

No. 10.

Mr. J. B. RUSSELL to the Hon. the MINISTER of JUSTICE.

SIR,—

Shortland Street, Auckland, 15th July, 1873.

As the unpleasantness between Mr. Beckham and myself appears to have passed over, and his action towards me now being satisfactory, I beg to say that on receipt of your telegram, in which you refused to give me a copy of the Commissioners' Report, with a desire, as recommended in telegram, to meet Mr. Beckham and "assist to end the ill-feeling," I wrote Mr. Beckham, informing him that I would not have preferred the other charges as substantive, charges but for that of Mr. McLean, and to compel attention. On further consideration of all matters, and hearing of expressions of regret for the past being made by Mr. Beckham, on the 23rd April, and before the apology was made, I offered to accept in lieu of it, the following:—"We are authorized to state that the differences which hitherto existed between Mr. Beckham, R.M., and Mr. J. B. Russell, have been satisfactorily settled, explanations having been made which have cleared up the unpleasantness between them,"—to be announced in the newspapers, which Mr. Beckham declined, I was told, on the ground of duty, or something of that sort. I enclose letter which I sent with the memorandum, and which was returned to me.

I think I may now safely say I have done my part, in accordance with your telegram, "to terminate an unpleasant state of affairs."

The Hon. the Minister of Justice, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

JOHN B. RUSSELL.

Enclosure in No. 10.

Mr. J. B. RUSSELL to Mr. T. BECKHAM.

SIR,—

23rd April, 1873.

The letter of Mr. Lodge, of 22nd instant, is at hand, in which you again express your desire to apologize, and have fixed Thursday, 24th instant, as the day in your own Court.

As this letter in itself implies a retraction of your statements respecting myself in Burgess and McLean, I am satisfied with it as an apology, and beg to relieve you from any further expression.

Thomas Beckham, Esq.,

I have, &c.,

JOHN B. RUSSELL.