

1886.

NEW ZEALAND.

EAST AND WEST COAST AND NELSON (MIDLAND) RAILWAY

(CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

I.—From the Hon. CHAS. C. BOWEN to the Hon. Sir JULIUS VOGEL.

Christchurch, 15th March, 1886.

I HAVE just received telegrams from Scott as follows : Arrangements completed. If Government telegraphs Agent-General affirmatively to following : First, whole selection land to be made forthwith, then set aside for company, they taking possession of land earned in any sequence they desire. Second, Government purchasing price to include cost with interest during construction. Third, mutual running powers upon most favoured basis. Fourth, time for spending 150,000 extended (six months) if necessary. Agent-General telegraphing names. If Agent-General has sent you further information please let me know ; also decision of Government.

II.—From the Hon. Sir JULIUS VOGEL to the AGENT-GENERAL.

Wellington, 15th March.

REPORT on Scott's agreement with syndicate.

III.—From the AGENT-GENERAL to the COLONIAL TREASURER.

15th March.

DELEGATES are not yet position report any definite agreement, but possibly telegraph particulars information necessary to enable the Government to decide to-morrow.

IV.—From the Hon. Sir J. VOGEL to the AGENT-GENERAL.

16th March.

SEE Scott's cablegram. As well as Government understand the concessions asked, they see no objection to them. They desire leave settlement matter with you. If you approve concessions and syndicate, get matter arranged quickly as possible.

V.—From the AGENT-GENERAL to the COLONIAL TREASURER.

17th March.

SCOTT'S negotiations have been with Salt, Deputy Chairman, Lloyds. Barnett's and Hoare, Directors, same bank. Have seen Salt, who says that, when knows whether concessions granted, will decide whether take up contract.

VI.—From the AGENT-GENERAL to the COLONIAL TREASURER.

19th March.

RAILWAY. Bringing matters definite issue. Hope telegraph particulars quickly.

VII.—From the AGENT-GENERAL to the COLONIAL TREASURER.

20th March.

RAILWAY Conference to-day explained what I think necessary. Prospects good. Company adequate. Names capital ; but please keep strictly confidential at present.

VIII.—From the AGENT-GENERAL to the COLONIAL TREASURER.

27th March.

RAILWAY. Seems likely company formed immediately, but continue keep strictly confidential, in case of accident.

IX.—From the Hon Sir J. VOGEL to the AGENT-GENERAL.

29th March.

RAILWAY. Thanks. Important settle soon. Do you approve concessions asked? Briefly say what course is affair taking ; when likely signed, settled, and deposit paid.