

## SOUNDINGS TAKEN IN S.S. "HINEMOA."\*

Date.	Sounding.	Bottom.	Latitude.	Longitude.
Feb. 3, 1895 ...	86 fathoms	Coral and broken shell ...	48° 31' S.	166° 24' E.
" 4, " ...	196 "	Not ascertained; lead lost ...	49° 37' S.	166° 15' E.
" 9, " ...	95 "	Coarse black sand ...	51° 0' S.	166° 2' E.
" 15, " ...	550 "	Fine black gravel, and sand ...	51° 0' S.	174° 10' E.
" 19, " ...	47 "	Grey sand, and broken shells ...	44° 9' S.	176° 30' W.
" 22, " ...	260 "	Yellow mud, and sand ...	44° 5' S.	177° 45' W.
" 23, " ...	319 "	Green clay, and sand ...	43° 56' S.	179° 10' E.
" 23, " ...	345 "	Green mud, and sand ...	43° 52' S.	177° 57' E.
" 24, " ...	301 "	Shell ... ..	43° 42' S.	173° 52' E.
" 24, " ...	56 "	Shell, sand, and coarse gravel ...	43° 41' S.	173° 36' E.

\* Although the above list of soundings is a small one every opportunity for sounding was taken. Bad weather prevented any more work being done.

## No. 14.

(No. 9.)

MY LORD,—

Government House, Auckland, 2nd April, 1895.

In view of the fact that there is a certain quantity of indifferent land in the colony in various parts overrun with gorse, a section of the agriculturalist part of the community are considering the advisability of utilising it as fodder for their stock, and experiments have been made in that direction.

As it is understood that in parts of Spain, and, possibly, in other countries, gorse is so used with success, I have to request that your Lordship will be pleased, through the channels at the disposal of the Foreign Office, to cause reports to be drawn up, giving such information on the subject as can be obtained, and I am persuaded that the result will be much prized by the settlers in question.

I have, &amp;c.,

The Right Hon. the Marquis of Ripon, G.C.M.G.,  
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

GLASGOW.

## No. 15.

(No. 10.)

MY LORD,—

Government House, Auckland, 16th April, 1895.

At the request of my Ministers, I have the honour to draw your attention to my despatch No. 22, of the 8th June, 1893, on the extension of "The Coinage Act, 1870," and of section 2 of the Act of 1891, to this colony.

2. In that despatch I signified the concurrence of my Government in the proposed extension of "The Coinage Act, 1870," to the Australian Colonies.

3. My Government would wish to be informed if any Imperial action has taken place on my despatch.

I have, &amp;c.,

The Right Hon. the Marquis of Ripon, G.C.M.G.,  
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

GLASGOW.

## No. 16.

(No. 11.)

MY LORD,—

Government House, Auckland, 16th April, 1895.

There is no provision in this colony for the Government conferring any decorative distinction for saving human life; but provision has been made by Order in Council, dated 10th March, 1869, which received Her Majesty's approval (*vide* Lord Granville's despatch No. 102, of the 2nd October, 1869), for conferring a decorative distinction on such members of the Militia, Volunteers, and Armed Constabulary as might particularly distinguish themselves by bravery in war, called the New Zealand Cross. My Ministers think that there should also be power to grant a similar decoration to civilians and others for bravery in saving human life, under regulations to provide that only in the most exceptional cases should it be so granted, and that there should be a distinction