

to the expense of boring; but if the House, in the face of that opinion, insisted on boring, the probability was that the balance of this vote would be expended in that way; and we should have neither water nor money. If the House would persist in boring holes in the ground simply because the borer was there, he could not help it; he had done his duty so far as he could in the matter. He would only add that if they thought the Government Geologist's opinion was worth having at all, they ought to follow it, or not have a Government Geologist.

MR. MARMION: What we ought to have done was to have sent him up there before.

Motion put, and negatived on the voices.

The House adjourned at half-past ten o'clock, p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Tuesday, 13th August, 1889.

Message (No. 6): Telegraph line to Yilgarn Goldfields—
Message (No. 7): Replying to Addresses—Message
(No. 8): Delegates to England—Memorial to the
Secretary of State re Extension of Governor
Broome's Term of Office—Electoral Bill: third
reading—Message (No. 9): Assenting to Bills—
Message (No. 10): Replying to Memorial re Extension
of Term of Office—Address of Thanks to the
other Australian Governments, for their action re
Enabling Bill—Prorogation.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at noon.

PRAYERS.

MESSAGE (No. 6): TELEGRAPH TO YILGARN GOLDFIELDS.

THE SPEAKER announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:—

"In reply to Address No. 7 of the 12th instant, the Governor has the honor to state that he will cause an

"estimate to be prepared of the cost of
"constructing, maintaining, and working
"a line of telegraph between York and
"the Yilgarn Goldfields, and that, if it
"should appear possible to provide the
"necessary funds from any source, the
"work will be put in hand.

"Before incurring the expense, it will
"be necessary to have regard to the
"financial arrangements for 1890. These
"will be sufficiently forward in a few
"weeks to enable the Governor to deter-
"mine whether he is in a position to
"meet, as he naturally desires, the wish
"of your Honorable House.

"There cannot be two opinions regard-
"ing the importance of opening tele-
"graphic communication with the Yil-
"garn Goldfields at the earliest prac-
"ticable date.

"Government House, 13th August,
"1889."

MESSAGE (No. 7): REPLYING TO ADDRESSES.

THE SPEAKER notified the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:—

"The Governor has the honor to ac-
"knowledge the receipt of the following
"Addresses from the Honorable the
"Legislative Council:—

"No. 2, dated 26th of July, 1889—

"Inquiry into the late accident
"on the Eastern Railway.

"No. 4, dated 29th July, 1889—

"Stock route between Dongarra
"and Perth and Fremantle.

"No. 5, dated 12th of August, 1889

"—Petition from Mrs. Tracey.

"No. 8, dated 12th of August, 1889

"—Railway from York to the
"Hampton Plains.

"The requests contained in Ad-
"dresses Nos. 2, 4, and 5 will be com-
"plied with, and the opinion expressed
"in Address No. 8 will be communicated
"to the Hampton Plains Land and Rail-
"way Syndicate.

"Government House, 13th August,
"1889."

MESSAGE (No. 8): DELEGATES TO ENGLAND.

THE SPEAKER announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:—

"The Governor has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Address No. 6 of the 12th instant, respecting the sending to England of delegates in connection with the Enabling Bill before the Imperial Parliament, and to state that he is ready to do what is necessary to give effect to the wish of your Honorable House in the matter.

"Government House, 13th August, 1889."

MEMORIAL TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, PRAYING FOR EXTENSION OF GOVERNOR BROOME'S TERM OF OFFICE.

Mr. PARKER:—Sir, in rising to move the adoption of the Memorial standing in my name, I feel sure that the House will agree to its adoption with pleasure. We all recognise that Sir Frederick Napier Broome in his action with regard to the question of Responsible Government has been most loyal to the inhabitants of Western Australia, and most cordial in his efforts to forward the cause which their representatives in this Council have at heart. We know that His Excellency has even gone out of his way to promote the cause of self-government, and that he has boldly and fearlessly supported our claims not only with the Colonial Office but also in the columns of the English Press. I am sure I am only expressing the feeling not only of this House but also of the colony at large when I say that we feel that we owe a debt of gratitude to Governor Broome for his action in this matter, and also for the great interest he has always shown in the welfare of this colony. We all know, sir, that a Governor has great influence at Home with the Imperial authorities; and we may feel sure that if Governor Broome had adopted a different attitude towards this question of granting the colony the right of self-government, our chances of obtaining it would have been very remote. Happily, through the influence in a great measure, I take it, of our Governor, and owing to our having him on our side, we have been able to enlist the consent of the Imperial Government to our adopting this step; and it is now only a question of time when Responsible Government will be an accomplished fact, and in full force and operation. I think we must also recog-

