

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 14th September, 1860.

SIR.—In reply to your letter of the 18th ult., I have the honor to state for the information of the Taranaki Aid Committee, that no families have as yet removed to your Province. This relieves the Committee from their offer to defray the cost of their passages made under the circumstances stated in your letter.

I have also to state in answer to your enquiry that the Nelson Provincial Government provide or advance monies for the support of the Taranaki refugees, but the General Government are at the whole expense and will reimburse the Nelson Treasury.

The General Government have given us distinct orders that they will provide for our people only at Nelson.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. L. HUMPHRIES,
Deputy Superintendent.

Joseph Brittan, Esq.,
Hon. Sec. to the
Taranaki Aid Committee,
Christchurch.

Superintendent's Office,
Wellington, 18th August, 1860.

SIR.—Referring to the communication of His Honor the Superintendent of Taranaki of the 28th May acknowledging the receipt of a remittance on account of the grant of £1000, voted by the Provincial Council for the relief of settlers of Taranaki, I have the honor to intimate to you that of the amount voted there still remains the sum of £500 not yet transmitted, which is at your disposal, and which I am prepared to forward whenever you may direct.

Consequent upon reports received from private sources of distress existing amongst the settlers of Taranaki, especially such as have sought refuge in Nelson, a subscription of money and clothing for their relief has been commenced by the settlers of this district, and has already reached to a considerable sum. I sincerely trust that the efforts which are being made to assist our fellow-colonists may result in mitigating the sufferings we all so much deplore.

Permit me to add that as I am led to infer from the reports just alluded to that circumstances must have greatly altered since the date of the Superintendent's letter, it would give me pleasure to forward the money if you should signify your desire to use it forthwith for the purpose for which the grant was made.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) W. WARING TAYLOR,
Deputy Superintendent.

His Honor
The Deputy Superintendent
of Taranaki, New Plymouth.

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 1st Sept., 1860.

SIR.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th ult., referring to the grant of £1000 voted by the Provincial Council of Wellington for the relief of our settlers, and likewise to a subscription of money and clothing which is being made in consequence of reports received from private sources of distress existing in our community, but more particularly amongst those who have been removed to Nelson.

The meeting of the Taranaki Aid Committee held at Nelson on the date of your letter, (of which you would be now informed) leaves me little to say on the arrangements made by this Government, in conjunction with that of the Nelson Province, to avert such a state of things as is represented by you, and I can truly state the same of this Province. In addition to the Militia pay, rations, and fuel, the Provincial Government in all instances issue rations to Militiamen on application, and house accommodation where needed. At Nelson these families receive other advantages, such as house rent, medical attendance, firing, a certain sum of money in lieu of rations, and the Government Agent (who has been most zealous and attentive) is empowered at his discretion to issue clothing.

Under such circumstances, the Government of this Province adheres to the opinion that it would be injudicious to make use of the sums of money which have been so liberally contributed by the other Provinces until the close of the war, or at least so long as the present provision for families is continued.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. L. HUMPHRIES,
Deputy-Superintendent.

The Deputy-Superintendent of the
Province of Wellington.

Melbourne Exchange, Sept. 10, 1860.

SIR.—I have the honor to enclose herewith newspaper copy of proceedings of a Public Meeting held in this City on Friday last to consider what steps should be taken for the relief of the sufferers through the Maori rebellion, and I am requested to state that the Committee then appointed will be glad to receive from you any information which may aid them in the prosecution of their object.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN RUSSELL, Hon. Sec.

His Honor
The Superintendent of the
Province of New Plymouth.

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 12th Oct., 1860.

SIR.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th ult., referring to the Public Meeting held in your City for the relief of the inhabitants of this Province in consequence of losses sustained in the native war, and requesting information upon the subject for the guidance of the Committee.

At the breaking out of the war the whole of the population were compelled to seek the shelter of the Town. The Colonial Government at once took upon themselves the charge of these unfortunate people, and upwards of 1000 women and children have been removed to Nelson with this object; the husbands and male relatives of families between 18 and 60 years of age remaining behind for military duty, and receiving Militia pay, rations, and clothing. The Provincial Government are not aware of a single case of destitution amongst these families, although, in many instances, nearly all they possessed was abandoned to the rebels, who pillaged and burnt in every direction. Aid proffered by other communities will be most needed at the conclusion of the war, or earlier should the Colonial Government allowance be discontinued. The Provincial Government have accordingly suggested in all cases where their opinion has been sought that such aid should be in money, on the understanding that it shall be applied, unless specially required otherwise, in enabling the sufferers by the war to start again in life at its close.

I beg to express to you my deep sense of the generous sympathy evinced towards our community by the citizens of Melbourne.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. L. HUMPHRIES,
Deputy-Superintendent.

John Russell, Esq.,
Exchange,
Melbourne.

Superintendent's Office,
Auckland, 25th September, 1860.

SIR.—I have the honor to forward enclosed copy of a letter addressed to me by the Honorary Secretary to a Public Meeting held at Melbourne for the purpose of taking measures for relieving the sufferers by the insurrection at Taranaki, and to request that you will have the goodness to furnish such information as you can to enable me to reply to Mr Russell.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. WILLIAMSON,
Superintendent.

To His Honor
The Superintendent of
Taranaki.

Enclosure.

Melbourne Exchange,
September 10, 1860.

SIR.—I have the honor to enclose for your information newspaper report of a Public Meeting in this city on Friday last, to take into consideration the condition of the sufferers by the rebellion in New Zealand, and to take steps for their relief by an appeal to the sympathy of the inhabitants of this Colony, and I am requested by the Committee to state that they will be glad to receive from you any information which may aid them in the promotion of their object.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN RUSSELL,
Hon. Sec.

His Honor
The Superintendent,
of the Province of Auckland,
New Zealand.

Auckland, 1st Oct., 1860.

SIR.—I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 26th ult., covering a letter from Mr John Russell of Melbourne on the subject of the Taranaki losses.

In reply to your request that I will supply you with information to enable you to reply to Mr Russell, I beg to say that the immediate wants of the sufferers are provided for by the General Government of New Zealand, whose expenditure in this behalf will, in all probability, receive the sanction of the Legislature.

