



NEW ZEALAND
GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY.

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By His Honor's command,

JOHN HALL,

Provincial Secretary.

VOL. II.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1855.

[No. VII.]

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL.

11th April, 1855.

His Honor the Superintendent opened the Provincial Council this day, in the following speech:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Provincial Council,—The Session which is about to take place will be one of unusual importance, not from the variety but from the nature of the subjects which will be brought under your consideration. Before, however, alluding to those subjects, I cannot but congratulate you upon the change which has taken place in your body since I last addressed you. The Provincial Legislature has exercised for the first time the highest of the privileges which has been bestowed on it by the British Parliament—the power of constituent legislation. In the exercise of that power, the original constitution of your Council has undergone a change, which will, I doubt not, enable it to command the confidence of the people in a larger and fuller degree than heretofore. It is additionally gratifying to me to reflect

that this change has been made at so early a period, in compliance with a general demand on the part of the people;—a demand not arising from any hostility to, or mistrust of the Council as hitherto constituted, but indicating rather, that the people are taking an increasing interest in their public affairs, and more fully recognize and appreciate the powers and privileges which they possess, and the responsibility which attaches to their exercise.

I may be allowed to take this opportunity of acknowledging in the warmest terms, the patient and attentive consideration which the Council as hitherto constituted has paid to the measures which it has been my duty to submit to it, and how deeply indebted I stand to its members for their co-operation their advice and their assistance. They may justly claim the gratification of reflecting, that the measures which they have passed have proved to be beneficial to the Province and satisfactory to the community in no ordinary degree.

I am happy to be able further to con-

gratulate you, upon the steady advance which this Province is making in general wealth and prosperity: a prosperity the more satisfactory because it is shared by all classes of the community. It is not in my power to lay before you any official statistics which will enable you to judge of the advance which has been made. Some amendments in the Census Ordinance will be proposed to you, which may enable me, in future years, to provide such information, but, so far as incidental sources of information may be relied on, there can be no doubt that the quantity of land now in cultivation is considerably greater than when I first opened the Council eighteen months ago; and I have reason to believe the amount of stock in the Province has nearly doubled since that time. The population has slightly increased. The imports have increased considerably, and the exports very largely. The latter fact is very significant. The increase in imports for the year ending the 31st December last, is returned at 29 per cent over those of the preceding year, whilst the increase in the exports for the same period is one of no less than 500 per cent; and it is certain that, from the value of the wool of the present season, the exports will again be far more than doubled in next year's returns. This is a very encouraging fact, inducing the hope that our settlement, so lately formed, is rapidly approaching the normal condition of every country in a healthy state of trade, and that the imported necessaries and luxuries which we enjoy, will, before long, be paid for wholly by the products of our own labour, and the resources of our own Province.

The only draw back to this state of general prosperity arises from the great scarcity of labor. This, however, will be probably of temporary duration, as the arrival of Immigrants both from Australia and from England may now be daily looked for. With regard to Immigration from England I regret to inform you that owing to the delay in paying over the proceeds of the land fund to the Provincial chest, and the consequent inability of the Provincial Government to transmit funds to England, a delay has occurred in making arrangements with shippers to undertake the Immigration. I endeavoured to avoid the difficulty by empowering the agents in England to draw on the Provincial Government; but there appears to be some temporary difficulty in negotiating such bills. As soon, however, as I was apprised of the difficulty, I caused £10,000 to be transmitted to Mr. Godley, through the Union Bank, and in the mean time Mr.

Godley and Mr. Selve have again come forward to aid the settlement by their private credit. So that some immigrants may be daily expected.

To the same scarcity of labor you must attribute the apparent delay which exists in accomplishing those public works for which funds have been voted by the Provincial Council. In this matter I have felt it incumbent on the Government to act with great caution, both to avoid withdrawing labor from the ordinary occupations of the colony, especially during harvest time, and also to avoid throwing such large public funds into the labor market as to raise the price of labor to an extent ruinous to the ordinary employer. I do not, however, doubt but that with the assistance which will shortly be received from fresh immigration, all the works for which funds have been voted, will be accomplished in the course of the ensuing year.

With one or two trifling exceptions, however, it is not the intention of the Government to ask you for any further votes on account of public works for the current year, both because it is not likely that any works besides those already engaged in, could with the labor we shall be able to command be readily executed during the current year, and also because no larger sums than those already voted could be safely expended in labor during that time, without risking so serious a disturbance of the labor market, as to inflict considerable injury on the Province.

