

opinion of this House it is desirable that a Bill should be passed during the present Session to simplify the Duties of Customs at present levied in this Colony.

Mr. Cargill gave notice that on the third reading of the Public Lands Bill, he would move that a clause be inserted that Officers on taking grants under the Horse Guards Regulations, shall take their grants in one block, and shall exercise their choice in country lands only.

Mr. Merriman gave notice that on to-morrow he would move for a Committee to superintend the printing of the Votes and Proceedings of the House. The Committee to consist of the Speaker, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Cutten, Mr. Carleton, and the Mover.

Mr. Carleton pursuant to notice, asked the question standing in his name No. 1 on this day's paper.

Mr. Merriman with leave withdrew his motion standing No. 2, on this day's paper, on the understanding that the Government intend to remodel the law relating to the recovery of small debts.

Mr. Picard pursuant to notice moved that Standing Order No. 9 be suspended in order to allow the introduction of a Petition from certain inhabitants of Motueka in the Province of Nelson.

Agreed to.

Petition received.

Mr. Picard gave notice, that to-morrow he would move the adoption of certain Resolutions on the subject of the Native Reserves of this Colony.

Mr. Merriman obtained extension of time for bringing up the Report of the Committee on the Privileges of the House until 1st August next.

Mr. Cutten obtained extension of time for bringing up the Report of Committee on Reports of Debates until 8th August next.

Mr. Porter brought up the Report of the Committee on Bribery at Elections. Report read, and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Fitzgerald, the Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Public Lands Bill, on its re-committal.

A deputation from the Legislative Council was announced, whereupon the Speaker took the Chair.

The Deputation was introduced, and presented the Interpretation, and Dower Bills.

The Dower Bill was read a first time, and ordered for second reading.

Interpretation Bill read a first time and ordered for second reading.

On motion of Mr. Fitzgerald, the Speaker left the Chair, and the House, in Committee of the whole, resumed the re-consideration of the Public Lands Bill.

On the Speaker resuming the Chair, Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

William Sefton Moorhouse, Esq., being introduced by Mr. Fitzgerald, took the oath and his seat as member for Akaroa District.

House then adjourned till 6 o'clock this evening.

TUESDAY, 25TH JULY, 1854.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Speaker took the Chair.

On motion of Mr. Fitzgerald, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole for further consideration of Mr. Wakefield's amendments to the Public Lands Bill.

On the Speaker resuming the Chair, the Chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again; and also, that the Committee desired to refer a point of order to the House, as to whether a private arrangement between Members can be introduced as a subject of order.

The Speaker ruled, that the point in question was not a point of order, and, in this present instance, appeared to be one of mis-conception of words between Honourable Members, and could only be decided by explanation, and the opinion of the House on question being put, if necessary; on discussing this, or any other subject, whether in Committee, or with the Speaker in the Chair, no Honourable