

their houses into the streets, unless the municipal authorities provided sewers to carry away the drainage? The clause must remain inoperative until that was done.

MR. SHENTON said the object of the bill was to make provision in view of the adoption hereafter of a system of public sewers. A similar clause already existed in the Municipalities Act.

The clause was then agreed to.

Clauses 19, 20, and 21:

Agreed to, *sub silentio*.

Clause 22—"Every public building which shall be built in any municipality, after this Act shall come into operation, shall be constructed with doors opening outwards from the said building, and so that there may be rapid and easy exit from such building in the event of fire, panic, or any other similar cause."

MR. S. H. PARKER observed that the clause only applied to buildings that may be built after the Act came into operation. There were several public buildings in Perth and Fremantle now, the doors of which did not open outwards, and, if a panic occurred when any of these buildings were crowded, the result would be disastrous. It would not be a matter of great expense to have the doors of these buildings altered, so as to open outwards, so as to comply with the requirements of this clause.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) said the matter referred to had not escaped attention, and if the hon. member would look at the 24th clause he would find that if the Director of Public Works should be of opinion that any public building, whether built before or after the coming into operation of this Act, was improperly constructed so as not to afford rapid and easy exit, the Director of Works was authorised to prohibit such building from being used until it was made fit for public use.

The clause was then put and passed.

Clauses 23 to 38:

Agreed to, without discussion.

Clause 39.—Chimneys of manufactories, mills, etc., to be constructed and used so as not to be a nuisance:

MR. MARMION said the clause appeared to him rather vaguely worded. Who was to be the judge of whether a chimney shaft was a public nuisance?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) imagined that the neighbors would be the best judges as to whether a chimney was a nuisance, and, if they felt themselves aggrieved, they would probably lay their grievance before the town council, who were empowered to make by-laws and regulations dealing with this and other nuisances.

The clause was then agreed to.

The remaining clauses of the bill elicited no discussion.

Title and preamble agreed to.

Bill reported.

WINES, BEER, AND SPIRITS SALE ACT, 1880, AMENDMENT BILL.

The order of the day for the third reading of this bill being read,

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) moved that the order be discharged and the bill recommitted, with the view of introducing some verbal amendments.

Motion agreed to.

IN COMMITTEE.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) moved several verbal amendments, all of which were agreed to, *sub silentio*.

Bill, as amended, reported.

The House adjourned at half-past four o'clock, p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Wednesday, 3rd September, 1884.

Police Benefit Fund Ordinance Amendment Bill: first reading—Governor's Salary Bill: first reading—Presbyterian Church Bill: Refund of Fee paid for introduction of—Estimates, 1885: further considered in committee—Cattle Trespass Act, 1882, Amendment Bill: third reading—Wines, Beer, and Spirits Sale Act, 1880, Amendment Bill: third reading—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at seven o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

**POLICE BENEFIT FUND ORDINANCE
AMENDMENT BILL.**

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) moved the first reading of a Bill to amend the Police Benefit Fund Ordinance.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

GOVERNOR'S SALARY BILL.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) moved the first reading of a Bill intituled an Act to supplement the Governor's Salary.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

**REFUND OF £10 PAID FOR PRESBY-
TERIAN CHURCH BILL.**

IN COMMITTEE.

MR. RANDELL, in accordance with notice, moved, "That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, praying that he will be pleased to place on the Estimates the sum of £10, to be paid to the commissioners or other officers of the Presbyterian Church, Perth, as a refund to them of the amount paid for the introduction of the bill to incorporate certain officers of the Presbyterian Church." The hon. member said the bill in question, which had been introduced by the hon. member for Perth, was very different from a private bill introduced by a trading company; and a very different principle was here involved from that of State aid to religion—at any rate it was so remote that he could not connect the two.

The motion was agreed to, *nem. con.*

ESTIMATES, 1885.

The House then went into committee upon the Estimates for 1885.

