

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, June 20, 1865.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, June 12, 1865.

House met at 3:15 p.m. Members present—Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, Franklin, McClure, Trimble, Dickson, Carswell, and Dennes. Mr. DeCosmos read the following Resolutions.

The Speaker read a communication from His Excellency the Governor in reply to the Resolutions of the House as to Marriage Licenses, stating that the small amount of fees arising from that source was, in his opinion, Crown revenue, and the matter was now under the consideration of the Imperial Government.

STOCK AND CARCASS ACT. This bill, with one clerical amendment, was agreed to by the House.

HARBOR DUES ACT. This bill, with clerical amendments by the Council, was agreed to by the House.

TRADES LICENSE AMENDMENT ACT. The House took up the amendments of the Council to this bill.

On the amendment fixing the date of the imposition of the tax on auctioneers at 5th August, 1865.

Mr. DeCosmos objected, looking upon it as an invasion of the privileges of the House. It was simply postponing the tax for two months.

Mr. McClure said the Council had no right whatever to make such an amendment. If they could postpone this tax till August, they could postpone it till September or till December (hear, hear).

The amendment was rejected, only Mr. Franklin voting for it.

A subsequent amendment, providing that "Clause 2 be added to Clause 10," and that Clause 10 be struck out of its place at the end of the bill, created some merriment at the expense of the hon. Council, but the House supposing the meaning of the clause to be a transposition, agreed to it.

The amendment striking out the words "among other things," was rejected.

The amendments to Clause 5 were all rejected.

On the addition to the end of Clause 5, providing that all persons taking out a retail liquor license shall be included in the provisions of said Act, except as to the sale of liquors by retail, &c.

Mr. DeCosmos said the amendment was an infringement of the privilege of this House, in altering the mode of taxation; besides the clause was quite unnecessary.

The amendment, and also the remaining ones, were then struck out.

MEDICAL BILL.

This bill, the amendments to which were insisted on by the hon. Council, came before the House.

Dr. Powell said the bill as amended simply legalized quackery, and he would vote against the amendments and for throwing out the bill.

Mr. Franklin thought that in an ignorant community, when the Government had to look after the welfare of the people, a medical bill was necessary; but in an intelligent and educated people like this such a bill was quite unneeded for. All that was required was simply registration, as in England. In fact a new bill had lately been passed in England of a still more liberal character.

Dr. Trimble said he would like free trade in this as in everything, provided that all were alike qualified, but he would oppose the passage of the bill in its present state.

Dr. Dickson begged to see, for the information of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Franklin), that no such bill as he had alluded to had passed the English parliament. He objected to the use of the word "protection," as applied to the medical profession. It was the public, not the profession, that wanted protection (hear, hear). Rather than submit to the old fogey ideas of the fossils of the Upper House, he would vote to throw out the bill.

The amendments were rejected, and the bill was therefore declared lost.

This bill as amended came before the House with the message that the Council insisted on their amendments.

Mr. DeCosmos said the hon. Attorney General had pledged himself at the conference to take the amendments to clauses 8 and 11 into his consideration, but it appeared that he was not supported by the Council; and he (Mr. DeCosmos) would, therefore, oppose to all the amendments.

After some conversation the amendments were unanimously rejected, and the bill was declared lost amid the expressed disgust of hon. members.

Mr. Trimble moved for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the affairs of the dredger. He wished to ascertain whether the contract had been properly carried out, and whether the works had been examined by a commission before the contractors had been paid.

Mr. Dennes seconded.

Mr. DeCosmos said the House was drawing too near a close to render the appointment of a committee desirable; besides he believed the required investigations could be far better done by the Executive. There were already reports in the archives of the House touching on most of the information required by the motion. The apparatus had been taken over and paid for.

Dr. Powell—The tug is not paid for.

Mr. DeCosmos said the dredger and the apparatus had been paid for, and the Government had taken the tug and used it for several months without requiring any guarantee as to its efficiency, and therefore could not refuse to pay the contractor. He had understood that the hon. mover of this motion had been desirous of vindicating the ability of the Superintendent of the dredger, and if he made his motion to bear on that he would support it.

