opened to the fact that the terms of the contract were not being adhered to by the owners of the steamer, and that some fresh—and he trusted a more effective—arrangement was about to be made. The Colonial Secretary having intimated that a new agreement was in contemplation, he (Mr. Burt) would refrain from moving a resolution he had prepared relating to the matter.

Item agreed to.

Item: Harbor and Light Department, £3,675.
Item: Administration of Justice, £8,560.
Items agreed to.
Item: Medical Establishment, £4,777 15s.

Mr. PADBURY asked that provision be made for a Resident Medical Officer and resident magistrate for the Melbourne district, but the request was not complied with.

Mr. S. HAMERSLEY moved, That the salary of the Resident Medical Officer at the Murray be increased from £50 to £100, the latter sum being the stipend paid to the Resident Medical Officers of every other district.

Mr. BROWN seconded the motion, which was also supported by Mr. STEERE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) offered no objection on the part of the Government.

Amendment agreed to.

Item, as amended, agreed to.
Item: Police Department, £21,620 10s.

Progress reported, and leave obtained to sit again.

The Council adjourned at 6 p.m.

---

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
Friday, 20th November, 1874.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 7 p.m.

PRAYERS.

STANDING ORDERS.

The SPEAKER announced to the House that he had presented the Standing Orders, as amended by the Legislative Council, to His Excellency the Governor, who had been pleased to approve of the same.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND INCORPORATION BILL.

First Reading.

Mr. BURT, in accordance with notice, moved for leave to bring in a Bill for the incorporation of the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Synod of Perth as Trustees of the Branch of the Church of England in Western Australia.

The Bill was read a first time.

Select Committee.

The Bill was referred to a select committee, consisting of Mr. Steere, Mr. Padbury, and the Mover (Mr. Burt).

PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) brought under the consideration of the House, Mr. Jules Joubert's letter, urging upon the attention of this colony the importance of uniting with the New South Wales Agricultural Society, of which he is the secretary, and with the other colonies of the Austral group, with a view of having Australia, as a whole, represented at the international exhibition which is to be held at Philadelphia, in the United States, in 1876. If, said the Colonial Secretary, it were deemed desirable that this colony should take part therein, and make a creditable appearance, a great deal more public enthusiasm than had ever hitherto been evoked in connection with such movements would have to be manifested, and a considerable sum of money, certainly not less than £1,000, would have to be voted for the purpose.

Mr. STEERE thought that for many reasons it was desirable that the colony should be represented at the world's exhibition, but he should not be prepared to advise it should be done at an expenditure of £1,000, which he
believed would hardly suffice to carry out the thing properly.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake) supported the proposition.

Mr. BICKLEY opposed it, on the ground that we had quite enough to do with our money at home.

The matter then dropped.

SMELTING WORKS—BONUS.

In Committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved the House into Committee, to take into consideration the following motion standing in his name:—"That, with a view to encourage the development of the Mineral Wealth of this Colony, this Council is of opinion that it is desirable a Bonus of £5,000 should be offered by the Government to the person who shall first erect Smelting Works in the Victoria District, which shall be open to the public, and capable of smelting at the least 2,000 tons of Lead or Copper Ore in any one year, and who shall succeed in smelting not less than 1,000 tons of Ore within a period of three years from the 1st of January, 1875." It would, doubtless, be in the recollection of many hon. members that an analogous motion had been brought before the Council last session, but for various reasons,—chiefly, he believed, because the question was not thoroughly understood—it had been set aside, and no action had been taken with regard to it. Since then, on the part of the Government, a great deal of enquiry had been instituted, resulting in his bringing forward the resolution that stood in his name. The reason that had induced the Government to again bring the question under the consideration of the House, was mainly, the encouragement of the mining industry, than which, it must be admitted nothing could be of greater importance or more desirable. The ore now raised in the North was to a great extent unsaleable, in the absence of smelting works, inasmuch as its actual value was unknown; hence capitalists were very chary in making advances on the minerals raised, and the result was that large quantities were allowed to lie idle for a long time for the want of necessary appliances for testing the ore in a practical manner. The mining industry was thereby crippled to a very great extent. It might, possibly, be said that a bonus, in the form of a concession of land, had already been offered for smelting purposes, and though the efforts made in that direction had not as yet been crowned with success, the Company engaged in the enterprise were determined to bring it to a successful issue. But, when that were done, he doubted much if the works they proposed to erect would be of sufficient magnitude to meet the requirements of the district. The Government had been in correspondence with a gentleman in Melbourne, who was exceedingly anxious to embark in the industry,—provided the conditions offered were encouraging—and the correspondence had been placed on the table of the House. The abundance and richness of the mineral ores of the Victoria district were well known, and now that a railway was introduced into the district, it was exceedingly desirable that the mining industry should be developed in every possible way, so as to afford ample work for the railway when completed; for the greater the traffic on the line the sooner would the interest on the capital sunk in its construction be paid. If, with the necessary appliances for testing the actual value of the ore raised, 10 times the quantity now sold would be disposed of, the bonus proposed to be offered would soon be recouped to the colony, while at the same time we would have established in our midst a new and important branch of industry, offering many advantages for the profitable employment of capital. For these reasons, on behalf of the Government he recommended for the favourable consideration of the House the resolution that stood in his name.

Mr. PADBURY opposed the motion. If smelting would really prove such a remunerative industry as was presented, let the Government itself establish the necessary works, and thereby obtain the full benefit and the profits derivable therefrom. When the Hampton Railway Bill was before the House, they were told that there would be something like 1,200 tons of ore a year to be conveyed by the railway; he hoped such would be the ease, and in that event, he was quite satisfied that smelting works would soon be erected in the district, without any bonus being offered. Capitalists would then soon see their way clear to the establishment of what ought to become, and what must become, a most remunerative industry. Did the South Australian Government offer a bonus for the erection of the smelting works at Port Adelaide, or the New South Wales Government for the establishment of similar works now in operation at Newcastle? He did not think the colony was in a position to offer £5,000 for the purpose contemplated in the resolution before the House, and he would therefore oppose it.

