

necessary. I propose therefore to submit a Bill, for the purpose of conferring such powers, to the General Assembly in the ensuing Session.

I have &c.,
(Signed) E. W. STAFFORD.

His Honor
The Superintendent, Canterbury.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 5th May, 1858.

SIR,—

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Honor's letter, No. 44, of the 26th March last, transmitting a copy of the "Dog Registration Ordinance, 1858," passed by the Provincial Council of New Plymouth, and assented to by your Honor on behalf of His Excellency the Governor.

In my letter No. 468, of the 28th September last, notifying the disallowance of the "Dog Registration Ordinance, 1857," passed by the Provincial Council of New Plymouth, I fully explained to your Honor the objectionable nature of its provisions, under which dogs belonging to Natives would be liable to be destroyed; and the dangerous consequences to the peace of the Province which might ensue therefrom. I at the same time suggested a mode, in any future Ordinance of this kind, of obviating the objections to the measure in question.

I cannot, however, find, in the present Ordinance, any modification to that effect. It is applicable to all the Natives throughout the Province of New Plymouth;—a very questionable point of policy at the present time. It professes to subject the Natives to conditions, which there is no reasonable probability that the Provincial Government would be able to enforce. Under its provisions, not only are unregistered Dogs belonging to Natives, when found on occupied land, liable to destruction; but Natives who have Dogs at their Pas, though they may never bring them on purchased Blocks, are subject to a fine, if they do not register their Dogs.

Under these circumstances, the Governor has been advised to disallow this Ordinance; and His Excellency has been pleased to disallow it accordingly.

I have &c.,
(Signed) E. W. STAFFORD.

His Honor
The Superintendent, New Plymouth.