nise the fact that during the term of his sojourn amongst us, Sir Frederick Napier Broome has devoted all his energies and abilities to forward the interests and prosperity of the colony. We have only to look back during the past six years to see what progress the colony has made, we have only to compare the position of the colony in 1889 with its position in 1883—we have only to do this to see what advancement the colony has made during the administration of the present Governor. I do not intend to go into statistics, though I might if I were so inclined, to point out the number of public works that have been undertaken and carried out during that time, and the great increase in our revenue, as well as in our expenditure, and also the great increase in our exports and our imports; I say it is only necessary to look at these tokens of progress to show how much Western Australia has advanced during the period of His Excellency's sojourn amongst us. Of course we are not inclined, as members of this House, to give the whole credit of this to the Governor; we feel that we also have had some part in promoting the advancement of the colony. But we all must recognise that in all our efforts in that direction we have been most loyally supported by His Excellency the Governor, who has seconded our efforts to the utmost of his power and ability. Had he not done so, we know it must have had a very prejudicial effect upon the progress and welfare of the colony; and, as in the case of failure, in the case of the non-success of any particular line of policy, we are always ready to blame the Government, so also, I think, it is our duty, when we find success attending our public policy, to give the Government due credit for their share in the work. Although we, as members of this House, may have initiated a policy, still the carrying out of that policy lies with the Government, and it is only fair that the Government should share in the praise or the merit of it, when it is attended with success, as they should be charged with the blame, when failure or non-success attends it. The Governor here, we know, is assisted in his duties by certain members who, with him, constitute the Executive Government; and I think that in giving praise to the Governor we may also give their

fair meed of praise to these members of the Executive who assist and advise him. I feel sure this House will agree with me when I say that in these gentlemen we have men who have labored with a single eye to the best interests of the colony; and I only hope that under another form of Government we may always have men to administer the affairs of the colony who are so disinterested in their efforts for the welfare of the colony, and who will work with such a single eye to the best interests of the country. But, sir, we have heard—and I think I may safely say we have heard it with great regret—that it is proposed by Her Majesty's Government to appoint another Governor for this colony in the place of Sir Frederick Broome, at the termination of the present year. I say we have heard this with regret, because I cannot but think that during this time of transition from one form of Government to another, it would be very unwise, and, I think, very unfortunate, that the head of the Government should be changed. We all remember the saying attributed to President Lincoln about the inexpediency of swapping horses when crossing a stream; and I think it would be very much like doing so if we have to change our Governors while the colony is passing through the present period of transition from the existing form of Constitution to another form. I think it would be unfortunate if we have to change the officer in command of the vessel of state at this critical stage in our history. We might, for all we know, get a Governor who was entirely opposed to Responsible Government, a Governor who would in no way sympathise with our aspirations for free institutions; and, as I said, we know what influence a Governor has with the authorities at Home. The Governors of colonies are the very persons to whom the Imperial authorities look to guide them in their policy; because they are necessarily impartial and unprejudiced, and are expected to act fairly between the colonists on the one hand, and the Imperial Government on the other. Consequently, the attitude which a Governor may take up in regard to a question of this kind must have great influence for good or evil with the Imperial Government; and if, at this juncture, we were to have a Governor whose

