HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

House met at 1:15 p.m. Present : The Speaker, Messrs. De Cosmos, Powell, Dickson, McClure, Duncan, Trimble, Dennes, Cochrane and Ash.

UNION OF THE COLONIES.

The Speaker read the following reply from His Excellency the Governor to the application for copies of the despatches and correspondence in the matter of the Union of this colory with British Columbia of store

The Hon, the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly :

GENTLEMEN—In reply to an address of the Legislative Assembly, dated 30th November, 1865, praying that I would communicate to the House copies of all despatches, or correspondence, forwarded to or received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies,

eriod any which I may receive. It may be oper to add that the receipt of the resolu-

ons was acknowledged in my last.
(Signed) A. E. KENNEDY. Mr. DeCosmos observed that it was not a direct reply to the question.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

The Speaker read the reply of the Execcation for a return of the fees received to from Mr. Cardwell as well as His Excellency the same licenses, and the disposition of from Mr. Cardwell as well as His Excellency the same licenses, and the disposition of the same attention and courtesy which the the same has no order of the Colonial House were willing to show to both. Office, set apart as a portion of the Crown Revenue, to be devoted to benevolent objects, at the discretion of the Governor for the

Mr. De Cosmos moved that the reply be taken into consideration at the next meeting day next he would move that His Excellency of the House, which was carried.

BILLS OF SALE

bill to amend the law of Bills of Sale. He resolutions, which passed this House in said the real object of the proposed enact. January last, and in reference to the Crown ment was to carry out the spirit of the English law, by placing personal property in this respect on the same basis as real estate. Leave granted,

decided that his house was situated within the city limits. His business would not ad-

the first reading of a bill to amend the France chise Act of 1859. The length of time ment at home, of requesting copies and extracts may be put in agreeable language.

The length of time ment at home, of requesting copies and extracts may be put in agreeable language.

Mr. M'Clure—Yes; it takes a medical man coll.! (Laughter.)

The provision for the enlargement of the area of patches which did not bear upon the question provision for the enlargement of the area of at issue. He beyond to thank them for the land instituted enquirepresentation with the abolition of the prolone perty qualifications. After a short discussion
to the House divided, when the measure passed
to the House divided, when the measure passed
to the first reading, Dr. Asbeing the only mem ber who voted in the negative of going ow

THERENT PARTERS ITO WELL CREEK

Mr. DeCosmos, in pursuance of notice, asked leave to introduce a off to amend the Law of Partnership. The enactment will winclude clauses limiting the liability of partners. Leave granted.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole to consider the deply to the Governor's address. Dr. Dickson in the Chair. As regards the Crown Lands des

new Mr. DeCosmos said that she presumed a qu that the House would have ample time to to avail himself of this opportunity to draw eqattention to a curious circumstance! He alluded to the delay which had taken place in

tive. It was only after the motion of the junior member for the city, suggesting that a delegate be sent to Downing street, that the authorities were atimulated to any action.

As the representative of a large constituency, he must declare that such a delay was an act of gross negligence on the part of the Governor. Until there was some talk about

odiomending a special delegate to England we find that nothing was done in the matter. It was quite clear that something vigorous must Dr. Helmeken thought that there must be some misunderstanding in the affair, as such a delay could scarcely have occurred. It was poqq fust possible that what should have been

not done had been done It was hardly fair to 10 Tomake such an accusation, when refutation was not practicable. There was an ac-

knowledgement of one despaten, the mean of the mean of the must large upon the members to powers State secrets and a State policy; here powers State secrets and a State policy; here powers State secrets and a State policy; here there was nothing, or at least should be nothing of the sort. If there was anything to adopt to deal with the facts that were before them. The fault of the Executive was that they with Vancouver Island had reason to regret to adopt. The House then divided, and the amendment of the past it was the secret policy of the Tolmie and Ash voting for it.

HOMESTRAD BILL.

The committee then proceeded to take up the clauses of this bill. Clause I.

