

SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

NEW SOUTH WALES

Government Gazette.

OF FRIDAY, 2 MAY, 1851. PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

FRIDAY, 2 MAY, 1851.

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

The business of this special Session having now been brought to a close, I am glad to be able to release you from further attendance on the important duties on which you have been engaged. I entertain a confident hope that the measures which you have passed for the Electoral division of New South Wales and of the new Colony of Victoria will be found, not only congenial to the sentiments of a large majority of the Colonists, but admirably adapted—because based on the principles of the British Constitution—to secure to them those blessings which can only flow from a proper balance of legislative power amongst the several interests composing the community. Feeling assured that these advantages are likely to accrue from the measures in question, it has been with no ordinary satisfaction that I have, on behalf of Her Majesty, given to them my assent.

2. I shall without delay transmit to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Address adopted by you in relation to the Constitution Act,

13 and 14 Vict., cap. 59.

3. I might here close the observations which it is my duty to address to you on this occasion, were I not desirous of offering my hearty congratulations to the inhabitants of the new Colony of Victoria on the certain prospect which is now opened to them of a speedy attainment of their long expressed desire to become a separate Dependency of the Crown. The large revenue which is there collected, the astonishing amount of exports which it now produces,—the fertility of its soil, and the salubrity of its climate, give the surest promise of its continuing, after separation, to increase in population, in wealth, and in general prosperity, with the same rapidity which has characterised its progress whilst forming an integral portion of New South Wales. It is gratifying to reflect, that whilst among the numerous settlements which have of late years been founded under the British Crown, it is undoubtedly the most successful and the most promising, it has been established without that pecuniary aid from the British Treasury, which it has been found necessary to afford to so large an extent to the other Dependencies of the Crown contemporaneously founded in the Southern Hemisphere. It cannot be denied that so prosperous a community could not so suddenly have risen up but for its connexion with the older settlements of New South Wales, and the advantages which it thus possessed of obtaining Sheep and Cattle, and the experience necessary to their successful management. An immediate value was thus given to the lands of the District, the greater part of which would otherwise have remained for a considerable period comparatively unproductive and unsaleable. I trust that, although the two Colonies are in future to be politically separated, there will always subsist between them mutual feelings of good will, which cannot fail to be highly beneficial to both Communities; and that the legislation of the two Colonies on all inter-Colonial matters will be conducted on the most liberal principles of reciprocal advantage. It will be my duty, no less than a source of sincere gratification to me, to promote to the utmost of my power, the accomplishment of these objects.

4. Although it is not my intention immediately to dissolve the Council, lest circumstances should arise to render it necessary or expedient that I should have recourse to your advice or assistance before the requisite arrangements for the separation of Port Phillip and a General Election under the new Constitution can be completed, it is not probable that I shall have occasion to call you together again for the despatch of business. I am desirous therefore, of availing myself of the present opportunity to express to you individually and collectively the high sense which I entertain of the cordial co-operation and able assistance which you have afforded me in passing those numerous measures for the public benefit which I have had occasion to bring before you, or which have originated with yourselves.

5. I now declare this Council to stand prorogued to Tuesday the first day of July next.

CHs. A. FITZ ROY.

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