There have, however, arisen losses of a very serious character during the war from the destruction of houses, furniture, and the driving off and wantonly slaughtering of stock. The actual known value of the property lost I cannot estimate, except in a very rough way, but I conjecture it to be little short of £150,000. This amount is one which I can hardly hope that the Colony at large will be able to make good, and the desire of the Provincial Government is that any voluntary contributions made in the Provinces or in the neighbouring Colonies should go towards meeting those losses as soon as the close of the war enables them to be ascertained. Already several sums have been received for the purpose, and are standing in my name on account of the "Taranaki Relief Fund" in the Union Bank of Australia, Auckland.

I think that the help of our fellow-countrymen in Melbourne will be best afforded

in the form of a money contribution to this general fund.

I will take the earliest opportunity of communicating the letter of Mr Russell to the inhabitants of Taranaki. In the meantime, I shall be obliged by your forwarding my best thanks to himself and those whom he represents and to the inhabitants of Melbourne generally for the active sympathy in our troubles, which they have from the first exhibited.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. CUTFIELD,
Superintendent.

J. Williamson, Esq.,
Superintendent, Auckland.

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, Taranaki,
New Zealand, 12th November, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—From information I have this morning received I am led to believe that the firm of Messrs Nash & Scaife, of Nelson, have constituted themselves agents for the receipt of funds for the relief of the Taranaki refugees in Nelson.

At various times since the commencement of the war it has been found necessary to remove from our crowded town the families of many settlers, and as Nelson is the nearest and most convenient place in the Middle Island they have been conveyed thither, and most kindly received by the Nelson Government and people. The number of women and children who have found a refuge there is about one thousand: they are provided, at the cost of the Colonial Government, with shelter, fuel, and a weekly allowance in cash for the purchase of food and other necessaries.

Deprived of the comforts of a home, and separated from their husbands and brothers, who are doing duty in the field here, their anxieties and cares are very great, and no doubt in some instances they need more consideration and assistance than it is possible for the Government to give; but the system of placing funds for any charitable purpose in the hands of an irresponsible mercantile house, which has no relations with the Government, and no authority from any local association, is highly dangerous, as the public has no means of ascertaining how such funds are expended.

Messrs Nash & Scaife have succeeded in obtaining money and supplies of various kinds by means of advertisements in the New Zealand and Australian papers, and it is to be feared that they will also succeed in London if some means be not adopted to diffuse as widely as possible correct information.

By a reference to the *Nelson Examiner* newspaper of 22nd August, which is filed

in the office of the Agent of the Colonial Government, Mr Morrison, you will perceive that the Nelson Aid Committee, of which Mr Nash was a member, protested against that gentleman's proceedings, but unfortunately without effect.

The British public may be assured that none of the families now at Nelson, or of those who may hereafter be sent there, will be allowed to fall into a state of destitution, and that Messrs Nash & Scaife have no warrant from the General or local Government of New Zealand, or from any public or private body in the Colony, to open subscription lists for any purpose whatever in connection with the Taranaki settlers.

During the continuance of the war, the settlers and their families will, in some way or other, be supported by the Colony, but at its close they will in the majority of cases, be almost penniless. The whole of the Taranaki country out of rifle range of the different military posts has been devastated by the enemy. In some districts every building has been destroyed, while in others a few devastated skeletons of houses remain; fences have been destroyed or have fallen to decay; fruit trees have been cut down; and the uncultivated fields are being fast overgrown by Scotch Thistles and other weeds. When peace is restored, the ruined farmer will require funds to build a rude homestead,—to procure stock and farming implements, and to restore his neglected fields.

The burthens of an infant colony are necessarily heavy, and although the greater part of the expenses of the war will fall on the Imperial Treasury a loan of £150,000 has to be raised to purchase arms for the colonists; to provide for the temporary support of destitute families; to give increased pay to the militia; and to aid in the re-establishment of the Taranaki settlers by a grant in aid of £25,000.

It is impossible to estimate at present the losses the settlers have sustained, but it cannot be less than £100,000, and will probably greatly exceed this amount before peace is restored.

I have received several sums voted by the Provincial Governments and raised by private subscription in the colony, and have placed them in the Union Bank of Australia, where they will remain until the close of the war, when they will be expended under the sanction of the General Government.

I should not have addressed you on this subject had the action of Messrs Nash and Scaife not rendered it necessary to adopt some means for diverting the private benevolence of England into a proper channel.

I shall therefore feel extremely obliged if you will make the true position of the settlers known as opportunity may offer, and discountenance any appeals made to the public at the instance of private individuals.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. CUTFIELD,
Superintendent.
Messrs John Gladstone & Co.,
London.

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 12th Nov., 1860.
Sir,—I have the honor to enclose for your information copy of a letter addressed by me to the Agents for this Province, Messrs. J. Gladstone & Co.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. CUTFIELD,
Superintendent.

John Morrison, Esq.,
3, Adelaide Place,
King William street,
London.

[Enclosing copy of above letter to J. Gladstone & Co.]

REPORT of a Meeting of the Taranaki Aid Committee at Nelson contained in the Nelson Examiner of the 22nd August, 1860, referred to in the above correspondence.

MEETING OF TARANAKI AID COMMITTEE.

A special meeting of the members of the Taranaki Aid Committee, convened by circular, was held in the Chamber of Commerce on Saturday last. The members present were Messrs Wells, Travers, Sealy, Blackett, Elliott, Connell, Wilson, Lewthwaite, Kerr and Curtis.