Mr. S. HAMERSLEY was under the impression that, after the large sum of money the House had voted for the construction of a railway at the North, the mining industry would be developed at a rate that would really aston-
ish them; but now it appeared that another vote of £5,000 was necessary for that purpose. Next session, probably they would be asked for another £5,000 to be offered as a bonus for sinking for the ore. He really thought there ought to be some limit to this eternal voting of money for the sole benefit of Champion Bay.

Mr CROWTHER heartily supported the resolution, knowing full well the importance and the absolute necessity of providing the necessary appliances for testing in a thoroughly practical manner the actual value of the mineral deposits which now lie so long idle for the very want of such appliances to reduce the ores into a marketable commodity. The money now advanced on the ore raised was a mere investment,—a speculation; hence the banks and others who were in the habit of advancing money were naturally very cautious and reluctant, being in ignorance of the actual value of the ores upon which advances were sought, and knowing, to their cost, the difficulty of obtaining vessels to carry it away in its raw state, Swansea being the only market for it in that condition. During the past 12 months two or three valuable mines had been shut up, not so much because of the scarcity of labor to raise the ore, or the scarcity of ore to be raised, but because of the difficulty of obtaining advances on the lead at the port of shipment. Smelting works would obviate all this by reducing the ore into a marketable commodity, by testing its actual value, and thereby removing all doubt from the minds of capitalists who are in the habit of advancing money thereon. The benefits that would accrue from the establishment of such an industry, not only to the district where the smelting works were in operation, but, indirectly to the colony at large, would be immense. The mining industry of this colony was yet in its infancy, and unless appliances were provided to turn to more valuable account the inexhaustible deposits known to exist in the colony, the industry would never be fully developed. As a proof of the money lost to the country owing to the absence of such appliances, he might mention, that, to his knowledge, a Melbourne firm, not three months ago, offered to take from this colony no less than 3,000 tons of smelted lead at a price higher than could be obtained for the same commodity in England. With the initiation of smelting operations in our midst, we might reasonably hope, and that ere long, to see some practical results of very great value to the colony.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser) looked upon the erection, in a mineral district like Champion Bay, of the necessary appliances for testing the actual value of its mineral deposits and reducing them to a marketable commodity, as essential as the establishment of a mint in a gold producing colony.

Mr. STEERE opposed the resolution. No doubt the erection of smelting works would prove of great advantage to the Victoria district, and, perhaps, to the colony at large; but this ought to have been seen when the great benefits to be derived from the railway for that district were expatiated upon, and which, they were told, was all that was wanting to develop the mineral richness of the neighborhood. It now appeared that, on the contrary, they should have been informed that a railway without smelting works would be of no use. The erection of such works, he thought, was a legitimate object for private enterprise, and in no way called for encouragement on the part of the Government. Let the owners of the various mines in the district who would be mainly benefited by smelting combine among themselves, and offer a bonus for the establishment of what they so firmly believe would become a most remunerative industry.

Mr. BROWN said that, inasmuch as shipping could not be obtained to take away the ore in its crude state, it became absolutely necessary that works should be established in order to reduce it and to render it a marketable commodity. There appeared to be no divergence of opinion on that point, and the only wonder was that long ere these capitalists had not seen their way clear to the establishment of what must prove a payable industry. But in this colony we were a penurious lot, and were unable to embark in many enterprises which were well known to offer many advantages for the profitable employment of capital. He only wished to goodness he was possessed of the capital requisite for the establishment of smelting works; if he were, he would soon set about it. The House had time after time, recognized the beneficial tendency of the principle of granting bonuses with the view to encourage the development of colonial industries, than which none was more valuable or of greater importance than our mineral resources. The main chance of the colony ever attaining that measure of prosperity which was within its reach, depended on the development of the rich and abundant mineral deposits of the Victoria district, and, for the sake of the colony, he sincerely hoped that the resolution before the House would be affirmed.

Mr. MARMION said it would afford him much pleasure to support the motion under consideration, but before he could do so it would require some modification. His own opinion was that the bonus proposed was too high. The intention in offering a bonus of this nature was merely as an inducement to capital-
ists to invest, and not to cover the whole cost of the undertaking, in case of failure. He would, therefore, move, as an amendment,—

That with a view to encourage the development of the Mineral Wealth of this Colony, this Council is of opinion that it is desirable a Bonus of £2,500 should be offered by the Government to the person who shall first erect Smelting Works in the Victoria District, which shall be open to the Public at a Tariff to be approved by the Government of this Colony, and capable of smelting at least 2,000 Tons of Lead or Copper Ore, or both, in any one year, and who shall succeed in smelting such a quantity of Ore as shall produce from such smelting not less than 1,000 Tons of Pig Lead or Ingots of Copper, or both, within a period of 3 years from 1st January, 1875.

Mr. BICKLEY said the calculation of the advantages to be derived from the establishment of smelting works was no doubt gratifying, and it would be still more gratifying if realized; but unfortunately these glowing anticipations existed to a great extent in the brains of the calculators themselves. He himself believed that smelting works would prove of great advantage to the district where it was proposed to establish them; at the same time he did not think that, under the circumstances, the House would be warranted in offering a bonus of £5,000 for that purpose, which would be tantamount to erecting the works for the projectors. With every disposition to view the matter in the most liberal spirit, he was of opinion that if the Government offered a bonus equal to one-third of the cost of constructing efficient Smelting Works, capable of turning out 1,000 Tons of ore per annum, be granted by the Government to the person who should first erect such works in the Victoria district.

Mr. CROWTHER moved an amendment upon the amendment proposed by Mr. Marmion, to the effect that the bonus be £3,000," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ayes</th>
<th>Noes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Majority against 1

Amendment thus negatived.

Mr. PADBURY asked if the concession of land already voted had actually been made to the Melbourne and Champion Bay Land Mining Company, in consideration of their erecting smelting works in the Victoria district.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser) replied that it had.

Mr. PADBURY: Then that's so much thrown away. It's a great shame.

