

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1856.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment; Mr. Speaker and twenty-nine members being present; Mr. Speaker read prayers and took the chair.
2. Address to his Excellency the Governor:—Mr. Speaker announced that, in accordance with the directions of the House, he, accompanied by several members of the House, had waited upon his Excellency the Governor, and presented to him the address agreed to by the House on the 3rd instant, and that his Excellency had been pleased to make the following reply,—

“MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,—
“I congratulate you on the removal of all difficulties preliminary to the introduction of Responsible Government.
“I rejoice to find that you approve the relations proposed to be established between myself and my responsible advisers; and I thank you for the assurance of your desire to co-operate with me in whatever may promote the welfare of the Colony, and maintain the public credit.
“Government House,
“Auckland, May 8, 1856.”

“THOMAS GORE BROWNE.
3. Finance Committee:—The Colonial Treasurer moved the suspension of Standing Order No. 56. Question put and passed.
The Colonial Treasurer then moved, That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the state and management of the public finances of the Colony. The Committee to consist of Mr. Campbell, Mr. Featherston, Mr. Stafford, Mr. C. Brown, Captain Cargill, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Fitzherbert, and Mr. Macandrew. Report to be brought up this day fortnight.
Question put and passed.
4. Petition of Commander McDonnell, R.N.:—Mr. Brittin, pursuant to (amended) notice, moved, That a Select Committee be appointed to take into consideration the petition of Thomas McDonnell, Commander R.N., with leave to confer with a Committee of the Legislative Council, appointed for a similar purpose, and with power to call for persons and papers. Such Committee to consist of Major Greenwood, Mr. Domett, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Cuff, and the mover. To report this day fortnight.
Question put and passed.
5. Messages:—The following Messages from his Excellency the Governor received and read:—
 - (1.) Pensions Act, 1856.
THOMAS GORE BROWNE, *Message No. 11.*
Governor.
The Governor begs to inform the House of Representatives that he has assented to the “Pensions Act, 1856,” and desires to express his thanks for their ready acquiescence with his suggestion.
Government House,
Auckland, 7th May, 1856.
 - (2.) Supreme Court Procedure of in Civil Cases.
THOMAS GORE BROWNE, *Message No. 12.*
Governor.
The Governor transmits to the House of Representatives the accompanying copy of a letter, dated 14th February, 1856, from Chief Justice Martin covering two Reports on the Procedure of the Supreme Court in Civil cases, and a Supplement containing general rules of procedure in such cases, also covering copies of a Supreme Court Procedure Bill and a Law Amendment Bill.
Government House,
Auckland, 8th May, 1856.
 - (3.) Receivers