

# NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

(PROVINCE OF NEW MUNSTER.)

Published by Authority.

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By His Excellency's Command,
ALFRED DOMETT, Colonial Secretary.

VOL. IV.] WELLINGTON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1851. [No. 23.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
IN THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF THE ISLANDS OF NEW ZEALAND.

Wellington, Tuesday, July 22, 1851.

Present—

His Excellency SIR GEORGE GREY, K.C.B., Governor-in-Chief.

His Excellency Edward John Eyre, Lieutenant-Governor of New Munster, and ten Members.

# Absent-

The Hon, the Collector of Customs and

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.
The Rev. the Colonial Chaplain read prayers.

The minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr. Cutfield presented a petition from Richard Brown, of New Plymouth, as agent for Major Lloyd, praying that His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief will cause three natives to be removed from his principal's estate.

Petition received.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Chairman of sub committee on Land Claimants Bill stated his regret that their report was not ready, but that he hoped to-morrow to bring up the same.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief laid on the table a copy of a Despatch on the the subject of Provincial Councils, which, on the motion of Capt. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cautley, was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Bell being unavoidably absent,

Mr. Dillon delivered his request that consideration of Building Societies Bill be postponed until Thursday next.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, seconded by Col. M'Cleverty, "Appropriation Bill" read a second time and committed.

Title and preamble read and agreed to.
Clause 2 read and following items agreed

The Lieutenant Governor and Establishment.

Native Secretary's Department.

Councils Establishment.

Colonial Secretary's Department.

Colonial Treasurer's

Audit

Survey Public Works

On the motion of Mr. Cautley, seconded by Capt. Smith, committee on this Bill adjourned.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor gave notice that to-morrow he should bring up the report of committee on "Land Claimants Bill."

The Colonial Secretary of New Zealand gave notice that to-morrow he should ask for certain returns.

Th Colonial Secretary of New Munster gave notice that to-morrow he should move the adoption of an Address to the Crown on the subject of the disposal of Waste Lands by the Crown.

The Colonial Treasurer gave notice that to-morrow he should move the further consideration in committee of Estimates.

His Excellency then adjourned the Council at half-past three o'clock, to Wednesday, the 23d day of July, at two o'clock.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 23.

#### Present-

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and the Members as on yesterday. Also the Hon. the Collector of Customs and Mr. Bell.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.
The Rev. the Colonial Chaplain read prayers.

The minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Chairman of sub-committee on "Land Claimants Bill," brought up the Report which, on the motion of the Attorney General of New Zealand, was read.

Capt. Smith moved Council in committee on Land Claimants Bill.

Debate ensued, when motion withdrawn. His Excellency laid on the table a copy of a despatch, dated February 3rd, 1851, on the subject of the expenses connected with the purchase of land from the natives.

The Colonial Secretary of New Zealand moved for the following Returns:

Return shewing the quantity of Land cultivated by, and the number of Stock belonging to Europeans at the Principal Settlements in New Zealand at the termination of the year 1850.

Comparative Statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of New Zealand during the years 1848, 1849, and 1850.

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster expressed his regret at not having prepared the Address to the Crown agreeably to his notice, but stated that by Friday next he should endeavour to do so.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, seconded by Col. M'Cleverty, Council in committee on Appropriation Bill, when the following items in the second clause read, amended, and agreed to:—

mention, with ableace to t		-	
The Lieut, Governor and			
Establishment	1504	15	0
Native Secretary's Depart-			
ment	200	0	0
Councils Establishment	382	15	0
Colonial Secretary's De-			
partment	948	0	0
Colonial Treasurer's ,,	570		0
Andit	450	0	0
Survey	430	0	0
Road ,,	1136	8	0
Commissioner of Crown			
Lands	600	0	0
Post Office Department	365	0	0
Customs	1490	15	0
Harbour	602	0	6
Police ,,	1854	6	9
Medical	1083		0
Judicial Establishment	949	7	0
Law Officer	405	0	0
Registrar's General De-			
partment	481	7	6
Resident Magistrate's ,,	636	3	0
Sheriff's	496	7	6
Coroner's	30	Ö	0
Colonial Chaplain	200	0	0
Miscellaneous	750	Õ	Õ

On the motion that the blank opposite to Colonial Chaplain be filled in with the words £200

The Col. Secretary of New Munster moved as an amendment, seconded by Mr. Cautley, that the item be struck out.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived, being-

#### Ayes.

Hon. the Colonial Secretary of New Munster,

- The Attorney General of New Munster,
- The Colonial Treasurer,
- , Dillon Bell,
- W. O. Cautley,
- C. A. Dillon,

#### Noes.

His Excellency the Lieutenant, Governor, Hon. Col. M'Cleverty,

Hon. the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand,

- The Collector of Customs,
- , G. Cutfield,
- ,, Captain Smith,

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief declared in favour of the Noes.

Original motion put and carried.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, committee on this Bill adjourned till to-

His Excellency laid on the table a Bill to authorize the Governor-in-Chief to grant Charters of Incorporation to Banking Com-

The Attorney General of New Zealand gave notice that to-morrow he should move the third reading of "Crown Lands Amendment Ordinance.

Captain Smith gave notice that on Friday next he should move the adoption of the Report of sub-committee on "Land Claimants

His Excellency then adjourned the Council, at half-past five o'clock, to Thursday, the 24th day of July, at two o'clock.

# THURSDAY, JULY 24.

#### Present-

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief and eleven members.

#### Absent-

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and the Hon. the Collector of Customs.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Rev. the Colonial Chaplain read pravers.

The minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster presented and read a petition from the Committee of the Wellington Athenæum and Mechanics' Institute, submitting the claims of the Institute to the consideration of the Legislature and praying for such grant in aid thereof as to the honorable the Council might appear suitable.

Petition received.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, seconded by Col. M'Cleverty, Council in committee on "Appropriation Bill."

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, seconded by Col. M'Cleverty, the following items were read, amended, and agreed to:

Public Works	184	16	0
Houses	<b>75</b> .	0	0
Printing	200	0	0
Interest on Debentures	400	0	0
Ground Rent of Public Buildings	70	٥	0
Surveys, Survey Labour-		U	U
ers &c.	1100	0	0

Wanganu	Ι.		
Resident Magistrate's I			
partment	418	۰	^
Post Office	• 60	8	0
	- 0,0	U	U
Nelson. The Superintendent's E	·_		
tablishment	184		_
The Supreme Court D	626	10	.0
partment	/e-	_	_
Resident Magistrate's D	12	2	0
partment	e- 0:5		
Sheriff's Department	257	3	6
Police		10	0
Customs	409	14	0
Post Office	334	10	0
Sub Treasurer's	147	10	0
Registrar's	150	0	0
Harbour Master's	214	10	0
Coroner's	281	5	6
Medical	20	0	0
	140	0	0
Charitable Aid	. 165	•	0
Repairs of Roads and cor	1-		٠
struction of Bridges, &	c. 700	0	0
Commissioner of Crow	n		
Lands	• 600	0	0
Survey Department	• 170	0	0
Miscellaneous	. 100	0	0
Improvement of Harbour.	• 70	0	0
LYTTELTON.			
Customs Department	480	0	0
Resident Magistrate's De	- 100	v	v
partment	451	5	0
Police Department	544	6	
Post Office	175	0	8
Medical	126	0	0
Sheriff's	123	0	0
Miscellaneous	100	0	0
	100	U	U
OTAGO.			
Sub - Treasurer's Depart.	•		
ment	55	0	0
Customs Department	335	0	0
Post Office	90	0	0
Harbour "	125	0	0
Police "	<b>594</b>	1	8
Supreme Court Department	815	0	0
Resident Magistrate's ,,	140 1	6	0
Sheriff's	30	0	0
Deputy Registrar's	110	0 (	0
Inspector of Sheep	20	0 (	)
Miscellaneous		) (	)
The Colonial Secretary of	New Mur	ster	
ad, and presented, a letter	from Car	atair	`
irgill, Dunedin, on the subje	ect of a bri	anhi	
d moved that the sum of	£228 15	Ωĥe	
ded to the Estimates for	the repai	r of	f
ids and bridges.	Pui	_ 01	-
Motion agreed to.			
Akaroa.	•		
Resident Magistrate's De-			

rea Car and add roa

Resident Magistrate's Department..... 331 Post Office.....

At the suggestion of His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, it was agreed to place the sum of £200 on the Estimates for the use

of the New Zealand Society.
On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Munster, seconded by Mr. Bell, the sum of £200 was voted for the use of the Mechanics' Institute of which sum £100 to be applied for general purposes, and £100

Captain Smith moved the consideration of a petition from James Storah, of the Butt, settler.

Petition received, and it was agreed to refer the same to the Officer at the time in Command.

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster moved, seconded by the Attorney-General of New Munster, that the sum of £1500 be added to the Estimates for a Gaol at Wellington.

The Colonial Treasurer moved as an amendment, seconded by Captain Smith, that the motion for any specific sum be postponed for further consideration.

Amendment adopted.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, committee on this Bill adjourned till to-mor-

Mr. Bell moved Council in committee on "Building Societies Bill."

Col. M'Cleverty moved as an amendment that Council do adjourn.

Amendment adopted.

The Attorney General of New Zealand gave notice that to-morrow he should move the third reading of "Crown Lands Amend-ment Ordinance;" also that he should move certain amendments on consideration of committee of "Land Claimants Bill."

Mr. Bell gave notice that to-morrow he should move Council in committee on "Building Societies Bill;" also that he should move the adoption of certain amendments founded on the report of Sub Committee on "Land Claimants Bill" on the Bill being considered in committee.

His Excellency laid on the table a Bill to amend "Paper Currency Ordinance."

His Excellency then adjourned the Council at half-past five o'clock to Friday the 25th day of July at two o'clock.

# FRIDAY, July 25.

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief and eleven members.

#### Absent-

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and the Hon. Collector of Customs.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Rev. Colonial Chaplain read prayers. The minutes of last meeting read and con-

Mr. Bell moved the order of the day for Council in Committee on "Building Societies Bill.'

Title and clauses 1 to 15 inclusive read, amended, and agreed to, when

On the motion of Mr. Bell, Council resumed, and the Report being brought up,

On the motion of Captain Smith, Council in committee on "Land Claimants Bill," when the several clauses, with additional clauses and schedule to this Bill, read, amended, and agreed to.

The Attorney General of New Zealand moved, seconded by Mr. Bell, that an additional clause be inserted to the effect of "barring widows from dower.

Upon a division motion negatived, being-

## Ayes.

Hon, the Attorney General of New Zea-

The Attorney General of New Munster.

Dillon Bell.

## Noes.

Hon. Col. M'Cleverty,

The Colonial Secretary of New Zea-

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster,

The Colonial Treasurer.

G. Cutfield,

C. A. Dillon

" Captain Smith.

On the motion of Capt. Smith, Council

The Attorney General of New Zealand gave notice to-morrow he should move the third reading of " Crown Lands Amendment

The Colonial Secretary of New Zealand gave notice that to morrow he should move the first reading of "Bank Charters Bill."

Capt. Smith gave notice that to-morrow he should bring up the Report on "Land Claimants Bill:" also, that he should move the adoption of a resolution on the subject of a Lighthouse.

Mr. Bell gave notice that on Tuesday he should move the third reading of "Building Societies Bill."

His Excellency then adjourned the Council at a quarter past seven o'clock, to Saturday, the 26th day of July, at two o'clock.