Mr. TRAVERS said that he had called the Committee together to take into consideration certain statements made by Messrs Nash & Scaife in regard to the present condition of the Taranaki refugees, in a letter addressed by them to their correspondents at Wellington. The publication of that letter in Wellington had resulted in a public meeting there, convened for the purpose of giving effect to suggestions made by Messrs Nash & Scaife, based upon the statements in question. He, in common with other members of the Committee with whom he had spoken out-of-doors, had felt extreme surprise at the statements made by Messrs Nash & Scaife; statements reflecting seriously not only upon Mr. Gray, the agent employed by the Provincial Government of New Plymouth in distributing relief to the Taranaki refugees here, and upon the local Government acting in conjunction with him, but also upon the people of this province and upon that Committee of which Mr. Nash was himself a member. The statements referred to were as follows:—

"We beg to offer you our best thanks for your kindness in laying our circular letter of the 9th ult. before the public of your city. We have not thought fit in that to allude to the state of the poor women and children who have been sent down here for safety, but we can assure you the fearful destitution existing amongst them passes description. We may mention one case out of many, that of a poor woman with seven children (some of them unwell)

who were landed here without bedding or blankets, during the recent severe weather. They have since been supplied with necessary comforts by private subscription, but it is impossible for a small community like this to meet all the demands of the poor families who, having lost their "little all," land amongst us in many cases perfectly destitute of the common necessaries of life, and often of clothing. The Airedale brought down about 120 more last night, and it is anticipated that next trip she will bring down about 300, the exodus being now rendered compulsory."

He need not remind the committee, that at one of their earliest meetings, they were informed by Mr. Gray, that the Provincial Government of New Plymouth had instructed him to do everything necessary, not merely to maintain the refugees, but, as far as possible, minister to their comfort; and he felt assured that he should have the support of that committee when he stated, that no man could have shown more warm-hearted zeal and more unaffected kindness in the performance of the difficult duty assigned to him, than Mr. Gray [hear, hear]. It was natural to suppose that people separated as the refugees were from their homes and from the heads of their families, would have to undergo a certain amount of discomfort which no mere charity could obviate; and there were, no doubt, also, certain cases of special difficulty; but that anything approaching destitution existed amongst them, he believed to be entirely untrue [hear, hear]. It was a remarkable fact that Mr. Nash, though a member of that committee, had never brought these statements either under their notice or under the notice of the persons engaged in administering the Government relief. The only case ever brought forward by Mr. Nash, as far as he (Mr. Travers) was aware was one which, on investigation, proved to be entirely unfounded, the person complaining having actually obtained a passage to Nelson from Taranaki, as a chief cabin passenger, by means of false pretences. So far from destitution existing, he could aver, and the fact was known to many members of the committee, that in some instances, where the heads of families had received from the military authorities at New Plymouth "prolonged leaves," they preferred returning there to serve as militia men, at 1s. 6d. a day, to labouring in Nelson for the support of their families. And upon what grounds? Simply (as they themselves alleged) because, when they took upon themselves the support of their families, the Government allowance would cease, and the latter was much the more certain and more easily obtained source of maintenance [hear, hear]. The case mentioned by Messrs Nash & Scaife in their letter was altogether misrepresented. The person referred to was a Mrs Perrott and her family, who had arrived here, accompanied by her brother. Owing to the neglect of the brother her bedding had been left on board the vessel in which they arrived, but on the very same night they were supplied by Mr. and Mrs Lewthwaite with a sufficient quantity of blankets and coverlets, which to this hour had not been returned [hear, hear, from Mr. Lewthwaite]. He was informed by Mr. Lewthwaite, moreover, that mattresses had been offered to them at the same time, which they had declined. It was true that some of the family were ill, and Mr. Gray at once endeavoured, and with great difficulty obtained, nurses for them, and also arranged that they should be supplied with all requisite comforts. It was also true that many ladies in Nelson had been extremely kind to this family, in providing for their sick wants; but the case, as presented by Messrs Nash & Scaife in their letter, was a gross exaggeration, and calculated to lead to the impression that these people had for some time been permitted to suffer an extreme degree of misery. He thought it possible that

Messrs Nash and Scaife were actuated by kindly motives in doing what they had done, but he could not permit their motives to be a justification for misstatements of so grave a character, compromising as they did all persons, from the Government downwards, who were engaged in administering relief to the Taranaki refugees, and calculated as they were to create a most uneasy feeling amongst their absent relatives and friends. He regretted that Mr. Nash was not present at that meeting, of which he had received due notice, but he could not help calling the attention of the committee to the fact that Mr. Nash had only once attended the meetings of the committee, since the day when they refused to entertain his proposition to censure the military commanders at Taranaki, a subject manifestly foreign to their province. He would conclude by proposing the following resolution:—

"That this committee has seen with surprise the statements made in a letter purporting to have been addressed by Messrs Nash and Scaife to their correspondents at Wellington, in reference to the present condition of the Taranaki refugees in Nelson. That this committee has no knowledge of any existing destitution or wants amongst the Taranaki refugees, which would warrant the expressions used in that communication. That Mr. Gray, the agent of the Government of Taranaki, has, in conjunction with the Government of this province, administered relief to all Taranaki refugees by whom it has been required, and that his zeal and constant attention to their wants have merited the warmest thanks and approval on the part of this committee. That Mr. Nash, as a member of this committee, has not brought forward any statements in reference to the position of the Taranaki refugees such as those contained in the communication referred to. That the only case brought forward by him was at the meeting of this committee held on the 8th August inst., when it was proved upon investigation that the complaints made by the parties concerned were without foundation. That this committee, whilst acknowledging the sympathy of the Wellington settlers, records its opinion that the statements which led to the meeting there of the 9th of August instant were not founded in fact. That this committee, at the same time, feels that the aid proposed to be granted by the settlers of Wellington would be extremely useful, if judiciously administered in relieving individual cases of special hardship, although, as a general rule, the Government relief afforded has been found amply sufficient."

Seconded by Mr. WILSON.

In answer to a suggestion by Mr. CONNELL, that Mr. Nash should be allowed to make some explanations in reference to the letter, before passing the resolution,

Mr. BLACKETT observed that no amount of explanations could remove the impressions produced by it at Wellington and elsewhere: at Wellington, in particular, as at the meeting held there, it had been used as a text by the various speakers. The impression produced by the letter was, that no arrangement existed in Nelson, by which either Government aid, or indeed, any other aid than that arising from private benevolence, was administered to those landing at Nelson from Taranaki. So far from this being the case, he begged to state on authority, that no kind or amount of destitution would remain unrelieved on proper representation; as Mr. Gray's instructions were calculated to meet any emergency that might arise; and he might say that up to the present time every case demanding consideration had been fairly relieved. Unfortunately, also, the expressions used in that letter implied that this case was not single, but only one amongst many, which certainly was not in accordance with facts. He could aver from personal knowledge that every exertion was made by the

agent, Mr. Gray, to relieve any discomfort or inconvenience suffered by any refugees, to which assertion many of the refugees themselves would bear witness.

