

carried on in this colony, the legalisation of the totalisator would have any pernicious result. We could not put down gaming altogether, that was very certain, but we might restrict it within reasonable limits, which was just what the totalisator did. In this colony—he did not know whether it was the case in England—but in this colony, if any section of the community indulged in a little harmless betting more than another, he believed it was married women, and he was surprised to find the hon. and learned Attorney General, who was such a staunch supporter of married women's rights, opposing this Bill.

The House divided on the motion for the second reading of the Bill, with the following result—

Ayes ... ..	14
Noes ... ..	8
Majority for ..	6

AYES.	NOES.
Hon. M. Fraser	Hon. A. P. Hensman
Hon. J. Forrest	Hon. J. H. Thomas
Mr. Brown	Mr. Burges
Mr. Burt	Mr. Glyde
Sir T. C. Campbell, Bart.	Mr. Hamersley
Mr. Carey	Mr. Higham
Mr. Crowther	Mr. Shenton
Mr. Grant	Mr. Randell (Teller.)
Mr. Marnion	
Mr. McRae	
Mr. Steere	
Mr. Vann	
Mr. Wittenoom	
Mr. S. H. Parker (Teller.)	

The amendment submitted by Mr. Randell was therefore negatived.

Bill read a second time.

The House adjourned at twelve o'clock, midnight.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

*Tuesday, 21st August, 1883.*

Raising of 1883 Loan—Responsible Government: As to terms upon which it will be granted—Imported Labor Registry Bill (Mr. Brown's): first reading—Metalling of Bridges—Report of Surveyor General on Crown Lands in the Central Districts—Inspector of Accounts' Report on Railway Accounts—High School, Perth, Mortgage Bill: in committee—Dog Bill: second reading—Electric Telegraph Bill: re-committed—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

## RAISING OF THE 1883 LOAN.

MR. STEERE, in accordance with notice, asked the Colonial Secretary whether any information had been received by the Government with reference to the raising of the last loan?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) replied that no official information had been received, and that the Government knew nothing further than what was contained in the telegrams which had appeared in the public Press. If the House desired it, the Government would telegraph an inquiry on the subject to the Crown Agents—though it had not been thought necessary by the Government to do so, as no doubt full information on the subject would arrive by an early mail.

## TERMS UPON WHICH RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT WILL BE GRANTED.

MR. GRANT, in accordance with notice, asked the Colonial Secretary if any reply had been received by the Government to the question asked by the hon. member for Perth (Mr. S. H. Parker), last session, as to the terms and conditions upon which Responsible Government would be granted to Western Australia?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said no reply had been received.

## IMPORTED LABOR REGISTRY BILL.

MR. BROWN, in accordance with notice, moved for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the laws providing for the registration of certain persons who shall be imported into Western Australia, or employed in any manner within the territorial dominion thereof.

Motion agreed to.

Bill read a first time.

## METALLING OF BRIDGES.

MR. BURT, in accordance with notice, drew the attention of the Government to the present danger to traffic that existed upon the Perth Bridge, and the bridges at Guildford over the Swan and Helena rivers. The hon. member said this might seem a very small matter with which to occupy the attention of that honorable House, but he was sure, when

hon. members had heard what he had to say on the subject, they would think with him that this was the only method available at present to bring the question prominently before the Government, in the hope that some steps might be taken to have the evil complained of remedied. He thought it was now generally admitted that to leave the flooring of a bridge uncovered was, especially in winter time when the boards became slippery, very dangerous to traffic. Very serious accidents might occur, and, to his own knowledge, more than one had already occurred, by reason of the flooring of bridges being left uncovered—a new system of bridge-making lately introduced by the Government. The bridges referred to in his notice of motion were at one time covered with metalling or other material, and no one ever heard of any accident whatever being occasioned to teams or lighter vehicles crossing them when they were so covered. But, a short time ago, the Government undertook to do certain repairs to these bridges, consisting among other things of putting in a new flooring, and the metalling after being removed for that purpose had not been renewed, and the bridges had remained uncovered ever since, with the result, as he had already said, of several accidents being occasioned thereby. It might have been thought that the mere mention of these accidents to the parties responsible for the condition of the bridges would have induced them to remedy the evil; but such was not the case. Several hon. members of that House, who also were members of the Central Road Committee, were aware that in many instances they had found themselves quite powerless to carry into effect their own opinions and their own wishes with regard to the flooring of these bridges. He knew that Governor Robinson and the late Administrator were quite in accord with the Road Committee and with public opinion as to the necessity of covering the bridges, and that it was unsafe to leave them uncovered; and orders, he believed, were given both by Sir William Robinson and the late Administrator that the flooring of these bridges should be covered. When Mr. Padbury, whose cattle were injured in crossing one of the bridges referred to,