Governor's Establishment, Item £543 16s. 8d.:

Agreed to, without comment.

Legislative Council, Item £975:

Agreed to, without comment.

Colonial Secretary's Department, Item £1,669; *Treasury Department*, Item £1,315; *Audit Department*, Item £1,260:

Agreed to, without discussion or comment.

Survey Department, Item £16,683:

THE HON. J. G. LEE STEERE said he regretted it fell to his place, occupying the position he did in the House, to take exception to the first item in this department—a proposed increase of £100 in the salary of the Surveyor General. He thought the present salary of that officer (£600), with his forage and travelling allowance (£150), was as much as ought to be given to him. It certainly was not the intention of the House, last session, when it moved in the matter of increasing the salaries of public servants, that these increases should extend to the heads of departments, but rather to the lower grades of the service, and, under the circumstances, he felt it his duty to move, That this item of £100 be struck out.

The committee thereupon divided, when the numbers were—

Ayes	...	...	14
Noes	...	...	6
Majority for			8

AYES.

Mr. Burt
Mr. Crowther
Mr. Davis
Mr. Grant
Sir L. S. Lenke, Kt.
Mr. Loton
Mr. Marmion
Mr. McRae
Mr. S. S. Parker
Mr. S. H. Parker
Mr. Randall
Mr. Shenton
Mr. Venn
Hon. J. G. Lee Steere
(Teller.)

NOES.

Hon. A. P. Hensman
Mr. Mason
Mr. Clyde
Mr. Hamersley
Mr. Higham
Hon. M. Fraser (Teller)

The amendment was therefore carried.

MR. SHENTON asked for some explanation as to a new item appearing on the vote—"Inspector of Plans and Surveys, £230."

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) said that an officer was very much required to receive and inspect the work of the surveyors employed in the field, and this was the provision made for it. When not employed at office work he would be available for field work, but it was not proposed to give him any forage allowance. It was proposed to give the appointment to Mr. Brooking. Hon. members must expect, as settlement extended, to find the vote of this department expand. He believed that, with the means at its disposal, the department was doing more

work than any similar department in the Australian colonies.

MR. CROWTHER said it might be something new to the head of the department, but the general feeling outside was that in the Survey Office, as in many other departments, kissing went by favor. He believed there were officers in the department of many years standing who had not received any increases, although well deserving of it, while others seemed to be born to increases, or, if not born to it, had increases thrust upon them.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) said he did his best to recognise individual merit, but it was not always possible to give an officer what he really deserved.

THE HON. J. G. LEE STEERE referring to the item for field surveys, said he thought a larger vote ought to be provided for surveys in the central districts of the colony. He noticed that the total vote for surveys for next year was £9,400, which it was proposed to distribute as follows: Central Districts, £2,000; Kimberley District, £3,000; Gascoyne and Fortescue, £2,000; Robe and DeGrey Rivers, £1,000; Eucla, £1,000; and Geological, £400. He thought it was time they voted a larger sum for the Central Districts of the colony. The surveys in these districts had been starved of late years, in order to admit of surveys in other parts of the colony being carried out.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) quite agreed that the sum put down for the Central Districts was not at all adequate to meet the work, but it was just a question of ways and means. He was altogether unable to propose any alteration in the proposed distribution of the vote. It must be admitted that it would look bad if we were to discontinue the surveys commenced in the Kimberley District; and he did not think any smaller sum than £3,000 would be of any good. This would enable him to keep the survey parties in the field for a considerable time next year. They had the horses and necessary equipments now in the district, and it would be a mistake, he thought, to withdraw them; and, if temporarily abandoned, the horses would get wild and the equipment out of order. The surveys on the Gascoyne and For-

tescue Rivers were much required, and he believed would prove a reproductive work. It was intended to connect the triangulation of the North-West with the triangulation of this part of the colony. It was also very necessary that the surveys on the Robe and the DeGrey should be proceeded with. As to Eucla, we were receiving a large revenue from that district—something like £9,000 was received last year—and nothing was done in return. This item was struck off the Estimates last year, and he hoped it would be allowed to remain now. There was no townsite yet laid out in the district, and in fact nothing whatever had been done in the way of surveys except what was done by Mr. Price when surveying the telegraph line. The Geological Vote (£400), he regretted to say, was intended to wind up this most desirable work. This amount was to provide for the passage back to England of Mr. Hardman, and to cover the cost of preparing his report.

