"Eighth. Please urge your Government to arrange with Cable Company for "word rate after April first. Company willing, but Government must take "initiative. Telegraph result.—Secretary State. London, 18th."

I have, &c.,

HERCULES ROBINSON.

The Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks Beach, &c.

No. 81.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir Hercules Robinson, G.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks Beach.

(No. 13.)

Government House, Wellington,

New Zealand, 24th March, 1880.

In accordance with instructions to that effect contained in circulars from the Colonial Office of 5th December, 1877, and 13th September, 1878, I have the honor to forward you a "Return of Armed Land Forces," exclusive of regular troops, in New Zealand, made up to 31st December, 1879.

I have, &c.,

HERCULES ROBINSON.

The Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks Beach, &c.