

English
1851

SOCIETY OF CANTERBURY
COLONISTS

MINUTE BOOK

APRIL 1850 - DECEMBER 1851

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SOCIETY OF CANTERBURY

COLONISTS

MINUTE BOOK

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{First page of minute book}

Minutes drawn up by the First Body of the Canterbury
Colonists at these Rooms 1A. Adelphi Terrace.

The "Society of Canterbury Colonists"

April 25, 1850.

1A. Adelphi Terrace.

Minutes etc.

March 18th 1850. At a Meeting of the Colonists
it was moved by Capt. Bellairs
seconded by Mr. Brittan

1. That a meeting of all the Colonists intending to join the Canterbury Settlement be held at these Rooms every Tuesday and Thursday at twelve o'clock, for the purpose of making suggestions and expressing the opinions of the Colonists upon matters relating to the welfare of the proposed Colony: And that minutes be kept of the proceedings.
2. That Mr. Fitzgerald be requested to act as Secretary upon these occasions.

The following minute was agreed to on Saturday last and now ordered to be recorded.

The colonists feel it their duty to take this first opportunity of expressing their high sense of the services which have hitherto been rendered by Mr. Brittan by his constant attendance at these rooms and by the trouble which he has taken in answering the inquiries of persons calling and writing for information.

An advertisement was read, announcing the intention of the Colonists to form a public library, for the settlement and requesting presents of books for the purpose.

It was ordered

That authorised copies of this advertisement be printed immediately for distribution.

Resolved,

That notice of these Meetings be sent to all intending Colonists.

April 25 1850. At a meeting held this day in the Canterbury Colonists' Rooms - the following gentlemen or their proxies being present:-

Mr. Hart, Mr. Sewell, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Rowley,
 Mr. Felix Wakefield, Mr. Porter, Mr. Townsend,
 Mr. E. Gibbon Wakefield, Mr. W. Lawrance, Mr. J²⁰.
 Townsend, Mr. Edward Townsend, Mr. C. L. Rose,
 Mr. Edward Ward, Mr. W. Brittan, Mr. Clifford,
 Mr. J. Longden, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. W. F. Edlin,
 Mr. H. Draper, Mr. Wm. Burdett, Mr. C. Fooks,
 Mr. C. B. Fooks, Mr. Carrington, Mr. Alfred Wills,
 Mr. J. B. Austin, Mr. C. J. W. Cookson, Mr. Dampier.
 Lieut. Col. Campbell, Mr. Harman, Mr. Gerard Spooner,
 Mr. Jos. Dickin, C. T. Moule, Mr. H. F. Way, Rev. J. Paulson,
 Mr. Henry Ward, Mr. H. Le Cren, Mr. Edward Power,
 Capt. Martin (Mr. Brittan in the chair) Mr. Henry Barrett
 Mr. Arthur Jackson.

It was moved by Mr. Sewell
 seconded by Mr. Rose - and resolved

1. That this meeting do constitute itself a body, to be called "The Society of Canterbury Colonists" and that the following rules and regulations be adopted by the Society.
 1. That all the gentlemen present at this meeting, either in person or by proxy, or who shall send in their names within one week from the present date, do constitute the First members of the Society.
 2. That the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee of Management (~~with power to add to their members~~):- viz.
 - Mr. W. ^G. Brittan
 - Lieut. Col. Campbell
 - Mr. Jas. Edward Fitzgerald
 - The Rev. Dr. Rowley
 - Mr. Henry Phillips
 - Mr. C. L. Rose
 - Mr. Henry Sewell
 - Mr. Edward Ward

(with power to add to their number)

and that Mr. Edward Ward be requested to act for the present as honorary Secretary at their meetings.

- 3. That all future members of the Society be selected by ballot; the names of the candidates - proposed and seconded by members - being given in and entered on a paper (to be kept in the rooms for that purpose) one week previous to their election; and that a majority of two-thirds of those present be requisite to ensure the election of a candidate.
- 4. That members shall have the right of voting by proxy.
- 5. That the Bishop elect and the following gentlemen who have already sailed for the Settlement, be elected honorary members of the Society.

The Bishop elect
 The Archdeacon & Clergy
 John Robt. Godley Esq.,
 Capt. Thomas
 - Lee, Esq.
 Augustus Percival, Esq.
 F. Pollard, Esq.
 Henry Tancred, Esq.

- 6. That a general meeting of the members be held every Thursday at one o'clock to transact the necessary business of the Society; and by cooperation and mutual assistance to suggest and discuss among themselves questions of interest to the general welfare of the Settlement and of the general body of members.
- 7. That the Chairman be instructed to forward a copy of the minutes of this meeting to the Committee of Management of the Canterbury Association, to request their countenance and sanction to these proceedings and to ask the use of these rooms for their future meetings and for the transacting the necessary business of the Society.

II. (Moved by Mr. Townsend, seconded by Mr. Porter)
 That the gentlemen named in the 2nd clause of the foregoing resolution do ~~from~~ the Committee of Management of the Society of Canterbury Colonists.

III. (Moved by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Rose).
 That the gentlemen named in the 5th clause of the foregoing resolution be elected Honorary Members of the Society.

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IV. Moved by Mr. Fitzgerald and seconded by Mr. Sewell

That the thanks of the Society are due to Mr. W.G. Brittan for his strong and constant exertions in their behalf hitherto, through which they are sensible that many advantages have been secured to their position and for which he deserves their gratitude and confidence.

W.G. Brittan,
Chairman.

The following letter referring to the 7th clause of the 1st resolution at the first meeting was received on the 2nd of May from the Secretary of the Canterbury Association:-

41 Charing Cross,
1st May 1850.

Sir,

I am instructed by the Committee of Management of the Canterbury Association, to acquaint you that they have had before them your letter of the 27th acquainting the Committee that some of the first body of Colonists have formed themselves into a Society called "The Society of Canterbury Colonists" for the purpose of cooperation and mutual assistance and discussion amongst themselves upon questions of interest to the general welfare of the Settlement.

The Committee have received with great pleasure the announcement of the formation of this Society, which they hope will have the effect of maintaining a unity of feeling amongst the Colonists and will prove of great general service to the Colony.

The Committee have much pleasure in placing the Colonists' Rooms at the disposal of the Society of Colonists, for their General and Committee Meetings.

I have the honor etc.

(Signed) H.F. Alston
Secretary

W.G. Brittan, Esq.

May 2nd. General Meeting.

M.P./

M.P./

Gentlemen present. Mr. Hart, Mr. Butterfield, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Brittan, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Ward, Mr. Simeon, ~~Mr. P~~ - Mr. A. Stafford, Mr. Wills, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Felix Wakefield. Mr. Duncan, Mr. C. Dampier, Mr. Power, Mr. Le Cren, Mr. Whitcombe Mr. J. Whitcombe.

A letter of recognition of the Society received from the Committee of the Canterbury Association in reply to resolution I passed at the preceding meeting, was read by the Chairman.

A letter from the Revd. Wm. Bradley having been read, it was therefore resolved, on the motion of Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Wills, that the name of Mr. Richard Anstruther Bradley be enrolled on the list of original members.

A letter from Sir Thos. Tancred having been read, requesting to be enrolled a member of the Society, it was therefore moved by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Butterfield and adopted unanimously.

"That it is the opinion of the meeting that the members of their Society should consist of Colonists only; and that the Secretary be instructed to inform Sir Thos. Tancred that on this consideration only they are compelled to decline the honour of enrolling him among their number."

On the motion of Mr. Hart, seconded by Mr. Butterfield, the Secretary was directed to enrol the name of H.J. Cridland Esq. among the Honorary Members.

It was moved by Mr. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Ward

"That a list be opened and kept at these rooms in which intending Colonists may enter their names, addresses, number of family and other particulars which shall be open for the inspection of parties applying at these rooms for such information."

A letter from the Rev. O. Mathias having been read announcing a donation of valuable books to the Library of the Colony, it was moved by Mr. Power, seconded by Mr. Phillips

"That the Secretary be instructed to convey to Mr. Mathias the thanks of the meeting for the same."

On the motion of Mr. Felix Wakefield, seconded by Mr. Wills, the Secretary was instructed to convey the thanks of the meeting to Sir Wm. Hooker of the Royal Gardens, Kew, for having placed some interesting specimens of New Zealand shrubs at the disposal of the Society.

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The Chairman announced that Mr. Felix Wakefield and other gentlemen of experience in the Colonies had consented at future meetings to read papers and devise other means of communicating instruction and information to the colonists on matters of practical interest to them.

The Society was ordered to provide a board to contain previous notices of such communications.

The meeting adjourned till Thursday the 9th May.

W.G. Brittan,
Chairman.

May 9 1840 [sic] General Meeting. Mr. Brittan in the chair. Present. Mr. Phillips, Mr. Le Cren, Mr. Longden, Mr. G.B. Bishop, Mr. C.E. Bishop, Mr. Joshua Porter, Mr. F. Wakefield, Mr. Butterfield, Mr. E.G. Wakefield, Mr. Fendall, Mr. Ward. Mr. Fitzmaurice, Mr. Hart, Mr. C.E. Fooks, Mr. Orchard.

The Chairman announced donations of valuable books from Mr. Rose, from Mr. Edward Gibbon Wakefield, and from Mr. Vaux.

A paper communicated by Dr. Ramsey of Gloucester upon the "Medical and sanitary provision necessary for a newly-formed community" was read, and upon the motion of Mr. Wills seconded by Mr. Butterfield, the Secretary was requested to convey to Dr. Ramsey an expression of the gratification of the meeting herewith, and to invite further communications upon the same subject.

It was moved by Mr. Felix Wakefield secd. by Mr. Wills and adopted unanimously

"That it be an instruction to the Committee to inquire of the Association and report to the next general meeting, the rules which are to regulate the frontage of large blocks of land; for example, what frontage a purchaser of one thousand acres would be entitled to claim according to the present terms of purchase."

The meeting adjourned till Thursday the 16th May.

W.G. Brittan, Chairman.

General Meeting May 16.

- | | | |
|---------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Present | Mr. Rose | Mr. Wills |
| | H. Phillips | Harman |
| | Brittan | R. Rintoul |
| | F. Wakefield | Ward |
| | E. G. Wakefield | Sir Walter James |
| | Carrington | Revd. E. Hawkins |
| | Mrs. Carrington | H. F. Way |
| | J. E. Fitzgerald | Mrs. Way |
| | The Dean of Canterbury | Mr. Lucas |
| | The Revd. C. Wynter | Augustus Stafford M.P. |
| | Lord Lyttelton | Lord John Manners |
| | Revd. Thos. Jackson | E. Halswell |
| | John Simeon, M.P. | W. Forsyth |
| | Albert Allom | Joshua Porter |
| | Moore | E. Porter |
| | Lawrance | J. A. Latouche |
| | The Knight of Kerry | Richd. Lambert |
| | Chas. Mountfort | G. Hart |
| | C. E. Fooks | E. B. Bishop |
| | H. Barrett | James Williams |
| | C. B. Fooks | C. E. Dampier |
| | Chisholm | Burgess |
| | E. T. Wakefield | Joseph Butterfield |
| | Fitzmaurice | Capt. Murray |
| | Senner | |

Mr. W. G. Brittan in the Chair.

The Chairman, with reference to the instruction to the Committee resolved at the last general meeting, announced that in pursuance thereof he had obtained an interview with the Committee of Management and would be prepared with a report upon the subject in a few days.

The Chairman read a letter received from the Committee of Management dated the (sic) announcing its intentions with regard to the endowment of a college (see letter filed): Announced that the emigration regulations were published and to be had at the rooms; and in reply to a question from Mr. Felix Wakefield stated that no certain information was yet to be had on arrangements of intermediate passages.