With regard to the main work undertaken by the Government—the Sumner Road—so much misapprehension exists, that I shall request your attention for a few moments to that subject. The Commissioners appointed to enquire into this subject have reported on the best line of road, and also on the best line of railway. I entirely agree with those who think that a Railway from Lyttelton to Christchurch is necessary, in order to develop the resources of this settlement; and I have no doubt but that in a few years, the Province will be in a position to undertake such a work. At present it possesses neither means or credit, public or private, for so large an undertaking. In a young and comparatively unknown community, the establishment of the public credit is the first consideration. To undertake a work far beyond our present means, would be ruinous, not only to that work, but to future undertakings. On the other hand, the formation of the cart road into the interior from the Port, will only hasten the time when the Province will be able to undertake a Railroad; and the sum of

money required for this work is only a small fraction of that necessary for the construction of a railroad.

I have had an accurate and detailed survey and estimate made of the Sumner Road. If that estimate had much exceeded the sum I proposed to you to spend on the work, I should have again referred the subject to your consideration, before engaging in the task; but, I am happy to be able to state to you that, after the most complete and careful survey of the whole line, it appears that a good practicable road for carts, of full breadth throughout, may be opened within twelve months for the sum of about £12,000; whilst a further expenditure of ten or twelve thousand pounds would effect such improvements, chiefly in metal-ling the road, as to render it a first rate road throughout. Such further improvements, however, are not necessary in order to open the road for traffic; they need only be effected in a series of years, and will probably be, in a great measure, unnecessary. The road now surveyed is considerably shorter than that originally laid out. It will present no dangers. Instead of the precipitous rocks and lofty retaining walls of the old road, the retaining walls are very trifling in extent, and will nowhere exceed four feet in height, and on the Sumner side instead of a long descent of two and a quarter miles in very steep hill side, the proposed line will descend by a hill of less than a mile in ground of the easiest possible character. The complete survey moreover shews that the tunnel will pass 270 feet below the summit of the hill. This road will therefore save a perpendicular rise of no less than 700 feet as compared with any road which can be made over any other part of the hills. After the most mature consideration of the whole subject, aided by the elaborate and careful survey which has now been made, I am satisfied that as a means of surmounting the great natural obstacles which those lofty and precipitous hills present to the communication between the port and the plains, the road now determined on is not only the best which can be made, but also that it will be a work reflecting the highest possible credit on the sagacity and skill of the engineers by whom it was originally proposed, and upon the gentleman by whom the details have been completed. I am compelled to the conclusion that it will prove not only to be the cheapest road in point of actual cost which can be made, but immeasurably the cheapest as regards the advantages it will present when done. The unavoidable delay which has occurred from the necessity of completing a careful survey of the

whole line being at an end, I propose to prosecute the work in the course of the ensuing year with the utmost expedition.

With regard to the financial condition of the Province I have caused a statement to be prepared, shewing the amount of expenditure which has taken place in the past year. Whilst that expenditure has fallen within the estimates on the whole, there has been a slight excess in some departments. The reasons for this excess will be explained to you in proposing a bill for the appropriation of the sums comprised in it. I am happy to be able to direct your attention to the fact that the ordinary Revenue of the Province has hitherto been sufficient to provide for all the ordinary and current expences of the Government without drawing upon the Land fund. This is a state of things which I hope will ever be scrupulously observed. It appears to me to be not only unsound in a financial point of view, but very unfair towards one class of the community that the funds derived from the sale of the Waste Lands should be applied to liquidate the current and ordinary expences of Government. If the ordinary annual expences of Government are allowed to encroach on the casual and incidental receipts, one great check on the expenditure will be removed, and a spirit of extravagance will not improbably be fostered. The Lands should rather be regarded as the capital stock of the country, and their proceeds should, according to all sound economy, be expended in giving permanent value to the land itself:—for example, in the introduction of labor without which the land is valueless, and in the construction of Public works which facilitate its occupation; and, amongst those public works, not the least in importance, is the building and endowment of Schools for the benefit of the occupiers of the Land. In proposing the estimates which will be laid before you for the ensuing year the same principle has been observed.