# SATURDAY, JULY 26.

# Present-

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and the Members as on yesterday.

#### Absent-

The Hon. the Collector of Customs.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Rev. the Colonial Chaplain read prayers.

The minutes of the last meeting read and

confirmed.

The Colonial Secretary of New Zealand moved the order of the day for the first reading of "Bank Charters Bill."

Motion seconded by Col. M'Cleverty and

adopted.

Bill read a first time accordingly.

On the motion of Captain Smith, Council in committee on "Land Claimants Bill," and resumed in order that the Report on this Bill might be brought up.

The Report being brought up, adopted. On the motion of Mr. Bell, seconded by Capt. Smith, the Report of the select committee on "Land Claimants Bill," together with the evidence taken thereon, ordered to be printed.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, seconded by the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand, Council in committee on "Appro-

priation Bill."

The following items for the Province of New Ulster, read, amended, and agreed to:

Lieut. Governor and Esta-			
blishment	1060	0	0
Native Secretary's Depart-			
ment	<b>472</b>	8	0
Council's "	50	0	0
Colonial Secretary's ,,	1279	1	0
Colonial Treasurer's ,,	905	0	0
Audit	450	0	0
Colonial Bank of Issue	200	0	0
Survey Department	1192	0	0
Public Works	467	6	0
Road Department, including			
Superintendent's salary	940	19	0
Commissioners of Crown			
Lands	500	0	0
Roads at Taranaki	300	0	0
Post office Department	456	0	0
Customs "	2219	0	0
Government Cutter	154	0	0
Harbour, including boats at			
New Plymouth	1151	4	0
Armed Police Force	3527	15	0
Medical Department	1350	5	0
Judicial "	1380	0	0
Law Officer's	490	0	0
Registrar of Deeds ,,	300	0	0
Resident Magistrate's ,,	1658	18	0
Sheriff and Gaol	988	0	0
Dueim and Ogoretan	-		

Coroner	30	0	0
Colonial Chaplain · · · · ·	200	0	0
Schools	1300	0	0
Interest on 8 per cent. De-			
bentures	1040	0	0
Interest on Land Debentures	45	0	0
Printing and Stationery	700	0	0
Relief of sick and destitute	200	0	0
Pensions	231	16	0
Gratuities to Native Chiefs			
who served in the rebel-			
lion	100		
Presents to Aborigines	300	0	. 0
Miscellaneous, including			
Panmure Ferry, Fire-			
wood, Travelling Ex-			
penses, &c., Balance of			
Advance issued from			
Land Fund to meet ex-			
penses on account of			
Wharf in Commercial Bay			
and Wharf in Official Bay	1069	18	1
CHARGES ON LAND I	UND.		
G	379	8	0

Surveys ..... 2874 0 Wharf in Commercial Bay Educational purposes for Aborigines, being estimated at 15 per cent. of Land Fund receipts du-1050 0 0 ring the year .....

On the motion of Mr. Cutfield, seconded by Mr. Cautley, the sum of £300 placed on the Estimates for roads at Taranaki.

On the motion of Mr. Cutfield, an alteration in Taranaki police force agreed to.

Mr. Cautley moved, seconded by the Colonial Treasurer, that the words Colonial Chaplain be struck out.

Committee divided.

Amendment negatived, being-

# Ayes.

Hon. the Colonial Secretary of New Munster,

The Attorney General of New Munster.

The Colonial Treasurer,

Dillon Bell,

W. O. Cautley,

C. A. Dillon.

#### Noes.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Hon. Col. M'Cleverty,

The Colonial Secretary of New Zea-

The Attorney General of New Zealand,

G. Cutfield,

Capt. Smith,

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief declared in favour of the Noes.

Capt. Smith moved, agreeably to his notice, seconded by the Colonial Treasurer, the following resolution:—

That in the opinion of this Council, the want of a Lighthouse to render the entrance of Port Nicholson more easily distinguishable, has been a main cause of the Shipwrecks that have taken place in the neighbourhood of the Port, and that it is of the utmost importance to the security of the shipping, the prosperity of commerce, and the preservation of human life, that a Lighthouse be immediately erected in such a situation in the vicinity of the harbour of Port Nicholson as to the Executive Government may seem most appropriate, and that it is most expedient that the proceeds of the extra duty imposed on Spirits (namely 1s. per gallon), which may be raised in the Port of Wellington be devoted for a period of eighteen months to the attainment of this desirable object.

Resolution adopted.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, seconded by Col. M'Cleverty, the sum of £1400 placed on the Estimates for erection of Wellington Gaol, when Council resumed.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Munster, seconded by Mr. Cautley, the following Address to the Crown adopted:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,-

We, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the Legislative Council of New Zealand, in Council assembled, humbly solicit your Majesty's gracious attention to a matter of the highest importance to the prosperity of your Majesty's colony of New Zealand.

The subject we allude to is the disposal of your Majesty's demesne lands in these islands.

In transmitting to the Governor of New Zealand the Australian Waste Lands Act of 1842, your Majesty's then Secretary of State for the Colonies alluded with much truth and force to the "protracted discussions which had taken place respecting the settlement of waste lands in the Australian colonies; to the frequency with which the system had been changed, the complaints to which this mutability of purpose had given rise; to the experiments which in the gradual progress of experience may have been not imprudently hazarded, even though in the result such experiments were found to disappoint the hopes of their authors; - and to the accumulation, consequent upon all this, of a large body both of theoretical and practical knowledge of which it was then proposed to gather the fruits." Lord Stanley then declared that "the bill in question had been passed into a law with scarcely a dissentient voice in either House of Parliament; that he had no reason to suppose that the general propriety of its provisions was disputed by any persons in this country to whose judgment on such topics any par-ticular authority was due; and that he trusted he might with no unreasonable confi-

dence anticipate important advantages from that enactment, both as respected the general interests of the empire at large and the local interests of the Australian provinces of the British Crown. He then particularizes one in especial of the benefits calculated to ensue in these words: "Of those advantages not the least important will be found in the guarantee at length given for stability and consistency of purpose in the administration of the land and the land revenues of the Crown in New Holland, and the adjacent islands. It is of course impossible that the system now established should be changed by any authority but that of Parliament. Her Majesty's Government have had no difficulty in advising the Queen thus to relinquish a power which experience has shewn to be not unattended with the risk of immature and precipitate resolutions."

In these sentiments we beg respectfully to assure your Majesty of our entire concurrence. In the hopes so reasonably excited in the breast of your Majesty's then Secretary of State, we believe the settlers of New Zealand fully participated, and looked forward with equal confidence to the advantages to be secured by the act in question. But it is with great regret we feel ourselves compelled to declare to your Majesty that the benefits, which the relinquishment by your Majesty of the power of administering the land and land revenues alluded to was calculated to preduce, have not accrued to this colony; that the recurrence of the very evils pointed out by Lord Stanley, and to prevent which your Majesty so graciously resigned that power, has not been precluded; but that occasion has even been afforded thereby for the admission of other evils of even a graver character, not auticipated when the Australian Waste Lands Act was passed.

This unfavorable result of your Majesty's benevolent intentions is, in our opinion, to be attributed to the fact that Parliament has adopted the course of delegating the power relinquished by your Majesty to various bodies of your Majesty's subjects, who from many circumstances cannot be made sufficiently responsible for its exercise, and over whom it is difficult to establish the control necessary to secure the most beneficial administration of the funds it entrusts them with.

Now, the evils which actual experience has hitherto shewn to be the result of this delegation of the power given to Parliament, consist in the virtual reproduction of the old vacillation and inconsistency in the disposal of the public land; of undue facilities for its acquisition existing in some parts of the country simultaneously with extreme and impolitic restrictions thereupon in other parts; of extensive and rapid fluctuations in the market value

of land; of consequent uncertainty and hazard in the operations of those who undertake its occupation and culture; of the most profuse and lavish expenditure of the land funds; and of the contraction and imposition upon the resources of the colony of heavy liabilities in compensation of those to whom the results of the experiments indulged in have proved unsatisfactory; liabilities incurred without the consent in some cases, or even knowledge of the Colonial Government or the colonial public, who are so greatly interested in the revenues thus appropriated by anticipation or expended with no adequate return. In addition to these evils the exclusive systems of colonization involve the new evil of the virtual imposition of disabilities upon numbers of your Majesty's subjects by depriving them of advantages and opportunities for the exertion of their enterprize and the improvement of their outward circumstances, except at the sacrifice perhaps of cherished religious principles, or the violation of conscientious scruples.

Any detailed proof of the correctness of the opinions just stated would be out of place on the present occasion. But we may be permitted presently to allude to a few undeniable facts in illustration of the results of some of the experiments that have so far been made. To ascertain precisely what amount of these unfavorable consequences is attributable to the nature of the experiments themselves, and how much to incidental circumstances over which the promoters of the experiments had no control would be an invidious task, even were it a practicable one. But it is greatly to be feared that circumstances similar to those which have been considered as most adverse to the success of the schemes hitherto attempted, will most probably always attend the cession by the Crown of such extensive powers as have been given to the associations hitherto formed. To judge by past experience, it seems to be an evil inherent in the plan of entrusting the administration of Crown lands to companies in England, that they find themselves under the necessity, at least in commencing their operations, of disposing of such lands by sale in that country. ther called trading companies or not they require immediate funds, which must be raised in that way. To force the sale of land in large quantities, it is necessary to make abundant promises of collateral advantages, whether of a moral or material kind, which may attract the requisite number of purchasers. These advantages (as has been the case with respect to all experiments hitherto tried) not having been obtained, or obtained to the promised extent, claims for compensation arise which have to be satisfied by gratuitous grants of land; and the result is a greater waste of

public land than took place even under the old system, and all the manifold evils that accompany such profusion.

But the establishment of associations also introduces into the colony organized bodies invested with many of the powers which are ordinarily entrusted to the Imperial or the Local Government. The natural consequence is a want of harmony and co-operation, the consequences of which are most injurious to the colony and the public. Past experience seems to lead irresistibly to the expectation that similar difficulties, to some extent or other, will always arise from the co-existence of governing bodies mutually independent and with often conflicting interests. And without attempting to decide with respect to past instances, to which party the blame of failures which have injured both is justly to be attached, we cannot refrain from expressing our apprehension lest the blame of future failures, should such take place, may still be laid to the inharmonious working of the independent societies concerned, with Government; and that compensation to all parties injured will be again demanded from Government to an extent almost ruinous to the land revenue, and most detrimental to the public interest. Because it will require so small an amount of ingenuity to paint any failure as the result of the nonfulfilment of some supposed duty of Government, or its neglect to adopt some auxiliary measure or measures, real or imaginary, and possibly only discovered and suggested after

But be all this as it may, the illustration of the effects of the system of ceding the Crown's power to associations, afforded by the Company which has lately ceased to act, may be shewn to be strongly against the expediency of its repetition, by one striking fact. difference between what has been effected by it at the expense of Government, and what Government might have done at the same expense by its previously existing machinery, is as follows. Government has parted permanently with 270,073 acres to the Company of land sold by them, and with about 200,000 acres of land which has been given, or which must be given, under existing engagements to such of their purchasers to whom the result of the experiments have not been satisfactory. It has further in actual money given to the Company a boon of £236,000, and imposed on the colonial land fund a debt of another sum of £268,000, to be hereafter paid to the Company. Had the land so disposed of been sold by Government at the upset price only of £1 per acre, and half of the proceeds devoted under the provisions of the Waste Lands Act to emigration, and the sums expended on the Company been advanced to the colony, and applied to the same object, there might have been introduced into the Province of New Munster no fewer than 65,241 emigrants, one third adults, and two thirds children,—the cost of their passage being taken at the rate at which the Land and Emigration Commissioners actually paid for the few they sent hither. And this would still have left funds ample and probably far more than sufficient for the purchase of land, and all expenses connected with its sale and administration. The number really introduced by the Company amounted to 11,680 souls,—about the present population of the Province.

