

The Council meets at 2.30 p.m.

ORDER PAPER.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 22nd day of August, 1883.

PRIVATE BUSINESS.

1. Guardian, Trust, and Executors Company Bill—third reading.

Contingent Notice of Motion.

The Honourable Mr. WILSON to move, That the order for the third reading be discharged, and that the Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole Council.

QUESTION.

1. The Honourable Mr. MANTELL to ask the Honourable the Premier, Whether the Government is aware of and has inquired into the right or claim of the Maori sellers of the Otago Block to 240 properties of those originally surveyed in the "Otago Association's Block," and to one-tenth of the remaining 250,000 acres?

NOTICES OF MOTION.

1. The Honourable Mr. WHITAKER to move, That leave be given to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend 'The Law Practitioners Act, 1882.'"
2. The Honourable Mr. WHITAKER to move, That leave be given to introduce a Bill intituled "An Act to amend 'The Auckland Harbour Act, 1874.'"
3. The Honourable Mr. MANTELL to move, That the Tairaroa Land Bill be committed on Friday next to a Committee of the whole Council.
4. The Honourable Sir G. S. WHITMORE to move, That, prior to the introduction of the Land Bill into this Council, a Return be laid upon the Table showing the number of persons holding land on deferred payment who are in default throughout the colony. Also, the number who have taken advantage of the relief offered by the Land Act of last year. Also, a report showing the lands leased and offered for leasing under perpetual lease to date throughout the colony, and the upset and letting rentals of the blocks on the lands so offered.
5. The Honourable Mr. ROBINSON to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this Council a Return showing all endowments of land or money, and of all other assistance granted or authorized by the General or Provincial Legislatures, to each of the Harbour Boards of the colony; together with the amount of the loans authorized for each; and, further, for the amount of exports and imports at each of the above ports.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

1. Mataura Reserves Vesting and Empowering Bill—second reading.
2. Wellington Harbour Board Land and Reclamation Bill—second reading.
3. Bankruptcy Bill—third reading.

Contingent Notices of Motion.

The Honourable Mr. WILSON to move, That the Bill be recommitted for the purpose of considering the following new clauses:—

No person shall be adjudicated a bankrupt whose debts do not exceed fifty pounds, save as hereinafter provided.

Any debtor whose debts do not exceed fifty pounds shall be at liberty to apply to the Resident Magistrate for the district in which the debtor shall reside for an order for protection from execution, which such Resident Magistrate shall grant upon the debtor satisfying

such Magistrate that the debtor has delivered up to the Clerk of the Court the whole of the property belonging to the debtor, excepting household goods and wearing apparel, and tools and implements of trade, to the value of not more than twenty pounds.

Such order of protection shall protect the debtor from all process of execution, and shall, subject to the exception in the last clause, vest the whole of the property in the Clerk to the Resident Magistrate's Court; and such order shall have the effect of an adjudication of bankruptcy.

The Resident Magistrate shall, within four days from the granting of a protection order, advertise in the *Gazette* notice of a meeting of the creditors of the said bankrupt, to be held in the Resident Magistrate's Court at such time as he shall appoint not more than fourteen days from the date of the order of protection, for the final examination of the bankrupt.

On the day fixed the bankrupt shall attend, and may apply for his discharge, and any creditor may, without giving notice oppose such discharge.

If the Resident Magistrate shall be of opinion that the bankrupt has committed no offence against this Act, and hath surrendered all his property, the Resident Magistrate shall grant the bankrupt his discharge.

The Clerk to the Resident Magistrate shall distribute the proceeds of the bankrupt's estate equally amongst the creditors, as hereinbefore provided.

The fees to be paid by the bankrupt shall be ten shillings on obtaining the order of protection and ten shillings on obtaining the order of discharge.

No solicitor shall be allowed to practice in any Resident Magistrate's Court sitting in bankruptcy.

Section one hundred and seventy-two shall, for the purpose of dealing with bankrupts whose debts do not exceed fifty pounds, be read as though the words "Resident Magistrate" had been inserted therein instead of the word "Court."

All the provisions of this Act shall, so far as possible, apply to the cases provided for by the preceding nine clauses.

If any person, with intent to defraud, shall have, accept, or cause to be made to him any gift, delivery, or transfer of, or any charge on the property of a bankrupt, such person may, by an order under the seal of the Court, be adjudged, in a summary way, to be imprisoned in such prison as the Court shall appoint for any term not exceeding six months, or to be fined in a sum not exceeding five hundred pounds.

The Honourable Mr. REYNOLDS to move, That the Bankruptcy Bill be recommitted in order that the original clause 232 may be reinserted in the Bill.

4. Otago Harbour Board Bill—to be further considered in Committee.
5. Masterton and Greytown Lands Management Acts Amendment Bill—to be committed.
6. City of Auckland Additional Loan Bill—second reading.
7. Waitara Harbour Board Loan Bill—to be committed.
8. Coroners Act 1867 Amendment Bill—second reading.
9. Licensing Act Amendment Bill—second reading.
10. Waimate High School Bill—second reading.
11. Corrupt Practices Prevention Bill—second reading.
12. Gold Duties Abolition Bill—second reading.
13. School Committees Election Bill—adjourned Debate upon the Question, That the Bill be now read the second time.
14. Westland High School Bill—second reading.
15. Charitable Gifts Duties Exemption Bill—second reading.