Dr. Helmoken was only anxious to see tagonism to the public good. The idea of sum was set aside in Washington Territory. too far in advance, the circumstance ought lair play. The proper course to pursue was secreey and pretentions to old country diplo.

complained of the sluggishness which marked the reply. The Governor was only a servant of the Crown, and the House should have been informed of the action which had been taken. There should be no secret diplomacy about

it. He must confess that he had no confidence in the action of his Excellency on this union question. There had been so much unneessary delay that it was incumbent on the House to take some definite steps for them- mously.

Dr. Helmcken did not consider that the Governor was at liberty to lay all his official communications before the House. He did not think that any despatches had been received stating that union should positively take place, It was true that the Governor of a neighboring colony had gone home which might have some influence in the re-

sult. There was a great deal of sentiment mixed up in the idea of making the colonies

person on the Island was simply a matter of sentiment was surely to misstate the fact. So ordinary courtesy or culpably negligent. proposed a resolution as follows:

Vancouver Island was small, but that was "This House having had under its consideration." no reason why the inhabitants should be treated as children. He for one demanded

The reply was subsequently adopted, and will be presented at 1 o'clock to-day.

NOTICE OF MOTION. Mr. M'Clure gave notice that on Wednes-Governor be respectfully requested to lay before this House all public despatches forwarded by His Excellency to the Right Mr. De Cosmos asked leave to introduce a Hon. Mr. Cardwell, in reference to the Union lands resolutions of June, 1864.

Yesterday, precisely at one o'clock, the Hon, Speaker, accompanied by Messrs. De-Cosmos, Dickson, Powell, McClure, Carswell Mr. Decosmos presented a petition from and Dennes, proceeded to the Government W. Loudon, of the "Willows," complaining that formerly he had traded under a country license, but that recently the authorities had decided that his boyce was directly the authorities had after reading the decimal that his boyce was directly the authorities had after reading the decimal that his boyce was directly the authorities had after reading the decimal that his boyce was directly the authorities had after reading the decimal that the second that the decimal that the decimal that the second that the decimal that the decimal that the second that the decimal that Assembly, observed that at all times he mit of his paying so much and his license should be most happy to furnish the House was taken away, and the value of the property destroyed thereby. necessary to assist in their deliberations. He would suggest that for the future, in applying for official despatches and correspondence that it would be advisable to follow the prethe first reading of a bill to amend the Fran cedent as carried out by the Imperial Govern-

detained in the Supreme Court there was no meeting of the Legislative Council yesterday. ni bevirta odw WEDNESDAY, Dec. 6, 1865.

House met at 1:15 p.m. Members present: The Speaker, Messre DeCosmos, Pow. ell, Dickson, McClure, Duncan; Dennes, Tolmie, Carswell, Trimble, Cochrane and Ash.

Mr. Duncan, in pursuance of notice, asked leave to introduce a bill to amend the Bank Act. He observed that although monetary enactments rarely came under the consider-ation of the House, still circumstances occastonally arose in the colony which rendered it necessary for honorable members carefully to watch such financial matters. The present bill in force in this colony was framed somewhat loosely and needed amendment. He proposed to alter more especially the second somewhat extraordinary that such a period of time should be allowed to elapse as from June, 1864, until April, 1865. Ten months incubation before these important documents were sent to the Colonial Office. After making every allowance for printing the papers must have been ready in October, 1864, and yet six months are allowed to pass away before anything is done by the Executive to investigate the amount of notes in circulation, but such power only applied to the chief office in Victoria, as regards the issue of the notes, and did not extend to the variations of the establishments, where a certain number of notes were usually issued for the purposes of business. Hence this restriction tends to invalidate the spirit and intention of such Act. The issue of notes should not exceed the should not exceed th clause. It was competent for the Executive Leave was granted to refer the same to a

committee.