threatened to sue the Director of Public Works, he was assured that the Helena Bridge should be covered at once, and that in a fortnight's time, when the next mob of cattle came down, he would find the bridge gravelled and rendered safe for traffic. He believed that a little sand or some other stuff was put on it, but it soon blew off, and the same with Perth Bridge; consequently all the suggestions of the Road Committee, all the peremptory orders of the Administrator of the Government, all the complaints and threats of aggrieved settlers had proved of no avail whatever. It might be said that the local Roads Boards, in some instances, were the responsible parties now; but, he would point out, that when the Government under the provisions of the Act took possession of these bridges for the purpose of repairing them, they were all covered, and Perth Bridge had a considerable quantity of metal upon it,—something like 800 tons weight, valued by the Chairman of the Perth Road Board at about £400, all of which was removed by the Government and taken away to the Canning district, where it made a very good road. He therefore submitted it was altogether unfair to say that it was the duty of the District Board to cover this bridge again, the Government having taken the old metal away and utilised it. The same observation applied to the other two bridges. Besides these two, there was another bridge, a new bridge, at West Guildford, constructed at the very small cost of £700 he believed, which was just barely sufficient to put up the wooden framework and flooring, leaving no funds available for covering it, with the result that traffic across it was most dangerous, and serious accidents had already occurred to teams passing over it. Surely it was the duty of the Government to see to these things. When the hon. member for Perth, the other day, drew the attention of the Director of Public Works to the fact that the Helena Bridge was uncovered, the reply he received was that some sand or gravel had been put on the bridge, and that they intended some day to put more on. And there was an end of it. They knew from past experience that it was no use relying upon the Director of Public Works to carry out any recom-

mendation contrary to his own views, whether such recommendation took the form of a suggestion from the Roads Committee, a resolution of that House, or the peremptory orders of the Governor himself; and the only way they could hope to have anything done with reference to these bridges was to bring the matter under the direct notice of the Executive in this way. He was sure the other members of the Government would desire to meet the wishes of the representatives of the people in such a matter as this, and would sink their own personal opinions in view of the strong public feeling which prevailed on the subject, and of the experience of practical men, thoroughly conversant with the work of road-making. His original intention was to have moved a resolution dealing with the bridges he had named only, but he should like to amend his motion so as to make it apply to all other bridges the flooring of which was uncovered, as he understood the same ground for complaint existed in other parts of the colony. The resolution he had to propose would therefore be in the following terms: "That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should take immediate steps to cover with gravel, or some other suitable material, the flooring of all bridges uncovered, or left uncovered, by the Works Department."

MR. CAREY, in seconding the resolution, said there undoubtedly were other bridges besides those named, which illustrated the folly of placing these structures under the control of the Government,—the lower bridge crossing the Collicie for instance.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said, with regard to the Perth Causeway, the Government now had nothing at all to do with it, as it had been handed over to the District Road Board, who had accepted charge of it, and who had received £300—the unexpended balance of the Road Loan—for the purpose of renewing the metal covering of the bridge. As to the Helena Bridge, he was not aware whether it was actually out of the hands of the Works Department or not; the last action with reference to it on the part of the Government, through the Central Road Committee, was to issue instructions for