sympathies were opposed to Responsible Government, we might find that it would have a most prejudicial effect upon the colony, and greatly retard the realisation of our hopes. Therefore, in proposing the adoption of this memorial, one great object I have in view is, if possible, to secure the retention of Governor Broome's services until, at any rate, the colony has obtained what we are looking forward to, and until Responsible Government comes into actual operation. Those services, I think, would be of the greatest value to us if we could get His Excellency to go Home to represent us while the Constitution Bill is before the House of Commons at its next session. I think it could not fail to have the result of facilitating the passage of the bill: I cannot conceive that the colony could possibly make a better choice, or that we could send anyone who would be as likely to be able to remove the prejudice and the ignorance which we know exist in the minds of the English people with regard to this question, which certainly is one of vital interest and importance to this colony. I think that with His Excellency's influence as an Imperial officer, who must be supposed to view the question without prejudice, and with his conspicuous literary abilities, he would be able to do the colony real good service; and I have very little doubt, myself, that if we can only get His Excellency to go Home as our representative and as Governor of the colony, the passage of the Enabling Bill at the next session of the Imperial Government may be safely relied upon. I now, sir, without further comment, which I feel sure is quite unnecessary, move the adoption of the following Memorial:—

"To the Right Honorable Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

"The Memorial of the Legislative Council of Western Australia

HUMBLY SHEWETH:

"1. That Your Memorialists have heard with much regret that Your Lordship proposes not to extend the term of office of our present Governor, Sir Frederick Napier Broome, K.C.M.G., beyond the end of this year.

"2. Sir Frederick Napier Broome has during his tenure of office in this Colony ever done all in his power, with the

limited means at his command, to promote the material progress and prosperity of Western Australia, and his efforts have been crowned with marked success.

"3. Your Memorialists are of opinion that it would be greatly to the advantage of the Colony were Her Majesty's Government to retain Sir Frederick Napier Broome's services as Her Majesty's Representative in Western Australia until the proposed new Constitution Act is in full force and working.

"4. Your Memorialist therefore humbly pray Your Lordship to be pleased to recommend Her Most Gracious Majesty to extend Sir Frederick Napier Broome's term of office as Governor of the Colony for the period indicated.

"And Your Memorialists will ever pray, &c.

"And that this Memorial be forwarded by Humble Address to His Excellency the Governor, for transmission to Lord Knutsford."

SIR T. COCKBURN-CAMPBELL: As no other member rises to second this address, I am very glad to do so indeed. I think we must all agree with the remarks, carefully worded as they were, which have just fallen from the hon. member for the Vasse; there is no doubt that there is before us between the present time and the introduction of Responsible Government a very trying time—at any rate there is every probability of its being a trying time; and, I think it is highly desirable in the interests of the colony that we should have, as the hon. member for the Vasse says, during that interval, a Governor who thoroughly understands the colony, who is in touch with public opinion, and in sympathy with the members of this House in their endeavors to forward the progress of the colony. Then again, on the introduction of Responsible Government, it appears to me—and I have carefully thought over the matter—we should be at a very considerable disadvantage with a Governor perfectly new to the colony, new to its people, and who did not understand the position of things as Governor Broome does. It appears to me that this resolution very naturally follows that which the House passed last night on the motion of the hon. member for Perth. To the almost unanimously expressed wish that Sir Frederick Broome should

watch our interests when next they come under the cognizance of the Imperial Parliament, this memorial, urging an extension of His Excellency's term of office until Responsible Government is in working order, is but the natural corollary. It is evident that we shall have a great deal of senseless opposition to contend with at Home, whenever this question does come before Parliament. It is only within the last half-hour that it has been brought to my notice that this question of having a representative at Home is a very much more serious matter than we considered when discussing the resolution of the hon. member for Perth last night. A telegram from England has been put into my hands within the last half-hour, received from the other colonies, which, unfortunately, was not transmitted to this colony at the time, which shows that the question is of greater importance than we really thought it was. Members will recollect that a telegram reached this colony a short time ago stating that Mr. Childers, in the House of Commons, had moved that a Commission be sent out here to make inquiries on the spot; but it appears from this other telegram that before Mr. Childers moved this resolution the leader of the Government in the House of Commons stated that it was the intention of the Government to move next session for the appointment of a select committee, not merely to consider the question of the reservation of our Crown lands from local control, but also to consider the limits of autonomy to be granted to Western Australia. That is a question that, so far as we knew, had never arisen,—the question of the extent over which we should exercise the rights of self-government. All along we thought that, whatever limits might be placed as to the control of the Crown lands, there was no question that we should exercise autonomous jurisdiction over the whole colony. But it appears, according to this telegram, that in the minds of the Home Government the question has arisen whether we should be allowed to exercise the right of self-government at all over the whole colony. This is a very serious question, and one upon which this memorial and the resolution of last night have a very important bearing. It seems to me that, so long as the Home

