

In the Public Eye.

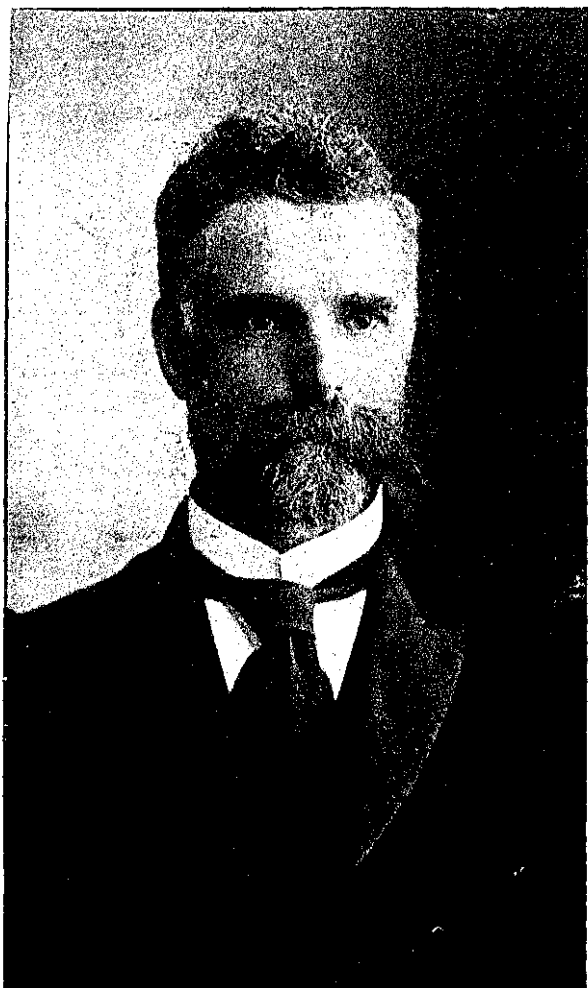
In order to facilitate the preparations for the reception of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall in this Colony, it was deemed necessary to appoint

a special Executive Commissioner. Those who knew the subject of this sketch were not surprised to hear that he had been selected for the post, his appointment having been signed by His Excellency the Governor on March 13th. The able and efficient manner in which he discharged the responsible duties of his late position of New Zealand Government Commissioner in England and America doubtless influenced his present appointment. He is a man of consummate tact,

indomitable energy, and excellent organising abilities, which qualifications will stand him in good stead in the work in which he is now engaged. Mr. Holmes hailed from Cork, and landed in Otago some

twenty-six years ago. After a few years spent in a large Dunedin house, he associated himself with the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Co. His untiring energy and keen business aptitude insured him rapid

promotion, until, as the youngest manager in the service, he established an important branch in Marlborough. On leaving the Company to start business on his own account he was the recipient of a handsome cheque as a recognition of his valuable services. Few men in the Colony have done more in seeking out fresh markets for produce, establishing direct shipping, and advertising the Colony generally than Mr. Holmes, both during his residence here



Hanna,

MR. JOHN HOLMES.

Auckland.

and in the course of his tour as Government Commissioner. At various points in his route on that occasion, he gave clear and concise lectures on the advantages New Zealand held out to intending colonists,