



NEW ZEALAND
GOVERNMENT GAZETTE,
(PROVINCE OF WELLINGTON).

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A. FOLLETT HALCOMBE,
PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.

VOL. XVIII.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1871.

No. 7.

Speech of His Honor the Superintendent on Opening the Twentieth Session of the Provincial Council.

MR SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE
PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.

In opening, in all probability for the last time, a session of the Provincial Council, I trust I may be permitted to thank you for the kind address you presented to me on the eve of my departure for England—to tender to you my acknowledgments for your acquiescence in my undertaking the mission entrusted by the General Government to Mr Bell and myself—and especially to express my gratitude to you for allowing me without remonstrance, and at great inconvenience to yourselves, to absent myself for so much longer a period than was anticipated from my duties as Superintendent.

If I were expected to plead any justification, or if any excuse were deemed necessary by you for my prolonged absence, I would probably urge that the province has not suffered as far as the administration of its affairs is concerned—that the public business entrusted to us could not have been transacted in England in shorter time, and that Mr Bell and myself could not possibly have taken our departure thence at an earlier period, without leaving many important matters, both general and provincial, in a state of incompleteness; and I would also probably further add that, if to have allayed those angry feelings which existed so many years between the Imperial and Colonial Governments—if to have put an end to those unseemly controversies which neither party defends, which both parties now deplore—if to have established the most friendly relations between the two Governments—if to have assisted, in however humble a degree, in obtaining a distinct repudiation of any desire on the part of the Imperial Government to sever their connection with the dependencies

—if to have elicited distinct pledges, that in the event of England being dragged into war, she would to the utmost of her power defend her colonies as an integral portion of the Empire—if to have assisted in creating a material change in public opinion as to colonial policy—if to have in some measure anticipated the comprehensive scheme of colonisation propounded by the present Colonial Ministry, and passed by the General Assembly in its recent session, and to have paved the way by all necessary arrangements in Europe for the successful carrying out of that policy—if to have obtained the Imperial guarantee to a loan of a million for public works and immigration, and thereby to have enhanced the credit of the colony in the great money market of the world, thus enabling the colony to borrow on easy terms almost any amount required for such legitimate purposes—if, I say, these are objects in which the colony is deeply interested, then, I would submit, that the mission of Mr Bell and myself has not only not been fruitless, but has resulted in very appreciable benefits to the whole colony.

And here allow me to point out a misapprehension which apparently exists, in regard to the effect of the Imperial guarantee to the million loan. It does not, as the Colonial Treasurer in his financial statement to the House of Representatives said, simply represent an annual saving to the colony in the shape of interest and sinking fund of some twenty thousand pounds; but it represents a saving of principal also of something like £250,000 or £300,000, for whereas a loan of four per cent guaranteed by the Imperial Government would realise a premium of from five to seven per cent., a non-guaranteed four

per cent loan would not be placed on the market at a less discount than twenty per cent. In other words a million of four per cent guaranteed Bonds would realise from £1,050,000 to £1,075,000—a million of four per cent non-guaranteed Bonds would only fetch some £800,000. But the most eminent actuaries who have examined the conditions of the guarantee estimate the saving to the colony at a much higher sum.

Having, as you are already aware, accepted the appointment of Agent-General of the colony, and it being deemed desirable that I should proceed to England not later than the beginning of April, it is not my intention to bring before you any questions of policy, but only to submit to you two or three measures which cannot well be postponed. Nay, I think you will agree with me that holding as I do my office only pro tempore, that it is expedient that I should send in my resignation of the office I have held for nearly eighteen years, at the earliest possible date, and especially that it would be most unfair in me to attempt in any way to fetter the action of my successor. With this view I shall ask you to pass an Appropriation Act for the five months, commencing on the 1st of February and ending the 30th of June. This will afford ample time to my successor to ascertain the position of the province and its wants, to frame his policy, and to hold a session of the Provincial Council before the General Assembly meets.