Mr. LEWTHWAITE supported the resolution. His reason for so doing was, that the action of this Committee, of the Government and people of Nelson, and of Mr. Gray (whose duty it was to take charge of all cases), was perfectly ignored by Messrs Nash & Scaife, who sought to be considered as the only persons actively engaged in taking care of the Taranaki refugees.

The resolution was then put, and carried unanimously.

Moved by Mr. LEWTHWAITE, seconded by Mr. ELLIOTT, and carried unanimously—

"That this committee is of opinion that greater efficiency and economy would be secured in the distribution of any private subscriptions for relief of the Taranaki refugees, if the same were given through the agency of this committee, acting in conjunction with Mr. Gray; and that it is desirable that all subscriptions for the purpose should be forwarded to A. Kerr, Esq., manager of the Union Bank of Australia here, the Treasurer of this committee."

Moved by Mr. BLACKETT, seconded by Mr. KERR, and carried unanimously.

"That copies of the foregoing resolutions be forwarded to the committee appointed by the meeting at Wellington."

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 5th December, 1860.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit a resolution of the Provincial Council of Taranaki acknowledging the assistance which has been given to our settlers by their countrymen in Victoria on occasion of their losses by the Maori war in this Province, and I should feel obliged if your Government would give publicity to the same.

I have been requested also to call the attention of the Government of Victoria to the circumstance that a part of the aid which has been forwarded through private hands has for that reason failed of its full beneficial effect. The Colonial Government of New Zealand has taken on itself the care of present relief, and is sparing neither trouble nor expense to secure every inhabitant of this Province from all but unavoidable hardship. I should therefore feel obliged if you would forward the wish of the Provincial Council of recommending that any further aid transmitted to New Zealand should be paid into the Union Bank of Australia to the credit of the Taranaki General Relief Fund, in the joint names of the Colonial Treasurer and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki. This fund, I would observe, will be applied towards reinstating those who have been sufferers by the war, and is quite independent of the votes of the Legislature for present relief.

The names of the two public functionaries will be guarantee for the public and equitable administration of such funds. I

trust to your kindness to carry this request into effect in such a way that we may not seem to be encroaching on the bounty of our neighbours in Australia.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. CUTFIELD,
Superintendent.

The Honorable
The Colonial Secretary
of Victoria, Melbourne.

Extract from the Minutes of the proceedings of the Provincial Council at the sitting held on Monday, 26th November, 1860.

The following Resolution was adopted:

1. The Provincial Council of Taranaki desire to return their warmest thanks to their countrymen and fellow-colonists in New South Wales, Victoria, and throughout New Zealand, for the sympathy and aid which has been afforded to the settlers of Taranaki on occasion of their losses and privations by the Maori Insurrection. They are convinced that the people of Taranaki have been much cheered by that sympathy, and that they feel heartily grateful for the friendly relief, which will lighten their difficulties at the conclusion of the war.

This Council requests the Superintendent to join in the above resolution and to forward copies thereof to the various local Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, and the New Zealand Provinces for publication.

This Council is of opinion that the Superintendent should request the above Governments to recommend that all local subscriptions in aid of Taranaki be paid into the Union Bank of Australia, Auckland, to the credit of the "Taranaki General Relief Fund" in the names of the Colonial Treasurer of New Zealand and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki.

A copy of the above correspondence addressed also to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary of New South Wales.

Provincial Treasury,
New Plymouth, 26th January, 1861.

SIR,—With reference to my report of 22nd December, 1860, to the Superintendent of Taranaki, in which I recommended that the funds in the hands of the several Taranaki Aid Committees in Nelson should be retained till the end of the war, I have the honor to request your attention to a report of the proceedings of a final meeting of the Committee of the Taranaki Relief Fund of Sydney, as reported in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of January 16, at which the following resolutions were passed:—

It was moved by Mr James, seconded by Mr Bate "That it is the instructions of the

Committee to the Treasurer to remit the balance now in his hands to the credit of the Taranaki Relief Fund, or any amount which he may hereafter receive by first opportunity to Mr H. C. Daniel as chairman of the relief fund there." (Passed.)

And it was further moved by Mr Joseph, seconded by Mr H. C. Caraher "That in the remittance to Mr H. C. Daniel the Treasurer should suggest that in the event of there not being any cases of immediate necessity requiring relief that the funds both now and previously forwarded by this Committee should be held and appropriated in conjunction with any other monies that may be available for the assistance of the Taranaki settlers at the termination of the war."

In accordance with the spirit of these resolutions, I have therefore the honor to request that you will take the necessary steps for the transfer of the funds received from Sydney to the joint credit of the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki with the Union Bank of Australia, Auckland.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) T. KING,
Provincial Treasurer.
W. Gray, Esq., Nelson.

Nelson, 21st February, 1861.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ult. requesting me to take the necessary steps to have the sums of money now in the hands of the Committees in Nelson remitted to them for the relief of the sufferers by the Taranaki war, put to the joint credit of the Colonial Treasurer and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki in the Union Bank of Australia at Auckland.

In reply I have to inform you that I have taken the earliest opportunity of laying your letter before the Committees.

The Taranaki Aid Committee consider your application to them through me is irregular, consequently they declined entertaining it. I would therefore submit that you apply to them direct through their Secretary, Oswald Curtis, Esq., merchant, Nelson.

The Taranaki Relief Fund Committee have transmitted to me copies of resolutions passed by them in reference to your letter, copies of which I enclose for your information.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) WILLIAM GRAY,
The Provincial Treasurer,
Taranaki.

Nelson, 20th February, 1861.