gravelling it, and he presumed that had been done. Generally speaking, with regard to all these bridges, hon. members were aware that no provision was made on the Estimates to enable the Government to keep them in repair, and that in future the entire control of them would be vested in the local Road Boards, the management of the bridges as well as of the roads reverting to those bodies. The only money available for gravelling bridges, or doing anything else to them, would be such portions of the annual grant for roads as the members of the Boards may deem wise and prudent to expend upon the bridges in their respective districts. Under these circumstances, he could not see the utility of this resolution, even if it were adopted, inasmuch as the Government were simply powerless in the matter.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (Hon. J. H. Thomas) said, with regard to Perth Bridge, which, as was well known to hon. members, had been handed over to the local Road Board, a contract had already been taken for gravelling it, while, as regards the Helena Bridge, the Government were only waiting for the completion of the second section of the Eastern Railway in order to get gravel to cover that bridge, within the amount available for expenditure.

MR. BROWN said he understood from the hon. member for the Murray that when the Government took over these bridges out of the hands of the Roads Boards they were all covered with gravel, and in a fit state for traffic, but that since then the Government had removed that covering, and that now they had returned the bridges to the Boards minus the gravel. That being the case, he thought it was but a reasonable thing to expect that the Government would put the bridges in the same state as they were in when they took them out of the hands of the Board. As to the Perth Causeway, he did not think the House ought to include that bridge in the resolution after the explanation of the Colonial Secretary, the District Road Board having accepted charge of the bridge, under an arrangement with the Government. With regard to the object which the hon. member for the Murray had in view, he went entirely with the

hon. member, and he regarded the resolution as a very proper one; but, as the Government appeared to have no funds available for this work, it could not be expected that the Government would spend money upon it illegally, and he apprehended all the hon. member contemplated was that the Government should come forward and ask the House for a special vote for the purpose. So far as he was concerned, if they did come forward, and adopted that course, thus acknowledging their liability, he should be prepared to vote the requisite amount; on the other hand, if the House refused to place the Government in possession of the necessary funds, the Government would be absolved from all further liability in the matter.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (Hon. J. H. Thomas) said it had always been considered a very popular thing, both by members of that House and the Press, to abuse the Works Department, but he would remind them that they had already killed one of the best officers who ever came into the colony (the Superintendent of Roads), and he was very much afraid they would also send him (the Director) to a premature grave. The bridges spoken of had never been taken over by the Works Department; all the department did was to expend portions of the £50,000 loan on the bridges of the colony; it never took them over.

MR. BURT said they were told by one member of the Government that there was no money available for doing anything to these bridges, and on the other hand they were informed by the Director of Public Works that, as regards the Helena Bridge, the Government intended to gravel that bridge out of the money available. This was a matter which the members of the Government must settle among themselves. Of course what he contemplated was, that the Government, in the event of their having no funds, should ask for a vote for the purpose mentioned.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said it was merely a question of whether in the opinion of the House it was necessary to add to the amount already placed on the Estimates for "Roads and Bridges" a further sum to enable the Roads Boards to gravel these

particular bridges, and bridges in general. He himself thought that the sum already placed on the Estimates (£15,000) was a very handsome appropriation on the part of the State towards roads and bridges. Undoubtedly it would be the work of the various Roads Boards to keep the bridges in a state fit for traffic. The bridges were out of the hands of the Government, and it was useless to imagine that the Government could do any more than it had done in the matter. It would be a question for the House to decide whether a further sum could be devoted out of public funds for this purpose, in addition to the proposed annual grant of £15,000.

MR. STEERE said so far as he understood the resolution it was that the Government should re-gravel all the bridges taken over by them gravelled, but which they had stripped; but he did not think the Perth Causeway ought to be included, in view of the statement made by the Colonial Secretary. As to the Helena Bridge, they had it on the authority of the Director of Public Works that there was a sum available for covering that bridge. With regard to the new bridge over the Swan, his own impression was that if this bridge were gravelled the covering would be washed away, and that a better protection for horses would be to have battens put on the flooring. With reference to other bridges which had no covering, if it was the wish of the Roads Boards that they should be covered it ought to be done, by the Government, but not out of the annual vote for roads and bridges, for he was quite certain that the vote would not be more than would be required to keep the roads in repair, considering the state they were in now, to say nothing of gravelling bridges. He could not acknowledge at all what was stated by the Director of Public Works, that the Government had not taken over the charge of these bridges, in view of a certain letter which was under the attention of the Roads Committee.

