

ceremony can be performed, and the fees charged"; and also for a "Return showing the state of the law on divorce in the most important foreign countries and colonies, especially the grounds on which divorce can be obtained, and the cost"; and I have to request that you will move your Ministers to furnish me, at their earliest convenience, with memoranda giving the information desired in these returns, so far as it relates to the colony under your government.

The Officer Administering the Government
of New Zealand.

I have, &c.,
RIPON.

No. 25.

(New Zealand, No. 44.)

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 18th September, 1893.

I duly received the addresses to the Queen from the Legislative Council and the House of Representatives of New Zealand, which accompanied your Despatch No. 27, of the 10th of July last, with reference to the loss of Her Majesty's ship "Victoria."

I have laid these addresses before the Queen, who has commanded me to request that the Council and House of Representatives may be assured of the deep gratification felt by Her Majesty at the spontaneous expression of sympathy expressed in the addresses on the serious loss to Her Majesty and to Her Majesty's naval service occasioned by this disaster.

I have, &c.,
RIPON.

Governor the Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G., &c.

No. 26.

(New Zealand, No. 46.)

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 29th September, 1893.

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that an address to Her Majesty from the Grand Orange Lodge of New Zealand, in connection with the loss of Her Majesty's ship "Victoria," has been received through the Grand Master of the Loyal Orange Institution of England.

I request that the Grand Orange Lodge of New Zealand may be informed, through Messrs. Wilson and Clayton, of Queen Street, Auckland, that their address has been laid before the Queen, who was pleased to command me to convey Her Majesty's appreciation of the sympathy expressed on the occasion of that sad calamity in the first part of their address.

I have, &c.,
RIPON.

Governor the Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G., &c.

No. 27.

(New Zealand, No. 48.)

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 3rd October, 1893.

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of a question which has been put in the House of Commons respecting the state of the graves of British seamen and soldiers at Rangiriri.

I should be obliged if you would obtain a report from your Government on the subject.

I have, &c.,
RIPON.

Governor the Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, G.C.M.G., &c.

Enclosure.

QUESTION No. 18.—Sir John Gorst to ask the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, "Whether it is true that the graves of the British seamen and soldiers who fell at Rangiriri in 1863, in the Maori war, are now in a ruinous and neglected state, and whether he will make a representation on the subject to the New Zealand Government?"

18th September, 1893.