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[WITH SUPPLEMENT.]

ADDRESS OF HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT,

ON OPENING THE TWENTY FIRST SESSION OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF THE PROVINCE OF OTAGO, WEDNESDAY, 15TH NOVEMBER, 1865.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Provincial Council—

IN accordance with a Resolution passed by you at the close of the last Session, I have refrained from calling you together, until a fortnight after the termination of the Session of the General Assembly. This has delayed your meeting for above a month beyond the ordinary period, and has necessitated the expenditure for that time of the funds of the Province, without previous appropriation. I trust, however, you will find that careful attention has been paid to carry out the spirit of the Resolution referred to, which allowed the Government to continue the Departmental Expenditure, but not to enter upon any new works.

Although I have few Bills to lay before you, there are several matters of very grave importance, for which I have to solicit your earnest consideration.

First in importance I may rank the position of the Province with respect to the General Government. The last Session of the Assembly has sufficiently shown that it is incumbent upon us to anticipate and endeavour to provide against a course of procedure which would render the Province powerless to help itself, and at the same time leave it with many responsibilities to fulfil. Our present position is most unsatisfactory. On the Provincial authorities rests the onus and responsibility of advancing all the material interests of the Province, and of preserving peace and good order within its bounds, while we are disabled from promptly appropriating, as emergencies arise, the great resources which would otherwise be at our disposal. A change in this respect is inevitable, and to the means for effecting this change, I have to request your serious deliberation, for it is impossible that the Province can advance as it ought under a system of double government, whereby the authority and the responsibility are placed in different hands, and whereby the supreme Government, powerless to aid in times of difficulty, is powerful only in its ability to prevent our helping ourselves, and in casting upon us heavy burdens, incurred for objects with which we have no direct concern. Resolutions will be brought before you on this subject, at an early period of the Session, in order that it may receive the attention its importance deserves.

Intimately connected with the consideration of the above question is the legislation affecting the Waste Lands of the Crown within this Province. The Resolutions passed by

you at the last Session were embodied in a Bill, and brought before the Assembly. This Bill has been rejected, and we have thus imposed upon us the duty and the necessity of reconsidering the whole matter this Session. I trust that the Resolutions you will come to on this occasion will be such as to obtain the assent of the General Assembly when it next meets, and that thus, for a time at least, the Land question may be set at rest. The amount of consideration you have already given to the subject, coupled with the many discussions which have taken place since you last met, will no doubt have prepared you for coming to such decisions on this most important matter, as will conduce to the permanent prosperity of the Province, and compensate for the delay which has taken place, by providing a more matured and complete set of Resolutions.

In order to promote the sale of Land within Hundreds which had been for some time proclaimed, and from which, consequently, the best lands had been already selected, I wrote to the Colonial Secretary, endeavouring to obtain, by the passing of a Bill for the purpose through the Assembly, power to the Provincial Council to deal with these lands in such manner as the Council might from time to time see fit, but this effort to secure a means of obtaining Revenue was unsuccessful. Copies of the Correspondence on this subject will be laid on the table.

The remaining debentures of the 1862 Loan have been sold, and while regretting the low price realised, and the consequent pecuniary loss to the Province, the sale has undoubtedly relieved Provincial Finance from much of the uncertainty which must have attached to it, so long as these securities remained unnegotiated.

The progress of Otago has received a temporary check by the discovery of extensive and lucrative gold fields on the West Coast of the Province of Canterbury. So many of our population have gone to these new fields that there have been complaints of a want of laborers in the agricultural and pastoral districts, as well as on our own gold fields. This scarcity is not likely to prove more than temporary, for while we may congratulate our sister Province on its large extent of auriferous land, we may expect that the influx of population there from the Australian Colonies and from the other Provinces of New Zealand, will gradually induce many of our own population to return to the employments which they left when the encouraging and flattering reports from the West Coast reached them. With a view to facilitating intercourse between the western districts of the two Provinces; anxious also to ascertain if the country between the Wakatip Gold Fields and those of Westland were auriferous, Mr. Vincent Pyke was despatched to explore it. He followed very much the route previously taken by Dr. Haast, and reported upon by that gentleman to the Canterbury Government. Both Dr. Haast and Mr. Pyke have shewn that, at least to Jackson's Bay, the route

could be made practicable at a small outlay. I learn that some are already taking advantage of the information obtained, which will, I trust, be the means of opening up a medium of constant communication between our gold fields and those of Canterbury. Mr. Pyke's report will be laid upon the table.