After all reasonable allowance, then, for the obligation the public is under to the Company for having by its enterprize been the means of causing the occupation by your Majesty's Government of this invaluable field for colonization, and by its energy and activity, of keeping the public attention continually alive to the advantages of emigration thereto, we cannot refrain from expressing our opinion that the facts just stated incontestibly prove that the plan adopted by Parliament, of delegating the administration of the Crown lands to associations, is a highly impolitic and injurious one.

We therefore pray that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to direct, as far as depends upon your Majesty, that the administration and disposal of the Crown demesne in this colony may be based upon one uniform and impartial system, as was done by the act of Parliament so often alluded to, and which was devised with so much care, experience, and deliberation, and attended with guarantees apparently so satisfactory and infallible. We pray that all lands whatever may be disposed of by sale on equal terms, whether to private individuals or public associations, in order that the loss and detriment resulting from experiments of whatever kind in colonization may hereafter fall not upon the public, but solely upon the real owners of the lands with regard to which they are made, upon those only who set them on foot, and should alone be responsible for their failure; and in order that the public interests, and the rights and welfare of all your Majesty's subjects in this respect may be equally and equitably provided for and se-

The Colonial Secretary of New Zealand gave notice that on Monday next he should move second reading of "Bank Charters Bill."

Capt. Smith gave notice that on Tuesday next he should move the third reading of "Land Claimants Ordinance,"

Col. M'Cleverty gave notice that on Monday next he should move the first reading of "Paper Currency Bill."

Col. M'Cleverty gave notice, for the Colonial Treasurer, that on Monday next he should move Council in committee on "Appropriation Bill."

Mr. Bell gave notice that on Monday next he should move third reading of "Building and Land Societies Ordinance."

His Excellency then adjourned the Council at half-past five o'clock to Monday next, the 28th day of July, at two o'clock.

## Monday, July 28.

#### Present-

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief and eleven members.

#### Absent-

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and the hon. Collector of Customs.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Rev. T. B. Hutton, in the absence of the Colonial Chaplain, read prayers.

The minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

The Attorney General of New Zealand moved the order of the day for the third reading of "Crown Lands Amendment Ordinance," seconded by the Attorney General of New Munster, and adopted.

Ordinance read a third time and passed, On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand, seconded by the Colonial Secretary of New Munster, "Bank Charters Bill" read a second time and committed.

Title, preamble, and clauses one and two with the several sections following clause two read, amended and agreed to.

In section eight, Mr. Bell moved, se-

In section eight, Mr. Bell moved, seconded by the Colonial Treasurer, that the words one sixth be substituted for one-third. Committee divided.

Amendment negatived, and original motion that the section do stand as read, put and carried.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand Council resumed, and the Report being brought up, adopted.

On the motion of Col. M'Cleverty, seconded by the Col. Treasurer, "Paper Currency Bill" read a first time.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, Council in committee on "Appropriation Bill." Title, preamble, and clauses 1, 2, 3 and 4 read, amended, and agreed to.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, the sum of £70 placed on the Estimates as salary of scab Inspector at Lyttelton, and £5 added to sum allowed for ground rent of

public offices.

Mr. Cutfield moved, seconded by Mr. Bell, that forage for one horse be allowed to the Commissioner of Crown Lands at Taranaki,

Debate ensued, when motion withdrawn. On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer Council resumed, and Report being brought up, adopted. On the motion of Mr. Bell, it was agreed that the section of the standing rules which directs that a Bill be printed in duplicate on parchment, previously to the motion for its third reading, be suspended for this occasion, in order to move the third reading of "Building and Land Societies Ordinance," which it had been found convenient to have engrossed on parchment instead of printed thereon.

Mr. Bell then moved, seconded by the Attorney General of New Zealand, that the "Building and Land Societies Ordinance" be read a third time and that it do pass.

Motion agreed to, and Ordinance read a

third time and passed.

The Colonial Secretary of New Zealand gave notice that to-morrow he should move the third reading of "Bank Charters Ordinance."

Col. M'Cleverty gave notice that to-morrow he should move the second reading of "Paper Currency Bill."

The Colonial Treasurer gave notice that to-morrow he should move the third reading

of "Appropriation Ordinance."

His Excellency then adjourned the Council at four o'clock to Tuesday, the 29th day of July, at two o'clock.

# Tuesday, July 29.

#### Present-

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and the Members as on yesterday.

#### Absent-

The Hon. the Collector of Customs.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Rev. the Colonial Chaplain read prayers.

The minutes of last meeting read and con-

irmed.

Capt. Smith asked permission to postpone the motion standing in his name, for third reading of "Land Claimants Ordinance," and on the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, this Bill recommitted.

His Excellency brought before Council a letter from the Agent of the Canterbury Association respecting claims of persons at Banks' Peninsula.

The Attorney General of New Zealand proposed the following resolution for the future consideration of the committee on this Bill—

In case it shall be made to appear, to the satisfaction of such Commissioner, that the land to be comprised in any deed of Grant to be issued under the authority hereof is subject to any legal or equitable mortgage, charge, or lien, it shall be lawful for such Commissioner to prescribe such terms and conditions for the deliv-

ery of such deed to the Grantee thereof as to him may appear just and equitable in relation thereto.

On the motion of Col. M'Cleverty, Council resumed.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand, seconded by the Colonial Secretary of New Munster, "Bank Charters Ordinance" read a third time.

On the motion of Col. M'Cleverty, seconded by the Colonial Treasurer, "Paper Currency Bill" read a second time.

On the motion of Col. M'Cleverty, Coun-

cil in committee on this Bill.

Title, preamble, and clauses 1, 2, 3 read

and agreed to.

His Excellency proposed that the Union Bank of Australia established in New Zealand be empowered to issue notes to the amount of £9000 for a period of five years.

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster moved as an amendment, seconded by the Colonial Treasurer, that an additional clause be inserted to limit the issue of the same to one year.

Committee divided.

Amendment put and carried.

On the motion of the Colonial Treasurer, seconded by Col. M'Cleverty, "Appropriation Ordinance" read a third time and passed.

His Excellency laid on the table a "Bill

to amend Licensing Ordinance."

On the motion of the Attorney General of New Zealand, a letter from the Agent of the Canterbury Association addressed to His Excellency Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c., ordered to be printed.

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster laid on the table certain returns previously asked for, which were ordered to be printed.

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster gave notice that to-morrow he should move the first reading of "Licensing Amendment Rill"

The Colonial Secretary of New Zealand gave notice that to-morrow he should move that "Bank Charters Ordinance" do pass.

Capt. Smith gave notice that to-morrow he should move Council in committee on "Land Claimants Bill."

Col. M'Cleverty gave notice that to-morrow he should bring up the Report on "Paper Currency Bill."

Mr. Bell gave notice that on reconsideration of Land Claimants Bill in committee he should move the following resolution:

Whereas the select committee to whom the New Zealand Company's Land Claimants Bill was referred did, in their Report to this Council, make a recommendation that any claims advanced by Absentee Proprietors of land in the settlement of Nelson to compensation under any contract of the New Zealand Company, should be entertained and adjusted on the same general principle as that which was adopted in the adjustment of similar claims of absentee

roprietors of land in the settlement of Wellington and New Plymouth:-

Resolved,

That it is the opinion of this Council, and they hereby recommend to His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, that any such claims to compensation by absentee proprietors of land in the Nelson settlement shall be entertained and adjusted by the Government on the general principle aforesaid; and that upon report by any Commissioner appointed under the said Ordinance (to whom any such claim shall have been referred by the Governor) that the claimant is entitled to compensation, the Governor ant is entitled to compensation, the Governor should issue scrip to such claimant, to an amount not exceeding in any case the sum of one hundred and fifty Pounds upon any allotment, when the claimant shall retain the land originally purchased by him, or Fifty Pounds where such claimant shall exchange that land for scrip under the provisions of the said Ordinance.

Mr. Cautley asked for information on the subject of having the Report, and proceedings of the select committee on "Land Claimants Bill" printed.

Debate ensued.

It was finally carried, on a division, that the Report alone of that committee be printed.

His Excellency then adjourned the Council, at four o'clock, to Wednesday next, the 30th day of July, at two o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 30.

#### Present-

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and the members as on yesterday.

Absent-

The Hon. the Collector of Customs.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Rev. the Colonial Chaplain read

The minutes of the last meeting read and

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand, "Bank Charters Ordinance"

On the motion of Capt. Smith, Council in Committee on Land Claimants Bill.

The Attorney General of New Zealand moved the insertion of a clause, as entered in the minutes of Council for July 29th, to follow clause 16

Motion agreed to, when Council resumed. Mr. Bell moved the adoption of a resolution, as entered in the minutes of Council for July the 29th.

Motion seconded by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and adopted.

Col. M'Cleverty, agreeably to notice, brought up the Report of committee on "Paper Currency Ordinance."

Report adopted.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Munster, seconded by the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand, "Licensing Amendment Ordinance" read a first time.

Col. M'Cleverty gave notice that to-morrow he should move the third reading of

Paper Currency Ordinance.

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster gave notice that to-morrow he should move second reading of "Licensing Amendment Ordinance."

Capt. Smith gave notice that to-morrow he should move Council in committee on " Land Claimants Bill."

Mr. Cautley gave notice that to-morrow he should move the further consideration in committee of "Pasturage Rules and Regu-

His Excellency then adjourned the Council, at three o'clock, to Thursday, the 31st day of July, at two o'clock.

# THURSDAY, JULY 31.

#### Present-

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and ten Members.

#### Absent-

The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer.

The Hon. the Collector of Customs.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Rev. the Colonial Chaplain read pravers.

The minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

Col. M'Cleverty moved the order of the day for the third reading of "Paper Currency Ordinance," seconded by the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand.

Motion adopted and Ordinance read a

third time and passed.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Munster, seconded by the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand, "Licensing Amendment Bill" read a second time and committed.

Title and preamble read and agreed to. Clauses 1, 2, 3 read, amended and agreed

Capt. Smith moved as a third clause that a publican's license be fixed at £30, with the privilege of selling liquor until the hour of twelve at night.

Committee divided. Motion negatived, being-

# Aves.

Hon, the Colonial Secretary of New Munster,

Capt. Smith.

Noes.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor. Hon. Col. M'Cleverty,

The Colonial Secretary of New Zealand,

- " The Attorney General of New Zealand,
- " The Attorney General of New Munster,
- , Dillon Bell,
- ,, W. O. Cautley,
- , G. Cutfield,
- " C. A. Dillon.

Capt. Smith moved that a clause be introduced enacting—

That any wholesale dealer in spirituous liquors, wine, ale or beer shall take out a license for the same, the rate of such license to be £10 per annum. Also, that the holder of such license shall keep his name painted in legible characters, with the words licensed to sell spirituous and fermented liquors wholesale, on some conspicuous part of his house.

Committee divided.

Motion negatived, being—

Aves.

Hon. Capt. Smith,

- " W. O. Cautley,
- , C. A. Dillon.

