

The Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

His Excellency's private Secretary was introduced, who presented the following messages, which were read by the Speaker.

MESSAGE No. 52.

R. H. WYNYARD,

Officer administering the Government.

The Officer administering the Government begs to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the statement enclosed in Message 51, dated 31st August, 1855, in which it is purposed to deduct from the gross revenues for the current financial year the sum of thirteen thousand one hundred and fifty pounds (£13,150) for land purchases, this amount being only for the completion of contracts.

The Officer administering the Government transmits to the House, at the same time, the accompanying copy of two letters, dated 30th and 31st August, 1855, from Mr. Commissioner McLean, pointing out the great importance of the speedy purchase of large tracts of native lands, and the serious difficulties likely to arise from a sudden interruption in the course of negotiations for that purpose.

The Officer administering the Government, fully sensible of the great importance of speedy purchase by the Crown of large and fertile districts, which the Natives do not require, and which they are willing to sell, would submit, for the consideration of the House, the expediency of the House authorising the Governor to raise loans to a limited amount, by debentures or otherwise, for the object in view.

Government House, Auckland

1st Sept., 1855.

His Excellency's message No. 52, with its enclosures, ordered to be printed, and consideration thereof referred to Committee of Ways and Means.

MESSAGE No. 53.

R. H. WYNYARD,

Officer administering the Government.

In accordance with the request contained in Resolution No. 29, dated the 29th August, 1855, the Officer administering the Government transmits to the House of Representatives the accompanying copies of the correspondence between the Oriental Bank Corporation and the Government, respecting the introduction of a Branch or Branches of that Establishment into this Colony.

Government House, Auckland,

1st Sept., 1855.

MESSAGE No. 54.

R. H. WYNYARD,

Officer Administering the Government.

With reference to Message No. 43, dated 27th August, 1855, transmitting, at the request of the House of Representatives, copy of a Report, dated 7th August, 1854, from Mr. George Cooper, relative to the Native disturbances at New Plymouth, the Officer administering the Government transmits to the House copy of another Report on the same subject from Mr. Cooper, dated the 8th August, 1854, which had been accidentally omitted in the correspondence previously transmitted to the House.

Government House, Auckland,

1st Sept., 1855.

On motion of Mr. Sewell, the Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means.

On the Speaker resuming the Chair, the Chairman reported that the Committee recommended the following Resolution for the adoption of the House :—

“That this House, deeply impressed with the importance of continuing the purchase of Native lands, is nevertheless sensible of the great difficulties which at this moment surround the question, proposed to it by his Excellency, viz., of borrowing money for that purpose. If, however, his Excellency shall be pleased to transmit to the House a Bill for that object, the House will give to such a measure the utmost consideration which time and circumstances will permit.”

Question—that the foregoing resolution be adopted by the House,—put and passed.

Moved by Mr. Sewell—that a respectful address be presented to his Excellency, embodying the foregoing resolution.

Question put and passed.

The Speaker left the Chair, and the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the whole for consideration of the Estimates.

On the Speaker resuming the Chair, the Chairman reported that the Committee recommend the following resolution for the adoption of the House.—