

Calais. 21 March. 1848.

No. 18.

My Lord,

[With reference to my despatch
No 17 of this days date reporting to your
Lordship the probable early and forced
departure of all the English workmen with
their families from this town, who will thus
return ^{to} and be for a time at least a burden
on their parishes in England, I have the
honour to submit to your Lordship's consideration
that a number, from whom I shall receive
and will tomorrow forward to your Lordship
a memorial, are most desirous to emigrate
to Australia or any other of the British
Colonies. They are men of respectability
tho' now reduced by hard times, and
generally with large families. They do

The Right Honble

The Viscount Palmerston & Co

not come under the description of emigrants to whom a free passage is offered, being mechanics and they could therefore only have a free passage under special circumstances: but as strong able bodied men in the prime of life, industrious and intelligent they would be well able to turn their hands to any thing: their main desire is, having seen better days, to avoid going to the Poorhouse in England. I submit this case to your Lordship's consideration at the earliest possible moment, as should it appear by your Lordship desirable that arrangements be made to send their families to the Colonies, instead of to their Parishes, steps may be taken with this view as soon as practicable, as it is not possible to say at this moment how soon they may be forced to leave this Country.

I have the honor to be, my lord, with
the highest respect,

Your Lordship's most obedient

humble servant

Edw Walter Duken