#### Noes.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Hon. Col. M'Cleverty,

- " The Colonial Secretary of New Zealand,
- ,, The Colonial Secretary of New Munster,
- ,, The Attorney General of New Zealand,
- " The Attorney General of New Munster,
- ,, Dillon Bell,
- " G. Cutfield.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Munster, Council resumed.

The Report brought up and adopted. On the motion of Capt. Smith, Counci in committee on "Land Claimants Bill."

Clause 3 amended, and clauses for 17 and 27, entered in the minutes of Council for July 29, moved by the Attorney General of New Zealand; and Mr. Bell's proposed resolution, as entered in the minutes of Council, agreed to.

On the motion of Capt. Smith, Council resumed.

The Report brought up and adopted.
On the motion of Mr. Cautley, Pasturage

Rules considered.

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster brought forward his motion, seconded by Capt. Smith, respecting the letting of sheep runs on lease according to a certain scale as proposed June 27th to Council in committee on these rules.

Adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Cautley, seconded by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, it was agreed:—

That the annual license fee be in all cases at least £5, and that each person who occupies a runshall pay annually, in addition, a further license fee at the rate of one pound sterling for every thousand sheep above five thousand which the run so occupied shall be estimated to be capable of containing, and in the same proportion for great cattle.

On the motion of Mr. Dillon, it was agreed that in these Regulations six sheep be considered equal to one head of cattle.

Capt. Smith gave notice that on Saturday next he should move the third reading of "Land Claimants Ordinance."

The Colonial Secretary of New Munster gave notice that on Saturday next he should move the third reading of "Licensing Amendment Ordinance."

Mr. Cautley gave notice that on Saturday next he should move the adoption by Council of an Address to the Crown on the subject of the Canterbury Association.

His Excellency then adjourned the Council, at twenty minutes past five o'clock, to Saturday next, the 2nd day of August, at one o'clock.

# SATURDAY, AUGUST 2.

## Present-

His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and the members as on Thursday last.

#### Also--

The hon. the Colonial Treasurer, and the hon. Collector of Customs.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.
The Rev. the Colonial Chaplain read prayers.

The minutes of the last meeting read and confirmed.

Capt. Smith moved the order of the day for the suspension, for this occasion, of that portion of the standing rules which directs that a Bill be printed in duplicate on parchment previously to the motion for its third reading, in order that the third reading of two Ordinances might be moved, which it had been found convenient to have engrossed on parchment instead of printed thereon.

Captain Smith then moved the third reading of "Land Claimants Ordinance."

Motion seconded by the Attorney General of New Zealand and agreed to.

Ordinance read a third time and passed.

Mr. Cautley, agreeably to notice, moved the adoption by Council of the following Address to the Crown on the subject of an extension of the limits of the Canterbury ter-

Motion seconded by the Colonial Secre-

tary of New Munster.

To Her Most Gracious Majesty Vic-TORIA, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, QUEEN, Defender of the Faith and so forth.

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and faithful Servants, Members of the Legislative Council of New Zealand in Council assembled, in venturing to address Your Majesty on a subject of importance to the interests of many of the Inhabitants of this Colony, beg leave to assure Your Majesty of our loyalty and devotion to Your Majesty's throne and person.

From sources which are to be relied upon, we are informed that a certain Body of Your Majesty's subjects incorporated under the Great Seal of the Realm by the style and title of the Canterbury Association of New Zealand, to whom Your Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant for ten years an exclusive right of sale and pasturage over two and a-half millions of acres of the Crown Demesne in this Colony, propose, and are about to apply to Your Majesty for an extension of the territory already granted to

We view with alarm the possibility of Your Majesty's Government acceeding to such a

Under the Regulations of the Canterbury Association, Land cannot be sold under three pounds an acre, of which two pounds are to be devoted to religious and educational pur-But all Your Majesty's subjects therefore who are not members of the Church of England are deprived of the right of using one of the finest and most extensive districts in the country as a field for their enterprise, and a means of realizing those benefits in the anticipation of which so many of them emi-

grated to this Colony.

But while the injury inflicted upon them is confined to a mere diminution of the advantages the Colony would otherwise offer to them, a more positive injury has been perhaps inadvertently done to another body of Your Majesty's subjects who were settled, before the Canterbury Association obtained its Charter, upon the lands which it has placed at their sole disposal. Above 200 souls are resident at Akaroa, who profess the Roman Catholic Faith. Every Landowner among those, before he can obtain an increase of the pittance of Land at present occupied by him, (to the acquisition of however small a portion of additional land he may limit his wishes), must for every acre he purchases contribute a sum of \$1 to the support of a religion he conscientiously disapproves of and dissents from. On the unfairness and hardship of this result of the monopoly of the Association, we trust it is not necessary for us to dilate. But the amount of injustice already done would be greatly increased by an extension of that monopoly to lands, the beneficial occupation of which is at present enjoyed or attainable by Your Majesty's subjects belonging to the Presbyterian Settlement of Otago, or to that of Nelson, inhabited by a population composed of a variety of religious sects distinguished hitherto by their freedom from sectarian intolerance and exclusiveness, and for the harmony with which they have dwelt together in the same community. Still greater would be the unfairness to the actual land purchasers in those settlements, because while it is notorious that a considerable number of them have never obtained for the capital they invested in the purchase and cultivation of their lands anything like an adequate return, they have been, and will be enabled by the opportunity of occupying for sheep pasture the land contiguous to these settlements in some measure to redeem their losses, to recover their position, and to relieve themselves from the disastrous consequences which would otherwise attend their emigration to this Colony.

The extension of the Canterbury Block beyond its present limits would tend to deprive them in a great measure of the advantages just stated, and which, in the case of the Nelson purchasers particularly, the difficulties they underwent in the early days of the Colony's existence, we think it cannot but be owned they are justified in deeming themselves entitled to be maintained in possession of by an equitable and generous Government.

On behalf then of the inhabitants of New Zealand generally, and of the Settlements just alluded to in particular, we pray Your Majesty while allowing the Canterbury Association to carry out their great experiment fairly and freely, within the ample limits assigned them, to be graciously pleased to withhold Your sanction from any attempt on their part to extend these limits, and thus impose disabilities upon, and infringe the rights of others of Your Majesty's subjects equally engaged with them in the arduous work of col-

The Colonial Treasurer moved as an amendment, seconded by Col. M'Cleverty, that this Address be rejected.

Debate ensued.

Council divided.

Amendment negatived, being-

Ayes.

Hon. the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand.

Hon, the Colonial Secretary of New Mun-

The Collector of Customs,

Dillon Bell,

W. O. Cautley,

G. Cutfield, ,,

C. A. Dillon, Capt. Smith.

#### Noes.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Hon. Col. M'Cleverty,

The Attorney General of New Zealand.

Colonial Treasurer.

Motion then put and carried.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary of New Munster, seconded by the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand, "Licensing Amendment Ordinance" read a third time,

and passed.

His Excellency laid on the table a copy of a letter from the Governor-in-Chief addressed to Lieutenant Governor Wynyard, together with a copy of a Charter of Incorporation of Borough of Auckland, dated Government House, Wellington, July 29th,

His Excellency then adjourned the Coun-

cil at three o'clock sine die.

H. S. HARRISON, . Clerk of Council.

Council Chamber, August 2, 1851.

EXTRACT from a Despatch from the RIGHT HONORABLE EARL GREY to the GOVER-NOR-IN-CHIEF of New Zealand.

(Laid before the Council July 22, 1851.)

No. 23.

Downing-street, 19th February, 1851.

SIR,--

In acknowledging your despatch No. 98, of September 20th, in which you report the resignation of certain Members of the Legislative Council of New Zealand, I will take the opportunity of adverting to your former despatch, No. 161, of November 30th, 1849, in which you proposed the introduction of representative institutions into New Zealand in the beginning of the pre-

sent year.

2. I have, as yet, refrained from answering this despatch, not from any reluctance on the part of her Majesty's Government to entertain the momentous question to which it relates, or from any distrust of your judgment in thus proposing the extension of free institutions, at an earlier period than was before contemplated, into the community over which you preside; but from a sense of the practical difficulties which oppose the immediate realization of vour views. Fully admitting the principles which you advocate, and also the force of your testimony to the fitness of the community of New Zealand for the proposed change, the manner of effecting it required serious consideration, not only from its own inherent difficulties, but because it could not be done without the authority of Parlia-

ment.

3. I therefore postponed my answer until it could be determined whether it was possible to submit any measure on the subject of the constitution of New Zealand to Parliament during the present session. must now inform you that upon a full review of the various subjects which must necessarily be brought before the Legislature in the present session, her Majesty's Government have come to the conclusion that it probably will not be in their power, without interfering with measures of more pressing urgency, to introduce in this session a bill for determining the future constitution of the Government of New Zealand, since from the experience of the discussions on the bill for extending to the other Australian Colonies the constitution already established in New South Wales, it is evident that the consideration of such a measure would necessarily occupy a very large portion of the public time.

4. These reasons, in addition to those already stated in my despatch of the 22nd of December, 1849, have induced me to consent to the continued postponement of a more comprehensive measure, and I have felt the less difficulty in doing so, inasmuch as the powers with which you are already invested by the Suspending Act of 1848 enable you to introduce the representative principle, of your own authority, into the Legislatures of the Provinces into which New Zealand is divided. If you think the time has arrived for the safe exercise of those powers, I wish you to use them forth-For it would, in my opinion, be attended with much convenience that the Provincial Councils should be re-constituted on this basis before the constitution of the

General Legislature is altered.

5. The best model for these Provincial Councils, which must be regarded as temporary and subordinate institutions, will probably be attained by introducing a number of elective members exceeding the non-elective; but the proportions, and the other details, I leave to yourself.

6. I agree with you in thinking that hereafter, when the population of the colony shall have increased, and the means of communication been improved, many of the subjects which must for the present be dealt with by these separate Legislatures

will be brought again with propriety under the control of the General Legislature; the Provincial Councils confining themselves, ultimately, to the discharge of duties similar to those which, in Canada, devolve on the District Councils.

- 7. I approve also of the change which you propose, in paragraph 7 of your despatch of November 30, 1849, to introduce in the present constitution of the Provincial Councils as to the suspension of their Ordinances by the Governor-in-Chief; but this is a power which, from the nature of the subject, should be very sparingly exer. cised.
- 8. On the question of the farther subdivision of New Zealand in general, or of New Munster, into Provinces, I must necessarily rely, in great measure, on your judgment. According to the best opinion which I am able at present to form, it is desirable that such subdivision should take The parties who are interested in the settlement of Canterbury, and I believe also those who are concerned in Otago, are desirous of having those settlements erected into separate Provinces, in which case Nelson would remain, as now, in connexion with Wellington. But the decision as to the limits of these Provinces I wish to remain with yourself.
- 9. This opinion, however, is not unconditional. I am not satisfied of the expediency of establishing in these smaller Provinces Councils entirely nominated by the Crown, as you appear to suggest in your despatch of November 30, 1849. I think, on the contrary, that no new Provinces should be constituted unless the representative element can be introduced into its Councils. But, even with a very small population, this appears to me practicable.
- 10. In the next place, I agree in your opinion, as expressed in your despatch of December 22, 1849, paragraph 20, that no new Province should be constituted, unless on the terms of supporting its own peculiar expenses, and contributing its fair proportion to those general expenses, whatever they may be, which may be charged on the whole community of New Zealand.
- 11. In order to carry these views into effect, I have advised Her Majesty to make the necessary change in the Charter of 1846. The Act of 1848, suspending the Constitution, does not suspend that portion of the Act of 1846, which empowers the Queen to divide the Island into Provinces. or that portion which enables Her to delegate to the Governor any portion of the powers which that Act confers upon her. You will therefore be empowered in general terms, to constitute new Provinces; and the Act of 1848 gives you sufficient authority

(with the advice of the Legislative Council of New Zealand) to constitute Legislatures for such Provinces.

