

No. 50.

## The AGENT-GENERAL FOR NEW SOUTH WALES to COLONIAL OFFICE.

5, Westminster Chambers,  
Westminster, S.W.,

February 24, 1885.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Bramston's letter of the 19th instant,\* having reference to the offer of the New South Wales Government to send a force for service in the Soudan, in which you are good enough to forward a copy of a letter from the War Office, wherein the Earl of Derby is informed that Lord Wolseley had telegraphed to the Secretary of State for War, saying that "He is proud to have the honour of commanding Australian troops in the field." This information I duly transmitted, by telegraph, to my Government.

The Under Secretary of State,  
Colonial Office.

I have, &c.,  
(Signed) SAUL SAMUEL.

No. 51.

The RIGHT HON. LORD AUGUSTUS LOFTUS, G.C.B. (NEW SOUTH WALES), to  
the RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY, K.G. (Received March 3, 1885.)

TELEGRAPHIC.

Contingent of 800 men, 224 horses, embarked to-day for Suakin. Departure greeted enthusiastically. Hope to reach Suakin in 30 days.

No. 52.

The RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF DERBY, K.G., to SIR W. C. F. ROBINSON,  
K.C.M G (SOUTH AUSTRALIA).

TELEGRAPHIC.

4th March 1885—Her Majesty's Government are carefully considering patriotic offer of troops. While disposal of further contingents during summer heat in Soudan would be most difficult to arrange, if Colony, either independently or acting jointly with others, can dispatch force in August to arrive in Egypt in September, Her Majesty's Government will most gladly receive it. Desirable know early probable number, description, and previous training of force, also whether advisable to supply from home any officers and non-commissioned officers experienced in field. Important, if possible, each Colonial contingent should drill together during month or more before embarking. Early answer valuable. Send copy Governor of Victoria, Governor of Queensland.

\* No. 37.