

The Weekly British Colonist
AND CHRONICLE.

Saturday, May 9 1868.

Legislative Council.

TUESDAY, April 28th.

Council met at 1 p. m. Present—Hons DeCosmos, Crease, Spalding, Ker, Cox, Hamley, O'Reilly, Wood, Helmcken, Ball, Robson, Trutch, Elwyn, Young, (presiding.)

Message No. 16—His Excellency the Governor received the resolution of the Legislative Council of 2nd April, expressing the opinion that Victoria is the place most suitable for the Capital of the United Colony, Her Majesty's Government would seem to have the same opinion. Under these circumstances, the Governor will cause to be proclaimed on the Queen's Birthday, the selection of the Capital within the Town which bears her royal name.

Message No. 17—The Governor duly received the resolution of the Legislative Council, agreeing that an address be presented to him, praying that he will inform the Council of the reply of Her Majesty's Government to the message passed April 2nd, 1867, recommending that the salary of the Governor be paid from Imperial funds, and that the Executive have power to simplify, centralize, and reduce the departmental system, so as to lessen the public expenditure, to such a figure as the Colony is able to bear.

As regards the condition of the finances of the Colony generally, as engaging the attention of the Secretary of State.

As regards the second he has to remark, that very considerable powers for effecting retrenchment are conferred to the Governor. He is loath, however, at all times, to deceive legitimate expectations, and to reduce, without absolute necessity, respectable public officers to poverty.

Message No. 18—The Governor has received the resolution of the Council respecting the Dry Dock, &c.

Very lengthy correspondence has passed on the subject between His Grace the Secretary of State, Rear Admiral the Hon. G. Hastings, and the Governor, but it would not be convenient to the public service to lay it before the Council.

Every effort is being made to carry into effect a work of such great importance as that in question.

Message No. 19—Respecting the disposal of Crown Lands.

No decision has been received.

It is but right to inform the Council that the Land Bill was accidentally somewhat later in transmission than some of the others.

Hon Helmcken gave notice of motion respecting the Civil List.

Hon Helmcken thought the Supply Bill for \$358,923 should be brought up in Committee of Ways and Means, as such matters usually are.

Hon DeCosmos concurred with his hon colleague, as in all such cases, a committee of Ways and Means was the usage.

Hon Crease—Such a proceeding would not be parliamentary, and there was no necessity for it in the present case.

Hon Helmcken—The Hon Attorney General says it is not parliamentary, consequently not necessary. He could assure that hon member, that it was in accordance with parliamentary usage, and under any circumstances the people had a right to see to the disposal of the public money.

Hon Helmcken's motion was lost, and the bill read a first time. Second reading to-morrow.

SUPREME COURTS BILL.

Hon Spalding in the chair.

Hon Young thought some provision should be inserted in the bill, so that Supreme Court Judges should reside in County Courts. It was better that Police Magistrates should only reside in the absence or in the event of any other cause to prevent his attendance.

Hon DeCosmos thought a clause might be inserted in the Bill to meet this requirement; the public business would be expedited by that means.

It was ultimately decided, by a vote of the House, to bring in a short bill embodying this provision this session.

A long and unimportant discussion followed on the proper mode of disposing of the fees of Court, which resulted in an amendment making the fees payable into the treasury for the use of Her Majesty.

Supreme Courts Declaratory Act read third time and passed.

INTERSTATE ESTATE ORDINANCE.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on this bill, hon Ball in the chair. After some discussion the bill was reported complete with amendments.

It was then read a third time and passed. The third reading of the Barriers Bill was deferred till to-morrow.

Hon Helmcken moved that the following Returns be asked for, viz: "The arrears of Expenditure outstanding, and unpaid at the close of the year 1867, and the indebtedness of the Colony. The motion was carried.

Hon DeCosmos deferred his motion recommending an address to Her Majesty suggesting that the present was the time for the Union of the Colony with Canada.

The House then went into Committee on the Petition of Thomas Spence.

Hon Robson moved that an address be sent to the Governor praying that the prayer of the petition be granted.