The Gold Fields of the Province still prosper. Although many miners have left, the fortnightly escort continues with little alteration. Large tracts of auriferous land remain to be worked, and with the encouragement to the outlay of capital, in the construction of water-races, afforded by our liberal Gold Fields Regulations, we may well anticipate that a settled and numerous population will be engaged in sluicing operations. Nor must we overlook the gratifying fact that at Waitahuna, Waipori, Hindon, the Arrow and Skippers, quartz reefs have been discovered, and leases applied for; that a considerable quantity of machinery has either already been set in operation, or will shortly be so, and that indications of auriferous quartz reefs are being very extensively discovered.

The discovery of copper, and the formation of companies to render that discovery available, is also a fact which should not be omitted, while speaking of the mineral resources of the Province.

The difficulty of bringing produce to market, and the amount of traffic, convince me that it is time to take into serious consideration the construction of a railway from Dunedin to the Clutha. The impulse to cultivation and settlement which such a work would communicate, and the large amount of country of the first quality which it would connect with a market, warrant me in submitting this subject for your earnest consideration. The line has been surveyed, and full reports and plans, with resolutions based thereon, will be laid before you.

In accordance with the Votes of last Session, a contract has been taken up for the erection of Government Buildings, and we may hope that in a short period the various departments of the Government Service will be accommodated with suitable offices for carrying on the business of the Province. With the satisfactory arrangements thus secured, we may hope to be able still further to reduce the Departmental expenditure, while it will be a subject of congratulation that after having for years been forced to meet in unsuitable places, ample accommodation will be provided for the Council within the building. Another work of importance which has been undertaken is the erection of a Jetty at Oamaru. This work, which has been frequently promised but long delayed, we have now every prospect of seeing completed; and a large district of productive country will, it is hoped, be thus provided with a means of exporting produce hitherto shipped with risk, and frequently with considerable damage.

I need not here mention the smaller works which have been entered upon or completed; but I have endeavored to make the limited sum at my command go as far as possible towards effecting the various purposes for which votes were passed.

It will be seen by the report of the Immigration Agent that during the past six months there have arrived 208 assisted immigrants, the majority of that number being domestic servants. It will no doubt be deemed advisable by you to vote a sum again this Session for the assistance of female immigration. The report already referred to will show you how important it is to continue, and if possible to increase, the number of such immigrants. Many of our settlers have taken advantage of that portion of our immigration arrangements, which enables them to send for their relatives from the home country by guaranteeing to the Province the re-payment of the passage-money advanced by the Government; and I trust you will again vote a sum for this purpose, as we thereby obtain a valuable and settled addition to our population.

The Estimates have been framed with a view to the economical, and at the same time efficient working of the Government.

The revenue, though necessarily somewhat affected by the exodus to the West Coast, has continued without such diminution as to cause anxiety.

Reports from the various Heads of Departments will be laid before you.

I have to express my confident hope that you will give to the various matters brought before you, that consideration which their importance deserves; and I trust that you may, under the guidance of Supreme Wisdom, decide in all things wisely and well.

I now declare the Council open for the despatch of business.

THOMAS DICK,
Superintendent.

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS OF HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT.

WE congratulate your Honor on your election to the office of Superintendent, and trust that your term of office may be prosperous and beneficial to the Province.

We concur with your Honor in the importance attached to the relations between the General and Provincial Governments, and although aware that legislation on such a subject is beyond our province, any Resolutions that may be submitted to us shall receive our careful attention.

