

# NEW ZEALAND.

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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 7.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS  
IN  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE.

(Extracted from the Minutes.)

SESSION 1, OF 1854.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9TH, 1854.

No. 1.—ADDRESS IN REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S MESSAGE No. 25.

*To His Excellency the Officer administering the Government of New Zealand.*

May it please your Excellency,—

We, the Commons of New Zealand, assembled in the House of Representatives, beg leave to acknowledge, with sentiments of deep and sincere respect, your Excellency's very important Message (No. 25) on the subject of recent changes in the Executive Government, and the relations between your Excellency and the Legislature.

We can assure your Excellency of our earnest desire to give the earliest consideration to whatever matters may be submitted to us by or on behalf of your Excellency; but in approaching the subject of the Message in question, our attention has been, in the first instance, directed to incidental matters, to which we feel ourselves imperatively called on to advert.

The fact has been stated in this House by a Member in his place, that the Message in question has been presented to this House under his advice, he not being a sworn member of your Excellency's Executive Council.

The fact has also been stated in this House by the same Member in his place, that under the present critical circumstances of the Colony, and in reference to matters of the gravest importance relating to the Executive Government, your Excellency is acting under the sole and exclusive advice of that Member, without, and apart from, those members of your Excellency's Executive Council, who are sworn to advise your Excellency rightly, and who alone are responsible for the advice they may give.

The fact has also been stated in this House by the same Member in his place, that in a political crisis and in reference to affairs demanding deep knowledge and careful consideration of the law, your Excellency is acting under the advice of that Member, without the advice and opinion of Her Majesty's Attorney-General.

We have heard the statements referred to with alarm, as tending to compromise the honour of your Excellency's Government, and fraught with peril to the colony.

Assuming the facts so stated to be true, we humbly, but most earnestly, pray your Excellency to take this our respectful remonstrance into your serious con-