

SELECT COMMITTEES appointed during the Fourth Session, 1856.

| SUBJECT. | MEMBERS. | DATE OF APPOINTMENT. | REMARKS. |
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| 1. <i>Standing Orders.</i> To prepare Standing Orders for the adoption of the House, and to report from time to time as the House may appoint, with power to confer with similar Committee of the Legislative Council, to arrange the mode in which the two Houses shall confer and communicate with each other. | Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Fox, Mr. Domett, Mr. Fitzherbert, Mr. Hall, Mr. Merriman. | April 17, 1856 On motion of Mr Sewell, in the absence of Mr. Merriman | Report brought up April 29; committed and adopted by the House April 30; supplementary report brought up May 3, and (with Standing Orders) referred to the Committee; adopted by the House May 8; May 13; petitions on private grievance referred to it June 23; private Bills July 12; report on private Bills, &c., brought up July 15; adopted and ordered to be printed, with original report, July 16 (D.—No. 25); disorderly conduct of member referred to it August 6; no further report. |
| 2. <i>Land Scrip.</i> To enquire and report as to the nature and amount of satisfied and unsatisfied Land Scrip and Land Orders issued within the Colony; to report on or before May 2. | Mr. Ludlam, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Hall, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Wells, Mr. Sewell, * Mr. Travers, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Fox. | April 18. On motion of Mr. Sewell. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; * Mr. Travers and Mr. Curtis appointed June 4; Mr. Fox appointed June 6; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed June 25 (D.—No. 16); Scrip Restriction Bill initiated July 12. |
| 3. <i>New Zealand Company's Debt.</i> To enquire and report upon the state of the account between the New Zealand Company and the Colony in respect of their charge upon its Land Fund; to report on or before May 2. | Mr. Fox, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Brown, Mr. Featherston, Mr. Bell, Mr. Macandrew, Mr. Brittin.* | April 18 On motion of Mr. Bell. | * Mr. Macandrew and Mr. Brittin appointed April 28; period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed June 3 (D.—No. 9); financial resolutions adopted by the House July 2. |
| 4. <i>Printing for the House.</i> To superintend the printing for the House, and the preparation of the votes and proceedings. | Mr. Speaker, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Fox, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Elliott. | April 19. On motion of Mr Elliott. | No report. |
| 5. <i>Disputed Elections.</i> To consider all petitions against the return of any member of the House, with power to call for witnesses and papers; to report on or before May 2. | Mr. Brittin, Mr. Cuff, Mr. Fitzherbert, Mr. Hall, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Fox, Mr. Ward. | April 18 On motion of Mr. Fox. | Report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed April 29 (D.—No. 1); Bribery and Treating Bills Nos. 1 and 2 initiated June 11. |
| 6. <i>House Accommodation.</i> To arrange and control all matters pertaining to the comfort and necessities of the House. | Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bell, Mr. Hall, Mr. Beckham, Mr. Macandrew, Mr. Elliott. | April 25. On motion of Mr Elliott. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up and read May 8, adopted by the House June 5; supplementary reports brought up and read May 22, August 5; reports adopted by the House August 9. |
| 7. <i>Lazarus Berlowitz—Petition.</i> To report after receiving correspondence from Nelson, which, with other papers, was ordered for its consideration, and laid on the table May 13. | Mr. Wells, Mr. Brodie, Mr. Macandrew, Mr. Richmond, Mr. J. Cargill, Mr. Domett, Mr. Fitzherbert. | April 28. On motion of Mr Fitzherbert | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed June 3 (D.—No. 10); report of Committee referred to select Committee of Pensioned Officials June 6; report of Committee adopted June 5. |
| 8. <i>Bank of Issue.</i> To take evidence on the subject of the Bank of Issue; to report on or before May 2. | Mr. Fox, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Hall, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Fitzherbert, Mr. Daldy, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Ludlam, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Macandrew. | April 29. On motion of Mr Macandrew. | Report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed May 2 (D.—No. 2); Bank Charter Bill initiated May 13; Private Paper Money Bill initiated May 16. |