Still I feel that in severing, for a time at least, my connection with the province, over which I have so long presided, I should ill requite the kind, the continuous, and the generous confidence reposed in me by my fellow settlers in strange and trying times, if I did not briefly glance at and record my opinions upon one or two of the great questions which either are occupying and perplexing the minds of the most thoughtful of our public men, or which possess an immediate and pressing interest to yourselves; and I feel that I am specially bound to place before you the present financial position of the province and its prospects for the future.

I am free to admit that owing mainly to the financial embarrassments in which the province has for sometime been involved, there is a strong feeling that our provincial institutions are no longer capable of discharging their colonising functions; that some modifications, some organic change in them is absolutely necessary, if indeed it be not expedient to abolish them altogether and to hand the province with all its assets and liabilities over to the Colonial Government. I need not say that I do not participate in this feeling, that I hold no such opinions, that I dissent entirely from such views. On the contrary, I hold that at no period since the Constitution was brought into operation in 1853 has it ever been more essential to maintain your provincial institutions in all their integrity.

Is it true that they have failed in the great work of colonisation specially confided to them? The following facts among others appear to me to furnish a sufficient and complete answer. From 1853 up to the present time the whole of your territorial receipts and to within the last three or four years at least one-third of your ordinary revenue has been applied to public works and immigration, in addition to the application to the same objects of the whole of your loans. And what have been the results? You have constructed nearly 400 miles of road; you have bridged many of your most important rivers. You have constructed great harbor works, and have reclaimed from the sea a valuable estate in this city. You have doubled your population; and let it not be forgotten that these results have been obtained in spite of wars and insurrections, for which this

province at least can in no way, in no degree, be held responsible, but from which its inhabitants have been the chief sufferers—I mean sufferers both in the sacrifice of life and property.

But those who are the most strenuous advocates of a change have never yet indicated in what direction it should be made—have never yet shown that any other system would be simpler, more economical, or more efficient. Some, indeed, urge the abolition of the office of Superintendent; but if you did so, would not his duties have to be discharged by some other officer, say an agent appointed by the General Government, and probably paid a higher salary than that given to the Superintendent. Abolish the Provincial Council, and substitute for it County Boards is another suggestion often heard, but where would be the saving in this? The Provincial Legislature costs only some £700 a year. I venture to think that County Boards with paid chairmen, and staffs of officers, would be vastly more expensive, and far less efficient. Then with respect to other departments essential to the order, peace, and good government of the province, such as the gaol, police, hospitals, harbour, and other departments which must be kept up, you will find it difficult, if not impossible, to apply the pruning knife to any of them, for they are all underpaid and short-handed. If you don't or can't maintain them, the General Government must and will, but at the sole cost of the province, even if it be necessary to impose additional and special taxation upon its inhabitants. Dismiss from your minds any idea that by declaring your inability or unwillingness to carry on the provincial institutions, that you will lessen the burdens of the people; for I scarcely imagine that it will be contended by anyone that the administration of any General Government has ever been as economical as that of the Provincial, or that your affairs will be better managed by a Government over which you can exercise no direct control or supervision than by a body which is directly responsible to you, and over whom you possess absolute and unlimited control.

Let us compare the expenses of the Provincial Government with the expenditure charged by the General Government against the Province. In the Provincial Blue Book, Session X, 1863, was first published the annual expenditure for the previous year—a practice which has since been continued. If we take the expenditure of the Provincial Government in 1863 and contrast it with the expenditure for the latest period for which accounts are before the Council, viz., 1869-70, we find that while the ordinary expenses of the Provincial Government were in 1862-3 £14,546; they amounted in 1869-70 to £13,781—the population at the former period being 13,643, at the latter, 25,000. The increase in the expenditure (and this exclusively in the departments connected with Gaol, Police, Hospital, &c., for there are very considerable decrease in the Executive and Legislative) is 30 per cent., the increase in the population being 84 per cent. Now let us compare the charges made against the province by the General Government in 1862-3 with those made in 1870-1. In the former year they amounted to £10,275, in 1870-1 they are £33,533 being an increase of 226 per cent. The charges for 1870-1 exhibit an increase of no less than £5,800 over the charges of the previous year 1869-70. These figures speak for themselves and prove conclusively both that the expenditure of the General Government increases more rapidly than that of the Provincial and also that your financial difficulties are mainly owing to the enormous increase in the charges made by the General Government against the province.