MR. MARMION thought most hon. members would agree it was very desirable to increase the vote for the central districts. The Kimberley vote was no doubt very necessary, as also the Gascoyne and Fortescue vote; and the Robe river and the DeGrey surveys were also, he believed, very necessary works to be undertaken. But as for Eucla, he hoped the Surveyor General would see his way clear to strike that out, for the present. He thought a small sum like £1,000 would be of very little service in a district so remote from head quarters, and that it would be better to wait until we can afford to vote some £4,000 or £5,000, to carry out a systematic survey of the district.

MR. VENN was afraid the Eucla district was not very strongly represented in that House. If it would look bad, as they were told it would, not to proceed with the Kimberley surveys, as it might create an unfavorable impression outside the colony, he thought it would look still worse to neglect the Eucla district altogether, as they were now doing. For his own part he should be inclined to advocate that the sum intended for Kimberley should be added to the Eucla vote, and so give that long-neglected district a turn. The early settlers of the Nicol Bay district got on very well without any

surveys for some years after the district was settled, and he thought the Kimberley district might do very well for the present, and be content with the surveys already carried out there.

Mr. McRAE thought the surveys in the Kimberley district were getting ahead of settlement. There were only some fourteen settlers in the whole district, and he noticed that, if this item passed, something like £11,500 will have been expended in surveys in the district within three years. He thought they might leave the Kimberley surveys alone for a season. He did not suppose the equipments would take much harm, if left in charge of the Government Resident, and the horses belonging to the survey parties now in the field might be utilised by the police. He thought there were other works in the Kimberley district more necessary than surveys.

Mr. BURT thought that when they heard one of the representatives of the district admitting that surveys there were getting ahead of settlement, it was time to consider whether this money could not be devoted to other surveys which were more required. He thought they had been voting money year after year out of all proportion for this Kimberley district, and doing so at the expense of the more settled districts. As to Eucla, the necessity for commencing surveys in that district must be apparent to everyone. The lessees were put to great expense in the way of water conservation, and it might be that, after expending large sums in sinking wells and making dams on what they conceived to be their own runs, they might find they had been sinking wells and making dams on somebody's else runs. He was in a position to state that the want of surveys in the Eucla district was very seriously felt in that district. As to the desirability of voting more for surveys in the Central districts of the colony, where settlement was more advanced, everybody must admit that this was a work of the utmost importance on many grounds. The want of surveys very much hampered lessees and others who wanted to raise money for improvements, and who, in some cases, were unable to get their titles from the Crown owing to the land not having been surveyed. What he should like would be to see the Kimberley vote

(£3,000) struck out, and equally divided between the Central districts and Eucla.

THE SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. J. Forrest) could not recommend the committee to do that. The case as regards Eucla stood thus: it was an open plain country, containing no land marks, and all that would be done would have to be done by chain, and what he proposed to do with the £1,000 was to send a surveyor and a party down there by one of our own steamers to lay out a township, and to run the boundary line between our own colony and South Australia, and also to fix the position of some of the water places in the neighborhood of Eucla. It would be a very valuable work so far as it went, and he did not think they would be in a position to do any more next year, so that the sum asked for would be hoped do all they were likely to be able to accomplish. With reference to surveys in the Kimberley district, of course if the money was not voted there was an end of it. It was a very extensive territory, and a large portion of it, even on the western side of the Leopold Range, yet remained to be surveyed. As to the country eastward of the range they knew hardly anything about it, except from exploration, and he believed it would be found to be a most valuable territory. He thought it would be very desirable hereafter to extend our surveys to the neighborhood of Cambridge Gulf, which there was every reason to hope would prove very fine country indeed. As to the Nicol Bay settlers having managed to do very well without surveys in the early days of settlement, there was no doubt in the world they did do very well. There were not many of them, and they were not over-weighted with wealth, and possibly did not care to have their district too well known. They had not much security it was true without surveys, but it saved them a great many pounds in rent, the whole of the country being comparatively unknown; and a lessee who was only paying for 10,000 acres might, for all the Government knew, be using 100,000 acres. The first surveys undertaken in the district opened their eyes a little, and the subsequent surveys, made in 1878, opened them altogether. He hoped the committee would allow the votes to remain as they stood. Of course if hon.