It was moved by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Rose and adopted unanimously

"That the "Committee of Colonists" be called in future the "Council of Canterbury Colonists".

Members proposed

- By Mr. Brittan - Mr. Edward Twining, Hull.
- By Mr. F. Wakefield - Mr. Inwood of Wendlesham
Nr. Bagshot

The business of the meeting over - Lord Lyttelton addressed the colonists for the purpose of introducing to them the Revd. Thos. Jackson, their bishop elect. His Lordship took occasion to observe that, with a view to forming an estimate of the probable fund to be at the disposal of the Association, for Ecclesiastical purposes, it was no unreasonable thing to request that the Committee of Management should be informed of the names and the amount of purchase of all who had made up their minds to be of the first body of colonists.

The Revd. Thomas Jackson then addressed the meeting in most impressive terms.

The Revd. Ernest Hawkins enforced the recommendation of Lord Lyttelton.

The Chairman assured Lord Lyttelton that steps had been already taken by the Society and other means would be tried, to obtain the information which the Association desired.

The meeting adjourned to the 23rd of May.

W.G.Brittan

Chairman.

May 23rd General Meeting.

Thirty-nine gentlemen present. Mr. Brittan in the chair.

The Chairman announced donations of books to the Library from the Hon. Francis Baring, Sir William Molesworth and the Archbishop of Dublin.

The Chairman announced that two ships had been taken up and recommended applicants for cabins to be early: That chief cabin passage would be fixed at £42 - Intermediate £25 - Steerage £15. That passengers of every grade would be allowed $\frac{1}{2}$ a ton measure. &c Mr. Bowler attended to answer various enquiries and requested the colonists to let the Superintendent know the amount of freight he might expect. Dead weight, such as iron, bricks, machinery, should be sent at once. Public notice of all these points would be given. The ships would be ready to be seen in a week and plans should be immediately provided.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Frederic Moore on the subject of Steam communication with New Zealand. And thereupon it was moved by Mr. Dampier, seconded by Mr. Ward and resolved

"That the Secretary be requested to convey to Mr. Moore

the thanks of the meeting for his communication, ^{just} first read, and to recommend it to the consideration of the Canterbury Association."

It was moved by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Rose

"That the Secretary be requested to write a letter of thanks to Mr. Jackson for his kindness in attending the meeting of Thursday last, and to express the feelings of satisfaction with which the Society had heard that he is likely to be appointed the first Bishop of the Settlement."

A minute agreed to at a meeting of the Council of the 20th inst. was read, to the following effect.

1. The colonists being informed that a college was about to be established in Canterbury, and that there were strong grounds for believing that the college would be set on foot from the earliest period of the Settlement.
2. Understanding also that it was contemplated to attach a Library to the college, and to solicit donations of books for that purpose.
3. Being under the impression that it would be very unwise to attempt the collection of two distinct libraries for the New Colony, one for the general use of the colonists and the other for the college.
4. And being deeply sensible of the importance of the foundation of the college according to all the details of the plan now proposed.
5. And being informed that the gentlemen whose names had been published as Trustees of the Public Library fully consent to the following arrangement.

Resolved

- I. That all the books hitherto collected shall be handed over to the College Library and shall be vested in the Corporation of the Warden and Fellows or their representatives for the time being.
- II. That it be an understanding that every facility shall be given to the colonists generally to make use of the Library as far as may be possible consistent with the arrangements which shall be found expedient.

It was therefore moved by Mr. Dampier, seconded by Mr. Bishop, that the said minute of the Council be adopted by the meeting.

The following members were proposed

By Mr. Brittan, Mr. Du Boulay of Cintra, Torquay.
Mr. W.C.Fendall of Crambe, Yorkshire.
Mr. Edward Daniel of Liverpool, and
Mr. Buchanan of Portobello, Edinburgh.

By Mr. Felix Wakefield, Mr. David Porter of Reigate,
Mr. Buchanan, Portobello, Edinburgh.

The meeting adjourned till the 30th of May.

W.G.Brittan.

May 30th, General Meeting.

Present, 37 gentlemen. Mr. Brittan in the chair.

The Chairman read to the meeting the minute of the Committee of Management of 25th May, explaining the present and future relations between the Association and the Colonists. Mr. Simeon M.P. a member of the Association being present, addressed the meeting upon the principle object of the document ~~first~~ ^{last} read which he explained originated from the anxiety which the Association felt to give everything, and to place very ~~process~~ ^{power} they could into the hands of the colonists, consistently with the arrangements which they the Association had contracted with the Government. It was impossible entirely to shake off the responsibility which they had incurred in undertaking to found such a settlement as that of Canterbury, as far as a certain degree of control and management went, but he could assure the colonists that the principle of the Association's action (so far as they were at liberty to indulge it) was that of securing distinct colonial self-government - the only principle on which he (Mr. Simeon) would ever have taken a part in a colonizing Society.

Mr. Brittan gave notice that the next general meeting he would introduce the subject of the name of the capital town of the settlement, that a recommendation to that effect might go forth to the Association with its proper weight.

Members proposed. Mr. Charles Mountfort, Mr. Bengm. Mountfort, Mr. Augustus Cooper, Revd. James Wilson.

W.G.Brittan.

General Meeting, June 6.

72 Gentlemen present, Mr. Brittan in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The minute of the proposed relations between the Association and the colonists being brought forward for final consideration, it was moved by Mr. Dampier, seconded by Mr. Ward.

"That the Secretary be instructed to write to the Committee of Management expressing the cordial approbation and concurrence of this Society in the views taken by the Association and expressed by their minute of the 24th of May 1850 concerning the present and future relations of the Association and the colonists and in regard to the future management of the internal affairs of the colony."

Mr. Brittan moved, in pursuance of notice to that effect

"That this Society, considering that the time has properly arrived when the name of the future capital of the Canterbury Settlement may be definitely fixed, and feeling convinced from the general character of their intercourse and relations with the Association that that body are always anxious to pay every attention to the expressed wishes of the colonists on any practical question affecting their interests and feelings, venture to express to the Managing Committee of the Association their anxious desire that the capital of the settlement may be called by the name of "Lyttelton". He (Mr. Brittan) disdained any idea of interfering with the Assocn. in their privilege of naming the chief town: on the contrary he felt satisfied that it was their wish to consult the opinions of the colonists on this as on every other matter affecting their interests and feelings. He had reason to know that there were a great many who objected to the name of Christ-Church ^[sic.] and who would prefer the name which he proposed, viz. that of Lyttelton.

^[sic.] Mr. Fitzgerald explained that the origin of the name of Christchurch (was in the fact of its being part of the scheme that the settlement should contain a large college, and partly because that was the name of the Cathedral church of Canterbury. He did not wish to oppose Mr. Brittan's motion, but he wished that more time shd. be given for discussing it, and therefore he moved, and Mr. Sewell seconded, "That the question stand adjourned for consideration till Thursday the 13th inst - which being assented to by Mr. Brittan was accordingly adopted.

Mr. Sewell then took occasion to observe that though out of order, he wished to make a remark upon the resolution which had been agreed to at the commencement of the proceedings relative to the minute defining the relations between the Assocn. and the colonists. He fully concurred in the object of that motion, but seeing some of the members of the Assocn. present, it occurred to him that it was a good opportunity to satisfy himself and the colonists once for all upon a point referred to in that minute. He alluded to the appropriation of the funds:- the appropriation of the religious and educational portion of that fund was a most important and delicate duty, and with reference to this the minute suggests the rule, that in the administration of this fund the Association will be governed by the views of the colonists, and as a medium of communication they point to the "governing body of the colony", as the organ. He (Mr. Sewell) wished to know the exact meaning of this arrangement. If it is intended thereby that the funds should be under the control of the municipal body of the colony for the time being - whatever that might be, he (Mr. Sewell) would say that he for one would not be willing to entrust a religious fund to a mere municipal body. The distributing body should be one of a different constitution. He threw this out merely as a suggestion, and not with any want of confidence in the general plan contemplated by the minute of the Committee of Management - but at the same time it might remain as a sort of protest: lest the colonists should hereafter be considered as having pledged themselves to accept the minute in its integrity as a law, and among other things be considered bound to accept the municipal body as sole distributor of the religious fund, an arrangement to which he had the strongest objection. He had no doubt but that the members of the Assocn. then present could inform him upon this point to his satisfaction.

Sir Walter James said that Lord Lyttelton's object when he drew up the minute in question was to prescribe the circumstances under which the Association's control would cease - but what the nature of the substituted control would be must depend upon the constitution hereafter granted to them by the Government. (In answer to a remark from Mr. Sewell) he considered it distinctly understood that the question in this point was left open by the Association.

Mr. Simeon declared his distinct impression that the document in question was to be taken now for as much only as it was worth, and by no means as a law binding or irrevocable.

Mr. Fitzgerald announced that with a view to assist employers and employed in his department (that of emigration-agent) he had opened a register at his office 20 Cockspur St. of the names of those who wanted labourers and of those who wanted employment. Purchasers of land who were unable to exercise their right of nomination should therefore apply to him for such servants as they might require.

Mr. Ward gave notice that at the next meeting he would move

"That a list be opened for subscription by the colonists to raise a fund for providing English wild animals to be set at liberty in the Canterbury settlement."

The following members were proposed

By Mr. Wakefield

Mr. Stephen Fisher R.N.
Mr. James Temple Fisher

By Mr. Brittan

Mr. Fredk. Fitch) of Ipswich
Mr. Wood /)
Mr. Barker - Surgeon of Rugby
Mr. Charles Bridge - Great Malvern

The meeting adjourned till the 13th instant.

W.G.Brittan.

June 13 General Meeting, 97 Gentlemen present, Mr. Brittan in the chair.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

The following members were proposed - Mr. Postans of Shelly, Colchester. Mr. J.W.Earle of Norwich. Mr. G.L.Lees of 20 Cadogan Place, Mr. Henry Richards and Mr. Joseph Richards of Bridgenorth.

A letter from Mr. Luck of Oxford accompanying a handsome alms-box for the use of the first cathedral church of Lyttelton was read, and the Secretary was instructed to thank Mr. Luck for his donation.

A letter from Mr. Donlan was read offering to explain his process of manufacturing New Zealand flax to the Society. The Secretary was instructed to ~~write-him~~ invite him to a meeting of the committee to ~~explain~~ state the nature of his proposals.

Mr. Brittan then put the ~~metien~~ resolution which he had moved and Mr. Dampier had seconded, and which stood adjourned from the last meeting for further consideration.

Mr. Simeon and the Rev. Henry Bellairs addressed the meeting in favour of the adoption of the name of Christchurch for the capital of Canterbury.

The resolution was then put and, on a show of hands, declared carried.

The Chairman read a letter which had been put in his hands by a member of the Society referring to a complaint which had been made of the quality of the provisions by a passenger in one of the New Zealand ships:- observing the Superintendent of Shipping present, he felt it his duty to ask in the name of the colonists, whether any extra precautions and what, would be taken to ensure a supply of the best provisions for the ships chartered by the Canterbury Association.

Mr. Bowler in answer to the Chairman's question stated that the system of the Association in such arrangements was to proceed on the principle of public tender. They had advertised for and accepted the tenders of the best ships, and they wd. do the same by the provisions contracting with the best provisions-merchants. Besides that, the provisions wd. be inspected by an officer of the government and of the Association, and any colonists who chose were at liberty to attend the inspection. No further safeguard could be devised.

