

The Parliament, which has been some weeks in session, has exhibited a steady determination to curtail expenditure and effect a material reduction of the public establishments, rather than to attempt the restoration of the finances by any additional taxation. Whether this measure will succeed is questionable; but no doubt even the attempt will for some time aggravate the distress in certain quarters.

The legislation of the year was distinguished chiefly by the passing of an enactment by which a discussion extending over several years was at last concluded by the union of the Colonies of the Cape and British Kaffraria. This was a measure which, with a view to the efficient and economical government of these territories, I thought it my duty to press on Her Majesty's Government, notwithstanding the vehement opposition it encountered from some of the people of British Kaffraria, and I am still glad to think that those representations were sufficient to win their decided support of the proposed changes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. E. WODEHOUSE.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon,
&c. &c. &c.

NATAL.

No. 14.

NATAL.

No. 14.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Acting Lieut.-Governor BISSET to the Right Hon. the
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

(No. 87.)

SIR,

Government House, Natal, August 29, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith two copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1865.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN J. BISSET,
Acting Lieutenant-Governor.

The Right Hon. the
Secretary of State for the Colonies.

ST. HELENA.

No. 15.

ST. HELENA.

No. 15.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Vice-Admiral Sir CHARLES ELLIOT, K.C.B., to
the Right Hon. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.

(No. 122.)

SIR,

St. Helena, June 5, 1866.

HEREWITH I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1865.

2. The state of this post has been so fully reported upon in the course of the Despatches of the past year that it is unnecessary to intrude upon your attention any further detail upon this occasion. I trust, however, that we are now in the steady course of reparation of the public buildings, and that I shall be enabled, in forwarding the Blue Book for the current year, to indicate some considerable progress in that respect in a durable manner against further devastation by the white ant.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.