. of sugar, and 3 oz. of tea per week.

APPENDIX (A).

No. V.—CIRCULARS.

58/ Emigration of Orphans from Workhouses in Ireland.—Free Passage to South Australia.

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3. The voyage to these colonies generally occupies about 100 days; and during that time the emigrants will be fed according to the annexed scale, at the public expense, subject, of course to future modifications, if experience should show them to be for the benefit of the emigrants.

The males and females are intended to be conveyed in separate ships. Teachers will be appointed to them, and means will be taken to provide for the instruction of the emigrants in conformity with their respective creeds. The books furnished to the vessels will consist exclusively of those authorized by the National Board of Education. In those of the ships which may carry orphans (females) there will be a trustworthy Matron to take charge of the emigrants, under the direction of the Surgeon, who will be intrusted with the general management of every ship.

4. The emigrants' ships will be despatched every month during the present year from Plymouth, to which place the emigrants must be conveyed at the expense of the Board of Guardians. Emigrant ships can be despatched from Plymouth only, because it is only at Plymouth (with the exception of London,) that the Commissioners have an Emigrant Depot which will enable them to collect the emigrants previous to embarkation, and officers under their control, who can ascertain by inspection that the emigrants are all in a fit state of health to embark, that their persons are clean, and their clothes clean and sufficient. The calamities which would result from the introduction of any infectious or contagious complaints on board one of those vessels, render this arrangement indispensable.

5. It will be necessary that each emigrant should be provided with the following articles which compose the lowest outfit that can be admitted:—

For Males.

Six shirts—six pair of stockings—two pair of shoes—two complete suits of exterior clothing, one of which must be made of some warm material.

For Females.

Six shifts—two flannel petticoats—six pair stockings—two pair shoes—two gowns, one of which must be made of some warm material.

As a general rule, it may be stated, that the more abundant the stock of clothing, the better for health and comfort during the voyage. At whatever season of the year it may be made, the emigrants have to pass through very hot and very cold weather, and should therefore be prepared for both.

6. The Governor will be directed on the arrival of these emigrants in the colony to make such arrangements in regard to their employment as may be most to their benefit, according to their age and circumstances.

7. Every pains will be taken to find the emigrants respectable employers; when their age and circumstances render it fitting, they will be bound apprentices, under laws which are in force in the colonies. It will be stipulated that fair wages shall be paid by the employers, according to the current rate prevailing in the district; and after deducting such portion as may be required to pay for clothes, and other current expenses, the remainder of their wages will be reserved, to be given to them at the expiration of the contract, or, in case of females, at their marriage, provided it be approved of by the Government, or by the committee appointed to act on its behalf. A power will be retained of forfeiting the reserved wages of any of the children who may abscond, or whose indentures may be cancelled for misconduct.

8. The Governors of New South Wales and South Australia will be directed to appoint a Committee in each colony, at which they will request the co-operation of the Bishop of Australia and the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, and in South Australia, of the Bishop of Adelaide and the Roman Catholic Bishop, to see that these stipulations are duly observed by the employers.

9. The Board of Guardians will determine whether, in order to obtain these advantages, they will provide the outfit and conveyance to the port of embarkation on behalf of the orphans in their respective workhouses; and on their communicating their decision to do so to the Poor Law Commissioners, an officer will be deputed by the Emigration Commissioners to visit the workhouses, in order to ascertain whether they contain any suitable candidates for emigration of the above class.

10. This emigration will be watched with the utmost interest by all who are concerned in the colonies to which it is to be directed; and upon the manner in which it is conducted will depend the power of the Government to encourage its continuance.

The colonists are desirous of adding to their body, not the idle and worthless, but those whose education and moral and religious training afford a reasonable guarantee that they will become active and useful members of a society which is in a state of healthy progress; and it will therefore be imperative on the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to select those young persons only whose education has been attended to, and of whose conduct they receive a satisfactory report from the competent authorities.

Dietary Scale for the Australian Voyage.

APPENDIX (A).

No. V.—CIRCULARS.

58. Emigration of Orphans from Workhouses in Ireland:—Free Passage to South Australia.

	Bread		Butter	Cheese	Preserved Meat	Flour	Rice	Sugar	Tea	Coffee	Wine	Port	Whisky	Vinegar	Mustard	Salt	Weekly
	lb.	oz.															
Sunday	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Monday	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuesday	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wednesday	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Thursday	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Friday	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Saturday	1	12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

No. 59.—MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF ORPHANS proposed for EMIGRATION FROM WORKHOUSES in Ireland under foregoing Circular:—Instructions to Medical Officers of Workhouses.

59. Medical Examination of proposed Emigrants.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
April, 1848.

Sir,

The Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland having received a list of young persons in the workhouse of _____ Union, proposed as candidates for emigration, I am directed by the Commissioners to request that you will examine the several persons named in the list, and place any of them that may be affected by cutaneous or other disease under proper treatment, and that you will vaccinate any who do not exhibit distinct marks of having been already properly vaccinated; the Commissioners also request that you will mark on the list any who are not in a fit state to undergo the voyage to South Australia.

The Clerk of the Union will furnish you with the names of the young persons included in the list referred to.

By Order of the Commissioners,

W. STANLEY, Secretary.

To the Medical Officer of the Workhouse of _____ Union.