Mr. Ward moved in pursuance of notice to that effect "That a list be opened for subscription by the colonists to form a fund for providing birds and other wild animals of England to be taken to and set at Liberty in the Canterbury Settlement.

Mr. Felix Wakefield seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Fitzgerald drew attention to the state of the regulations in the emigration department, which refused the privilege of an assisted passage to labourers above the age of 40. He was sure that this rule would not be relaxed in the cases of families nominated to assisted passages by the Assocn. but he had reason to think that in the event of a labourer or servant above the prescribed age being nominated by a purchaser of land, the circumstances wd. be treated as a special case by the Committee of Management. He wd. urge the colonists in their nominations to study as much as possible the interests of the colony by selecting their labourers and servants among those of the best class and age.

The meeting then adjourned to the 20th of June.

W.G.Brittan.

General Meeting, June 20. 1850.

112 gentlemen present. Mr. Brittan in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The following members were proposed:-

- Capt. Campbell 23rd. Fusiliers.
- Mr. Read, Smith St. Chelsea.
- Mr. Luck, Oxford.
- Mr. Murray, Reigate
- Mr. Barnes, Guernsey
- Mr. Hamilton Ward, Killinchy, Co. Down.

Secretary

The Chairman having read a letter from the Society of the Canterbury Assocn. dated the 20th of June enclosing a minute of the Committee of Management dated the 18th June acquiescing in the suggestion of the colonists that the name of the capital shd. be called Lyttelton, it was moved by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Dampier and

Resolved "That the Society of Canterbury Colonists having read the minute of the Managing Committee of the Assocn. of the 18th inst. communicated in Mr. Alston's letter of this day, acquiescing in the suggestion of the Society that the name of the capital of the settlement should be called Lyttelton, desire to express their grateful sense of the readiness with which the Association have in this as well as upon all other occasions met the wishes of the colonists."

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It was ordered that Mr. Alston's letter be transcribed in the minutes of the Society.

Mr. Brittan reported the result of an interview between the Council and Mr. Doulan.

Mr. Fitzgerald Gave notice of motion for the next meeting of a series of resolutions which he read, and moved "That the Council be requested to revise and point the draft of the resolutions and of a letter explanatory of the same, to be distributed among the members of the Society, in order that they might be fully considered by the colonists before discussion at the general meeting of the 27th inst.

Col. Campbell seconded the motion which was carried.

The Chairman read the draft of a memorial which he said was about to be presented to the University of Oxford in behalf of the proposed college at Canterbury.

Col. Campbell moved and Mr. Dampier seconded its adoption

Mr. Felix Wakefield asked the Chairman whether a purchaser of land taking a steerage passage for himself and family might nominate them all as labourers. The Chairman and Mr. Fitzgerald in reply stated that it was competent for him to do so.

Mr. Fitzgerald urged upon the colonists who were purchasers of land to send into his office without delay the necessary forms of application in behalf of their nominees.

The meeting then adjourned to the 27th instant.

W.G.Brittan.

The following is the letter of Mr. Alston, with its enclosure, read at the meeting.

20 Cockspur St.
20th June, 1850.

Sir, I have had the honour to receive today before the Committee of Management of the Canterbury Assn. your letter of the 15th inst., enclosing a resolution passed by the Society of Canterbury Colonists on the 13th inst., and I am directed to forward you a copy of a resolution passed by the Committee on the 18th inst. assenting to the proposal of the Canterbury Colonists that the Capital of the Settlement will be named Lyttelton.

The following is the enclosure referred to: "Extract" from the proceedings of the Committee of Management of the Canterbury Association at a meeting held on Tuesday 18th June 1850.

"Read a letter dated the 15th inst. from the Chairman of the Society of Canterbury Colonists enclosing a resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Society held on the 13th inst. expressing their anxious desire that the capital of the Settlement may be called Lyttelton.

Resolved That the Committee although they do not themselves see the necessity or expediency for the change of name, in compliance with the expressed wishes of the attending colonists will readily assent thereto, it being understood that the College which will be established in the Settlement will be called Christchurch. [sic]"

General Meeting, Thursday June 27.

103 gentlemen present. Mr. Brittan in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman announced donations of books to the Library from Revd. O. Matthias and the Revd. C. Trench.

The Chairman read a letter received from the Messrs. Deans, dated Riccarton near Port Lyttelton, New Zealand, 8th Decr. 1849, containing interesting accounts ~~from~~ of the country.

Mr. Fitzgerald moved in pursuance of notice to that effect the following series of resolutions.

- I. That after the 1st of July 1850, every purchaser of land in the Canterbury Settlement be enrolled as a member of the Society of Canterbury Colonists.
- II. That after the 1st of July, the present council do resign, and that a new Council be elected by the Society.
- III. That no one be elected a member of the new Council except those sailing in the first fleet of vessels dispatched by the Association, or who may have previously sailed to the colony.
- IV. That after the sailing of the first ships, the meeting of the Society and of the Council shall be adjourned until the arrival of the First Body of Colonists at Canterbury.
- V. That the Council shall meet for the transaction of business as soon as two-thirds of their number shall have arrived in the Colony, and that a General Meeting

of the Society shall be called previous to the day fixed for the Selection of the land.

VI. That the new Council shall be entrusted with the conduct of all negotiations on the part of the Colonists with the Association and with the Government.

Colonel Campbell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman thereupon gave notice that the Society would proceed next Thursday the 4th July to the election of the New Council.

The Chairman impressed upon the Colonists the often-repeated notice to fill up their forms of recommendation for the servants and labourers, and send them into the Emigration Agent without delay - he warned them that the consequence of any neglect to do so would be that ~~they~~ ^{we} the Committee of Management would be unable to ~~promise~~ ^{procure} passages for servants in the same ship with their masters.

The meeting adjourned to Thursday the 4th prox.

C.L. Rose.
4 July 1850.

Thursday July 4. General Meeting.

55 Gentlemen present. Mr. Conway Rose in the chair. The Secretary having announced that the Council had not yet matured a scheme for electing a new Council in pursuance of the resolutions to that effect passed at the previous meeting, but that the election wd. certainly take place on Thursday, the 11th inst., and there being no other business before the meeting - on the motion of Mr. Ward seconded by Col. Campbell -

the meeting was adjourned to the 11th inst.

W.G.Brittan.

Thursday July 11. General Meeting.

63 gentlemen present. Mr. W.G.Brittan in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. In consequence of numerous questions that had been asked on the subject, the Chairman announced that the position of the Canterbury Colonists was unaltered by the fate of New Zealand Company.

The meeting then proceeded with the election of 12 members to form the new Council. The Secretary reported that he had sent to each member a list of all, with a circular requesting that he would mark the list with the names of those he might desire to have elected. To this circular 60 replies had been received from 118 members, complying with his request, and two letters, one from the Revd. Chas. Forlesse and another from the Revd. J. Rhoades (which the Secretary read to the meeting) protesting against the mode of election. According to the lists sent in twelve gentlemen whose names he read had obtained by far the largest number of votes, and it was for the meeting then if they chose to confirm their election. After some discussion, Mr. Fitzgerald moved and Mr. Rose seconded the resolution.

"That the election of the Council be postponed till next Thursday the 18th inst. and the Secretary be requested to send a notice to all the members of the Society who have not hitherto voted, to acquaint them with this resolution."

The Chairman having read a letter from Mr. Moore on the subject of Steam communication with and between the ports of New Zealand - said that he regretted that the Society were not in a position to do more than they had done on the former occasion when Mr. Moore had drawn their attention to the same subject, viz. to refer the letter and recommend its consideration strongly to the Association. The New Zealand colonists in posse and in esse were much indebted to Mr. Moore for his energy in so important a question. Having referred to a petition to Parliament which was left for

signature by all interested in the subject of Steam communication with New Zealand, and having requested the colonists to sign it - Mr. Rose moved and Col. Campbell seconded the following resolution

"That the Council be instructed to draw up a petition to both houses of Parliament urging upon them and upon Her Majesty's Government the expediency of opening a Steam communication with the Australian Colonies and with New Zealand, and to obtain as far as possible the signature thereto of all the intending Canterbury Colonists. That Lord Lyttelton be requested to present this petition to the House of Lords and that Mr. Simeon be requested to present it to the House of Commons.

Mr. Simeon M.P. who was present addressed the colonists and assured them that he would be much gratified in being selected for the duty which he wd. undertake to forward to the best of his ability.

Mr. Brittan moved and Mr. Fitzgerald seconded the following resolutions concerning the constitution of the Council.

1. That the Council do consist of 12 members and that any vacancy arising in their number before the sailing of the first body of Colonists shall be filled up by a vote of the Council.
2. That the Council shall elect one of its members Chairman, who shall have a casting vote in all questions before the Council.
3. That the Council shall select two Honorary Secretaries, either from their own body, or from the present general members of the Society.
4. That the purchasers of land after the 1st of July and before the 29th of August 1850, shall have the power, if they so think fit, to elect on or after the latter day, a number of members to be added to the Council, which shall bear the same proportion to the numbers of the present Council, which the number of land purchasers in the second series shall bear to that of those in the first. But that the fifth Resolution passed on the 27th of June may be acted upon by the 12 members of the present Council.

The Chairman then requested the intending Colonists to communicate as soon as possible their intention, to the Superintendent of Immigration, and also to state whether they will require room for any labourers going out with them in order that ~~the Superintendent~~ he may know what accommodation will be required. After a few words from Mr. Ward concerning the Zoological committee the meeting adjourned to Thursday the 18th.

18th July 1850 Conway L. Rose.

Thursday July 18th. General Meeting 60 present.
Conway Rose Esq. in the chair.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary then announced that the number of Electoral Lists returned were altogether 85 in number, and that according to the 1st Resolution passed at the last meeting the following gentlemen were duly returned as the twelve members of the Society to form the new Council.

- W.G. Brittan Esq.
- Lieut. Col. Campbell
- James Edward Fitzgerald Esq.
- George Lee Esq.
- Charles Maunsell Esq.
- Henry Phillips Esq.
- John Watts Russell Esq.
- Henry Sewell Esq.
- Henry John Tancred Esq.
- Jas. Townsend Esq.
- Felix Wakefield Esq.
- E.R. Ward Esq.

Mr. Sewell and Mr. Lee's appointments were then declared vacant in consequence of the former being appointed Vice ~~President~~ Chairman of the Committee of the Association, which would engross all his attention, and Mr. Lee being obliged to defer his departure till after the sailing of the first ships. The Chairman therefore gave notice that the Council at its next meeting would elect two more members ~~in-their~~ to serve in their room.

The Chairman then announced that two petitions had been lying for the last few days at the rooms for signature, praying the two houses of Parliament to establish Steam communication with the Australian Colonies. These had been signed by a large body of the Colonists and would be immediately presented to both houses by Lord Lyttelton and Mr. Simeon M.P. Lord Lyttelton then informed the meeting that in consequence of the ~~title-of-~~ the death of the New Zealand Company, the Association were taking steps to get a bill passed through Parliament to give them special and sole authority over the land in the Canterbury Settlement. His Lordship also announced that as he was himself obliged to leave London for the next few months he had requested Mr. Henry Sewell to take his place, which that gentleman had kindly promised to do. He begged however to assure the meeting that his interest in the affairs of the Colony would still continue unabated.

A Vote of Thanks having then been moved by Col. Campbell and seconded by Mr. Sewell to Lord Lyttelton, was passed unanimously.

The following Resolution was then moved by Mr. Slater Richards and seconded by Mr. Keele "That the grateful thanks of this meeting be presented to Mr. Brittan and Mr. Ward, and as Chairman and Honorary Secretary of the Society of Canterbury

Colonists, for their zealous and able exertions in the offices which they kindly undertook to fill, for the benefit of their fellow colonists."