SIR,—I am requested by this Committee

to hand you annexed copies of resolutions passed at a meeting this day on the subject of the letter received from the Provincial Treasurer of New Plymouth dated 26th January, 1861.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) A. W. SCAIFE,
Honorary Secretary,
Taranaki Relief Fund Committee.
Mr William Gray, Nelson.

1st. That Mr Gray having submitted the letter of the Provincial Treasurer of New Plymouth dated 26th January, 1861, to this Committee, requesting him to take steps for the transfer of the funds received from Sydney to the joint credit of the Colonial Treasurer and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki with the Union Bank of Australia, Auckland, this Committee resolves that as their instructions from Sydney are that these funds are intended for the present relief of the sufferers by the Maori outbreak at New Plymouth so far as they may be required, and any balance that may not be so required is to be invested in the joint names of approved parties, this Committee cannot consent that these funds should be alienated from the purpose for which they were intended by the subscribers, and at the same time record their conviction that the subscribers intended this Committee should have a voice in the appointment of Trustees should any of the funds be invested through not being required for their first object.

2nd. That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be sent to Mr Gray.

A true copy.
(Signed) WILLIAM GRAY.

Provincial Treasury,
New Plymouth, 2nd March, 1861.

SIR,—I have received a letter from Mr Wm. Gray, covering a copy of one from you to that gentleman, and of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Taranaki Relief Fund Committee on the 20th ult. on the subject of my letter to Mr Gray of 26th January.

I am desirous that no misunderstanding should exist on the part of the Committee as to the reasons which actuated me in making the application.

The Provincial Government of Taranaki has felt for a long time that the funds which have been contributed by the kindness of our fellow-colonists in New Zealand and Australia for the relief of the sufferers in the Taranaki war would, if not secured in some way, fall virtually into the hands of the General Government, and thus, instead of benefitting the sufferers, simply

relieve the colony from a part of the burden then it has undertaken in the adoption by the House of Representatives of the interim report of the Taranaki Relief Committee.

Recent instructions from the Colonial Secretary to Mr Gray have shewn the correctness of this opinion, for in his memorandum of 16th February, 1861, the Colonial Secretary directs amongst other things "clothing, boots and shoes, to be supplied when *absolutely* necessary—when there are no other means of procuring them—from public funds, and medical comforts and *extras* to be supplied from private funds.

On the 26th November last the Provincial Council of Taranaki, in its anxiety to see a fund created on which the people might rely with certainty for some assistance at the close of the war, and at the same time secure the contributions from any chance of misappropriation, recommended "that all local subscriptions be paid into the Union Bank of Australia, Auckland, to the credit of the Taranaki General Relief Fund in the names of the Colonial Treasurer of New Zealand, and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki." This recommendation was forwarded by the Superintendent of Taranaki to the Colonial Secretaries of Victoria and New South Wales, and therefore it was that the resolution of the Sydney Committee, quoted in my letter to Mr Gray was adopted.

I am sure there can be no question with the Committee that the difficulties of the Taranaki settlers will be most severe at the close of the war. The destruction of their homesteads is all but complete, and the proceeds of such of their sheep and cattle as can be saved from an active enemy are contributing to the temporary maintenance of themselves and families. The sentiment is universal among them that a fund on which they can rely at the end of the war is a vital necessity. With it they would submit cheerfully to temporary privations, but without it the future would be a blank to them.

I can assure the Committee that I have no desire to exercise any control over the funds placed in their hands, or to deprive them of their voice in the appointment of trustees; but I submit that the resolution of the Sydney Committee would justify them in transferring to a general fund, vested for security in the financial officers of the General and of the Provincial Government of Taranaki, any residue there might be after providing "for any cases of immediate necessity requiring relief," and that the words "in conjunction with any other monies that may be available" point out the particular mode of investment recommended by the Taranaki Government.

By adding the Sydney subscription to the General Relief Fund at Auckland the money would be saved till the end of the war, with the current interest, and then expended under the sanction of the General Government.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) T. KING,
Provincial Treasurer.

A. W. Scaife, Esq.,
Honorary Secretary
Taranaki Relief Fund Committee,
Nelson.

Provincial Treasurer,
New Plymouth, 5th March, 1861.

SIR,—I have received a letter from Mr W. Gray dated the 21st ult. in which he acquaints me that he has laid my letter to him of the 26th January before the Taranaki Aid Committee, and that the Committee considered my application through him irregular, and therefore declined to entertain it.

By a reference to my letter the Committee will observe that I never requested Mr Gray to apply to your Committee. My application was confined to the Sydney subscriptions and based on the resolutions of the Sydney Committee.

The Provincial Government has always been of opinion that the best mode of dealing with private subscriptions would be to retain them till the end of the war when assistance will be most needed, because the General Government has been empowered to provide for the present necessities of the families at Nelson, and to use private funds for the purchase of clothing, &c., as at present, is simply saving the colony from so much of its expenditure, and not benefiting the persons for whom the funds were subscribed. I think there can be no doubt that the subscribers generally were ignorant of the condition of the families at Nelson, and could they be made aware of the actual circumstances of the case, I believe they would adopt the views taken by the Taranaki Government.

That I am correct in my position that the funds at present disbursed by the Nelson Committee are of no benefit whatever to the Taranaki sufferers is evidenced by the following extracts from a memorandum lately given to Mr Gray by the Colonial Secretary:—

"Clothing, boots and shoes, to be supplied when *absolutely* necessary—when there are no other means of procuring them—from public funds."

"Medical comforts and *extras* to be supplied from private funds."

Had the subscribers in other places given similar directions to those of the Sydney

Committee I should have considered myself justified in making a more direct application to the Taranaki Aid Committee, but, under the circumstances, I desire only to submit the views of the Provincial Government, fortified by a resolution of the Provincial Council recommending "that all local subscriptions be paid into the Union Bank of Australia, Auckland, to the credit of the Taranaki General Relief Fund in the names of the Colonial Treasurer of New Zealand and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki."

