

1887.  
NEW ZEALAND.

# FEDERATION AND ANNEXATION

(FURTHER PAPERS RELATING TO RÉCIDIVISTES).

[In continuation of A.—6, 1886.]

*Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.*

## No. 1.

The AGENT-GENERAL to the PREMIER.

SIR,—

7, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., 9th September, 1886.

I transmit to you herewith copy of a letter I have received from the Colonial Office, covering copy of a despatch from Lord Lyons, giving an account of a conversation with M. de Freycinet respecting the French *récidivistes*.

I also transmit a *Times* report of a question put to the Secretary of State in the House of Commons a few nights ago respecting the New Hebrides, and of Mr. Stanhope's reply.

The designation of the Isle of Pines as a place for "collective relegation" under the *récidivist* law took place by a decree of the President of the Republic on the 20th August, upon a report from the Minister of Marine and Colonies. That report, after reciting the fact of yellow fever continuing to prevent any *récidivistes* being sent to French Guiana, stated that as there were reasons for applying the law without further delay, he proposed to designate the Isle of Pines for the purpose of "receiving a certain number," without specifying any particular number; and the President's decree simply declares that "the Isle of Pines, a dependency of New Caledonia, is designated for receiving the *relégués collectifs*."

The Hon. the Premier, Wellington.

I have, &c.,

F. D. BELL.

## Enclosure 1.

The COLONIAL OFFICE to the AGENT-GENERAL.

SIR,—

Colonial Office, Downing Street, 31st August, 1886.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Stanhope to transmit to you copy of a despatch from Viscount Lyons to the Earl of Rosebery, reporting a conversation which he had held with M. de Freycinet respecting the despatch of French *récidivistes* to New Caledonia.

A copy of this despatch will be duly communicated by this department to the Governors of the Australasian Colonies by the earliest opportunity.

The Agent-General for New Zealand.

I have, &c.,

ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

## Sub-Enclosure.

Viscount LYONS to Lord ROSEBERY.

MY LORD,—

Paris, 12th July, 1886.

With reference to your Lordship's Despatch No. 475, of the 7th instant, and to your telegram No. 79, of the 10th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I spoke to Mons. de Freycinet this morning of the statements that have appeared in the newspapers to the effect that batches of relapsed criminals (*récidivistes*), or of ordinary convicts, had been, or were about to be, despatched to New Caledonia. I reminded Monsieur de Freycinet of the earnest representations on the subject of the transportation of criminals to the Pacific Islands, which I had so often made to the French Government. I said that the feeling on the subject in the British Australasian Colonies was as intense as ever, and that no diminution had taken place in the objections to deportation to the Pacific Islands entertained by those colonies and by Her Majesty's Government.

Monsieur de Freycinet neither contradicted the statements in the newspapers nor consented to give any assurances for the future. By the *Règlement d'Administration Publique*, of the 26th November last, New Caledonia and its dependencies were, he said, designated as places to which *récidivistes* might be relegated, and events had occurred which rendered it very important that

recourse should be had to them for the purpose. He had made to Her Majesty's Government a proposal which, if it had been accepted, would have put an end altogether to the transportation of French criminals to the Pacific. He had, in deference to your Lordship's views, consented to postpone the despatch of criminals to New Caledonia until your Lordship should have had time to communicate with the Australian Colonies respecting his proposals. This was in March last, the proposal had not been accepted, and he could not interfere further with the regular execution of the laws and regulations by the departments concerned.

I did not conceal the regret I felt at this language, but finding, after some further discussion, that I could not obtain anything more satisfactory, I concluded by saying that it remained for me, in obedience to instructions which I had received from your Lordship, to make a fresh protest on behalf of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.,  
LYONS.

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### Enclosure 2.

[Extract from the *Times*, Friday, 3rd September, 1886.]

#### THE NEW HEBRIDES.

IN answer to Sir S. Wilson, Mr. E. STANHOPE said,—The action of the French officials in the New Hebrides has for some time been under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, and representations have been made to the French Government which, as we trust, will speedily place matters upon a satisfactory footing. The negotiations, however, not being yet completed, it would not be possible to lay on the table at the present moment any of the correspondence relating to this subject.

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### No. 2.

The AGENT-GENERAL to the PREMIER.

SIR,— 7, Westminster Chambers, London, S.W., 16th September, 1886.

