1877. NEW ZEALAND.

REPORTING DEBATES COMMITTEE

(INTERIM REPORT OF THE).

Report brought up 8th October, 1877, and ordered to be printed.

The Committee have the honour to report, that they have compared the proofs of the debate on the Hawke's Bay Land Transactions with *Hansard*, and they beg to submit to the House a copy of certain passages in the speech of the Honorable Mr. Ormond as printed in the original proofs, set forth in parallel columns with the same passages as reported in *Hansard*, showing the alterations made by Mr. Ormond.

October 8th, 1877.

JOHN BALLANCE, Chairman.

EXTRACTS FROM THE HON. Mr. ORMOND'S SPEECH ON THE 6TH SEPTEMBER, IN THE DEBATE ON HAWKE'S BAY LAND PURCHASES.

PROOF COPY.*

This land was, as the honorable member for Rangitikei has said, especially suitable for "smiling homesteads." These gentlemen were already members of the landed aristocracy. And, Sir, what did the then Governor do? He offered to assist them by every means in his power. The gentleman to whom I have referred immediately came here, and made arrangements for getting possession of this land. But all of a sudden a difficulty arose with the Governor in regard to the subject. This association of gentlemen suddenly found that it would be difficult to carry out what the Governor had wished them to earry out. They had looked upon this as a splendid investment, and they were greatly disappointed to find a sudden check put upon them. He get a share, and an agent was started off to the land in question. It was arranged that this agent should be followed by those introductions and assist ance which the Governor could give him. Sir, the Governor at that time was a Governor who had special power over the Natives who lived in outlying districts like Taupo, where the Maoris were shut out from the Europeans and from all European things. The agent went to Napier, and it is fortunate that he did so, because if he had not it is possible that I would not-be-here-to-night-to-put-this-matter-in-the-proper light; and the fact of his going to Napier required that letters should be written, and these letters now exist, and can be produced at any moment. What came

HANSARD.+

This land was the same block as the honorable member for Rangitikei has described as especially suited for "smiling homestcads." These gentlemen were already members of the landed aristocracy; and, Sir, what did the then Governor do? He offered to assist them by every means in his power to obtain more lands. The gentlemen to whom I have referred made arrangements for getting possession of this land. But all of a sudden a difficulty arose with the Governor in regard to the subject. This association of gentlemen suddenly found the Governor cold, and that he had lost interest in the business. They had looked upon this as a splendid investment, and they were greatly disappointed to find a sudden check put upon them. He obtained a share, and an agent was employed and started off to secure the land in question. It was arranged that this agent should be followed by introductions to the Native owners of the land from the Governor. Sir, the Governor at that time was a Governor who had special influence over those Natives who lived in outlying districts like Taupo, where the Maoris were shut out from the Europeans and from all European influence. The agent went to Napier; and it is fortunate that he did so, because if he had not, the transactions I am describing would rest on recollection only, but the fact of his going to Napier required that letters should be written, and these letters now exist. What came next? Why, the

^{*} Words struck out in proof shown by erased type.