12. To facilitate the same object, the Royal Instructions will also be altered in the manner which you recommend in your despatch of October 22, 1849, as to the Constitution of the Executive Council.

13. When the inhabitants of New Zealand are thus invested with the power of managing the affairs of the separate Provinces by representative bodies, by which also they will be enabled to express their wishes and opinions to the General Legislature (which will, no doubt, be much assisted, and in great measure guided, by their advice), I trust that no serious inconvenience will result from the postponement for a short time of a change in the constitution of the latter body, by which a representative character will be given to it likewise.

> I have the honor to be. &c., &c., &c., (Signed) GREY.

Governor

Sir George Grey, K.C.B., &c., &c.,

> A true extract, G. S. COOPER.

Copy of Correspondence between Her Ma-JESTY'S GOVERNMENT and the CANTERBURY Association.

(Laid before the Council July 9, 1851.)

Duplicate, No. 62.

Downing-street, 27th September, 1850.

Sir,-

It appears to me that I cannot adopt any better manner of making you acquainted with the views which Her Majesty's Government entertain with respect to the management of the affairs of the settlement recently founded at Canterbury, in the Southern Province of New Zealand, than by transmitting to you the copy of a correspondence which has taken place on the subject under my direction, with the Canterbury Association in this country.

2. You will accordingly make the necessary arrangements for the affairs of that settlement, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government, on a scale of the strictest economy which you may find con-

sistent with effective service.

3. You will fully understand that it is my wish that you should exercise your own discretion in those particulars which I have

here submitted to it: although subject to the exercise of that discretion, it is the wish of Her Majesty's Government, that the founders of the settlement may have every possible facility for carrying into execution their own views as to its government: and I fully concur in the opinion entertained by the Association as to the importance of securing harmony and general unity of action at the outset of their scheme of colonization.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant, Grey.

Governor Sir George Grey, &c., &c., &c.

(Copy.)

Office of the Canterbury Association, 20, Cockspur-street, 4th September, 1850.

My Lord,-

I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Canterbury Association to address your Lordship on the subject of the official appointments necessary to be made at Port Lyttelton.

I submit for your Lordship's guidance an estimate of the probable statistics of the colony as they will be likely to be found after the arrival of the first bodies of colo-

nists.

From the latest accounts we understand that there are now settled at Port Lyttelton, including natives and persons employed by the Association, about 500 persons. The four ships about to sail will carry with them upon an average, including women and children rather less than 250 souls each, making together about 900 souls. The Association have ordered for survey two more ships. Probably by the end of the month of October two others will sail, making four altogether, carrying together an additional number of probably 1,000 souls. In addition to these, we suppose that stragglers from other settlements, together with persons sailing in other ships besides those of the Association, will upon the whole make up a population of from 2,500 to 3,000 persons.

As regards the probable revenue arising within the colony, the Association have framed the best estimates in their power, both by comparative calculations of the revenues of other settlements in New Zealand, as well as by information obtained from the best sources. They will most readily place before your Lordship (if desired) the details

of these calculations.

The result is, that they confidently expect the revenue accruing at Port Lyttelton will not be less than six thousand pounds (£6,000) a-year.

So long as the whole of the Southern Settlements remain incorporated as one province, this revenue will accrue to the common fund of the Province. At the same time your Lordship will, we know, recognize at once the equitable claim which the new settlement will have to receive a benefit proportioned to its contributions to that fund.

In the first place, therefore, your Lordship will no doubt think it reasonable (as indeed it is absolutely necessary, that provision should be made for the ordinary jurisdictions, both civil and criminal. present the views of the Association on this point do not extend beyond the appointment of a resident magistrate and a sufficient number of unpaid magistrates: the Resident Magistrate being, for the present, the most important officer in the colony, would, as they think, be entitled to receive a proportionate salary, the amount of course will be paid by the local authorities. It should, however, in the opinion of the Association, be sufficient to ensure the services of a gentleman of high position and adequate ability.

Of the unpaid magistrates, as they will involve no charge upon the revenue, I need

at present say nothing further.

There will be in addition various subordinate officers, such as postmaster, harbourmaster, commandant of the militia, and others of an inferior kind, besides the ne

cessary staff of clerks, &c.

Your Lordship will perceive that, assuming our estimate of the revenue to be borne out by the result, there will be an ample fund for these various purposes. Indeed the Association are led to believe that after full provision for them there may be a surplus. These calculations are necessarily in some degree uncertain. The Association, however, would urge upon your Lordship to recommend the local authorities to make provision for the objects before mentioned to an extent proportioned (so far as payment is concerned) to the means of the colony. They do not desire to throw any charge upon the other settlements for their establishments at Canterbury. other hand, supposing there should be a surplus revenue after full provision for all their establishments, they would respectfully suggest to your Lordship the propriety of your recommending to His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief to adopt such measures as may be necessary for enabling the surplus to be applied for the benefit of the new settlement, in such manner as the Agent of the Association in the colony may think best.

At the same time, I am to express to your Lordship the very earnest hope of the Association, that at the earliest possible moment arrangements may be made for placing the management of the affairs of the new settlement in its own hands, a matter which they have no hesitation in pressing upon your Lordship's consideration, knowing it to be entirely in accordance with your own general views.

They have received with great satisfaction your Lordship's assurances from time to time, of your readiness to promote this object so soon as circumstances will permit. In their judgment, so far as they can offer an opinion, the future revenue of the colony will at once be equal to sustaining such a charge, and its population seems likely to increase rapidly. They forbear for the present from adding more upon this subject, upon which they will venture to trouble your Lordship at a future day.

Reverting to the subject of the present temporary arrangements, I am desired to express the anxious wish of the Association that the appointments to local offices in the colony should be made not merely with scrupulous care as to individual fitness, as to which, they might fully rely upon your Lordship and His Excellency the Governorin-Chief, but in such a manner as to meet, as far as possible, the wishes and opinions of the colonists themselves. They think that the happiness and success of the colony depends in a very great measure upon this point, for reasons upon which it would be quite superfluous to enlarge, knowing as they do your Lordship's opinion on the question, and having received already assurances of your readiness to contribute to the end in view so far as lies in your power.

They are aware that strictly the nomination to appointments in the colony rests with the Governor-in-Chief and local authorities, subject to the approval of the Home Government. Your Lordship's recommendation, however, to His Excellency on this subject would no doubt receive every consideration from him.

The Association are aware of the intention of Captain Charles Simeon, a gentleman of high qualifications, brother to Mr. John Simeon, member for the Isle of Wight, and son of Sir Richard Simeon of Swanston, in the Isle of Wight, to settle permanently at Canterbury with his family at the end of the present or the beginning of the next year. They have received from the colonists now about to sail, an intimation of their wish that this gentleman should

fill the office of resident or principal magistrate in the colony.

The Association are able confidently to recommend him for the office. He is a proprietor of land in the colony to a considerable extent. His service in the army—(from which on his marriage he lately sold out),—his habits, tone of mind, and general acquirements, eminently qualify him for such a position, his personal character and private fortune would add weight to the office—at the same time that he would be personally most acceptable to the colonists.

Believing that your Lordship will be ready to entertain this suggestion, you will no doubt desire to ascertain the views of the Association as to the provision to be made for the duties of the office in the interval, previous to Captain Simeon's arrival in the colony. As to this, in order to avoid difficulty, it has occurred to them to submit to the Governor-in-Chief, with your Lordship's recommendation, a proposal that Mr. Godley himself, the Agent of the Association, should be provisionally appointed.

Mr. Godley's character in all points stands so high in this country, that it would be needless to add any testimony on the part of the Association to his high qualifications. I am desired to convey to your Lordship, in the strongest terms, their high sense of his judgment, honor, and fitness, in all respects, for an office of trust and importance.

Should this suggestion be adopted, they will communicate with Mr. Godley on the subject, and they doubt not that he will, at their instance, undertake to fill the office in the manner proposed provisionally, and in the interval previous to Captain Simeon's arrival.

Having already stated to your Lordship the high opinion entertained by them of Mr. Godley, and the implicit confidence which they place in him, they do not hesitate to add a further wish on their part, that, as regards all the other local appointments, his judgment and recommendation may be accepted by the local authorities as the rule for selection, so far as possible, and to the utmost extent to which such a rule can be properly applied, I refer particularly to the appointment of unpaid magistrates, and those other subordinate offices to which I have already adverted; indeed it would be extremely satisfactory to the Association if the rule could for the present be extended to every part of the establishments in the colony.

The peculiar advantage which they seek thus to obtain, is to ensure an entire harmony and unity of operation through the whole body of the colonists, and as far as possible to satisfy them. Mr. Godley's

personal knowledge of the characters and qualifications of all the parties by whom he will be surrounded, will enable him to exercise such a trust in the best possible manner. His instructions from the Association, agreeing, as we know they will, with his own judgment, will lead him to select from the colonists for recommendation in each department those persons who can most advantageously be employed for the service of the colony; and we are satisfied that in his impartial and disinterested judgment the colonists as a body will have implicit confidence.

We thus hope to avoid those causes of discontent which have not unfrequently occasioned serious drawbacks to the success

and growth of an infant colony.

The Association are fully aware of the large discretion upon such a subject which must be necessarily left to the local authorities—a discretion which it would be highly presumptuous in them to attempt improperly to control. At the same time they venture to make these suggestions, relying upon the disposition of your Lordship already expressed, to entertain an application of this nature with as much favor as circumstances will enable you.

I am desired by them to conclude by expressing to your Lordship their most cordial and sincere thanks for the co-operation and assistance which they have hitherto received from you in their under-

taking.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) H. F. Alston, Secretary.

The Right Honble. Earl Grey, &c., &c., &c.

(Copy.)

Colonial Office, 16th September, 1850.

SIR,-

1. I am directed by Earl Grey to acknowledge your letter of the 4th of this month on the subject of the official appointments necessary to be made at Port Lyttelton.

- 2. It will be his Lordship's desire to meet, as far as possible, the views of the settlers both in respect of the arrangements to be made for performing the essential function of Governor in the new settlement, and in the selection of persons to hold the new appointments which may be created there.
- 3. Lord Grey will therefore instruct the Governor to take measures for proposing to the Legislature to sanction such expenditure as may be requisite to provide for the wants

of the new settlement, and as may be reasonable with reference to its contribution to the general revenue of the colony.

4. Lord Grey will also make known to the Governor the recommendations which he has received from the Association of Mr. Simeon and Mr. Godley, with an intimation that he will be glad if their services can be made available in the manner proposed.

5. His Lordship feels, however, that he must (as indeed the Association anticipate) intrust a large discretion to the Governor, whom he does not think it would be expedient to fetter by positive instructions.

6. He will also inform Sir George Grey, that it is his wish that some municipal organization should be immediately given to the settlement (without waiting for the completion of more perfect arrangements) by which measure as large a share as possible of the management of their own affairs may be entrusted to them.

7. His Lordship does not feel prepared to direct the Governor to be absolutely guided by Mr. Godley in the selection of magistrates, although Sir George Grey will, no doubt, be disposed to give all due weight to

that gentleman's advice.