No. 1. In continuation of my letter of the 9th instant, No. 1107, I transmit to you herewith copy of a letter I have received from the Colonial Office, covering a despatch from Her Majesty's Embassy at Paris to the Foreign Office, relating to the decree issued by the President of the French Republic designating the Isle of Pines as a place for the "collective relegation" of *récidivistes*.

I have, &c.,  
F. D. BELL.

The Hon. the Premier, Wellington.

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### Enclosure 1.

The COLONIAL OFFICE to the AGENT-GENERAL.

SIR,— Colonial Office, Downing Street, 15th September, 1886.

With reference to previous correspondence I am directed by Mr. Secretary Stanhope to transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a letter with its enclosure from the Foreign Office relative to the selection of the Island of Pines by the French Government as a settlement for relapsed criminals. Copies of these papers have been forwarded to the Governors of the Australasian Colonies.

I have, &c.,  
JOHN BRAMSTON.

The Agent-General for New Zealand.

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### Sub-Enclosure.

The FOREIGN OFFICE to the COLONIAL OFFICE.

SIR,— Foreign Office, 4th September, 1886.

I am directed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a copy of a despatch relating to the selection of the Island of Pines by the French Government as a settlement for relapsed criminals.

I have, &c.,  
P. W. CURRIE.

The Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

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### Enclosure 2.

MY LORD,—

Paris, 31st August, 1886.

With reference to Lord Lyons' Despatch No. 304 of 11th June, I have the honour to enclose herewith to your Lordship a decree signed by the President on the 20th instant, which has appeared in to-day's *Journal Officiel*, appointing the Island of Pines, a dependency of New Caledonia, as a settlement for relapsed criminals.

The decree is preceded by a communication from the Minister of Marine explaining that, in accordance with the Law of 27th May, 1885, for the collocation of *récidivistes* in Guyana, and, if required, in New Caledonia, the Island of Pines, a dependency of the latter, has been selected for the purpose, it having been considered unadvisable, on account of an outbreak of yellow-fever last September, to make the settlement in Guyana.

I have, &c.,  
E. H. EGERTON.

The Earl of Iddesleigh.

[*Journal Officiel*, 31 Août, 1886.]

RAPPORT AU PRÉSIDENT de la RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE.

MONSIEUR LE PRÉSIDENT,—

Paris, le 20 Août, 1886.

L'article 4, paragraphe 2, du décret portant règlement d'administration publique pour l'application de la Loi du 27 Mai, 1885, sur la relégation des récidivistes, dispose que la relégation collective s'exécutera dans les territoires de la Colonie de la Guyane et, si les besoins l'exigent, de la Nouvelle-Calédonie ou de ses dépendances, qui seront déterminés et délimités par décret.

Bien que l'état sanitaire de la première de ces colonies, éprouvée par la fièvre jaune depuis le mois de Septembre de l'année dernière, se soit sensiblement amélioré, il n'est pas possible, pour le moment, de songer à y envoyer des récidivistes. Comme il y a lieu, d'autre part, d'appliquer sans délai les dispositions de la Loi du 27 Mai, 1885, j'ai l'honneur de soumettre à votre haute sanction le projet de décret ci-joint qui désigne l'île des Pins (dépendance de la Nouvelle-Calédonie) pour recevoir un certain nombre de relégués à titre collectif.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'hommage de mon profond respect.

AUBE,

Le Ministre de la Marine et des Colonies.

LE PRÉSIDENT de la RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE, sur le rapport du Ministre de la Marine et des Colonies, vu la Loi du 27 Mai, 1885, sur les récidivistes; vu l'article 4, paragraphe 2, du décret du 26 Novembre, 1885, portant règlement d'administration publique, pour l'application de la Loi du 27 Mai, 1885, sur la relégation des récidivistes; vu le décret du 16 Août, 1884, délimitant le domaine pénitentiaire à la Nouvelle-Calédonie; décrète :

Art. 1.—L'île des Pins (dépendance de la Nouvelle-Calédonie) est désignée pour recevoir les relégués collectifs.

Art 2.—Le Ministre de la Marine et des Colonies est chargé de l'exécution du présent décret, qui sera inséré au *Bulletin des Lois*, au *Journal Officiel*, et au *Bulletin Officiel de la Marine*.

Fait à Mont-sous-Vaudrey, le 20 Août, 1886.

JULES GRÉVY.

Par le Président de la République :

AUBE,

Le Ministre de la Marine et des Colonies.

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