

1910.
NEW ZEALAND.

UNION PARLIAMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

(REPLY TO CONGRATULATIONS FROM HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE OPENING OF THE); AND CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO MANUSCRIPT PRESENTED BY SIR GEORGE GREY TO THE CAPE TOWN MUSEUM.

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

(Cable.)

Prime Minister, Wellington.

UNION Parliament opened yesterday. Resolutions passed conveying through you thanks for messages congratulations New Zealand Parliament.

Negotiating Grey manuscripts. Arranged meeting Trustees before leaving.

Cape Town, 5th November, 1910.

(Cable.)

Hon. George Fowlds, Cape Town.

SIR GEORGE GREY manuscript, Cape Town Museum: Will be glad if can arrange transfer New Zealand.

WARD.

DEAR MR. FOWLDS,—

Prime Minister's Office, Wellington, 4th November, 1910.

Some years ago some valuable old Maori manuscript was presented by Sir George Grey to the Cape Town Museum, and at a subsequent date the New Zealand Government approached the Cape Government with a view to having it transferred to this Dominion. The terms of the gift prevented the Cape Government from absolutely parting with the manuscript, but a Bill was introduced in which it was proposed to give the New Zealand Government a perpetual loan. This Bill was, however, thrown out in the Upper House, and I believe no further action has since been taken.

It is now desired that, if possible, the manuscript be returned to the Dominion, and I shall be glad if you will cause inquiries to be made whilst in Cape Town, with the object of ascertaining whether the transfer can be effected.

The file of papers in connection with this matter has been mislaid, and consequently further detailed particulars cannot be supplied.

Yours, &c.,

J. G. WARD,

Prime Minister.

The Hon. G. Fowlds,

Representative for New Zealand at the opening of the Union Parliament
of South Africa, Cape Town, South Africa.

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