

No. 28.—An Act to amend “The Auckland Waste Lands Act, 1867,” relating to the sale and disposal of Waste Lands in the Province of Auckland.

No. 29.—An Act to amend an Act of the General Assembly of New Zealand, intituled “An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the sale, letting, and occupation of Waste Lands of the Crown within the Province of Otago.”

No. 30.—An Act to extend the Law now in force relating to the leasing of Crown Lands within the Province of Nelson.

Governor Sir G. F. Bowen, G.C.M.G.

I have, &c.,
GRANVILLE.

No. 43.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Earl GRANVILLE, K.G., to Governor Sir G. F. BOWEN, G.C.M.G.

(No. 23.)

SIR,—

Downing Street, 25th February, 1870.

I have received your Despatch No. 157, of 14th December, enclosing a Memorandum from your Ministers in which they refer to my Circular Despatch of 8th September, on the subject of the proposed Colonial Conference.

I notice with great satisfaction the courteous manner in which the Memorandum is worded, and the just appreciation shown by your Advisers of the feelings of Her Majesty's Government with regard to New Zealand.

Governor Sir G. F. Bowen, G.C.M.G.

I have, &c.,
GRANVILLE.

No. 44. ↖

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Earl GRANVILLE, K.G., to Governor Sir G. F. BOWEN, G.C.M.G.

(No. 24.)

SIR,—

Downing Street, 25th February, 1870.

I have to acknowledge your Despatch No. 159, of 20th December, in which you transmit an extract from the Instructions given to Dr. Featherston and Mr. Dillon Bell, the Commissioners appointed to treat with Her Majesty's Government respecting the intended removal of the 2-18th Regiment from New Zealand, and a Report from Mr. McLean, in which he expresses the regret with which your Ministers regard that removal.

I cannot doubt that the Troops will have been withdrawn from the Colony before this Despatch can reach it. But it is not the less necessary to inform you that I have discussed with the Commissioners, at more than one confidential interview, the objections which they were charged to urge against that withdrawal.

Those objections were fully and forcibly stated, although in a conciliatory spirit, which I am glad to acknowledge, and I endeavoured to place them before my colleagues as clearly as they were laid before me. I regret, however, to say that we find ourselves unable to recall the decision already communicated to you, or to authorize any delay in the departure of the 2-18th Regiment.

On the general grounds stated in my Despatch of the 7th October, Her Majesty's Government have arrived at the conclusion that, except for special reasons, such as a foreign war, or an existing contract, the Queen's Troops should not be stationed in Colonies in which Responsible Government is established.

Although the application of this principle to New Zealand may exert a temporary pressure upon the military and fiscal resources of the Colony, I confidently hope that the spirit and intelligence of its Government and its Legislature will enable them to continue the works which they have well begun for the re-establishment of peace and order on a durable basis.

Governor Sir G. F. Bowen, G.C.M.G.

I have, &c.,
GRANVILLE.