Mr. Franklin said the dredging apparatus cost \$20,000, and the dredging apparatus, and unless we wished to make the country a laughing-stock to the world we should support a thorough investigation of the whole subject. He intimated the proposition to dredge the Willamette bar for \$20,000, as mentioned in the "Morning Paper," and the dredging of 4½ feet of the "Keg's

Back in Sacramento river in six weeks as an instance of what might be done by practical men with the bar at the mouth of our own harbor. He supported the proposed investigation.

Mr. McClure did not see how any good could come from the hon. gentleman's motion. It amounted at giving the Superintendent an opportunity of having the whole failure of the management investigated he would support it, but it merely attempted to bring up matters when it was too late. A commission of engineers had already examined the dredger, and given in their report, which went to show that certain changes were required to be made. With regard to the remarks of the hon. gentleman on his right (Mr. Franklin) it was never stated in the House that the dredger was unable to perform the work. The management only was condemned.

Mr. Dickson justified the action of the committee of the House on the dredger, and said if the hon. mover (Dr. Trimble) had attended to his duties, that committee he would have been better posted on the subject.

Mr. Cochrane, who had just entered the House, here proposed an amendment that His Excellency be requested to appoint a commission.

The motion for a committee of the House was carried.

Ayes—Trimble, Franklin, Powell, Cochrane, Carswell, Dickson, (6)

Noes—DeCosmos, McClure, Dickson, (3)

The Speaker appointed Messrs. Cochrane, Trimble, McClure, Franklin and Dennes.

IMPERIAL DESPATCHES.

Mr. DeCosmos moved for an address to His Excellency asking if despatches had been received from the Imperial Government in reply to the resolutions of the House on Union, the H. B. Co. affairs, and the Crown Lands and Civil List. It was now five months since some of these resolutions had gone home, and he did not believe in the House neglecting to inquire after these matters.

The motion was agreed to.

THE ROAD BILLS.

The rival road bills came up for a second reading.

Mr. McClure proposed the second reading of his Road Amendment Bill. He was glad to see the action he had taken in the matter had stirred up the member for the district (Dr. Trimble); but he did not think that the gentleman's Road Bill would answer. If he thought otherwise he would withdraw his measure; but the hon. member's bill while repealing the old bill in toto gave no adequate machinery in its place. It was in fact in the wording and general tenor full of imperfections, and the House would be required to sit for a long time before they could put it into shape. The amendment, however, which he (Mr. McClure) proposed only dealt with section six in the original bill, making the number of days laborer in keeping with justice to the land side note.

While his bill aimed at giving the poor farmer every chance, it discouraged the speculator—a object which seemed to have been lost sight of by the bill of the hon. member.

The bills were both read a second time and referred to committee.

The House then adjourned till to-day (Friday) when the Ways and Means bill will be taken up.

HOUSE MET AT 3:15 P.M.

Members present—Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, Franklin, McClure, Tolmie, Trimble, Bayley, Dennes.

IMPERIAL DESPATCHES.

The Speaker read a message from His Excellency in reply to the resolution of the House asking whether any Imperial despatches had been received on the questions of Union, the H. B. Co., or Crown Lands and Civil List. The reply stated that His Excellency was not in possession of any further information than the House had already before them.

CITY REAL ESTATE TAX.

The House went into committee on the bill to levy one-half of one per cent on real estate in the city to pay the city indebtedness. Mr. Franklin in the chair.

The bill was read and passed through committee.

SUPPLEMENTAL ESTIMATES.

The Supply Bill granting the Supplemental Estimates to the amount of \$1,949,400 was introduced and passed through committee.

EXPENDITURE FOR 1864.

The bill granting a Supplemental Supply for 1864 was resumed to committee and the items of Supreme Court, Attorney General, and Works and Buildings were passed.

Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell and McClure advocating that the words "Chief Justice" should be substituted for "Supreme Court," inasmuch as the money was solely for the salary of the Chief Justice.

