

ment permitting direct purchase, not only within agricultural areas, but also outside those areas; but he proposed to reduce the quantity of land that might be purchased within an area to 1,000 acres, while, as regards land outside such areas, the limit would be 5,000 acres, as in these Regulations. This was a concession to those who wished to make a direct purchase, without the condition as to compulsory residence. It was also proposed to reduce the price of land from 20s. (the price specified in these Regulations) to 10s.; but, in addition to the condition as to fencing the land within three years, the Government proposed that 5s. an acre shall be expended in other prescribed improvements, within seven years. These alterations were introduced mainly because of the proposed departure from the original intention to limit direct purchase to land within agricultural areas, the present intention being also to allow direct purchase outside such areas, within the South-West division of the colony.

MR. GRANT: What is the object of having declared areas at all if the price of land within those areas is to be the same as outside them?

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest): The difference is this: the conditional purchaser inside has twenty years, at 6d. an acre, to pay for his land, whereas the direct purchaser has to pay his money down. Within these areas residence will be insisted upon; but, as regards the land purchased outside these areas, there will be no residential clause.

MR. LOTON said that to his mind it would have been a step in the wrong direction to have raised the price of land as was originally proposed, especially as it was proposed to hamper the holders of land with such stringent conditions. The land that would be left after the railway syndicates had their pick would only be very second-class land, and we could not expect people to pay more for it than they could get it for from the syndicates. Judging from the amendments which the Commissioner told them he proposed introducing in the new clause, there would be no necessity to protect squatters after this. He thought that the term "Direct purchase" was a misnomer altogether to apply to these clauses.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest): "Direct payment," it ought to be.

Progress was then reported, and leave given to sit again another day.

The House adjourned at a quarter past ten o'clock, p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Monday, 2nd August, 1886.

Decease of Mr. L. C. Burges—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

DEATH OF MR. L. C. BURGESS.

THE ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. S. Smith): Sir—a short time ago there was removed from amongst us one who occupied an honorable position in this House himself, and who by his simplicity and honesty of character had earned for himself the regard of the whole community. Death, sir, has removed from amongst us, within the last few hours, another colonist who had held a position in this Council some short time ago, and whose name will, I feel sure, be historic in the colony, amongst whose pioneers he had held a prominent position,—one who, by his sterling worth, had, I may say, earned the regard of all his fellow colonists. It is, I think, right and meet, sir, that the Legislature should, in any way they can, recognise the services of the early pioneers of the colony, men who had to undertake numerous struggles and to encounter many difficulties in laying the foundation of the settlement; and, I

fancy—nay I feel sure—it will meet with the wishes of hon. members generally that, as some mark of respect to the memory of the late Lockier Clare Burges, whose remains we have just laid in their last resting place, I should move that this House do now adjourn.

MR. PARKER: Sir,—as the Colonial Secretary has stated, the name of Burges will ever be memorable in the history of this colony. The three brothers were amongst the earliest settlers of the colony; they were amongst the earliest settlers not only on the Swan, but also on the Avon; and our late friend, Mr. Locke Burges, and Mr. William Burges, his brother, were amongst the earliest settlers in the now celebrated Victoria district of this colony. They played a prominent part among that noble band of pioneer settlers who faced many difficulties, who overcame many struggles, who suffered many hardships in making for themselves a home in Western Australia, in the early days of settlement. Eventually they succeeded in making those homes perhaps more pleasant and comfortable, for their sons and their descendants to enjoy pleasanter lives than the pioneers had done in the struggling days of old. The late Mr. Locke Burges had ever been noted, not only as one of our earliest pioneers, but also as a most liberal and considerate landlord. He was noted also as a generous friend to all charitable institutions; he was noted as a good and kind master—in fact, it is generally recognised that our departed friend, during his sojourn amongst us, was one who did his duty as a simple-minded, Christian gentleman. During the time he occupied a seat in this House I am sure he gained the respect of us all, for we felt that in all his actions he was simply guided by his own honest convictions, and that in all he said, whether we agreed with him or disagreed with him, he was only expressing opinions which he conscientiously believed in. Sir, on behalf of those who sit on this side of the House I am sure I am only expressing the general sentiment when I say that we feel it is due to the memory of our late friend, due also as a mark of respect to the members of his family still surviving, that this House should postpone its business and now adjourn. Under these circumstances I beg to second the pro-

position which has been made by the Colonial Secretary.

The motion was unanimously affirmed.

The House adjourned at a quarter past seven o'clock, p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Tuesday, 3rd August, 1886.

Railway to Kelmscott, *via* Canning—Duplication of telegraph line, Perth to Geraldton—Charges against the Secretary of the Board of Immigration—Telegraph line, Derby to the Goldfields—Repeal of 14th Vict., No. 20 (Penal settlement regulations)—Chaplain for Roebourne Prison—Point of Order—Benevolent Institution, Freshwater Bay (Message No. 10): adjourned debate—Goldfields Bill: second reading—Masters and Servants Bill: second reading—Criminal Law Procedure Amendment Bill: third reading—Magisterial Districts Bill: in committee—Public Health Bill: further considered in committee—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at noon.

PRAYERS.

RAILWAY TO KELMSCOTT, VIA CANNING (PETITION).

MR. PARKER asked the Commissioner of Railways if the Government had received any petition relative to the construction of a railway from Bayswater to Kelmscott, *via* the Canning; and if the Commissioner had inspected the proposed line; and whether the Government intended submitting any proposal to the Legislative Council, or taking any steps with a view to promoting this railway.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS (Hon. J. A. Wright) replied:—

"1. The Government has received a petition relative to the construction of a railway from the terminus of the present Race-course line, *via* the Canning, Kelmscott, and Narrogin, to Woon-gong.