

No. 99.

New Zealand, No. 210.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 3rd December, 1909.

With reference to my despatch No. 144, of the 16th July, I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of your Ministers, the enclosed copy of a despatch addressed to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs by His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, stating that the French Ambassador at Madrid has been instructed to concert with His Majesty's representative at that Court, with a view to approaching the King of Spain in regard to the appointment of a President and a Public Prosecutor for the Joint Court in the New Hebrides.

His Majesty's Government are instructing the British representative at Madrid accordingly.

I have, &c.,

CREWE.

Governor, the Right Hon. Lord Plunket, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., &c.

Enclosures.

No. 460.

SIR,—

Paris, 25th November, 1909.

With reference to my despatch No. 427, of the 30th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith copy of a note from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs stating that the Minister of the Colonies has expressed the opinion that, as the buildings necessary for the accommodation of the New Hebrides Joint Court are now finished, there is no objection to approaching the King of Spain forthwith with a view to the nomination by His Majesty of a President and Public Prosecutor for the Court. The French Ambassador at Madrid has accordingly been instructed to concert with His Majesty's representative on the subject.

M. Pichon adds that, according to information received by the Ministry of the Colonies, it would be desirable that the officials in question should start for the New Hebrides in the month of February next at latest.

I have, &c.,

The Right Hon. Sir Edward Grey, Bart., M.P., &c.

FRANCIS BERTIE.

M. PICHON to Sir F. BERTIE.

MONSIEUR L'AMBAassadeUR,—

Paris, le 22 Novembre, 1909.

A la date du 5 Octobre, Votre Excellence a bien voulu m'exprimer le désir de savoir si le gouvernement de la République était prêt à faire auprès de Sa Majesté le Roi d'Espagne, de concert avec le gouvernement britannique, la démarche prévue par la convention du 20 Octobre, 1906, en vue de provoquer la désignation du président et du procureur public de la Cour mixte des Nouvelles-Hébrides.

M. le Ministre des colonies, que j'ai consulté à ce sujet, vient de me mander que, les installations destinées au tribunal mixte étant terminées, il n'a pas d'objection à ce que la démarche dont il s'agit soit immédiatement effectuée.

En conséquence j'invite l'ambassadeur de la République à Madrid à s'entendre avec le représentant de Sa Majesté Britannique à l'effet de solliciter la désignation des deux magistrats. D'après les informations du Pavillon de Flore il est désirable que ces magistrats puissent se mettre en route pour les Nouvelles-Hébrides dans le courant du mois de Février prochain au plus tard.

Agréez, &c.,

S. PICHON.

No. 100.

New Zealand, No. 212.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 3rd December, 1909.

I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of your Ministers, three copies of an Act which has been passed by the Imperial Parliament to make better provision respecting naval establishments in British possessions.

I also enclose a copy of the explanatory memorandum, which was attached to the Bill as originally introduced.

I have, &c.,

CREWE.

Governor, the Right Hon. Lord Plunket, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., &c.