The meeting then adjourned to Thursday the 25th.

W.G.Brittan.

Thursday July 25. General Meeting. 57 Present. W.G.Brittan Esq. in the Chair.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman then announced that the Petition for Steam communication with Australia and New Zealand had been presented to the House of Lords by Lord Lyttelton and that the one for the House of Commons would be presented on that ~~very~~ evening by Mr. Simeon. He then mentioned the design the Association had of giving a public breakfast on board their ships on Tuesday the 30th instant to the departing Colonists and invited all present to take tickets and attend.

Mr. Sewell then said that owing to an unforeseen formality not yet complied with, the consecration of the Bishop must be delayed for a short time; he was glad however to be able to announce that the ~~progress-of-the~~ Bill which had been introduced into Parliament was making very satisfactory progress and he hoped would soon be passed.

A letter was then read from Mr. Gellie, a gentleman on the surveying staff at Canterbury giving a very ~~flourishing~~ satisfactory account of the condition and prospects of the infant colony.

The Secretary was then instructed to ~~give~~ convey the best thanks of the Society to Mr. Draper and Mr. C.L.Mountfort for presents made to the Library of the Society.

The meeting then adjourned to Thursday Aug. 1st.

W.G.Brittan.

General Meeting. Thursday August 1.

44 Present. W.G.Brittan Esq. in the chair.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman announced that the Library which had been already collected in England would be divided proportionately between all the four ships for use during the voyage. The Bishop also had kindly offered that any books suggested by any Colonists, if of general utility, should be purchased by him for the Colony.
~~He-also-said~~

The Chairman also said that at a recent meeting of the Council they had determined to appoint a deputation to wait on the Union Bank of Australia to see if they would be willing to establish a branch office at Lyttelton.

A letter was then read from Mr. Ravenscroft concerning the establishment of a paper in Lyttelton. The Chairman said that it was a most important question and one that would greatly affect the future interests of the Colony. He also said that the Council would take upon themselves to enquire and report upon the best method of establishing it. He at the same time hoped that all members of the Society and intending Colonists would become subscribers, and that they would do their best to gain support for it from their friends in this country. After ~~a-great-deal-of~~ some discussion it was unanimously resolved "That a paper ought to be established, and the Council was desired to make what enquiries they could concerning the method of establishing it and report at a future meeting of the Society. The Secretaries were also desired to receive the name of all subscribers and to send a circular to all the Colonists desiring their cooperation.

The Chairman then called attention to a beautiful set of communion Plate purchased for the future Cathedral by a few friends of the undertaking and by them presented to the Colony.

He also announced that it is the intention of the Committee of Management of the Association to give a dinner to the Labouring Emigrants at Gravesend before the ships started.

The names of Christopher Calvert Esq. and The Revd. *Mr Jacobs* were then proposed for election as members of the Society next Thursday.

The Secretary also requested that all subscriptions to the Zoological Department should be sent in as soon as possible as from want of the necessary funds they were prevented at present from doing as much as they could wish.

The meeting then adjourned to Thursday Aug. 8.

W.G.Brittan.

General Meeting Thursday August 8, 1850.

W.G.Brittan Esq. in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Sewell said that he had the pleasure to be able to announce that the Bill for giving the Canterbury Association sole power over their lands had passed both houses of Parliament

and was now only waiting for the Royal Assent. In fact it might be ~~virtually~~ considered as virtually passed. Every Colonist therefore now had a Parliamentary title to the land which was the best they could possibly have. He wished also to mention that a consultation between the Queen's Advocate the Attorney & Solicitor General with respect to the Bishopric question would take place on Friday when no doubt the matter would be definitively settled. Mr. Brittan then said that a deputation consisting of himself, Mr. Stuart Wortley, and Mr. Phillips had waited on the Union Bank of Australia and been received by Mr. Cummins the Manager who had made them the following proposals which he would now submit to the meeting, ~~together-with-a-resolution-expressive-of-the-sense-opinion-of-the-Colonists-on-the-subject.~~

The Bank had offered to send out a confidential clerk with a strong box and everything provided to set up an office in the Colony immediately on the arrival of the first ships. Any body wishing to profit by this arrangement would then pay in the amount he wished to the Bank here which in return would grant him letters of credit on the office of Lyttelton for notes of £1 each of the same amount as he paid in here, only with a deduction of 2 per cent on the whole. These notes would be payable without further charge at ^{Wellington-or} any of their branches in New Zealand in English money. The Bank would ~~Auckland~~ also take upon itself to send out sufficient small change for the use of the Colony. Mr. Brittan then concluded by moving the following resolution.

"That this meeting, considering it of great importance that immediate steps shall be taken to secure the establishment of a Bank at Lyttelton and a proposition to that effect having been made by the Union Bank of Australia, the conditions of which appear to this meeting reasonable, do request a deputation of the Council to wait on the Directors of the Bank, and to conclude such arrangements as they should consider necessary for the immediate carrying out of this object." Col. Campbell having seconded this it was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then urged on the colonists the importance of establishing a newspaper immediately on their arrival in the Settlement. He submitted a prospectus which had been issued by the Council with the view of carrying this object into effect and requested them to get as many as possible of their friends in this country to subscribe.

Mr. Sewell then said that he wished to say a few words concerning the Ecclesiastical and Educational Fund. He said that he was afraid that for some short time the funds arising from the land-sales for Church and Educational purposes would not be adequate to all the wants of the whole Colony. He suggested it might be advisable to adopt a principle as regarded that land, similar to that adopted by the Church Building Societies, namely, making it to some extent auxiliary

raised to other funds advised by the Colonists themselves. A plan of this kind appeared to him likely to work well both by increasing the means for Ecclesiastical and Educational purposes, and also by stimulating the exertions of the Colonists themselves." The meeting generally approved of this proposal, and a minute to that effect was ordered to be entered, upon the proceedings. In answer to a question from Mr. Brittan, Mr. Bowler stated that the Association had taken, and were taking great every precaution in their power that the provisions might all be of the first quality, and assured the Colonists that they might depend on his most vigilant superintendence.

The meeting then adjourned to Thursday August 15.

W.G.Brittan.

General Meeting Thursday Aug.15 1850.

W.G.Brittan Esq. in the chair.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Sewell then announced that the Royal Assent had been given to the bill ~~the night before~~ that had been introduced into Parliament to give the Association powers to dispose of their land in the Canterbury Settlement, and that it was now therefore the Law of the land.

The Chairman then made the following announcement.

- 1. That the ^{Union of Australia} /Bank/ had definitively settled to establish an ^a Branch Office agency at Lyttelton.
- 2. That ^{arrangements with respect to the} the /newspaper/ had been definitively ~~taken-and-~~ and that settled ^{by} Mr. Shrimpton of Oxford had undertaken to conduct it.
- 3. That the Cabin passages of ^{four taken up by the assocn.} all the /ships/ had been already filled up. After some conversation on various subjects the meeting ~~then-~~ adjourned to Thursday Aug.22.

W.G.Brittan.

At the general meeting of the Colonists held on Thursday the 22 of August. W.G.Brittan Esq. in the chair, the minutes of the previous meeting were read over and confirmed.

Mr. Brittan alluded to Mr. Sewell's recent interview with E.Grey. Mr. Sewell then proceeded to make a long report on the present political and financial position of the colony. He entered into the nature of the legal character conferred by

the Society's land-orders. He mentioned Lord Grey's assurance on the subject of the provincial and governmental arrangements of the settlement, and concluded by reading a memorandum on the management of the Ecclesiastical fund (written by Mr. Wynter) and approved of conditionally by the Committee in Cockspur Street, and a copy of which at length is inserted below.

Mr. Brittan wished to know whether that Paper would come before the Colonists as an official communication and was answered in the affirmative.

A Vote of Thanks to the Committee of Management was then moved by Mr. Phillips, and seconded by Mr. Watts Russell to the following effect.

"That this, the last meeting of the Society of Canterbury Colonists, before their departure from England, cannot separate without conveying to the Committee of Management of the Canterbury Association, their sense of deep obligation to those gentlemen for the most satisfactory manner in which they have managed the difficult and laborious proceedings for founding the settlement, and their entire confidence for the future in the interested public spirit, and proved ability, of the Committee as guardians, and promoters of the welfare of the Society."

This vote was carried unan.

Mr. Simeon returned Thanks on behalf of the Committee.

Mr. Brittan requested the Bishop, who was present for the purpose, to address the meeting.

Dr. Jackson then went into his intended plans with reference to the College at Port Lyttelton, and to education in general. He mentioned that his own passage depended on the elimination of certain unadjusted legal difficulties. He hoped however to start in the course of the month of Sept., and concluded with a warm expression of his attachment to the cause of the Canterbury Colony.

Mr. Sewell then moved the following address to the Bishop Designate.

"That this Society is deeply sensible of its obligations towards the Revd. Dr. Jackson generally, and more particularly those involved in his expression of readiness to forego all private considerations and to accompany the first Body of Colonists notwithstanding the delay of his consecration as Bishop. They feel still more deeply this self-denial and self-devotion in..... in the service of the colonial church. They desire that this sentiment may be recorded among the proceedings of the Colonists."

This vote was seconded, and carried by acclamation.

Dr. Jackson after a few words expressive of his deep feeling on this occasion, proposed a general expression of thanks to W.G. Brittan Esq. for his able and courteous management of the Colonists' meetings and his unvarying attention to their interests.

Mr. Simeon seconded the vote proposed which was carried unan.

Mr. Brittan expressed his sense of the sympathy of the assembly.

Capt. Simeon was then introduced to the meeting by his brother ^{and} other friends of the Assn.

The meeting then

Copy of memorandum read by Mr. Sewell and referred to above:-

"The minute of proceedings of the Colonists on the 8th of August. 1850 with reference to a mode of administering the Educational and Ecclesiastical Fund has received the deliberate attention of the Committee of the Canterbury Association.

The points incidentally raised by the minute in question have led the Committee to consider in all its bearings the future administration of the temporal concerns of the Church in the Colony so far as they necessarily come within the province of the Association. But the connection is inseparable between the temporal arrangements and the general organisation of an Ecclesiastical and Educational System.

The construction of a complete Ecclesiastical System would obviously exceed the proper functions of the Association. That work in its details must be left mainly to your future Bishop with such assistance as the Association may be enabled to afford and as he may require. His general views upon this subject agree with those of the Association. The Scheme of Ecclesiastical Policy which it is proposed to apply to the new Settlement will as nearly resemble that of the Church in this country as difference of circumstances will permit. Combining in due proportions the elements of Episcopal Control - the reasonable independence of the Clergy and the Co-operation of the laity to a right extent as an essential part of the Church.

The rules for the administration of the Ecclesiastical Funds will be so shaped as to give the fullest possible effect to such a scheme. The mode and spirit according to which these shall hereinafter be determined and regulated, will in the opinion of the Committee have a tendency to create for the descendants of the immediate Colonists a permanently healthy or a permanently vicious influence in the conduct of religious and educational affairs.

The Committee takes for granted that the Association and the Colonists can have but one common object in view, namely, to construct a sound and durable basis of religious and educational administration, such as shall neither bear the marks of rude and hasty workmanship, nor contain within itself the germ of its own dissolution.

This is in effect one of the great objects for which the Canterbury Association was originally designed and founded. It can be accomplished only by mutual confidence, co-operation, unity of purpose, between the Association the Bishop and the Colonists; by a species of cautious and prudent legislation (so to say); looking mainly to the future rather than to the present; to the welfare of the children of the Colonists as much as to that of the Colonists themselves; by taking into account remote and even extreme contingencies; by a desire fully to provide for the spiritual and moral exigencies, not of an insignificant community, but of a large and virtuous Colony.