It rests with the Committee to consider whether, under existing circumstances, the present expenditure of the funds in their hands be more in accordance with the general intentions of the donors, than their transfer to a trust to be expended at the end of the war under the sanction of the General Government.

I have, &c.,
THOMAS KING,
Provincial Treasurer.

Oswald Curtis, Esq.,
Honorary Secretary,
Taranaki Aid Committee,
Nelson.

Christchurch, March 18, 1861.

SIR,—The Canterbury Taranaki Aid Committee have instructed me to communicate with your Honor on the subject of the appropriation of the fund raised in this province for the relief of the Taranaki sufferers by the Maori War.

It will probably be in your Honor's recollection that in the month of July, 1860, in consequence of a despatch received by the Canterbury Government from the Deputy Superintendent of Taranaki, a subscription was set on foot here to provide immediate shelter and support for such of the Taranaki settlers as might make this province a place of refuge.

Up to the present time, however, no refugees have arrived, owing no doubt to the arrangements made for their provision elsewhere by the General Government; but in consequence of this, and from the probability that none are likely to come, the Committee are anxious to arrive at some resolution as to how they shall deal with the large sum of money in their hands.

I need hardly observe to your Honor that we have amongst ourselves a great many charitable uses to which the money could be applied; but before letting it pass from their control, the Committee desire to be informed by your Honor whether any cases coming within the scope and meaning of the resolution of the General Meeting, (a copy of which I herewith send you,) are likely to present themselves to the Com-

mittee.

We are under the impression that the General Assembly and the General Government have undertaken to provide shelter and support for all who may need either the one or the other, as well as to compensate for what losses may have been suffered, so that to a great extent, if not entirely, it would appear that the object of the people of Canterbury when the subscription was raised has been superseded.

Nevertheless, the Committee are very anxious not to commit the error of parting with any portion of the fund before they are fully satisfied that it will not be wanted for the purpose originally contemplated; whilst on the other hand it is undesirable longer to withhold it from the many useful purposes to which it may be applied should it not be so wanted.

I have, therefore, to request that your Honor will be so good as to inform the Committee whether any claims are likely to be presented, or further, that you will be pleased to furnish them with any other information relating to the application of the fund, within the intention of the resolution to which I have before referred, which it may be in your Honor's power to give.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) JOSEPH BRITTAN,
Hon. Sec.

His Honor
the Superintendent,
Taranaki.

Copy of Resolution passed at Public Meeting held July 25, 1860.

"That this meeting, having had laid before it a communication addressed by the Superintendent of Taranaki to the Superintendent of Canterbury, asking if it be in the power of the Province to assist the immigration to Canterbury of a portion of the Taranaki settlers, resolves that a subscription be immediately set on foot throughout the province for the purpose suggested in that communication, or for any other purpose which may tend to the relief of the Taranaki settlers."

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 6th April, 1861.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th ult., requesting information to guide your Committee in the disposal of the funds raised at Canterbury for the relief of the sufferers by the Taranaki war.

You will find, on reference to the Deputy Superintendent's letter of the 14th Sept., an explanation of the reasons which prevented this Government from availing itself

of the offer of the Committee to assist destitute settlers at that time.

With respect to the action of the General Assembly, I have to state that a sum of money was voted last session for the maintenance of destitute refugees at Nelson, which has enabled me to keep intact for future need the funds, about £1100, which have been placed in my hands by the Provincial Government of Wellington and the public of Auckland.

The General Assembly has also voted a sum of not more than £25,000 for the permanent relief, in the nature of compensation to settlers; but it has declared this vote to be final, and has refused to entertain a claim for compensation, *quasi* compensation, so as to prevent a precedent being made for the indemnification of any losses which may be incurred in future insurrections, if such should unhappily ensue.

This amount is very far short of the losses sustained by the settlers, and will altogether be inadequate to enable them to resume their farming operations. Besides the entire destruction of more than three-fourths of the homesteads in the country, and the injury the farms have sustained in the destruction of fences, the growth of thistles, &c., the greater part of the stock on which the mass of the farmers almost exclusively relied has disappeared. For months past the insurgents have been living on our cattle and sheep, and have wantonly destroyed more than they have consumed. The quantity which they have taken away, and which may some day be recovered, is small in comparison. But beyond this, during the whole of the war the settlers have been living on the sale of their stock to the commissariat butcher, for their incomes were gone, and they were doing enforced military service at 1s. 3d. per day and rations.

The great anxiety felt by our people throughout the war has been the uncertainty of their position at its close, and their prospects now are by no means cheering, for they will have to return to their desolated and unstocked lands with empty purses.

In the terms of peace proposed to the Ngatiawa no mention is made of the settlers' losses; there is, therefore, no hope of reparation in that quarter. The southern natives have not yet been treated with, and I have had no intimation of the nature of the terms which will be offered.

In all cases where subscriptions have been made, and I have been applied to for advice, I have recommended the donors to appropriate the funds in their possession for relief at the close of the war, and the Provincial Council at Taranaki, anxious to

secure this object, passed a resolution on the 26th Nov., recommending all subscriptions to be forwarded to the account of the General Relief Fund with the Union Bank of Australia, at Auckland, in the joint names of the Colonial Treasurer and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki; the entire fund to be disbursed at the end of the war under the sanction of the General Government.

I trust this information will be sufficient to enable your Committee to decide on the application of the fund in their hands.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. CUTFIELD,
Superintendent.

Joseph Brittan, Esq.,
Hon Sec. Taranaki Aid Committee,
Christchurch.

3, Adelaide Place,
King William Street,
London, 24th January, 1861.

SIR,—I beg to annex herewith copy of a resolution passed by the Committee of the New Zealand Relief Fund at a meeting held on the 15th instant, and I have to request you will be so good (at your earliest convenience) to furnish me with the information required.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) E. D. SWEET,
Chairman.

His Honor
The Superintendent of
Taranaki.

[copy]

"That the Secretary be requested to put himself in communication with the Superintendents of Taranaki and Nelson, to inform them that a subscription is being raised in England for the relief of the sufferers by the war in New Zealand, and to request the Superintendents to direct the Relief Committees of the Provinces to furnish the fullest information as to the position and wants of the sufferers."

