

SESS II.—1884.
NEW ZEALAND.

JOINT SOUTH SEA ISLANDS TRADE COMMITTEE
(REPORT OF), TOGETHER WITH MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

Report brought up 7th October, 1884, and ordered to be printed.

ORDERS OF REFERENCE.

Extract from the Journals of the Legislative Council.

WEDNESDAY, THE 10TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1884.

Ordered, "That a Select Committee be appointed to consider and report on the best mode to encourage and promote trade between New Zealand and the South Sea Islands. The Committee to have power to sit or confer together with any similar Committee which may be appointed by the House of Representatives, and to have power to send for persons, papers, and records; three to be a quorum. The Committee to consist of the Hon. Mr. Campbell, the Hon. Captain Fraser, the Hon. Dr. Pollen, the Hon. Mr. Waterhouse, the Hon. Mr. Williamson, and the mover."—(Hon. Mr. Reynolds.)

Extract from the Journals of the House of Representatives.

FRIDAY, THE 12TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1884.

Ordered, "That a Select Committee be appointed to consider and report on the best mode to encourage and promote trade between New Zealand and the South Sea Islands. The Committee to have power to confer or sit together with any similar Committee which may be appointed by the Legislative Council, and to have power to send for persons, papers, and records; three to be a quorum. The Committee to consist of Sir G. Grey, Mr. Harper, Mr. Larnach, Mr. Moss, Captain Russell, and the mover."—(Hon. Sir. J. Vogel.)

REPORT.

THE Select Committee appointed to confer with a similar Committee from the Legislative Council as to the best mode to encourage and promote trade between New Zealand and the South Sea Islands, have the honour to report :—

That they have drawn up a Bill intituled "An Act to create the New Zealand International South-Sea Trading Company, and to grant the said Company so created various Powers and Privileges," and report the same with Bill hereunto attached.

JULIUS VOGEL,
Chairman.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

FRIDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER, 1884.

The Joint Committee met pursuant to notice.

Present: Mr. Harper, Mr. Moss, Hon. Dr. Pollen, Hon. Mr. Reynolds, Captain Russell, Hon. Sir Julius Vogel, Hon. Mr. Williamson, and Hon. Colonel Whitmore.

On the motion of Hon. Mr. Reynolds, *Resolved*, That the Hon. Sir Julius Vogel be appointed Chairman.

A draft Bill was submitted by the Chairman.

On the motion of the Hon. Colonel Whitmore, *Resolved*, That two copies of the Bill be printed and circulated amongst the members of the Committee only.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Reynolds, *Resolved*, That the words "Strictly confidential" be printed as a heading to the Bill, and that the Bill be returned to the Clerk of the Committee by each member when read.

The Committee then adjourned.

MONDAY, 6TH OCTOBER, 1884.

The Joint Committee met pursuant to notice.

Present: Hon. Sir Julius Vogel (Chairman), Hon. Mr. Campbell, Hon. Captain Fraser, Mr. Harper, Mr. Larnach, Mr. Moss, Hon. Dr. Pollen, Hon. Mr. Reynolds, Hon. Mr. Waterhouse, and Hon. Mr. Williamson.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Committee took into consideration the draft of the New Zealand International South Sea Trading Company Bill.

Hon. Mr. Reynolds moved, That this Bill be recommended to the House with such amendments as may be made in its clauses by the Committee.

The Committee divided:—

Ayes, 7.—Hon. Mr. Campbell, Hon. Captain Fraser, Mr. Harper, Mr. Larnach, Hon. Dr. Pollen, Hon. Mr. Reynolds, Hon. Mr. Williamson.

Noes, 2.—Mr. Moss, Hon. Mr. Waterhouse.

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

Preamble postponed.

Clauses 1 to 3 read and agreed to.

Clause 4 read. Amendment proposed, to transpose and conjoin subsections (b.) and (c.), and to add at the end of (b.) the words "and thereby discourage the labour traffic." (*Mr. Harper.*)

Amendment agreed to.

Clause as amended agreed to.

Clause 5 read and agreed to.

Clause 6 read. Amendment proposed to add the following words: "And shall be elected by the electoral body, consisting of twenty-five persons, to be appointed by the Governor for the purpose, and also by nomination. Directors, whether nominated or elected, shall not be subject to the Disqualification Act, provided they are unpaid."

Amendment agreed to.

Clause as amended agreed to.

Clause 7 read. Amendment proposed: In the second paragraph, after the word "holding," to insert the words "one hundred."

In the same paragraph, after the word "shares," to insert the words "But this shall not apply to the first directors until three months after their appointment or election. Nominated directors need not hold shares."

Amendments agreed to.

Clause as amended agreed to.

Clauses 8 to 10 read and agreed to.

Clause 11 read. Amendment proposed to add the following words: "A refund of half profits over seven per centum shall be paid until the whole advance be repaid."

Clauses 12 and 13 read and agreed to.

Clause 14 negatived.

Clause 15 read and agreed to.

Preamble read and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Bill as amended be submitted to a sub-Committee, consisting of the Chairman, the Hon. Dr. Pollen, and Mr. Harper, with authority to have the Bill drafted in accordance with the amendments adopted by the Committee, and to report the Bill so amended, and recommend its adoption by the House.

The Committee then adjourned.