| 9. <i>Sir George Grey's Land Regulations.</i> To enquire into alleged malpractices connected with the administration of Sir George Grey's Land Regulations of 4th March, 1853, with power to call for persons and papers; to report on or before May 7. | Major Greenwood, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Featherston,* Mr. Ludlam, Mr. Sewell, Captain Cargill, Mr. Brown, Mr. Wells, Mr. Lee, Mr. Fox, Mr. Cargill. | April 30 On motion of Mr. Brown. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report when brought up referred to select Committee on Pensioned Officials June 6; returns as to defalcations of public officers referred to it May 14; order discharged June 6; petition of James Gilligan referred to it June 10; * Mr. Featherston, Mr. Sewell, Captain Cargill, discharged June 10, and Mr. Wells, Mr. Lee, Mr. Fox, Mr. Cargill appointed same date; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed June 3 (D.—No. 19). |
| 10. <i>Victories in the East.</i> To prepare a congratulatory address to her Majesty on the achievements of her Majesty's forces, and those of her allies in the present war; to report on or before May 15. | Mr. Speaker, Captain Cargill, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Domett, Mr. Featherston, Major Greenwood, Mr. Hall, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Stafford. | May 1. On motion of Mr. Stafford. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed May 22 (D.—No. 4); address adopted by the House June 6; transmitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies July 4. |
| 11. <i>Richard Kingdon, M. D.—Petition.</i> To examine his petition and his claim for compensation; to report on or before May 8. | Mr. Domett, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Featherston, Mr. Lee, Mr. East. | May 1. On motion of Mr. East. | Report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed May 8 (D.—No. 3); adopted by the House May 9. |
| 12. <i>Tidewaiters and E. Catchpool.</i> To examine into their petition and claims for redress; to report on or before May 10. | Mr. Daldy, Mr. Macandrew, Mr. Cuff, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Domett, Mr. Ludlam, Mr. Hall, Mr. Fitzherbert. | May 1. On motion of Mr. Fitzherbert. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed (as also appendix) May 22 (D.—No. 6); report adopted June 5; resolution as to E. Catchpool passed July 9 and August 14. |

SELECT COMMITTEES—continued.

| SUBJECT. | MEMBERS. | DATE OF APPOINTMENT. | REMARKS. |
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| <p>13. <i>Native Disturbances, New Plymouth.</i> To examine the petition of certain settlers as to hostilities among the Natives at New Plymouth, with power to call for persons and papers; to report on or before May 15.</p> | Mr. Bell, Mr. Richmond, Mr. East, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Featherston, Mr. Cargill, Mr. Brown. | May 1. On motion of Mr. Brown. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; Committee discharged May 29. |
| <p>14. <i>Finance.</i> To consider the state and management of the public finances of the Colony; to report on or before May 22.</p> | Mr. Campbell, Mr. Featherston, Mr. Stafford, Mr. C. Brown, Captain Cargill, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Fitzherbert, Mr. Macandrew, Mr. Bell, *Mr. Hall, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Brodie. | May 8. On motion of Mr. Bell. | *Mr. Hall, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Brodie, appointed May 13; financial returns for 1853-54-55; referred to it May 22; period for bringing up report enlarged; progress report, with evidence taken, brought up and ordered to be printed June 4 (D.—No. 11.) |
| <p>15. <i>Thomas McDonnell, R. N.—Petition.</i> To take into consideration his petition, with leave to confer with similar Committee of the Legislative Council, and power to call for persons and papers; to report on or before May 22.</p> | Major Greenwood, Mr. Domett, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Cuff, Mr. Brittin. | May 8. On motion of Mr. Brittin. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and referred back for amendment May 23; amended report brought up June 10; ordered to be printed June 24 (D.—No. 15). |
| <p>16. <i>Constitution Act.</i> To consider and report as to the changes which it may be desirable to make in the Constitution Act, and the best mode of effecting the same, with power to confer with similar Committee of Legislative Council; to report on or before May 23.</p> | Mr. Speaker, *Mr. Richmond, Mr. Domett, Mr. Fitzherbert, Mr. Fox, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Merriman, Mr. Brittin, Mr. Featherston, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Ward, Mr. Travers, Mr. Hall, Mr. Beckham, Mr. Bell. | May 9. On motion of Mr. Sewell. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; *Mr. Stafford discharged June 4; Mr. Richmond, Mr. Merriman, Mr. Featherston, Mr. Sewell, discharged June 6; Mr. Ward appointed same date; Mr. Travers appointed June 11; Bribery and Treating Bills Nos. 1 and 2 referred to it July 12; Mr. Hall, Mr. Beckham, Mr. Bell, appointed July 16; Mr. Merriman reappointed same date; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed July 29 (D.—No. 28); Purity of Elections Bill initiated July 30, |