Hon Ball supported the petition, the circumstances of the case calling for some mode of allowing the petitioner to reimburse himself for severe losses incurred in erecting this public convenience.

Hon Young looked at the matter at first as an attempt to impose on the public a tax for 2½ years. But since he had heard the statements of the hon Magistrate for New Westminster, that no foresight of the petitioner could have anticipated the consequences of the fresh winter carried away the first bridge, he thought the prayer of the petition reasonable. Recommendation carried.

Fire Inquest Ordinance read a third time and passed.

The Council then adjourned till one o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, April 29th.

Council met at 1 p. m. Present—Hons Spalding, Smith, Helmcken, DeCosmos, Hamley, Elwyn, Cox, Ker, Young (presiding.)

Hon DeCosmos moved that His Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to cause to be introduced into the Council an Ordinance making at least two thirds of the Council elective.

That the Council in making this request, are impressed with the connection that at this juncture of the affairs of the colony, it is expedient to alter the Constitution of the Council, in order to meet the generally expressed wishes of the inhabitants of the colony. He did not think it necessary by a speech to traverse the ground, he had fully gone over before; he would therefore move the adoption of the resolution.

Hon Helmcken in seconding the resolution of his hon colleague, begged to say that he had no objections to the hon Magistrate who formed a most valuable member of the present Council, but he did think that the popular members should be twice the number of the Government appointees.

Hon Elwyn believed that by increasing the members of the government would be strengthened. He should support the motion. He was not surprised seeing the miserable minority in which elective members very often stood, that they should think some influence was brought to bear on official members.

The vote was then taken, when it stood as follows:

Ayes—Hons DeCosmos, Elwyn, Helmcken, Smith.

Noes—Hons Cox, Hamley, Ker, Spalding. The Council being equally divided the President gave the casting vote in favor of the resolution, and it was carried accordingly.

Hon Helmcken's motion to introduce a Bill to amend the Civil List, was lost.

The Supply Bill was read a second time. Supreme Court Bill read a third time and passed.

Barriers Bill was read a third time and passed.

PATENT SLIP BILL.

Hon DeCosmos in moving the second reading of this bill would call the attention of hon members to the careful manner in which it was drawn by which the people were secure from any possibility of jobbery.

If such a slip had been erected years ago, a large shipbuilding industry would have been created. He as a property holder would be content to lose a thousand dollars for a year or two in order that such an important interest should be built up at Victoria.

It could alone affect property holders, they were the people who would have to pay the taxes, and he should propose that the question of carrying the Ordinance into operation should be decided by a majority of property holders.

Fruits Bill read a second time.

Supply Bill in Committee, hon Ker in the chair.

The clauses being passed the Committee rose and reported the bill complete.

Hon Helmcken would ask the House what was to be done with the school teachers of Vancouver Island; the arrears amounted to \$8,000 instead of \$3,000 as had been stated by some hon members. The teachers were ready to meet the views of the Government in any way and would accept land for half the amount if required.

The Supply Bill was read a third time and passed.

Hon Smith gave notice of motion respecting tolls on flour manufactured from grain grown in the Colony.

The Council then adjourned till 8 o'clock this evening.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 29th.

Council met at 8 p. m. Present—Hons O'Reilly, Crease, Trutch, Robson, Helmcken, Cox, Wood, Spalding, DeCosmos, Smith, Ker, Ball, Elwyn, Young (presiding.)

Hon Robson gave notice of motion respecting Royal Columbian Hospital.

HUDSON BAY TITLE BILL.

The Council went into Committee, hon O'Reilly in the chair.

After a short discussion the bill was reported complete, and the Committee rose.

It was then read a third time and passed.

DRAWBACK BILL.

Hon Robson opposed this bill in Committee, he said he had no objection to the system if applied to wholesale trade or to packages unbroken where there could be no doubt of tracing the package from its date of importation. He objected to applying the system to the retail trade as affording the greatest facilities for fraud on the revenue.

He moved that the Committee rise and report progress, which was carried. The Committee rose accordingly.

Leave was granted to the hon Attorney General to bring in Thompson River Bridge Ordinance in conformity with the petition of Thomas Spence. Read first time.

