

6. I would not have you suppose that I imply that any disposition to disregard the interests of the miners has been evinced by the Provincial Governments in charge of gold fields. On the contrary, I am bound to say that these Governments appear to me to be thoroughly conscious of their gold fields responsibilities. The difficulty in the way of legislation seems rather to be, that the circumstances of the several fields are so different that what may be suitable for one locality creates opposition in others.

7. Whenever a measure relating to any of the subjects referred to in your report is before the House of Representatives, the Government will give to your recommendations very careful consideration ; but I am not able to further assure you respecting the course which they may take.

I have &c.,

Messrs. James Healey, Thomas Sims, and the other  
Members of the Otago Mining Conference.

JULIUS VOGEL.

### No. 3.

*Sent to the Superintendents of Auckland, Marlborough, Nelson, and Westland.*

(A letter to the same effect was addressed to the Superintendent of Otago on 21st April, 1874.)

(Circular No. 15.)

SIR,— Colonial Secretary's Office, Wellington, 14th May, 1874.

I herewith enclose the Bill to amend the Laws relating to the Gold Fields, which lapsed last Session in the House of Representatives.

2. The management of the gold fields, though nominally confided to the Governor, has really, through the system of delegation adopted, vested in the charge of the Superintendents, with more or less assistance from their Provincial Councils and Executives.

3. There is evidence that the conditions which may suit the gold fields in one part of the colony are not necessarily suitable to those in other parts.

4. The Government desire to ask your Honor,—

(1.) Whether, in your opinion, there is that pressing need for legislation on the subject, which makes it necessary or desirable to deal with the matter during the coming Session ; or whether it would be better to defer legislation ?

(2.) Supposing your Honors think legislation during the coming Session desirable, do you approve the Bill under consideration, or in what respect would you advise its amendment ?

I have, &c.,

DANIEL POLLEN.

His Honor the Superintendent.

### No. 4.

His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Marlborough, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,— Blenheim, 27th May, 1874.

In answer to your circular letter of 14th instant, asking me whether, in my opinion, there is that pressing need for legislation on the subject of gold fields as to render it necessary to deal with the matter during the coming Session, I am of opinion that, as regards the Province of Marlborough, no such pressing need for immediate legislative action exists.

I have, &c.,

A. P. SEYMOUR,

Superintendent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Wellington.

### No. 5.

His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Westland, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,— Superintendent's Office, Hokitika, 1st June, 1874.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of circular No. 15, under date the 14th ultimo, forwarding a copy of the Bill to amend the Laws relating to the Gold Fields, which lapsed last Session in the House of Representatives, and asking my opinion as to whether there is "that pressing need for legislation on the subject, which makes it necessary or desirable to deal with the matter during the coming Session."

In reply, I have the honor to state that the Provincial Council is at present sitting, and I will immediately submit the Bill to their consideration, and furnish the Government with an early report of the result.

I have, &c.,

JAMES A. BONAR,

Superintendent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Wellington.