We shall again devote our attention to the consideration of the Land question, and concur with your Honor in the expression of a hope that the Resolutions we shall pass will be such as shall obtain the assent of the General Assembly.

We regret the pecuniary loss to the Province consequent on the low price realized for the Debentures issued under the authority of the Loan Ordinance of 1862.

We concur in the expression of a hope that continued and unvaried prosperity await the Gold Fields, and that the results attending the discovery of Quartz Reefs, Copper, and other minerals, will prove important additions to the resources of the Province.

Any feasible proposal for the construction of Railways in the Province shall receive our serious consideration.

We are gratified to learn that your Honor has been able, during the recess, to carry out our wishes as regards the commencement of the Oamaru Jetty and the Government Buildings.

We shall be glad if the funds at our disposal will permit us to vote a sum in aid of Immigration from Great Britain.

It is matter for congratulation to receive from your Honor an assurance that the recent exodus has not to any very great extent had the effect of diminishing the revenue of the Province.

J. RICHARDSON, Speaker.

CHAS. SMITH, Clerk of Council.

NOTICE.

WHEREAS it is intended to stop up those Roads and Portions of Roads referred to in the "Roads Diversion Ordinance, 1865," situate in the District of Puerua, and which are hereinafter described, and are delineated on the maps or plans mentioned and referred to in the "Roads Diversion Ordinance, 1865," a copy of which plans have been deposited in the Public School at Puerua, the said District,—Now therefore I, Thomas Dick, Esquire, Superintendent of the Province of Otago, by virtue and in exercise of the power vested in me in that behalf by the "Roads Diversion Ordinance, 1865," do hereby give notice that all persons objecting to the stopping up of such Roads, or Portions of Roads, or any of them, are required to set forth a statement in writing of any well-grounded objections they may have to the stopping up of such Roads, or Portions of Roads, and to leave such statement, addressed to me, at my Office, in Dunedin, within sixty days from the date hereof, otherwise such objections will not be considered by me.

PUERUA ROAD DISTRICT

1.—Twenty-six (26) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from Puerua River, on section eight (8), block twenty (20), to District Road on section four (4), block twenty (20), Clutha District; boundaries, east, section six (6) and part of sections four (4) and eight (8), block twenty (20); west, section five (5) and part of sections three (3) and seven (7), block twenty-five (25), Clutha Survey District.

2.—Thirty-one (31) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from District Road on section four (4), block twenty (20), to District Road on section twelve (12), block nineteen (19), Clutha Survey District; boundaries, east, section two (2) and part of section four (4), block twenty (20), and part of section twelve (12), block nineteen (19); west, section one (1) and part of section three (3), block twenty-five (25), and part of section eleven (11), block twenty-four (24), Clutha Survey District.

3.—Twenty-two (22) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from District Road on section twelve (12), block nineteen (19), to District Road on section eight (8), block nineteen (19), Clutha Survey District; boundaries, east, section ten (10) and part of sections eight (8) and twelve (12), block nineteen (19); west, section nine (9) and part of sections seven (7) and eleven (11), block twenty-four (24), Clutha Survey District.

4.—Forty-one (41) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from Road between blocks twenty (20) and sixteen (16), Clutha Survey District, to District Road on section two (2), block twenty (20), Clutha Survey District; boundaries, north, section one (1) and part of section two (2), block twenty (20); south, section eleven (11) and part of section twelve (12), block nineteen (19), Clutha Survey District.

5.—Thirty-four (34) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from District Road on section two (2), block twenty (20), to District Road on section one (1), block twenty five (25), Clutha Survey District; boundaries, north, part of section two (2), block twenty (20), part of section one (1), block twenty-five (25); south, part of section twelve (12), block nineteen (19), part of section eleven (11), block twenty-four (24), Clutha Survey District.