Standing orders were suspended to permit of the hon Attorney General introducing a bill in accordance with the desire of the House to make the sitting of Judges of Supreme Court, compulsory where possible, in the County Courts. It was styled the County Courts Amendment Ordinance 1868. The bill was then read a first time.

PATENT SLIP BILL.

The House took this bill into Committee.

Hon DeCosmos in reference to the petition from Victoria against the measure said it only comprised a very small number of the citizens, there being but 120 names. The position of the signers was nothing when the measure was one for the public good, all men were equal, but he should be perfectly satisfied to abide by the decision of the property holders who would undoubtedly have to bear the burden if the slip should prove a failure.

Hon Wood was prepared to admit that in some large enterprises, the State may afford aid, where by doing so the interest of the public was secured, but such aid cannot be extended to a merely local enterprise. The municipality of Victoria wanted to become speculators, either it would pay or it would not pay, if it would pay it was interfering with private enterprise, if it would not pay they would become parties to making a law which would only be productive of loss.

The hon introducer of the bill had stated that property holders would carry the bill,

that might be, but there was nothing he disliked so much as the tyranny of the majority. This dangerous measure would be carried by a majority of property holders over a minority of property holders. He objected to the municipality dealing with property over which they had no power.

He thought it an act of unquestionable tyranny; for instance a man possessing four or five thousand dollars worth of property only had one vote; this was unfair, there should be cumulative votes for property holders as there were for shareholders in joint stock companies. He as a property holder objected to such an unmitigated piece of jobbery. If the municipality had money to spend on improvements let them build a fine Town Hall or something that would be useful to everybody. He objected.

He objected to small towns like Victoria having a white Elephant like a patent slip. To make the matter worse it was sure to be badly managed by the corporation, and carried on at a loss; as it certainly would be, it would bring ruin on all private enterprise. It would be a false step in political economy.

A minority of the property holders of Victoria as compared with the whole population would be allowed to oppress their fellow creatures, by an act of the Legislature. The persons who had signed the petition were all persons of high standing as property owners or commercial men.

The trumpancy nonsense that was put forward about the benefit of the State and so forth, put him in mind of a penny trumpet or the squeezing of a gas bag. He was almost convulsed with inward laughter to think of such a ridiculous attempt to deceive common sense. It was as dangerous as it was impudent, this attempt of the minority. It was impossible to repress a tone of levity when we were told it was something to benefit the State, he should like to hear them prove it to be so.

The measure would swamp private enterprise, and this measure was brought forward by half a dozen Councilors elected at haphazard.

Hon Crease would certainly oppose the bill were its objects ever so good, the imperfect state of the bill must render its passage impossible. For instance in clause 8 the words it was true might be altered in Committee, but as they stood they empowered the corporation to impose any tax they chose, a power he was sure the hon proposer never contemplated. He did not think it was the subject of merit as indicated by the hon and learned member for Victoria.

It was also true he thought, that the municipality had chosen the wrong place it ought to have been at Esquimalt. The examples that we had heard of in Canada of corporations investing the money of the taxpayers had not shown such favorable results, as to induce this Government to arm municipalities in this colony with like powers.

Hon Robson opposed the bill, he thought the petition represented a majority of the most substantial people in Victoria. The people of Victoria might not have been able to choose the proper man for the Municipal Council, but in reference to New Westminster the case had been different, for all the affairs of the Corporation had been conducted in a businesslike way. Many absurd things had been done at Victoria.