(Signed) E. D. SWEET,
Chairman.

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 8th April, 1861.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th Jan., annexing a resolution of the New Zealand Relief Fund of London.

The immediate wants of the Taranaki settlers, both here and at Nelson, have hitherto been supplied by funds voted by the General Assembly in the past session, and I have every reason to suppose that the

same aid will be continued to the end of the war.

The losses sustained by the almost total destruction of the farms remains yet to be supplied. In the last session of the General Assembly a Committee was appointed to enquire into the condition of the Taranaki colonists, and recommended in its report a vote of a sum not exceeding £25,000 in satisfaction of the settlers' claims, although the Committee admitted that such amount would at that time have been a very small proportion to the settlers' claims. The House of Representatives, in discussing the adoption of this report, denied its liability to grant any compensation to the settlers, on the grounds that the war was an Imperial one; that the admission of such a right would form a precedent in the event of another insurrection; and that the means of the Colony were unequal to sustain the heavy burthen which such an admission would impose on it, in addition to the cost of arming the whole population, and in providing for increased Militia pay, &c. The House, therefore, voted £25,000 as its contribution towards the relief of the Taranaki settlers.

A general opinion existed in the House that the Taranaki losses ought rightly to fall on the native insurgents, and that the confiscation of a portion of the insurgents' lands would at the same time provide the necessary funds and be a fitting punishment for their rebellion; but as the Home Government retain the entire control of native affairs, it was not deemed advisable by the House to give public expression to this view. The fund from which the settlers' losses are to be met is at present composed of the £25,000 already mentioned and a subscribed sum of £1100 in the Union Bank of Australia at Auckland. The Colony will not admit the settlers' claims; there is no hope of obtaining assistance from the Imperial Government; and in the terms of peace proposed to the Ngatiawa no mention is made of the settlers' losses, except the solitary condition that they shall return the plunder they have taken. The southern tribes of Taranaki and Ngatiruanui have not yet been treated with, but as in the terms of peace to the Ngatiawa the Governor states that he does not use force for the acquisition of land, I fear there is but little probability of reparation from that quarter.

The extent of the settlers' losses is at present unknown. It is certain that some 200 homesteads have been burned, and the remainder maltreated in various ways, and that the farms which have been in the insurgents' hands for many months have

sustained every possible injury from the wantonness of the natives. The settler, on recovering his land, will find it in a condition to require the immediate application of a large amount of labour and capital to rebuild his dwelling and offices, to repair and renew fences, and, worst of all, to eradicate the Scotch Thistle, which 12 months of abandonment would have spread throughout the country. The stock in which the bush farmers almost exclusively, and the fern farmer to a great extent relied, no longer exists in some districts, and in all has greatly diminished: for many months the insurgents have been living on our sheep and cattle, and they have destroyed in wantonness many more than they have eaten. A few of the largest oxen and the tamest of the cows, and many horses, have been carried away. These may some day be recovered, but they form but a small proportion of the loss. In addition to these drains upon the stock, another and heavier still existed. When the war came on the settlers were unable to bring a large proportion of their crops into town, and many were compelled to fly from their homes without saving even clothes and furniture. These people, whose whole capital was invested in their farms, had no reserve on which to support their families, except their stock which ran at large through the country, and which was driven in herds from time to time by friendly natives, and sold for present support to the Commissariat butcher. The stock which remains consists, therefore, of the young animals and the very old; those which the butcher rejected and the natives disregarded.

The settlers, as a body, have not profited by the large Commissariat expenditure. A few publicans and storekeepers, and the owners of working oxen who have been fortunate enough to let their teams to the Commissariat, have derived large gains, but the country settlers as a mass have nothing left but their bare lands, and the few stock running on them, and but too many farms are burthened with heavy mortgages.

Such is briefly the condition of the Taranaki settlers at this time, and referring to the terms of the resolution appended to your letter, I beg to suggest that the best means of aiding them would be to forward subscriptions to the account of the Taranaki General Relief Fund standing in the names of the Colonial Treasurer and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki at Auckland. This fund is to be expended at the close of the war under the sanction of the General Government, which will be a gua-

rantee to the public for its proper distribution.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. CUTFIELD,
Superintendent.

E. D. Sweet, Esq.,
King William Street,
London.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
New Plymouth, 13th April, 1861.

GENTLEMEN.—Some misconception has arisen in the Colony with regard to the letters of the Superintendent of Taranaki to friends in England on the state and prospects of our people. It appears that a subscription list was opened in London and withdrawn again, in consequence partly of the great distress at home, and partly of the impression that aid was not needed. Though the Superintendent has not moved himself to obtain assistance from our friends, the great promptitude of many of them having anticipated any motion he might otherwise have made, and the Colonial Government have accepted the general charge of present aid to necessitous persons, yet he would be to blame if he let the impression continue that we are likely to get through our difficulties without a severe pressure on many settlers. We have no right to calculate on much more help from the Colony at large, which already suffers from the stagnation of trade and increase of liabilities through the war. The land fund of this Province, on which, as a last resource, we hope to fall back, is as yet non-existent; its amount, should it arise, is quite problematical, and it could not be absorbed entirely in the compensation of our losses without great detriment to the progress of the district, and preventing that rapid occupation which we look on as one of the best guarantees for future tranquillity.

Under these circumstances and seeing the uncertainty and delay inseparable from the only mode of relief that seems open in the colony, the help of English friends will be of immediate use at the end of the war and far from superfluous. At the same time the view taken by the Superintendent and Provincial Council here is unchanged, namely, that it is fit to husband our friends' aid till the return of peace, the General Assembly having unequivocally accepted the present relief of all our wants. A resolution of an Aid Committee at Nelson expresses a different view, but it must be observed that as long as any private sources flow for the present relief of our people, the Colonial Government naturally and as a duty to the Colony holds its hand to a corresponding

amount. Thus the benefactions of our friends are spread imperceptibly over the colony in relieving the Revenue of some trifle of its authorised charge, instead of coming to the hands of the greater sufferers and helping appreciably to replace those losses which the colony does not recognise as a charge upon it. We still desire therefore that any aid subscribed for Taranaki should be paid into the Union Bank of Australia, Auckland, to the credit of the "Taranaki General Relief Fund" in the names of the Colonial Treasurer and the Provincial Treasurer of Taranaki.