I must further add that while I believe no material reduction can be made in the expenses of the Provincial Government, yet when we find that the province is charged £6,381 for militia and volunteers, and £5,515 for the Telegraph Department, very considerable reductions may and ought to be made in that large total of amounts with which you are annually debited. But you will certainly not effect this by abolishing your institutions and placing the province entirely at the mercy and under the control of the General Government.

Referring now to the great and comprehensive scheme of colonisation which has just been launched—a scheme fraught with incalculable blessings, or the gravest possible disasters, according to the manner and spirit in which it is carried out—I would ask,—Are you prepared to relinquish all voice in, to abandon all control over its administration? Can you seriously contemplate surrendering all your functions at the very time when it is proposed to conduct colonisation on a grander scale than has ever yet been attempted in the colony? Do you deem it no part of the duty you owe to those, whose representatives you are, to protect their interests, to see that in the carrying out of this policy justice is done to them—that they share equally with other provinces in its advantages?

Let me briefly call your attention to some of the more important provisions of the Public Works and Immigration Act of last session, and to the duties imposed by that act upon the Provincial Government.

1. The Governor is required from time to time to ascertain what railways, in the opinion of the Superintendents and Provincial Councils, ought to be constructed within their respective provinces.

2. The Superintendent may, with consent of the Provincial Council signified by act recommend lands to be set apart to a portion of the price of railway contracts.

3. The Governor may from time to time purchase such lands from the natives as the Superintendent may require.

4. The Governor may make arrangements for introducing immigrants at the request of the Superintendent, and for special settlements for settling them thereon.

It is thus quite clear that it is not at present competent for you to abdicate your functions or to shirk the performance of the duties which are thus devolved upon you. And when you consider their important bearing upon the province, I think you will pause before transferring or delegating them either to the General Government or to any other body.

Again, out of the loans authorised to be raised, a sum of £400,000 is appropriated to construction of roads in the North Island at a rate not exceeding £100,000 a year, and a similar amount is given to the Middle Island for railways, both these amounts being charged colonially, not provincially. Under the Payments to Provinces Act. £50,000 a year for a term of seven years is appropriated to district road boards. But while the £400,000 for railways and the £50,000 for road boards are to be divided amongst the provinces according to population, no such rule applies to the £400,000 for roads; the expenditure of the whole amount being at the discretion of Ministers, for the very good and valid reason that it is only to be expended on roads required for the purposes of defence and colonisation.

Unless, therefore, you are prepared to indicate the lines of road you deem best calculated to attain these objects, and to press their construction upon the Government, you will have no right to complain if they are not made, or if the province fails to secure its equitable share of this vote.

You will remember that out of the Three Million Loan raised under the Act of 1863 some £250,000 was allocated to this province for public works and immigration; but of this you only received £14,000, the remainder having been diverted and spent by the Colonial Government on other objects.

In a memorandum which I at that time presented to the then Ministers, I pointed out that there were three trunk lines which it was extremely desirable both for the interests of the North Island generally and of this province in particular, should be opened up as soon as possible; the first extending from Wanganui to the Patea river, the northern boundary of the province; the second would lead from Masterton to the boundary line of the province in the Seventy Mile Bush, opposite the Manawatu Gorge, and would be continuous with a main line of road to be taken through the Napier portion of the same bush to the Ruataniwha plains; the third trunk line (being a continuation of the Wanganui-Rangitikei road) would commence at the Rangitikei river, and passing through the centre of the Manawatu district, would be carried to that part of the Tararua range, where it affords an easy passage to the Seventy Mile Bush, which it would intersect on the Wellington-Napier trunk line, and I recommend that all these roads should be laid off with a view to their being ultimately converted into railroads.

