



NEW ZEALAND

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY.

Published by Authority.

All Public Notifications which appear in this Gazette, with any Official Signature, are to be considered as Official Communications made to those persons to whom they may relate, and are to be obeyed accordingly.

By His Honor's command,

JOHN HALL,

Provincial Secretary.

VOL. II.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1855.

[No. III.

PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the 15th and 16th years of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, entitled an Act for granting a Representative Constitution to the Colony of New Zealand, it was enacted that no bill passed by a Superintendent and Provincial Council which shall be reserved for the signification of the assent of the Governor shall have any force and authority within the Province until the Superintendent shall signify either by speech or message to the Provincial Council or by proclamation in the Government Gazette, that such Bill has been laid before the Governor, and that the Governor has assented to the same. *And whereas* an Ordinance was passed by the Superintendent and Provincial Council of the Province of Canterbury, entitled the "Provincial Council Extension Ordinance, Session III, No. 1," and the same was reserved by me for the assent of his Excellency the Governor: Now therefore, I, James Edward Fitz Gerald, Superintendent of the Province of Canterbury, proclaim and declare, that the aforesaid Ordi-

nance has been laid before his Excellency the Governor, and that his Excellency has assented to the same. And whereas by the aforesaid Ordinance it is enacted, that the said Ordinance shall come into operation upon and after a day to be notified by the Superintendent in the Government Gazette, being not more than 10 days after he shall have received the signification of the assent of the Governor thereto: Now therefore I further proclaim and declare, that the said recited Ordinance shall come into operation upon and after the fifteenth day of the present month and year.

Given under my hand at Christchurch, this eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty five.

JAMES EDWARD FITZ GERALD,
Superintendent.

By command of His Honor,
JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.

God save the Queen.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 8th Feb., 1855.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT is pleased to direct the publication of the following correspondence for general information.

By order of His Honor,

JOHN HALL,

Provincial Secretary.

To His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government.

Superintendent's Office,
Christchurch, Nov. 23rd, 1854.

SIR,

In transmitting to you the accompanying Ordinance, I beg to make the following observations :

The subject of the enlargement of the Provincial Council of this Province was first considered in February last when the following Resolution was adopted.

"1. That in the opinion of this Council it is desirable that the number of its members should be increased to not less than 24 members.

2. It is desirable to delay any alteration in existing arrangements until after the next registration of Electors."

The subject was then postponed until after the next registration of Electors in order that a fuller electoral roll might enable the Government and the Provincial Council better to determine how to arrange the requisite alterations in the electoral Districts:

Upon my return to the Province from Auckland, the Provincial Council, immediately upon their meeting, proceeded to pass a Bill for enlarging their body by twelve members, and causing the issue of writs for that purpose without the necessity of a dissolution of the present Council. The new members were to be elected by the existing Districts in the same proportion as the present members.

I returned this Bill to the Council because the present apportionment of Representatives to constituencies seemed to me unfair; Akaroa with only 50 Electors returning 2 members, while Christchurch with 337, returns only 4. In wealth, political activity, and intelligence, the com-

parison being in favor of the Christchurch District even more than in numbers.

At the same time I sent down to the Council another Bill for altering the Districts and making some improvements in the machinery of the law according to the original idea which appears to have been in the contemplation of the Council in February last.

The Council adopted the second Bill and incorporated the first with it. This will explain to Your Excellency the object of the 2nd clause of the present measure.

In this form I have to pray Your Excellency's assent to the Ordinance.