members insisted on striking out Kimberley, the surveys could not be proceeded with at all. If they reduced the vote from £3,000 to £2,000 he would do the best he could with it; but he hoped the committee would be guided by him in the matter and leave the votes as they were.

MR. GRANT would be very sorry indeed to see the vote for the Kimberley surveys crippled in any way, knowing as he did that it was the very best portion of our estate. He thought the work of exploration and survey should be continuously carried on there, so far as our means will admit. Hon. members must not forget the sugar lands in this part of our territory, which he hoped to see populated by thousands in the course of a few years: and he thought it most desirable we should have the fullest possible information with regard to these lands. It was also known that gold had been discovered in the Ord river district, and he should be very sorry indeed to see the surveyors withdrawn from this part of the colony. As to the pioneer settlers at the North-West having been able to get along well enough without surveys, they had millions of acres to settle upon, and he assured the House they were not very particular in those days whether they had 20,000 or 100,000 acres under lease. They could afford to be liberal towards each other, and the result was there was nothing but good-fellowship among them. He quite concurred with the Surveyor General's estimate of the Cambridge Gulf country; he believed it would be found to be the best part of our territory. The Duracks—and he had every confidence in what they said—told him they had never seen superior country in their life, or a better watered country. In fact there was no knowing what this portion of our territory would be worth a few years hence, and he should be very sorry to see the vote for surveys reduced one penny.

THE HON. J. G. LEE STEERE said it seemed to him hon. members appeared to think a great deal more of those who were to come hereafter than of those who were already here. There seemed to be a desire to treat newcomers with a great deal more consideration than settlers of long standing, and he hoped the committee would not consent to any further ex-

penditure upon surveys in the Kimberley District this year. The money would be well spent if added to the vote for the settled districts of the colony, where the surveys, as he had already said, were starved.

MR. VENN thereupon moved, That the item "Kimberley District, £3,000," be struck out.

The committee divided, with the following result—

Ayes	...	...	10
Noes	...	...	11

Majority against 1

AYES.	NOES.
Mr. Burt	Hon. M. Fraser
Mr. Higham	Hon. A. P. Hensman
Mr. Lofton	Mr. Mason
Mr. McRae	Mr. Crowther
Mr. S. S. Parker	Mr. Davis
Mr. S. H. Parker	Mr. Glyde
Mr. Randell	Mr. Grant
Mr. Shenton	Mr. Hamersley
Mr. Venn	Sir L. S. Lenke, Kt.
Hon. J. G. Lee Steere	Mr. Marmion
(Teller).	Hon. J. Forrest (Teller).

The resolution was therefore negatived.

THE HON. J. G. LEE STEERE then moved that the vote for the Kimberley district be reduced by £1,000, with the view of adding that amount to the vote for the central districts.

THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES pointed out that this could not be done, the committee having just decided that the Kimberley vote shall remain as it stood on the Estimates.

The vote for the Survey Department was then agreed to.

Customs Department, Item £5,166 9s.:

MR. MARMION said he noticed several new items under this head, in the shape of a wharfinger, laborers, &c.,—he presumed these were intended to enable the Government to carry out its intention of taking over the jetties at Fremantle into its own charge. [THE COLONIAL SECRETARY: That is so.] Then he hoped the Government would exercise great care and discrimination in the appointment of the Wharfinger, for there could be no doubt the successful working of the whole arrangement would depend upon the fitness of the person holding that position.