8. A copy of your letter, and of my present answer to it, will be immediately dispatched to Sir George Grey, accompanied by the necessary directions, as soon as the consent of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury may have been obtained to the financial part of the arrangement.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) B. HAWES.

H. F. Alston, Esq., Secretary to the Canterbury Association.

REPORT of the SELECT COMMITTEE on the NEW ZEALAND COMPANY'S LAND CLAIM-ANTS BILL.

(Laid before the Council, July 23, 1851.)

The Select Committee of the Legislative Council, appointed on the 1st July, "to whom the New Zealand Company's Land Claimants Bill, together with certain proposed amendments and other documents relating thereto, were referred for consideration and Report," have agreed to the following Report:—

The object of the bill being to settle the claims depending upon the unfulfilled contracts of the New Zealand Company for the disposal of land, the attention of your Committee was first directed to an enquiry into the general nature and extent of those claims. In proceeding to that enquiry they were met by the difficulty of there being no accurate published statements by the Company of its liabilities for land, or of the total quantity it had disposed of: and your

Committee were therefore only able to arrive at an approximate estimate of the claims which, in consequence of the Company having sarrendered its charters without issuing titles to its purchasers, will now be brought against the Colonial Government.

These claims may be divided into two classes, mamely:

I. Claims in respect of land originally purchased: II. Claims in respect of compensation.

From an Appendix to the last Report (1st July 1850) issued by the Company before its disadution, it appears to have sold about 240,000 acres to original purchasers in the actalements of Wellington, Wanganui, Nelson, New Plymouth, and Otago. But being unable New Plymouth, and Otago. But being untable to give possession of a great part of the land so sold, and a large proportion even of the land of which possession could be given being worth-less; the nurchasers in the four first paraed settlements demanded compensation for the non-fulfilment of the contract. The general principles on which it was eventually determined to allow that compensation are stated in the "Correspondence relating to Land Questions" appended to this Report. It consisted of two privileges which were conceded to the purchasers: one was that of surrendering land either unaprivileges which were conceded to the purchasers:
one was that of surrendering land either unavailable or of which possession could at the obtained, and reselecting atter land instead; the
other was that of recaiving a free gift of an
additional quantity of land. And although in
the adjustment of the Nelson claims the right of
reselection was extended to a part only of the land reselection was extended to a part only of the land purchased, yet, es the Company subsequently offered it to all the purchasers in the other settlements of Wellington, Wanganui, and New Plymouth, in pursuance of its own admission that every purchaser was entitled to "beneficial occupation of the full amount of his land," it seems to your Committee neither just nor expedient to exclude the Nelson purchasers, even partially, from the privilege of reselection, or to compel them to retain any land which from position or otherwise may be unavailable, and of which they cannot consequently have that "beneficial occupation."

which they cannot consequently have that a beneficial occupation."

In estimating the probable extent of the claims that will be brought forward under the first class referred to, your Committee have assumed that the Government will recognise and carry out the general offer of reselection made by the Company to its purchasers. It appears, indeed, to have been established with the consent of all parties including Her Majesty's Government, that it would be unjust and unwise, since the Company in every case demanded and received money for land that had never been seen by the purchaser, to force the latter to keep any land which was not a fair equivalent for his investment, nawise for the colors which suffaced preselve by the disastifaction and disappointment of a body of nations who had contributed large sums to its foundation.

If that principle is admitted by the Crown, If that principle is admitted by the Crown, and the positive engagements of the Company to the same effect with the large majority of its purchasers have to be carried out, it is evident that the contract in respect of the 240,600 acres originally sold by the Company, could not be fulfilled by the more offer of Crown Grants for the land hitherts selected. On the contrary, considering the character of much of the selected land, the incompleteness and inaccuracy of many of the Company's surveys, the im-

possibility of giving possession of about \$40,000 acres selected in districts not yet acquired from the natives, and other fair grounds for reselection, it is clear that Government must provide for the rejection of a very large proportion of that whole quantity originally chosen; and though your Committee have had some difficulty in ascertaining, from the witnesses examined, what that proportion would be likely to be, they cannot estimate it at less than one-half, or 120,000 acres.

With regard to the second class of claims, arising from the right of compensation, your Committee have found still more difficulty in assertaling their probable extent, chiefly from the fact that only a part of those relating to the Nelson settlement were advanced against, or even considered by the Company before its dissolution. But as far as the adjustment was proceeded with by the Company it appears, first —that the claims of all the purchasers resident in the settlements of Wellington, Wanganui, New Plymouth, and Nelson have been settled by the gift of land to the extent of about 76,000 acres; and secondly—that the Campany made a proposal to the absentee proprietors in the three first named settlements, to fulfil which (when all these parties come into the grrangement) about 81,000 acres more will be requisite.

The claims just referred to as not having

The claims just referred to as not having The claims just referred to as not having been settled are those of absence proprieters in the Nelson settlement, who were not included in the Company's proposal, but who it appears are now before Her Majesty's Government with a request for some similar arrangement, assisted by the recommendation of the Company, which has admitted their claims since its dissolution, and would therefore have adjusted them had it continued its functions. The claim advanced in particular by the Hen. Alpany, which has admitted their claims since its dissolution, and would therefore have adjusted them had it continued its functions. The claim advanced in particular by the Hen. Algernon Gray Tollemache, being one of the matters referred to your Committee by the Council, they have given the whole subject their sarnest consideration: and without admitting the allegations of injustice and unfairness on which that gentleman mainly rests his case, they are of opinion that he, as well as the great body of absentee proprietors in the Nelson settlement, would have had, as against the Company, an equitable right to refer their claims to arbitration, under the plan of adjustment known as the "Nelson resolutions of July 1847;" but that, as the Company's dissolution has rendered such arbitrations impossible, their case should now be adjusted by the Colonial Government on a general principle similar to that which was adopted with regard to the Wellington and New Plymouth absentees; namely, that of giving an additional amount of rural last, net exceeding 25 acres, in respect of every 100 acres originally purchased. This would require about 40,000 acres more.

Adding together, then, the whole number of acres already given or offered by the Company in compensation at Wellington, Wanganui, and New Plymouth, to the number which under the proposal of your Committee would be further necessary for Nelson, it appears that meanly 200,000 acres would be required to meet the claims for compensation under the Company's contracts. And as out of this quantity only 76,000 acres have been selected (namely, by the resident purchasers in all the settlements), new land will have to be prepided out of which more than 120,000 acres may now be chosen.

Thus, taking the probable quantity of land which would be thrown up under the hefore

be chosen. Thus, taking the probable quantity of land which would be thrown up under the beforementioned general right of reselection, and the quantity for compensation that has not yet been selected at all, it would be necessary, if no other means existed of meeting the claim, to other means existed of which 240,000 acres could be selected now; of which at least 100,000 acres would have to be found for the absentee proprietors in the settlement of Wellington alone, merely for their compensation and for the land chosen by them but not acquired from the natives.

These rights to selection and re-selection being admitted, it appears to your Committee that the Government is undoubtedly bound either to provide good land for the purpose at once, or to devise some other means of meeting the whole claim. For there is no doubt whatever that the fair expectation and understanding upon which the purchasers from the Company agreed to the compensation arrangements, was that the land should be given within a reasonably short time; so much so, that the Company itself stipulated that all the choices should be made within six months from the time of any districts being declared open by its agents. This expectation was fulfilled in in the case of the resident landowners, who in all the settlements had plenty of good land and a fair range of choice, within a short time after the arrangements with them were made; but it was not fulfilled in the case of the absentees, who were clearly entitled to the same advantage, and yet for whom no district whatever was declared open, or even surveyed, in the Wellington, Wanganui, or New Plymouth settlements, either for re-selection or for compensation.

But your Committee believe it may be assumed—1st: that there is not sufficient good land in the districts hitherto attached by the Company to the settlements of Wellington, Nelson, and New Plymouth, to allow of 240,000 more acres being immediately selected therein: and 2ndly—that if there were, the whole would have to be immediately surveyed; since it is improbable that reselection to any great extent would be made out of land thrown up. And repeated experience has shown, that in order to provide a fair range of choice over good land, at least one-third and probably one-half more than the land actually to be chosen, must be surveyed; so that in order to provide even in the present districts a fair range of choice for 240,000 acres, a survey of at least 320,000 acres, and probably of 360,000, would be necessary, the cost being probably not less than £8,000 if the land were mostly open, or £16,000 if it were mostly wooded. Without a single reselection, and taking merely the unselected compensation land, an immediate survey of from 160,000 to 180,000 acres would at any rate be required, the cost whereof would not be less than from £4,000 to £6,000.

But independently of the doubt that exists as

But independently of the doubt that exists as to there being such an amount of good land immediately available in the present districts for the selections alluded to, it appears to your Committee that, as the resident landowners in all the settlements have had the first choice of the good land therein for their compensation, and in Wellington, Wanganui, and New Plymouth have also had their reselections before the absentees, it would not be fair to force the latter to select within districts where the best land has been so secured beforehand. An instance of this may be given in the case of the Rangitikei district, where out of about 28 miles of frontage along the course of the Rangitikei

river, and 30 miles on the Turakina river, comprised in the block purchased from the natives, the resident landowners have taken about 22 miles frontage on the first river, and 15 on the second; and where out of the 20 miles of frontage remaining about 5 miles are occupied by native reserves, and at least 10 are useless mountains or sandhills, leaving barely five miles frontage on the only two rivers in a district of 160,000 aeres open for any other selection. Then if the Government, in order to avoid this injustice determined on providing near district for tice, determined on providing new districts for the selection of the 240,000 acres, it would be met by two difficulties: one, that the cost of acquiring those districts from the natives would have to be added to the cost of the survey, thus incurring perhaps several thousand pounds more expense; the other, that as the residents were themselves expressly confined to the prewere themselves expressly connued to the present districts and to a limited time for selection, they might take occasion to complain of so extended a choice being given to the assentees, claim the right of throwing up to some extent their present choices, and swell the quantity of new land to be acquired and supresent tity of new land to be acquired and surveyed. It appears, consequently, that if the scheme of reselection were to be carried out and land had reselection were to be carried out and land had to be provided for the compensation (and, as has been said, this can only be done fairly by being done at ouce), the public would not only suffer by the extreme profusion with which it has to give away land under the Company's contracts, but the present settlers of this country would have to provide immediately, out of the revenue raised by themselves, a very large sum of money for the mere purpose of acquiring districts and making surveys for the Company. Or if it be said that the public is really under no unavoidable obligation to provide immediately good land to the extent named; that it may put off once more claims which have been already put off again and again for ten years, and suit its own convenience (not-withstanding the Company's promises and enten years, and suit its own convenience (not-withstanding the Company's promises and en-gagements) in meeting them; it is still ques-tionable whether that course would not be worse for the settlers. It these rights of choice under the Company's landorders were to be continued indefinitely, no uniformity of system could be maintained; they would constantly interfere with land being put up for sale, and the actual colonist, desirous to buy, would never know whether he could do so, or whether a landorder would not be put in for the piece of land on which he had set his wishes.

Again, evidence has been given before the Committee that, in the Wellington settlement, the compensation land given to the residents (the best, it will be remembered, of the good districts then open) has been sold at from 5s. to 7s. an acre; that even under regular arbitrations it has been awarded at that rate; and that at Nelson land of the very best quality of soil, given out to the purchasers as rural sections, has been sold at from 6s. to 8s. per acre because the land was 120 miles from the chief town of the settlement. Your Committee request the attention of the Council to these facts as they affect the prospect of any early revival of the land fund in this Province.

