

The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, June 20, 1865.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, June 16, 1865. House met at 3:15 p.m. Members present—Messrs. DeCosmos, Powell, Franklin, McClure, Tolmie, Dickson, Dennes.

Mr. Dennes moved that the Clerk of the House be instructed to send in returns of the attendance of members of the House during the present session.

Dr. Powell rose to support the motion, and he had good reason to do so, because it was only a few days ago that he had been charged by a member of this House in the columns of a public print, with gross negligence and remissness in his attendance to his duties in the House.

Dr. Powell continued, saying the charges were as false as they were malicious, and they were made, too, by a gentleman to whom he (Dr. Powell) had always given a cordial support.

Mr. DeCosmos would remark, in reply to his hon. colleague (Dr. Powell) that the people had a perfect right to send whom they chose to the House, whether it was an editor or a shoemaker (hear, hear).

Dr. Trimble called attention to the remarks of the hon. junior member for the city about a meeting outside the House.

Dr. Powell also rose, but was called to order by the Speaker.

Dr. Tolmie said the Pilot Act evidently required a great deal of amendment, even if all its provisions were sound, which they were not.

Mr. DeCosmos said the argument that the proposed amendment would prevent the small trading vessels from coming here was futile, because it was a well known fact that nearly all of these vessels were under 50 tons register.

Dr. Dickson said he knew of no coroner in the island but one, and that one had been fully recognised by the Executive, the public money having frequently passed through his hands.

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now must result in nothing, as in a week or two the House was sure to be prorogued.

Dr. Trimble was anxious that a bill should be passed through the House this session, and was sorry that the bill he introduced had not been accepted (laughter).

The motion was carried, and the Speaker appointed Messrs. Tolmie, Powell, Trimble, Franklin and Cochrane.

THE HOUSE WENT INTO COMMITTEE on the bill to levy a tax of one half of one per cent on all real estate in the city to pay the city indebtedness.

THE BILL AMENDING THE PILOT ACT, to the effect that all vessels over 50 tons shall pay pilotage, was taken up.

Dr. Helmecken rose to make one more protest against the passage of this amendment, which he must say was not for the benefit of Vancouver Island but for the benefit of the pilots.

Mr. DeCosmos said it was highly necessary that an efficient pilot service should be established, else we would have the insurance on vessels raised, the freight raised, and the character of the port seriously injured in the eyes of foreign shippers.

Mr. McClure concurred with the last Speaker. The hon. Speaker had suggested more economy, but his course would be really more extravagant than at present.

Dr. Helmecken reiterated his views on the injury which would be done to the port by the proposed amendments.

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this and every other British colony had perquisites to which he was legally entitled.

Dr. DeCosmos said the only fee the Chief Justice claimed that he knew of were from the Admiralty Court, and these he thought were fixed by Imperial statute.

Dr. Helmecken said he believed no official connected with the Government pocketed any fees whatever, but that they went into either the general or Crown revenue.

THE MOTION WAS CARRIED nem. con. and the House adjourned till Wednesday when the Tax on Salaries bill, and the Execution against Lands bill will be taken up.

WAYS AND MEANS.—By an official notice elsewhere it will be seen that His Excellency's consent has been given to the two acts passed by the Legislature imposing landing permit dues on the importation of certain stock and carcases, and amending the Victoria and Esquimalt Harbor Dues Act, 1862, and the Harbor Master has been directed to carry out the provisions of the same.

ATTENDANCE AT THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. From official returns laid before the House yesterday we have the following figures in reference to the attendance of hon. members to their legislative duties during the present session.

THE GREAT FAILURE IN GLASGOW.—The Dundee Courier and Argus says the liabilities of the firm of Buchanan, Hamilton, & Co. are stated to be One Million pounds sterling, losses on produce representing £250,000.

ADA ISAACS MENKEN.—This notable actress we observe by the Liverpool papers of the 29th April, was proving an attraction in her personation of Mazeppa in that city.

THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY have bought the barks Palmetto and Golden Gate, and are despatching them with coal from Nantaimo to await the arrival of the Company's steamers.

ENGLAND VS. FRANCE. INTERNAL EXPENDITURE.—Mr. Gladstone surprised the House of Commons in his speech on the budget, by stating that the English Imperial Expenditure exceeded the French by over £2,000,000 in 1863.

CHURCH RESERVE MEETING.—In accordance with a requisition signed by upwards of 180 citizens, a public meeting was convened by Mayor Harris Thursday evening, in front of the Police Barracks, to consider the question of the appropriation and setting up into lots of the public square commonly known as the Church Reserve.

Mr. Robt. Bishop stepped upon the platform to move the first resolution. He apologized for not taking a more active part in the proceedings of the meeting, owing to his just having heard of the death of a near relative.

Mr. James Fell came forward to second the resolution. Before alluding to the reserve question he would take occasion to state that he had applied to Mr. J. J. Cochrane, member of the House of Assembly, for the use of the theatre, and that gentleman had said he would on no consideration whatever give the building for another public meeting, as the last one had done so much damage.

THE TELEGRAPHIC HOAX.—The hoax perpetrated by us, we presume, some individuals connected with the Collins Telegraph line in New Westminster, in regard to the trial of Davis and Breckinridge, was yesterday morning, on the arrival of the mail steamer, exposed, thoroughly.

HEAVY RAIN.—Private advices mention the suspension of the well-known Scotch house Buchanan, Hamilton, and Co. of Glasgow, with liabilities to the extent of £750,000.

CULVERWELL.—Letters have been received from this notorious scoundrel by last mail. He still makes propositions to return and settle with his creditors.

HARRIS OF NEW YORK.—The Hon. Mr. Harris, formerly of the Rock Bay as well as in private and in business in San Francisco, Mr. Law, in the Victoria Cemetery. O'Connell must have mistaken Christian, Zadecky a partner in business, for the deceased man.

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colloped by stating that he had much pleasure in supporting the resolution.

The Resolution was then put and carried by acclamation, without dissenting voice.

Mr. Hibbard next came forward to move the second resolution. He hoped the assemblage would bear with him as he was not in the habit of speaking in public.

Resolved—That the Mayor be, and is hereby requested by this meeting, to have the fences erected on the Church Reserve immediately removed, and this meeting pledges itself to sustain any action on the part of the Mayor in every possible manner.

Mr. Thorne being loudly called for, next mounted the platform, and made a pithy and characteristic speech, amid continuous roars of laughter.

Resolved—That this meeting is of opinion that the fencing in of the Church Reserve is an invasion of public right, and that the fences erected thereon are a public nuisance, and should be dealt with as such by the city authorities.

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