Rt. Hon. the Premier, Wellington.

Dunedin, 20th December, 1899.

HEARTILY concur in proposal send another contingent to the Transvaal; also in accepting Armstrong Company's offer. Convinced colony will enthusiastically uphold your action in both cases.

Rt. Hon. Premier, Wellington. Hokitika, 20th December, 1899.

Heartily concur with proposal send further contingent mounted men. Would not hesitate accept liberal offer of Armstrong-Elswick Company. Circumstances Transval seem to demand most vigorous and united action with Mother-country. J. A. Bonar.

Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon, Wellington. Christchurch, 20th December, 1899. I HEARTILY agree with attitude of Government in this matter, and think that a second contingent should be sent at once; also, that the offer of the Armstrong-Elswick Company should be accepted, if possible. The second contingent should be twice as strong as the first. The first effort of the colonies was to show what might be done, if necessary, now the necessity has arisen.

Charles C. Bowen.

Invercargill, 20th December, 1899.

Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon, Premier, Wellington.

REGARDING question number one: Entirely concur with Ministerial view, and am certain that public opinion in Southland will be unanimous and hearty approval. Regarding number two: The same, and I may venture to add that there must be a large number of artillery Volunteers in colony with enthusiasm for that branch of service, also able to ride well, from whom really smart body of men can readily be selected.

Henry Feldwick.

Hon. R. J. Seddon, Wellington. Te Aro, 20th December, 1899. I am in favour of sending another contingent, and accepting the Armstrong's offer. F. H. Fraser.

Hon. the Premier, Wellington. Dunedin, 20th December, 1899. I thoroughly indorse the proposal to send a second contingent, and also accept the offer of the Armstrong Company, as, in my opinion, nothing should be wanting on our part to assist the Mother-country at the present juncture.

Sir,—

In answer to your urgent telegram, I write to say that New Zealand, in my opinion, is bound by honour, conscience, and interest to support the Imperial Government in the present African war. I approve of the despatch of a second contingent similar to the last from the colony; also of our acceptance of the offer of the Armstrong-Elswick Company; and am satisfied the colony ought to provide the forty horses and thirty men mentioned by the Agent-General, and offer them also for acceptance by the Imperial Government. I am absolutely opposed to our sending out of New Zealand a single artilleryman, whether of the Permanent or Volunteer Force, and strongly urge that we should at once efficiently arm at least five thousand Volunteers.

I have, &c.,

Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon, Premier.

MORGAN S. GRACE, M.L.C.

The Hon. the Premier, Wellington.

Certainly send on to Transvaal. I should much prefer sending a whole regiment under present circumstances.

B. Harris, M.L.C.

Sir,— Wellington, 20th December, 1899.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your memorandum wire of yesterday, and in reply thereto beg to state that my entire and cordial sympathy is with the proposal to send a second contingent to the Transvaal.

As regards the second proposal, while it would virtually amount to the same thing, yet I think it would lend greater weight to this tangible form of expression of loyalty if we concur to increase the number of our contingent by fifty (or even, if possible, one hundred) than by offering thirty men to the British Government, as suggested in the second proposal.

Rt. Hon. the Premier.

I am, &c., J. E. Jenkinson.

New Plymouth, 20th December, 1899.

Rt. Hon. R. J. Seddon, Premier, Wellington.

I THINK it is the duty of the Government to render additional assistance in the way of sending a second contingent to the Transvaal. It will be another link strengthening the chain of Imperial federation of the British-speaking communities. I look forward to the British Imperial Parliament recognising the patriotic spirit of the Australasian Colonies by granting representation of the colonies in the British Parliament. The offer of the Armstrong-Elswick Company is a generous one, and, in addition to the sending of the second contingent, should, in my opinion, be accepted by Government. I strongly support action of Government in undertaking the further responsibility.

WM. T. Jennings, New Plymouth.