6.—Seventy (70) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from District Road between blocks fifteen (15) and nineteen (19), to District Road between blocks ten (10) and fifteen (15); boundaries, north, block fifteen (15); south, block fourteen (14), Clutha Survey District.

7.—Fifty-eight (58) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from Trunk Road on section twelve (12), block twenty-three (23), Clutha Survey District, to road line between blocks twenty-three (23) and eighteen (18); boundaries, north, section one (1) and part of section two (2), block twenty-four (24); south, section eleven (11) and part of section twelve (12), block twenty-three (23), Clutha Survey District.

8.—Six (6) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from District Road on section six (6), block twenty-eight (28), Clutha Survey District, to District Road on section seventeen (17), block one (1), Warepa; boundaries, east, part of section six (6), block twenty-eight (28), Clutha Survey District; west, part of section seventeen (17), block one (1), Warepa.

Dated at Dunedin this eighteenth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

THOMAS DICK,
Superintendent.

NOTICE.

WHEREAS it is intended to stop up those Roads and portions of Roads referred to in the "Roads Diversion Ordinance, 1864," situate in the Puerua District, and which are hereinafter described, and are delineated on the maps or plans mentioned and referred to in the "Roads Diversion Ordinance, 1864," a copy of which plans have been deposited in the Public School at Puerua, in the said District,—Now therefore I, Thomas Dick, Esquire, Superintendent of the Province of Otago, by virtue and in exercise of the power vested in me in that behalf by the "Roads Diversion Ordinance, 1864," do hereby give notice that all persons objecting to the stopping up of such Roads, or portions of Roads, or any of them, are required to set forth a statement in writing of any well-grounded objections they may have to the stopping up such Roads or portions of Roads, and to leave such statement, addressed to me, at my office in Dunedin, within sixty days of the date hereof, otherwise such objections will not be considered by me.

PUERUA.

1.—Forty-seven (47) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from District Road to District Road; boundaries, north, parts sections one (1) and two (2),

block twenty-nine (29); south, parts sections eleven (11) and twelve (12), block twenty-eight (28), Clutha.

2.—Ninety-eight (98) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from Trunk Road to District Road, on section eleven (11), block twenty-four (24); boundaries, north, section one (1), block thirty (30), and sections one (1) and two (2), block twenty-five; south, section eleven (11), block twenty-nine (29), and sections eleven (11) and twelve (12), block twenty-four (24), Clutha.

3.—Seventy-nine (79) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from Trunk Road to District Road, on section three (3), block thirty (30); boundaries, east, sections two (2) and four (4), block twenty-five (25), and sections six (6), eight (8), ten (10), and twelve (12), block twenty-four (24); west, sections five (5), seven (7), nine (9), eleven (11), block twenty-nine (29), and one (1) and three (3), block thirty (30), Clutha.

4.—Thirty-one (31) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from Trunk Road to block line between blocks twenty-eight (28) and twenty-nine (29); boundaries, east, sections two (2) and four (4), block twenty-four (24); west, sections one (1) and three (3), block twenty-nine (29), Clutha.

5.—Ninety (90) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from line between blocks twenty-eight (28) and twenty-nine (29) to road line between the Clutha and Glenomaru Survey; boundaries, east, block twenty-three (23); west, block twenty-eight (28), Clutha.

6.—Ninety (90) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from road line between blocks fourteen (14) and fifteen (15) to road line dividing Clutha and Glenomaru Survey; boundaries, east, block fourteen (14); west, block eighteen (18), Clutha.

7.—One hundred and eight (108) chains in length, sixty (60) links wide, from District Road on section three (3), block fifteen (15), to Trunk Road; boundaries, east, block ten (10), west, block fourteen (14), and section one (1) and part of section three (3), block fifteen (15), Clutha.

Dated at Dunedin this eighteenth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

THOMAS DICK,
Superintendent.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Dunedin, 11th November, 1865.

