

tion of the Field-Marshal, perhaps unnecessarily, to the fact that a number of contingents have only just reached South Africa, and that, whilst distributing some commissions to the contingents which have already done much excellent service, a few should be held in hand by the Field-Marshal for distribution amongst those recently arrived; for we feel confident that, if opportunities arise, they will maintain as high a standard of efficiency and bravery as those of our contingents whose services and bravery have been so highly commended. In respect to the remaining ten commissions offered, Ministers deem it advisable and expedient that the same be held over for future distribution.

In conclusion, the Premier wishes His Excellency to inform the Secretary of State what conclusions have been arrived at, and hopes that the same will be deemed satisfactory and approved; also that the holding-over of the ten commissions may not cause any inconvenience, and be assented to.

R. J. SEDDON.

*Approximate Cost of Paper.*—Preparation, not given; printing (1,200 copies), 17s.

---

By Authority: JOHN MACKAY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1900.

*Price 3d.]*