No. 81.

The LOAN AGENTS to the COLONIAL TREASURER.

7. Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., 21st January, 1880. SIR,-With reference to our letter of the 16th instant (duplicate herewith), in which are enumerated the bills drawn by the Government on the Crown Agents for the Colonies, we have the honor to state that the last amount, £175,000, represents two bills—one for £100,000, due 26th February, 1880; one for £75,000, due 22nd March, 1880.

We have, &c., JULIUS VOGEL. M. F. OMMANNEY, Loan Agents.

The Hon, the Colonial Treasurer, Wellington.

No. 82.

The LOAN AGENTS to the COLONIAL TREASURER.

7, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., 29th January, 1880. We have the honor to state that we have furnished the Crown Agents for the Colonies with SIR,funds to retire their acceptances on behalf of the Government of New Zealand, for the following amounts:—£100,000, due 26th January, 1880; £100,000, due 24th February, 1880; £75,000, due 22nd March, 1880. We have, &c.,

JULIUS VOGEL. M. F. OMMANNEY, Loan Agents.

The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer, Wellington.

No. 83.

The MANAGING DIRECTOR, Bank of New Zealand, London, to the Colonial Treasurer. Bank of New Zealand, London, 29th January, 1880.

SIR,-With reference to my letter of the 1st instant, I beg leave to advise that we have since honored the following orders for payment, bearing the signatures of two Commissioners under the provisions of "The Public Revenues Act, 1878," viz.:—No. 2, dated 12th instant, paid 15th, £154,000; No. 3, dated 16th instant, paid 19th, £95,000; No. 4, dated 16th instant, paid 25th, £25,000.

The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer, Wellington, New Zealand.

I have, &c., F. LARKWORTHY, Managing Director.

No. 84.

The Crown Agents to the Colonial Treasurer.

Downing Street, London, 29th January, 1880. SIR,-With reference to our acceptance of the bills of your Government detailed in the margin, I have to inform you that on the 24th instant we were enabled, by means of funds placed at our disposal by the Loan Agents, to retire these bills under rebate.

We were glad to be able to adopt this course, because, as regards the bill for £100,000 due on the 26th instant, and those for £75,000 due on the 22nd March next, the bank warrants which were intended to provide for their being met from the Public Account at the Bank of New Zealand, were dated, in the former case one day, and in the latter two days, after the dates on which the bills matured.

We take this opportunity of calling your attention to the serious inconvenience to which we are exposed by the present system of dating these warrants. If the mail happens to arrive a day or two sooner than is anticipated, the bills mature before the warrants are available; and, as the Bank of New Zealand does not feel justified in anticipating payments, the provision of funds to meet your bills may involve us in considerable difficulty.

We would suggest that in future the warrants should bear a date at least a week earlier than that on which it is calculated that the bills will become due. This course will expose your Government to no loss of interest, because we should adhere to our present practice, and not present the warrants I have, &c. until the bills matured.

The Hon. the Treasurer, New Zealand.

M. F. Ommanney.

No. 85.

The Colonial Treasurer to the Crown Agents.

Wellington, 25th March, 1880. GENTLEMEN,-I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 29th January last, advising that, by means of funds placed at your disposal by the Loan Agents, you had retired the bills detailed in the margin, and calling attention to the serious inconveniences to which you are exposed by the present system of dating the warrants for the payment of bills drawn upon you.

In accordance with your suggestion, these warrants will in future bear a date for payment at

least a week earlier than that on which it is calculated that the bills will become due.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, London.

H. A. ATKINSON.