Amendment put, "That with a view to encourage the development of the Mineral Wealth of this Colony, this Council is of opinion that it is desirable a Bonus of £2,500 should be offered by the Government to the person who shall first erect Smelting Works in the Victoria District, which shall be open to the Public at a Tariff to be approved by the Government of this Colony, and capable of smelting at least 2,000 Tons of Lead or Copper Ore, or both, in any one year, and who shall succeed in smelting such a quantity of Ore as shall produce from such smelting not less than 1,000 Tons of Pig Lead or Ingots of Copper, or both, within a period of 3 years from 1st January, 1875," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ayes</th>
<th>Noes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Majority for 7

Amendment thus passed.
The CHAIRMAN reported to the House that the Committee had considered the question of granting a bonus for smelting works, and had agreed to the resolution, with an amendment.

SERICULTURE.

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

That in the opinion of this Council the resolution passed by the Legislative Council on the 24th July, 1871, offering a Bonus of £500 to the person who first exports half-a-ton of Cocoons bearing silk of good quality produced by him in the Colony within five years from the first day of March, 1871, is not calculated to promote that description of Sericulture best suited to the Colony and that this Council is of opinion that the Bonus of £500 should, instead, be offered to any person who before the first day of March, 1876, shall have exported 250 ounces of saleable grain produced by him in the Colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) supported the motion, which was adopted.

MONETARY RECOGNITION OF MR. J. FORREST'S EXPLORATORY SERVICES.

Message from the Governor—No. 1.

In Committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee): I rise very gladly indeed to move that this House gives its cheerful assent to the Message from His Excellency the Governor recommending the Council to make provision for recognizing the services of Mr. John Forrest and the exploring party under his charge, by appropriating the sum of 500 guineas for that purpose. I think if there is any man in this colony who really deserves well at the hands of his fellow colonists, and at the hands of the representatives of the people in this Council, that man is Mr. John Forrest (cheers); for I think he has accomplished what will make us proud of him as a Western Australian. Mr. Forrest has shown exceedingly good qualities during the expedition he has conducted, in so able a manner, to a successful and satisfactory issue. He has manifested greatpluck, great endurance, great determination of character, and he has shown that he is not easily daunted by difficulties. He has also shown that he possesses the qualities essential in a leader of an expedition of the nature he conducted, which is demonstrated by the known fact of his having been able to keep on excellent terms with all those who served under him. Many of these accompanied him on the occasion of his former expedition, and on their return expressed their readiness to go with him anywhere. (Cheers.) In addition to these good qualities, Mr. Forrest has exhibited, throughout his triumphant reception in South Australia—a reception that would have turned the head of many an older man than he—another admirable trait in his character, a quality that, under the circumstances, I am sure all must admire, and this is, his unassuming manner and the unaffected modesty of his deportment, in the face of an ovation which it is few men's lot to receive. It may be asked, when it is proposed to record our sense of the importance of the work he has performed, what are the services which he has actually rendered to entitle him to a public acknowledgment of his labors? In reply, I venture to say that, with the small means at his disposal, Mr. Forrest has, possibly, accomplished more than any explorer in Australia ever accomplished before. (Hear, hear.) I say with the means at his disposal. Other explorers, possibly, have done more, but the means at their command were greater; but bearing in mind the manner in which the expedition he commanded was equipped, I believe Mr. Forrest has contributed one of the most brilliant chapters to the history of Australian exploration. (Cheers.) When I say this, I do not forget the eminent services rendered by Burke and Wills, the exploits of Leichhardt, the explorations of the brothers Gregory, and, last of all but not least of all, that wonderful expedition conducted by the gallant Warburton, who, under circumstances of extreme privation, was the first to lead a party across the Australian continent from the centre to our western coast; I say, I do not forget the heroic labors of these gallant men in the cause of exploration when I place Mr. Forrest in the front rank among Australian explorers, and state that with the means at his disposal he has accomplished a work that will cause his name to rank as highly as any of those honorable names I have mentioned. (Cheers.) These are what I may call our successful Australian explorers; then again there are the unsuccessful explorers who, nevertheless, are entitled to all honor for their efforts in the cause of exploration—Mr. Ross, Mr. Gosse, and Mr. Giles, who with better means at their disposal than Mr. Forrest had, failed to accomplish what he has carried to a successful issue. In saying this, far be it from me to detract in any way from the credit and honor
they justly deserve, and have had freely accorded to them; but when we think of the comparative failure of the expeditions commanded by these gallant men, under circumstances more favorable to the achievement of success than those under which Mr. Forrest journeyed, I think we may justly feel proud of the triumphant feat accomplished by our young fellow-colonist and his brave companions. (Applause.) That being the case, I think we ought to be very much ashamed of ourselves if we allowed these services—services which have been so thoroughly and gracefully recognized in the other colonies, to go unrewarded in the country of his birth,—a colony for which he has accomplished so much at the cost of great weariness, anxiety, and absolute privation. I feel indeed that the cause of Mr. Forrest requires no advocacy on my part; I am sure there can be but one opinion in the minds of the members of the House, or among the colonists at large, as to his claims to a recognition of his valuable services. (Hear, hear.) The hearty welcome accorded him and his faithful followers by the Governor, the Government, and the people of South Australia, will I am sure be duly appreciated by every member of this House, and by every member of this community. (Cheers.) It is the lot of few men to receive such a splendid ovation; in fact, all that could be done to welcome the little band of Western Australian explorers was done, and done with hearty good will, and in a manner worthy of the exploit accomplished and of the colony that so hospitably entertained them. Shall we in this colony be behind our neighbors in the heartiness of our reception, and in our recognition of the services rendered by Mr. Forrest and his party? I am sure that we shall not, and though it is not within our power to accord them such a splendid reception as they received in the sister colony our welcome for that reason will not be a whit less cordial. (Hear, hear.) As to the monetary recognition recommended by His Excellency the Governor, we have of course not the same means as South Australia to reward our gallant explorers. Colonel Warburton on his return to that colony, it will be remembered, after his weary journey across the continent, although he simply commanded an expedition organized and fitted out under the auspices of two private gentlemen, was not only most handsomely entertained by the public of South Australia but was at the same time granted a vote of £1,000 out of the public treasury. But what to our neighbours would be a small and insignificant sum would to us, with the means at our command, be considered a very large and appreciable amount. Mr. Forrest himself is quite as well aware of that as any of us, and probably he will not expect what I hope he may receive. I am sure he will appreciate it, and feel that he has been liberally treated if this House, as I trust it will, will accord its support to the recommendation embodied in His Excellency's Message. His Excellency would have been glad—every member of this House would be glad—if a larger sum could be granted but we must ever be content to cut our coat according to our cloth, we must learn to be just before we are generous.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser), having given a brief sketch of the circumstances that led to Mr. Forrest's expedition being organised, and the instructions he was entrusted to carry out, spoke in very flattering terms of the manner in which the work had been accomplished. He did not deem it necessary to dilate upon the abilities of Mr. Forrest and of his brother as surveyors, but he was quite certain, by the care they had evidently taken to carry out the task with which they were entrusted, that very valuable geographical knowledge would be added to our knowledge of the physical formation of the interior of the continent, and that this colony would be benefited thereby very materially, not only as regarded the discovery of fresh pastoral country, but also the proof afforded that we are not, after all, so thoroughly isolated from our neighbors as it was supposed we were. He was quite certain that he expressed the feelings of every member of that House when he said that we gladly recognized the value of Mr. Forrest's services, and showed our appreciation of his noble conduct and that of his heroic band by willingly voting the honorarium recommended by His Excellency, which he hoped would be done without a dissentient voice. (Cheers.)

