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No. 1

New Zealand, No. 127.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 18th March, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 579, of the 18th December, and to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, copies of a Convention between the United Kingdom and Switzerland providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise between the two Governments, the ratifications of which were exchanged on the 3rd February.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

No. 2

New Zealand, No. 129.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 19th March, 1915.

With reference to my despatch, No. 100, of the 2nd March, I have the honour to transmit to Your Excellency, for the information of your Ministers, a copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Consul at Colon, with one copy of the handbook respecting the Panama Canal described therein. It is expected that a new edition of the handbook will shortly be issued, and His Majesty's Consul at Colon will be asked to send to you direct copies of this handbook, and of the regulations, circulars, &c., which may be issued in the future.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

SIR,—

British Consulate, Colon, 9th January, 1915.

I have the honour to forward, under separate cover, fifteen copies of a recently issued official handbook of general information concerning the Panama Canal, which contains in a concise form all information which it is thought will be required by shipping using the canal. Copies have been sent direct to most of the large British steamship lines.

The Executive Secretary of the Panama Canal is willing to send copies of this handbook to Government Departments and officials in the United Kingdom and the British Dominions, and to keep a record of their addresses for the supply to them of regulations, circulars, and other printed matter which may be issued in the future. I therefore suggest that comprehensive