

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

(THE ARGUS LONDON AGENCY.)

THE KANAKA LABOUR TRAFFIC.

LETTER BY THE TIMES CORRE-
SPONDENT.

A FAVOURABLE REPORT.

LONDON, Dec. 27.

The *Times* this morning publishes the first letter from its special correspondent, Miss Shaw, who is now on a visit to Australia. It is devoted to the colony of Queensland, and deals especially with the coloured labour traffic.

Miss Shaw states that, after making the most careful inquiry, she has come to the conclusion that there is absolutely no foundation for the reports as to the abuses alleged to exist in connection with the system of recruiting kanakas and returning them to their islands. She considers that the present mode of recruiting is above any shadow of reproach, and states that she never saw any average manual labourer as well cared for as the kanakas working on the plantations.

Miss Shaw believes that the sugar industry in Queensland offers a valuable field for English capital and labour, and that it affords an excellent chance of settling a peasant proprietary on the land.

The *Times* also publishes a leading article on the subject. It says that if public opinion in England overruled the policy adopted in Queensland it might be doing a greater unkindness to the kanakas than to the employers. It adds that there seems ground to hope that a duly supervised traffic will be advantageous to the kanakas.