1856.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE REPRINTING OF

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS.

EXTRACTS from the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives.

VOTES NO. 40, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18TH, 1856.

Reprinting Acts, Ordinances, &c. :--Mr. Fitzherbert for and in the absence of Mr. Hall, pursuant to notice given, moved, That a select Committee be appointed for the purpose of considering what Acts, Ordinances and other public documents should be reprinted. That the Committee do consist of the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Fox, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Domett, Mr. Bell, Mr. Carleton, and the Mover. Report to be brought up on the 24th inst. Question put and passed.

Votes No. 43, Saturday, June 21st, 1856.

3. Reprinting Public Documents :--Mr. Hall pursuant to notice, moved, That it be an instruction to the Committee on the reprinting of Acts, and other documents, to confer with any Committee appointed for a similar object by the Legislative Council. Question put and passed.

VOTES No. 45, TUESDAY, JUNE 24TH, 1856.

3. Postponements:-(8.) On motion of Mr. Hall leave was given to the Committee on reprinting public docaments to postpone their report until this day week.

VOTES No. 50, TUESDAY, JULY 1st, 1856.

8. Reprinting Public Documents Committee :--Mr. Hall, Chairman of this Committee, brought up their report, which was read and ordered to be printed.

D.-No. 31.

REFORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE of the House of Representatives, appointed 18th June, 1856, for the purpose of considering what Acts, Ordinances and other public documents should be reprinted, have considered the matter to them referred, and have agreed to the following report :--

From enquiries made by your Committee, it appears that the 8 vo. edition of the "Ordinances of New Zealand," which has been very generally distributed throughout the Colony, is now nearly, if not altogether, out of print.

Your Committee understand, moreover, that it is in the contemplation of the Executive Government to prepare during the approaching recess, a consolidation of the laws comprised in the above edition, and to propose in consequence in the ensuing session, the repeal or amendment of such Ordinances as the lapse of time has rendered inapplicable to the present condition of the Colony.

Under these circumstances, your Committee are of opinion that it would not be expedient to incur the expense of reprinting this entire collection of Ordinances, of which a considerable number will probably in the ensuing session be removed from the Statute Book.

Of the Ordinances passed, subsequently to the publication of the edition above referred to, in the eleventh and twelfth sessions of the Legislative Council of New Zealand, but few copies were originally printed, and they have obtained therefore, but a very limited circulation. Some of these laws have already been either entirely or partially repealed, and others are not of sufficient general importance to render their immediate reprinting necessary. It appears, however, to your Committee, that the following, viz. :--" Writ of Arrest Ordinance," "Interpretation Ordinance," "Duties of Customs Ordinance," " Building and Land Societies Ordinance," " Licensing Amendment Ordinance," should without delay be reprinted with a view to their general circulation.

Any further reprint of the laws of the Colony, your Committee are of opinion should be deferred for the present.

JOHN HALL, Chairman.

House of Representatives, July 1, 1856.