The bill imposing a tax of one per cent on all salaries or wages, exceeding \$150 a year was passed through committee.

PILOT AMENDMENT ACT.

The bill imposing pilot dues on all vessels from abroad over 50 tons was passed through committee. Drs. Helmecker and Tolmie dissenting.

Dr. Tolmie remarked that there was one pilot too many.

EXECUTION AGAINST LANDS ACT.

This bill, which proposes to remove doubts as to whether an Act of Geo. II, entitled "an Act for the more easy recovery of debts in Her Majesty's Plantations and Colonies in America" extends to this colony, came up before the committee.

After some conversation on the bill the committee rose and reported progress.

The bill passed through committee, and was then read a first time and the House adjourned till to-day (Wednesday).

HOUSE MET AT 3:15 P.M.

Members present—Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, Franklin, Tolmie, Trimble, Dickson, Carswell, Bayley, Dennes.

COMMISSIONERS OF THE HOUSE.

The Speaker read a message from the Legislative Council, fixing Friday next at 2 o'clock for a conference on the Justice of the Peace bill.

SECOND READINGS.

The following bills were read a second time and sent to committee: Supplemental Supply Bills for 1864 and 1865, Income Tax Bill, Pilot Bill, and City Real Estate Tax Bill.

ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS.

Mr. Dennes gave notice of motion instructing the clerk of the House to make up returns of the attendance of hon. members from 2d September, 1863, to 14th June, 1865.

SUPPLY BILLS.

The House went into committee on the bills granting the supplies for 1865, and the overdraft for 1864; Mr. Franklin in the chair.

The bills were passed without discussion.

THE ROAD BILLS.

The committee then took up the bill to amend the Road Act, introduced by Mr. McClure.

Mr. DeCosmos disagreed with the principle of both bills before the House. There was no doubt that the present Road Act perpetrated an injustice in making the owner of one acre pay as much tax as the owner of one hundred acres alongside of him. By an amendment to clause 5, however, the bill could be made better than either of those before the House; of the two bills, however, he would prefer the one now under consideration.

Clause one of the bill before the House was put and lost.

Ayes—DeCosmos, Dickson, Carswell, (3)

Noes—Helmecker, Tolmie, Powell, Trimble and Dennes, (6)

Mr. Helmecker moved that the committee rise on the bill—Carried, and the bill was declared lost.

Dr. Helmecker said he had voted against one bill, and he was quite ready to vote against the other. He believed the old act was, with one or two exceptions, a very good act, and if it were properly carried out, it would be productive of good effects. There was no doubt the Superintendent of Roads should be the person to look after the roads; but the difficulty was that he could not be everywhere. There was no one willing to take the position of Road Commissioners, and when they did there was no vigor nor energy in carrying out their duties.

Dr. Tolmie thought the Road Commissioners were as attentive to their duties in this colony as in others. He agreed with the last Speaker that the present Road Act, although with some imperfections, was a very good act. He thought that the Superintendent of Roads might easily oversee the statute labor within a few miles from town at any rate.

Dr. Powell thought the present Road Act the most tyrannical act on the statute book. It was a very good act for the rich landlord, but a very hard one for the poor man. If a man owned a small portion of land he paid as much tax as the holder of one hundred acres.

Dr. Tolmie said the hon. gentleman had made some wrong assertions. He said the owner of a small lot paid as much as the owner of one hundred acres; but that lot might be worth \$2,500, while the one hundred acres might be worth only \$100. Besides he would reiterate the statement that the farmer was already too heavily taxed.

As to the people paying taxes in the suburbs, they were chiefly farmers, who used the roads more than any one else. The fact was, absolute justice in the matter was impracticable.