The vote was then agreed to.

Works and Railways Department, Item £28,529 9s. 7d.:

MR. SHENTON, referring to the first item, "Director of Works and Engineer

in Chief of Railways, £400" (with £400 additional from loans), said he thought the select committee and the House had recommended that, in the proposed re-organisation of the department, this officer was to receive a salary of £900.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser): Not exceeding £900. His Excellency is of opinion that the amount here provided will be sufficient.

MR. BURT, referring to the item of "Contingencies," said it was well known that the Railway Department was very much crippled for the want of trucks, and the public were sometimes put to a great inconvenience thereby. When complaints were made, the usual cry was, there was no money available. He would remind the Commissioner that the House had always shown its readiness to vote anything within reason asked for in connection with the Railway Department, in order to ensure its efficiency; in fact, on one occasion the House actually pressed the Government to take a larger vote than it had asked for. He hoped the Commissioner this time was taking a sufficient vote for this purpose, although he saw nothing about trucks on the Estimates.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS (Mr. C. T. Mason) said the hon. member would find it under the item "Fuel, oil, material for the repair of permanent way, locomotives, carriages, &c., £4,000."

MR. BURT: I suppose that " &c." means trucks; if so, I am satisfied. But if there should be any more complaints about the want of trucks, I hope the Commissioner understands that the House will hold him responsible if this vote should not meet the requirements of the department.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS (Mr. C. T. Mason), said he had gone very carefully into this matter, and, though of course it was difficult to say exactly what the traffic requirements might be, he was very well satisfied in his own mind that this £4,000 would suffice to meet their requirements.

THE HON. J. G. LEE STEERE called attention to the votes for the Northern Railway. This line was being worked year after year at a dead loss to the country, and he really did think it was time they should come to some decision

with regard to it. The working expenses of the line amounted to 6s. 3d. per mile, while the working expenses on the Eastern Railway only amounted to 2s. 3d. Last year's transactions on the line showed a loss of over £1,000, nor could any improvement be expected next year in the face of the depressed state of the mining industry. He understood that three trains a week were now run between Geraldton and Northampton, and, if one train a week would meet the requirements of traffic—as he believed it would—he saw no reason why the number of trains should not be reduced. Something ought to be done. He thought the Government should have come forward with some proposal dealing with this railway, but, as they had not done so, it became the duty of the House to recommend some steps for obviating the continuous loss to the revenue resulting from the working of the line. In order to test the feeling of the committee on the subject, he would move, That every item under the head of "Northern Railway" be reduced one half.

MR. CROWTHER said that was a most extraordinary proposal—unique he might say. The hon. member proposed to reduce every item by one half. The first item was a traffic manager—did the hon. member intend to cut him in half? There was one engine-driver employed on the line,—was he to be reduced one half? Then there was a stoker, and a cleaner, and a fitter,—did the hon. member intend to reduce each of these men by one half? There was also an item "one porter." Well, perhaps they could make half-and-half of that. Joking apart, he regretted very much to see the feeling of opposition shown in that House to everything in the North. Ever since he had been a member of the House, anything brought forward for the benefit of the North seemed to have the same effect upon the hon. member for the Swan as a red rag upon a Spanish bull. That this Northern line did not pay was a fact beyond dispute, and no one regretted it more than he did; but it did not pay because of circumstances over which no country in the world could have control. He should like to know what railway in the colony did pay, in the business acceptation of the word. They were not intended to pay. They

were not made to pay, any more than roads were made to pay. They were made for the public convenience, and hon. members might as well say that the Post Office did not pay, or that the police did not pay, or that surveys did not pay. The hon. member for Fremantle might as well expect harbor works to pay. He regretted very much to see the House inclined to take such a narrow view of these matters. As to the proposal of the hon. member for the Swan, he was sorry to see his hon. friend proposing such a sweeping measure, and one which would have such a calamitous effect upon the district. It was to be hoped the present depression in the mining industry would not last for ever. There was a tide in the affairs of districts as well as of men, and, although the mining industry was now at a very low ebb, there was no reason to believe it would always remain so. There was no reason why the Victoria District, which at one time contributed to the exchequer a third of the whole revenue of the colony, should not again taste the sweets of prosperity. Why should hon. members be for everlasting pointing the finger of scorn at this unhappy railway.

