

With regard to the establishment of an Australasian Court of Appeal, I presume that no one would think it desirable to take away the final appeal to Her Majesty in Council. The only means which can be contemplated must, I apprehend, be the establishment of a General Court of Appeal, either in addition to or in substitution for such Courts of Appeal as already exist in the several colonies. At present I confess it appears to me that litigants in our Courts would not be benefited by such a measure, and that the advancement of the science of jurisprudence in these Colonies (which might be one end of the measure), would not be so greatly promoted as to compensate for the necessary expense of time and money which must be incurred.

Another important subject is the question whether barristers and solicitors of each of the Australasian Colonies should be admissible, *ad eundem*, in all the other Colonies of the group. I see no objection to such a measure, provided it be settled that the terms of original admission in each Colony shall be the same. In any case, I am strongly inclined to think that, on a special retainer, the barristers of any of the superior Courts of Australasia should have audience in the Courts of all the Colonies.

I forward these imperfect suggestions for your consideration, feeling, as I have already said, my own inability to advise the Government satisfactorily on the various questions raised without the aid of full and careful discussion—feeling moreover that these questions may involve wide political considerations, and probably ought not to be answered from a merely juridical point of view.

I have, &c.,

C. W. RICHMOND.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

No. 28.

The Hon. Sir R. DRY to the Hon. E. W. STAFFORD.

SIR,—

Tasmania, Colonial Secretary's Office, 7th May, 1869.

Referring to previous correspondence which has taken place, with a view to the meeting in Sydney of delegates from the Australian Colonies and New Zealand, to consider the subjects of Free Trade, &c., I have now the honor to forward herewith copy of a communication which I addressed to the Colonial Secretary of New South Wales relative thereto.

I have, &c.,

RICHARD DRY.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Wellington.

Enclosure in No. 28.

The Hon. T. D. CHAPMAN to the Hon. J. ROBERTSON.

SIR,—

Tasmania, Colonial Secretary's Office, 26th April, 1869.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, suggesting that the proposed meeting of the delegates should take place at Sydney, during the second week in June next.

In reply, I desire to say that this Government will be prepared to send a delegate to Sydney at the proposed time, should your suggestion be finally adopted by the other Colonies interested.

I have, &c.,

T. D. CHAPMAN.

No. 29.

The Hon. J. ROBERTSON to the Hon. E. W. STAFFORD.

SIR,—

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Sydney, New South Wales, 29th May, 1869.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, respecting the time and place of the meeting of the proposed conference of delegates from the various Australasian Colonies, and stating that the New Zealand delegates could not, owing to the requirement of their presence in Parliament, conveniently attend any conference held before the 1st of October next.

2. Under these circumstances I have the honor to state that the only course open in the matter appears to be to hold the conference here in October next; and to that effect I have accordingly apprised the Governments of the other Australian Colonies.

I have, &c.,

JOHN ROBERTSON.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, New Zealand.

No. 30.

Mr. W. DARLING to the Hon. E. W. STAFFORD.

SIR,—

Dunedin, 5th June, 1869.

I take the liberty of addressing you to solicit your attention to the advisability of the Government entering into some arrangement with the United States Government for the free admission of New Zealand wool into that country.

I am aware that, last Session, such a measure was proposed in the Assembly, to be undertaken in conjunction with the other Australian Colonies, but I do not know if any action has been taken in the matter.

The necessity for such a measure has been forcibly brought under my notice, as I am a buyer of wool on American account, and could afford to pay from five to twenty per cent. (according to descrip-