



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,

JOSEPH BRITAN,

Provincial Secretary.

VOL. III.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1856.

[No. VI.]

ADDRESS OF HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 28, 1856.

The Superintendent regrets that he is prevented by illness from addressing the Provincial Council in person on the present occasion.

The Superintendent has called the Council together earlier than was previously arranged, in consequence of the near approach of the period at which the General Assembly is convened, and in order that the business of the Session might be disposed of, so as to enable those gentlemen who are members of it to proceed to Auckland without being interrupted in the discharge of their duties in this Council.

The same consideration has guided the Government in the amount of business they intend to bring forward this Session. The time at their disposal being so limited they have confined their measures to those which are of pressing importance, so that they may receive mature deliberation; postponing for a time others of less pressing necessity.

The Superintendent has directed two Bills to be laid before the Council referring to Public Roads. One to provide for the construction and repair of Roads and Drains throughout the Province; and the other for the Prevention of Offences on Roads. These Bills appear to the Superintendent to be imperatively called for. In framing them the objects sought to be accomplished are to divide the Province into Districts—to enable the inhabitants of those Districts to elect Waywardens, who will act generally under the supervision of the Provincial Engineer—and to enable them by voluntary self-rating to obtain the means for making and repairing Roads when the Government may not be in a position from want of funds to perform the required work. The Superintendent hopes these measures will meet with the approval of the Council, and invites their careful deliberation on their details to render them as complete as possible.

The Superintendent has also thought another Bill imperatively called for—a Bill to place the law regulating the licensing of Public Houses, and the sale

of intoxicating drinks on a better footing than at present. Not only are there great anomalies in the present law which for the convenience of the Licensees it is desirable should be amended, but it is also highly expedient that some restraint should be placed on the facilities at present existing for the indulgence of habits of drunkenness. To repress the progress of this vice is now the aim of almost every legislature in every country, and the Superintendent calculates with confidence on the co-operation of the Provincial Council with his Government in the endeavour to accomplish the same laudable object in this Province; and he trusts they will concur with him in thinking that the Bill which has been prepared will tend to that end, whilst at the same time it will not interfere with the operations of commerce or the course of trade, nor impose any unjust or vexatious restraint on the rational freedom of the individual.

It has become necessary to provide an English Agent's Bill, in order that an Agent may be appointed in the place of Mr. Godley, who has been compelled to resign that appointment in consequence of his having accepted an office under the Crown, the duties of which render the discharge of those attendant on the Agency for the Province inconvenient to him. The Superintendent feels that in now terminating the political connection which has so long existed between that gentleman and this Province he should fall short of the expectations of the Council if he did not give expression to the deep sense of obligation felt by himself and them for Mr. Godley's long continued and valuable services, and the regret they feel at the separation which is about to take place. That regret is however greatly mitigated by the opportunity which is afforded the Council of appointing as his successor, Mr. Selfe, a gentleman in every way qualified, and who from the earliest history of this Settlement has manifested the warmest sympathy and interest in its success, and has at various times contributed substantial aid towards its attainment.

The Superintendent anticipates that the financial statement of the Govern-

ment will be made at an early period of the session. The points in reference to this branch of the public service, to which it may be necessary for him to allude are few and may be briefly stated. The strictest economy consistent with the efficient working of the several departments, has been observed. Nevertheless, the ordinary revenue can only be regarded as about equal to the ordinary expenditure of the Government; leaving the Land Fund as the only source of supply wherewith to promote immigration—support the present arrangements for education—and carry on the Public Works of the Province. That supply is obviously uncertain. During the past eight months, the Provincial portion of that revenue amounts to £3,424. But the Waste Lands' Regulations having received the sanction of his Excellency the Governor, and coming into operation on the 1st of April next, a new order of things will arise, from which it is impossible to calculate with precision on the amount of funds which may be derived. Under these circumstances it will be for the Council to determine what measures they will adopt for obtaining the necessary means for carrying on the public works, in case the supply from the sales of land should not equal the votes passed by them for different purposes.

Whilst referring to the financial affairs of the Province, the Superintendent desires briefly to direct the attention of the Council to the present state of the Canterbury Association's Debentures' Account. The Superintendent has directed a Balance sheet to be prepared and laid before the Council. He is happy in being able to state that considerable sales of the property acquired by the Province, have already taken place, and thus far have more than realized the expectations formed by the Government at the time the debt was undertaken. Those sales are not more satisfactory, as shewing the correct estimate formed of the value of that property and its sufficiency to provide for the liabilities incurred, than as shewing the great increase in the value of land which has taken place in the Province.

The Superintendent regrets that it is not in his power to place before the Council the abstract of the Census which has recently been taken. Every effort has been made to prepare that document, but some time must yet elapse before the classification can be completed. So soon as it is ready it shall be laid on the table of the House. But whatever may be the exact increase in the population, the amount of Stock, and the land brought into cultivation during the last two years which the present Census may show, there can be no doubt but that the Province has under the Divine blessing made great and healthful progress. On every side, in every district, whether in or around the busy marts of commerce, or in the remoter districts, the evidences are alike conclusive and satisfactory of the occupation of the country by a prosperous and happy people.

JAMES EDWARD FITZ GERALD,
Superintendent.

February 28th, 1856.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

*Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, Feb. 28th, 1856.*

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT directs it to be notified for public information that his Excellency the Governor of New Zealand, has proclaimed and issued the Waste Lands Regulations recommended to his Excellency by the Superintendent and Provincial Council of Canterbury, and that the same were published in the New Zealand Government Gazette, bearing date the ninth day of February in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty six, and declared to come into force on the first day of April of the said year.

JOSEPH BRITTAN,
Provincial Secretary.

NOTICE.

*Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, Feb. 27, 1856.*

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT directs it to be noti-

fied for general information, that

JAMES SPOWERS, Esq.

was duly elected Vice-President of the Lyttelton Savings' Bank, at a meeting of the Trustees of the said Bank convened for that purpose at Lyttelton on the 31st day of January, 1856.

JOSEPH BRITTAN,
Provincial Secretary.

NOTICE.

*Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, Feb. 27th, 1856.*

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT directs it to be notified for public information that the Vice-President and Trustees of the Lyttelton Savings' Bank have appointed with the approbation of his Honor

CHARLES WESLEY TURNER,
to be Accountant of the said Bank.

JOSEPH BRITTAN,
Provincial Secretary.

*Provincial Secretary's Office,
January-17, 1856.*

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT directs it to be notified for public information, that he has appointed the undermentioned gentlemen to be Trustees of the Lyttelton Savings' Bank, under the provisions of the Savings' Bank Ordinance, Sess. VIII, No. 4.

The Rev. B. W. Dudley,
The Rev. G. Cotterill,
Mr. A. J. Alport,
" H. E. Alport,
" J. F. Ballard,
" C. F. Beeby,
" F. N. Campbell,
" I. T. Cookson,
Dr. Donald,
Mr. J. G. Fyfe,
" E. A. Hargreaves,
" J. W. Hamilton,
" Jas. Spowers,
" Ingram Shrimpton,
" H. J. Tancred.

By his Honor's command,

JOSEPH BRITTAN,
Provincial Secretary.

