

Bills—he remembered having to bring in an Excess Bill some years ago for £23,000 or £24,000—he thought all hon. members would agree that the Audit Act had been indeed a very useful measure.

The bill was read a second time, *sub silentio*.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser): I rise, Sir, for the purpose of proposing that the hon. member for Albany, whom we have known now for several years, and who during two or three Councils past filled the office of Chairman of Committees, to the satisfaction, I venture to say, of every hon. member of this House—I rise, Sir, to propose that Sir Thomas Cockburn-Campbell be again appointed Chairman of Committees.

MR. BROWN: I have the greatest pleasure in seconding the nomination. We have seen how ably and conscientiously the hon. member for Plantagenet has discharged the duties of the office in the past, and any comment on my part on the present occasion would be superfluous.

The motion was agreed to, *nem. con.*

SIR T. COCKBURN-CAMPBELL thanked hon. members for the kind terms in which they had proposed and seconded his appointment. He could only say that, if the House desired it, he should continue in the position which he had occupied in the past.

DOG ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

The House then went into committee on this bill.

Clause 1—Time of registering dogs extended to 30 days:

Agreed to, without comment.

Clause 2—Penalty for non-registration:

Agreed to, without discussion.

Clause 3—Saving clause:

MR. BROWN moved that progress be reported, in order that some amendments of which the hon. member for Geraldton had given notice might be printed.

This was agreed to.

Progress reported.

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Tuesday, 28th July, 1885.

Instruction to Crown Agents re Immigration—Return re Destruction of Wild Dogs—The Address in Reply: Presentation of, to the Governor—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at noon.

PRAYERS.

INSTRUCTION TO CROWN AGENTS RE IMMIGRATION.

MR. STEERE, in accordance with notice, asked the Colonial Secretary to lay on the table a copy of the instructions sent by the Board of Immigration to the Crown Agents, empowering them to select a number of emigrants, other than nominated emigrants, to make up the full complement of 500, which it was intended to introduce during the year, in accordance with the report of the Board presented to the House last session.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (replying some days afterwards) said: No instructions were sent to the Emigration Agency in London to select and forward the complement of 500 immigrants intended to be introduced in 1884, because although only 351 immigrants, equal to 290½ statute adults, arrived during last year, there were no less than 787 nominations approved by the Immigration Board in the hands of the London Agency.

DESTRUCTION OF WILD DOGS.

MR. STEERE, in accordance with notice, asked the Colonial Secretary to lay upon the table a return of the number of wild dogs which had been destroyed since the coming into force of "The Dog Act, 1883," in each district of the Colony, and the amount of money paid for their destruction.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said the return asked for would be supplied as soon as it could be made out.

PRESENTATION OF THE ADDRESS IN REPLY.

At half-past twelve o'clock, p.m., the Council adjourned, and hon. members proceeded to Government House to present the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech, and, upon the House re-assembling,—

MR. SPEAKER announced to the Council that the Address in Reply had been presented to His Excellency the Governor in accordance with the resolution of the House, and that His Excellency had been pleased to reply as follows:—

“MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE
“LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,—

“I receive with pleasure your cordial
“Address in reply to my Speech, and I
“trust to be enabled by your valuable
“and ready assistance to effect a satis-
“factory settlement of the many important
“questions now claiming the attention of
“the Governor and Legislature of the
“colony.

“Government House, Perth, 28th July,
“1885.”

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Wednesday, 29th July, 1885.

Loan Moneys expended on Eastern Railway—Message (No. 7): Report of Sanitary Commission; referred to select committee—Explosives Bill: second reading—Brands Act Amendment Bill: in committee—Bush Fires Bill: in committee—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

LOAN MONEYS EXPENDED ON EASTERN RAILWAY.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS (Hon. J. A. Wright), at the request of Mr. Shenton, laid on the table a return of loan moneys appropriated to and expended on the construction of the Eastern Railway, from January 1st to June 30th, 1885.

REPORT OF SANITARY COMMISSION (MESSAGE No. 7.)

On the order of the day for the consideration of this Message,

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. Fraser) said the question of sanitation referred to in the message was unquestionably a very important one, and, as hon. members were aware, had been referred during the recess to a Commission, whose report the House was asked by the Governor to consider. He thought it would be well that the report, in the first place, should be referred to a select committee, prior to the House taking it into consideration, and, with that object, he would move that the order of the day be discharged.

This was agreed to.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (Hon. J. A. Wright) then moved that His Excellency's Message be referred to a select committee, consisting of Mr. Parker, Mr. Marmion, Mr. Randell, Mr. Brown, and the mover, and, with leave, Mr. Shenton, and Mr. Burt.

Agreed to.

EXPLOSIVES BILL.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. P. Hensman), in moving the second reading of this bill, said the Acts at present in force in the colony relating to explosives were Acts passed respectively in 1850, 1854, 1861, and 1871. Three of these Acts related exclusively to gunpowder, and the last Act related to explosives of all descriptions. In the year 1875, in England, a consolidating Act was passed whereby all the previous Acts there were embodied in one Act, and the same efforts were being made at the present time in some of the other colonies. For instance, in Victoria, during the present session, an Act would be brought in consolidating all previous provisions with respect to explosives. It was obvious that as population increased much more care was needed in the management of explosives; and he need hardly remind the House that, every year, science, although it added to our enjoyments and conveniences, added also to our dangers, because scientific men were continually discovering new modes of—he was going to say blowing us up, but perhaps that was hardly the right expression—but new