



THE  
**NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE.**

Published by Authority.

---

WELLINGTON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1867.

---

**T**HE Second Session of the Fourth Parliament of New Zealand was this day prorogued by the Governor, when His Excellency was pleased to make the following

SPEECH.

HONOURABLE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS,  
 GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

I am happy, at the close of a Session unusually arduous, to release you from further attendance in Parliament.

Your zeal and diligence have resulted in a number of valuable enactments for consolidating the Civil and Criminal Law, which cannot but be of great benefit to the country.

The liberality of the measure you have passed for granting special representation to the Maori population will commend itself to that race, and tend to confirm the peaceful and friendly disposition which is everywhere spreading throughout the tribes recently in rebellion. The endowment for Maori education will contribute to the same good purpose and assist the Natives to qualify themselves for the position of citizens.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—

I thank you for the supplies you have granted for the Public Service. It will be the duty of my Government to administer these supplies with that economy which is imperatively required.

The measures you have passed for improving the character of the Public Securities will, I trust, maintain the credit and character of the Colony, not only in the money market, but wherever the development of popular government is watched with interest.

The Act for perfecting the machinery of the Revenue Departments will effectually secure to the Legislature, those constitutional powers over the public purse which have hitherto owed their integrity to the character of our public men, rather than to any positive legal enactments.

The adjustment of the Surplus Revenue Accounts, and the relief of the Northern Provinces from the portion of the War Loan, which had been specially charged against them, will remove causes of irritation which tended to alienate important portions of the Colony from the idea of national unity.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN AND GENTLEMEN,—

Although you have been unable to provide a general measure for establishing local self-government, the claims of outlying districts to powers so essential to nourish the spirit of liberty and self-reliance have not been neglected; and I have gladly assented to the Bills for conferring such privileges, with a fair share of the local revenues, on the Districts of Westland, and of Timaru and Gladstone.

The elaborate Act for organizing Municipal Corporations, furnishes to town populations a very complete machinery for their local wants, and frees them, in the administration of their affairs, from the doubts which under existing provincial laws attached to some of their proceedings.

There is every reason to believe that the depression under which several important parts of the Colony have for some time laboured has reached its lowest point, and that with the re-establishment of peace,—the opening of the Northern Districts for settlement,—the continued and increasing development of rich Gold Fields in both Islands—a fresh tide of prosperity will set in, and that when you next are called together it will be found that these favoured islands have entered on a career of permanent progress which internal troubles will not again interrupt.

In releasing you from your legislative duties, I would remind you of the importance of using the influence which the confidence of the people confers upon you to facilitate the administration of the measures you have passed. I trust that by the blessing of God, the result of your labours will be the increased happiness and prosperity of the people of New Zealand.