

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1854, (6 P.M.)

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Speaker took the chair.

Mr. Travers with the leave of the House withdrew the motion standing in his name, No 1 on this days paper,

Mr. Travers, with leave of the House, brought up the reports of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Land Claimant's Estate Bill, the Dower Bill, and the Powers of Attorney Bill.—Reports read.

Mr. Wakefield gave notice that, to-morrow, he would move an address to His Excellency, respectfully praying that he will be pleased to send to the House, copies or extracts of a correspondence relating to the retirement of Mr. Wakefield from the position of His Excellency's temporary adviser.

Mr. Merriman, according to notice moved No. 2 on this day's paper, to which, with the leave of the House, he added the following words, "also the amount of receipts and expenditure on account of the said Department for the same period."—Agreed to.

A deputation from the Legislative Council was announced; the Honorable F. Dillon Bell, Esq., was introduced and presented a Bill to amend the New Zealand Company's Land Claimants Ordinance, to which he prayed the assent of the House.

The Deputation then withdrew.

On motion of Mr. Travers, Bill read a first time, and the second reading ordered to stand an order of the day for to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. Mackay leave was given to postpone the Report of the Select Committee, appointed to report upon the Expenditure on account of the General Assembly, until Monday next.

On motion of Mr. Hart leave was given to postpone the report of the Select Committee on the Debt to the New Zealand Company, till Monday next.

On motion of Mr. Hart the second reading of the Secondary Punishments Bill, ordered to stand an order of the day for to-morrow.

Mr. Travers gave notice that, to-morrow, he would move the suspension of Standing Orders relating to the passing of Public Bills, in order that the Bill to amend the New Zealand Company's Land Claimants Ordinance, may be passed through its various stages.

On motion of Mr. Sewell Standing Order No. 29 was suspended, in order to enable him to propose, for the adoption of the House, the following Standing Orders (which had been agreed to by the Legislative Council) relating to the passing of Bills through both Houses of the Legislature :—

"When a Bill sent from one House shall be agreed to by the other House without amendments, a Message shall be sent back acquainting the former House thereof; and the Bill shall then remain with the House in which it was last passed, for transmission to the Governor.

"When amendments are proposed in either House in a Bill sent from the other, the Bill shall be returned in the form in which it was sent, together with a Message stating such amendments. The Bill shall not then be read again in the House to which it is so returned, but the amendments shall be taken into consideration at some time to be fixed on motion with notice.

"If the amendments be agreed to, a Message shall be sent back acquainting the other House thereof; and the Bill itself shall then be amended by the House in which it originated, and shall remain with that House for transmission to the Governor.

"Amendments made by one House in a Bill sent by the other House may not be rejected; if, therefore, they are not adopted, the Bill must drop, unless a Conference take place at the request of either House for the adjustment of the matter in difference; and, if the original amendments or a modification thereof be adopted by such Conference, and their decision be confirmed by both Houses, the Bill itself shall be amended in accordance therewith by the House in which it originated, and shall remain with that House for transmission to the Governor.

"The Speaker of the House with which a Bill may remain under the foregoing Orders, shall immediately cause the Bill to be fairly engrossed on parchment without punctuation, and the Clerks of both Houses shall examine and certify to the correctness of the Bill by an endorsement thereon: after which the Speaker of the House aforesaid shall, without delay, transmit or present the same to the Governor.

"The date of Governor's assent shall be certified by an endorsement to be made on Acts of the General Assembly by such high Public Officer as the Governor may be pleased to direct in that behalf; and the Acts shall then be kept in such custody as the Governor may appoint, pending the establishment of a Public Record Office."