

Enclosure 4 in No. 31.

Mr. G. V. STEWART to the AGENT-GENERAL.

SIR,— New Zealand Office, Customhouse Square, Belfast, 8th March, 1878.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Kennaway's letter of the 5th instant, and regret you should have thought it necessary to incur the expense of a cablegram to New Zealand on the matter referred to, as it is impossible to convey a full explanation within such a necessarily small limit.

As, however, such cablegram is a public document, I should feel obliged by being furnished with a copy thereof, or of such portion as may refer to me.

Your former persistent refusal to assist me, or, rather, "meet my wishes," as desired by the Hon. Mr. Macandrew, had led me to fear your extraordinary decision, as expressed in Mr. Kennaway's letter—viz., "refusing to furnish" me with the names of your Local Agents, who might assist me in filling up the Belfast ship, and thus introduce a superior class of paying emigrants quite outside my special emigration party, which has long since been filled up.

I do not wish to intrude myself or services upon your duties as Agent-General, but the wealth and capital of my present party is such that I was anxious to introduce a body of good artizans and labourers, who, by proceeding at their own expenses, would materially add to the prosperity of the settlement, and consequent advantage to the colony.

However, no matter what loss or delay I may sustain through your unaccountable opposition, I have every confidence that the Government of New Zealand will act towards me both honorably and loyally in the matter.

The Agent-General for New Zealand.

I have, &c.,

GEO. VESEY STEWART.

Enclosure 5 in No. 31.

The SECRETARY, Agent General's Department, to Mr. G. V. STEWART.

SIR,— 7, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., 12th March, 1878.

I am directed by the Agent-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, and, in reply, to inform you that he does not admit that the telegram which he sent to the Government is a public document of such a nature as to entitle you to have a copy of the same.

He has, however, in the present instance, no objection to your being furnished with copies, both of it and also of the reply which the Government have returned to it (copies herewith), by which you will see that the Government will not authorize the Agent-General to give you any guarantee of the nature mentioned in your letter of the 2nd instant.

You will also observe that, in reply to the Agent-General's question as to whether he is to act under the provisions of the agreement in event of your not signing it, the Government desire him to wait until he has received letters from them on the subject.

I have, &c.,

WALTER KENNAWAY.

G. Vesey Stewart, Esq.

Secretary to the Department.

Sub-Enclosure 1 to Enclosure 5 in No. 31.

COPY OF TELEGRAM sent 5th March, 1878, to the Government of New Zealand.

STEWART refuses sign agreement, because no tracing land. Wants me guarantee that land accords exactly with tracing submitted by him to Land Board, Auckland. Shall I? Also if he not sign am I to act under agreement?

Sub-Enclosure 2 to Enclosure 5 in No. 31.

COPY OF REPLY received 11th March, 1878, from the Government of New Zealand.

STEWART—Land substantially same, but guarantee nothing further. Questions wait letters.

Enclosure 6 in No. 31.

Mr. G. V. STEWART to the AGENT-GENERAL.

SIR,— Martray House, Ballygawley, 20th March, 1878.

I have received Mr. Kennaway's letter dated 12th instant, enclosing copy of your telegram and reply from the Government of New Zealand.

I should feel obliged by your forwarding to me copies of any further instructions you may receive from the Government relating to my special settlement.

I have, &c.

The Agent-General for New Zealand.

GEO. VESEY STEWART.

Enclosure 7 in No. 31.

Mr. S. COCHRANE to the AGENT-GENERAL.

SIR,— 25th March, 1878.

Referring to your instructions respecting the obtaining Mr. Stewart's signature to the agreement forwarded by you, I beg to inform you that Mr. Stewart declines to execute the same, there being no map or plan of the property attached thereto; but is prepared to do so when there is such a map or plan. I will forward the deed to you in due course.

I have, &c.

SAMUEL COCHRANE.