

of a few lines, not more difficult to understand than the promise to pay on a bank note, the real title being in the Government Register. It is to the interest of all that land should be dealt with as freely as personal property. Under the Torrens Act land becomes as easy of sale as the animals that feed on it.

Mr. DEMPSTER seconded the motion, which, after a desultory conversational discussion, was affirmed.

Question put and passed.

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE.

Select Committee.

Mr. LOGUE moved that the names of Mr. Padbury and Mr. Carey be added to the select committee appointed to consider and report upon the necessity of reducing Government departmental expenditure.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) rose to order and referred to the ruling of the Speaker on the previous day, that a question having been once decided by vote in the Council could not again be brought forward in the same session. He pointed out that, in his opinion, a motion having been made that certain persons should be appointed on a select committee and a member having claimed that such committee be chosen by ballot, the original motion was negatived, by the names of the members now sought to be added to the committee being formally rejected, and he contended that it was out of order to move that their names should subsequently be added to the select committee.

The SPEAKER ruled that the names of the members now proposed had not been formally rejected; the committee had been appointed by ballot, pursuant to Standing Order 69, which did not take away the power of the House to afterwards add to the number of the committee, and therefore the motion was in order.

Question put, "That leave be given to add the names of Mr. Carey and Mr. Padbury to the select committee," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes	10
Noes	5
Majority for	5

Ayes.
 Sir Thomas Cockburn-
 Campbell
 Mr. Penrose
 Mr. Hassell
 Mr. Marmion
 Mr. Steere
 Mr. Padbury
 Mr. Carey
 Mr. Dempster
 Mr. Monger
 Mr. Logue (Teller.)

Noes.
 The Hon. H. H. Hocking
 The Hon. M. Fraser
 Mr. Bickley
 Mr. Bussell
 The Hon. F. P. Barlee
 (Teller.)

Question thus passed.

SUSSEX ROADS BOARD.

In Committee.

Mr. CAREY, in accordance with notice, moved and strenuously supported his proposal that an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor praying that he will be pleased to place on the Estimates a sum not exceeding £150, to enable the Sussex Roads Board to erect bridges over the Ludlow, Abba, and Sabina Rivers, on the new and main southern line of road between Bunbury and Busselton.

The motion was also supported by the SPEAKER, Mr. STEERE, the SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser), and Mr. DEMPSTER.

Question put and passed.

The Council adjourned at 4 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
 Wednesday, 9th July, 1873.

Petition by Mr. James Manning—Private Bill Petition—Seamen Employed in Coasting Vessels.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 6 p.m.

PRAYERS.

PETITION BY MR. JAMES MANNING.

Mr. MARMION presented a petition from Mr. James Manning, late clerk of works of the Convict Department, praying the Council to request His Excellency the Governor to make some recognition of his services to the colonial Government.

The petition was received and read by the Clerk.

PRIVATE BILL PETITION.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. H. H. Hocking) presented a petition from the Right Reverend M. B. Hale, D. D., Lord Bishop of Perth, W.A., praying the Council to receive

and pass a private Bill relating to the temporal affairs of the Church of England; and also handed to the Clerk the certificate required by Standing Order 109, and copies of the *Government Gazette* containing the notice required by Standing Order 106.

The petition was received and read by the Clerk.

SEAMEN EMPLOYED IN COASTING VESSELS.

Mr. MARMION, in accordance with notice, asked the Attorney General under what Ordinance seamen employed in the coasting vessels of the colony should be dealt with in the courts of the colony.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. H. H. Hocking) replied that in his opinion the Masters and Servants Act applied in all such cases relating to the enforcement of the rights of masters against seamen on the one hand, and of seamen against masters on the other, where the Merchant Shipping Act did not apply; and that the Merchant Shipping Act, so far as Western Australian coastal vessels were concerned, applied to Western Australian registered ships only when out of the jurisdiction of the Government of Western Australia.

The Council adjourned at 6.40 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, Thursday, 10th July, 1873.

Gold Prospecting: in committee—Contracts under Loan Act, 1872—Sericulture: in committee—Colonial Exhibition at South Kensington: in committee—Model Farm: in committee—Public Works Loan Bill: in committee—Third Readings.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 12 noon.
PRAYERS.

GOLD PROSPECTING.

In Committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee): The resolution I have now to ask the House to affirm is as follows:—That it is desirable to offer inducements for practical miners from the eastern colonies to prospect the colony for gold and other metals, and to import machinery by which the value of the numerous quartz reefs already known may be thoroughly tested. On more than one occasion

when I have brought this question before the House I have not been successful in carrying a vote of the House for the purpose; but I hope and believe that this session my efforts will be crowned with success. I think that, with the information before us, few hon. members can doubt that gold does exist, and probably in payable quantities, in many parts of this colony, and that various other metals abound in places of which we possess no knowledge at present. Nor are we ever likely to increase our knowledge unless we secure the services of competent persons to prosecute the search. But in regard of gold we are perfectly well aware that it has been found—I won't say in payable quantities—in various parts of the country; between here and Albany, in the north, at the Serpentine, and in other localities; and a very general opinion prevails not only here but in the other colonies, that we possess metals that would well pay the working of them, and that if proper means were taken to develop our mineral wealth, the result would produce a wonderful revolution in the colony. In addition to previous information we possessed on the subject we have had placed on the Table of this House within the last few days a very able report from Mr. Brown, who was lately employed here as Government Geologist, and who made a geological survey of the colony. In the report now before the House he gives a general resume of his proceedings during the two years he was employed here; and he speaks of many places in the colony where he believes it would be exceedingly desirable to prospect for gold. He is very cautious in all the observations he makes throughout his report, but he assigns as his principal reason for arriving at the conclusion that gold exists in the colony, the fact that the rocks and soil in the localities he speaks of are identical with the works and soil of those portions of Victoria which are auriferous. In his private letters, and in conversation with myself and others, when perhaps he has not been so cautious in his expressions as in a formal report, Mr. Brown has expressed a strong opinion that gold will be found in payable quantities in this country, and he thinks it would be a very good move on the part of the colony to cause the country to be prospected for that purpose. I have specially alluded to his opinion because in one instance that opinion has been backed out by the practical opinion of miners who have been for many years engaged in searching for gold in the Eastern Colonies. Only a few months ago a large number of people went away from Victoria and South Australia to prospect for gold at the northern territory of Port Darwin, where strong indications of the existence of gold and