

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 1856.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment; Mr. Speaker and thirty-four members being present; Mr. Speaker read prayers and took the chair.
2. Petition of John Brigham:—Mr. Merriman presented a petition from John Brigham, a pre-emptive land claimant, complaining of neglect and mismanagement on the part of the Government in not placing him in possession of his land, and praying the House to take his case into consideration.
3. Adjournment (special):—Mr. Travers moved, That this House at its rising do adjourn until tomorrow at two o'clock.
Question put and passed.
4. George Duppa, Crown Grant to:—Mr. Travers, pursuant to notice, asked the Colonial Secretary whether any and what steps are being taken to carry out the decision of the Chief Justice on the award in favour of Mr. G. Duppa of lands in the Province of Nelson.
The Colonial Secretary replied that instructions had been issued to the Commissioner of Crown Lands at Nelson in April last, to prepare a Crown Grant in favour of Mr. Duppa.
5. Survey Department:—Mr. Williamson, pursuant to notice, asked the Government, that in the event of the entire management of the Waste Lands being transferred to the Provinces, what course the Government intend to take with regard to the Officers connected with the Survey Department whose services will no longer be required by the General Government.
Mr. Stafford stated in reply, that it was the intention of the Government to transfer the entire management of the Waste Lands to the Provinces; that then the control of the Survey Department would naturally belong to the Provincial Governments; and that notice had been given to the Officers of the Surveyor-General's Department; that after the 1st of May the question of their further employment and remuneration as Officers of the General Government would depend upon the views of the expected Responsible Ministry.
6. Bank of Issue:—The Colonial Treasurer, pursuant to notice, moved for leave to bring in a Bill for enabling the affairs of the Bank of Issue to be wound up.
Leave given; and on motion of the Colonial Treasurer the Bill was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and the second reading ordered to stand an order of the day for Tuesday next.
7. Surplus Revenues Distribution Bill:—The Colonial Treasurer, pursuant to notice, moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter the provisions of the Constitution Act so far as relates to the distribution of the Surplus Revenues of the Colony.
Leave given; and on motion of the Colonial Treasurer, the Bill was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and the second reading ordered to stand an order of the day for Tuesday next.
8. Assent of Governor to Acts of Provincial Councils:—Mr. Travers, pursuant to notice, moved that in the opinion of this House the assent of the Governor to Acts or Ordinances of the Provincial Councils, particularly in cases where the same are reserved for such assent which contain provisions repugnant to the Constitution Act, or illegally interfering with the civil rights of members of the community, is inconsistent with right constitutional practice.
Debate ensued.
On motion of Mr. Sewell, the debate was adjourned until Wednesday next.
9. Postponement:—Mr. Fox postponed the motions standing in his name fifth and sixth on the notice paper of this day until Tuesday next.
10. Motion withdrawn:—Mr. Carleton withdrew the motion standing in his name, seventh on the notice paper of this day.

11. Revenues