

“The party emigrating shall go to some British colony not lying within the Tropics

“The Guardians may expend a sum not exceeding three-pence a mile in conveying each emigrant *above* seven years of age to the port of embarkation; and a sum not exceeding three half-pence a mile in conveying each child *under* seven years of age

“The Guardians may give to each emigrant, the place of whose destination shall be *not eastward* of the Cape of Good Hope, clothing to the value of one pound; and may also expend a sum not exceeding ten shillings for each of such emigrants in the purchase of bedding and utensils for the voyage

“The Guardians may give to each emigrant, the place of whose destination shall be *eastward* of the Cape of Good Hope, clothing to the value of two pounds

“If the emigrant be not conveyed by or under the authority of Her Majesty’s Government to some Australian Colony [ie transported for a criminal offence], or provision be not otherwise made in a satisfactory manner to the Poor Law Commissioners for the maintenance of such emigrant on arrival at the place of destination, a contract, to be approved of by such Commissioners, shall be entered into for securing a sum of money to be supplied to the emigrant on arrival at that place, according to the following scale:-

To each person exceeding 14 years of age	£1. 00. 0
To each person not exceeding 14 years of age	£0. 10. 0

If the cost, or any part thereof, of conveying the emigrant from the port of embarkation to the port of discharge, shall be defrayed from the fund above directed to be provided, a contract, to be approved of by the Poor Law Commissioners, shall be entered into for conveying the emigrant to such port of discharge.”<sup>12</sup>

One significant feature of these conditions was the first. Poor Law money could be used to pay for emigration to Canada but not to the United States of America, which had conspicuously ceased to be a colony in 1776. For some emigrants this became a problem, especially if they wanted to join friends or family already in the United States. In the early days of emigration it did not matter where the point of disembarkation was, since the parishes raised money without strings attached. But Kings Sutton, for instance, which applied to borrow £50 from the Poor Law Commissioners in 1845 to send some paupers to “America”, seems not to have sent anyone abroad because the authority

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<sup>12</sup> A standard form of Loan for Emigration was issued by the Poor Law Commissioners for use by Poor Law Guardians and Parish Councils. The form laid out these conditions. See, for instance, NRO EY 183, for the loan form for Eydon.