I may remark that only part of the sufferers derive any aid from funds in the Nelson Committee's hands, whilst the plan I am advocating distributes the assistance among all who have lost or become necessitous by the war.

Any help that you can afford in laying this view before the friends who are interesting themselves for our settlers will oblige the Provincial Government.

I remain, Gentlemen, with many thanks for your previous kind offices,

Your obedient servant,
J. C. RICHMOND,
Provincial Secretary,
Taranaki.

Messrs. John Gladstone & Co.
Cornhill, London.

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 13th April, 1861.

SIR,—Since the despatch of my letter of the 8th instant I have received from the Taranaki Aid Committee of Nelson copy of a resolution passed by that body, which you will receive by this mail.

A misapprehension seems to exist in the minds of many persons that I have discouraged private subscriptions. This has arisen, I presume, from the anxiety I have felt to divert public benevolence into a channel which I have always believed to be the proper one, and to prevent the absorption of all funds arising from public subscriptions by a small section of the families at Nelson through the Aid Committee there. My last letter will explain sufficiently the condition of the settlers at the end of the war, and their need of a fund to start them again, but I have only incidentally adverted to the condition of families at Nelson.

There are about 1000 women and children at Nelson, who are provided from the funds of the colony with house accommodation, fuel, medical assistance, and a weekly allowance in cash, varying from 7s. to 28s. per family according to the number of members. The agent is, moreover, authorised to supply any other necessaries

that may be required, out of the public funds, if there are no private funds remaining to be drawn upon. It is obvious therefore that the effect of sending aid to Nelson simply relieves the colony at large from so much of the burthen it has undertaken and is of no special benefit to the immediate sufferers by the war.

There are many families in Nelson who are supported entirely by the exertion of their husbands, or from the remains of such property as they have been able to save from destruction, and in Taranaki there is still a larger number who have struggled on amid the war without assistance of any kind.

I know of no instance in which the kind of assistance mentioned in the resolution is required, and I believe that an eleemosynary fund tends in this as in most other cases to foster habits subversive of economy and industry, and to create the necessity it relieves.

I believe I am speaking the sentiment of the mass of the sufferers when I say that they would prefer receiving assistance at the end of the war, when their struggle will really commence, to seeing the benevolence of England confined to administering to the present comforts of a section of their families.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) G. CUTFIELD,
Superintendent.

E. D. Sweet, Esq.,
Hon. Sec.

Taranaki Aid Committee,
London.

Taranaki Aid Committee,
Nelson, 8th April, 1861.

SIR,—I am directed by this Committee to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th ultimo, and to forward to you in reply a copy of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Committee held this day, which will put you in possession of their views upon the subject of your communication.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) OSWALD CURTIS,
Honorary Secretary.

Thomas King, Esq.,
Provincial Treasurer,
Taranaki.

COPY of a Resolution passed at a Meeting of the "Taranaki Aid Committee," Nelson, held at the Chamber of Commerce on Monday, 8th April, 1861.

Moved by Oswald Curtis, Esq., seconded by Alexander Kerr, Esq.—

"That the Chairman of the New Zealand

Relief Fund in London be informed that the Taranaki refugees in Nelson are provided by the General Government with the necessaries of life, but that the rules under which relief is afforded by the Government being necessarily uniform, are unequal in their operation, and that some families, from being deprived of comforts to which they have been accustomed, suffer from their exile much more than others.

"That there are many instances of families which, from their previous habits of life, from the age and sex of their members, or from other circumstances, are unable to provide themselves with proper clothing or other necessaries and comforts, beyond the bare subsistence provided by the Government, and that the subscriptions of the public are of essential service in enabling the Committee to diminish the amount of

suffering inseparable from the present unhappy state of affairs at Taranaki, and which the administration of a uniform system alone is inadequate to relieve.

"That the Committee in this resolution confine themselves to the subject of immediate relief to the refugees from Taranaki now in this province, and make no reference to the more extended assistance which will be required at the close of the war to enable the settlers of Taranaki again to maintain their families within their own province."

Carried unanimously.

(Signed) WM. WELLS,
Chairman.

A true extract from the minutes.

(Signed) OSWALD CURTIS,
Honorary Secretary.



GOVERNMENT GAZETTE, PROVINCE OF TARANAKI, NEW ZEALAND.

Published by Authority.

NEW PLYMOUTH, MONDAY, MAY 20, 1861.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
New Plymouth, 1st May, 1861.
THE Superintendent directs it to be notified that
RICHARD CHILMAN
has this day resigned the office of Clerk to the Provincial Treasurer.
J. C. RICHMOND,
Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
New Plymouth, 1st May, 1861.
THE Superintendent has appointed
THOMAS KING
to be Clerk to the Provincial Treasurer.
J. C. RICHMOND,
Provincial Secretary.

NOTICE UNDER CATTLE BRANDS ORDINANCE.

Superintendent's Office,
New Plymouth, 16th May, 1861.
NOTICE is hereby given that, in pursuance of the power vested in me by the above Ordinance, I have appointed the Public Pound, situated in Gill street, Town of New Plymouth, to the exclusion of all other previously notified places, as

the place at which all cattle are to be exposed for inspection previous to their being slaughtered or branded.
G. CUTFIELD,
Superintendent.

[Reprinted from *New Zealand Gazette*.]

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 1st May, 1861.
HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to make the following appointment in the "Taranaki" Regiment of New Zealand Militia:—
CHARLES BROWN
to be Paymaster. Date of Commission—
1st April, 1861.

E. W. STAFFORD.

Office of Commissioner of Customs,
Auckland, 1st May, 1861.
HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint
RICHARD CHILMAN, Esq.,
to be Collector of Customs at the Port of New Plymouth.

E. W. STAFFORD,
In the absence of the Commissioner
of Customs.