MR. MARMION asked the hon. member whether he thought one train a week would suit the requirements of the district?

MR. CROWTHER: One train a week would *not* suit the requirements of the district. One train a week might suit the requirements of this part of the colony. It would probably suit this part of the colony if Northampton and its railway were swept out of existence altogether.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) pointed out that as the Commissioner of Railways would shortly be visiting the district, he might see what could best be done in this matter; and, if it should be found possible to effect any reduction in the number of trains running weekly, or otherwise to diminish the expenditure in connection with the line, the House might be sure it would be done. He hoped the hon. member would withdraw his proposition.

THE HON. J. G. LEE STEERE assented. Upon that assurance, he should not press his amendment.

The amendment was accordingly withdrawn, and the departmental vote agreed to.

Postal and Telegraph Department, Item £31,227:

MR. MARMION asked if any provision was made here for carrying out the resolution of the House in favor of the extension of the telegraph office hours?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said His Excellency, looking at the very great cost of this department and the heavy expenditure proposed to be incurred, had hesitated to add anything to the vote for next year. Hon. members would see that the vote for this department was about equal to £1 per head of the whole population of the colony.

MR. MARMION was very sorry to hear that His Excellency had come to the decision stated. For years past the House had expressed a desire to have our telegraph hours assimilated with the hours observed in the other colonies, and he believed a resolution to that effect had been adopted more than once. It seemed to him that the wishes of the House and of the country were never to be realised in this matter. He hoped some steps would yet be taken to make the necessary provision for carrying out the resolution adopted the other day on this subject.

MR. CROWTHER concurred with what had fallen from the hon. member for Fremantle. The matter was referred to the House only a few days ago by His Excellency himself, and the House appointed a select committee to consider it. That committee, after devoting considerable time and attention to the matter, brought up a report, making certain recommendations, and, after some discussion, that report was adopted by the House. And now it appeared all their labors had been in vain, and the report by this time was probably resting comfortably in some pigeon hole. He hoped the vote for the department would be postponed, until they had some assurance that the report would be acted upon.

THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES said that could not be done. A vote in committee could not be postponed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said he had no doubt that, if practicable, with the staff now available,

the Postmaster General would do all in his power to meet the wishes of hon. members.

MR. MARMION said he was not at all satisfied with that, and he should take some steps to bring the matter again before the House.

MR. GRANT said he noticed no provision on these Estimates for the Kimberley mail service, which the House had agreed to the other day, on the motion of his hon. friend, Mr. McRae.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) believed he was right in saying that provision had been made for the service referred to by the hon. member.

MR. McRAE said he noticed there was nothing down for a telegraph operator at Cossack. As it was proposed to extend the telegraph from Roebourne to Cossack, it would be necessary to provide for somebody to work it at Cossack as well as at Roebourne.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) presumed the Postmaster General would make the necessary arrangements, when the line was opened.

MR. BURT referred to the vote providing for a Telegraph Station and the necessary staff at Point Cloates, on the line now being constructed between Geraldton and Roebourne. From what he heard, it would be a great mistake to have a station at this place. He understood the line, if it went to Point Cloates, would run right away from the line of settlement, and that the station was never likely to be visited by anybody. He believed the Government were, in a great degree, in the hands of the contractor in this matter, and, if the route were altered and the line taken more inland, there would be some additional expense. But he thought it would be better to incur a little more expense, and have the station where it would be of some use to the settlers in the neighborhood. If anything was done in this matter it ought to be done at once, as he understood the construction party was now in this vicinity.

