

FURTHER PAPERS RELATIVE TO  
DESERTIONS FROM SHIPS OF WAR.

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No. 1.

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

4th December, 1862.  
Downing Street,

NEW ZEALAND.

No. 113.

SIR,—

With reference to my Despatch No. 31 of the 25th March, I have the honor to inform you my attention has been again drawn by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to the statements of Commodore Seymour respecting desertions from Her Majesty's ships, and the remissness of the Colonial Authorities in New Zealand in checking this practice. Vide Blue Book, 1861, Appendix D, No. 3, p. 6.

I have therefore to request you to impress upon the Superintendents of the different Provinces the necessity of their actively exerting themselves to stop a practice, which, unless it is effectually arrested, may render it impossible for Officers in command of Her Majesty's ships to give the Colony that assistance which has hitherto been so freely afforded.

I have, &c.,

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,  
&c., &c., &c.

NEWCASTLE.

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No. 2.

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

Downing Street,  
20th January, 1862.

NEW ZEALAND.

No. 2.

SIR—

With reference to my Despatch No. 113 of the 4th ultimo, I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of a letter from Commodore Seymour reporting that more active measures have been taken by the Police in Auckland to apprehend Deserters from Her Majesty's ships. 14th October, 1861.

I have, &c.,

Governor Sir George Grey, K.C.B.,  
&c., &c.

NEWCASTLE.

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Enclosure 1 in No. 2.

*Extract from a Letter from Commodore Seymour, dated from Auckland, 10th October, 1861.*

"I am happy to say that in consequence of my repeated remonstrances, the Police of Auckland have exerted themselves somewhat of late and several deserters have been recovered, from one of whom—a man formerly of excellent character, wearing two good-conduct badges, and having four years' pay due at the time of his desertion—information was obtained by aid of which we succeeded in convicting a farmer in the bush of harbouring deserters from Her Majesty's Service, who was sentenced in consequence to six months' imprisonment with hard labour."

"The evidence in this case tended to prove that deserters could actually work within six miles of Auckland unmolested by the Police."

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No. 3.

COMMODORE SEYMOUR TO SIR GEORGE GREY.

"Pelorus," at Sydney,  
18th April, 1862.

SIR,—

I have been furnished with a copy of a letter which was addressed to your Excellency by Captain Jenkins of the "Miranda" on the 30th ultimo, respecting the enormous amount of desertion which has taken place from Her Majesty's ships stationed in the Province of Auckland, and in