| <p>17. <i>Inter-Provincial Steam Communication.</i> To consider the most efficient mode of maintaining a rapid and frequent communication between all the Provinces of the Colony; to report on or before May 23.</p> | Mr. Fitzherbert, Mr. Hall, Mr. Macandrew, Mr. Brown, Mr. Graham, Mr. Elliott. | May 9. On motion of Mr. Elliott. | Power to call for witnesses and papers granted May 17; period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed, with evidence taken before it, June 6 (D.—No. 14); report adopted June 11. |
| <p>18. <i>Land Claims.</i> To consider and report as to the nature and extent of outstanding land claims and the best means of finally disposing of the same; to report on or before May 23.</p> | Mr. Taylor, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Daldy, Mr. Cuff, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Domett, Mr. Sewell. | May 9. On motion of Mr. Sewell. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; petition of James Busby, (No. 2) referred to it May 26; petitions of Francis White and Baron de Thierry referred to it June 4; petition of G. O. Ormsby referred to it June 17; report brought up and ordered to be printed July 16 (D.—No. 21); Land Claims Settlement Bill initiated July 24. |
| <p>19. <i>Supreme Court Procedure.</i> To consider his Excellency's Message No. 12, together with the Judges' reports, and other documents accompanying the same; to report on or before May 23.</p> | Mr. Merriman, Mr. Fox, Mr. Ward, Mr. Brittin, Mr. Domett, Mr. Richmond. | May 9. On motion of Mr. Sewell. | Report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed May 23 (D.—No. 7); Supreme Court Procedure Bill and Law Amendment Bill read a second time May 29. |
| <p>20. <i>Resident Magistrates' Courts.</i> To consider the expediency of an Act for providing a more effective administration of justice, and the establishment of Provincial Courts of Judicature, with limited powers, both in civil and criminal cases; to report on or before May 15.</p> | Mr. Ward, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Beckham, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Fox, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Merriman, Mr. Macandrew. | May 9. On motion of Mr. Macandrew. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed May 29 (D.—No. 8); District Courts Bill initiated June 3. |
| <p>21. <i>Bank Charters.</i> To consider the provisions of the "Bank Charters" and "Private Paper Money" Bills, with power to call for persons and papers; to report on or before May 22.</p> | Mr. Richmond, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Fitzherbert, Mr. Fox, Mr. Cargill, Mr. Hall, Mr. Daldy, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Ludlam, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Macandrew. | May 16. On motion of Mr. Macandrew. | Report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed May 22 (D.—No. 5), both Bills lapsed, and the Bank Paper Currency Bill initiated in lieu of them May 27. |
| <p>22. <i>Alexander Browne—Petition.</i> To take into consideration the petition of Alexander Browne, with power to call for persons and papers; to report on or before June 10.</p> | Mr. Smith, Mr. Macandrew, Mr. Cuff, Mr. Elliott, Mr. East, Mr. Lee. | May 22. On motion of Mr. Lee. | Report brought up and read June 10; ordered to be printed June 12 (D.—No. 12); report adopted July 26. |
| <p>23. <i>Wesleyan Property Sale Bill—Private Bill.</i> To enquire into and report on the preamble of the Bill.</p> | Mr. Fox, Mr. Wells, Mr. Curtis, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Travers. | June 5. On motion of Mr. Travers. | Report brought up June 10; Bill read a second time June 17. |
| <p>24. <i>Pensioned Officials.</i> To consider the correspondence relative to the Nelson defalcation, also any reports of the select Committee on Lazarus Berlowitz's petition; and Sir George Grey's Regulations, also the petition of James</p> | Mr. Stafford, Mr. Ludlam, Mr. Hall, Mr. Fitzherbert, Mr. Fox. | June 6. On motion of Mr. Fox. | Committee appointed by ballot; * Motion made, and upon a point of order, by leave withdrawn by Mr. Hall to have his name discharged June 12; period for bringing up report enlarged; correspondence respecting Captain Salmon's land claim referred to it |

SELECT COMMITTEES—*continued.*

| SUBJECT. | MEMBERS. | DATE OF APPOINTMENT. | REMARKS. |