Hon DeCosmos—After the elegant long-winded discourse of the hon and learned member for Victoria, the Council would not wish him to occupy their time. He was puzzled to decide whether it arose from the effects of bad whisky or some other disturbing stimulant. It was one of the post prandial emanations that gentlemen were occasionally afflicted with. He was sure if hon members laughed the laughter was caused by the ridiculous exhibition the hon and learned gentleman made of himself. He was surprised at the hon gentleman getting up to speak against the express wish of the majority. The hon gentleman might have been brought up in the back woods, he knew so very little about municipalities. How, for instance, would water or gas be secured to people if it were not for the aid very often extended by the municipalities. As for the hon Attorney General he looked upon Incorporations as private matters. In relation to the Councilors of Victoria, they were men of undoubted capacity, men who would be ornaments in this Council, and yet the hon member said they were not competent to deal with a paltry sum of six or seven thousand pounds. He was surprised at a gentleman of recognized standing being found in opposition to the Bill; in the same tone of reasoning he might object to every undertaking because it was a small colony. What was good for the great was good for the small; he was always inclined to be guided by experience. As for the post prandial orations of hon members, they must be taken for what they are worth; if the House thought proper to throw up the Bill they must take the responsibility; as to the respectability of the names on the petition he held one name to be as good as another.

The House then divided, when the second reading was lost, the only members voting in favor being Hons Helmcken and DeCosmos.

FRUITS BILL.

Hon Crease raised a question of order in relation to the introduction of the Bill, he maintained that no Bill creating or increasing taxation could originate in that house.

Hon Helmcken—Such rules might exist in the English House of Commons, but they certainly did not exist here. He would like to see any rule pointed out that would make the bill out of order.

Hon Ball was not opposed to the objects of the bill, but simply because the measure was out of order.

Hon DeCosmos—The rules as they existed ought to afford the information if they did not. The House had an undoubted right to pass the measure.

Hon Helmcken—The case was very different where there were two assemblies, but here there was only one, and the Governor was as much a part of it as any member there. This Council had no relation to the House of Commons. Anything might begin and anything might close.

Hon Young would like time to consider the point. Deferred accordingly.

ANATOMY BILL.

House went into Committee, hon Cox in the chair.

Hon Robson opposed the bill. He might

be hours over his speech and he might be nights. (The hon member here laid his watch on the table and requested the messenger to bring a glass of water.)

Hon Wood thought ten minutes ought to be the limit of a speech.

Hon Robson—Why did not the hon gentleman advocate such principle when speaking on the Patent Slip Bill. He claimed the right to speak as long as he liked. There was no one more accustomed to indulge in lengthy speeches, composed of empty bunkum, than the hon and learned member himself.

After some further discussion the Committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The House then adjourned till 1 p. m. to-morrow.

THURSDAY, April 30th.

Council met at 1 p. m. Present—Hons Helmcken, Wood, Spalding, Hamley, Ker, Smith, Crease, Elwyn, Robson, Trutch, DeCosmos, Cox, Ball, O'Reilly, Young (presiding.)

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Hon Wood moved that an address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, praying that an appropriation be made in order to pay off the indebtedness of the Schools of Vancouver Island.

Hon Wood to move for the adoption of rules to prevent the abuse of speaking against time.

Hon Smith asked the hon the acting Colonial Secretary whether or not, it is the intention of the Government to allow flour manufactured from grain grown in the colony, to pass over the public roads free of tolls, in accordance with a resolution passed by this Council last session.

Hon Young said no application had been made to the Government for the remission of tolls, and hence no action had been taken in the matter. He would suggest however, that the present resolution be put in the form of an address to the Governor, praying that His Excellency would be pleased to give the matter his immediate consideration. The address was adopted.

Hon Robson moved that a resolution be sent to His Excellency the Governor recommending the appropriation of a sum of money sufficient to pay off the indebtedness of the Royal Columbian Hospital.

To the above resolution was appended considerable matter relating to the evil effects of removing the capital.

Hon Helmcken had no objection to support the part of the resolution relating to debts, but he did not see why the question relating to the capital should be logged in. It was a sneaking way of sticking in things that have no business there. He would move in amendment that all the words relating to the capital be struck out, that a recommendation to pay debts of Victoria Hospital be added, and that as the New Westminster Hospital was supplied with medicines from a quantity left by the Settler in store, that the other Hospitals of the colony be supplied in a like manner.

Words relating to Capital struck out, and amendment added accordingly. The resolution was then carried.

The Thompson Bridge Bill read a second time. Committal to-morrow.

The County Court amendment Ordinance, read second time.

DRAWBACKS BILL.

The House went into Committee on this bill. Hon O'Reilly in the chair.