UNION AND CROWN LANDS DESPATCHES. Mr. McClure moved, in conformity with previous notice, that the Governor be respectfully requested to lay before the House copies of all public despatches forwarded to the Right Honorable Edward Cardwell in refer-Right Honorable Edward Cardwell in reference to the Crown Lands resolutions of June, 1864, and the Union resolutions of January last. He did so in order that no injustice might be done be Governor in being susmitted armendment as follows:

"That the committee having taken into consideration His Excellency the Governor's that the House in such matters should follow the example of the Imperial Government; certain returns—viz., the number of Marriage but hon members must see there was no analogy in the case. The Executive Government in the form then to meet the objectors half way and to support to meet the objectors half way and to meet the objectors half way and to meet the objectors half way and to meet ernment of England represented the majority of the people; here the Executive were appointees of the Otown. Besides in England respectfully asked for."

Some misapprehension or mistake to have (Mr. M.Clure) thought that was a strange occurred, recommend that the information be respectfully asked for."

If the homestead law could enable men to the country and collect \$5000 to invest in a homestead. Well, he (Mr. M.Clure) thought that was a strange way the country was to be ruined (laughter).

The comment of England represented the majority occurred, recommend that the information be respectfully asked for."

To the country was to be ruined (laughter).

The comment of England represented the majority occurred, recommend that the information be respectfully asked for."

The committee then proceeded to take up in the surface of the matter. Ten months had elapsed before the affair was brought under the consideration of the Home Government.

The consideration of the Home Government.

The was the relief of tradie we homestead bull.

The committee then proceeded to take up members that the home Speaker and his party had kept the Island rather long in that "two determining the amount at \$5000, created a lively debate.

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The committee then proceeded to take up members that the home Speaker and his party had k

to enquire about the actual date of transmission. In justice to the Governor, to the House, and in short to everybody else, it was only light to put such a question.

The sentence with regard to union of the could see where extracts from certain colonies having been read Mr. DeCosmos enmulained of the aluggishness which marked.

The sentence with regard to union of the could see where extracts from certain despatches might altogether mislead the complained of the aluggishness which marked.

The sentence with regard to union of the could see where extracts from certain cappaigned of the aluggishness which marked.

The wished to rece the amount reduced.

the motion of his hon, colleague. If the an unfortunate man to start again in business, House of Commons in England decided that lt must be borne in mind that the Homestead particular extracts would suffice for their Law has been grossly abused in other coundeliberations, it was the will of the majority.

The case of Vancouver Island, as was shown,

Mr. was entirely different.

The motion was put and carried unani-

JURISDICTION OF INFERIOR COURTS. Mr. D . nes' bill for extending the juris. diction of the Inferior Courts to increase the

adjudication of the judge to the sum of £100 was read a first time. GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, Mr. Dennes in the chair, to the matter of the Union despatches and re- It was important that we should tempt

wanted detailed information on this subject. He looked upon the answer transmitted to far as the other question was concerned—the wast of attention either on the part of the onght to have every explanation touching Governor or Mr. Cardwell to the resolutions the expenditure of the money of the people, of the House—he thought the Home or the Colonial authorities sadly wanting in topic effecting public interests.

> eration the reply of His Excellency to the address of this House asking certain detailed information as to the number of marriage licenses issued in the years specified in its address, with the sums received as fees therefor, and the disposition made thereof, respectfully begs to express its disappointment and regret that the reply contains none of the information sought. This House furthermore begs leave to convey to His Excellency its conviction that it is entitled to the information solicited, for the purpose of guiding its de-liberation as to whether any, and, if so, what alterations are demanded by the public service in the collection and disbursement of revenue derived from the people, and which, with the increase of population and the advances of civilization in the colony, must continue to augment. This House, therefore, renews its request that His Excellency will be pleased to communicate the information

This would cover the whole question. Mr. DeCosmos strenuously supported the member for Victoria District. Although it may be true that tho funds belonged to the Crown Revenue, the House had a perfect right to investigate such affairs.

Dr. Helmcken said that there appeared to be something grating, harsh, and unmannerly in the tone of the application, more especially in the first part, which was totally uncalled for and unnecessary.