If the persons who have to select the 250,000 acres above estimated find themselves forced and restricted into the present districts after the residents have been allowed to obtain the best land, and, after ten years of delays and loss are made to choose land, the best of which has often been sold at 5s. an acre, your Committee believe the inevitable result would

be that the greatest part of the 440,000 acres disposed of under the Company's contracts would be thrown into the market at similar would be thrown into the market at similar prices; in which case it is unnecessary to say there would be no buyers from the Crown at £1 per acre. On the other hand, if the absentees had new and valuable districts thrown open for them wherein they might take the best of position and soil, as the residents had done in the old districts for their compensation, no land fund for some time could be reasonably expected from sales of second rate land at a minimum price of £1 per aere.

expected from sales of second rate land at a minimum price of £1 per aere.

Whether, therefore, the whole of the 440,000 acres disposed of under the Company's contracts were chosen in the best parts of the good and of new districts; or the purchasers, by being forced into only the present districts were driven to throw a great proportion into the market at low prices; or, as a middle course, the right of selection with Company's landorders was allowed to be exercised for an indefinite time at sales of Crown land; there could hardly be a reasonable hope of reviving the land fund for reasonable hope of reviving the land fund for

a very long period.

The foregoing considerations have led your Committee to the conclusion that the offer made in the Bill, of converting the claims to the immediate de-Bill, of converting the claims to the immediate delivery of such a vast quantity of land, into Government scrip available at future sales of Crown lands throughout the greater part of New Zealand, is the only plan by which the various difficulties enumerated above may be avoided. It is itself surrounded with comparatively few difficulties, and is attendable may adventages. It effects in the opinion of ed by many advantages. It affords, in the opinion of ed by many auvantages. It attords, in the opinion of your Committee, the means of immediately closing all claims under contracts with the Company; relieves the actual colonists (on whom such an obligation would most unfairly rest) from the necessity of expending immediately large sums on surveys, chiefly for the benefit of nersons who will never be resident in the benefit of persons who will never be resident in the benefit of persons who will never be resident in the colony: will save to the public a great amount of land without injury to the Company's purchasers, tend very materially to lessen absenteeism, and increase the proportion borne by the population to the alienated land; give facilities, never hitherto existing in these settlements for the real colonist to obtain land, and substitute uniformity of system for the losse and warring schemes adouted under for the loose and varying schemes adopted under the Company; and even promote emigration hither, which the unsettled state of the land question has

which the unsettied state of the land question has for years discouraged and prevented.

It was objected by one of the witnesses examined by your Committee, that there is something deceptive in issuing scrip which purports to give a right to purchase land from the Crown, while there is not concluded enough immediately to redeem the examination. good land enough immediately to redeem the amount of scrip issued; and that the purchasers will be no gainers by receiving inconvertible Government scrip in exchange for inconvertible Company's land-orders. In reference to this objection it may be remarked in the first place—that the scheme consists in an open offer, to be voluntarily accepted or not; secondly—that the Government being indebted, under arrangements overwhich it had little control, for an immense quantity of good land which it cannot immediately provide, proposes to compromise that debt by giving a bond which may be presented from time to time as good land can be opened out; and thirdly—that in return for not being required to provide the whole immediately, the public waives its strict right of compelling a selection in whatever its strict right of compelling a selection in whatever land may be now to give, and in a very limited time, and offers an entirely unrestricted choice and an indefinite period for its exercise. The offer, therefore, so far from being a deceptive one, is equally advantageous to both parties. And it must be remembered, that there is no difficulty whatever

in the way of providing an ample extent of good land bye and bye: there is merely a great inconvenience in attempting to provide it now; the public therefore by the scheme of scrip merely avoids that present inconvenience without in the smallest degree evading the ultimate fulfilment of the whole obligaevacing the unimate runment of the whole obliga-tion. And even if, after issuing the scrip, the pub-lic were suddenly required to redeem the whole at once in land, it would of course be in no worse position than the Company has left it now.

But while the proposal is so far equally advantageous to the purchaser and the public, the latter will obtain a further advantage without an injury to the purchaser. The public being on the one hand freed from the obligation of immediately finding at a very great cost a large extent of land, and the purchaser obtaining on the other hand an extended choice and more time for its exercise, Government can then adopt the only plan that ought ever to be pursued in a new country, namely—that of surveying and laying out from time to time as demand existed or was anticipated only the best and most available land from position and soil, and of leaving inferior land till the other, by being occupied, gave a value to it. For this good land it would often be entitled to ask a higher price than £1 per acre, at which rate the scrip was issued; and to the extent of whatever the scrip was issued; and to the extent of whatever higher price was obtained, a quantity of the scrip would of course be absorbed. The value of the land being no longer nominal but depending on demand and many other tests of value, it would then be often better worth the scripholder's while the beautiful the control of the latest and the scripholder's while the scripho to give the higher price in new districts opened by Government, than £1 per acre in a district which was not in demand and where, as at Rangitikei, the was not in demand and where, as at Rangitikei, the very best land, from there being a glut in the market, was only worth five shillings an acre. All the witnesses examined by your Committee on this point agreed in the opinion that the effect of the scrip would be to save a great deal of land to the public by higher prices being realised at Government sales; and this of course would be most seen in sales of town and suburban land.

Further, your Committee believe that the serip would tend to remove in a great measure the evils of absenteeism. They have evidence on the one hand that the existence of a large absentee proprietary, and the dispersion of the colonists' lands thereby caused, have been complained of as among the greatest defects in the Company's schemes of the greatest defects in the Company's schemes of colonization: on the other hand, some witnesses have maintained that it is desirable to force the absentees to keep or to reselect their lands, in order that they may be taxed for the benefit of the residents' land interspersed among them. The inconsistency has doubtless arisen from a superficial examination of the question. The two arguments, indeed, taken together, resolve themselves into a proposition, that although absenteeism is an evil in proposition, that although absenteeism is an evil in the abstract, it is is expedient to have absentees for the mere object of taxing them. But it happens that the scrip scheme really meets both alternatives. For it would have two effects, among others: first —if the scrip were not re-exchanged for land by absentees, the evil of absenteeism would of course be checked: secondly—if it were, the land would (supposing taxation to be established) be subject to be taxed as well as if it had been selected with a Company's landorder. It appears to have been forgotten, however, that if the absentees' lands are to be taxed to benefit the lands of colonists interspersed among them, nothing would be easier than for the former to escape any such liability, by exercising their right of reselection in some district where there were no resident landowners at all.

Now the actual proportions (under the preceding estimates) of the land held under contracts with

the Company are as follows, namely: by residents, about 120,000 acres; by absentees, about 320,000 acres; and in whatever way the scheme of reselection were carried out, it is certain those proportions could not be improved very materially. It remains to be seen how the scrip would have an immediate tendency to make that improvement. One of the points bearing on this question is the probable value which the scrip will bear: your Committee, therefore, took a great deal of evidence upon it. Some witnesses thought it might maintain a value not far below the rate of its issue: others (and these the majority) that it would fall to a price at least as low as the Company's scrip, which at Wellington was from the first at a discount of 75 per cent, and even at Nelson (where the Company's large private estate made it more valuable) was at 50 per cent discount. Your Committee have desired to regard the probable effects of the scheme from both points of view.

Proceeding, first, on the supposition that the scrip would maintain its value in the market at par or some rate not much below, it seems very improbable that the absentees will to any extent reexchange it for land. It was objected by one of the witnesses that the absentee or his agent would compete at the land sales with the actual colonist for the best pieces of land, and being better able to spare scrip than the colonist to pay cash, would outbid him continually. It appears clear, on the contrary, that if the scrip maintains its value in the market and the absentee can obtain £1 or thereabouts in money for £1 of scrip, it cannot be worth his while to outbid the colonist, who would rarely give him a higher price afterwards than he was disposed to bid at the sale: and in the few cases where the land was really so valuable as to excite the competition, it would be proper that the public should get the benefit of it. On another ground it seems there would not be an inducement to the absentee to outbid the colonist, since his scrip would certainly not be taxed, while the land (when he got it) possibly might. But whether he did so or not the public would gain, and the proportion between absentees and residents would be improved: if the absentee scripholder obtained the land a quantity of scrip would be absorbed in the higher price, and there would be so much less absentee scrip to come in afterwards: if the colonist obtained it, the land fund would benefit by his cash payment, and he would increase the proportion of resident to absentee landowners.

Proceeding on the contrary supposition, that instead of maintaining its value at or about par, the scrip should, by being extensively thrown into the market by absentees, fall to a great discount, it is clear that it would be still less worth the absentees' while to attempt to outbid the real colonist; or, more properly, that the colonist could always afford to outbid the absentee in proportion to the discount at which he could obtain the scrip. The greater that discount, the more could the colonist afford to bid if there were much competition, and the more capital would he save if there were none; in the one case the public would save land by the absorption of scrip, in the other the colonist would practically obtain cheap land without the cost of an acre to the public: in both cases, as before, the proportion between resident and absentee landowners would be improved.

Again, in estimating the quantity of land that would probably be required for re-selection, your Committee have only taken into account that which was unavailable from position or inferior soil. But though they are disposed to agree with most of the witnesses that little good land would be thrown up under the simple scheme

of re-selection, they think it very probable that under the scheme of scrip many absentee proprietors (and especially those holding more than one section, scattered here and there over the country) will rather take scrip for the whole of their claim including the unselected compensation land, than keep even good sections so scattered and only take scrip for the compensation. This, if at all generally done, would free a quantity of good land already taken up, and place it at the disposal of Government: when the same process as has been above referred to would be repeated, and always with the effect of improving the proportion between resident and absentee landowners.

Independently, however, of the direct benefit to the land fund and the colonist, which would thus take place, whether the scrip maintained its value or fell to a low price, your Commit-tee believe that the scheme will have an indirect influence, at once more extensive, more certain of lessening absenteeism, and more beneficial to this country. If, as has been said, the absentees will not themselves find it worth their while to re-exchange their serip to any great ex-tent for land, but will be willing to sell it at fair prices, their possession of a large amount of it in England may be made a means of promoting emigra-tion to New Zealand, and of relieving the Company's settlements from the reproach of being, out of all the colonies of England, with very few exceptions, those where the public land has been the most profusely granted and where the proportion borne by the population to the alienated land is the most unfavourable. Hitherto no intending colonist would buy from absentees a landorder fettered as the Commany's, and so uncertain of being exchangeable for a legal title: and there can be no doubt what-ever that these difficulties, common to a body of persons in all parts of the United Kingdom who subscribed £230,000 to the foundation of these settlements, have had an immense effect in discoura-ging colonists of capital from coming here. It re-mains to be seen whether the adjustment at last by the Government of all questions arising out of the Company's contracts, may not produce a contrary result. In the first place the mere re-moval of previous disgust and doubt, and the equitable and immediate settlement of every claim, may of itself be fairly expected to renew. among the same class which produced the pioneers of Brithish civilization in New Zealand, the desire of emigrating hither, which has so many years been suspended. In the second place there has been ample evidence, in the immigration of the last few years, of a growing inclination in a class possessed of small means and able to bring out their families without any cost to the Emigration Fund, to come to this colony; persons who on their arrival would increase the number of "peasant proprietors," to whom a very great part of the progress of this colony is undeniably attributable, and whose exertions, as being perhaps those which soonest repay them-selves and increase production, it is most desirable to encourage and promote. To such persons few greater inducements to emigration to this colony would be found than that of being able (if some effort were used in assisting them) to purchase from the absentee proprietors, at reasonable prices, Government scrip with which on arrival they could obtain land at the Government auction sales. For it is again to be remembered that while great difficulty exists in the way of redeeming at once the whole of the scrip, none whatever would be found in providing from time to time for the arrival of colonists holding the scrip in small quantities: and that even if it were so presented in large quantities, the public, which really has no sort of inducement

now to expend thousands of pounds in providing land for absentee proprietors whom the Company should have satisfied long ago, would have the greatest possible inducement and interest in finding the money and the land for colonists, and would, in fact, the more people came out on such terms, be the more able and willing to do it. No one who has had any share in the practical conduct of emi-gration, and has mixed at all with the class referred to, is ignorant of the kind of passion with which they segard the prospect of becoming independent landowners in a colony, nor how large a part that feeling has in inducing them to leave their homes; where (as for instance in emigrating to America) they may feel certain of obtaining what to them is cheap land. Your Committee believe that under the scheme proposed in the present bill, this feeling the scheme proposed in the present bill, this recting might be greatly and most legitimately directed towards New Zealand, if efforts were made to render the scrip accessible to such intending colonists. One means would be its issue in small sums so as to place it within the reach of persons of limited means; another would be for the Colonial Government to inform her Majesty's land and emigration. Commissioners very fully on the whole subject. re-Commissioners very fully on the whole subject, requesting them to circulate that information by means of the numerous agents throughout the United means of the numerous agents throughout the United Kingdom: and many others will readily suggest themselves to the executive officers who will carry out the scheme. In this way and with some little trouble, many who would go to America or other colonies might be legitimately attracted here, certain as they would be of meeting with the assistance of their own Government in their character of their and hondholders. creditors and bondholders.