Mr. DeCosmos said the bill now before the House was the merest makeshift for a bill ever brought into this House. He quite acquitted the hon. mover (Dr. Trimble) of being the author of it, as he was well aware that the hon. gentleman was not given to drawing up bills. (A laugh.) This bill was a mass of absurdities, inaccuracies, and grammatical errors. In clause 11, for instance, it introduced the extraordinary democratic principle that a majority of the settlers should say how the road money was to be laid out. It provided no machinery whatever for carrying out its propositions. The great cause of complaint against the old Act, as had been justly stated by his hon. colleague (Dr. Powell) was that the owners of small lots in the vicinity of Victoria and Esquimaux were obliged to pay just as much tax as the owner of 100 acres. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. DeCosmos) had a road tax was a rate of so much per head on every male, to be paid by money or labor, and if more money were required for road making, put an equal tax on all real property to be benefited.

Dr. Helmecker perfectly agreed with the hon. member that everybody should pay to keep up the roads, and said that that was exactly the present law. He would admit that in many cases it was a hardship on holders of small lots, although many of those used the roads more than the farmers. The hon. member for the city (Dr. Powell) had said that the poor man owning a small lot paid as much as the owner of large tracts. This statement was incorrect, as the tax was six days' labor for the first 100 acres, and 2 days for every additional 100 acres. Besides it appeared to him that the owner of the small lot was the rich man, and the owner of the 100 acres the poor man. He had one word more to say on this bill. He felt sure that he had seen this bill before. (Laughter.) He thought this bill had once before been brought up in this House, and as the House did not care about throwing it out, they had allowed it to be withdrawn in order that the proper machinery might be introduced to make it workable.

Dr. Trimble said it seemed to him there was a dead-end made in the House against this bill. (Laughter.) The hon. gentleman proceeded to advocate the passage of this bill, urging the necessity of amending the present Act; if the House would allow him he would withdraw his bill and introduce the requisite machinery.

Dr. Dickson said the two road bills now before the House showed strongly that the present system of bringing in bills was wrong. Here were two bills brought in, ordered to be printed, and now found to be useless. He thought it a committee of the House were appointed to draw up the machinery of the bills before they were submitted to the House, a great saving of time and money would be effected. He understood that the expenses already incurred by the House for printing this session amounted to \$5,000. He supported the proposition for

TRADES LICENSE ACT.

The Speaker read a communication from the Council, to the effect that that body consented to waive their amendments to the Trades License Act. (Laughter.)

The House adjourned till to-day (Thursday), unless the mail steamer should arrive.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, June 13th, 1865.

The Council met yesterday at 3:15 p.m. Present—The Hon. Chief Justice (President) Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, B. Finlayson and H. Rhodes.

Friday next at 2 p.m. was fixed for a conference with the House of Assembly on this bill.

PROTEST.

Hon. Mr. Rhodes handed in the following protest of which he had given notice at the last meeting. Ordered to be added to the minutes:

To the Honorable the President of the Legislative Council;

We, the undersigned, unofficial members of the Legislative Council, and being merchants in the city of Victoria beg to record our protest against the action of the Legislative Council in passing on the 8th instant, the following bills, namely: A Bill to amend the Victoria Harbor Dues Act, 1862, and a bill to impose landing permit dues on the importation of stock and carcases, as the said bills although only professing to make a charge for landing permits on the goods, yet impose in the first case a small *ad valorem* duty, and in the second case a very heavy import duty upon all stock and meat imported, thereby destroying the Free Port, which has already done so much towards establishing Victoria as a commercial depot, and upon the assumption of the continuance of which large sums have been invested in permanent improvements in Victoria, which would not otherwise have been so invested, and upon the maintenance of which in its fullest integrity during the continuance of the existing relations with the colony of British Columbia the undersigned believe that the prosperity of Victoria greatly depends. The undersigned also protest against the action of the Legislative Council in passing a Bill to amend an Act passed in the year of our Lord 1862, entitled "An Act to repeal and amend the laws affecting Trades Licenses" as by clause 1 a tax of two and a-half per cent on all sales by auction is imposed, which they consider inexpedient, and think that while as a source of revenue it will be almost unproductive it will interfere with and impose restrictions, that cannot fail to be highly injurious to the business of the colony.

(Signed) HENRY RHODES.

