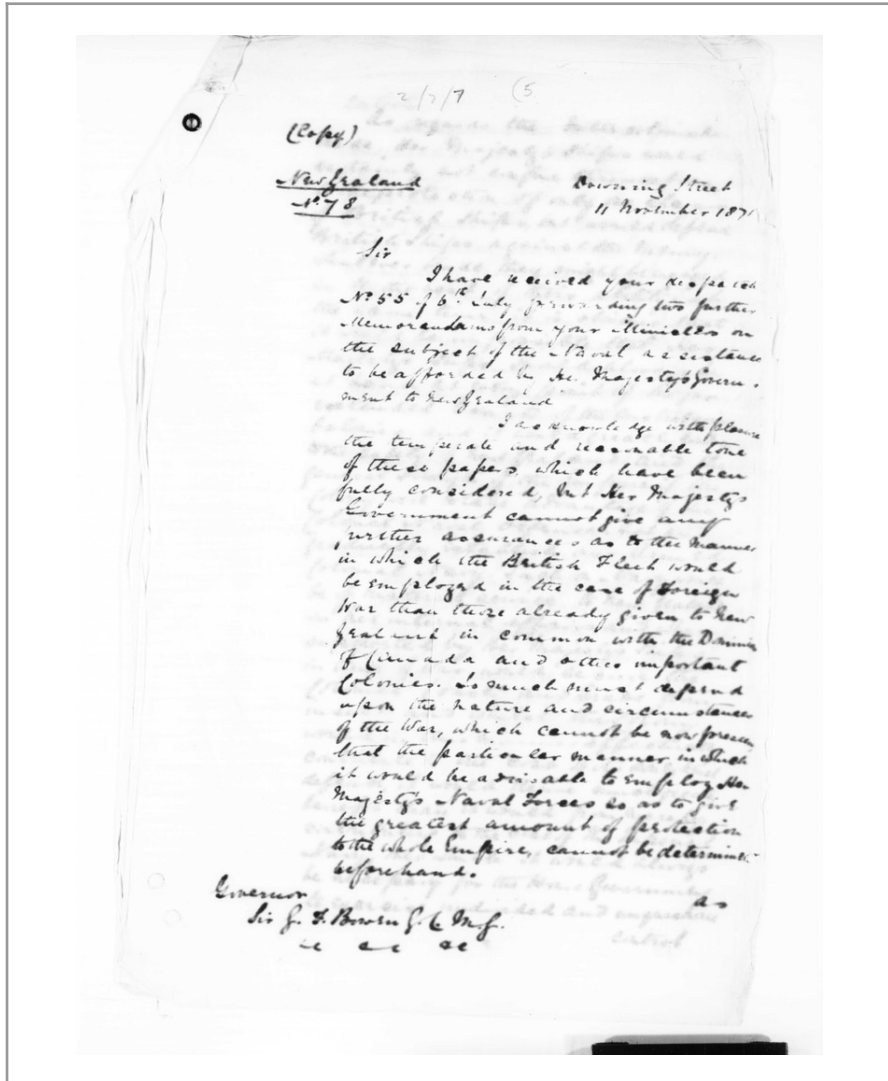


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As regards the Intercolonial  
 trade, Her Majesty's Ships would  
 certainly not confine themselves  
 to the protection of any one class  
 of British Ships, but would defend  
 British Ships against the Enemy,  
 should one trade they might be engaged  
 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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