The resolution was then put and passed.

#### CROWN LANDS IN CENTRAL DISTRICTS: REPORT OF SURVEYOR GENERAL.

MR. BURGESS, in accordance with notice, drew the attention of the House to

the report of the Surveyor General on the Crown lands in the Central Districts of the colony. The hon. member said he did so in order to call public attention to the necessity which existed for an alteration in our land laws, and in the hope that this subject would be taken up and dealt with at the next session of Council, so that lessees may know upon what terms and upon what conditions these lands are to be re-let. The remarks of the Surveyor General on the subject were so much in accord with his own views, that he could not do better than refer hon. members to the report itself. Mr. Forrest pointed out some of the difficulties which appeared in the way of an alteration in our land laws at the present time, because the leases in existence have certain rights attached to them; but, at the same time, he said that a great many of the leases in the Central District would shortly fall in, and therefore it was a convenient time to determine on what conditions these lands are to be re-let, and the amount of security that can be given to the pastoral lessee, with a due regard to the agricultural interests. This was exactly what he (Mr. Burges) wished to call the attention of the House to, and he did so, as already said, in the hope that by giving timely notice the subject should receive due consideration, between this and the next session of Council. Some alterations would, no doubt, have to be made in our land regulations, and the sooner these alterations were decided upon the better would it be for our pastoral tenants. The report of the Surveyor General on this subject was an admirable one, and he took this opportunity of thanking him for it.

Mr. BROWN concurred as to the desirability of timely notice being given of any radical changes in our land regulations, in order that the subject might receive due consideration, while as to the Surveyor General's report no doubt it was a most valuable one.

Mr. MARMION said no doubt it was very desirable that the subject of a change in our land laws should occupy the attention of the House and the Government at as early a date as possible, and it might be a wise thing to appoint a Commission consisting of some of the members of the House to consider the

matter during the recess. But he would remind the House that, some years ago, the recommendations made by a committee of the House were thought very little of by the Government, and he ventured to say that if another committee were appointed their recommendations would go very much on the same lines. He thought the temper of the country would be against giving any longer tenure to lessees, except on such conditions as had been already indicated.

Mr. WITTENOOM thought it would be very desirable indeed that lessees should know by next session of Council on what conditions they were likely to have their leases renewed, so that the new regulations might be submitted to the Imperial Government, and some decision arrived at in good time.

Mr. CAREY thought it would be very undesirable to have a commission appointed of members of that House to deal with the land regulations. He thought the country at large should have an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the subject. They had already had some experience of recommendations made by a committee of that House, which in no way met with the approval of the country, and consequently were not brought forward in any definite form.

Mr. S. H. PARKER moved the adjournment of the House, and the matter dropped.

#### INSPECTOR OF ACCOUNTS' REPORT ON RAILWAY ACCOUNTS.

On the Order of the Day for the resumption of the discussion upon Mr. CAREY'S motion for the production of this report,

Mr. RANDELL said that, after what fell from the Colonial Secretary the other evening with reference to the report—that the Government considered it would be undesirable to lay the papers on the table of the House for the reason that they were connected with departmental difficulties and disagreements which, happily, were now at an end, but that if the hon. member who had moved for them wished for any special information, and would mention the points with regard to which he desired to be informed, he (the Colonial Secretary) would obtain it

for him from the responsible head of the department concerned; or, if the hon. member chose, he could see all the papers at the Colonial Secretary's office—he (Mr. Randell) thought that after this explanation the hon. member might withdraw his motion, as the reasons assigned by the Colonial Secretary for the non-production of the report were such as should commend them to the judgment of the House.

MR. BROWN said, if the hon. member for the Vasse did not see fit to withdraw his motion, he (Mr. Brown) should vote for it, as he considered it a very proper motion. He thought the reasons given for not laying the report on the table would have come with better effect after the resolution had been affirmed by the House, for he could quite conceive that the Government might not feel inclined to produce papers on the invitation of one member, whereas they might be inclined to do so if moved for by a resolution of the whole House. When the Government came forward and told them, with a full appreciation of the responsibility entrusted to them, that it was undesirable they should place these papers, or any other papers, upon the table, they should have his most cordial support; at the same time, the House had a duty to perform, and if hon. members considered it desirable to move for their production, by resolution, and the Government in view of that resolution stated it was inexpedient in their opinion to do so, he should feel bound to support them.