Having regard to the efforts made by the Association and to the sacrifices submitted to by the Colonists in order to found a Colony upon religious, true, enlightened and statesmanship principles. The Committee would hardly be justified in taking other than this broad view of the minute of the 8th August which has been submitted to their consideration.

Assuming the religious and educational wants of the first small body of settlers to be met for the present by existing arrangements the Committee will perfect as soon as possible an outline of a scheme for the regulation of the temporalities of the Church founded on the principles already expressed. For the present they forbear to do more than to rest upon a few points which suggest themselves most prominently.

Without attempting to discuss the specific case alluded to in the minute of the 8th August (that of the Church Building Societies at home) but speaking generally, the Committee are disposed to recommend to the Association that the administration of "The Ecclesiastical and Educational Fund" should be vested in a body hereafter to be designated which shall represent the Laity no less than the Clergy, subject of course to the acknowledged Headship of the Bishop.

With regard to Ecclesiastical organization The Committee submit the propriety of adhering, in all respects so far as altered circumstances shall allow, to the outline of the System which obtains in England. They under this head, in general terms, advert to a recognition of the Episcopal functions of rule and discipline to a proper degree of independence being guaranteed to the parochial Clergy: to the necessity of territorial limitations of parishes: the Election of Church wardens with all the functions appertaining to that important office.

One topic only remains; the case of those among the Laity who, detaching themselves from the principal centre of the Colony and thus separated from the means of religion and Education provided there, may wish wholly or in part to endow Churches and Schools. The Committee hope that many laymen may be found ready to aid the cause of the Church by such endowments, and they will urge upon the Canterbury Association to stimulate as much as possible efforts of this nature by such inducements in such form and under such limitations as may appear best calculated to maintain unimpaired the continued energy and efficiency of the Church and tend to the advancement of God's honor and Glory by the promotion of true Religion and useful learning in the future Colony.

General Meeting of Purchasers of land in the Canterbury settlement, called by ~~notice~~ order of the Council and held in Lyttelton New Zealand on Friday the 20th Dec. 1850.

It was moved by Mr. Phillips seconded by Mr. Pollard and passed that Mr. Brittan shd. take the chair.

The Chairman read the minute of 27th June authorizing the meeting and introduced the subject for the consideration of the meeting viz. the expediency of immediate selection of land and the question of the site of the capital.

In answer to a question from the Chairman whether as Agent of the Association he could authorize such an immediate selection

Mr. Godley replied that he wd. have no hesitation in adopting the risk of contravening the strict construction of the terms of purchase in this respect. But he wd. require an indemnity from every party availing himself of the privilege against any actions or suits which such party might bring against him (Mr. Godley) for such departure from the terms of purchase .

Mr. Dampier then moved and Mr. Cholmondeley seconded the motion

"That Mr. Godley be requested on the part of the Association to consent to an immediate selection of the lands by such of the purchasers as are willing to select subject to the rights of priority of choice of any absent or dissenting parties, and that an early day be fixed for the town and rural selections."

The resolution being put was passed unanimously. Mr. Phillips moved and Mr. Ward Seconded the motion.

"That this meeting is of opinion that of the two sites offered to their selection by the Association for the capital, that marked on the map by the name of Christ-Church is the

more eligible, and that Mr. Godley be requested to declare immediately that the capital of the settlement will be fixed on that site."

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

In answer to various questions -

Mr. Godley informed the meeting that the site of Sumner was not reserved for a port town. That the Association's boats were let out to private speculators who should be free to charge their own prices - the maximum rates having been prescribed, viz. 20/- per ton to Sumner 18/- from Sumner to Christchurch and 1/- a head for passengers to and from ships in the harbour - That as soon as possible the surplus ships ~~in the~~ stores belonging to the Association would be sold at a valuation - provided that the services of a licensed auctioneer could not be previously had - That until the banking arrangements were completed Mr. Godley would to a small extent accommodate colonists in pressing cases upon the security of their letters of credit.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman having; upon the motion of Mr. Pollard seconded by Mr. Phillips, been passed, the meeting adjourned.

W.G. Brittan.

Tuesday Dec. 31 Lyttelton. General meeting called by public notice to land purchasers.

On the motion of Mr. Pollard seconded by Mr. Earle, Mr. Brittan took the chair.

The Chairman read to the meeting a communication received by the Council from Mr. Godley (Marked A and inserted in the margin) and the Report of the Council thereupon (Marked B).

It was moved by Mr. Dampier and seconded by Mr. Fisher

"That the report of the Council upon Mr. Godley's letter be received and adopted."

The motion was affirmed with one dissentient voice. Mr. Brittan then addressed the meeting on the subject of the position of the Council as representing the body of land-purchasers, and desiring from the meeting some mark of their confidence, tendered pro forma the resignation of the present Council. Thereupon Mr. Crompton moved and Mr. Pollard seconded the motion - "That the present Council be requested to retain office for two months from the present date, and that a general meeting be then called for the purpose of electing a new council."

Mr. Burke moved as an amendment seconded by Mr. Kēele

"That the present Council be requested to retain office for 12 months, and that steps be taken immediately for filling up the present vacancies in the Council"

The question being then put there appeared

For the amendment 17
For the original motion 10

Majority for the amendment 7
original-motion

Mr. Brittan then again addressed the meeting declaring that in his opinion the Council were not justified in retaining office while there existed so wide a division of opinion upon the term of its existence. As it might easily be into a mark of want of confidence in them he for himself ~~tendered~~ desired to resign and submit ~~either~~ to a new election.

Mr. Fitzgerald would adopt the same course. Other members of the Council hereupon intimated a like desire.

Mr. Dampier then moved seconded by Mr. Pollard

"That the present Council be requested to retain office until a new Council can be elected, and that a General Meeting of land-purchasers be called for that purpose for Tuesday the 7th January 1851".

This resolution being put was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Brittan then in the name of the Council acceded to the terms of the resolution and the Secretary was ordered to take steps in accordance with it.

Mr. Fitzgerald moved seconded by the Hon. Jas. Stuart Wortley - "That the Council be requested to communicate the cordial thanks of the colonists to Capt. Thomas the Chief Surveyor of the Association for his conduct of the undertaking until the arrival of Mr. Godley in the colony, and the ~~the~~ warm admiration with which they have seen the various works which he has accomplished under circumstances of great and peculiar difficulty."

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

The meeting then adjourned after a vote of thanks to the Chairman having, on the motion of Mr. Puckle seconded by Mr. Earle, been passed unanimously.

W.G. Brittan.

Tuesday Jan 7 1851. Special general meeting of land-purchasers called for the purpose of electing a new council.

Previous to the transaction of the special business ~~of the meeting~~, the Bishop of New Zealand, who had been waited on by a deputation ~~of~~ from the council to request his attendance here, addressed the meeting. He explained the reason why his consent had not been obtained to the severance of the diocese of New Zealand in order to create Dr. Jackson Bishop of the Middle Island - because he had never had official notice of the intention of the Canterbury Association to demand such an increase of territory for their own bishop. Besides it was in opposition to his cherished idea of founding three bishoprics in New Zealand - one for the Government settlements, one for the ~~Western~~ Company's in Cooks Straits, and the other for the district south ~~of~~ and inclusive of the Canterbury Settlement, to Stewart's Island. As it was probable therefore that Dr. Jackson would arrive unconsecrated he was for the present their diocesan and he ~~therefore~~ accordingly desired to consult with the body of land-purchasers as to the best mode of carrying out the religious and educational part of the scheme designed by the Canterbury Assoc.n. He had formerly in a published letter recommended for this colony as a cure for inevitable dispersion the system of parochial associations and that each little community though separated from others might have its pastor and its church. He would therefore desire to know on his return in about three weeks whether the minds of purchasers had been in the interval sufficiently made up as to where they wd. settle to enable him to apportion the clergy to each, according to the wishes of each community. He then recommended voluntary aid to be given by the Ecclesiastical Fund until land-sales should swell that fund, as the remuneration was far lower than in the neighbouring settlements, and much too low. He also recommended the colonists to take into consideration the question of ecclesiastical and diocesan synods, a subject which was then occupying the minds of the clergy of the Australasian colonies. His Lordship concluded by expressing his cordial sympathy with the scheme and the individual colonists, and assured them of his earnest cooperation on their behalf.

The colonists in assistance of the small stipend paid out of the

Mr. Fitzgerald after moving the thanks of the meeting to the Bishop for his kind attendance at their meeting, explained to the satisfaction of his Lordship that the proposed alteration in the limits of the jurisdiction of the new Bishop of Lyttelton had been insisted on by Government and was opposed to the views of the Assocn.

Mr. Brittan secd. the motion and confirmed Mr. Fitzgerald's statement.

The immediate business of the day was then proceeded with. The Secretary received the voting papers from all present. Some discussion then took place as to the right of holders of duplicate land-orders for selection merely to vote for the owners represented by such land-orders.

The question was then put in terms and their appeared

Ayes	16
Noes	<u>11</u>

Majority 5 in the affirmative.

Voting papers were then received in accordance with this resolution and when all had been sent in

Mr. Perceval moved and Mr. Dampier seconded the motion "That a subcommittee of three gentlemen, Mr. Pollard, Mr. Wortley and Mr. Ward be appointed to examine the voting papers, and declare who are duly elected." This was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Fitzgerald moved secd. by Mr. Perceval and passed "That the council prepare rules and regulations for the government of the Society of Land-purchasers, and lay them before a special general meeting to be called for that purpose on Tuesday the 21st inst.

It having been mentioned that the choice of a Mr. Bradley ~~stood-in-the-way~~ remained unmade to the great inconvenience of all subsequent choosers. It was moved by Mr. Dampier secd. by Mr. Read and passed "That it is the opinion of this meeting that in consequence of Mr. Bradley's absence and in order that the selection of lands may proceed, a committee of 3 persons be appointed to make the selection for him on the faith of his maintaining the selection so made; and that the same committee be requested also to select for any other land-purchaser who may not have yet arrived in the Colony and who is not represented by agent.

This was agreed to and the following gentlemen were appointed upon this committee.

- Mr. Godley - Chief Agent
- Mr. Jollie - Asst. Surveyor
- Mr. E. G. Wakefield.

~~The-meeting-then-adjourned-~~

Mr. Dicken gave notice of a motion for the next general meeting respecting the name of the capital.

The meeting then adjourned to the 21st inst.

W.G. Brittan

Tuesday Jan 21. 1851 Adjourned General Meeting.

Mr. Brittan in the chair.

Mr. Ward presented the following report of the subcommittee for the election of a new Council.

"The subcommittee appointed by the General Meeting held on the 7th inst. to examine the voting papers and declare who were duly elected to serve on the Council, beg to report that they have found the following gentlemen duly elected.

Mr. W.G. Brittan
Burke
Cholmondeley
Dampier
Wm. Deans
Fitzgerald

Mr. Longden
Phillips
Watts Russell
Jas. Townsend
Tancred
Edwd. Ward

(Signed) Richd. Pollard)
Jas. Stuart Wortley)
E.R. Ward)

Jan. 7 1851

The adoption of the above report was then put and carried unanimously.

The Chairman read a draft of the proposed regulations of the Society of Land Purchasers which had been prepared and agreed to by the Council. He invited the attention of members to each clause seriatim, and desired that if amendments were wished by any member that notice of the same might be given at once.

Mr. Kingdon to clause 5 - moved gave notice that he wd. move as an amendment, that members should have the right of voting by proxy.

