

MR. WESTGARTH'S PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS.

" 1. That the Colonies are the source of great commercial and social advantage to the parent country, and largely contribute to the influence and greatness of the Empire.

" 2. That, on the other hand, the rights of Imperial citizenship, Imperial supervision, influence and example, and Imperial commerce and resources, promote all the best interests of the Colonies; and that they, on their part, are not wanting in a loyal appreciation of their beneficial relationship.

" 3. That the practical independence of a representative and responsible local Government, lately conceded to each of the principal Colonies, alike at their own instance, and with the ready concurrence of the Imperial authorities, was most certainly never intended to weaken the connection with the parent state, but, on the contrary, to strengthen it by the increased loyalty and contentment arising from a more suitable political condition; and that in this respect this judicious policy has been attended with complete success.

" 4. That under this new system it is only equitable that these so self-governed colonies should defray entirely their own respective charges; provided always that claims and responsibilities, if any, attaching to the preceding régime be first satisfactorily disposed of; and that this financial independence has, in fact, with a very few exemptions, which it may be hoped are only temporarily such, either been already completely attained, or is just on the eve of attainment.

" 5. That New Zealand is one of these exceptional cases, the preceding régime having bequeathed to it a heritage of costly difficulties with the native question in the northern island; and that the indiscriminate and immediate application of the new policy to that colony's special case is a proceeding at once impolitic and unjust as towards a portion of the common empire, and that threatens, if persisted in, to involve its limited resources in most serious financial difficulties.

" 6. That the late correspondence of Her Majesty's Colonial Secretary on the New Zealand question is most unsatisfactory, not only by a refusal, in terms of most unwonted discourtesy, of the aid of the general Government, in no matter what circumstances applied for, to restore the Queen's authority in the colony, but by the strange doctrine left to be inferred, that rebellion and massacre in one part of the Queen's dominions are no concern of the central power, but only of those of the Queen's subjects who are upon