

12. Land Purchases from Natives:—Mr. Hall, pursuant to notice, moved, That a respectful address be presented to his Excellency, praying that he will cause to be furnished to this House, a copy of a report from Mr. McLean, dated 29th of April, 1856, upon the state of the Native Land purchasing operations throughout the Colony, together with an annexed Memorandum shewing the probable quantity of Land which may be purchased from the natives in the year 1856.

Also copy of a further Memorandum, dated 2nd May, 1856, shewing the Lands which are more immediately required to be purchased.

Question put and passed.

13. Land Office, Christchurch:—Mr. Hall, pursuant to notice, moved for copies of correspondence respecting the payment of the cost of the Survey Instruments, Maps, and other stock of the Land Office at Christchurch.

Question put and passed.

14. Superintendents of Provinces, Office vacated:—Mr. Fox, pursuant to notice, moved, That a Special Committee be appointed to prepare a case raising the question, whether a seat in the Executive Council is, or is not incompatible with the office of Superintendent of a Province, and whether the acceptance of the former does, or does not *ipso facto* vacate the latter, in order that on such case being prepared, an address may be presented by this House to His Excellency the Governor, requesting him to ask Mr. Justice Stephen to assist him with his opinion thereon. Such Committee to consist of the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Ward, Mr. Cargill, Mr. Brittin, and the mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put. House divided.

Ayes, 9.

Mr. Daldy,
Mr. Cargill,
Mr. Macandrew,
Captain Cargill,
Mr. Henderson,
Mr. Fitzherbert,
Mr. Hall,
Mr. Featherston,
Mr. Fox (teller).

Noes, 20.

Mr. Brown,
Mr. Ludlam,
Mr. Smith,
Mr. Campbell,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Brittin,
Mr. Bell,
Mr. Curtis,
Mr. Wells,
Mr. Travers,
Mr. Merriman,
Mr. Domett,
Mr. Carleton,
Mr. Cuff,
Major Greenwood,
Mr. Stafford,
The Colonial Treasurer,
Mr. Williamson,
Mr. Brodie,
The Colonial Secretary (teller).

15. Inter-Provincial Steam Communication:—Mr. Fitzherbert, pursuant to (amended) notice, moved, That a respectful address be presented to his Excellency, praying him to cause to be placed upon the Estimates a sum sufficient for the purpose of carrying out the recommendation of the Select Committee on Inter-Provincial Steam Communication.

Question put and passed.

16. Memorial of Provincial Council of Wellington:—Mr. Bell, pursuant to notice moved, That a respectful address be presented to his Excellency the Governor praying that he will cause to be laid on the table any reply which may have been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to the memorial of the Provincial Council of Wellington, relative to a difference between a member of that Council and the Officer commanding H. M. Troops in the Southern Division.

Mr. Fitzherbert moved, That the question be amended by the addition of the following words:—"Together with the whole of the correspondence and enclosures forwarded by the Speaker of the Provincial Council of Wellington, to the Officer administering the Government of the Colony.

Question, That the words proposed to be added do stand part of the question, put and passed.

House divided.

Ayes, 10.

Mr. Stafford,
Mr. Domett,
Mr. Merriman,
Mr. Smith,

Noes, 11.

Mr. Featherston,
Mr. Brodie,
Mr. Henderson,
Mr. Cuff,

Ayes, 10