The vote for the department was then put and passed.

Land Titles Department, Item £1,055 :

MR. S. H. PARKER referred to the desirability of appointing a surveyor and draughtsman in connection with this department,—an appointment which, he

said, had been recommended for some years past by the Commissioner.

The vote was then agreed to.

Medical Department, Item £9,823 :

Agreed to.

Harbor and Light Department, Item £5,342 :

MR. SHENTON said he noticed a new item—"Clerk to Harbor Master, £80." He moved it be struck out. He knew, from his own knowledge of the department, that if the Harbor Master did his work properly there was no necessity for a clerk. It would simply give that officer more time to knock about the town than at present.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) hoped the committee would not strike out the item. The Harbor Master had repeatedly pointed out the necessity of his being supplied with some clerical assistance, in order to relieve him from office work, and enable him to devote himself to other duties of more importance; and he thought they would be only doing that officer bare justice by giving him this clerk.

The committee divided upon the motion to strike out the item, the numbers being—

Ayes	...	...	12
Noes	...	...	6
Majority for			6

AYES.	NOES.
Mr. Davis	Hon. A. P. Hensman
Mr. Glyde	Hon. J. Forrest
Mr. Grant	Mr. Mason
Mr. Higham	Mr. Burt
Mr. Loton	Mr. S. H. Parker
Mr. Marmion	Hon. M. Fraser (Teller).
Mr. McRae	
Mr. S. S. Parker	
Mr. Randell	
Hon. J. G. Lee Steere	
Mr. Venn	
Mr. Shenton (Teller)	

The amendment was therefore carried, and the item struck out.

MR. S. H. PARKER referred to the item "Uniform for Pilots and Boats' Crews, £300." This was a new item, and a large one, but no explanation had been vouchsafed with reference to it. He always thought these men had their uniforms supplied them. Perhaps the Colonial Secretary would furnish the committee with some information on the subject.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said it had been decided to

give the men uniforms in lieu of wages, and of course the expense during the first year would be greater than in future years, as some of these would last for a long time. The vote was not intended for Fremantle alone, but for the department throughout the colony.

The departmental vote was then put and passed.

Judicial Department, Item £14,789 :

THE HON. J. G. LEE STEERE said he noticed a proposed increase of £100 to the salary of the Attorney General. That officer already received £600 a year, which he thought was quite sufficient considering it was merely a Government retaining fee, and that the rest of the Attorney General's time was his own, to devote to private practice. He moved that the item "Attorney General, £100," be struck out.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) had hoped this vote would have been acceptable to the committee, and that it would have been agreed to without challenge; the item having been placed on the Estimates by His Excellency in recognition of the Attorney General's services. It would therefore be his duty to divide the committee upon it.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) said he should like to say a few words in support of the vote. He thought if there was one thing the colony had been fortunate in obtaining from England, it was its Attorney Generals. He need not go further back than Mr. Hocking, who was now receiving a high salary in Jamaica, and who some time ago occupied the position of Acting Chief Justice at Gibraltar. Then came Mr. Onslow, who now occupied the high office of Chief Justice of the colony—a man who he thought was not only an ornament to society but a man of the highest culture. And now they had the present holder of the office. He thought they ought to look at the question in two ways—first the office, and then they should look at the man. The office of Attorney General was, he thought, one of the very highest importance—were he inclined not to be very serious he should say that, next to that of Commissioner of Crown Lands, it was the most important office in the colony; and they all knew that the work of the Attorney