Mr. Perceval to clause 5 - gave notice that he wd. no representative of absentee move an amendment that ~~principals-alone-should-have-the-right~~ land-purchasers shall have, under any circumstances, ~~of-voting-on-questions-discussed-at-the-general-meetings,-and-~~ more than one vote. ~~that-no-agent-whateveer-should-have-a-vote.~~

Mr. Fitzgerald gave notice that in the event of the right of agents to have more than one vote being allowed, land-purchasers should have a vote for every he wd. move that ~~the-holder-of-several-sections-should-have~~ separate 50-acre section which they had bought. ~~a-vote-for-each.~~

Mr. Perceval gave notice that he wd. move "That the minutes of the Council be laid before the General Meeting ~~subsequent-to~~ next following the adoption of such proceedings by the Council."

Mr. Read moved seconded by Mr. ^{Fisher} Fisher "That the meeting at its rising should stand adjourned to this day fortnight (Tuesday the 4th prox) for further consideration of this

subject. The motion was carried.

Mr. Dicken then moved in pursuance of notice to that effect "That in consequence of the great inconvenience arising from the present confusion in the names of the Port-town and Capital, that this meeting are of opinion that the Port town be called "Port Victoria" and the capital "Lyttelton". Mr. Burke seconded the motion.

The Revd. Mr. Dudley moved as an amendment "That it is the opinion of the meeting that this town should retain the name of Lyttelton, and the capital the name of Christchurch."

Mr. Ward seconded the amendment.

The question was then put and there appeared

For the amendment	18
Against it	<u>8</u>

Majority in favour of amendment 10

Mr. Phillips then introduced the subject of the indiscriminate licenses granted by the Association for cutting timber and complained that the purchasers of land were injuriously affected by it.

After some discussion the meeting were found of opinion that the subject might ~~better-be-discuss~~ better entertained by the Council, and the Chairman on behalf of the council promised that it should have their immediate consideration.

The meeting then stood adjourned to Tuesday 4th Feb.

W.G.Brittan.

Adjourned General Meeting. Tuesday 4th Feb.

The consideration of the draft rules for the government of the Society was at once proceeded with.

Clause 1 having been read - the Revd. Mr. Dudley inquired whether it was intended that purchasers of land other than from the Association should be considered members. The question was put to the meeting and negatived; the word "shall" inserted before the words "have purchased" was agreed to, and the clause as amended was passed.

Clause 2 ~~was-agree~~ having been read - the following alteration was agreed to. "That agents or persons holding written authorities or powers of attorney be at liberty to exercise all the privileges of members, their principals being at such time absent from the settlement."

Mr. Ward moved and Mr. Wortley seconded as an amendment the insertion of the words "to vote" after the word "authorities".

The amendment was negatived

Clause 2 was then agreed to

Clauses 3 and 4 were agreed to.

Clause 5 being read the Revd. Mr. Puckle moved in the absence of Mr. Kingdon the amendment of which he had given notice.

"That members shd. have the right of voting by proxy."

Mr. Macfarlane seconded the amendment motion. The amendment was put and lost.

Mr. Perceval moved the amendment of which he had given notice. He subsequently modified it into the insertion of the following sentence "That no member shall under any circumstances have more than one vote." The amendment in this shape was agreed to.

Clauses 6, 7 & 8 were agreed to.

Clause 9 being read, Mr. Perceval withdrew the amendment of which he had given notice.

Mr. Brittan stated that the Council had considered the clause in connexion with Mr. Perceval's amendment and had resolved to modify one by the other. He moved the addition of the words "And shall present a report upon all such matters to every ordinary general meeting of the Society". Clause 9 with this addition was then agreed to.

Clause 10 was agreed to.

Clause 11 being read, Mr. Brittan moved the addition of the words "and that a balance-sheet of the receipts and expenditure be laid before each quarterly general meeting of the Society. This was agreed to as a separate clause.

The general question of the adoption of the report of the Council upon the rules of the Society was then put and carried unanimously. Mr. Fitzgerald moved, seconded by Mr. Dampier, that a printed copy of the amended rules be sent to every member of the Society. The motion was carried.

The meeting then separated.

James Edward Fitzgerald.

The following are the rules of the Society as finally amended and agreed to:-

} m/s heading above pasted-in sheet.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
of the
SOCIETY OF LAND-PURCHASERS IN THE CANTERBURY
SETTLEMENT

1. That the Society be composed solely of land-owners who shall have purchased land of the Canterbury Association. that all questions shall be decided by a majority of Members present; that no Member shall, under any circumstances, have more than one vote; and that the Chairman shall have the casting vote.
2. That agents, or persons holding written authorities, or powers of attorney, be at liberty to exercise all the privileges of Members, their principals being at such time absent from the Settlement.
3. That all Members register their names with the Secretary before they can take any part in the proceedings of the Society.
4. That a general Meeting of the Members be held four times at the least in every year, that is to say, on the first Thursday in the months of January, April, July and October; and that Special General Meetings may be called by the President, the Council or by the Secretaries upon a written requisition signed by ten Members of the Society. That 14 days' public notice of any such Special General Meeting be given in the Colony; and that the subjects for which such Meeting is called, be specified in such Notice; and that no other business be brought before such Meeting.
5. That at all General Meetings, fifteen Members shall form a quorum;
6. That at the First Ordinary General Meeting in each year, a President shall be elected, who shall hold office for one year, and shall be ex officio Chairman of the Council and of the General Meetings.
7. That the proceedings of the Society be conducted by a Council, consisting of twelve Members, to be elected at the first ordinary General Meeting in each year, who shall retain office until others be appointed; and in case any vacancies occur from death, resignation, non-residence within the Settlement, or from any other cause, that such vacancies shall be filled up at the next ordinary General Meeting.
8. That the President and the Council be elected by open voting, or by written voting-papers signed and witnessed; and that no person shall be eligible for election, whose name shall not have been publicly announced at least fourteen days before the day of election.
9. That the Council be empowered

to conduct all negotiations on the part of the Land-Purchasers, with the Canterbury Association, and with the Government, and become the organ of all communications in their behalf, expressing the collective views and sentiments of the Land-Purchasers, and shall present a report upon all such matters to every ordinary General Meeting of the Society.

10. That Meetings of the Council be held once a week, and that three be a quorum; and that a Special Meeting of the Council may be called by the President, or by any two of its Members: three days' notice of such Meeting having been given, either by circular, letter left at the ordinary place of residence, or by public advertisement in the Journals.

11. That all expenses of the Society be paid by a Rate to be voted at a General Meeting, and that any Member not having paid his share of the rate so voted, shall be disqualified from taking any part in the proceedings of the Society.

12. That a balance-sheet of the receipts and expenditure be laid before each Quarterly General Meeting of the Society.

Ordinary General Meeting. Held in the Land Office at Christchurch ~~Wednesday~~ Thursday the 3rd. April 1851.

On the motion of Mr. Dampier seconded by Mr. Dudley Mr. Fitzgerald was called to the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman said the principal object of the meeting was to proceed to the election of a President and Council according to their 6th and 7th rules. They were aware that in order to qualify members nominated for election it was necessary that their names and their intention to stand for the office should be published 14 days before the General Meeting. The names of the late Council had been published at the proper time - ~~with~~ and also that of Mr. Stuart Wortley who announced himself a candidate for the place vacated by the resignation of Mr. Cholmondeley - They were therefore ipso facto elected without any ~~additional~~ voting being now required, unless the Society were of opinion that it should not be so, in which case the proper course would be to move the adjournment of the meeting for 14 days to allow time for another election.

Mr. Read moved seconded by Mr. Dudley that the election of the late council with the substitution of Mr. Wortley's name for that of Mr. Cholmondeley be confirmed.

~~The-Chairman-said-that-~~

Mr. Willock and Mr. Shand objected to the election of Mr. Wortley, he being a minor.

The Chairman ~~said~~ reminded the meeting that Mr. Wortley's name being the only candidate for the vacant place who had fulfilled the terms prescribed by rule 7, it was not competent for anyone to object to his election now, but that anyone who desired it might effect his purpose by moving the adjournment of the meeting for 14 days.

No such motion being made, Mr. Dampier moved seconded by Mr. Ward "That Mr. Wortley notwithstanding the fact of his being under age if that shd. turn out to be so, be received as the representative of Lord Wharmcliffe a land-owner in this Colony, and that his vote on all occasions be received accordingly." This was put and passed.

The Chairman then announced that the election of Mr. Brittan to be President and the re-election of the late council with the substitution of Mr. Wortley's name for Mr. Cholmondeley, stood confirmed.

The Chairman then read the Quarterly Report of the Council.

On the reading of the clause relating to the estimate for completing the Sumner Road, Mr. Dampier as a member of the Council ~~dis~~claimed his concurrence with the clause so far as it pledged the Council to use any effort whatsoever to have it completed. He mentioned his fears of the practicability of the present line and his doubts of its ever being completed. He strongly recommended the colonists for the present to withdraw their attention from the road, and promote by every means in their power the development of the watercarriage between the Port and the plains.

Mr. Chas. Bishop was of opinion that preceding the development of either mode of communication through want of funds or otherwise the colonists should take measures to have the present footpath from Lyttelton to Christchurch rendered more passable - the expense of this would be trifling.

Mr. Shand thought that ~~increased~~ great benefit at a trifling expense wd. be secured by having proper access by the Ferry Road made into the heart of the town and thereupon moved seconded by Mr. Harman

- "1. That a communication be made to Mr. Godley requesting that a practicable communication for foot passengers and horses shd. be made from the terminus of the New Road to the Land Office at Christchurch, and
- 2. That an adequate conveyance be provided for horses across the ferry.

Mr. Fisher moved Mr. Read seconded as a rider to the foregoing resolution

"That the bridle-track be made practicable from the bridle-~~track~~ path to Christchurch.

The motion was put and ~~lost~~ carried (ERW). Mr. Burke moved as an amendment to the original motion seconded by Dr. Barker

"That a recommendation be made to Mr. Godley to make the road passable to Riccarton Bush from Christchurch, and that the making of this road should have precedence of all others.

The amendment was put and negatived.

The original motion was then put and carried.

The Chairman then brought forward the Report upon the present Pasturage regulations in the settlement drawn up by a sub-committee of the Council. ~~It was adopted.~~

The Chairman then read letters which had been received from Mr. Ward and the Hon. Stuart Wortley tendering their resignations of the office of Hon. Secretaries.

Mr. Dampier moved seconded by Mr. Puckle that the resignations be accepted; and that the warm thanks of the Society are due to ~~these-gentlemen~~ Mr. Ward and Mr. Wortley for their attention to and conduct of the business of the Society both here and in England."

The Chairman then alluded to the question of the appointment of a paid clerk to fulfil the duties of Secretary, as recommended in the Quarterly Report. He was happy to state that he had secured the services of a well-qualified gentleman who wd. consent to undertake the office. The appointment of a Clerk to the Council at a salary of £25 a year was then agreed to on the motion of Mr. Dampier, secd. by Mr. Ward.

Mr. Bowen moved Mr. Dampier seconded the motion "That a subscription of 5/- be required from every member of the Society for the expenses already incurred and estimated for the next six months.

On the motion of Mr. Puckle seconded by Mr. Ward, the following minute was agreed to

"The Society being informed that the office of landing-waiter in the Customs Department is still unfilled, the duties being only temporarily discharged by Mr. Ballard, and being of opinion that these duties have been discharged with efficiency as well as with great attention and courtesy to the colonists

Resolve

(1) "That Mr. Ballard be respectfully recommended to His Excellency the Governor in Chief for the permanent appointment to the situation which he now temporarily holds

(2) That a copy of this minute be communicated to Mr. Goulard the head of the Department in which Mr. Ballard is engaged.