You are already in possession of the instructions from his Excellency by which it appears that one-half instead of one-third of the General and Land Revenues of the Colony is to be paid to the General Government. I am unable to understand why so large a portion of the Revenue is necessary to meet the expenditure of the General Government, and I entertain no doubt whatever, but that the proportion will shortly again be altered, and that the Province will be entitled to receive at least two-thirds of the net Revenue during the ensuing year. In that event the revenues of the Province will probably exceed the sums set down in the estimates.

Amongst the subjects which will come

before you in the course of the present session, that which will principally occupy your attention, will be the disposal of the Waste Lands. The measure to be proposed by the Government has been so long before the public, and has been so amply discussed, that it is unnecessary for me to dwell upon it at any length. The policy upon which it is based may be briefly embodied in two propositions. First, that the occupation of the soil by settlers who require it, and will use it, for agricultural purposes, is the basis of all real and durable prosperity to a colony, and ought therefore to be regarded as the main object to which all others should be made subservient. Secondly, that, until the Waste Lands are required by agricultural Settlers, the utmost possible encouragement should be given for their use for pastoral purposes. It cannot be too often or too strongly asserted that the interests of the pastoral and agricultural settler are not opposed to one another, but are identical; for whilst, as I have said, the settlement of the lands in the hands of *bona fide* occupiers and cultivators, is the main and ultimate object to be kept in view, that object is largely promoted, not retarded, by the temporary occupation of the Waste Lands by pastoral settlers. The cultivator of the soil benefits at least as largely as any other class in the community by the prosperity of the squatter. The introduction of capital, the importation of stock, the cheapening of animal food, the creation of a large export trade in a commodity of all others the most readily produced, and the consequent stimulus given to the importation of the necessaries and luxuries of life; these, the results of the squatters enterprise, add largely to the wealth and prosperity, not only of the Settlement generally, but especially of the agriculturalist, by extending the market for his produce. The prosperity of the Squatter cannot then justly become an object of jealousy to other classes of the community, unless it be gained at their expense; and the limit to the encouragement which the pastoral interest should receive, may be defined by this principle, that it should never be permitted to stand in the way of the permanent settlement of the country by the cultivator of the soil. And in the final disposal of the land for permanent settlement, a leading principle seems equally obvious: I mean that the Settler should be enabled to acquire it on the easiest possible terms. Not indeed at the lowest price; for terms which would admit of the land falling into the hands of large capitalists for speculative purposes, would be, not the easiest, but the hardest of all terms to the settler of limited means. I mean

the easiest terms, consistent with all the conditions and circumstances of the case. I am aware that it has been proposed to set aside certain parts of the country in which the sale of the land shall be limited to the *bona fide* occupying Settler by affixing to the sale conditions of occupation; such as the expenditure of a certain sum of money in improvements, and withholding the Crown grant until those conditions are fulfilled. I hope no such system will be adopted by your Council. A system which involves an inquisitorial inspection of every mans property, which places the settler at the mercy of the opinion or caprice of an official of Government who is to determine the nature and value of his improvements—which prohibits for several years the sale and interchange of property—which compels the investment of labor upon a precarious title—and, by preventing the settler from borrowing money for purposes of improvement, virtually dissevers capital from the land,—and, more than all, a system which would impose these hard terms upon the poor man, whilst it leaves open a great part of the Country to be bought by rich men without any such conditions or restrictions:—this seems to me to be a system not only repugnant to the character and habits of the English people, but entirely opposed to all sound economical principles. The problem, gentlemen, which is offered to your practical solution is,—first, on what terms can the agricultural settler be enabled to acquire land with the greatest facility;—secondly, to what extent can you encourage the temporary occupation of the unoccupied portion of the Province for pastoral purposes, without in any degree impeding the advance of its permanent settlement.

I shall gladly unite with you in recommending to his Excellency any plan which will accomplish these objects.

Amongst the practical difficulties which the inhabitants of the Province have to encounter, none are more severely felt, than those arising from the state of the law relating to roads and drainage, from the absence of any machinery for keeping roads in repair, for altering lines of road which experience has shown to be inconvenient, and for laying out new roads through settled districts which have become necessary to the public. A measure to supply this want will be submitted to you similar to measures already adopted in other Provinces, and similar so far as circumstances will admit, to the law of England.

