

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Monday, 13th July, 1874.

Quarantine at Albany—Third Readings—Financial Statement: in committee—estimates: in committee.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 6 p.m.

## PRAYERS.

## QUARANTINE AT ALBANY.

Sir Thomas COCKBURN-CAMPBELL, in accordance with notice, moved:—

That this House do take into consideration the report of the commission on quarantine at Albany;

and further moved:—

That this Council is of opinion that the position of Geake's Island, in Princess Royal Harbour, which has been selected as a site for proposed new buildings for quarantine purposes, is one which is ill adapted for such purposes, and that a more suitable position is that of Rabbit Island, which has hitherto been used as a quarantine station. And, that a portion of the Outer Sound should be included in the quarantine ground in which infected vessels having cases of a more than ordinarily dangerous character on board may be detained.

Mr. STEERE supported the motion.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) and Mr. BICKLEY defended the action taken by the commission in the matter.

Question put, "That the resolution be agreed to," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes ..... 5  
Noes ..... 12

Majority against 7

Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. Steere	Mr. Glyde
Mr. Hamersley	Mr. Broadhurst
Mr. Monger	Mr. Pease
Mr. Hurt	Mr. Birch
Sir Thomas Cockburn-	Mr. Marmion
Campbell (Teller.)	Mr. Hickley
	Mr. Carey
	Mr. Crowther
	Mr. Padbury
	The Hon. M. Fraser
	The Hon. G. W. Leake
	The Hon. F. P. Barlee
	(Teller.)

Question thus negatived.

## THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed, on motions by the Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. P. Barlee): Land Transfer Duty Act Amendment Bill, and the Exportation of Horses Bill.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

In Committee.

Resumed debate.

Mr. STEERE congratulated the House and the colony on the very satisfactory condition of the finances and various industries of the colony, as glowingly depicted in the financial statement. He did not, however, approve of the mode in which the Government proposed to disburse the unprecedentedly large surplus revenue available. To the contemplated expenditure of £10,000 for immigration purposes he did not object, but he deeply regretted that no provision whatever was made on the Estimates for initiating harbor improvements at Fremantle. As to a railway to the eastern districts he did not blame them so much, in the face of the dubious fact of such a line being reproductive; but he certainly did think those districts were fairly entitled to a large expenditure on their roads. He thought £10,000 was too much to provide for interest on loans during next year, in the face of the delay and uncertainty in respect of the construction of the Northampton railway, for which work the principal portion of the loan would be required. The sum of £4,000 proposed to be expended on lighthouses at Champion Bay ought to be devoted to other and more urgent works elsewhere. The northern district had already had more than its fair share of the revenue, and £2,500 had already been voted for the very purpose for which it was now proposed to expend another £4,000 upon. He deprecated the idea of any additional duties being imposed on the Surveyor General in connection with the Office of Works, at an increased salary of £100 a year, inasmuch as that official had quite as much work on his shoulders as he could possibly get through. He did not see the necessity of appropriating £2,000 towards the construction of an Office of Titles, and thought that the buildings now occupied by the Comptroller General's Department, which would be vacated consequent upon the proposed concentration of the convict service at Fremantle, might be utilised for that purpose. The financial statement, however, taken on the whole, was extremely satisfactory.

Mr. CROWTHER expressed his concurrence generally with what had fallen from the hon. member for Wellington, taking exception, however, to his observations relating to the proposed expenditure on lighthouses at Champion Bay, and stoutly combating the contention that that district—which, with the adjoining settlement of Shark's Bay, formed the substantial foundation upon which the prosperity of the colony was based—had received more than its fair share of the general revenue.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), as regarded the delay and uncertainty alluded to by the hon. member for Wellington in respect of the construction of the railway from Northampton to the mines, said he had received intimation by telegraph last mail that another tender for carrying out the work had been accepted in Melbourne; that the financial arrangements were satisfactory, but that documents had not been signed. By the next mail he hoped to be placed in possession of full information on the subject, which information would be communicated to the House without delay.

Mr. MONGER, Mr. PADBURY, and Mr. HAMERSLEY complained of the inadequate provision made on the Estimates with regard to the maintenance of roads, and condemned the policy of the Government in not introducing some scheme for affording railway communication to the eastern districts.

The SPEAKER also expressed his regret that this undertaking was not included in the programme of the Government, and that harbor improvements were not provided for in the financial scheme, which otherwise, was, on the whole, satisfactory, affording as it did a very gratifying picture of the prosperous financial condition of the colony.

Mr. MARMION joined in the chorus of congratulation with which the Budget had been received, and added his satisfaction with regard to the glowing account rendered of the state of the country's industries and finances. In this respect, and in the large amount of surplus revenue, 1874 would be a red-letter year in the history of Western Australia. He was, however, decidedly averse to the expenditure of so large a sum of money as proposed upon lighthouses at Champion Bay, and maintained that the money might be expended for a better purpose, and with a more general approbation, if devoted to increase the grant for roads and bridges.

After some further remarks from the COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), the debate closed.

#### ESTIMATES.

In Committee.