Dr. Dickson—It is the truth.

members that no definite answer had been received, and that on a former occasion he had been mild enough in his comments. He was not generally mealy-mouthed, and liked to tell a man precisely what he thought of him. He begged to repeat that the document was a complete evasion. He could cite many instances in which the Executive had systematically neglected to comply with the wishes of that House. He had no objection to a modification of the terms, provided a similar meaning was retained. He was of opinion that, inasmuch as these funds were taken out of the pockets of the people, they should have to do the same of the people, they should have to do the same of the people of the should have to do the same of the people.

couver Island. In saying that the Executive homestead.

systematically refused to reply to addresses

Dr. Trimble—

Dr. Dickson was stepping beyond the mark. that you would However disposed his Excellency might be of a Company? to communicate information, he was sometimes precluded from doing so from the tenor must pass he of the instructions laid down for his guidance, adequate sum. There were colonial regulations with reference to the publication of portions of unan-swered dispatches, which it was not to be expected that the Governor would presume to creditor would take equal care in both cases that some misunderstanding had occurred operation of the bill, and he thought it needs causing this request to be overlooked. He less to say that \$2500 would cover a very certainly did not approve of sending the do-indifferent farm. He was willing, however,

powers State secrets and a State policy; here to get into a state of heroics about this affair, invest in real estate, he thought it would be there was nothing, or at least should be ro-

scale. He wished to see the amount reduced Mr. DeCosmos thoroughly concurred in to \$2500. That would be ample to enable

Mr. DeCosmos repeated his argument in favor of the original sum. He was anxious to ask honorable gentlemen whether it was not wise to legislate to attract population, to legislate to retain our immigrants, to legislate to hold out suitable inducements to single men to marry and reside permanently here. People came here from long distances to improve their condition, and we ought to be in a pcsition to compete with adjacent territories, In the American States on the Pacific Coast there is just as much security for life and property as elsewhere, with the exception of take up the replies of Governor Kennedy, in some of the back States recently settled up. Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, mixed up in the idea of making the colonies respecting a resolution of the House in favor one and indivisable, although he must add of union of this colony and British Columnation that he should be glad to see union consumnate that the should be glad to see union consumnate that the motion of the distribution of the distribution of the colonies, mixed up in the idea of making the colonies and returns about Marriage License fees. With regard to the former, Mr. DeCosmos said that the motion of the distribution of the distribution of the former, Mr. DeCosmos said that the motion of the funior member for the city had partially taken the matter of the Union despatches and returns about Marriage License fees. With regard to the former, Mr. DeCosmos said that the motion of the funior member for the city had partially taken the matter of the Union despatches and returns about Marriage License fees. With regard to the former, Mr. DeCosmos said that the motion of the funior member for the city had partially taken the matter of the Union despatches and returns about Marriage License fees. With regard to the former, Mr. DeCosmos said that the motion of the funior member for the city had partially taken the matter of the Union despatches and returns about Marriage License fees. With regard to the former, Mr. DeCosmos said that the motion of the funior member for the city had partially taken the matter of the Union despatches and returns about Marriage License fees. With regard to the former, Mr. DeCosmos said that the motion of the funior member for the city had partially taken the matter of the Union despatches and returns about Marriage License fees. With the funior member for the city had partially taken the matter of the Union despatches and returns about Marriage License fees. With the funior member for the city had partially taken the matter of the funion of the so essential to our prosperity. //What sort of a place could be purchased for \$2500? why it was scarcely worth talking about, Respecting the apprehension of fraud, debts already contracted would not be included in quent date. Would not a tradesman prefer trusting a man possessed of a \$5000 homestead, which is exempt and protected by law If the sum in question was to be cut down, would be given for the alteration, and not

mere clap-trap assertions.
Dr. Tolmie—As I have before stated, the right principle is that a poor man must sink in the social scale—it is a fallacy to prop him up, and thus bolster up undue speculation.-If they are really enterprising and industrious men they will soon surmount their difficulties.