In compliance with a petition which I have received from some of the inhabitants of Lyttelton, I have caused a bill to be prepared for the purpose

of bestowing a Municipal Corporation on the Town. It may be a matter of discussion as to what corporate powers should be intrusted to a Town of so limited a population, and at so early a stage of its existence. In the bill to be laid before you almost all the powers are included which are enjoyed by Municipal Corporations in England. There are however certain matters of the greatest importance, such as the protection to the Town from fire, and the adoption of an effective system of drainage, which can only be properly and efficiently accomplished by the townspeople themselves, and then only by the agency of a municipal body. Should a similar wish be expressed by the inhabitants of Christchurch, a similar bill will be laid before you, for bestowing on that town similar corporate powers.

The next subject to which I shall request your attention is that connected with the affairs of the Canterbury Association; and I earnestly hope you will be able finally to dispose of that question in the course of the present session. The subject has now been so long before the public that you will, no doubt, be able to effect an arrangement which will be satisfactory to the Province.

The question has now been cleared of most of the difficulties which at one time surrounded it. A Committee of your Council has investigated the accounts of the Association, and you can have no difficulty in ascertaining the amount of the outstanding liabilities, which the Province can, upon any grounds, be called on to assume. On the other hand, His Excellency, on the part of the Crown, has undertaken that no difficulty shall arise in respect of the title to the property which the Association holds, and is prepared to hand over to the Province.

The correspondence embodying the arrangement I was enabled to make with His Excellency at Auckland, is upon your table. Should there be any validity whatever in the doubts which have been expressed, as to the title of the Association to its property, the Crown, as the owner of the land in the event of a defect in the Association's title, is the party directly interested. You will perceive, however, that the Crown has undertaken to supply any defect in the title, should it be your wish to accept the property.

Should you then determine that the Province *can*, without injustice to itself, and *ought*, as a matter either of justice or honor, to undertake the Association's debt, it will obviously be necessary for the Province to obtain the absolute title to the Reserves. Such a title you can obtain by a

joint conveyance from both the parties interested in the title, the Crown and the Association. On the other hand, should you refuse to entertain the proposal made by the Association, the Reserves will either remain absolutely vested in and managed by the Association, or else will become a matter of litigation in the Courts of law.

Whilst leaving this question wholly to your judgment, and being desirous to aid in effecting any arrangement which you may consider most conducive to the interests of the Province, I cannot avoid pointing out to you the great evils which would result from the latter contingency. The Province could not but be largely benefited by acquiring the absolute property in these valuable reserves, and by placing them under an effective system of management. On the other hand it could not but suffer, either by their being vested permanently in a corporation in England, or by their becoming the subject of costly and tedious litigation. If therefore you should find that the Association's debt can be undertaken without entailing too heavy a burden on the Province, and that, at the same time, you can obtain an absolute title to those reserves, I cannot but think sound policy would dictate an arrangement being made on the basis proposed to you by the Association. It seems right, and you will probably expect, that I should express an opinion as to the financial effect of such an arrangement on the Province. So far as I am able to judge of the amount of the liabilities, and of the value of the Property, I think that by a proper management, and judicious sale of portions of the estate, the Province would not be called on to contribute any part of its Revenues towards the liquidation of the debt. But even were it called on to do so to a limited amount, the sacrifice would be far more than compensated for, by the general credit and character which the Province would establish in the eyes of the public in England, by undertaking to indemnify from loss those private individuals, who without any hope of advantage in the success of the Settlement, nevertheless did not shrink from heavy pecuniary responsibility, in the determination to save it, and those whose fortunes were embarked in it, from failure.

Gentlemen, I hope I may be favored with your views on this question at an early period in order that any Bills which may be necessary to embody the resolutions at which you may arrive, may be prepared. But the question which in my mind exceeds all others in importance, as affecting the permanent welfare of the community, is the question of providing for the educa-

tion of the people; and that not by temporary expedients, but by the establishment of permanent and liberal educational institutions.

You will remember that in opening this Council for the first time, I endeavored to urge the importance of this question on the Province. The experience of eighteen months has only served to deepen and strengthen the views which I then ventured to express. The whole tendency of the discussions which have taken place throughout the Colony on the subject of the Waste Lands, must have left the impression that the result of legislation on that subject will be to create possibly with great rapidity a very large class of peasant proprietors and small farmers throughout the Province. Those who think as I do that such a class will constitute the surest basis for the durable prosperity of a Colony and the happiness of its inhabitants, have watched that tendency with the deepest interest.