It will probably be right for me to state the rule which has been adopted in dividing the Districts. Passing by a slight alteration in the boundary of the Akaroa District which enables some families to vote in Akaroa to which they can readily get, instead of in Lyttelton as at present, which they can only reach by a severe journey, the only material alteration made is in the subdivision of the Christchurch country district into four distinct Districts. His Excellency Sir George Grey adopted this plan with regard to the Waimea District at Nelson, and would have no doubt done the same here, had he been furnished with similar local knowledge of the country. The four proposed districts are as follows: 1st. The Kaiapoi district—the Province north of the Waimakariri river. Kaiapoi is fast growing into a town with entirely distinct interests and comparatively little communication with the rest of the Province. It promises to be one of the principal settlements in the Province. 2nd. The Lyttelton District comprises a tract of country cut off from the plains by a distinct line of separation—the lofty hills which surround Port Victoria, and the inhabitants of which have no intercourse on political matters with the electors on the north side of those Hills. A numerous signed memorial was presented from the inhabitants of this district to the House of Representatives praying that their district might be separated from that of Christchurch. The remainder of the Christchurch district has been divided into two parts nearly equal as regards the number of the electors. There are four main roads leading out of Christchurch, around which the population of the district has principally clustered; the Riccarton Road, the Pananui Road, the Lincoln Road, and the Sumner or Ferry Road, each of which forms the centre as it were, of a separate district of electors. To make a separate Electoral District for each would be to

diminish the size of the districts unreasonably, regard being had to the future of the colony, but it seems right to divide the whole into two districts, uniting those clusters of population which fall most conveniently into the same districts, regard being had to the back country, and to the probable increase of population and settlement. The districts adopted in the Ordinance are I think generally satisfactory to the Province.

I have now to refer to the mode of bringing this Ordinance into operation—to the question of whether your Excellency will think it right to dissolve or not to dissolve the Provincial Council.

The original Bill on which the first four clauses of the present Ordinance are based contemplated a simple addition to the present Council without a dissolution. My own feeling was, and is that such a mode of enlarging the Council would prove unsatisfactory. The enlarged Council would consist of one half elected from a smaller constituency and the other half from a larger, owing to the increase in the number of electors by a new registration. Besides this it seemed to me that if any alteration at all were made in the present arrangements it would be unwise to prolong the existing inconvenient and unfair distribution of the Representation amongst the several constituencies. Again, I had no doubt that the Attorney General had conveyed to your Excellency the substance of a conversation I had with him shortly before I left Auckland to the effect that in accordance with the Resolution of the Provincial Council in February last, I should most likely have to request a dissolution in December next, indeed I think I expressed the same to your Excellency in person, and I conceived therefore it was not unlikely that your Excellency would upon receiving such a Bill for assent see fit to dissolve. I could not but feel that a dissolution upon such a Bill as that embodied in the first two clauses would have proved anything but satisfactory or acceptable to the Province.

In the chance, therefore, amounting after what had occurred to a high probability, of your Excellency determining on a dissolution, a Bill for remodelling the electoral districts, and redistributing the representation was imperatively called for. My own opinion still is that the fairest mode of effecting this change would be by an immediate dissolution.

At the same time I am bound to express to your Excellency my belief that at the present moment a considerable number of

persons within the Province would prefer that there should be no dissolution, that the ordinance should be allowed to operate through the first two clauses, and that the dissolution should be postponed until a later period. Those persons would rather, I think, that this should occur, than that several questions now unsettled, but which it is agreed on all hands shall be left open for an enlarged Council, should be delayed until after a dissolution.

I think I have fairly placed the case before your Excellency in both its bearings, and have afforded all the information which may assist your Excellency's decision.

If your Excellency see fit to assent to the Ordinance, I beg you will be pleased to sign the parchment copy enclosed and to return it to be deposited in the Record Office of the Province as our Ordinances require. A duplicate parchment copy shall be sent for security by the next opportunity and the printed copies forwarded in due course.

Lastly, I would request that your Excellency would be pleased, if possible, to acquaint me with the result of your decision by the return of the steamer, and at the same time to inform me whether it is your intention to dissolve the Provincial Council. I assume it would be impossible to issue the writs for the new election by return of post, but if your Excellency should assent to the Ordinance, and will acquaint me with your resolution as to the dissolution, I shall know how to act in reference to issuing writs under the first clauses.

I would also remind your Excellency that in the event of a dissolution the writs for a new election should not be made returnable within less than one hundred days, which will allow time for the registration under the Ordinance, and I would further request that His Honor, Mr. Justice Stephen may be informed that the Ordinance has been assented to, in order that he may appoint a Revising Officer.

