

for the information of the Earl of Carnarvon, that great difficulties exist in the way of placing a depôt on these islands, as they are all "iron-bound," and, as a rule, inaccessible. Landing anywhere, even under favourable auspices, is precarious. The weather as a rule is extremely boisterous, accompanied with fogs, and there is only one known anchorage in the whole group, and this is a small and open one on the leewardmost island.

2. The group consists of five islands or clusters of islets, the largest of which is about 13 miles in length and 7 in breadth, and they occupy an area included in 35 miles of latitude and 2 degrees of longitude.

3. My Lords desire me here to observe that the "Strathmore" was lost on the northernmost of the group, which appears to be the smallest cluster, so that depôts on any other of the islands would, in the case of that ship, have been wholly useless. To place depôts on each of the islands would therefore appear to be the only solution of the proposal recommended, and to do this would involve much risk and a great outlay of time.

4. Their Lordships further consider that it would be very undesirable to carry out the suggestions made in the communications before referred to, as ships can have no possible excuse for nearing the Crozets when making a passage to Australia or New Zealand, and, if depôts were provided there, it would be tantamount to offering a premium for them to navigate in the neighbourhood. There is abundance of ocean room to the northward of these islands, and in their Lordships' opinion it is a dereliction of duty in any captain going near them, considering the fogs and tempestuous weather that prevail in their neighbourhood, and further, that in the lower latitude of 40 deg. S., or thereabouts, finer and more favourable winds are found.

5. In conclusion, my Lords would remark that, in all the discussion which has been brought about by the lamentable affair of the "Strathmore," the fact that this ship was more than eighty miles out of her reckoning at the time of the wreck appears to have been entirely lost sight of.

I have, &c.,

The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

ROBERT HALL.

No. 9.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Most Hon. the Marquis of NORMANBY to the Right Hon. the Earl of CARNARVON.

(No. 16.)

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 27th April, 1877.

I have the honor to inform you that Her Majesty will not be advised to exercise her power of disallowance with respect to the following Acts of the Legislature of New Zealand, transcripts of which accompanied your Despatch No. 60, of the 13th of December last, viz. :—

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| No. 1. "An Act to amend 'The Disqualification Act, 1870;'" | No. 12. "An Act to enable a Crown Grant to be made to the Trustees appointed by the General Synod of the Church of England of a piece of Land at Waiuku;" |
| No. 2. "An Act to make provision for the office of Deputy Superintendent of the Province of Wellington;" | No. 13. "An Act in Amendment and Supplement of 'The Stewart Island Grants Act, 1873;'" |
| No. 3. "An Act to apply a Sum of Money out of the Public Account to the Service of the Year ending the Thirtieth day of June, One thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven;" | No. 14. "An Act to provide for the Disposal of certain Reserves in the Province of Wellington, and for other purposes;" |
| No. 4. "An Act to make provision for the Management of certain Rivers in the Province of Wellington;" | No. 15. "An Act to apply a Sum of Money out of the Public Account to the Service of the Year ending the Thirtieth day of June, One thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven;" |
| No. 5. "An Act to authorize the Municipal Council of the City of Auckland to raise Money for the purpose of completing the Waterworks for the supply of the City with Water;" | No. 16. "An Act to relieve certain Members of the Executive Council from any penal consequences under 'The Disqualification Act, 1870;'" |
| No. 6. "An Act to authorize the Municipal Council of the incorporated Town of Naseby to raise the Sum of Five Thousand Pounds for the construction or purchase of Waterworks for the supply of the Town of Naseby;" | No. 17. "An Act to amend 'The Stamp Act, 1875;'" |
| No. 7. "An Act to set certain doubts at rest and to validate certain Proclamations of the Superintendent of Otago constituting the Municipalities of South Dunedin and St. Kilda;" | No. 18. "An Act to extend the Currency of certain Treasury Bills;" |
| No. 8. "An Act to amend 'The Census Act, 1858,' and the several Acts amending the same;" | No. 19. "An Act to amend 'The Masterton and Greytown Lands Management Act, 1871;'" |
| No. 9. "An Act to validate a Conveyance from the Superintendent of the Province of Otago to 'The Otago Presbyterian Church Board of Property;'" | No. 20. "An Act to change the Purposes for which certain Reserves were set aside in the City of Dunedin;" |
| No. 10. "An Act to provide for the Sale and Leasing of certain Educational Reserves in the Province of Canterbury;" | No. 21. "An Act to vest portions of certain Public Reserves in the Town of Lyttelton, now vested in the Lyttelton Borough Council, in the Superintendent of the Province of Canterbury;" |
| No. 11. "An Act to make provision for the Management of Rivers in the Province of Hawke's Bay;" | No. 22. "An Act to vest a certain Reserve in the Lawrence Athenæum and Mining Institute, and to provide for leasing the said Reserve;" |
| | No. 23. "An Act to vest certain Lands in the Town of Lawrence in Trustees for the Recreation of the |