

designer under the terms of the invitations for designs. The Building Committee, with the consent and approval of the Board, agreed to take in Mr. Toxward.

283. What engagements have you entered into in connection with what is going on now?—The Building Committee “Resolved that Mr. Fisher interview Messrs. Charlesworth and Toxward, with the view of bringing about an arrangement whereby the Board would secure the services of both these gentlemen in the construction of the head office building.” On 15th March the Building Committee reported as follows to the Board: “(1) Committee has arranged with Messrs. Charlesworth and Toxward to carry out the new building; (2) Recommend, so soon as necessary revision of design is completed, Committee be empowered to instruct Messrs. Toxward and Charlesworth to prepare, without delay, working plans and specifications for head office buildings, and that tenders be at once called for erection of building, or such portion of it as Board may decide to erect; (3) Recommend also that, in revision of design, the Public Trustee, the Lands and Survey Department, and any other Government department which may require accommodation be consulted in regard to their respective requirements, and that an agreement to lease be entered into with those departments before tenders for the erection of the buildings are called for.” These recommendations of the Building Committee were on the 18th May. That was the report of the Building Committee submitted to the Board, and which the Board approved.

284. *Mr. Holmes.*] Was there any special agreement made with these architects?—Yes.

285. *Mr. Stewart.*] Can you speak from memory as to what it was?—Five per cent. was agreed to.

286. Was there anything extra through Toxward being introduced?—No. The following is the arrangement which was arrived at: “At a meeting of the Building Committee held on the 15th March—present, Messrs. Fisher (Chairman), Shannon, Graham, and Reid—the subject of the commission to be paid to the architects employed to superintend the construction of the new buildings for head office was considered, and it was resolved that the commission to be paid them be at the usual professional rate of 5 per cent. on the total outlay, and that the Manager inform the architects accordingly. Also resolved, That Messrs. Toxward and Charlesworth be informed that the Board will employ a clerk of works.”

287. *The Chairman.*] Where is your letter to the architects?—This is the letter I received from Messrs. Toxward and Charlesworth:—

GENTLEMEN,—

We, the undersigned Christian Julius Toxward and Joshua Charlesworth, architects, have agreed jointly to carry out the erection of the proposed new buildings as architects for the above association after the prize design prepared by Mr. Joshua Charlesworth, subject to such alterations, &c., as the Board may desire, or as the architects may deem expedient.

The Board of the New Zealand Government
Life Insurance Association.

Wellington, 15th March, 1886.

We have, &c.,
C. JULIUS TOXWARD,
JOSHUA CHARLESWORTH, } Architects.

This is my letter in reply:—

GENTLEMEN,—

New Zealand Government Life Insurance Association, Wellington, 15th March, 1886.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, addressed to the Board of this Association, intimating that you had agreed jointly to carry out the erection of the proposed new building for this association in Wellington. This letter was duly laid before my directors, by whom I am instructed to inform you that they have appointed you architects for carrying out the said building, subject to arrangement as to the terms of commission to be paid by the Board.

C. Julius Toxward, Esq., and Joshua Charlesworth, Esq.,
Architects, Wellington.

I have, &c.,
D. M. LUCKIE,
General Manager.

288. Where have you named the terms of commission?—This letter was sent to Messrs. Toxward and Charlesworth:—

GENTLEMEN,—

New Zealand Government Life Insurance Association, Wellington, 16th March, 1886.

With reference to my letter to you of yesterday, notifying that the Board had appointed you architects jointly to carry out the new buildings of this association in Wellington, I have now the pleasure to inform you that the architects' commission to be paid by the Board will be at the usual professional rate of 5 per cent. on the total outlay. I have also to notify that during the progress of the building the Board will employ a clerk of works.

I shall be glad to receive an acknowledgment of this letter and also that of yesterday's date referred to herein.

C. Julius Toxward, Esq., and Joshua Charlesworth, Esq.,
Architects, Wellington.

I have, &c.,
D. M. LUCKIE,
General Manager.

SIR,—

Wellington, 16th March, 1886.

We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your yesterday's letter, appointing us architects to carry out the erection of the Government Life Insurance Association building in this city, and also that of this day's date, stating that the Board have fixed the architects' commission at the usual rate of five per centum (5%) on the total outlay, and, further, that the Board will employ a clerk of works.

In reply, we have much pleasure to accept the appointment and commission mentioned in the above letters.

D. M. Luckie, Esq., General Manager,
Government Life Insurance Association, New Zealand.

We have, &c.,
C. JULIUS TOXWARD,
JOSHUA CHARLESWORTH, } Architects.

289. *Mr. Macandrew.*] In the event of the building not being proceeded with, what would be their claim?—I do not know sufficient of the professional practice on the subject.

290. That contingency has not been contemplated by the Board?—No.

291. *The Chairman.*] Will you produce your report on the working of the institution?

Witness read the following statement:—

New Zealand Government Life Insurance Association,
Head Office, Wellington, 21st June, 1886.

In accordance with the request of the Committee, I respectfully supply a narrative of the history and working of the Insurance Office, its mode of doing business, its progress, funds, and expenses of management, both before and subsequent to the establishment of the Board under which it is now administered.

The department was established by Act in 1869, an amending Act was passed in 1870, and