HIS Honor the Superintendent directs it to be notified that he has been pleased to appoint

BRYAN CECIL HAGGITT, Esquire,

to be Provincial Solicitor for the Province of Otago, *vice* the Honorable James Prendergast, Acting-Provincial Solicitor, resigned.

FREDERICK WALKER,
Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Dunedin, 16th November, 1865.

HIS Honor the Superintendent directs it to be notified that he has appointed the following persons, namely—

THOMAS MURRAY,
JAMES COWAN,
WALTER MILLER,
WILLIAM ARCHIBALD MURRAY,

to be Managers of the Reserve set aside for the purpose of a Public Cemetery, by the "Cemeteries Ordinance, 1865," being part of Section No. 7, Block L, Tokomairiro District, in the Province of Otago, under the Cemetery Reserves Management Ordinance, 1864.

FREDERICK WALKER,
Provincial Secretary.

(From the *Wellington Gazette*, September 20, 1865.)

Diseased Cattle Regulations.

PROCLAMATION.

By His Honor ISAAC EARL FEATHERSTON Esquire
Superintendent of the Province of Wellington in
the Colony of New Zealand.

WHEREAS by Section No. 9 of the "Diseased Cattle Act 1861" it is enacted that "If at any time it shall be made to appear to the Governor that any infectious or contagious disease has broken out in any district out of the Colony it shall be lawful for the Governor by Order in Council to declare that such district is infected within the meaning of this Act and from time to time to make such regulations as to him shall seem fit for prohibiting the importation of cattle into the Colony from such district and the landing or driving such cattle and for destroying cattle imported landed or driven contrary to such regulations" and by Section 10 of the same Act it is also enacted that "if at any time it shall be made to appear to the Governor that any infectious or contagious disease has broken out among cattle in any district of the Colony it shall be lawful for the Governor by Order in Council to declare that such district is infected within the meaning of this Act and from time to time to make such regulations for destroying diseased cattle therein and for prohibiting the removal or transportation of cattle from one part of the Colony to another and for preventing the further spread of such disease as to him shall seem fit" and it is by the same Act also enacted that the Governor in Council may by warrant under his hand from time to time delegate to the Superintendent of any Province within the Colony all or any of the powers vested in the Governor or Governor in Council by the said Act subject to such regulations as he may think fit and may from time to time rescind such delegation And whereas the Governor hath with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of New Zealand delegated to Isaac Earl Featherston Esq. so long as he shall hold the office of Superintendent of the Province of Wellington the several powers vested in the Governor by the second fourth fifth seventh ninth and tenth Sections of the said Act subject to being rescinded as in the said Act is provided and subject to the regulations issued by the Governor in Council on the 18th day of September 1865 and to any other regulations to be from time to time duly made:

Now therefore I the said Isaac Earl Featherston by virtue of the powers vested in me in this behalf do hereby proclaim and declare—first that after the date hereof the several Colonies of Australia that is to say the Colony of Victoria the Colony of New South Wales the Colony of Queensland the Colony of South

Australia and the Colony of Western Australia as well as the Colony of Tasmania and the Colony of Cape of Good Hope and the Islands of Great Britain and Ireland shall be deemed to be infected districts within the meaning and for the purposes of the above-mentioned Act and that no cattle after the date hereof until further notice shall be imported into the Province of Wellington from such districts Provided however that the Superintendent of the Province may allow any cattle to be landed from vessels from the Islands of Great Britain and Ireland subject to such conditions and restrictions as he may deem expedient and the circumstances of any case may require And I do also proclaim and declare that after the date hereof the Provinces of Auckland Otago and Southland in the Colony of New Zealand shall be deemed to be infected districts within the meaning of the said Act and that no cattle shall be imported into the Province of Wellington from either of the said Provinces.

Given under my hand and issued under the
Public Seal of the Province of Wellington
(P.S.) at Wellington this nineteenth day of
September one thousand eight hundred
and sixty-five.

I. E. FEATHERSTON,
Superintendent.

By His Honor's command,

A. FOLLETT HALCOMBE,
Provincial Secretary.

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