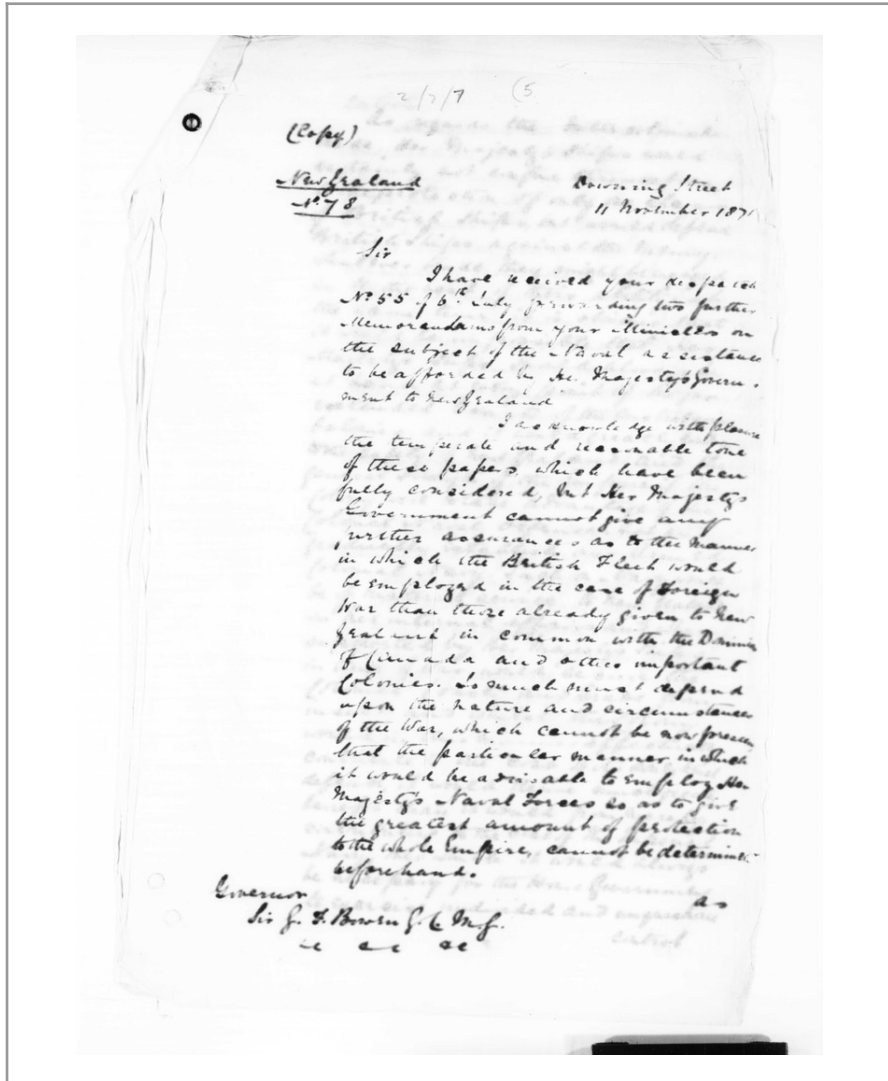


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3 pages



3 pages

As regards the Intercolonial
 trade, Her Majesty's Ships would
 certainly not confine themselves
 to the protection of any one class
 of British Ships, but would defend
 British Ships against the Enemy,
 should one trade they might be engaged
 in, to the best of their ability; at
 the same time it is obvious that
 it would be impossible that Her
 Majesty's Ships should always be
 at hand at every point of the pro-
 tected bounds of the Australian
 Colonies, and it would be a great, and
 the safety of New Zealand, and the
 general strength of the Empire if the
 Colonies were to take advantage of the
 Colonial Naval Defence, and
 gradually establish and develop
 a Colonial Navy. Such a Navy would
 be of material service to New Zealand
 in her internal affairs, and when
 supported by Her Majesty's Ships
 in time of War, would secure the
 Colonial Coast, and Trade from
 insult; and whilst the Colony
 would in this manner effectually
 contribute to the cost of its national
 defence, it would derive much greater
 benefit than it would from merely
 contributing to the cost of the Imperial
 Navy, nor which it would always
 be at the disposal of the Home Government
 to exercise undivided and unqualified
 control

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3 pages