Government have such ideas in their minds, it is of the utmost importance that we should be represented at Home, and represented in the most efficient manner. The steps contemplated by the Imperial Government must necessarily involve serious delay, and, probably, serious mischief, unless we take the necessary steps to guard our interests. I do not say, nor do I think—nor do I suppose any member professes to think—that they could not choose among themselves members who could creditably represent us; but there can be no doubt, as the hon. member for the Vasse says, that the Governor of the colony would, with the members of the House of Commons, and with public opinion at Home, carry considerably more weight—for reasons which I need not enter into at present, and partly indicated by the hon. member for the Vasse—than any members of this Legislature would; and, in view of the apparent dangers ahead, I consider it is really of the utmost importance that we should, if we can, retain possession of the Governor's services, and send him Home as our representative, as the representative of the colony, when these important matters come before the House of Commons. The resolution also seems to me a graceful acknowledgment on our part of the obligations, real obligations, under which we are to Governor Broome for the earnest manner in which, at all times, and especially latterly in connection with this subject, he has endeavored, and successfully endeavored, to forward our views.

MR. SCOTT: I was sorry to hear the hon. baronet preface his remarks by hinting that no other member seemed disposed to second this resolution; I certainly should have risen to do so if I had not thought that the hon. member for the Vasse had arranged with some other member to do so. Although we know there has been some difference of opinion as to some of His Excellency's actions, there can be no difference of opinion that in this matter of Responsible Government His Excellency has not only been a most staunch supporter of our cause, but that he has actually gone out of his way to serve us, and done so boldly and earnestly. I think the hon. member for the Vasse is to be congratulated and thanked by members on this side of the House for

bringing forward this resolution, as he has. It seems to me also, as the hon. baronet has said, that it is a graceful acknowledgment of the services which this House feels have been rendered to the colony by the present Governor. I think that when His Excellency does leave the colony it will be generally recognised not only in this House, but throughout the colony, that in Governor Broome we had a Governor who has really tried his level best, and against some odds, to get us this change of Constitution. It gives me very great pleasure indeed to support the memorial that has been brought forward.

MR. VENN: I should just like to say a few words; I do not think the occasion calls for any long speeches, inasmuch as I think the House is heartily and thoroughly in accord with the resolution; and when members are prepared to give a motion their unanimous support, I think that is the very best recommendation any motion can possibly have when it comes before us. I quite agree with what has just fallen from the hon. member who has sat down, that the remarks of the hon. baronet, who seconded the address, did seem to imply that there was some hesitation on the part of members as to seconding the motion. Like the hon. member for Perth, I, myself, thought the mover of the address had probably arranged for a seconder, and that was the only reason why other members did not rise. I feel sure that any member in the House would have felt only too glad, and proud of the privilege, not only of seconding the motion but also of doing all he could to support it. The remarks that have fallen, both from the mover and the seconder, will, I feel sure, find a hearty response and an echo in the heart of every member present. If I were to address myself to it for an hour I could say no more than that I go with the motion heart and soul.

MR. RICHARDSON: I think it is desirable that a resolution of this kind should be unanimously adopted, and that it should be seen that it has met with the cordial support of every representative of the people in this House. I think it is a desideratum that there should be no dissentient voice in a case like this. Nor do I think that there is anything in this memorial which any member of this House could dissent from.

In the second paragraph it says that "Sir Frederick Napier Broome has during his tenure of office in this colony ever done all in his power, with the limited means at his command, to promote the material progress and prosperity of Western Australia, and his efforts have been crowned with marked success." I think there can be no difference of opinion as to that. There can be no difference of opinion either that His Excellency has exhibited both transcendent ability and a sincere desire, in supporting the wishes of the people of this colony in this matter of Responsible Government. It is easy to see, upon thinking over the matter, how very much the interests of the colony in that respect might have suffered if His Excellency, without going the length of actively opposing the movement, had only given it a half-hearted kind of support, if he had been lacking in enthusiasm, or if he had simply been indifferent in the matter. We can see very well that if His Excellency had taken up that neutral attitude towards the question, it would certainly have fallen very flat at Home, and we should have been very seriously disappointed in our hopes and our aspirations. But seeing that His Excellency has been so loyal to the wishes of the people and of the House in this matter, and has spared himself no trouble, but actually went out of his way to forward our cause in every possible way, I think it is but a well deserved compliment we are paying him in adopting this memorial, with the view of affording His Excellency a further opportunity of serving the colony in this matter. I have very much pleasure in supporting the memorial.