Dr. Ash did not altogether approve of a principle which admitted, as it were, of a man settling property upon himself, and then afford him an opportunity for gambling it away. It was perhaps desirable that a man should settle any amount that he thought proper upon his wife when he was perfectly solvent. However, there was a similar bill before the other House, and it would be expedient to await the result of their labors. He would therefore suggest that no action be taken until they had the draft of that bill before them.

Mr. Cochrane thought that distinct bills brought forward on the same subject simultaneously in each House was the worst form of legislation. It would greatly facilitate business to defer considering this question for the present.

Dr. Trimble Perhaps it would be better De Helmcken Perhaps so; but the truth to adjourn the House altogether until all the

all events he should not like to receive such ties amongst practical men of experience on a letter at first hight there was something this island, and was assured that that amount would be sufficient for all purposes.

Dr. Dickson did not think, so The circumstances must be duly considered, and it comprehend the Homestead Law it ought to will be within the recollection of honorable be incorporated with the Bankroptcy Act, members that no definite answer had been He regarded it as a swindle in fact it was taken out of the pockets of the people, they should have to do the same if There was should be appropriated to the general revenue. Moreover there ought to be a complete register of the marriages which took place in this colony, and he was not aware of the existence of any law authorising the government to fix arbitrary fees for these licenses.

Dr. Helmeken thought there was no colony homestead. The effect would be simply in the world situated so peculiarly as Van- to convert the whole island into one vast Dr. Trimble—Has it never occurred to you

that you would like to see it the homestead of a Company? [Loud laughter].
Dr. Helmcken continued that if the bill

must pass be considered that \$2,500 was a

Mr. M. Ciure did not think the \$5000 claus disobey. He therefore suggested that the to see that he was protected. Besides, farms better course to pursue would be to assume as well as town lots would come under the run about the country and collect \$5000 to invest in real estate, he thought it would be vise—especially under present circumstances, when \$5000 were supposed not to be exceedingly plentiful (laughter). With regard to the idea that we were rushing into Mormon-

\$5,000 was carried. The subsequent clauses were then passed, and after a short debate, touching precautionary measures to provide against fraud, the bill was reported upon. LAW OF PARTNERSHIP.

Mr. DeCosmos moved the first reading of this bill to amend the Law of Partnership; its limits, and the liability of partners. It assimilated in character, an Act passed in England in July, 1865. Carried. BILL OF SALE ACT.

This bill, having been reported in due form by the committee, passed the first reading. BANKRUPTCY MATTERS.

A communication was read by the Speaker from His Excellency acknowledging the re-ceipt of an application for certain returns of the Probate and Bankruptcy Courts, stating that the same had been handed to the res pective departments.

Dr. Dickson said that he had been inform ed upon good authority that the preparation of this return would cost some thousands of dellars, and he thought it would be better to ask for certain papers, and then members would examine the items for themselves.

After a few remarks from Mr. Duncan the matter dropped.

REPRESENTATION OF NANAIMO. Dr. Powell moved that a writ be forthwith issued for an election of a representative of this constituency caused by the remr. M. Clure thought it would be better to

the provisions, but, at the expiration of a postpone the issuing of a writ for a little specific time—say three months—it would be time, as the mail communication was so ununderstood that creditors could not levy upon the homestead for debts incurred at a subserved of Nanaimo obtaining a fitting case.

Mr. DeCosmos supported the postpone-ponement. He went even so far as to state that a number of influential men in Nanaimo would prefer no election until after he hoped that some sound, substantial reason another registration, much dissatisfaction prevailing at the irregularity and injustice of the last.

Dr. Powell observed that the postpone-ment would virtually distranchise Nanaimo for the session-Mr. M'Clure replied that so far from in-

tending to disfranchise them, it was in reality to afford the electors an opportunity of choosing a fit and proper candidate for their suffrages, of the word of the Mouse divided on the motion, and the

postponement was carried.

The annexed notices of motion were given : Dr. Powell, on amalgamating the Legislative Council and Assembly, and to consider the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States; Mr. DeCosmos, to introduce a bill as to the Descent of Real Property. The House then adjourned until to-morrow at 1 o'clock.

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