The meeting then adjourned ~~to the 3rd of July~~

W.G. Brittan.

Special General Meeting of the Society of Land Purchasers.
Christchurch 25 June 1851

(Mr. Brittan in the Chair).

The Chairman announced that there were strong reasons to fear that the settlement had sustained an irreparable loss, by the melancholy death of Mr. Ward. The feeling of condolence was general.

The Clerk read the President's letter of June 9th requesting him to call a special general meeting "to take into consideration

the circumstances which had compelled nine members of the Council to tender their resignations and to take the necessary steps for the election of a new Council." This request was made in accordance with the fourth rule which was also read.

The President referred to Mr. Godley's letter published in the first number of "The Lyttelton Times" expressing his readiness to communicate with the Council on all subjects connected with the interests of the Land Purchasers, and stated that Mr. Godley had accordingly on April 18th informed the Council of certain facts respecting Mr. Dampier which had compelled him to have recourse to another professional adviser on the part of the Association. Mr. Dampier's letter of May 2nd in explanation was read to the meeting; the minutes of Council in reference to the same subject were also read. These minutes were considered libellous by Mr. Dampier, who expressed his determination to bring an action against the President of the Council; the majority of the members concurred in thinking Mr. Dampier bound to resign his seat if he pursued this intention, but as Mr. Dampier declined to resign, the majority had no alternative but to tender their resignations.

Mr. Alport moved the following resolutions -

- (1) That those resignations be accepted.
- (2) That the Council having been reduced to less than a quorum all the seats be considered vacant, and that a new Council of twelve members be elected.
- (3) That a special general meeting be called on Thursday July 10th for the purpose of electing a new President and Council.
- (4) That the election which was fixed for the 3rd July be postponed to the same day.

Mr. Dampier addressed the meeting in explanation of his conduct: he stated that his exposure of certain errors committed by the Association had drawn upon him the opposition of the Council, who had adopted some libellous minutes with reference to his conduct, and concluded by repating his intention to take legal proceedings against both the President and Mr. Fitzgerald.

Mr. Fitzgerald denied that the interests of the Council and the Land Purchasers could be antagonistic, as they had been represented by Mr. Dampier; he justified Mr. Godley's letter of April 18th and the subsequent proceedings of Council, who were determined to advance no individual interest to the prejudice of the common interest of the Colonists.

Mr. Percival seconded Mr. Alport's motion.

An objection was taken to the fourth resolution, on the grounds that every election must take place at an Ordinary meeting, and that no election could be held at the Special meeting on July 10th according to the Regulations.

To meet this objection it was suggested that the Ordinary meeting might be adjourned from the 3rd to the 10th.

The President put Mr. Alport's motion to the vote. 28 Gentlemen appeared in its favor; 11 Gentlemen declined to vote.

The meeting then adjourned.

W.G.Brittan.

Ordinary General Meeting of the Society of Land Purchasers.
Christchurch. Thursday July 3rd 1851.

No quorum was formed.

Special General Meeting of the Society of Land Purchasers.
Christchurch 10th July, 1851.

Mr.Willock was called to the Chair.

Mr. Brittan moved a further adjournment of the meeting for the purpose of electing a new President and Council, on the grounds that many Gentlemen interested in the election were possibly taken by surprise on the short notice allowed by the late resolutions of the Society.

Mr. Read seconded the motion which was carried, on the understanding that the meeting should not adjourn until due notice could be given of any motions to be submitted for the consideration of the next meeting.

Mr. Fitzgerald gave notice that he would move

"To consider what course may be best adopted to mitigate the evils of the existing Pasturage regulations, and to facilitate the introduction of stock into the settlement."

Mr. Brittan gave notice that he would move the addition of a 13th clause to the Rules and Regulations of the Society to the following effect.

"Clause 13. The Society reserves to itself the power of altering or adding to the above rules as circumstances may require, by a vote of any General or Special General Meeting, provided that due notice of such proposed alteration be given in accordance with the conditions required by Clause 4, and that it be confirmed by a majority of not less than two thirds of the whole number

of Registered members of the Society."

Mr. Bridge gave notice of a motion

"That no Land Purchaser in receipt of a yearly salary from the Association be eligible to sit in the council of Land Purchasers."

It was resolved that any Candidate for a seat in Council may give a written notice of his intention to the Clerk, 14 days before the election in compliance with the 8th Regulation, and that the notice so given be considered sufficient.

The Clerk was ordered to advertise the names of all gentlemen who were qualified by due notice to offer themselves for election.

The meeting then adjourned to Monday the 28th instant.

W.G.Brittan.

Special General Meeting of the Society of Land Purchasers.
Christchurch 28 July 1851.

Mr. Templar was called to the Chair.

The last minutes of the last meeting were read.

Mr. Bridge moved "That no Land Purchaser in receipt of a yearly salary from the Association be eligible to sit in the Council of Land Purchasers." Mr. Pollard seconded the motion, which was put to the meeting and lost.

Mr. Fitzgerald called on the Clerk to read a letter received from Mr. Godley on the subject of pasturage regulations with an enclosed copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Godley to Mr. Aitken stating the terms on which he was prepared to let sheep-runs. These letters having been read, on the motion of Mr. Fitzgerald it was

Resolved^{1.} That it is of the highest importance to this settlement to encourage the importation of stock which has already commenced and which is certain to proceed extensively if circumstances be favorable to its reception.

2. That the pasturage regulations recently issued by Government offer runs on far more advantageous terms than those of the Canterbury Association, and will therefore tend to abstract pastoral capital from this settlement to other parts of New Zealand.

3. That in order to meet the difficulties which these circumstances have produced, some steps of a temporary and provisional kind ought to be taken until a final and satisfactory settlement of the whole question shall have been made, by an alteration in the Act of Parliament, into which the present regulations have been unfortunately incorporated.
4. That the plan proposed by Mr. Godley in his letter to the Council of June 1st being understood to be such as will satisfy the importers of stock, is approved of, though necessarily imperfect, as a provisional arrangement.
5. That in the opinion of this meeting it is of the highest importance that any alteration in the existing Act of Parliament should provide that the regulation of all pastoral questions should be left in future to a local authority.
6. That the Council be instructed to transmit a copy of these resolutions by the earliest opportunity to the Managing Committee of the Canterbury Association.

On the motion of Mr. Aitken, it was

Resolved That a period of nine months should be allowed for the stocking of runs, and that horses should be provided for in their relative value as a portion of stock.

Mr. Brittan moved the addition of a new clause to the Rules of the society, viz. "The Society reserves to itself the power of altering or adding to the above rules as circumstances may require, by a vote of any General or Special General meeting, provided that due notice of such proposed alteration be given in accordance with the conditions required by Clause 4, and that it be confirmed by a majority of not less than two thirds of the whole number of the Registered Members of the Society." The motion was put and carried X

Letters were read from Mr. Phillips and Mr. Dampier who protested against the election of more than ten members of Council on the grounds that they had not resigned their seats.

The Clerk was ordered to advertise the result of the election at the first opportunity.

The Meeting then adjourned until Thursday October 2nd.

X Mr. Willock gave notice of an intention to move an amendment to the 10th Rule by the insertion of the following clause immediately following the word "Quorum":- "Provided always that for the transaction of any business expressive of the wishes of the Land Purchasers it be necessary that a clear majority of the Members present shall be unconnected by official ties with the Canterbury Association, or the Association's Agent or Agents."

Mr. Pollard gave notice of his intention to move at the next Quarterly General Meeting the revision of the suffrage from the election of members of Council.

W.G.Brittan.

Lyttelton, June 1st 1851.

Sir,

I beg you will lay before the Council a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Mr. Aitken. If the Colonists approve of it I will ratify it by a formal agreement, and act in a similar manner towards other persons applying for pastoral runs. It may be necessary to add that a condition should be appended to all such agreements to the effect that within six months the run shall be stocked, and I suggest that a run shall be considered as stocked, if one breeding ewe for every twenty acres or one head of breeding cattle for every 120 acres, be placed upon it. In my letter to Mr. Aitken no such condition was mentioned, because I knew his run to be already stocked. My opinion as to the absolute necessity of immediately relaxing the strictness of our pasturage regulations is well known to the Council, and, I believe, fully participated in by the Colonists. I am aware that the plan now proposed by me is anything but satisfactory, but Mr. Aitken and other stockholders are content to accept it as a provisional arrangement, and it is the best I can become a party to without danger to myself.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Edward Wright Esquire
Clerk to the Council of Land
Purchasers.

John Robert Godley A.C.A.

Lyttelton May 27 1851.

Sir,

I have had under consideration your application to take a run of 20000 acres at a gradually increasing rent, and in reply beg to explain the terms on which I am prepared to meet your wishes as nearly as I can.

I will undertake not to give during the next seven years to any person not having a legal right to demand it, occupation of the run which you apply for on condition that you engage to take at the ordinary rent, and in conformity with the general regulations, as much land as will produce £10 at the commencement of the first year, £20 the second, £40 the third, £70 the fourth and £100 at the commencement of the fifth year. I am advised that no person has a legal right to demand occupation of a particular district for pastoral purposes, except purchasers of rural lands, who have a right to five acres of pasturage for every acre of freehold. I am prepared therefore to refuse to any other persons than such purchasers license to departure on any part of the 20,000 acres applied for by you unless compelled to do so by legal process. Perhaps it would be as well for additional security that you should make a conditional offer

to the effect that if another person apply for any part of your run you will step in and take the part applied for. It is for you to consider whether this be advisable.

I have the honor to be etc.

John Robert Godley A.C.A.

J.C.Aitken Esqr.

P.S. It may be necessary to warn you that the above arrangement, being not in accordance with the views intended to be carried out by the Pasturage Regulations of the Canterbury Association, must be subject to confirmation by the Association to whom it shall be transmitted.

Extract from the Lyttelton Times of August 2 1851.

The following gentlemen have been elected members of the Council of the Society of land purchasers.

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| W.G.Brittan, Chairman. | J.Longden |
| J.C.Aitken | R.Pollard |
| A.C.Basker | J.C.W.Russell |
| C.Bowen | H.J.Tancred |
| W.B.Bray | J. Townsend |
| J.E.Fitzgerald | J.S.Wortley |

Lyttelton July 29, 1851.

Edward Wright, Clerk to the Council.

CHRISTCHURCH OCTOBER 2 1851

Ordinary General Meeting of the Society of Land Purchasers.

1. The Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting of 3rd April and of the Special General Meetings of 25th June and 3rd July were read and confirmed.

2. The Report of the Council was read: The several documents referred to in this report were also read: namely:-

(1) A letter, dated June 11th from the Colonial Secretary in reply to the Minute of the General Meeting of the 3rd April recommending Mr. Ballard to the office of Landing Waiter at Lyttelton.

(2) A letter ~~was read~~ dated 18th August from the Council to the Colonial Secretary in reference to the appointments to Public Offices in the settlement.

(3) A reply to the last-mentioned letter, from the Colonial Secretary, dated September 2nd.

(4) The Memorial sent from the Legislative Council of New Zealand for presentation to Her Majesty praying Her Majesty not to extend the Canterbury Block.

(5) The Counter Memorial prepared by the Council of the Society for presentation to Her Majesty and both Houses of Parliament.

The Report was adopted unanimously.

3. Upon the reading of the Memorial from the Council upon the motion of Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Willock, it was resolved -

That the Memorial as now adopted be transmitted

(1) to his Excellency with a respectful request that his Excellency would be pleased to transmit it for presentation to Her Majesty:

(2) That similar Memorials be sent to England for presentation to the two Houses of Parliament and that Lord Lyttelton be requested to present it in the Lords and Mr. Adderley to the Commons.