##### *Telegraph Line to Eucla:*

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), in moving that the sum of £15,000 stand part of the Estimates for 1875 towards the extension of the telegraph from Albany to Eucla, spoke at considerable length, and with much force, on the undoubted and immense advantages which the proposed line would confer upon the colony, and proceeded to

show, from facts and figures, that the work when completed would not only be an inestimable commercial boon, but remunerative. He estimated that the present trade between this colony and the Indian and eastern ports would ensure at least 1,000 messages annually to the Adelaide and Port Darwin line, and that, at the lowest, 500 or 600 messages per month could be relied upon for intercolonial traffic. In addition to this there would also be the business supplied by ships calling here seeking freights, and by the monthly passengers by the P. & O. Company's steamers calling at Albany. The estimates of the cost of construction and of the business likely to be done had been submitted to Mr. Todd, the South Australian Superintendent of Telegraphs—than whom probably no man in the world was more capable of giving an authoritative opinion upon the subject—and Mr. Todd saw no reason to doubt their correctness, and fully concurred that the time had arrived when the work should be undertaken. One of the immediate results of the project being initiated would be the almost certainty of cable communication being extended to our shores by a company already formed, and that, too, without the expenditure of a single penny by this colony in the work, but merely on condition of a concession of land. Having further dwelt on the merits of the project, Mr. Barlee confidently appealed to the House to support the motion that £15,000 stand part of the Estimates for 1875 towards carrying out the work.

Mr. STEERE thought the undertaking, in conjunction with harbor improvements, ought to be carried out by means of a public loan raised for that purpose, and that the sum proposed to be expended upon it out of the surplus revenue be devoted to local works of more urgent necessity, and he moved an amendment to that effect.

An animated discussion ensued, Mr. PADBURY, Mr. MARMION, Mr. DEMPSTER, Mr. PEARSE, and Mr. BIRCH supporting the amendment, while, on the other hand, Mr. CROWTHER, Mr. MONGER, and the SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser), spoke in favor of the original motion, which was affirmed without a division.

Amendment not agreed to.

Question put and passed.

##### *Lighthouse, Champion Bay:*

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the sum of £4,000 stand as part of the Estimates for a lighthouse at Champion Bay.

A lively and somewhat acrimonious conversation ensued, resulting in

Mr. STEERE proposing an amendment to the effect that the Chairman report progress, and ask for leave to sit again, so that the other items on the Estimates might be disposed of before the House granted the sum asked for in respect of lighthouses.

Amendment put, "That the Chairman do now report progress and ask leave to sit again," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes ..... 9  
Noes ..... 9

Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. Hamersley	Mr. Broadhurst
Mr. Marmion	Sir Thomas Cockburn-
Mr. Padbury	Campbell
Mr. Pearce	Mr. Crowther
Mr. Mungier	Mr. Glyde
Mr. Dempster	Mr. Hickley
Mr. Birch	Mr. Hurl
The Speaker	The Hon. M. Fraser
Mr. Steere ( <i>Teller.</i> )	The Hon. G. W. Leake
	The Hon. F. P. Barlee
	( <i>Teller.</i> )

The voting being equal, the CHAIRMAN gave his casting vote with the Noes.

Amendment thus negatived.

Question put and passed.

Progress reported, and leave obtained to sit again.

The Council adjourned at 10.15 p.m.

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### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, Tuesday, 14th July, 1874.

Swan River Bridge Petition—Third Readings.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 12 noon.  
PRAYERS.

#### SWAN RIVER BRIDGE PETITION.

Mr. PADBURY presented a petition, signed by the inhabitants of Guildford and the neighborhood, praying that a sum be placed upon the Estimates to enable them to erect a bridge over the Swan River, to connect West Guildford with the chief part of the municipality, and moved that the same be read.

The petition was received and read by the Clerk.

### THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed, on motion by the Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. P. Barlee): Aboriginal Native Offenders Amendment Bill, Imported Labor Registry Bill, Telegraphic Messages Bill, Game Bill, Education Act Amendment Bill, Doga Ordinances Amendment Bill, and Confirmation of Expenditure Bill.

The Council adjourned at 12.30 p.m.

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### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, Thursday, 16th July, 1874.

Harbor Improvements: select committee report—Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance Amendment Bill: first reading.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 12 noon.  
PRAYERS.

#### HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS. Select Committee Report.

Mr. STEERE brought up the report of the select committee appointed to take into consideration the report of the engineers of the Government of Victoria on the several plans for harbor improvements submitted to them, to report on further proposals of a similar nature, and to recommend for the consideration of the Council what measures should be adopted to bring this question to a speedy and practical issue; and moved, that the same be read.

Question put and passed.

Report read, and ordered to be printed.

#### POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK ORDINANCE AMENDMENT BILL.

First Reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), in accordance with notice, moved for leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Post Office Savings Bank Ordinance. He said that the object of the Bill was to enable the Savings Bank to lend money to municipal councils on mortgage securities.

The Bill was read a first time.

The Council adjourned at 12.30 p.m.

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