

FURTHER PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE
APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES TO THE SUPREME COURT
OF NEW ZEALAND.

No. 1.

COPY OF A DESPATCH FROM GOVERNOR SIR GEORGE GREY TO HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF
NEWCASTLE.

Auckland, November 25th, 1861.

(No. 27.)

MY LORD DUKE,—

I have the honor to transmit to Your Grace the copy of a letter I have received from Mr. Justice Gresson, informing me that grave doubts have been expressed by the Chief Justice, as to the validity of Mr. Gresson's Commission as Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of this Colony, by reason of such appointment not having been officially communicated to her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, and consequently not having received the confirmation of the Crown.

2. I have also the honor to enclose to Your Grace the copy of a Memorandum* by the Attorney General of this Colony upon the same subject, and I trust your Grace will now be pleased to advise Her Majesty to appoint Mr. Gresson to be a Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of this Colony.

I have, &c.,

G. GREY,

His Grace the Duke of Newcastle,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure in No. 1.

MR. JUSTICE GRESSON TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Judges Chambers,
Christchurch, August 14th, 1862.

SIR,—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, enclosing a duplicate of the papers relating to the appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court of the Colony, and requesting me to furnish the Government with copies of any communications or Memoranda in my power bearing on the subject. Enclosed, I send you accordingly a copy of a letter written by me to the Governor, immediately after having seen a report of the debate on the subject in the Legislative Council during the last session. I am not aware of any other communication having passed between me and the Government since the debate above referred to, except a letter from His Excellency's Private Secretary acknowledging the receipt of my communication and stating that my application had been forwarded. I believe that I destroyed that letter thinking it of no importance, it was a mere matter of courtesy.

I have, &c.,

H. B. GRESSON.

The Honorable the Attorney General,
&c., &c., &c.,
Wellington.

* The only copy of this Memorandum was lost in the wreck of the steamer "White Swan."