MR. CAREY said he was entirely in the hands of the House in the matter, and, if it was not the wish of hon. members that the resolution should be pressed, he would withdraw it, and accept the Colonial Secretary's invitation to call at his office to see the papers.

MR. S. H. PARKER moved that the debate be adjourned.

Agreed to.

#### HIGH SCHOOL, PERTH, MORTGAGE BILL.

The House then went into committee for the further consideration of this Bill.

Clause 1.—Governors of school empowered to mortgage its lands and hereditaments:

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said the debate on this clause was adjourned the other day in order to enable the Attorney General and himself to have an opportunity of conferring with the hon. member in charge of the Bill, with the view of introducing a proviso requiring the governors of the school to obtain the consent of the Governor in Council before they could mortgage the land given to the school, by the Crown. This had been done, and, in order to allow the Attorney General an opportunity of moving the proviso, he would withdraw the amendment he had moved the other day, and which was now before the committee.

Amendment withdrawn.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman), without comment, moved, that the following words be added to the clause:—"Provided always, that "the said Governors shall not have power "to grant, mortgage, demise, or alien "the said piece of land known as 'Perth "Town Lot H 54,' or any part thereof, "without first obtaining the consent in "writing of the Governor of the said "Colony acting with the advice of the "Executive Council."

Question—put and passed.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 2.—Execution of deeds:

Agreed to, *sub silentio*.

Clause 3.—Mortgagee or purchaser not affected by irregularities, etc:

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) moved to add the words "except as hereinbefore provided."

This was agreed to, and the clause as amended put and passed.

Clause 4.—Short title:

Agreed to.

Preamble and title agreed to.

Bill reported.

#### DOG BILL.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser), in moving the second reading of a Bill to amend and consolidate the laws relating to dogs, said the Bill appeared before them as an old friend with a new face, or rather under new auspices. A measure of a similar character introduced by the hon. member for the Swan on two occasions had been the

cause of some little discord between the House and the Government, as the Administrator of the day, for reasons which he need not now revert to, had refused to give his assent to those Bills. The present Government, however, considered it would be advisable to legislate in this direction, and the Bill which he now brought under the attention of the House was a measure which he hoped would be acceptable to them all. The Bill, it would be observed, was divided into four parts. The first part related to the registration of dogs, and contained hardly anything that was new, being merely a consolidation of the existing statutes. The second part dealt with the dogs of aboriginal natives, and it enabled the settlers in the country districts to invoke the arm of the law in putting down what was an acknowledged nuisance,—the destruction caused by the numerous canine followers which usually attached themselves to these natives. The Bill made provision for facilitating the destruction of these pests, while, at the same time, it made what he might call a liberal provision whereby aboriginal natives would be allowed to retain a sufficient number of dogs for the purpose of procuring food for themselves. The Bill differed in one respect from the vexed Bill dealing with aboriginal native offenders, in that it empowered any Justice of the Peace, sitting alone, to deal with cases that may arise under it. All a settler had to do, if aggrieved, was to lay a complaint before any Justice of the Peace to the effect that a native had in his possession an unregistered dog which had destroyed or wounded any sheep, or which the native did not actually require for his own subsistence; and, upon reasonable grounds being shown, the magistrate would summon the native offender before him and investigate the complaint. If the complaint should be proved to the satisfaction of the magistrate, he would order the dog to be destroyed. A native so summoned would not on any account be allowed to retain more than two dogs. The third part of the Bill provided for the destruction of wild dogs, or dingoes. For the carrying out of this part of the Bill, which proposed to offer a reward for the destruction of these pests, the House had already voted £200 on the

