



The New Zealand Gazette.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1861.

THE First Session of the Third Parliament of the General Assembly of New Zealand, was this day opened by the Governor, when His Excellency was pleased to make the following

S P E E C H.

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

I am happy to meet you so soon after the late General Election, and to congratulate you on the increased Representation of the various Public Interests of the Colony which has been afforded by the operation of the Act under which that election was held.

You will unite with me in cordial acknowledgments of the prompt and efficient support I have received from the Imperial Government, which will enable me to carry into effect measures necessary for the maintenance of Her Majesty's Authority in these Islands, and for the suppression of armed Insurrection. The assistance which has been afforded to the Colony will tend to the ultimate welfare of both races of Her Majesty's subjects, and will strengthen the bonds of Loyalty which attach the Colony to the Throne and Person of Her Majesty, and to the mother country.

I gladly take this opportunity of expressing the thanks which are due to the Officers and Men of Her Majesty's Army and Navy, and of her Colonial Forces, for the zeal and intrepidity with which they have at all times performed duties of a very arduous and harassing nature.

Overtures for Peace having been made by the insurgent natives, I felt it incumbent upon me to insist on the preliminary condition of their ceasing to act as a Confederation; on their retiring to their Districts, I proceeded to Taranaki, and accepted the submission of part of the insurgent section of the Ngati-awa tribe, on Conditions which will be laid before you.

In the policy which I have pursued with reference to the affairs of Taranaki, my object from the first has been to secure Peace by putting an end to the constantly recurring land feuds which for years have maintained barbarism amongst the aboriginal inhabitants of that District. Having now imposed Terms which will, if observed, secure this end, I have thought it right to adhere to the engagement of the 29th November, 1859, in reference to the land pur-

chased at Waitara, and I have consequently directed that the investigation be renewed at the point at which it was forcibly interrupted.

The Terms offered to the Taranaki and Ngatiruanui tribes will be laid before you. Their aggravated offences can only be pardoned on their giving such tangible proofs of submission as will at once afford a means of reparation for their unprovoked aggressions, and be a memorial to themselves of the punishment due to lawless violence.

The Declaration which I have made to the Waikato tribes will also be laid before you. It requires submission without reserve to the Queen's Sovereignty and to the Authority of the Law, whilst from those who have taken up arms I have insisted upon restitution of plunder, and upon compensation for losses sustained at their hands by Her Majesty's subjects, Native or European.

The submission of all Her Majesty's Native subjects to her Authority and obedience to the Law, are necessary preliminaries, but it no less behoves us to redouble our efforts to afford them the means of substituting Order for Lawlessness, and to promote their moral and social advancement: and I entertain a hope that the approaching conference of Chiefs, which I shall assemble at the earliest opportunity, may assist us in the attainment of so desirable a result.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

You will find that a due Economy has been exercised in the expenditure of the supplies voted for the Public Service last Session. The same careful regard for Economy will regulate the preparation of the Estimates to be submitted to you for the ensuing Financial Year.

The system of Audit which you have already established, has maintained an effectual supervision over the Public Accounts of the Colony. It is further requisite that the Public Revenues should be guarded by the enactment of Laws regulating and effectually controlling their expenditure, both by the general and by the respective Provincial Executives.

The accounts of the Colony, and papers relating to the payment of the Interest and investment of the Sinking Fund of the Guaranteed Loan, will be laid before you.

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

The Judges of the Supreme Court, after conferring together, have made several valuable Reports containing suggestions for amending the Law, and for improving its Practice. These Reports will be laid before you, and measures founded on some of the recommendations contained in them, will be submitted for your consideration.

The successive discoveries of Gold in large quantities in several parts of the Colony warrant the expectation that it will prominently rank amongst the Products of New Zealand, and will stimulate the development of its other sources of wealth.

In conclusion, I would express my earnest hope that in the especial circumstances of the Colony, your counsels may in all things be guided by Wisdom; and that under the blessing of Divine Providence they may conduce to the present and lasting welfare of the Inhabitants of New Zealand.