

In Committee.

The SPEAKER considered the 20th Victoria No. 9 a very good Bill, and it was one which had afforded the trading community a considerable amount of protection. His Excellency was, of course, bound to follow the advice of his legal advisers, but he would say that the repeal of the 20th Victoria No. 9 would do much harm, and he urged the House to bring in a measure in its place at once.

There was some further discussion on the repeal of the 20th Victoria No. 9, and the necessity to introduce some measure in its place.

The recommendation of His Excellency the Governor to repeal 20th Victoria No. 9 was then adopted.

BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY BILL.

Message from the Governor—No. 10.

The SPEAKER announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:—

The Governor returns the "Bill to amend the law relating to Bankruptcy and Insolvency," with the following amendment for the consideration of the Legislative Council:—In Section 2 that the word "April" be inserted between the words "of" and "1871."

That in Section standing as Section No. 9 the word "nine" be omitted and the word "ten" be inserted in lieu thereof, and that the numbering of other sections be amended in accordance therewith.

That in order more clearly to define the presumed intention of the Legislature, that all words in Sub-section 2 of Section 31, after the words "Fifty Pounds," be omitted, and that at the commencement of Section 31 the words "all wages of any laborer or workman in the employment "of the Bankrupt at the date of the order of adjudication shall be paid in full," be inserted.

That in Section No. 63 the concluding words "after they are," which apparently by clerical error stand part of an incomplete sentence, be omitted, and the following words inserted in lieu thereof, "if the Legislative Council be then sitting, and if the Legislative Council be not then "sitting, within three weeks after the beginning of the next session of the Legislative Council."

Government House, Perth, 12th January, 1871.

In Committee.

After some discussion on His Excellency's Message, the recommendations proposed were agreed to.

PUBLIC POUND BILL, 1861.

In Committee.

The Bill was agreed to in Committee, without amendment.

The Council adjourned at 9.30 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, 13th January, 1871.

Abscinding Debtors—Telegraph Line between Bridgetown and Albany—Status of Colonial Chaplains—Grants of Land to Religious Denominations—Mason, Bird, and Company: select committee report—Abscinding Debtors Bill: standing orders suspension: first reading: second reading: in committee—33rd Victoria No. 9, Amendment Bill: second reading—Public Loan Bill: third reading—28th Victoria No. 4, Amendment Bill: second reading: in committee—Police Ordinance No. 4, Amendment Bill: in committee—Coasting Vessels and Cargo Boats Regulation Bill: third reading—Scab-in-Sheep Ordinance Amendment Bill: third reading—Wild Horses and Cattle Nuisance Bill: third reading—Public Pound Bill, 1861: third reading—Torrens Real Property Act—Representation of the People Bill: standing orders suspension: third reading—Parliamentary Draftsman—Adjournment.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4 p.m.

PRAYERS.

ABSCINDING DEBTORS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said he was prepared to introduce a Bill to facilitate the arrest of absconding debtors, and if it was the wish of the House it could be entertained that day.

TELEGRAPH LINE BETWEEN BRIDGETOWN AND ALBANY.

Mr. STEERE asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary whether the Government would appoint an assistant surveyor to lay out a suitable line of road between Bridgetown and Albany, for the purpose of the electric telegraph. He always felt there would be a difficulty in this matter, as the present line between Bridgetown and Albany was a very roundabout one. He knew of no other means of getting the line surveyed without the assistance of the Government. He therefore hoped the Government would appoint an assistant surveyor to lay out a suitable line between the towns named.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) had placed himself in communication with the Surveyor General. The Surveyor General was desirous of

naming a surveyor, but as they had now on hand as much work as would occupy them until next session of the Council, when he (the Surveyor General) was desirous of coming forward, as it were, with a clean sheet, he could not undertake the work. He (the Colonial Secretary) concurred with Mr. Steere that the line should be decided by the Government. The Surveyor General would be happy if a private surveyor was appointed to undertake the direction of the work, and he would give every facility, so that the work might be properly carried out.

STATUS OF COLONIAL CHAPLAINS.

