

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose, and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with amendments.

Ordered that the Standing Orders be suspended, in order to allow this Bill to be read the third time to-day.

Standing Orders suspended, and the Bill read third time accordingly.

And *Resolved* that this Bill do pass, and its title be "The International Telegraph Extension Ordinance, 1865."

The Hon. Mr. Homer moved that the Standing Orders be suspended, in order to allow him to bring in a motion for present discussion.

Ordered accordingly.

On the question being put, it was carried *nem. con.*, and *Resolved*

That His Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to offer such rewards as he may deem necessary, with a view of encouraging the development of the resources of the Colony, and the discovery of precious metals.

The Council then adjourned during pleasure.

On the Council resuming its Session, His Excellency the Governor was announced and, being entered within the Council Chamber, took the President's Chair.

His Excellency notified that he assented, in Her Majesty's name, to the following Bill entitled "An Ordinance further to facilitate the construction of the Overland Telegraph."

His Excellency then made the following Speech proroguing the Council:

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:

It is with much satisfaction that I find myself able to relieve you to day from further attendance on your Legislative duties.

The community is much indebted to you for the zeal and assiduity you have displayed during this important Session. As the general principles of the most important Ordinances have been adopted unanimously, I allow myself to look with much confidence upon their probably beneficial influence on the public welfare.

The period of the year which relieves us from our duties as Legislators, is that upon which the most important of the works committed to the hands of the Executive must commence.

Steps have already been taken to improve our communications with Cariboo, and I am not without hope that, before the end of the year, the waggon loaded at New Westminster will have no cause to discharge till it reaches the banks of Williams Creek. Strenuous efforts are being made to secure an easy access to the Gold Fields of the Kootenay and Columbia, and it is not improbable that steam vessels will shortly run upon the intervening lakes and the last named river.

The Electric Telegraph will, ere long, connect one at least of our principal mining districts with the capital of the Colony, and through it with the larger part of the civilized globe.

A prospecting party, ably commanded, will in a few days proceed to explore the districts lying between the richest of the gold mines.

Questions of local improvement, and the promotion of Education among the younger members of the community, will engage my attention before I visit the mining and agricultural districts.

You, honourable gentlemen, will soon be widely dispersed over this extensive territory, and will carry with you a knowledge of the motives which have actuated the Legislature in passing the measures by which this Session will be principally distinguished.

I thank you for the candid, patient, and independent consideration which you have bestowed on all matters which have been laid before you.

I now proceed to close this Session. I therefore prorogue this Legislative Council, and the same is hereby prorogued accordingly.