I am happy to say that the present Ministry seem inclined to adopt all these lines. They have, in fact, already made considerable progress with the road from Palmerton through the gorge to the Seventy Mile Bush—with the line from the Ruataniwha plains to the gorge and with the road from the Waitotara to the Patea. They have also agreed to employ the Norwegians in the construction of a tramway from Palmerton to Foxton, which will most completely render the splendid Upper Manawatu district available for settlement, and cannot fail very largely to increase your territorial revenue. The total length of these lines of road in this province will be about 110 miles, and will involve a probable outlay of from £60,000 to £70,000, spread over a period of three or four years.

But I am bound to express my opinion that these roads cannot be constructed within any reasonable time, or except at an extravagant rate—that you will reap none of the advantages of the present scheme of colonisation, and that the money expended on the roads will be unproductive, if not entirely wasted, unless a very considerable and continuous stream of immigration is introduced. Public works and immigration must go hand in hand. Nay, I will go further, and say that the Government is not justified in undertaking the works I have indicated, unless the province is prepared to do its duty in regard to immigration. There is no use in preparing a country for settlement unless you are also prepared to bring to it population; and remember this, that capital invariably accompanies and follows immigration. Probably not a single immigrant ship would arrive in New Zealand under the present scheme without introducing capital to the extent on the average of £10,000.

To my mind the Immigration is to the provinces the most tempting part of the whole scheme; for while half the cost is to be charged colonially, the other moiety is to be defrayed by the provinces at a rate not exceeding 30s per annum for every adult, until the provincial moiety is liquidated. On the other hand, the province will be entitled to the capitation allowance. For instance, suppose you had introduced one hundred adult immigrants during the past year, you would be entitled during the present year to a capitation allowance of £2 a head, and you would have had to pay at the outside 30s. Assume, further,

that the cost of the passage of each immigrant is £7 10s, the province would be liable for £3 15s, payable by instalments at a rate not exceeding 30s per annum, the debt being extinguished in three years, when its liability in respect of the immigrant would finally cease and determine. But it would during those three years have been entitled to the capitation allowance and during whatever number of years that allowance may be continued to the provinces. This seems to me, as far as the province is concerned, a sound commercial and paying transaction, and equally so to the Colonial Government, from the additional revenue it will receive.

Were it not that I have virtually ceased to be Superintendent, and that I am bound, as I have already stated, not in any way to embarrass my successor, I should before this have advised the Governor to commence a stream of immigration into this province, at the rate of not less than 2,400 souls a year. This would give you probably 500 male adults, a number, I believe, barely adequate to the construction of the works in contemplation—would bring to this port ten ships in the year, and would probably be the means of introducing a capital of £100,000.

With respect to railways—There can, I apprehend, be no difference of opinion as to what lines ought to be constructed. The difficulty will be to get them placed in the proper schedule, though the member for the Wairarapa very nearly succeeded in placing the Wellington-Napier line in Schedule No. 1. But I see looming at no great distance another difficulty. The Middle Island members, or at any rate a section of them, seem disposed to dispute the right of the North Island to have any railways whatever, on the ground that its territorial revenue is comparatively small—but it ought to be borne in mind that the land revenue of this island has been destroyed mainly by the violation of the compact of 1856, which was effected by the Native Lands Act of 1862—an act which was carried by the votes of the representatives of the Middle Island—and it must also be remembered that the position of the North Island would have been very different to what it is but for the war policy so strenuously advocated and supported by the Middle Island.

Turning now to the financial position of the province:—I confess that far from taking a gloomy view of it I believe that in a few months the province will be entirely released from its present difficulties, and will have ample means to meet its requirements. In fact, had it not been for the enormous increase during the last two years in the provincial charges made by the General Assembly, and for the issue of the "Volunteer Scrip," which has already been exercised to the extent of £6000, those embarrassments never would have existed.