4. Mr. Willock's motion, of which notice was given on 28th July was brought forward as follows:-

"That for the transaction of any business expressive of the wishes of the Land Purchasers, it should be necessary that a clear majority of the members

FitzGerald
* This is the first time the name is spelled in this way in the minutes book

present should be unconnected by official ties with the Canterbury Association or its Agents."

A debate ensued, but, upon the Chairman stating that there not being two thirds of the registered Members of the Society present, no new law could be passed, the motion was withdrawn.

5. Mr. Pollard's motion the subject of a revision of the suffrage for the election of members of Council (of which notice was given on 28th July) was withdrawn for the same reason as Mr. Willock's.

6. Mr. Harman called the attention of the Society to the intended Road between Christchurch and Papanui; he stated that if made in two particular spots, the wood would become immediately accessible.

7. Mr. E. G. Wakefield mentioned that Mr. ^{Sfordart} ~~Stoddart~~ had lately discovered on his run a substance strongly resembling coal; he recommended that the Society should dispatch a practical person to the spot with a view of ascertaining the possibility of its being worked.

8. Mr. Bishop complained that the Road was being made into the heart of Christchurch with a wide ditch on both sides, by which the houses were completely cut off and every inhabitant put to the necessity and expense of making a bridge to his house.

Mr. Dobson moved that Mr. Godley's attention be called to the matter, with a view of ascertaining whether the road was being made in the manner most conducive to the interests of the town.

This was agreed to and the meeting then dissolved.

W.G.Brittan.

53

Special General Meeting of the Society of
Land Purchasers, Christchurch Decr. 6 1851.

1. The President informed the Meeting that they had been called together by the Council for the purpose of considering the report of the Select Committee appointed to report upon the best means of communication between the Port and the Plains.
2. The report was then read by the Clerk to the Council.
3. Upon the motion of Revd. O. Matthias seconded by Mr. Read, it was resolved:

"That this meeting having considered the report of the Council on the best means of communication between the Port and the Plains, decide on adopting the same."

4. Mr. I. Cookson then moved:-

"That a requisition be forwarded to Mr. Godley desiring him to call public meetings of all the inhabitants of the settlement, at Christchurch and Lyttelton, at an early day, to take the report into consideration"

Mr. C.W. Bishop seconded the resolution which was carried unanimously.

5. Mr. E. Wakefield then proposed:-

"That the thanks of the Society be presented to the Members of the Select Committee of the Council for the very able and complete manner in which they have inquired and reported as to the best means of communication between the Port and the Plains.

The motion was seconded by Mr. I. Cookson and carried. Mr. Brittan took upon himself to return thanks on behalf of the Committee and expressed his opinion that the thanks of the Select Committee were due to those gentlemen who had so materially assisted them in their investigation, by giving their evidence upon the subject.

The meeting then separated.

W.G. Brittan.

54

Ordinary General Meeting of the Society of Land
Purchasers, Christchurch, Jan. 1st 1852.

1. The Minutes of the Special Meeting of July 28th and December 6th and of the quarterly meeting of Oct. 2nd were read and confirmed.

2. The report of the Council on resigning office together with the documents referred to therein was read, and on the motion of Mr. G. Bishop seconded by Capt. Westerman, adopted. [Westerman]

3. Mr. Pollard brought forward the subject of the revision of the franchise of the Society by moving the following resolution: "That the Council be requested to take into consideration the present organisation of the Society, with a view to an extension of its franchise, and to report thereon with as little delay as possible." Mr. Davis seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

4. On proceeding to the election of a new President and Council, a discussion took place as to whether the Society were acting, in strict conformity with their Rules, in electing a President when no person had been publicly mentioned as being a candidate for the office.

Mr. Bourn moved and Mr. Barker seconded "that the meeting do proceed at once to the election of a President." As an amendment Mr. Fitzgerald proposed, supported by Revd. O. Matthias that "the meeting do adjourn for three weeks to allow the names of candidates for the office of President to be proposed." The amendment was carried.

Mr. Brittan stated that Captain Simeon had withdrawn his name from the list of candidates for seats on the Council, and that consequently the remaining twelve candidates were elected as a matter of course.

The meeting then separated.

W.G. Brittan.

Extract from the Lyttelton Times of Jan. 10th 1852.

"The following gentlemen have been duly elected as Members of the Council of the Society of Land Purchasers for the present year."

Messrs. Alport	Messrs. C. Dudley
Barker	J.E. Fitzgerald
Bowen	Longden
Bray	Russell
Brittan	Tancred
I. Cookson	Townsend.

R.J.S. Harman, Clerk to the Council

Christchurch Jan. 22 1852.

The meeting adjourned from the 1st inst.,
met in accordance with the notice, and Mr. Brittan
was duly elected as President of the Society.

W.G. Brittan.

{This is the final entry in the Minute-Book}

Quarterly Report of the Council to the General Meeting.

The Council have the honour to report that since the last General Meeting, several important questions relating to the prosperity of the settlement have come before them.

1. They have requested Mr. Godley to furnish them with an estimate of the expense of completing the whole road from Lyttelton to the Ferry over the Heathcote, and as soon as they shall have received that estimate, they propose applying themselves seriously to the task of ascertaining whether any plan may be devised for completing the road as speedily as possible. The Society is aware that the amount of land hitherto sold by the Association has not supplied funds sufficient for the purpose: the council are of opinion that it would be highly impolitic to wait until funds may arise from that source, before making an effort to finish the road. The accomplishment of this great work, so that there may be at all times a safe and certain communication between the port and the plains, will probably exercise a more powerful influence than anything else upon the rapid development of the resources of the colony.

The council forbear at present to suggest any plan by which this may be effected; but they conceive that the prospective land sales, which cannot be materially increased by the completion of the road, - the surplus of the public revenue above the expenditure, which the council have reason to believe is even already accumulating with considerable rapidity; and the tolls which may be imposed on the traffic passing along the road when finished, offer three sources of security, all of which may be made collaterally available for the repayment of any sums of money which it may be necessary to borrow in order to finish the road.

As soon as the council are prepared with a definite plan, they will lose no time in laying it before the land-purchasers, and if necessary, will call a special meeting for that purpose.

2. The Council have also taken into their consideration the whole question of the pasturage regulations of the Association. They appointed a special committee to draw up a report on the subject. This report was adopted, and has been forwarded to Mr. Godley. The council now lay the report upon the table for the perusal of any of the members of the society, and especially invite the attention of those who are interested in the pasturage of the district, to the recommendations which the council have made to the Association. The council confidently anticipate that this report, having been prepared with great care, and with the advice of those who are most experienced in such matters, will meet with general approval by the land-purchasers.

Since, however, the carrying into effect these recommendations involves the passing of a new Act of Parliament

for the purpose. Some time must necessarily elapse before the colonists can know the result.

3. The council having had their attention directed to the subject of the cutting of timber in the bushes belonging to the Association, thought right to communicate with Mr. Godley on the subject, and the arrangements which have been made in consequence meet with their approval. These arrangements provided in the first instance free license to all parties to cut timber for firewood and building purposes without any charge whatever. This was done with the view of affording every assistance to the first body of settlers to get temporary dwellings erected with as little delay as possible. Three months free license seemed, however, sufficient for this purpose. The peculiar circumstances requiring it have now in a great measure passed; and it being found that the woods of the settlement, (which from their limited extent require great care in their preservation) were being cut to great waste, overrun by idle and dissolute characters, and the free licences becoming in a great measure monopolised by men who made a trade of them, realizing considerable profits, without in any material degree lessening the price of timber to the consumer, it has been determined, and the council think wisely, to charge in future a moderate sum for such licences.

The council have been given to understand that this measure has already had a beneficial effect in clearing the woods of many bad characters, and in checking the wanton cutting and waste of timber; and whilst it has not been followed by any sensible increase in the market price of timber, it promises to afford a certain increase to the revenues and resources of the Association.

It has been, however, matter for consideration whether the present charge being made for the licences, one pound per month for each man, be not too high, and the Council have reason from representations which have been made on this head, that after present month the charge will be reduced to 10s. per month for each licence.

4. The question of the dues charged for wharfage by the Association also came before the council. Dues were being levied upon all goods landed or taken to sea from any part of the sea wall in front of the town of Lyttelton. The council were of opinion that it was right and necessary that some charge should be made sufficient to keep these public premises in repair, but that there should be one place at which persons should be able to land small goods free of any charge. Mr. Godley upon a communication to this effect from the council, immediately set apart a place opposite one of the slips, as a public landing place, and the council are satisfied that this is the best arrangement which can be made.

5. The next point which the council have had under their notice, is that of the ecclesiastical arrangements which have been made.

The council are commissioned to express on the part of the bishop designate of the settlement his great regret that he was unable to meet the society during his brief stay in the colony. A special meeting was called for the purpose on the 11th inst. but the violence of the weather, and the state of the roads, rendered it impossible to be held. The object, however, for which the bishop designate came out, has been accomplished. The school and college have been set on foot, with such temporary accommodation as could be obtained in so early a stage of the colony. Arrangements have been made for the performance of the Church Services in the most populous places, and above all, Dr. Jackson has concerted such measures with the Bishop of New Zealand, as it is confidently expected will remove the difficulties which stood in the way of his consecration before he left England.

6. The council have taken such steps as will lead to the establishment of public reading rooms at Christchurch and Lyttelton. They recommend that there should be public reading rooms which all subscribers shall be entitled to avail themselves. They will be supplied with newspapers and periodicals from England and the neighbouring colonies to the extent which the number of subscribers will admit of. Mr. Godley has placed rooms at the disposal of the council for the purpose. At Christchurch in the land offices, and at Lyttelton in that part of the Emigration Barracks which is about to be set apart for the college. It is hoped that the books presented to the colonists in London, which they gave to the college library as well as those presented immediately to the College library will be placed in the reading rooms and be at the services of the subscribers; under such regulations, however, as the college authorities may consider it necessary to enforce, for the safe custody of the volumes committed to their trust.

The council have prepared, and annexed to this report, an account of the expences which they have incurred since the last general meeting, together with an estimate of those which it is thought they will have to meet during the next six months. In this estimate the Society will perceive an item amounting to 12l.10s. for the services of a clerk. The council are of opinion that the appointment of such an office has become absolutely necessary.

The secretaries have been compelled to resign, nor can any one be expected, without adequate remuneration, to give up his time upon which there is so large a demand at this active period, to attend efficiently to the business of the society. The council therefore recommend the appointment of a clerk to the council at a salary of 25l. a year, and they have reason to believe that they shall be able to obtain the services of a

gentleman in every way most competent for the task,

For this purpose the council recommend that a subscription of 5s. be levied upon every member of the society for the expenses of the next six months.

The council in conclusion would press upon every member of the society that upon their active and regular attention to the public affairs of the society, will depend the influence which the colonists will be able to exercise in the attempt to gain a municipal government in the settlement.

That the colonists have well and wisely managed all their affairs already within their control, and that they have cheerfully contributed the funds requisite for the purpose, will afford the strongest evidence of their ability to undertake the direction of all the local affairs of the colony.

On behalf of the Council,

W.G.Brittan, Chairman.

Appendix. - Estimate of expenses of the Society for the six months ending October 3rd, 1851.

	£. s. d.
Expenses incurred since the last General Meeting	1.11. 0.
Printing and Stationary	5. 0. 0.
Salary of Clerk to the Council	<u>12.10.0.</u>
	19. 1. 0.

[End of newspaper clipping]

