No. 6.

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

Superintendent's Office, Nelson, 24th June, 1874.

SIR,-I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular letter No. 15, of the 14th ultimo, forwarding a copy of the Gold Fields Bill which lapsed last Session in the House of Representatives, and requesting me to state whether, in my 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; and secondly, whether, supposing I think legislation during the coming Session desirable, I approve of the Bill under consideration, or in what respect I would advise its amendment.

I beg to say, in reply, that although I think it highly desirable that the existing Gold Fields Acts should be consolidated, and that some defects in them, the existence of which has been proved in their practical working, should be amended, I do not think there is such pressing need for legislation on the subject as to make it necessary to deal with it during the approaching Session of Parliament.

I have, &c.,

OSWALD CURTIS, Superintendent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Wellington.

No. 7.

His Honor the SUPERINTENDENT, Westland, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY. Superintendent's Office, Hokitika, 19th June, 1874. SIR,-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular No. 15, 14th May, 1874, enclosing a Bill to amend the Laws relating to the Gold Fields, which lapsed last Session in the House of Representatives, and requesting me to inform the Government whether I am of opinion that there is pressing need of legislation during the coming Session, and if so, whether I approve of the Bill enclosed.

In reply, I have the honor to inform you that, having consulted with my Executive, I do not consider there is any pressing need for legislation this year.

I have, &c.,

JAMES A. BONAR, Superintendent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Wellington.

(No reply from Auckland or Otago.)

Price 6d.]

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A.—8.