

SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, the 11th day of September, 1885.

SPECIAL POWERS AND CONTRACTS BILL.

Mr. J. B. WHYTE, in Committee, to move the following new clause in the Schedule:—

FIRST COLUMN.

1. To definitely determine the terms of, and give legal effect to, a verbal contract entered into by John Edwin Macdonald, then Mayor of the Thames Borough, with one Thomas Spencer, of Parawai, Thames, previous to the passing of "The Thames Water Supply Act, 1876," and "The Thames Water Supply Transfer Act, 1880," under which Acts certain plant mentioned therein became the property of, and was vested in, the Mayor, Councillors, and Burgesses of the Thames Borough; and to carry into practical effect the recommendation of the Public Petitions Committee in 1882 upon the petition of the said Thomas Spencer, and also the recommendation of the Local Bills Committee of 1885, which Committee was specially ordered by the House of Representatives to examine into and report upon the grievance set forth in the Spencer Restoration of Water Rights Bill, after it had passed its second reading.

SECOND COLUMN.

1. The Governor may appoint Mr. _____ a Commissioner to ascertain and determine, and to express in a writing signed by him on or before the day of _____, 188____, and delivered by him to the Colonial Secretary of New Zealand, the terms of the said verbal contract, as they would be equitably warranted by a consideration of the circumstances existing at the time of the making of such contract; and may then declare the said verbal contract, as expressed in the aforesaid writing, to be a binding contract, and that it shall be deemed to have been lawfully made and executed by the Mayor, Councillors, and burgesses of the Thames Borough immediately after "The Thames Water Supply Transfer Act, 1880," came into operation.

The Governor may further direct the said Mr. _____ to also ascertain if, under the circumstances, to be ascertained as aforesaid, the said Thomas Spencer has, or has not, incurred any expense or outlay which it would be equitable the Mayor, Councillors, and burgesses of the Thames Borough should make good to the said Thomas Spencer; and if, on such ascertainment, it be found that the said Mayor, Councillors, and burgesses ought to make good any such expense or outlay, the Governor may further direct that the said writing shall express the amount thereof, and such amount shall be a debt due from, and lawfully payable by, the Mayor, Councillors, and burgesses of the Thames Borough to the said Thomas Spencer thirty days after the delivery of the writing as aforesaid.

Mr. GARRICK, on going into Committee, to move the following amendments:—

Section 7, line 45. After the word "borough," to add the words "or such of them as are applicable."

Line 48. After the word "constructed," to insert "or about to be constructed."

Line 50. To strike out the words "with such consent," and after the word "the" in same line, to add the words "sum of six thousand six hundred pounds, referred to in the Schedule to 'The Christchurch Public Works Loan Validation Act, 1885,' and with such consent as aforesaid."

Line 51. To strike out the words "construction and."

CABLE SUBSIDY.

Hon. Sir J. VOGEL to move the following resolution, in Committee, on the question of subsidy to cable:—

That the Government be authorized to undertake to continue a subsidy for the cable service for ten years, provided that the charge per word of press messages shall not exceed 3d., and the charge per word of other messages shall not exceed 6d.