On the 1st of February your liabilities consisted of an overdraft at the Bank of £10,000, and of advances made by the General Government of £12,600 making a total of £22,600. I omit the balance of £980 due to the Road Boards for provision has been made for liquidating it as soon as certain mortgages are realised. All other claims to the 31st January, when the Appropriation Act expired have been met.

As I propose submitting to you an Appropriation Bill for a period of five months commencing on the 1st of February and ending on the 30th June, I have now to state the expenditure proposed, and the means of meeting it. The ordinary expenses of the Government will be £8511; of land and survey departments, £3110; for repairs of roads, £1600; for law expenses, £600; for interest and sinking fund on your loans, £7352; giving a total expenditure of £21,173. The receipts may be

stated as follows:—Capitation allowance, £7500; provincial revenue, £7346; land sales (already realised) £6100; estimate of land receipts during the ensuing five months, £5000; giving a total revenue of £25,946 to meet an expenditure of £21,173. It is clear therefore that unless my estimate of land revenue is exceeded, which is exceedingly probable, you cannot very materially reduce your existing liabilities.

But will the province be able to meet its engagements for the future, and to carry on the public works, absolutely necessary.

The annual expenditure may be stated as follows:—Ordinary expenses of Government, £19,000; Land and Survey Departments, £7000; repairs of roads, and contingencies, £5000; interest and sinking fund, £16,500; total £47,500. This expenditure must, under any circumstances, be met.

I think the following estimate of revenue may be regarded as moderate. The capitation allowance for the current year is £51,500, less provincial charges, £33,500, leaving a balance of £18,000. This will be reduced next year by £2500, but as the charges for the Wanganui Court and Custom Houses and other items will not appear on the estimates of next year, and as it may fairly be assumed that the population will go on increasing, we may safely take the balance of capitation allowance available for provincial appropriation at £18,000. The provincial revenue is £10,000, leaving a deficiency of £19,500 to be met out of territorial revenue.

Now, considering the quantity of land already surveyed and open for sale in the Rangitikei-Manawatu districts, and that an additional thirty thousand acres will be ready for sale within the next nine months; considering further that lines of road through the district are in course of construction, and that immigration has already commenced, I think that at the very lowest estimate you may calculate upon your land realising for the next few years at least £35,000 a year. This would leave you a balance of £15,500 for district roads, and other public works, exclusive of the colonial grant of £5000 a year to the Road Boards. At any rate, there is nothing in either the present state of your finances or in the future prospects of the province to justify the opinion entertained by many that the province is not in a position either to pay its way or to undertake any works, however necessary they may be.

And here allow me to remark that as the whole of your loans and land revenue have been expended on public works and immigration, it appears to me only fair that the interest and sinking fund should be made a charge upon the territorial revenue.

Should the land sales within the next three months not enable you to pay off the Deficiency Bill of £10,000 some temporary arrangement will have to be made with the bank. With respect to the advances made by the General Government, I am not prepared, until certain claims I have made against it on behalf of the province have been adjusted, to admit that the province is its debtor. On the contrary, I believe that upon any equitable settlement of accounts between them there will be a balance in favor of the province. And this brings me to another and new phase in the never ending—the ever recurring Manawatu question.

You are aware that when effect was attempted to be given to the judgments of the Native Lands Court by carrying out the survey of the block these surveys were interrupted by certain natives, instigated by Europeans, and acting under their advice in defiance of the law. The Provincial Government during my absence desiring, above all things, that the peace of the district should be preserved requested the General Government to use its efforts to prevent further obstruc-