Mr. STEERE, in accordance with notice, moved that whereas grave doubts have arisen as to the consequences that might ensue from the grant for ecclesiastical purposes having been voted under the heading of "Services Exclusive of Establishments;" this Council wishes to record its opinion that it had hereby no intention of altering the status or the claims of the Colonial chaplains of this colony. When he gave notice of the question yesterday the Hon. the Colonial Secretary then stated that as far as he knew the Bishop was under no apprehension that the status of the Colonial chaplains would be altered. He had the authority of the Bishop for saying that he and the clergy thought there was such an intention; and from the Bishop's letter, which appeared in the public prints that morning, there could be no doubt on the matter. Why the chaplains were taken off establishments, he could not say. The Colonial Secretary said it would be for their good, but he (Mr. Steere) could not see it. Under the head "Exclusive of Establishments," they got the same pay as they did before. It might be remembered that when the Colonial Secretary went over the Estimates, he made out that there was only an increase of £16,000 in the establishments during 10 years, but if he had added all the services that came under the head of establishments, the amount would have been £23,000, or £7,000 more than was admitted by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary. Perhaps that might have been one reason why the change was made.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said he would not trouble to answer the insinuations of the hon. gentleman opposite (Mr. Steere). No hon. gentleman would believe that any Government would act in the childish manner he says; they could not believe the Government would act so foolish as that. He now rose to support the motion of the hon. gentleman, and he would let him know that

he had not the slightest objection to support it, if any doubt existed of the status of the Church of England being altered. No alteration had been made, and he denied there was any intention to do so. If, however, there were in the minds of the hon. gentlemen any doubts, pass the resolution, and place the matter beyond the pale of doubt. He was astonished that such a resolution should have been brought before the House, and the more he thought of the matter the more he was astonished at the letter of the Bishop of Perth, which appeared in the *Perth Gazette* of that day. As, however, the Bishop, without any reference to him or the Government, rushed into print, he would also take that course. He asked the House to suspend their judgment until his letter appeared in the next public journal. He most cordially concurred in the motion.

Question put and passed unanimously.

GRANTS OF LAND TO RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

Mr. NEWMAN, in accordance with notice, asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, if any grants of land are being granted to any religious denominations, and, if so, what they are and where granted.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said he was not aware there was any application now under consideration. The only grant recently made was to the Roman Catholic chaplain in the north, amounting in all to 10 acres; and that was an exchange of the same amount of land in some other particular part. Beyond that he was not aware of any other change.

MASON, BIRD, AND COMPANY.

Select Committee Report.

Mr. STEERE brought up the report of the select committee appointed to report on the proposals of Messrs. Mason, Bird, and Company, and moved that it be printed. He sought permission of the House to do this as he understood many members would not be present on Monday, when the report was to have been received.

Question put and passed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) with leave, without notice, moved the adoption of the report.

Question put and passed.

ABSCONDING DEBTORS BILL.

Standing Orders Suspension.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the Standing Orders be suspended with a view to bringing in a Bill to facilitate the arrest of absconding debtors.

Question put and passed.

First Reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the Bill be now read a first time.

The Bill was read a first time.

Second Reading and Committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) in moving that the Bill be now read a second time said that the Bill met in every way the wishes of the House as a substitute for the 20th Victoria No. 9.

The Bill was read a second time, and passed through Committee, without discussion.

33rd VICTORIA, No. 9, AMENDMENT BILL.

Second Reading.

Mr. SHENTON moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. NEWMAN moved, as an amendment, that the Bill be read that day six months. He said the feeling of the House was against the measure, the Government having promised to bring in a Bill relative to the publicans' and gallon licenses at the next session.

After some debate Mr. Shenton pressed for a division.

Amendment put, "That the Bill be read a second time this day six months," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes	12
Noes	3

Majority for 9

Ayes.	Noes.
The Hon. F. P. Barlee	Mr. Logue
The Hon. R. J. Walcott	Mr. Monger
The Hon. M. Fraser	Mr. Shenton (Teller.)
Mr. Phillips	
Mr. Drummond	
Mr. Brown	
Mr. Newman	
Mr. Gull	
Mr. Russell	
Mr. McKail	
Mr. Steere	
Mr. Carr (Teller.)	

Amendment thus passed.

PUBLIC LOAN BILL.

Third Reading.

Mr. STEERE moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

28th VICTORIA, No. 4, AMENDMENT BILL.

Second Reading and Committee.

Mr. MCKAIL moved that the Bill be now read a second time. He said that it was to amend the Ordinance for protecting the oyster fisheries on the coasts of the colony.

The Bill was read a second time, and passed through Committee, without discussion.

POLICE ORDINANCE, 1861, 35th SECTION REPEAL BILL.

In Committee.

