

not be without effect in other districts; and I trust it will prove another evidence of the change of feeling which I believe is certainly, though slowly, taking place among them.

14. I have further to inform your Lordship that, on Monday, the 25th of March, I proceeded by railroad to the Waikato. The railroad is now open to Hamilton, the principal town in the district, eighty-four miles from Auckland.

15. On my arrival at Hamilton, I was received by the Mayor and Corporation, and a large number of the inhabitants. The Town of Hamilton is small, and the district is a purely agricultural one, and the population is scattered; the numbers therefore present were of course much smaller than at the Thames, but the loyal feelings expressed towards Her Majesty, and the cordiality of my reception as Her Representative, were equally warm and hearty. In the evening I was entertained at a public dinner, and on the following morning I proceeded by road to Cambridge, where I inspected a large troop of Volunteer Cavalry. The troop is 131 strong. They are upon the whole very well mounted, and are well drilled, and in the event of any unfortunate disturbance with the King Natives would prove a most valuable force, as it is composed entirely of settlers in the district, who know the whole of the country thoroughly. After the inspection was over, I drove round a large portion of the settled district to Ohaupo. This district has had great difficulties to contend against, in consequence of the Native troubles; but it is most satisfactory now to see the progress that is taking place. The soil appeared to me to be generally speaking of too light a description; but I saw some very good farms, where grass and root crops were growing well. Wheat, also, I understand grows well, and I am informed that before the war the Natives used to raise large quantities of wheat in the district. From Ohaupo I returned to Hamilton by railroad. This portion of the line, ten miles in length, is not yet opened for traffic, but it will be so next week. It is intended that this line should ultimately connect with the lines at New Plymouth and from thence to Wellington. A further section from Ohaupo to Te Awamutu, which is close upon the borders of the King country, will be constructed at once, but beyond that point it will be necessary to wait until some arrangement has been come to with the King Natives. On the following day I returned to Auckland.

I have, &c.,

NORMANBY.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon.

No. 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Most Hon. the Marquis of NORMANBY to the Right Hon. Sir M. E. HICKS BEACH.

(No. 15.)

Government House, Auckland,

SIR,—

New Zealand, 20th April, 1878.

In reply to your predecessor's circular despatch, dated 4th December, 1877, respecting the International Telegraph Convention, and the copy of the proceedings of the Convention held at St. Petersburg, I have been requested by my Government to inform you that New Zealand adheres to the Convention, and desires to be represented at the meeting proposed to be held in London during July next. The Agent-General has been instructed to be ready to act as the representative of this colony at the meeting.

I have, &c.,

NORMANBY.

The Right Hon. Sir M. E. Hicks Beach.

No. 13.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor the Most Hon. the Marquis of NORMANBY to the Right Hon. Sir M. E. HICKS BEACH.

(No. 18.)

Government House, Wellington,

SIR,—

New Zealand, 22nd May, 1878.

I have the honor to enclose a copy of a memorandum which has been forwarded to me by Sir George Grey, in which he takes exception to the rule laid