tion of the surveys and to remove all possible doubts as to quiet possession of the land. The Native Minister accordingly visited the district, shortly before I returned to the colony, and made large gifts of land to the natives—both sellers and non-sellers believing, as he states, that this was necessary in order to preserve the peace of the country. He gave to sellers, who when I left were perfectly satisfied with the reserves I had awarded to them additional reserves of 4195 acres, to non-sellers additional reserves of 3086 acres—and to natives absolutely excluded by the Native Lands Court 7020 acres. I am bound to say that I differ with both the General and Provincial Governments as to the necessity of any interference in the matter, for I am satisfied that if the General Government had firmly persevered in the course of action adopted in the first obstruction of the surveyors against Miritana and McDonald no disturbance would have resulted, and peaceable possession would have been secured over the whole block, without the necessity of any further concessions to the natives. But even if a compromise of some sort had been necessary, I cannot but express my opinion as to the effect upon the province of the arrangements made by the General Government. The grant of so many thousand acres to sellers and non-sellers and to claimants who had been expressly excluded by the Native Land Court has alone caused a pecuniary loss to the province of as many thousands of pounds, while the giving away of several homesteads of settlers who had been promised that the value of their improvements should be added to the upset price of the land has inflicted more or less loss upon them, for which it cannot be said that the province is justly liable though I have no doubt claims for compensation will be preferred against it. I felt it my duty immediately on my return to bring the claims of the province formally before the General Government in the shape of a demand for the payment of one pound per acre of the entire area of the reserves made by the Native Minister and Mr Kemp. I made this claim on the ground that from the date of the notice in the "Gazette" that the native title was extinguished over the whole block, save the portions awarded by the Land Court, the block became a part of the territorial estate of the province, and that the General Government had no right in any way to a single acre of it.

From the correspondence that will be laid before you you will learn that the General Government declines to admit the claims I advanced. Still, I feel assured that the General Government does not intend that the claims of the settlers in question, arising out of its own action, shall be altogether ignored, or that no allowance whatever shall be made to the province for the loss of so large an area of saleable land out of a block the native title to which was so long ago formally declared to be extinguished, and to the proceeds whereof the exclusive right of the province is of course admitted. It is a case for equitable adjustment as between the province and the colony, especially when it is considered that the action of the General Government being taken in the interests of the maintenance of peace the price paid to the disaffected natives must be

deemed a liability of the colony rather than of the province. I can only further express the hope that the matter may be arranged before my departure, otherwise I must leave it in your hands.

The bills which it is proposed to lay before you are as follows:—

1. A District Highways Bill, which is rendered necessary in consequence of the validation of the act now in force expiring at the commencement of the next session of the General Assembly.

2. A Fencing Bill, which is necessary under the same circumstances.

3. The Masterton and Greytown Reserves Trust Bill, consequent on the "Wairarapa Town Lands Management Act" of last session of the General Assembly.

4. An Education Bill, reviving the provisions of the short act passed in 1869, rendering the rating of houses in proclaimed districts compulsory.

5. A Patent Slip Act Amendment Bill, giving effect to the expressed wish of the Council that I should be empowered to arrange the dispute with Messrs Kennard, the act of 1869 having been found insufficient for the purpose intended.

6. A Bill to empower the Superintendent to reserve lands for special settlement, and to lease pastoral lands. This bill is introduced under the "Immigration and Public Works Act, 1870," and the "Wellington Waste Lands Act, 1870," of the General Assembly, and authorises the setting apart of blocks of land for special settlement, on terms to be approved by the Governor in Council.

7. An Appropriation Bill for the period ending 30th June next.

You will readily perceive that in the observations I have addressed to you in glancing thus briefly at some of the questions which must be fully discussed when my successor meets the Council, my chief object has been to urge upon you the necessity of maintaining your institutions in their integrity, by showing that they have very faithfully discharged their colonising functions, and that no simpler, more economical, or more efficient form of Government has yet been proposed—by pointing out that though the General Government has taken colonisation into its own hands, still that the Provincial Governments can exercise a very powerful and beneficial control over the administration of the scheme—that there is little chance of any province receiving its fair and legitimate share of the advantages of the present policy, if its members in the General Assembly are deprived of that moral support which the provincial legislatures can alone afford them—that to abdicate your functions at the present time would, to my mind, be a betrayal of the high trust confided to you—at all events you will have learnt that under no conceivable circumstances would I ever be an accomplice in the perpetration of such a great political crime as that of surrendering one iota, one particle, of the rights and privileges conferred upon my fellow-settlers by the Constitution of 1853—a Constitution which was won mainly by their exertions.