But it is impossible to anticipate without mistrust and alarm the increase of such a class in numbers and wealth, if their youth are allowed to grow up without that education, which alone can fit them to fulfil the duties which prosperity entails, and to exercise the great political privileges which our Constitution places in their hands. Institutions so free as those which have been bestowed on this Colony, will prove a curse, and not a blessing, except in the hands of an intelligent and educated people.

You will remember the Government postponed framing a measure for establishing an educational system until the present session, and you were asked for a vote of a thousand pounds in order to provide for education temporarily, until experience should have shewn what might be devised as most applicable to the condition of the Province.

Full accounts will be laid before you of the manner in which that grant has been expended. The difficulties which have been experienced have arisen from the limited supply of good schoolmasters, and from the impossibility of making permanent institutions on the frail security of a casual vote of the Council.

In dealing with education there are two distinct questions for legislation. First, that relating to the system to be adopted. Secondly, that relating to the means by which it is to be maintained.

In establishing any system, it is idle to disguise the difficulties arising from the connection between education and religion; and the various views entertained on the nature and extent of that relation,

in a country consisting of various religious denominations.

The measure to be submitted to you endeavours to deal fairly with that part of the subject. But I desire to say it is not proposed in the expectation that it will, of necessity, solve a question which ever has been, and will be, surrounded with difficulty. To contrive such a system, Gentlemen, I believe is not in the power of man. In a matter in which opinion and feeling enter so largely, the spirit in which any system is worked will mainly determine its success or failure. The most that legislation can do is to establish a system which shall be fair to all, and shall distinctly recognize the duties of all; and the principle in the proposed measure is this—that whilst no system deserves the name of education which endeavours to separate secular instruction from moral and religious training, yet the duty of the state extends only to affording secular instruction, whilst the various religious denominations of which the state is composed are the proper organs for conveying doctrinal instruction in religious matters. If the state then shall undertake to teach secular things, and shall place it in the power of the teacher of religion to fulfil his proper duty, it has done all that it can do in the matter.

But with the other part of the subject—the means of maintaining educational institutions, this Bill does not propose to deal; and in this respect it is manifestly inadequate to the object sought. I can never regard any system as satisfactory or sufficient, which is not maintained by a fixed and permanent source of income.

The expenses attending an efficient educational system are two-fold; comprising, first, the cost of building school-houses and providing materials for the schools; and, secondly, the cost of maintaining the schoolmasters. The first of these demands is of a varying nature, and may be supplied as funds become available; but the second is a permanent annual expense to be guaranteed every year.

I am aware that it has been proposed to set aside a portion of the land fund or land rate for educational purposes. I should rejoice to see that proposal adopted. But the funds which may be anticipated from this source are, in their nature, precarious, likely to vary largely from year to year, and not to be relied on for meeting a fixed annual liability. Besides if the Education is to be made worthy of the Province, if a system is to be established which shall command the respect of the people, I believe the funds arising from land sales will be wholly absorbed for many years, in

the buildings required, and in the other expenses attending the first foundation of schools. The permanent annual cost will still be left unprovided for. I know of but four ways in which these funds can be raised. 1st, As the existing ordinance provides, that is by setting apart a certain fixed portion of, or per centage on, the Public Revenues. 2nd, By annual votes of the Provincial Council. 3rd, By payments made by the parents of the children attending the schools. I will speak of these three before recurring to the last. An examination of the estimates will shew that the present ordinary Revenues are barely more than sufficient to provide for the ordinary expenses of Government; whilst the annual sum required for education would amount to nearly one-third of the Revenues. Again, the sums derived from weekly payments by the scholars, can never provide more than a small part of the expence of a school, except in localities, where, from the density of population, the numbers attending are very large. In this country, with a widely diffused population, that will never be the case. Nothing can be less satisfactory than grants in aid or votes of your house, virtually making the education of the people contingent on the political chances and party struggles inherent in a popular form of Government. The fourth mode of providing these necessary funds is by a rate on the whole population of the Province. I have calculated that a rate of ten shillings on every person above the age of fifteen years, and five shillings on every child between the ages of three and fifteen years, would produce, even with the present population, a sum sufficient to provide for the permanent charges of an efficient educational system. But with such a rate another great principle might be asserted, I mean, free education for all alike. That the schools should be entirely open to all the inhabitants of the Province, without any charge, and that, not as a matter of charity, but as a matter of right. A tax so small to accomplish an object so great, would not I think, be deemed a burden. Upon those who had large families it would fall most heavily, but to those very persons it would be an actual boon, because it would enable such persons to educate their families at a less expence than if they had to make the present weekly payments. To those without families the charge would be too trifling to occasion complaint, whilst it would constantly bring before the minds of all, the moral duty which belongs to all, to provide for the education of the youth of the community. To make such a system complete it would be right that endowment should be attached to every school