Mr. STEERE said he did not think there would be any dissent manifested on the part of any member of that House, for he believed that in appropriating the amount suggested the Council would be merely carrying out the general wish of the people of this colony. (Hear, hear.) Allusion had been made to the monetary recognition rendered by the South Australian Government to Colonel Warburton, but it should be borne in mind that the veteran explorer was a private individual commanding an expedition fitted out by private individuals, whereas Mr. Forrest was a public servant, and would draw his salary as such all the time he was away. Taking that into consideration, and also the extent of the public revenue of his colony, he thought the colony was acting as liberally as could be expected in voting the sum recommended by His Excellency as a recognition of the very valuable services rendered by Mr. Forrest and his party.
Mr. MARMION had much pleasure in supporting the motion before the House. A son of the soil himself, he felt proud to be there that evening to record his voice in favor of the recommendation embodied in His Excellency's Message as a recognition of the eminent services rendered by one, Western Australian-born, to the colony whose proud boast it should be that it gave him birth.

Mr. BROWN very much regretted that the speakers who had preceded him had not alluded to what appeared to him the inadequacy of the reward proposed to be offered to Mr. Forrest and his party. He did think the colony was, financially, in a position to treat them more handsomely; and he was not sure, if hon. members were to consider the question more fully—even those who had already spoken on the point—they would not entertain the same opinion as he. It was not little that Mr. Forrest had done for this colony; had it been, the colony might reward him accordingly. But he had accomplished much, and we ought to recognize his services in as liberal a manner as we could. It was well known that Mr. Forrest, in addition to the eminent services he had rendered in the cause of exploration through great personal toils, anxiety, and privation, had also put his hand, and pretty deeply, into his pocket, in the same cause. Had he been content to remain in the colony performing the mere departmental duties of his office, he could have saved a very much larger amount of money than he had been able to save by devoting his services to the work of exploration. When he (Mr. Brown) first heard His Excellency's Message read, he understood it to mean that it was proposed to present Mr. Forrest himself with the sum of 500 guineas, and he (Mr. Brown) would have been delighted had it been so, and that the other members of the party should be correspondingly rewarded in accordance with the respective positions they held in the expedition. He did not exactly know the proportion in which it was proposed to distribute the sum recommended to be granted, but he apprehended that Mr. Forrest himself would receive about 300 guineas, leaving the remainder of the grant to be appropriated between the other members of the party, which he considered by no means an adequate reward. And he should very much indeed like to see the House unanimously adopt a memorial praying His Excellency to sanction the reward of 500 guineas to Mr. Forrest himself. He really did not think that 500 guineas would recompense him for what he had actually expended out of his own pocket for this colony in the cause of exploration.

Mr. MARMION concurred.

Mr. PADDBURY said he entertained as strong feeling of admiration for John Forrest, and of the services he had rendered, as any member in the House; but, with the Colonial Secretary, he thought it was incumbent on them to be just before they were generous. He considered the sum recommended by the Governor, on the whole, very liberal, bearing in mind that Mr. Forrest was drawing his full salary all the time he was absent.

Mr. CROWTHER did not think the amount proposed was adequate, but he would sooner see that sum voted unanimously than a larger amount begrudgingly appropriated without that unanimity. He should be sorry to see what should be a graceful act ungraciously performed.

Mr. BURT, also, was of opinion that the sum recommended for appropriation was inadequate. Looking at the matter from a pounds-shillings-and-pence point of view—and he hoped the House would not view the question before it from that sordid stand point—it might be shown that Mr. Forrest, by bringing the expedition to a successful issue, had actually saved the colony money. Had his efforts to penetrate across not met with success, and nothing had been heard of the party, the colony would have been in duty bound to fit out any expedition—perhaps more than one—to follow after them for their relief. He hoped the Council would adopt the more generous view, and affirm the amendment suggested by the hon. member for Geraldton.

Mr. STEERE thought the Governor had exercised a very wise discretion in fixing the sum at 500 guineas, which the House was prepared to vote nem. con. It would be very disagreeable to him if the question came to a division, for he felt bound to vote for the amount proposed in His Excellency's Message, in the belief that the colony could not afford a larger sum.

Mr. MONGER was in favor of the larger amount, but if that could not be spared out of the public funds, the Government, at any rate, might devote an additional £50 or £100 towards giving the party a public reception on their arrival in the colony.

Mr. E. HAMERSLEY suggested that a grant of land be presented to Mr. Forrest, in lieu of the additional amount proposed.

Mr. BROWN could not bring himself to consent to the amount proposed being offered to Mr. Forrest as an adequate recognition of his
services, and he only wished he could feel as some hon. members felt—that it would be more acceptable to Mr. Forrest to have the smaller sum voted without a single dissentient voice than the larger amount voted by the majority of the representatives of the people of this colony. With reference to very few questions ever brought before the deliberative assemblies was entire unanimity to be expected. If the majority of the members of that Council decided that Mr. Forrest should have the larger sum proposed, surely he might justly consider himself entitled to it by their vote. He (Mr. Brown) failed to see why the House should make any difference in dealing with this question any more than with any other question of finance. He was perfectly sure that in voting the larger sum the House would only be giving expression to the heartfelt wish of the majority of the inhabitants of this colony.