General had very much increased of late years. Formerly he used to be allowed to practise as a solicitor, and at that time the salary was £500, but when Mr. Hocking came here the Attorney General was deprived of the privilege of practising as a solicitor, and the salary attached to the office was raised from £500 to £600. Since then the colony had advanced in every way, and the duties of the Attorney General, as of the heads of other departments, had increased accordingly, from His Excellency himself downwards. This had been admitted by the House when it agreed to raise the salary paid to the Governor, and also to give an increase of £100 to the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, the Postmaster General, and the Sheriff. He also noticed an increase of £50 for the head of the medical department, and a proposed addition of £50 to the Crown Solicitor,—all showing that the House recognised the fact that the work of these departments had increased of late years. And why should an exception be made in the case of the principal legal officer of the Government? He knew himself that nearly the whole of the Attorney General's time was occupied in attending to the business of the colony, and that he had very little time at his disposal for private practice of any kind. His duties in connection with that House had also increased, and, without wishing in any way to reflect upon any previous occupant of the office, he thought he might fairly say we never had a better Attorney General.

MR. MARMION thought it would be admitted that, had it not been for the fact of an increase having been granted to the Colonial Secretary and the Colonial Treasurer, the proposed increase would not have appeared on the Estimates. But he would point out that in the case of both those officers the increase was made as a special recognition of their lengthened services to the colony, extending over a great many years, whereas the Attorney General was comparatively a new comer. The same reason applied to the increase made to the salary of the Postmaster General, who had been a great many years in the service. Personally he had the very greatest respect for the Attorney General, and for the ability he had displayed since he had

occupied a seat in that House. At the same time it must be admitted there was a difference between him and the other officers alluded to, as regards their length of service. He might add, however, that should he have the pleasure of occupying a seat in the House hereafter, and a proposition were made to increase the salary of either the Attorney General or the Surveyor General, in all probability his voice would be raised in support of it.

THE HON. J. G. LEE STEERE said he merely rose to reply to one remark which fell from the Commissioner of Crown Lands, who stated that the whole time of the Attorney General was given up to the business of the colony, when it was perfectly well known to every member of the House that nearly a whole week during the present session of Council had been lost in consequence of the Attorney General's time being taken up by his private practice.

The motion to strike out the £100 was then put, and, a division being called for, the numbers were—

Ayes 14

Noes 5

Majority for ... 9

AYES.	NOES.
Mr. Burt	Hon. J. Forrest
Mr. Davis	Mr. Mason
Mr. Glyde	Mr. Hamersley
Mr. Grant	Mr. Higham
Sir L. S. Leake, Kt.	Hon. M. Fraser (Teller.)
Mr. Loton	
Mr. Marmion	
Mr. McRae	
Mr. S. S. Parker	
Mr. S. H. Parker	
Mr. Randall	
Mr. Shenton	
Mr. Venn	
Hon. J. G. Lee Steere	
(Teller.)	

The amendment was therefore carried, and the item struck out.

Question—That a sum not exceeding £14,689 be granted to the Judicial Department—put and passed.

Progress reported, and leave given to sit again on September 5th.

CATTLE TRESPASS ACT, 1882, AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

WINES, BEER, AND SPIRITS SALE ACT, 1880, AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at a quarter to twelve o'clock (midnight).

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Thursday, 4th September, 1884.

Death of the hon. member for the Vasse (Mr. T. C. Carey)—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at noon.

PRAYERS.

DEATH OF MR. T. C. CAREY.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser): It is my melancholy duty to rise a second time this session to ask, what I know is the feeling of all hon. members, that the business of the House be suspended until tomorrow evening, as a tribute to the memory of our late friend and fellow member, Mr. Carey. I am quite sure that no one who watched the career of the late member for the Vasse during the many years he occupied a seat in this House but must be satisfied that to his constituents he always proved a zealous and careful advocate of their rights, and that as a member of this Council he was at all times willing to assist in every work that came before the House. I regarded the late hon. member for the Vasse as one of our most useful members, for this reason,—that he gave, when his health allowed him, so much close attention at all times to the business of the House, and I am quite sure that every hon. member will agree with me in regretting his removal from amongst us. Sir, it only remains for me to move that the House, on its rising, do adjourn until