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| Busby, (No. 1) and any other evidence or report tending to shew official misconduct on the part of the pensioned officials, with the object of forwarding such report to the Home Government with the Pensions Bill; to report on or before June 12. | | | June 16; report brought up, and, with the evidence of Mr. Sinclair, ordered to be printed July 11 (D.—No. 20). |
| 25. <i>Library.</i> To consider the best means of establishing a Library; with power to confer with similar Committee of the Legislative Council; to report on or before June 20. | Mr. Speaker, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Fitzherbert, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Bell, Mr. Travers. | June 6. On motion of Mr. Travers. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed July 3 (D.—No. 22); report of Committee adopted July 28. |
| 26. <i>Staff-Surgeon Bacot</i> —Petition. To enquire into the statements in his petition, concerning the refusal of the deeds for his house and land at Howick, with power to call for persons and papers; to report on or before June 17. | Mr. Domett, Mr. Beckham, Mr. Graham, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Ward, Mr. Carleton. | June 10. On motion of Mr. Carleton. | Report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed June 17 (D.—No. 13); resolution adopted by the House, referring report to the Home Authorities, July 15. |
| 27. <i>Taranaki Bill.</i> To consider the provisions of the Bill; to report on or before June 19. | Mr. Campbell, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Featherston, Mr. Brittin, Mr. Graham, Captain Cargill, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Brown. | June 12. On motion of Mr. Brown. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; Committee discharged July 1. |
| 28. <i>Marriage Act, 1854.</i> To consider the Act, and the amendments necessary thereto; to report on or before June 19. | Mr. Fox, Mr. Hall, Mr. Domett, Mr. Brittin, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Lee, Mr. Ward. | June 14. On motion of Mr. Ward. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed June 26 (D.—No. 30); Marriage Act Amendment Bill, 1856, read a second time June 27. |
| 29.— <i>Registration Bill.</i> To consider the best system of registration to be adopted in the Colony; to report on or before June 24. | The Colonial Treasurer, Mr. Travers, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Macandrew, Mr. Ward, Mr. Fox. | June 14. On motion of Mr. Fox. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; Committee discharged July 16. |
| 30. <i>Reporting Debates.</i> To consider the best mode of carrying out a resolution of the House of 14th June, relative to the securing correct reports of speeches; to report on or before June 24. | The Colonial Treasurer, Mr. Bell, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Fox, Mr. Fitzherbert. | June 17. On motion of Mr. Fitzherbert. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed July 1 (D.—No. 17). |
| 31. <i>Re-printing Documents.</i> To consider what Acts, Ordinances, and other public documents should be re-printed; to report on or before June 24 | The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Fox, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Domett, Mr. Bell, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Fitzherbert. | June 18. On motion of Mr. Fitzherbert. | Power to confer with similar Committee of Legislative Council June 21; period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed July 9 (D.—No. 31); report adopted July 9. |
| 32. <i>Seamen of H. M. S. "Buffalo"</i> —Petition. To consider its prayer; to report on or before June 26. | Mr. Merriman, Mr. East, Mr. Cargill, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Lee, Mr. Williamson. | June 19. On motion of Mr. Williamson | Report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed June 26 (D.—No. 18); report adopted, and name of Robert Williamson added to petitioners July 9. |
| 33. <i>Certain Pensioners</i> —Petition. To consider the various petitions presented to the House during the session from certain pensioners, as also the report of the select Committee appointed last session on the same matter; to report on or before July 19. | Mr. Merriman, Mr. Williamson, Mr. East, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Lee, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Hall, Mr. Fox. | July 12. On motion of Mr. Fox. | Petition of Henry Deery referred to it July 12; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed July 15 (D.—No. 23); resolution passed referring the question to the Provincial Government of Auckland July 28. |
| 34. <i>Mr. J. J. Piercy</i> —Petition. To consider the matter of the petition, with the minutes attached thereto, as laid on the table of the House by Mr. Stafford July 2, in return to an order of the House June 27, with power to call for persons and papers; to report on or before July 22. | Mr. Beckham, Mr. Cuff, Mr. Hall, Mr. Lee, Mr. Brodie. | July 15. On motion of Mr. Brodie. | Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed July 29 (D.—No. 26); report of Committee adopted August 5. |