Mr. PABBURY suggested that the additional 200 guineas be raised by public subscription, towards which he would gladly contribute his share.

After some further conversation,

Mr. BROWN moved, as an amendment upon the motion before the Committee, that an Humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, requesting that the amount of 500 guineas, proposed to be placed on the Estimates in recognition of the services of Mr. John Forrest and his party, be increased by the sum of 200 guineas.

Question put, "That the sum of 500 guineas be appropriated by this Council to make provision for recognizing the services of Mr. John Forrest and exploring party," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:

Ayes ....................... 10
Noes ....................... 7

Majority for 3

The CHAIRMAN reported that the Committee had taken Message No. 1 from His Excellency the Governor into consideration, and had agreed to the recommendation therein made.

SALARY OF HON. COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Message from the Governor—No. 2.

In Committee.

After a pause,

Mr. STEERE expressed his surprise that there was no hon. member present to move that the message be taken into consideration.

Mr. BROWN said he would be happy to do so, but he had hoped that the hon. member himself (Mr. Steere) would have adopted that course. The question was one that should not be left to any member of the Executive to introduce, and little did he think that he should have had to rise to speak on it at all, or, rather, that he should have to adopt the course which he now felt bound to take, as the representative of one section of the people of this colony. He was extremely pleased to see that the Colonial Secretary, with that good taste which generally characterizes all his actions, had left the House, so that hon. members might be free to discuss the question in his absence. He (Mr. Brown) was not wholly cognizant of the circumstances which had led His Excellency himself to send down a special Message to the House recommending the Council to add the sum of £100 to Mr. Barlee's salary; but from what he had been able to gather in the House he was in a position to state that, in a despatch, dated 30th May, 1872, His Excellency received authority from Earl Kimberley, at that time Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, to submit such a proposition to the Council. When this circumstance was mentioned to Mr. Barlee, his reply was, "No, Sir; I feel that the colony at the present time is not, financially, in a position to grant this increase to my salary." At the same time he must have felt that he had been earning, richly earning it; nevertheless, in opposition to his personal interests, he declined to avail himself in the then depressed condition of the colony of the Secretary of State's authority, and of His Excellency's proposal to carry it into effect. Mr. Barlee, about that period, had urged upon the Imperial Government his claim for promotion in Her Majesty's Civil Service—a claim

Question thus passed.
based on the faithful discharge for many years of arduous and responsible duties rendered to this colony. The Secretary of State, finding there was some difficulty in the way of there and then granting the promotion sought, and fully recognizing Mr. Barlee's claim to such promotion, authorized Governor Weld to propose to this Council an increase of £100 to his salary. The Colonial Secretary not only then magnanimously waived this recognition of his claim, in the belief that the public revenue would not then admit of an extra charge of £100 upon it; but even now, that objection had been removed it was not Mr. Barlee's desire that the proposition embodied in His Excellency's Message should be submitted to the House. The Governor himself, however, felt that he would not be doing justice did he not before leaving the colony bring the matter under the consideration of the House recommending that the sum mentioned be added to Mr. Barlee's salary. The Colonial Secretary had throughout, shown much unaffected modesty in connection with the matter. Although it might be said that he received a good salary considering the position of the colony, still he had not received his deserts. Some time ago, it would be in the recollection of most hon. members, the people of the colony considered that the Colonial Secretary, for the time being, should, by virtue of his position, rank next to the Governor, and that he was the proper person, during an interregnum, to undertake the administration of public affairs. Despatches had been laid upon the Table of the House, from which it appeared that such also was the opinion of the Home Government. Previously the Commandant of the Forces had administered the Government in the absence of the Governor; but—without any intention of being personal or invidious, or casting any reflection upon any holder of that office—he would say that a military officer commanding the forces was not likely to be as fit a person to administer the civil Government as the Colonial Secretary. It was, therefore, settled by the Imperial Authorities that after the removal of the late Major Crampton, the Colonial Secretary, should, in the event of an interregnum assume the reins of Government. On the demise of that gallant officer, and the appointment of his successor the present Commandant, to his (Mr. Brown's) utter surprise brought in his pocket a commission authorizing him to occupy the position which had been promised to the Colonial Secretary, in the event of the Governor's absence. The Secretary of State, in a despatch, stated that this course had been pursued because Mr. Barlee's services in his position as Colonial Secretary were so valuable that it would be prejudicial to the public interest, to allow him to leave that position even to enter upon a more exalted one. His rights therefore, were sacrificed in the matter to the welfare of the colony; not only as regarded his position but also his monetary dues, for he thereby lost the half pay to which as administrator of the Government, ad interim, he was entitled. He (Mr. Brown) should be sorry to see the question before the House treated in an off-handed, cavalier manner. The Council had before it the authority of Her Majesty's Secretary of State, and the Governor's special Message—probably the last Message which His Excellency would ever send down to the House—wherein, His Excellency states that he feels he would not be doing justice did he not before leaving the colony bring it under the consideration of the House, and recommend the Council to increase Mr. Barlee's salary to the extent named. He (Mr. Brown) would gladly respond to His Excellency's recommendation, based as it was upon the authority of the Secretary of State and Mr. Barlee's special claims and he thought the House ought to accede to the Governor's request in the same spirit.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser) regretted to observe the apparent indisposition on the part of hon. members to enter into a discussion on the question before the House. His Excellency was actuated by the same feeling of justice towards a valuable public servant when he sent down the Message now under consideration as had actuated His Excellency in transmitting for the approval of the Council the other Message which the House had just disposed of; and he (the Surveyor General) could not believe that hon. members, looking at the question under consideration in that light, would do otherwise than deal with it in the same liberal spirit as had animated them in voting the sum recommended by His Excellency in recognition of the services of Mr. John Forrest and his party. From his own personal knowledge, he was in a position to state that His Excellency had been desirous and anxious to submit Earl Kimberley's proposal for the consideration of the Council as soon as practicable after the receipt of the despatch authorizing him to do so; but His Excellency had hitherto refrained from doing so at the express wish of the Colonial Secretary himself. The Surveyor General did not imagine that there could be two opinions as to Mr. Barlee's claim to the increase recommended, and he hoped the House would treat His Excellency's Message with respect to the Colonial Secretary in the same handsomely and liberal manner as it had treated the Message just disposed of, and thereby do bare justice to an executive officer fully deserving it.
Mr. BICKLEY considered that extraordinary services called for extraordinary recognition. He had himself been placed in a position that enabled him to appreciate the services of public officials, but he had met few whose services were so valuable as Mr. Barlee's services to this colony. He considered that the Colonial Secretary's talent, tact, patience and perseverance had been of inestimable value to this country. Into every question conducive to the welfare and prosperity of the colony he had thrown his whole soul. The services of so efficient an officer should be retained at any price; he cordially agreed with the recommendation embodied in His Excellency's Message.

