

To His Excellency Sir GEORGE GREY, Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New Zealand, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

I have the honor to submit herewith for your Excellency's information, a Report of my examination into certain accounts, which were specially referred to in the Commission which your Excellency was pleased to confer on me.

The total amount of the Imperial claim against the Colony is £1,304,963 17s. 1d., of which I have admitted, as may be seen from the Report, the sum of £759,621 14s. 7d.

The total of the counter-claim of the Colony, which I have not examined, owing to the absence of an Imperial Commissioner, amounts to £906,856 15s. 8½d., from which, if the portion of the Imperial claim, which is admitted, be deducted, there will remain a credit due to the Colony of £147,235 1s. 1½d.

Having thus fulfilled, to the best of my ability, and so far as circumstances will admit, the duty entrusted to me; and, seeing no prospect of any immediate examination of the counter-claims of the Colony in concert with an Imperial officer, I beg to resign my Commission into your Excellency's hands.

J. RICHARDSON,
Colonial Commissioner.

Colonial Commissioner's Office,
Wellington, 16th July, 1867.

SIR,—

Wellington, 19th July, 1867.

In accepting the resignation of your office as Commissioner to investigate on the part of the Colony, the claims of the Imperial Government, I beg to express on behalf of the New Zealand Government the sense it entertains of the very efficient manner in which a task requiring no ordinary care and judgment has been discharged by you.

The Hon. Major Richardson, &c.

I have, &c.,
E. W. STAFFORD.