

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS.

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

WEDNESDAY, 21ST JUNE, 1854.

PRESENT—The Speaker and 22 members.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Speaker took the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

Mr. Hart gave notice that on Friday next he would move the suspension of the Standing Orders in order to admit the memorial of Mr. Archibald Watson Shand late of H. M. Customs at Otago.

Mr. Wortley gave notice that on to-morrow he would ask the head of the Executive in this House what has been the final answer of the Government regarding the use of the site called Moray Place, in the Town of Dunedin, and what was the opinion of the Attorney-General on the subject.

Mr. Sewell gave notice that on Thursday next he would move that a Committee be appointed to enquire and report what are, or ought to be, the privileges of this House, or of the members thereof. The Committee to consist of Mr. E. G. Wakefield, Mr. Hart, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Bartley, Mr. Merriman, Mr. Picard, and the Mover. Report to be brought up on Wednesday, 28th instant.

Mr. Mackay, the Chairman of the Committee appointed to report as to the best means of establishing effective Steam Communication between the different Provinces of New Zealand, applied to the House for power to examine witnesses, and call for papers, persons, and reports.

Agreed to.

Mr. Forsaith moved, according to notice, that an Address be presented to His Excellency the Officer administering the Government, respectfully requesting that he will cause to be furnished to the House, copies of the correspondence between the Colonial Government and Her Majesty's Secretary of State, relative to the disallowance of the Marriage Amendment Ordinance.

Agreed to.

Mr. Hart moved, according to notice, that an Address be presented to the Officer administering the Government, respectfully requesting that he will furnish copies of the despatches of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which authorise the Governor of New Zealand to make regulations for the sale of land in the colony, with the exception of such as have been published in this colony.

Agreed to.

Mr. Wortley, with permission of the House, withdrew his motion on this day's notice paper No. 3.

Mr. Carleton, according to notice, moved for leave to introduce a Bill for completing the settlement of claims to land under the pre-emption proclamation.

Leave given.

Mr. O'Brien, pursuant to notice, moved the appointment of a Committee to consider the best means of introducing the most complete system of Vaccination amongst the natives. Report to be brought up on 12th July, 1854.

Agreed to.

Mr. O'Neill, with permission of the House, withdrew the motion in his name in the notice paper of this day.

Major Greenwood pursuant to notice, moved that a return be applied for of the total number of Electors on the Electoral Rolls of 1853, and as many for 1854 as may be obtainable.

Agreed to.

Major Greenwood moved pursuant to notice, seconded by Mr. Forsaith, that Mr. Merriman, member for the Suburbs of Auckland, be appointed Chairman of Committees of the whole House.

Mr. Bartley moved as an amendment, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, that Mr. Carleton be appointed Chairman of Committees.

Debate ensued.

Mr. E. G. Wakefield moved as an amendment, seconded by Mr. Cargill, that according to the usages of Ministerial Responsibility it is expedient that a