Mr. STEERE very often had very unpleasant duties to perform in that House, and a very unpleasant duty now devolved upon him; but however disagreeable the task he had to perform he was not thereby to be deterred from the performance of what he considered a public duty. He must say that a great deal that had fallen from the hon. member for Geraldton relative to the question before the House was irrelevant, and both he and the Hon. the Surveyor General had stated what really was not the case. They stated that Earl Kimberley himself had proposed this increase of salary for Mr. Barlee, whereas the fact was that the proposition first emanated from His Excellency Governor Weld, and the Secretary of State's reply was that if His Excellency could find a corner open for introducing the suggested increase into the Estimates he was at liberty to do so.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser): The proposition originated with Earl Kimberley.

Mr. STEERE: It did not. As to the fact of Mr. Barlee withdrawing from the House while a question affecting him personally was being discussed, good taste could have dictated no other course; but so far as he (Mr. Steere) was concerned, he would sooner that the Colonial Secretary had remained in his place, for he (Mr Steere) was in the habit of saying in a man's back only what he would say to his face.

Mr. Brown: True.

Mr. STEERE said that no doubt Mr. Barlee was a very valuable and efficient public servant to this colony; at the same, he maintained Mr. Barlee was well paid for his services, valuable though they might be. Not many years ago his salary was £600, and that was increased to £800—an increase which Mr. Steere much doubted would have been sanctioned if Representative Government had been in existence here at the time. In other, and far more important, colonies, possessing a revenue far in excess of our own, the salary paid to the chief secretary was proportionately much less than Mr. Barlee's salary. In Canada, with a revenue close upon £4,000,000 the salary of the Prime Minister was only £1,000, and the other members of the Executive Government were proportionately paid at the same rate. Those officials were responsible Ministers, whereas the members of the Executive in this colony had no responsibility. In New Zealand again, with a revenue of a million and a half sterling, the salary of the Premier was £1,600; in Tasmania with a revenue double that of this colony, the salary of the Prime Minister was £700, while other responsible Ministers under the same Government only received £500; and it was an admitted and well known fact that the gentleman holding the office of the Premier in Tasmania, at the time of the recent Intercolonial Exhibition at Sydney (where he was a delegate)—Mr. Innes—was one of the most able men there. Comparing the salaries received by the chief secretaries of other and more prosperous colonies, then, it certainly did appear to him out of the way altogether to ask the House to give the Colonial Secretary an increase of £100 a year. It was all very well to talk of the flourishing condition of the revenue, and our ability to afford this and that increase of expenditure. It was quite true that a wave of prosperity was just now passing over the colony, but it was quite possible there would be an ebb of the tide before very long. We could not expect the high prices now obtaining with respect to the staple products of the colony to rule much longer; and our merchants would tell us that there had recently been a great deal of over-importations, and that the rate at which goods had been imported of late was far in excess of any reasonable requirements of the population, so that our present prosperity was not altogether on a firm basis, and possibly it might not continue long. They, therefore, should not depart from the practice of economy, and become spendthrifts in dealing with the public funds. But the principal reason upon which his objection to the motion before the House was based was that, probably, nay, it was almost certain, that before long a very important constitutional change would take place in the colony. When the Bill providing for that change came under consideration, the question of official salaries would have to be discussed by the House; and he did think it was not right, looking at the probability of the change he alluded to coming to pass at an early date, that they should thus have the ground, as it were, cut from under their feet, and be now called upon to decide a question which it would be more fitting to decide then. He would therefore
move, as an amendment upon the motion before the House,—That the Council is of opinion, that looking to the probable constitutional changes about to take place, which would then render it necessary to consider the salaries to be given to the members of the Executive, the present time is not opportune to make any changes in the salaries of those Officials.

Mr. MARMION felt he should not be doing his duty as a representative of the people if he did not say a word on the matter before the House. The hon. member for Wellington had endeavored to make capital out of the simple question whether the proposition for an increase to the Colonial Secretary's salary had emanated, in the first instance, from Earl Kimberley or from Governor Weld. Now, the question for the House to consider that evening was, whether the officer whose salary it was proposed to augment was deserving of the increase, whether the services he had rendered to the colony entitled him to that slight recognition at their hands? So far as he was concerned, he believed he was fully entitled to it. The hon. member for Wellington in alluding to the salaries received by officers holding analogous positions in other colonies seemed to have forgotten that in those countries they had Responsible Government, and that the men who hold office there are gentlemen possessing large private means, and who accept office merely for the sake of fame. The same hon. member, while admitting that a wave of prosperity was now passing over the colony, said that days of adversity may rise. Who, he (Mr. Marmion) would ask, when those days of adversity did arrive, could they have more fit to be at the helm of affairs, to lead us back to prosperity, than the present Colonial Secretary? In saying this, he believed he expressed the opinion of the majority of the inhabitants of the colony. The contemplated change in the Constitution appeared to him an argument in favor rather than against the motion for an increase. Approaching, as we probably do, the last hour of the existence of the present form of Government, one of the most graceful acts the House could perform was to give to one who had worked so hard to make it a success some recognition of his services. He sincerely hoped every hon. member would give his vote in favor of the suggestion embodied in His Excellency's Message.