I. E. FEATHERSTON,
Superintendent.

Superintendent's Office,
Wellington, 2nd March, 1871.

In the Supreme Court of New Zealand, Otago and Southland District.

Between JOSEPH STOCK and JOHN BLACK-LOCK, Plaintiffs;
And
JAMES SHIRLEY and HENRY THOMAS CULLEN, Defendants.

Amount Recovered, £107 10s. 4d.

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that by a writ of *feri facias* issued out of the above Court, and to me directed, I have caused my Bailiff to enter upon Section number 8, Upper Mungaroa Block, Hutt District, containing fifty acres, in the Province of Wellington in the said Colony, the property of the above named defendant, James Shirley, such land having been taken in execution at the suit of the above plaintiffs, the execution creditors, and that it is my intention to sell or cause to be sold the equity of redemption of and in the said parcel of land, (the same land being alleged to be subject to a certain deed of mortgage, dated the seventeenth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and seventy, made between the above named defendant, James Shirley, of the one part, and Thomas Ross and John Martin, of Invercargill, in the Province of Southland, Merchants, of the other part, to secure the sum of Eighty-five pounds and interest, but which mortgage is disputed by the plaintiffs), by public auction, at the Court House, City of Wellington, on the Seventeenth day of May, One thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, at twelve o'clock noon, unless satisfaction be sooner made of the judgment debt and all costs and expenses connected therewith or incidental thereto; and I further give notice that the plaintiffs' Solicitor is Frederick Wentworth Wade, of Invercargill, in the Province of Southland, whose agents are Messieurs Hart and Buckley, Solicitors, Lambton Quay, City of Wellington.

Dated at Wellington, this 16th of February, 1871.

JAMES C. CRAWFORD,
Sheriff, District of Wellington.

Wanganui General Cemetery.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, Jan. 31, 1871.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT has been pleased to appoint

Messrs. David Stark Durie
Thomas Harper
Wm. H. Watt
William Hutchison
Francis Williamson

to be Trustees for the management of the General Cemetery at Wanganui.

A. FOLLETT HALCOMBE,
Provincial Secretary.

Resignation of Members of the Executive.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
1st March, 1871.

HIS HONOR the SUPERINTENDENT has been pleased to accept the resignation by

JOE DRANSFIELD, Esq., and
EDWARD PEARCE, Esq.,

of their seats in the Executive of the Province of Wellington.

By His Honor's command,

A. FOLLETT HALCOMBE,
Provincial Secretary.

West Masterton School District.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, March 4, 1871.

NOTICE has been given to this office that at a meeting of the settlers of the above named district, held at the Schoolhouse, on Saturday, the 25th February, a Committee was elected consisting of the following persons, viz:—

Mr. Day
" Dagg
" Evans
" McKenzie
" Crayne
" Chamberlain
" Kibblewhite
" Walton
" Prentice
" Compton, Collector and Treasurer
" R. Hare, Chairman
A. FOLLETT HALCOMBE,
Provincial Secretary.

Sheep Inspector's Report.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Wellington, Feb. 23, 1871.

NOTICE has been given to this office by the Inspector of Sheep for the Wellington District, that he has granted Clean Certificates to the following flock owners, viz:—

Mr Frank Smith, Paikakariki, for the whole flock. Dated 10th February, 1871.

Messrs. Anthony and James Wall, Pukurua, for the whole flock. Dated 17th February, 1871.

Mr. James Wall, Porirua Ferry, for the whole flock. Dated 18th February, 1871.

He also reports that he has cancelled the Clean Certificate of

Mr. Anthony Wall, sen., Porirua Bay.

A. FOLLETT HALCOMBE,
Provincial Secretary.