His Honor has been so good as to state that upon receiving such information he will be prepared immediately to make the appointment so that no time need be lost in making up the electoral roll.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient
humble servant,

JAMES EDWARD FITZ GERALD,
Superintendent.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 29th Dec., 1854.

Sir,

Referring to your letter of the 29th ultimo, containing an authenticated copy of the "Provincial Council Extension Ordinance, Sess. 3, No. 1," passed by the Provincial Council of the Province of Canterbury, I have the honor to inform you that I have submitted the same to the Officer Administering the Government, and His Excellency considers there are no sufficient grounds to call for the exercise of the powers of disallowance vested in him with respect to this Ordinance, but as it appears from your Honor's statement that there is a considerable number of persons who would prefer that there should not at present be a dissolution of the Council, His Excellency is of opinion that there is no sufficient reason under such circumstances to dissolve the Council at present.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your very obedient servant,

ANDREW SINCLAIR,
Colonial Secretary.

His Honor the Superintendent,
Province of Canterbury.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 8th Feb., 1855.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT directs the publication of the following Despatch for general information.

By order of His Honor,

JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 22nd Jan., 1855.

Sir,

With reference to the Circular Letter of the Civil Secretary dated 5th August, 1853, empowering your Honor to remit minor sentences of imprisonment and penalties, I am directed by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to inform you that His Excellency in Council has been pleased to sanction the continuance of this authority to cases only which have been heard, and determined in a summary way by a Resident Magistrate, or Justices of the Peace.

I have, &c.,

ANDREW SINCLAIR,
Colonial Secretary.

His Honor the Superintendent,
Canterbury.

Notification.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 8th Feb., 1855.

WHEREAS by an Ordinance passed by the Superintendent and Provincial Council, intituled "the Executive Government Ordinance, Sess. I., No. 3," it is enacted that "it shall be lawful for the Superintendent with the advice of the Executive Council from time to time to make regulations for the convenient management and carrying on of the business of the offices of Government, and from time to time with such advice as aforesaid to alter or rescind such Regulations or any of them and to make others in their stead:—

His Honor the Superintendent directs it to be notified that from and after the date hereof, all former regulations for the management of the Offices of Government are rescinded, and that in the place thereof he has, with the advice of the Executive Council, made and issued the Regulations published in the Government Gazette, Vol. II., No. 2, bearing date the 6th inst.

By command of His Honor,
JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 7th Feb., 1855.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT has been pleased to appoint JOHN HALL, Esq.,

to be Provincial Secretary, vice H. G. Goulard, Esq., resigned.

By His Honor's command,
JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 8th Feb., 1855.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT has been pleased to appoint MR. H. P. BLANCHARD,

to be Clerk in the Office of Public Works. The appointment to date from the 1st of January.

JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons whose sheep are found to be unbranded after this date, will be proceeded against, as the law directs.

WILLIAM CONGREVE,
Inspector of sheep.
Christchurch, 13th Jan., 1855.

NOTICE is hereby given that the office of the Inspector of Sheep and

Registrar of Brands is at the residence of
Mr. J. C. Porter, Solicitor, Christchurch.

WILLIAM CONGREVE,
Inspector of Sheep and Registrar
of Brands.

Christchurch, 13th Jan., 1855.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 8th Feb., 1855.

His Honor the Superintendent directs
the publication for general information of
the following extract of a private letter re-
ceived by His Honor from Commander
Drury, of H. M. surveying vessel, Pandora,
together with the latitude and longitude of
the Traps and Snares.

By His Honor's command,

JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.

* * * * *

I send you lat. and long. of 'Snares.'
They are laid down 20 miles too far west
in existing charts, but correct in latitude.
We found the eastern and largest Island
1½ mile east and west, and 470 ft. high.
The whole group about 5 miles deep
water, and no dangers but what are well
above water.

The south Trap is above water in 3
places about 7 feet high.

* * * * *

BYRON DRURY.

Latitude. Longitude.

The Snares (S.W. point of)	48° 06' 43S	166° 30' 08E
South Trap	47° 33' 00S	167° 55' 00E