Mr. PADBURY, after listening to all that had fallen from the lips of the hon. members who had spoken on the subject before the House, rose to second the amendment of the hon. member for Wellington. He thought that as the arrival of a new Governor, and the advent of a new form of Government, were so near, the best thing they could do would be to leave the matter in abeyance, until the contemplated changes came to pass. As he had publicly said before, with Mr. Barlee as Premier under Responsible Government he would not—provided the colony could afford it—begrudge him £1,000 a year, for he believed he would be worth it. There was no officer under the Government who worked harder than Mr. Barlee; but, pending the constitutional changes about to take place, he thought the House should not meddle with the salaries of the members of the Executive. For this reason he seconded the amendment of the hon. member for Wellington.

Mr. S. HAMERSLEY supported the amendment, and expressed a feeling of regret that the consideration of the motion before the House had not been made an order of the day for that day six months. He failed to see on what ground Mr. Barlee was entitled to any increase of salary. The Colonial Secretary was, no doubt, a very deserving, modest, bashful man, who was much in the habit of hiding his light under a bushel; nevertheless, he (Mr. Hamersley) failed to see why, on that ground, he was entitled to an augmentation of his salary. He thought Mr. Barlee had been, and was, very well paid, and he defied any hon. member in that Chamber, or any individual outside it, to deny that every single action Mr. Barlee had done for the colony had been amply rewarded. What was more: if the hon. gentleman did not think he was sufficiently well paid, and if other public officials were not satisfied, let them go elsewhere, and get more, if they could. They were very foolish to remain here, if they thought they could do so. His opinion was, that, if they went, we would be able to get others to fill their offices; if we could not, what on earth was the good of talking of Responsible Government? Great stress had been laid upon Mr. Barlee's services on the occasion of his trip, as showman for the colony, to Sydney; but was he not well paid for it? Had he not a very pleasant trip at the public expense; and, after all, what had he done more than his duty? He did that, no doubt; and he was well rewarded for it; his services had been most handsomely recognised, bearing in mind the condition of the colony. Let hon. members compare his position in life with the position of people generally in Western Australia; if not actually overpaid, if not living in affluence, the result at any rate was very satisfactory, he presented a very wholesome appearance. (Laughter.) Compared with the colonists generally, Mr. Barlee had no cause whatever to complain of his position.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake) said the objections taken to the recommendation embodied in His Excellency's Message by some honorable members,
and particularly by that enlightened legislator, the hon. member for the Murray, were amusing from their very irrelevancy and inconsistency. Accustomed to look at every question from a sordid point of view, and survey it from below, some hon. members appeared incapable of comprehending the fact that the highest liberality was frequently the truest economy in dealing with those who serve the public. Allusion had been made to the salaries paid to Ministers in other countries, and it had been said that in comparison with officials holding corresponding positions in Canada, New Zealand, and Tasmania, our own Colonial Secretary was a well paid officer, forgetting that in the colonies alluded to Responsible Government obtained, and Ministers, in addition to their official salaries, had the distribution of a certain amount of patronage within their power, and were thus enabled to advance the interests of their relations and friends. In democracies public servants were usually remunerated very inadequately, and were expected to compensate themselves for their low pay by unlimited plunder, so that, as in the United States for instance, a man holding any responsible office under Government, with a salary of two or three thousand dollars, could always calculate upon retiring with a competence or a fortune after his four years' tenure had expired; but, for himself, he preferred the system of obtaining the services of men of ability and probity for all posts under Government, by paying them well, and rewarding a lifelong devotion to the public interests by liberal recognition. Not a single penny of emolument beyond his bare salary was there for the Colonial Secretary of this colony to put in his pocket; in all matters, whether connected with the public service or his private dealings, Mr. Barlee's hands were entirely clean; not a single measure had that man ever advocated but what redounded, not to his own profit, but to the interests of the public, whom he had served. (Hear, hear.) The increase suggested by His Excellency to the Colonial Secretary's salary was only a temporary increase; the existing form of Government would probably not last more than 18 months or two years, and then the House would have to fix its Civil List,—not, however, upon the meagre scale contemplated by those who were averse to placing any public servant in a position of independence, but upon a scale approved by Her Majesty's Secretary of State. (Cries of "No, no.") He disagreed with those hon. members who cried no, no.

Mr. STEERE: The Secretary of State has nothing to do with fixing our Civil List.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake) said that the Secretary of State would retain in his hands the entire control of the Crown Lands, the revenues from which the Colonial Secretary, under the guidance of the Governor and his Executive Council, had so beneficially administered, until the House chose to deal liberally with the holders of offices. He (the Acting Attorney General) would appeal to hon. members whether in conducting the public business of this colony the Colonial Secretary had not labored under disadvantages which would not exist under a system of ministerial responsibility. True there had been opposition manifested to some of the measures which on the part of the Government he had introduced, but every beneficial measure in that House, every capital measure that had been brought forward calculated to promote the welfare of the colony, had been carried through, he would not say by the advocacy, but by the honest business-like spirit shown by the Colonial Secretary in dealing with it. Who, he would ask, in the event of the contemplated constitutional change—it might or it might not be a beneficial change—when that change took place, is so well acquainted as Mr. Barlee with the forms and the mere details of the business of the House? To use a somewhat hackneyed expression, the Colonial Secretary had educated the members of that House in the knowledge of how the business of the Council should be conducted.

Mr. STEERE: No.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake) said that it was idle to enquire who it was who first proposed an increase in Mr. Barlee's salary; enough for the House to know that the Colonial Secretary, really with unaffected modesty and in opposition to his own personal interests, declined to accept it in a period of depression in the condition of the colony's finances. That period of depression had now, happily, passed away, and they were asked to increase his salary, in consideration of the valuable public services, extending over a period of 19 years, he had rendered to the colony, the test of which was to be found in that prosperity which now prevailed,—prosperity which he himself had not created, but prosperity which he himself had taken advantage of to base thereon measures beneficial to the colony. They had been asked by the hon. member for the Murray—one of the rising lights of the new Constitution—what benefits had accrued to the colony from Mr. Barlee's visit to Victoria and New South Wales? Would it be no benefit to the colony to be connected by the electric wire with the sister provinces and with the world? Would it be no advantage to the colony that its capabilities and its resources had been prominently and favorably brought under the
notice of capitalists in colonies where Mr. Barlee visited? Had we not already had an influx of strangers to develop industries that but for their arrival in our midst would have remained idle? As an outcome of Mr. Barlee’s visit to the Intercolonial Conference, had we not been admitted into the sisterhood of the Australian colonies, and were no longer the despised community we previously were; and had not beneficial measures been introduced tending to raise the colony in the scale of civilization? The hostility exhibited to the motion before the House was ungracious, and, he feared, was not altogether prompted by motives of genuine economy.

