

Conolly. If I go I should adjourn Wellington non-jury cases. Nelson is 3rd July. If inconvenient to Conolly and to you, I will take. Government do not wish arrange beyond the present difficulty with you, to be at liberty for Commission as soon as possible. Will you arrange with Conolly, and let me know about Nelson?

Napier, 14th June, 1890.

J. PRENDERGAST, C.J.

No. 2.

The Hon. the ATTORNEY-GENERAL to the Hon. the PREMIER.

Hon. Premier.

I THINK you should refer this letter to his Honour the Chief Justice before you reply to Mr. Edwards. I never saw the telegram therein referred to, and I gathered from the papers that Mr. Edwards, as well as the others, had doubts; otherwise, why was a Bill, in his own handwriting, prepared to give validity to his appointment. I made no assertion; my statement on that head is a mere deduction from facts submitted.

16th June, 1891.

P. A. BUCKLEY.

P.S.—I am not the Attorney-General referred to in that telegram.—P. A. B.

No. 3.

The Hon. the PREMIER to his Honour the CHIEF JUSTICE.

SIR,—

Premier's Office, 18th June, 1891.

I have the honour to forward, for your perusal, a letter I have received from Mr. W. B. Edwards, in which he takes exception to the remarks of the Hon. the Attorney-General, published in a Parliamentary paper (H.—13), copy of which I also enclose. I also forward a memorandum by the Attorney-General commenting on Mr. Edwards's letter, and I shall be glad to receive any remarks you may think it necessary to make in reference to Mr. Edwards's statements. Be good enough to return the letter and the memorandum.

I have, &c.,

His Honour the Chief Justice.

J. BALLANCE.

No. 4.

His Honour the CHIEF JUSTICE to the Hon. the PREMIER.

SIR,—

Judge's Chambers, Wellington, 20th June, 1891.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant. The only remark that appears to me to be necessary for me to make on the matter mentioned in that letter is, that an interview between myself and Sir Frederick Whitaker took place before the meeting of Parliament in June, 1890, and after my letter of the 10th of the same month to Sir Harry Atkinson, which letter called Sir H. Atkinson's attention to the fact that the time for holding Circuit Courts was then approaching, and that I had adjourned the Napier Circuit sittings to the 21st July, thinking that date would give ample time for passing any measure the Government might propose to submit to Parliament on the subject of the appointment of Mr. Justice Edwards.

The interview with Sir Frederick Whitaker is referred to in the note printed in Parliamentary Paper, H.—13 page 3. Upon that interview I proceeded to communicate with Mr. Justice Conolly and Mr. Justice Edwards as to arrangements for holding the Circuit Courts at Blenheim, Nelson, and Napier; and, in making those arrangements, the telegram to Mr. Justice Edwards, a copy of which is in his letter to you of the 15th instant, was no doubt sent.

I return herewith letter of Mr. Justice Edwards, dated the 15th instant, and also memorandum of the 16th instant from the Hon. Mr. Buckley, attached thereto.

I have, &c.,

The Hon. the Prime Minister, Wellington.

JAMES PRENDERGAST, Chief Justice.

No. 5.

Mr. A. WILLIS to W. B. EDWARDS, Esq.

SIR,—

Premier's Office, Wellington, 22nd June, 1891.

I have been directed by the Hon. the Premier to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, calling attention to a memorandum by the Attorney-General dated the 21st February, 1891, published in Parliamentary Paper H.—13, lately submitted to both Houses of Parliament, and attaching copy of a telegram from the Chief Justice to yourself dated the 14th June, 1890.

I am to inform you that a copy of your letter and of the telegram will be laid before Parliament as requested.

I have, &c.,

W. B. Edwards, Esq., Wellington.

ALEX. WILLIS.

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