No. 60.—INSPECTION AND SELECTION OF FEMALE ORPHANS proposed as EMIGRANTS FROM WORKHOUSES in IRELAND, under the foregoing arrangements:—Circular to Poor Law Inspectors.

60. Inspection of Female Orphans proposed for Emigration to South Australia.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
April, 1848.

Sir,

The Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland have received a communication from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, stating that Lieutenant Henry, R.N., the Emigration Agent at Dublin, has been instructed to proceed to the several Unions in the workhouses of which there are reported to be candidates for emigration to Australia, under the arrangements recently proposed, for the purpose of examining the female orphans proposed as emigrants; and I am directed to request, that when Lieutenant Henry visits any Union in your charge, you will be good enough to afford him every information and assistance in your power.

By Order of the Commissioners,

W. STANLEY, Secretary.

To each Poor Law Inspector.

No. 61.—RATIONS OF BREAD made from RYE and OTHER MEAL:—Circular to Inspectors.

61. Bread made from Rye and other meal.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
March 11, 1848.

Sir,

I am directed by the Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland to request your attention to the enclosed Extract from a Report which they have received from Capt. Wynne, Temporary Poor Law Inspector for the Carrick-on-Shannon Union, pointing out the advantages to be derived from the issue of bread rations made from rye meal, or rye meal mixed with Indian corn meal or barley meal, to persons in the receipt of out-door relief.

By Order of the Commissioners,

APPENDIX (A).

No. V.—CIRCULARS.

66. Emigration Instructions.

No. 66.—EMIGRATION under the IRISH POOR RELIEF ACTS:—Instructions thereon.

*Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
April 11, 1848.*

SIR,

I am directed by the Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland to state that they have received a communication from the office of the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, informing the Commissioners of Earl Grey's views with reference to the emigration of parties, under the various sections of the Acts 1st and 2nd Vict., chap. 56, 6th and 7th Vict., chap. 92, and 10th Vict., chap. 31, relating to emigration, the substance of which is hereafter stated for your guidance in cases of that nature.

It is the wish of Earl Grey that a list, showing the name, sex, and age of each intended emigrant, should be furnished in every case to the Commissioners of Colonial Lands and Emigration; such list to be first submitted to the Inspector in charge of the Union, who should see all the emigrants, and, if they are approved by him, grant a certificate, to be transmitted with the list, to the effect that the persons named therein are fit and proper persons to emigrate, and that he perceives no reason to doubt that the able-bodied comprised in each family ought to be able to provide by their labour for the maintenance of the whole.

In addition to the information required by Earl Grey, the Commissioners consider it desirable that the lists shall contain the name of the electoral division, and of the town-land in which each person resides, or, if an inmate of the workhouse, resided, previous to entering therein, together with the name of his or her landlord.

In reference to the foregoing I am to request that you will, in all cases where it may be contemplated by the Guardians to grant relief to persons for the purpose of emigration, under the before-mentioned Acts, to observe a strict compliance with these instructions; and when any list of such persons shall have been certified by you, to forward it to the Commissioners for transmission to the Colonial Lands and Emigration Commissioners.

I have, &c.,

W. STANLEY, Secretary.

To each Poor Law Inspector.

67. Vaccine Virus for Workhouses.

No. 67.—VACCINATION:—SUPPLY of VACCINE VIRUS for WORKHOUSES:—Further Circular to Unions.

*Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
April 19, 1848.*

SIR,

The Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland have received a communication from the Directors of the Cowpock Institution in Dublin, from which it appears that it has, in some instances, been inferred from the Commissioners' Circular Letter of the 7th ultimo, on the subject of the supply of vaccine virus to the Unions in Ireland, that a subscription to the Cowpock Institution, as recommended by that Circular, would entitle the Guardians to a supply of vaccine matter not only for the use of the workhouse, but also for the several district vaccinators throughout the Union.

This inference is not derivable from the terms of the Circular in question, inasmuch as contractors for vaccination have never been considered to be Medical Officers of the Union. The Guardians will therefore clearly understand that the annual sum of one guinea, which the Commissioners recommend the Guardians to subscribe to the Cowpock Institution of Dublin, will entitle them to a supply of the virus for use in the workhouse only.

The Medical Officer of the workhouse for whom alone the virus will be supplied, in consideration of the subscription by the Guardians, should be expressly apprised that he is not at liberty to use it otherwise than for the vaccination of the inmates of the workhouse.

The applications to the Cowpock Institution for supplies of vaccine matter should be made by the Clerk of the Union on the Order of the Board of Guardians, previously recorded on their minutes, such Order to be made from time to time on a report in writing from the Medical Officer to the effect that he requires such supply.

By Order of the Commissioners,

W. STANLEY, Secretary.

To the Clerk of each Union.

68. Bread made from Rye meal.

No. 68.—BREAD made of RYE MEAL:—Analysis, and Opinion of the Central Board of Health thereon:—Circular to Inspectors.

*Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
April 26, 1848.*

SIR,

The Commissioners for administering the Laws for Relief of the Poor in Ireland, having had their attention recently called to the quality of the rye bread, supplied in a particular Union to poor persons in receipt of outdoor relief, I am directed to state that they have