

MESSAGE No. 15.

His Excellency the Officer administering the Government forwards to the House of Representatives, a copy of a Letter with its Enclosures, which has been received from Captain Drury, R.N., of H.M.S. "Pandora," on the subject of a Colonial allowance being granted to the Officers and Crews of H. M. Vessels on this Station ; and his Excellency recommends Captain Drury's application to the favourable consideration of the House.

R. H. WYNYARD.

Government House,
Auckland, 7th September, 1854.

Her Majesty Surveying Vessel "Pandora,"
Auckland, September 1st, 1854.

SIR,—

In justice to the Officers and Crew under my command I wish to bring under the notice of His Excellency the Officer administering the Government—that a sum of money has been granted to the Officers and Crews of every ship on the Australian Station including Her Majesty Surveying Vessel "Herald"—that the Surveying Vessel under my command forming part of the same squadron, and labouring under the same disadvantages of high prices is excepted because her duties are confined to the New Zealand portion of the station.

I have the honor to forward the Sydney "Empire" containing the debate upon the subject and including the scale of pay to be awarded to all other of Her Majesty's Vessel's in these seas, but it appears an amendment to increase that scale was carried.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

BYRON DRURY,

Commander & Surveyor.

The Honorable

The Colonial Secretary, &c., &c., &c.