ROD'K FINLAYSON.

Victoria, V. I., June 13th, 1865.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.

The Council went into committee on this bill, the Hon. H. Rhodes in the chair.

Considerable discussion took place on the first clause which provides for returns being made up by all clergymen of all marriages to the Registrar General of Vancouver Island.

The Hon. Mr. Finlayson considered the bill premature with so small a population and was strongly opposed to the creation of any new office.

The rest of the Hon. members looked upon the bill as essential.

The Hon. Chief Justice reminded the Council of the importance with which the office of Registrar General was regarded in England, where it was comparatively speaking a new office created within the last 20 or 30 years, but was now the means of furnishing data and information of the domestic and sanitary condition of the country, which were highly valuable.

After some debate on the duties of Registrar under this act being imposed either on the Registrar of Deeds, the Assessor, or the Magistrates.

Hon. Mr. Finlayson said the appointment of Registrar could not be made with a less salary than \$1500 a year.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary explained that by being conferred in conjunction with some other offices the stipend would amount to a mere bagatelle, perhaps not half a cent per capita.

On the first section being put it was carried, Hon. Mr. Finlayson dissenting.

The various other clauses were then gone through and passed with some verbal amendments and the Council adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, June 14, 1865.

The Council met yesterday at 3:15 p.m. Present—The Hon. Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, and Treasurer.

On the minutes being read, the Hon. Treasurer enquired if the protest handed in by the Hon. Mr. Rhodes was in order, as it was a joint protest, purporting to emanate from a body, and not from individual members of the Council, and he thought it might form a wrong precedent.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary said the preamble was "we, the undersigned," and although separate protests might be added to the minutes, he did not consider it material that they should.

MESSAGES.

The following bills were sent up from the House of Assembly:—Trades License Amendment Act; amendments of the Council, with some exceptions not having been agreed to; Stock and Carcass Act; and Harbor Dues Amendment Act, 1865, with amendments agreed to.

TRADES LICENSES ACT.

The Hon. Attorney General supported the amendments of the Council, which he regarded as most essential, in fact he thought the repudiation of one of them by the House of Assembly must, have arisen through inadvertence, as its propriety was so self-evident. He was not in favor of hiding the passing of the bill, and would move that it be passed, but that the Council, to save its credit, should not pass it without recording its objections on the minutes.

The Hon. Treasurer seconded the motion.

He agreed with the previous speaker, he considered the credit of the colony of more importance than the credit of the Council. Money would shortly be much wanted in the Treasury, and he thought the Council might waive their objections to what was looked upon as a defect in the wording of the bill.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary agreed that it was desirable the bill should pass, but he deemed it quite right that the Council should mark its sense of the defects in the bill. The first amendment was simply to prevent the auctioneers from being exempted from sending in their returns for five months, by providing against the repeal of section 37 of the Trades License Amendment Act, 1862, as and from the time of the passing of the bill. The second amendment was a most just one, as it placed retail liquor dealers who sold other goods than spirits, on the same footing with other traders; and did not allow them to sell any kind of goods under the liquor license. He thought the bill might pass through upon the views of the Council on these amendments being entered on the minutes.

The bill thereupon passed, and the clock was directed to enter the views of the Council accordingly.

IMPROVEMENT FOR DEBT.

This bill came up for second reading, and after some discussion, in which the Hon. Attorney General said that although he agreed with the principle of the bill, he should not vote for it without material alteration being made, as it appeared to have been loosely drawn, and he was moreover in favor, particularly with a prospect of union in view, of assimilating the laws of the two colonies as much as possible. The British Columbia Act was a good one, and he advocated the passing of a similar Act word for word.

Further consideration of the bill was postponed.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The consideration of this bill was again taken up in committee, the Hon. Treasurer in the chair, and after amending some of the clauses, the Committee reported progress, and Council adjourned.

ANTOINE THE MURDERER HEARD FROM.

