
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1856.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment; twenty-five members being present.

Mr. Stafford moved, That, Mr. Speaker being prevented, through illness, from attending on his duties in this House, the Chairman of Committees do take the chair for this day.

The Clerk having put the question, and it having been carried in the affirmative, the Chairman of Committees took the chair, and read prayers.

2. Gunpowder stolen by Natives :—Mr. Brodie, pursuant to notice, asked the Government whether any means have been taken, and what those means have been, for the recovery of 107 barrels of gunpowder lately stolen from the Island of Kawau.

Mr. Stafford, on the part of the Government, declined answering the question.

3. Privileges Bill :—Mr. Fox moved the adoption of the following address to her Majesty the Queen :—

*To Her Most Gracious Majesty, Victoria, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,
Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c.*

The humble address of the Commons of New Zealand

Respectfully sheweth,—

That the General Assembly of New Zealand have passed an Act declaratory, among other things, of the privileges of the House of Representatives, and particularly as to the power of that House to examine witnesses, and call for the production of papers, but has exempted from the operation thereof all persons serving in your Majesty's army and navy on full pay.

That many questions may arise which may require information relating to the Civil Government of the Colony, which it is only in the power of such officers serving in the Colony to give.

That the Commons of New Zealand are of opinion that it would contribute to the efficiency of the public service, if all such persons were required to submit themselves to the inquiries of the Houses of Assembly, in the same manner as other persons are required to do by the Act above referred to.

The Commons of New Zealand, therefore, humbly present the premises to your Majesty, and pray that your Majesty will be pleased to command all such persons to submit themselves as aforesaid, unless expressly prohibited by the Officer commanding your Majesty's forces in New Zealand for the time being.

Question, That the foregoing address be adopted by this House, put and passed.

4. Native Affairs :—On motion of Mr. Fox, Mr. Speaker left the chair, and the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the purpose of considering an address to her Majesty the Queen, on the subject of the relations between the Governor and his responsible ministers in the management of Native affairs.

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

5. Meeting of General Assembly :—On motion of the Colonial Treasurer, Mr. Speaker left the chair, and the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the purpose of considering his Excellency's Message No. 46.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the chair, the Chairman reported, that a division having taken place in the committee, he had ascertained that there was not a quorum present.

6. Adjournment :—The House having been counted, by order of Mr. Speaker, it was found that the following members only were present, viz., Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Erodie, Mr. D. Bell, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Curtis, and Mr. Hall.

Mr. Speaker accordingly declared the House adjourned.

ORDERS