

## SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, the 27th day of September, 1876.

1. Mr. MONTGOMERY to move, in Committee on the Education Boards Bill, The following clauses, to stand as 29 and 30, providing for the compulsory attendance of children at the public schools :—

## COMPULSORY EDUCATION—EXEMPTIONS.

29. After the first day of January, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, the parents or guardians of children between the ages of seven years and fifteen years shall cause such children (unless there is some reasonable excuse for non-attendance to be shown by the parent or guardian) to attend school for a period of not less than seventy-five days in each half-year. Any of the following reasons shall be a reasonable excuse, upon being shown as aforesaid :—

Provisions for compulsory education. All children between 6 and 15 years of age to be sent to school. Reasonable excuses for non-attendance.

- (1.) That the child is under efficient instruction in some other manner.
- (2.) That the child has been prevented from attending school by sickness, danger of infection, temporary or permanent infirmity, or any unavoidable cause.
- (3.) That there is no public school which the child can attend within a distance of two miles, measured according to the nearest road from the residence of such child.
- (4.) That the child has been educated up to a standard of education prescribed by any regulation under this Act, and holds a certificate to that effect from a Government Inspector of Schools or other person authorized by an Education Board.

In the event of any child on the roll of a school being unable to attend for any reason, the parent shall inform the master of the school of the same.

30. The parent or guardian of any child who neglects to send such child to school, as provided by the immediately preceding section, may be summoned by any person authorized in that behalf by the Board or local School Committee before a Justice of the Peace, and on conviction of such offence shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five shillings for a first offence, and twenty shillings for every succeeding offence, or in default may be imprisoned for a term not exceeding seven days. In any information or complaint under this section, the allegation that the proceedings are authorized by the Education Board or the local School Committee, that a child is not less than seven years nor more than fifteen years, or that the parent or guardian thereof neglects to send such child to school, without reasonable excuse, shall be deemed *prima facie* evidence of the fact until the contrary is proved, and in every case the father and mother or guardian of a child may be witnesses: Provided that nothing contained in this Act shall be taken to apply to any Maori; and provided that nothing hereinbefore contained shall prevent children above fifteen years of age from attending any public school.

If child not sent to school, parent liable to penalty.

1. In Committee on the Counties Bill, the Hon. Mr. WHITAKER to move, To insert the following clauses after section 29 in the Bill :—

(4.) *Of altering the boundaries of Counties.*

30. The Governor in Council may by Proclamation alter the boundaries of any counties, and declare that, from and after a day to be named in such Proclamation, the new boundaries set forth in such Proclamation shall be the boundaries of such counties, subject, however, to the following conditions :—

- (1.) That such counties shall, after such alteration of their boundaries, comprise the whole of one or more road districts, so that the new boundaries shall coincide with some part of the boundaries of such road districts, and may comprise any part of any outlying district.
- (2.) That a petition is presented to the Governor by the Councils of each of the counties whose boundaries it is proposed to alter, praying him to make such alteration.

31. The Governor may, if he thinks fit, in such Proclamation, re-divide the counties whose boundaries are altered into fresh ridings, and may dissolve the Councils of such counties, and make provision for the election of new Councils as hereinafter provided.

But unless any such re-division of a county into fresh ridings is made, the members of the Council thereof shall continue to be members of such Council as though the boundaries of such county had not been altered.

32. When the boundaries of any counties are altered as herein provided,—

- [1.] All contracts then subsisting in respect of any part of a county which has been severed therefrom and included in another county, shall belong to and may be enforced by and against the latter county; and all rates then due in the said part of a county shall be deemed to be rates due to such latter county.
- [2.] The Councils of the said counties may agree together to transfer a fair share of the property debts and liabilities of any county which is diminished, to any county which is increased in area by such alteration of boundaries, and such agreement shall be in writing and shall be final as between the said counties.

33. If the said Councils do not so agree the Commissioners of Audit shall, upon the application of the Council of either of the counties affected, hold an enquiry and shall make an award as to matters in the section above-mentioned, and their award thereon shall be final.

34. All property, real or personal, transferred from one county to another by any such agreement or award shall become vested in the Corporation of the latter county on and after the date of the Proclamation by which the boundaries of such counties were altered.

35. No such alteration of boundaries shall in any way affect the rights or interests of any bond-holder or other creditor of any county from which a part is thereby severed; or shall relieve the ratepayers for the time being in such part from their liability to pay any special rate made under this Act as a security for any loan.