From the captain of the schooner Nonpareil, which arrived down from Fort Rupert on Sunday night, we learn that he saw Antoine the murderer of Mr. Ogilvy, at Fort Rupert, about eight days ago, but was not then aware of the murder. It appears that Antoine arrived at the Fort in a canoe, having promised the Indians eight blankets if they would take him down quickly. Upon landing, however, he heard that some vessel the captain thought it was the Jenny Jones was at Kooskoemo, on the opposite side of the island, and he skeddaddled for that point at once leaving his Indians in the lurch. The Nonpareil on her way down from Fort Rupert was overhauled by H.M.S. Camelson, and gave her commander the above information, on which she at once started after the murderer. The chances are that he will be captured, as it is almost impossible for him to get away from Kooskoemo.

THE EXPLORATION MOVEMENT.

Mr. Butte, commander of the Government exploring party, hopes to get his men together and perfect all his arrangements so as to be ready to leave by Thursday. The Camelson, whose appearance amongst the tribes on the coast will doubtless have a wholesome effect, will convey the party to Clayoquot Sound, and after landing them at one of the inlets, will return to Esquimaux. The party will then proceed up in a canoe, and after prospecting for five weeks will re-embark at Refuge Harbor. As the Sir James Douglas is now lying idle, and likely to remain so, could she not be made to do immediate service to the public by carrying stores and attending on the explorers? It would cost nothing for fuel, as she could procure wood to burn all the time, and from what we know of Captain Clarke we feel sure he would do all in his power to assist the explorers and advance the interests of the colony. The suggestion is worth consideration. Great hopes are entertained of the result of the exploration, and news from the party will be anxiously looked for. The steamer Thames is ready to convey prospectors there at once if sufficient inducement would offer.

BROOKIE JACK DROWNED.

The death of this well-known character is thus alluded to by the Oregonian. "This notorious highway man, who was captured lately at Victoria, mainly through the efforts of Sheriff Shiel of this city, and afterwards escaped while en route to Idaho, it seems has at last met his deserv'd fate, and in a manner much more wretched than had been content to receive his doom from the legally constituted authorities of the land." The Lewiston Register of the 19th ult. has the following in relation to it: "A well-known body was recently taken from the river, just above Walla Walla, which was supposed to have been that of 'Brookie Jack,' alias Dulligan, who escaped from custody some weeks ago, between here and Walla Walla. The corpse, near as could be ascertained is in a disfigurement, corresponded exactly with the description of this somewhat celebrated highwayman. It is thought it had been in the water three or four weeks. The body of a horse was discovered floating down the river about the same time. It may be this was a stolen animal with which Dulligan endeavored to cross the river; it being impossible for him to escape recognition by coming on this way or returning to Walla Walla—and that horse and rider were both lost in the swelling torrent. It is scarcely probable that any but an outcast could be drowned so long a time between this and Walla Walla without friends becoming aware of and reporting the fact." We are of opinion that this is the last of "Brookie Jack."

DRIVER MATRIMONY.

By private telegraph received yesterday it is announced that the mail steamer will leave San Francisco for Victoria direct on the 17th instant. It is understood that the regular days of sailing on the coast will now be adhered to.

The value of the estate left by the late President Lincoln is estimated at \$25,000.

TOCHES & CLOCKS. MAKEB, BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES. London Press upon London's clock in the Exhibition, 1862.

A more splendid and complete piece of machinery than ever seen. Standard, June 1865. Some of the beautiful English watches only following up with the same accuracy and success, the attempts to counterfeit them. Illustrated London News.

Table with columns: Gold Cases, Silver Cases, Open Face, Hun. Face, Hun. Ter. Face, Hun. Ter. Face.

A first-class London made watch. Gold Cases, Silver Cases, Open Face, Hun. Face, Hun. Ter. Face, Hun. Ter. Face.

W. BENSON, BIRDSEED.

W. BENSON, BIRDSEED. STOCK MANUFACTORY, LATE HILL, LONDON.

WATSON'S PILLS.

WATSON'S PILLS. Us Disorders. Discontinue the use of the Pills.

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