in the form of scholarships and exhibitions, by which children, living too far from the schools to take advantage of them by daily attendance, might be maintained as boarders without additional charge either to their parents or to the public. The creation of these permanent endowments would be a legitimate object to which to devote a portion of the Land Fund of the Province.

At the same time the Government have not thought it wise to propose in the present measure any such plan as I have described. I entirely agree with them in thinking, that a rate if adopted should be assented to by the population at large. I have therefore brought it before you in order that it may be fully considered by the Province.

I do not share in the apprehension that a rate really expended in providing a good and free system of education would be obnoxious to the people: on the contrary, the time will, I hope, come when the people will demand as a right that the means of education for their children shall, at any cost, be provided; and will justly charge the Government, which shall neglect to provide those means, with forgetfulness of its highest duties.

Gentlemen, I claim your indulgence for having entered so fully into this subject. I have it too nearly at heart to forbear to urge it upon the Province. To create institutions such as these—to bestow on them the character of permanence—to establish for ever free schools for all—to enlist the sympathies of the people in their progress and management—This is a work, which will be remembered, when all the ordinary subjects to which our attention is now directed will have been long forgotten, in the political changes of the day and the hour.

I cannot conclude, gentlemen, without alluding to the great struggle in which our Queen and country are at present engaged. For although it has pleased God to cast our lot in a land far removed from the scene of war. The fearful interest of that contest is undiminished by distance.

It will be for you to consider whether we may not give some evidence, more substantial than words alone, of our sympathy with a cause in which the liberties of Europe are involved. Whether we may not seize the opportunity of proving our gratitude for the gift of those free institutions which we so long wished to enjoy, and now so highly prize.

The finances of this Province will not enable us to follow the example of those Colonies of the Empire which have made grants of public money towards the expenses of

the war; but of that in which we are rich—our Waste Lands—I would suggest to you whether we may not contribute something towards relieving the necessities of those of our countrymen who may become sufferers in the conflict.

With this object a supplementary clause will be introduced with the Waste Lands Regulations for making free grants of land to a limited extent to discharged soldiers and seamen, and to the widows of those who may have fallen in the present war, and who may be willing to settle in this Province.

Gentlemen, I have alluded to the principal subjects which will be submitted to you by the Government. I am sure they will receive from you the most careful consideration. And for my own part, whilst laying before you my own views, and those of the members of the Government. I need not tell you that it will be my duty, to assure you that I will endeavour, to the best of my ability to carry into effect whatever may be the ultimate result of your deliberations.

It only remains for me to declare this Council open for the despatch of business.

JAMES EDWARD FITZ GERALD.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 31st March, 1855.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT has been pleased to appoint

CHARLES CHRISTOPHER BOWEN, Esq.,

to the Office of Provincial Treasurer, in the room of Charles Simeon, Esq., resigned. The appointment to date from the 1st of April.

By His Honor's command,

JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 1st April 1855.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT, is pleased to appoint

MR. EDWARD GENET,

to be Poundkeeper at Lyttelton, in the room of Mr. Read, resigned.

JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 9th April, 1855.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT has been pleased to appoint

MR. JAMES MELDRUM,

to be an Inspector of Sheep, under the Scab and Catarrh Ordinance.

(Mr. Meldrum's duties will be confined to the inspection of sheep introduced into this Province from Nelson, during the absence of Sir W. Congreve in the Southern portion of the Province.)

By his Honor's Command,

JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Christchurch, 11th April, 1855.

HIS HONOR THE SUPERINTENDENT has been pleased to appoint

C. C. BOWEN, Esq.,

to be Clerk to the Bench of Magistrates, at Christchurch, in the room of T. B. Keele, Esq., resigned.

By His Honor's command,

JOHN HALL,
Provincial Secretary.