And besides the good which would thus in all And besides the good which would thus in all probability result from the plan in England, your Committee are assured that it will be hailed with satisfaction by the whole body of the cottier and labouring population of these settlements: to whom the absence of a legal title to land and its division into large sections chiefly in the hands its division into large sections chiefly in the hands of absentees, have hitherto been obstacles in the way of acquiring any. And yet nothwithstanding all such causes, the history of the subdivision of the land originally sold by the Company will be found strongly to confirm this assurance. When the claims to Crown grants at Nelson were investigated the other day, there were only about 50 original purchasers from the Company remaining in the purchasers from the Company remaining in the settlement: but there were more than 200 other persons, chiefly of the working class, who, though they had not paid any money to the Company, were yet prosperous landowners there; and when the investigation is extended to the other settlements a similar result will most likely be also found. The issue of the serin in small sums will certainly provide sue of the scrip in small sums will certainly provide facilities which have never yet existed for such persons to acquire land; thus again improving the proportions borne both by the resident to the absenter tee proprietors and by the population to the land alienated at each place.

Your Committee having thus discussed the general plan of issuing scrip as a substitute for the immediate provision of a large extent of land, desire to refer in conclusion to some points more of

detail than of principle in the measure.

The first and most important of these is the proposition that has been made for funding some of the scrip in Government debentures, bearing a moderate interest. This proposal was, apparently, intended originally as an answer to objections that might be made against the scrip, and as a means of earlier reviving the land fund. But on the whole your Committee believe that under present circumstances the funding of any large proportion of the whole scrip issued would itself be objectionable, and they are unable, consequently, to recommend the adoption of the proposal by the Council.

After giving their most careful attention to the various amendments proposed on the 14th clause of the Bill, your Committee have come to the conclusion to recommend to the Council that persons owning land in districts not yet acquired from the natives should have that land assessed and be allow-

ed scrip to the amount.

Some doubt seeming to have arisen as to whether the bill, as at present printed, would enable every purchaser without exception to exchange his land for scrip, your Committee recommend that this right be expressly declared, subject to the following reservation; that as by some awards in arbitration between the Company and its purchasers the latter have been allowed to take land at a less assessment than £1 per acre, they should upon exchanging it for scrip receive only £1 of scrip for every pound's worth of land awarded, and not for every acre taken.

It appears that under the bill as it now stands, the land owners in those settlements where the Company's selling price had exceeded £1 an acre would be able to obtain (if they exchanged) more pounds of scrip than there were acres given up. Your Committee recommend it to be express-ly declared, that no landowner who has received or may receive compensation should afterwards re-ceive more than £1 of scrip for any acre he may throw up.

As an investigation into a large number of claims to land at Nelson has already been completed under the orders of His Excellency the Governor-in Chief, your Committee recommend that a new clause be added exempting those claims from

further examination.

Upon a consideration of several propositions with respect to the disposal of fees received on the issue of Crown grants, your Committee have agreed to recommend the Council to adopt the proposal that the money so received should, after paying the actual expense of the grants, be applied to emi-

the actual expense of the grants, be applied to emigration to the various settlements in proportion to the amount of fees paid by each.

Experience having proved that in the Company's surveys roads were frequently laid down where it was impracticable to make them, your Committee the proper have the frequency to the Committee that the company that the company the street to the Committee that the company that the company the street that the Committee that the company that the company the street that the company t was impracticable to make the given to the Commissioners under the Bill, with the consent of all parties concerned and the approval of the chief officer of Government in each settlement, to alter or erase any of the Company's roads, and to lay out others where absolutely necessary; any such alteration being distinctly laid down on the plans at the time.

And lastly, your Committee having ascertained that in many cases the lands to be granted under the Bill are either held in trust, or in estates for life, or under mortgages, or under other conditions where it would be improper to grant the whole estate for ever, as proposed by the schedule, and that it is probable the grantees may in some cases be obliged to bar the dower of their widows,—recommend that the Commissioners be authorised, under the responsibility of the law officers of the Crown in each settlement, to make in those cases such an alteration in the form of the grent as circumstances may require.

E. EYRE, W. A. M'CLEVERTY, W. M. SMITH, G. CUTPIELD, HENRY W. PETRE, F. D. BELL, ALFRED DOMETT, C. A. DILLON.

Comparative Statement of the Estimated Value of the Imports and Exports of New Zealand, during the years 1848, 1849, 1850:—

: : :	Estimated V	alue of Good	ls Imported.	Estimated V	alue of Good	ls Exported.
PROVINCES.	1848.	1849.	1850.	1848.	1849.	1850.
New Ulster	£124,434 £10 <b>9</b> ,410	£106,912 £147,768	£108,793	£ 21,339 £ 22,876	£ 54,668 £ 75,994*	£ 68,023 £ 47,391
Totals £		254,680	240,203	44,215	130,662	115,414

<sup>\*</sup> The apparent increase in the Imports and Exports for the year 1849 is to be accounted for by a ship (the General Palmer) having, from damages sustained at sea, been obliged to run into Port Nicholson, and discharge her cargo (of tallow) into the Mariner, which vessel conveyed it to its destination. Also, (with regard to Exports) by specie to the amount of £20,000, having been forwarded to Great Britain and included in the return.

Alfred Domett, Colonial Secretary, New Munster.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the European Population of the principal districts of New Zealand, for the years 1848, 1849, 1850.

DISTRICTS.		1848.			1849.			1850.	,
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total,	Males.	Females.	Total.
Auckland Wellington Nelson	3,963 2,672 1,656	2,086 1,433	4,758 <b>3,089</b>	2,909 1,7 <b>9</b> 5	2,215 1,577	5,124 3,372	$3,025 \\ 2,175$	2,454	8,301 5,479 4,047
New Plymouth Bay of Islands Monganui	593 *	523 *	1,116	640 *	*	1,189 *	783 214 176	186	1,412 400 259
Akaroa Petre Otago	129 104 350	66	240 170 620	169	142 108	4 <b>3</b> 3 2 <b>7</b> 7	175 276	120 156	295 432
Canterbury	•••	• •	•••	221	80	1,215 301	821 221	661 80	1,482 301†
Totals	9,462	7,529	16,996	11,120	8,746	19,866	12,470	9,938	22,408

This return does not include the Military and their families, nor the settlers scattered along the coast, and over the interior of the country in other places than those above named.

Alfred Domett,
Colonial Secretary,
New Munster.

<sup>\*</sup> No returns at present available for these years.

<sup>†</sup> Complete returns for Canterbury could not be obtained for 1850, those for 1849 have necessarily been made available for the purpose. The population at the present time is about 1600.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT, SHEWING THE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW MUNSTER, NEW ZEALAND, FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 8187 OF MARCH OF THE YEARS 1850 AND 1851, RESPECTIVELY.

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During this guarter (1851) the sum of £800 was paid into the Wellington Treasury as part re-payment of the £2200 advanced to the Canterbury Association.

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			CIVIL.	Governor's Establishment	LtGovernor's Establishment Conneil	ColSecretary's Department	Superintendent	Treasurer's Department	Bank of Issue	Audit	Police	Customs	Post Office		Med	Harbor		JUDICIAL.	Supreme Court	Law	Sesi		Registrar	Coroner		Ecclesiastical. Colonial Chaplain	MISCELLANEOUS.	Publ		Charitable Aid	Printing	Military (compensation to certain settlers for damages sus-	tai	Land Purchases	jene	Refund of Revenue	Miscellaneous		
			5	۰ بـ			<b>U</b> 2	۱۰,	_ `	7 0	, p		_	-	-			July	921		-					E E	Mī	_		_ <	, 14	F4		<del></del>	_	ر بئو	=		

During this quarter (1851) debentures, chargeable on the land fund, to the amount of £3543, were issued by the Local Government in fulfilment of a contract entered into by the late Principal Agent of the New Zealand Company, for the purchase of a Crown grant held by Mr. David Scott of Wellington.

GODFREY J. THOMAS, Auditor-General.

RETURN shewing the quantity of Land cultivated by, and the number of Stock belonging to, Europeans in the Principal Districts of New Zealand, for the year 1850.

	Goats.	345 69 60 60 60 60 125 130 50	11,404
<del>,</del>		10°	11 901,
of Sto	dead?	3,281 42,652 70,960 1,934 2,330 420 1,630 19,751 10,900	160,10
Number of Stock.	Horned Cattle	6,803 8,068 5,059 1,147 1,700 1,000 1,000 1,729 1,729	28,687
Ź	H ogses	725 809 809 441 166 19 95 95 84 84	2,722 2
	***		<u> </u>
	No. of Acres of tivated L	30,123 134,040	164,163
	Total No. of Acres in crop.	8,0822 4,43644 4,43644 3,217 850 881 145 148 510	22,013
<b>.</b>	Pasture.	5,097 <del>2</del> 2,627 8293 1,182 700 270 44 48	104 1,2494 10,8692 22,0134
ature of Crop and No. of Acres of Land in each Crop.	Garden,	267 5384 5384 68½ 274 224	1,2491
nd in e	.snoigO	<b>*</b> 01	101
es of La	.YsH	3764  4265 50	8528
of Acr	.sdintoT		119
and No	Potatoes.	200,1 200,7 200,0	1393 2,8024
of Crop	Maize	171	1293
Nature	Barley:	1341 473 474 153 153 153 123	1,149
	Oats.	7941 2351 470 153 153 	3,098 1,784
	.1894///	2434 4234 1,3383 20 20 12 65 144 1364	3,098
	IES.		Totals
	LOCALITIES.	Auckland Wellington Nelson Nelson New Plymouth Bay of Islands Mongenu Akaroa Petre Otago Canterbury	

Colonial Secretary,

Printed at the Spectaron Office.

Page 139. Sad colema, him 34 from top, after and anieth. Light the world "and which." Light the world "considering," and "sad "nead" nead "nead" nead "nead" nead "nead" nead "nead" nead "nead" nead "nead 