

Hon. R. J. Seddon, Wellington.

Te Aute, 20th December, 1899.

ENTIRELY coincide with Government that a further contingent should be sent to the Transvaal; in this opinion I but re-echo the voice of the whole of my constituency. Many promising young men here—Volunteers—have already offered their services, and are keen to fight for the old flag and have *utu* for their brother's blood; regret proposed contingent is not larger.

ALFRED L. D. FRASER.

SIR,—

Wellington, 20th December, 1899.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegraphic memo. of 19th December. I am strongly of opinion that a second contingent of mounted infantry should be sent with utmost despatch from New Zealand to South Africa, and also that the offer of the Armstrong-Elswick Company with its attendant responsibilities should be accepted.

I have, &c.,

Rt. Hon. the Premier, Wellington.

WM. FRASER, M.H.R.

The Premier, Wellington.

Invercargill, 21st December, 1899.

I CONSIDER gravity of situation in Transvaal, the reverses that British forces have sustained, and the consequent jubilant tone Continental Press necessitate vigorous prosecution of war. Government's proposals meet approval in view of what other colonies are doing.

M. GILFEDDER.

SIR,—

Wellington, 19th December, 1899.

*Re* a second New Zealand contingent for South Africa: In reply to your telegram hereon, which I received on my arrival by s.s. "Rotorua" this morning at Wellington, it having been readdressed to me from Nelson, my answer is Yes. I unreservedly agree to the proposal, and I trust that, irrespective of persons, every care will be taken to send only first-class shots who are also good horsemen.

I also cordially approve of the offer of four Hotchkiss machine-guns by the Armstrong-Elswick Company being promptly accepted, and provision being made to forward the necessary equipment of horses and men to work them—the best the colony can supply.

I should also be glad if the colony were to send a shipment of good and suitable horses as a gift from the colonists to our Mother-country for service in the arduous work now being carried on in South Africa.

Yours faithfully,

Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon, Premier.

JOHN GRAHAM, Member for Nelson.

Rt. Hon. Premier, Wellington.

Kumara, 20th December, 1899.

I ENTIRELY approve of the decisions of the Government to send a second contingent to the Transvaal, and also to supply the horses and men required for the Hotchkiss guns offered by the Armstrong-Elswick Company.

A. R. GUINNESS.

Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon, Wellington.

Woodville, 20th December, 1899.

IN reply to your telegram *re* forces for Transvaal. Our duty to the Mother-country, the unity of the Empire, and the immense importance and unbounded benefit to New Zealand of the maintenance of British rule in South Africa, demand that a second contingent should be sent, and that quickly. The offer of the Armstrong-Elswick Company should also be accepted.

CHARLES HALL, M.H.R.

Rt. Hon. Mr. Seddon, Wellington.

Invercargill, 20th December, 1899.

RECEIVED telegram *re* Transvaal contingent. I warmly support Government proposal herein.

J. A. HANAN.

Rt. Hon. the Premier, Wellington.

Christchurch, 20th December, 1899.

APPROVE of second contingent being sent by colony and acceptance of Armstrong-Elswick offer.

C. A. C. HARDY.

Premier, Wellington.

Te Aroha, 20th December, 1899.

YES to both questions.

W. H. HERRIES.

Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon, Wellington.

Masterton, 20th December, 1899.

AM prepared to waive any objection to reception of Hotchkiss gun, but am not in favour of sending further contingents.

A. W. HOAG.

Rt. Hon. the Premier, Wellington.

Carterton, 20th December, 1899.

MY earnest opinion is that a contingent similar to the first should be equipped and despatched at earliest possible moment. It is not enough that New Zealand should merely send forty horses and thirty men—this is a moment when every true son of the Empire should stand firm and be prepared to uphold Britain's honours. By all means let us have another contingent, and I know our boys will be ready to go. Thank you much for the information sent. Try to send the contingent at whatever cost. There is unexampled prosperity in the colony. We shall not be crippled by the cost, and no injustice will be done to colonists.

J. T. M. HORNSBY.