Supplementary Estimates for this year; and a sum of £400 was placed on the Estimates for next year, for the same purpose. The Bill provided that, upon the production before any magistrate of the tail of a wild dog, the person producing it should be entitled to a reward,—the particular sum would be fixed by the House, when in committee on the Bill; and the magistrate would immediately cause the tail in respect of which such reward had been paid to be destroyed. Doubts might be entertained by some hon. members as to whether the mere production of a tail was conclusive evidence that the possessor of the tail was defunct. He believed there were many dogs who went about the world minus a caudal appendage, and seemed very little the worse for it. This, however, was a difficulty which no doubt could be satisfactorily adjusted in committee. There was nothing new in the last division of the Bill, which related to the penalties to be inflicted upon the owners of dogs attacking or frightening people, worrying cattle, sheep, or horses, or otherwise misbehaving themselves. These were the main provisions of the Bill, which he believed would prove of great advantage, especially in country districts, and he hoped it would meet with the approval of the House in general, and of the hon. member for the Swan in particular. He congratulated that hon. member upon the probability of his desire for legislation in this matter being at last likely to be realised.

MR. STEERE said that, with the exception of one clause—that relating to the dogs of aboriginal natives—the Bill was almost identical with the Bill he himself introduced last Session, and which that House passed, but which Governor Robinson refused his assent to. He was very glad to find that the Government at last had become alive to the necessity for legislation in this direction, and that they were no longer going to be influenced by a mere sentimental feeling in the matter. There were one or two alterations which he would have to propose in the Bill when in committee, but, on the whole, the measure was one which he thought the House would be ready to adopt.

Motion for second reading agreed to.

## ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH BILL.

The Order of the Day for the third reading of this Bill being read,

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) moved that the order be discharged and the Bill recommitted, with the view of amending the 10th clause. This clause provided a penalty for divulging the contents of any private message transmitted by telegraph; but it might be desirable in some cases, in order to meet the ends of justice, that the contents of a message should be made known to the Government, to facilitate the arrest or conviction of a criminal, or otherwise to meet the exigencies of the law. He therefore proposed to add a few words to the clause, authorising the Postmaster General, with the consent of the Governor, to divulge the contents of a message, without rendering himself liable to the penalty provided by this clause.

The Bill was then re-committed.

Clause 10:

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) moved to insert after the word "shall," in the second line, the words "without the consent of the Postmaster General."

MR. STEERE: Does the hon. gentleman mean that the contents of any message may be divulged through the Postmaster General?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman): That, I presume, would be the effect of the amendment.

MR. STEERE thought this would be a most extraordinary provision. They had better have no telegraph at all if they were going to give the Postmaster General authority to divulge the contents of any private message.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said he understood this was merely intended for police purposes; it might not happen once in ten thousand. If the hon. member preferred it, the granting of the permission to divulge the contents of a telegram might be left to the Colonial Secretary. He could conceive that a case might happen where it would be in the interests of justice that the Government should become acquainted with the contents of a telegram, but, unless the words proposed to be added to the clause were introduced, this could not be done.

MR. STEERE said he would not object to the insertion of the words "without the consent of the Colonial Secretary."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman) thereupon amended his motion to that effect, and the amendment being accepted, the clause was put and passed.

The House adjourned at three o'clock, p.m.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Wednesday, 22nd August, 1883.

Remission of Duty on Guano—Vote for New Norcia and Yatheroo Roads—Petty Debts Court: Extension of Jurisdiction—Wharfage for Cosmeck—Detailed Statement of proposed Expenditure upon certain Works and Buildings—Responsible Government—Intestate Estates Bill: first reading—Rabbit Bill: first reading—Clearing line of road between Childow's Well and Newcastle Road—Adjournment.

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

## PRAYERS.

## REMISSION OF DUTY ON GUANO COLLECTED AND USED IN THE COLONY.

MR. MARMION, in accordance with notice, asked the Colonial Secretary when the Government intended to carry out the wishes of the Council as expressed in its resolution of October 1st, 1879, having reference to the remission of any duty or royalty upon guano gathered or collected upon the islands or coasts of the colony, and sold for use or consumption within the colony? Probably the resolution in question had escaped the attention of successive Administrators,—at any rate, no legislation on the subject had resulted from it, the law remaining as it was before. If strong reasons existed at the time for passing the resolution, those reasons were still stronger now, with railway