



AUCKLAND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

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NOTICE.

Superintendent's Office, Auckland,
18th August, 1857.

THE following communication from the Honorable the Colonial Secretary is published for general information.

J. WILLIAMSON,
Superintendent.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, August 18th, 1857.

SIR,—In reference to the correspondence that has taken place on the subject of a dissolution of the Auckland Provincial Council, I have the honor to inform you that His Excellency the Governor has been advised to dissolve the Council, and a Proclamation for that purpose will be issued accordingly.

This determination has been come to on the following grounds:—

On three occasions your Honor has applied for a dissolution of the Council; on the 13th instant certain gentlemen, representing eleven seats out of twenty-four in the Provincial Council, made a similar application; and applications to the same effect were made in two memorials signed by upwards of 1300 inhabitants of the Province.

So far, then, it appeared that the Superintendent of the Province—a minority of the Provincial Council—and a body of electors, which may be estimated at one-fifth or one-sixth of the whole number on the Roll, had expressed themselves in favour of a dissolution.

Now, it appears to Her Majesty's Colonial Government that when an application is made by one branch of the Provincial Legislature, with the concurrence of a minority only of the other, for the interference of the Governor by the adoption of so strong a measure as the dissolution of a Provincial Council, there should

be apparent the most cogent reasons to justify such a course.

In the present case, the grounds on which (subsequently to the resignation of Messrs. Daldy and Graham) a dissolution has been asked for have, until yesterday, been quite insufficient, consisting, as they have done, mainly of the mere anticipation that the Provincial Council would not perform the duties imposed on it by the Constitution.

His Excellency's advisers have been unable to admit that such an anticipation could justify their interference, and have conceived it to be their duty to afford the Provincial Council an opportunity of extricating itself from a mere technical difficulty, and of shewing that it was not unwilling to carry on the urgent business of the Province.

The Government is now, however, aware that the Council met yesterday, and by a considerable majority resolved on an adjournment for ten days. Considering the circumstances under which this resolution was come to, it can only be viewed as expressing the determination of the present Council not to carry on the legislative business of the Province; and a Proclamation has been issued by your Honor proroguing the Council for an indefinite period.

The advisers of the Crown now recognise that it is time to interfere to preserve the Institutions of the Province and the Law of the Colony from further indignity.

They leave the responsibility of so lamentable a state of things with those, without distinction of party, by whom it has been brought about.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Honor's most obedient servant,

E. W. STAFFORD.

His Honor
the Superintendent,
Auckland.