MR. RASON: I shall be very glad to support the memorial of the hon. member for the Vasse, and to show my appreciation of the very able manner in which Governor Broome has supported the views of this House on the question of Responsible Government. I think we are doing the very least that the House could be expected to do.

MR. MARMION: I have very much pleasure in supporting the resolution. I think I may say this much at all events: I believe everyone amongst us acknowledges the efforts made by Sir Frederick Broome in obtaining for the colony the realisation of its desire for self-govern-

ment; and most of us will agree—at any rate that is my opinion—that it would be disastrous to the best interests of the colony, at the present juncture, if a change of Governors were to take place. I think it is most desirable in the best interests of this colony that we should, at the present time, have at the head of affairs a Governor who has the threads of the subject (so to speak) within his grasp, and who understands the position of the question, and who is acquainted with all the steps that have been taken to bring the question to its present stage. Seeing that only a few months will elapse before we hope to see our wishes realised, and Responsible Government an accomplished fact, I think it would be most unwise and impolitic on the part of the Imperial Government to make a change in the Governorship of the colony. Of course it is well known that in all colonies, in all communities, there is always a section ready to find fault with the Governor's policy; it would be difficult to find a community that was at one as to any man's policy; one section thinks he is wrong, and another thinks he is right. But I think it is generally conceded that Governor Broome has done all he possibly could for us in this matter of Responsible Government, and that every section of the community is prepared to give him credit for having been a loyal friend to the colony as regards the attainment of its wishes with respect to that form of Government. I feel sure, myself, that it would be in the best interests of the colony, so far as that question is concerned, that this memorial should have the desired effect; I should imagine that the Home Government will, themselves, see that it would be a mistake to remove His Excellency at the present juncture; and I hope they will decide to retain his services, and that His Excellency may have the satisfaction of putting the coping stone upon the new Constitution, the establishment of which he has done so much to promote. I hope, after doing so much towards the building up of this new form of Government, he will have the pleasure—the honor and glory, I may say—of putting the finishing touches upon it.

MR. LOTON: I rise simply to say that the motion before the House has my most cordial support.

MR. MORRISON: I have great pleasure in supporting the resolution of the hon. member for the Vasse. I think it is a well earned compliment that we are paying to Governor Broome in forwarding this memorial to the Home Government: I think His Excellency has shown us clearly that we have a staunch friend in him so far as this question of Responsible Government is concerned; and I think it would be the best thing for the colony if we could retain his services until the work is completed.

Motion put, and agreed to *nemine contradicente*.

ELECTORAL BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

MESSAGE (No. 9): ASSENTING TO BILLS.

THE SPEAKER announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:—

“The Governor has the honor to inform the Honorable the Legislative Council that he has this day assented, in Her Majesty’s name, to the under-mentioned Bills:—

1. “An Act to make further provision “for the Management and “Working of Railways.”
2. “An Act for the Re-appropriation “of certain moneys appro- “priated for the purposes of “the extension of the Telegraph “System to Kimberley Gold- “fields, Wyndham, and South “Australian Border in the “East Kimberley District.”

“The following Bill has been reserved for the signification of Her Majesty’s pleasure thereon:—

“An Act to consolidate and amend “the Law relating to Elec- “tions to the Legislature.”

“The authenticated copies of the Bills “are returned herewith.

“Government House, 13th August, “1889.”

MESSAGE (No. 10): EXTENSION OF HIS EXCELLENCY’S TERM OF OFFICE.