Resumed debate.

After some further discussion in Committee, the Bill was further amended.

Bill reported, with amendments.

COASTING VESSELS AND CARGO BOATS REGULATION BILL.

Third Reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

SCAB-IN-SHEEP ORDINANCE AMENDMENT BILL.

Third Reading.

Mr. DRUMMOND moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

WILD HORSES AND CATTLE NUISANCE BILL.

Third Reading.

Mr. PHILLIPS moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

PUBLIC POUND BILL, 1861.

Third Reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

TORRENS REAL PROPERTY ACT.

Mr. LOGUE, with leave, asked whether it was the intention of the Government to introduce the Torrens Real Property Act.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) stated that the Bill had been prepared and printed, and could be brought in at any time the House so desired.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE BILL.

Standing Orders Suspension.

Mr. STEERE moved that the Standing Orders be suspended with a view to passing the third reading of the Bill.

Question put and passed.

Third Reading.

Mr. STEERE moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

PARLIAMENTARY DRAFTSMAN.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. R. J. Walcott) suggested that to secure Bills being drafted as members would like, a Parliamentary Draftsman should be appointed, and he knew a very efficient person for the purpose—looking at Mr. Brown. (Great laughter.)

Mr. BROWN good humoredly replied that when he had studied Wallace on Statutes he would accept the office. For the distinguished services of the Hon. the Attorney General, he proposed that that gentleman be presented with a piece of plate.

ADJOURNMENT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) pointed out to the House that the business of the session was nearly at a close.

The Council adjourned at 5.30 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Monday, 16th January, 1871.

Papers Tabled—Assent to Bills: Messages from the Governor, Nos. 11 and 12—Message from the Governor, No. 13—Assent to Bills: Message from the Governor, No. 14—Public Loan Bill: Message from the Governor, No. 15—Representation of the People Bill: Message from the Governor, No. 16—Transmission Home of Newspapers—Destruction of Native Dogs Bill: second reading: in committee—Clarkson v. Sheriff: Message from the Governor, No. 17—Destruction of Native Dogs Bill: in committee—Local Boards Bill: third reading—Absconding Debtors Bill: third reading—28th Victoria, No. 4, Amendment Bill: third reading—Police Ordinance, 1861, 35th Section Repeat Bill: third reading—Aboriginal Natives.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4 p.m.

PRAYERS.

PAPERS TABLED.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), by command of His Excellency, laid upon the Table of the House, despatches from the Secretary of State to His Excellency the Governor relative to jarrah timber, light railways, and the transmission Home of newspapers, and moved that they be read.

Question put and passed.

The Clerk read the papers as follows:—

Downing Street, 5th Nov., 1870.

SIR,—I have to request that you will issue such instructions as will ensure that for the future as a general rule, only the two best Newspapers, one of which

should represent each side of public opinion, are forwarded to this Department, in addition to the Government Gazette.

I have also to request that the Newspapers forwarded from time to time, may be accompanied by a schedule shewing the dates of their issue, as well as their title.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

Governor Weld, &c., &c.

Downing Street, 24th Nov., 1871.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit to you for your information, copies of letters from Sir William Lisle, and Professor Frankland, to whom I forwarded the specimens of the Jarrah Timber of Western Australia, which was enclosed in a recent private letter which was addressed by you to Mr. Monsell.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

Governor Weld, &c., &c.

Extract from a letter from the Governor of Western Australia, to Mr. Monsell:—"I enclose a specimen of an 8-inch spar of our timber, which, I think, would be worth while to show to the Metropolitan Board of Works (I wish you would enclose it to them), for sewage or embankment purposes. Ordinary wood is destroyed in the sea here in a few months, this has stood twenty-one years."

42 London Square, July 12, 1870.

Dear Sir,—Will you obligingly say to Lord Granville, in reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo, that I have carefully examined the specimen of Jarrah wood, and I have read the extracts of the letter to my friend Mr. Monsell in the letter addressed to him.

The main point in the question is this, has this wood anything chemically in its nature which enables it to resist the attacks of the Teredo Navalis? If it has, and it could be obtained in any volume, it would be of great value in our sea works.

His Lordship will recollect that at Brighton and all along the coast wherever there are wooden piers and piles—the piles are of Fir timber—are covered with large headed nails; that is to enable the timber to resist the attacks of this sea worm, which it does very imperfectly, and besides is very costly. Oak, and the harder woods, resist the