Mr. CROWTHER said he would vote in favor of the motion for an increase, under the honest conviction that the Colonial Secretary was entitled to it.

Mr. BURT expressed himself to the same effect.

Amendment put, “That the Council is of opinion, that looking to the probable constitutional changes about to take place, which would then render it necessary to consider the salaries to be given to the members of the Executive, the present time is not opportune to make any changes in the salaries of those Officials,” upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows—

Ayes
Mr. Padbury
Mr. E. Hamersley
Mr. S. Hamersley
Mr. Gale
Mr. Steele (Teller.)

Noes
Mr. Pearse
Mr. Mauger
The Hon. M. Fraser
Mr. Bickley
Mr. Burt
Mr. Brown
Sir Thomas Cockburn-Campbell
Mr. Crowther
Mr. Marmion
Mr. Glyde
The Hon. G. W. Leake

Majority against

Amendment thus negatived.

Question, “That a sum of £100 be added to the salary of Hon. F. P. Barlee, Colonial Secretary,” put and passed.

The CHAIRMAN reported that the Committee had taken into consideration Message No. 2 from His Excellency the Governor, and had agreed to the following resolution: That a sum of £100 be added to the salary of Hon. F. P. Barlee, Colonial Secretary.

FOREIGN RECRUITING 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.

ESTIMATES.

Discussion of Grievances.

Mr. BICKLEY again moved that the levy of duties on stores consumed in pearlimg vessels belonging to this colony is highly impolitic, as placing such vessels at serious disadvantage compared with vessels fitted out for the fishery from other ports, and thereby tends to discourage the pursuit as a colonial industry.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said the subject would receive the attention of the Government with the view of being brought under the consideration of the House on a further occasion.

In Committee.

Resumed debate.

Item: Police Department, £21,620 10s.

A discussion ensued with regard to an increase in the pay of the police constables stationed at Champion Bay, ending in,

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the Governor be authorized to make an allowance of £15 per annum to each member of the Police Force employed in the Victoria district, in consequence of the great rise in wages in that district.

Question put and passed.

Item agreed to.

Item: Gaols, £3,035.

Item: Rottnest Penal Establishment, £1,492 10s.

Item: Government Printing Department, £1,038 14s.

Item: Poor House and Charitable Allowances, £3,488.

Item: Pensions, £2,469 10s.

Items agreed to.

Item: Inspectors of Sheep, £1,000.

Mr. BROWN asked that an additional inspector be provided for the Victoria district, as it was utterly impracticable for one inspector to carry out the provisions of the Scab Act in that district.

A desultory conversation ensued, resulting in progress being reported, and leave obtained to sit again.
SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved the suspension of Standing Order No. 2, in order that the Council meet on Saturday, the 21st November, for the further consideration of the Estimates in Committee, and the transaction of other matters.

Question put and passed.

The Council adjourned at 1.20 a.m (Saturday).

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
Saturday, 21st November, 1874.


The SPEAKER took the Chair at 11 a.m.

PRAYERS.

SWEARING IN OF MEMBER.

The SPEAKER administered the Oath of Allegiance to Mr. Broadhurst, nominee member.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND INCORPORATION BILL.

Select Committee Report.

Mr. BURT brought up the report of the select committee appointed to consider a Bill intitled "An Act for the Incorporation of the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Synod of Perth as Trustees of the Branch of the Church of England in Western Australia," and moved that the same be read.

Question put and passed.

ESTIMATES.

In Committee.

Resumed debate.

Item: Inspectors of Sheep, £1,000.

Mr. BROWN, after a lengthy conversational discussion on the subject, moved that if the sheepowners in the Victoria district are prepared to pay the Salary of a second inspector, the Government be authorized to appoint such a second inspector.

Question put and passed.

Item: Ecclesiastical, £3,543.

Item: Education, £6,165.

Items agreed to.

Item: Works and Buildings, £13,165.

Mr. STEERE asked that £1,000 of the amount allocated for jetty extensions be appropriated for extending Bunbury jetty 600 ft., which, he was informed, would carry the structure to a depth of 16 ft. or 17 ft., thus enabling the mail steamer to come alongside. He thought he might fairly claim this amount for the district he represented, and that other districts which had money out of the public funds freely expended in them should be content to wait a year or two for any further expenditure.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) thought that all that would be required in the shape of jetty extension at the four ports where it was proposed to expend the vote, would be met out of the sum set down in the Estimates for that purpose. The necessary lengthening of the jetties at Bunbury and at the Vasse might, he believed, be made at a cost of £800 for each district; the very trifling extension necessary for the Champion Bay jetty, he was told, only involve an expenditure of about £300, and the requisite alteration of the jetty at Albany might be made for £150.

Mr. CROWTHER suggested that a trivial sum be appropriated for Port Irwin jetty; about £200 would render it available for the steamer, and this, he conceived a very desirable and necessary expenditure.

Mr. BROWN supported the application.

Mr. PADBURY also spoke in favor thereof, and asked for £80 to be appropriated towards building a wool shed at Jurien Bay, than which there was not a better bay in the colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) suggested the advisability of waiting for the report of the Admiralty Marine Surveyor before expending any money at the Irwin or Jurien Bay.

Mr. STEERE recommended that a moiety of the sum proposed to be expended on the Champion jetty should be devoted to the extension of the jetty at Port Irwin. He understood there was some doubt as to the suitability of the position of the former jetty, and that very probably a new one would have to be erected at another spot; it would, therefore, be impolitic to expend much money on the present structure.

Mr. BROWN said that in the opinion of the majority of the inhabitants of Champion Bay the existing jetty was in a proper position.

Mr. STEERE intimated that his authority was Governor Weld, who had hinted as much at a public assembly.

Mr. BROWN did not consider Governor Weld the best authority on every subject connected with the colony, nor did he consider