THE SPEAKER announced the receipt of the following Message:—

“The Governor has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Address “of the Legislative Council, No. 9 of this

“day’s date, covering a Memorial to the “Right Honorable the Secretary of State “respecting the extension of the Gover- “nor’s term of office until the proposed “new Constitution Act shall be in force.

“The Memorial in question shall be “duly transmitted, as requested.

“Whatever may be the reply of the “Secretary of State, this document will “always be greatly prized by the Gover- “nor, as evidence of the kind and liberal “appreciation with which your Honor- “able House has been pleased to regard “the Governor’s humble services to “Western Australia—services which “would have been quite valueless, except “for the support and assistance invari- “ably extended to him by the Legislative “Council.

“Government House, 13th August, “1889.”

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT:

ADDRESS OF THANKS TO THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENTS.

MR. MARMION: Sir—I think it would ill become us to close this session without acknowledging the very hearty efforts that have been made by the sister colonies of Australia, and by Tasmania and New Zealand, to assist us in obtaining the boon of self-government. It will be in the recollection of members that during the present session we addressed a communication to the Governments of those colonies to cooperate with us in inducing the Imperial Government to press forward this measure; and we all know how cordially our neighbors responded to our appeal; and I have no doubt that our united efforts will in due time bear fruit. Nothing, I think, could have been more gratifying to this colony than the hearty manner in which the sister colonies expressed their sympathy with us in our aspirations; and the least we can do is to adopt a resolution that will show them that we appreciate their sympathy and their efforts on our behalf. I believe, myself, that these efforts cannot fail to have a beneficial effect. They will show the people of England that this question is one in which the whole of these colonies are interested, and that they have not only to deal with this colony alone but with a united Australia. The resolution which I have the pleasure of now moving

will require no words from me to induce this House to give it its most hearty support. It is:—

“That the Legislative Council of Western Australia, in Council assembled, desires to express to the Governments and Parliaments of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, Tasmania, and New Zealand, its hearty appreciation of, and grateful thanks for the sympathy exhibited towards this Colony in its efforts to obtain from the Imperial Parliament Responsible Government, with the full rights and privileges attaching to that form of Constitution enjoyed by all the other Colonies of Australasia. This Council believes that these able and well-directed efforts will prove of the greatest possible assistance to Western Australia; will tend to hasten the introduction of Responsible Government to this, the last remaining portion of Australasia not possessing the full benefits of autonomous institutions; and will expedite the advent of that period so ardently hoped for—which cannot be much longer delayed—when all these Colonies shall be united in one great free and prosperous Federation.

“That His Honor the Speaker be requested to convey this Resolution of this Honorable Council to the various Governments of Australasia.”

Resolution put, and passed.

PROROGATION.

At three o'clock, His EXCELLENCY entered the Council Chamber, and delivered the following Speech:—

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

“You were called together to complete the Legislation required, so far as the Colony is concerned, for the approaching political change.

“This you have done; and I believe that the Electoral Bill now passed—

“and reserved, in conformity with law, for the signification of Her Majesty’s pleasure—will prove, in years to come, one of the strongest and best safeguards of the Constitution.

“Unfortunately, while we have been finishing our own work, Her Majesty’s Government have, to their expressed regret, found themselves unable to overcome difficulties which arose in the House of Commons; and the Enabling Bill, after passing the House of Lords, has been laid by until the next session of Parliament.

“It would serve no purpose to dwell on the disappointment this has occasioned, not only in our own Colony, but throughout this Continent. Some consolation may be derived from the attention now turned to Western Australia, from so many quarters. This is sure to result in good; and it is impossible to suppose that the Imperial Parliament are not ready, so soon as the matter shall have been inquired into and the facts made apparent, to extend the free institutions of the Empire to a community capable, not only of enjoying, but also of guarding and administering them.

“I believe, then, that we may feel confident that the Enabling Bill will be passed into law at the next meeting of Parliament.

“The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 1890 are now in preparation. When these, and several Legislative measures which require to be brought forward, are ready to be dealt with, Your Honourable House will be again summoned, to transact the ordinary business of the year.

“I now prorogue this Council, to Tuesday, the 8th day of October next.”

His EXCELLENCY having handed a copy of the Speech to Mr. Speaker, withdrew from the Chamber, and the Session closed.