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Downing-Street, 28th of December 1846.

N pursuance of an Act, made and passed in the ninth and tenth years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act to make further provision for the Government of the New Zealand Islands, Queen has been pleased to issue the following letters patent (being the New Zealand Charter), under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, and the instructions, under Her Majesty's sign manual and signet, accompanying the same:

VICTORIA, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith. To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting. Whereas by an Act made and passed in the Parliament holden in the ninth and tenth years of our reign, intituled "An Act to make further provision for the Government of the New Zealand Islands," it is among other things enacted, that it shall be lawful for us, in and by any letters patent to be issued, after the passing of the said Act, under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, from time to time to constitute and establish within any district or districts of the Islands of New Zealand, one or more municipal corporation or corporations, and to grant to any such corporations all or any of the powers which (in pursuance of the statutes in that behalf made and provided) it is competent to us to grant to the inhabitants of any town or borough in England and Wales, incorporated in virtue of such statutes or any of them, and to qualify and restrict the exercise of any such powers in such and the same manner as by the statutes last aforesaid, or any of them, we may qualify or restrict the exercise of any such powers in England; and it is by the said Act further enacted, that it shall be lawful for us, by any such letters patent as afore- II. And in further pursuance and exercise of said, to make and prescribe all such rules as to us the powers aforesaid, We do hereby grant, ap-

shall seem fit, for determining the extent and boundaries of the districts to be comprised within any such municipal corporations as aforesaid, and for regulating the choice and election of the various officers of any such corporations, and of the members of the governing bodies thereof, and for as-certaining the qualifications of the members of any such municipal corporations; and it is by the said Act further enacted, that it shall be lawful for us to execute any of the powers thereby vested in us, by instructions under our signet and sign manual, approved in our Privy Council, and accompanying or referred to in letters patent to be issued as aforesaid, and that it shall be lawful for us by any such letters patent or instructions, to delegate to the Governor-in-chief for the time being of the Islands of New Zealand, or to the respective Governors for the time being of the respective provinces into which the said islands may be divided, the exercise of such of the powers by the said Act vested in us as it may seem meet to us so to delegate, and to prescribe the manner and form in which, and the conditions subject to which, such delegated authority shall so be exercised.

Now know ye, that, in pursuance of the said recited Act, and in exercise of the powers thereby in us vested, and also in exercise of all and every other the powers to us in that behalf in anywise belonging, We, of our special grace, mere motion, and certain knowledge, have constituted and established, and do hereby constitute and esta-blish within the said Islands of New Zealand, such municipal corporations with such powers, qualifications, and restrictions, as are mentioned and directed in certain instructions by us given under our signet and sign manual, approved in our Privy Council, and bearing even date with, and accompanying these presents.