

I trust the Government may be pleased to write direct to Sir James Maitland in acknowledgment of the immense pains he has taken throughout; and it would be a great pleasure to myself if you would allow me to procure a suitable piece of plate for presentation to him in recognition of the great services he has done to the colony.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

F. D. BELL.

No. 16.

MEMORANDUM from the AGENT-GENERAL to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

7, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., 28th January, 1886.

SALMON OVA.—Herewith I transmit copy of correspondence giving the conditions under which I have engaged Mr. F. W. Paxton to proceed in the "Ionic" in charge of the shipment of salmon ova by that steamer.

F. D. BELL.

MEMORANDUM from the AGENT-GENERAL to Mr. FRANK PAXTON.

7, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., January, 1886.

REFERRING to our interview of to-day, I have to inform you that the Agent-General is prepared to engage you to proceed in the steamer "Ionic" in charge of the salmon ova which he is sending out by that vessel for the New Zealand Government. In consideration of this service the Agent-General will provide you with a third-class passage by the "Ionic," and a gratuity of £5 will be paid to you by the Government of New Zealand provided the ova is successfully landed and you have performed your duties in connection therewith to the satisfaction of the Government. You will receive instructions as to your duties before you leave. You must understand that if you return to England you will have to provide for your own passage thereto.

W. KENNAWAY, Secretary.

Mr. F. W. PAXTON to Mr. W. KENNAWAY.

11, St. George Place, Northampton, 23rd January, 1886.

SIR,—In compliance with your wish, I write to say I am willing to undertake the office placed before me, and you may rely upon my doing my duty as far as lies in my power.

I have, &c.,

Mr. W. Kennaway.

FRANCIS WILLIAM PAXTON.

MEMORANDUM from the AGENT-GENERAL to Mr. F. W. PAXTON.

7, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., 27th January, 1886.

WILL you be so good as to deliver to Dr. Posnett, who will give this to you, the key of the ice-house, applying to him for it whenever it is required for supplying ice, &c. You will be pleased also to attend to Dr. Posnett's instructions in respect to the shipment of ova.

W. KENNAWAY, Secretary.

MEMORANDUM from the AGENT-GENERAL to Mr. F. W. PAXTON.

28th January, 1886.

SALMON OVA.—Herewith I enclose copy of instructions respecting the management of salmon ova during the voyage. A copy of the same has also been forwarded to Dr. Posnett. I have to add that your contract-ticket, which I handed to you on Wednesday, provides for your passage to Otago, the last port to which the "Ionic" goes: you will therefore remain on board in charge of the salmon ova until you are relieved by the representative of the Government in the colony, and receive his permission to leave the vessel.

W. KENNAWAY, Secretary.

SALMON-OVA REFRIGERATOR.

DESCRIPTION.—First, the ova refrigerating-chamber (lettered A) consists of an outer refrigerating-wall, and inside of the chamber provision is made for containing ice, which is here called the ice-well, fitted with doors (marked B). The remaining space of chamber (marked C) contains eight cases, containing the salmon eggs (marked D). Below the ice-chamber is a well to receive melted ice (marked E), fitted with draw-off tap (marked F).

Instructions.—It will be necessary for the attendant in charge to examine the ice-well (B) before the commencement of the voyage, to ascertain that it is full of pulverized ice. If not full, he must have it filled. Afterwards he will have to keep it filled, taking care to close all the lids or doors. The ice-water must be drawn off at least once a day from the well marked E, taking care to turn off the tap (F). The boxes containing the salmon eggs (marked D) will have to be very carefully drawn out by the rope handle about 9in., up to where the lid can be opened, and the tray filled with pulverized ice. As each tray is filled, the box is to be pushed back into its place, taking great care not to give it any shock. The time for filling the ice-well (marked B), and also the trays of the boxes containing the ova (marked D), will be best defined by careful watching of the state of the ice. Probably the ice will not require to be replenished—except in the tropics—oftener than every four or five days. Great care must be taken to keep the room containing the refrigerating-chamber securely locked up; and on no account is any one to be allowed to interfere with the attendant, or to examine the ova-boxes or their contents. Dr. Posnett will keep the key of the chamber, and be present at the periodical filling-up of the ice in the trays.

WALTER KENNAWAY, Secretary.