| 35. <i>Officers of Surveyor-General's Department</i> —Petition. To consider the prayer of the petitioners for compensation for loss sustained owing to a sudden dismissal from their offices; to report on or before July 22. | Mr. Smith, Mr. East, *Mr. Brown, Mr. Ward, Mr. Beckham, Mr. Lee, Mr. Williamson. | July 15. On motion of Mr. Williamson. | * Mr. Brown appointed in lieu of Mr. Well as an amendment to original question July 15, report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed July 22 (D.—No. 24); adoption of the report negatived; Committee of the whole July 29. |
| 36. <i>Next Session of General Assembly.</i> To enquire into the most practicable manner of carrying out the resolution of the House as to the next session of the General Assembly, and the question of the seat of Government, with power to conduct its proceedings conjointly with any similar Committee of the Legislative | Mr. Henderson, Mr. Williamson, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Fox, Mr. Hall, Mr. Stafford. | July 16. On motion of Mr. Stafford. | The names of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Brown, Mr. Curtis, and the Colonial Treasurer proposed to be added, as an amendment, and negatived; the Colonial Treasurer proposed in lieu of the Colonial Secretary, as a second amendment, and negatived; period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed July 3. |

SELECT COMMITTEES—*continued.*

| SUBJECT. | MEMBERS. | DATE OF APPOINTMENT. | REMARKS. |
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| <p>Council; to make either a joint or separate report; to report on or before July 23.</p> | | | <p>(D.—No. 27); consideration of his Excellency's Message No. 46 lapsed in Committee of the whole August 12; Message No. 49 received August 16.</p> |
| <p>37. <i>Scip Restriction Bill.</i> To consider the provisions of the Bill; to report on or before July 29.</p> | <p>The Colonial Treasurer, Mr. Bell, Mr. Daldy, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Brown, Mr. Ward, Mr. Fox,</p> | <p>July 22. On motion of Mr. Fox.</p> | <p>Ordered to take into its consideration certain resolutions proposed by the Colonial Treasurer July 23; report brought up and read July 28; Bill, as amended in the select Committee, committed July 29.</p> |
| <p>38. <i>Native Offenders' Bill.</i> To consider the provisions of the Bill, with power to take evidence; to report on or before July 29.</p> | <p>Mr. Daldy, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Brown, the Colonial Treasurer.</p> | <p>July 23. On motion of the Colonial Treasurer.</p> | <p>Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed August 4 (D.—No. 29); Bill negatived on committal August 11.</p> |
| <p>39. <i>Literary and Scientific Institutions Bill.</i> To consider the provisions of the Bill; to report on or before July 31.</p> | <p>Mr. Stafford, Mr. Hall, Mr. Bell, Mr. Williamson, the Colonial Secretary.</p> | <p>July 24. On motion of the Colonial Secretary.</p> | <p>Period for bringing up report enlarged; Committee discharged August 9.</p> |
| <p>40. <i>Richard Chilman</i>—Petition. To consider the prayer of the petitioner, with power to call for persons and papers, to take evidence as to the alienation of public lands; to report on or before July 30.</p> | <p>The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Carleton, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Smith, Mr. Cuff, Mr. Fox, Mr. Brown.</p> | <p>July 26. On motion of Mr. Brown.</p> | <p>Period for bringing up report enlarged; report brought up and read August 4; on question that it be printed, amendment put and passed that it be referred to the Superintendent of New Plymouth for further enquiry into the matter by the Provincial authorities August 4.</p> |
| <p>41. <i>Auckland Hospital and Grammar School Reserves Bill.</i> To enquire into and report on the preamble of the Bill; to report on or before Aug. 1.</p> | <p>Mr. Campbell, Mr. Daldy, Mr. Brodie, Mr. Williamson, the Colonial Secretary.</p> | <p>July 31. On motion of Mr. Stafford.</p> | <p>Report brought up and read August 1; Bill committed August 4.</p> |
| <p>42. <i>Transfer of Government House.</i> To consider the resolution on this subject, proposed by Mr. Fitzgerald for adoption by the House; to report on or before August 11.</p> | <p>Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Curtis, Mr. Bell, Mr. Ward, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Daldy, Mr. Domett, Mr. Brown, Mr. Campbell.</p> | <p>August 8. On motion of Mr. Campbell.</p> | <p>Report brought up, read, and ordered to be printed August 11 (D.—No. 32); report and resolutions adopted by the House August 14.</p> |