Hon Hamley said every shop in Victoria was full of goods on which no duties had been paid. There was not a single shop where such goods did not exist.

Hon DeCosmos said evils might grow out of any measure, but the hon gentleman should not persist in looking at the gloomy side. When a measure was intended to remove the shackles from commerce, the bright side only should be regarded. By this measure we should be enabled to make a profit out of people from whom we could not otherwise expect any thing. There was no danger of fraud in the case as the bonds given when the drawback was applied for, would not be cancelled till the Customs Department was perfectly satisfied. The merchants and traders were in real earnest about the matter. If this measure was made law, this session, it would be looked upon as one of its brightest acts.

Hon Wood thought any attempt at fraud highly improbable, people would have to go through two or three highly disagreeable forms that would certainly tire the patience of those having a dishonest intent.

Hon Trutch thought popularity should have no influence on members in bringing forward useful measures. The idea put forward by the Bill was a false one. He should have no objection to the re-establishment of a free port at Victoria, but the present measure was impracticable, and he must oppose it, however alluring it might be to popularize oneself in another section of the colony.

Hon Hamley was sure it was quite impossible to carry out the system of bonds, traders would not be able to find them when required.

Hon Young thought there might be a large amount of goods in Victoria on which no duty had been paid, but he did not think it likely that any such goods would be presented for drawback. If exporters cannot give suitable bonds, there was an end of the matter. He would mention a single instance of the advantage of the Drawback system. A vessel bound to Sitka wants a few thousand pounds of flour, none can be obtained in Victoria except that on which duty had been paid, in this position it was cheaper to wait till the Eliza Anderson could bring over the quantity required, than pay the addition to the price charged for duty. The great reason why merchants did not leave flour in bond was, because its storage was so high that it was absolutely cheaper to pay the duty and keep it in their own stores. By the introduction of the system at Victoria, the trade of the adjacent territory would be secured. He did not think the difficulties were so great as had been stated by some hon members, there was more in the measure than appeared at first sight. He wished to see the question fairly discussed on its merits.

Hon Robson followed with a long speech in opposition, in which he pointed out the difficulty attending the allowance of drawback on such articles as needles, pins, tape, thread, ladies stockings, &c. He had been accustomed to that kind of business, and knew all about it.

Hons Hamley and Crease followed on the same side, on which the speeches were more distinguished for pertinacity than pertinence. After a lengthened debate chiefly sustained by the last named hon gentleman, the bill was thrown out by the casting vote of the President on Constitutional grounds.

Message No. 20 recommending repeal of clause 8, in Shipping Act of last session. It was accompanied by references to English Shipping Acts, showing inconsistency of this clause with English code.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Loan Societies Bill. Hon Cox in the chair.

Soon after the chairman had commenced to read the first clause in the bill, certain hon members stepped behind the bar. The moment was seized by the opponents of the bill, to point out to the chairman the absence of a quorum. A protracted discussion ensued, in which all sorts of motions and amendments were handed to the chairman, who appeared somewhat at a loss to unravel the tangled web of the discussion. The result was that the Committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The House then adjourned till 8 o'clock this evening.

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This is generally occasioned by some irregularity of the stomach and bowels, which, if not quickly attended to, frequently terminates fatally. A few doses of these famous Pills never fail to give tone to the stomach, regularity to the secretions, and purity to the fluids. Verge of dizziness and other indications of approaching apoplexy, are on a regularity by a course of these invaluable medicines.

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CHLORODYNE.

DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.

Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated publicly in court that Dr. J. Collis Browne was undoubtedly the inventor of Chlorodyne, that the whole story of the defendant Freeman was deliberately untrue, and he regretted to say it had been worn to see the Times, July 18th, 1864.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne—The Right Hon. Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians and J. T. Daventry, that he had received information to the effect that the only remedy of any service for Cholera was Chlorodyne. See LANCET, Dec. 31, 1864.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne—Extract from LANCET, Jan. 12th, 1865. It is prescribed by scores of orthodox medical practitioners. Of course it would not be thus singularly popular did it not supply a want and fill a place.

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