

JOURNALS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SESSION 1883.

Thursday, 25th January, 1883.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

This being the first day of the first meeting of the Fourth Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable Clement Francis Cornwall, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the Sixteenth day of December, 1882, the members having been duly sworn took their seats.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne.

The Honourable Mr. *Armstrong*, Provincial Secretary, said—

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:—

I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to announce that His Honour does not see fit to declare the causes of his summoning you at this time, and will not do so until you have chosen a Speaker to preside over your Honourable Body. His Honour hopes to be enabled to declare, during the afternoon, his reasons for calling you together.

His Honour was then pleased to retire.

Mr. *Duck*, addressing himself to the Clerk (who, standing up, pointed to him and then sat down), proposed to the House for their Speaker *John Andrew Mara*, Esquire, Member representing *Yale* District, which motion was seconded by Mr. *Smithe*.

And the question being put by the Clerk, "That *John Andrew Mara*, Esquire, do take the Chair of this House as Speaker,"

Resolved, That *John Andrew Mara*, Esquire, do take the Chair of this House as Speaker.

And the Clerk having declared *John Andrew Mara*, Esquire, duly elected, he was taken out of his place by the Mover and Seconder, and conducted to the Chair, where, standing on the upper step, he expressed his grateful thanks to the House for the great honour they had been pleased to confer upon him by choosing him to be their Speaker.

And thereupon he sat down in the Chair, and the Mace was laid upon the table.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor again entered the House, and taking his seat on the Throne, the Speaker elect then spoke to the following effect:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:—

The House of Assembly have elected me as their Speaker, though I am but little able to fulfil the important duties thus assigned to me.

If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the Assembly whose servant I am, and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and Country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Honour's person at all seasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Honour the most favourable interpretation.

Then the Honourable Mr. *Armstrong* said:

MR. SPEAKER,

I am commanded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to declare to you that he freely confides in the duty and attachment of the House of Assembly to Her Majesty's person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper, and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow their constitutional privileges.

I am commanded also to assure you that the Assembly shall have ready access to His Honour upon all seasonable occasions, and that their proceedings as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was then pleased to open the Session by the following gracious Speech:

Mr. Speaker,
Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,—

I have much pleasure in meeting you at the opening of the first Session of the fourth term of our Legislature, since the Union of this Province with the Dominion of Canada; and I have much gratification in stating that the past year has been one of general prosperity; the commercial interests have very much improved, business men throughout the Province speak well of their last season's operations, and most hopefully of the future; agriculturists have been blessed by Providence with an abundant harvest and a good market; stock-raisers find ready sale, at remunerative prices, for their herds; the exports of fish, lumber, and coal have largely increased, while the product of our gold mines, although not in excess of former seasons, has been liberal, proportionately with the number of the population now engaged in that industry.

The improved condition of agriculture, especially, has been a source of sincere pleasure to all who realize the value of that permanent and very important factor in the welfare of every community.

The rapid development of the coal trade has added materially to the general prosperity of the community, and, with an increasing demand for fuel along the Pacific sea-board, that industry appears capable of almost unlimited extension.

The importance of making every effort to assist in the development of the Mining resources of the Province, induces me to believe that further assistance should be granted to aid explorers in their efforts to discover valuable mineral deposits.

The International Fishery Exhibition to be held in London this year affords an admirable opportunity for bringing to public notice in Europe the enormous value of our various fish products.

Since the last meeting of the Legislative Assembly, I have again urged upon the Dominion Government the importance of opening to settlement the lands on the Mainland conveyed to the Federal Government in trust, in furtherance of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway; but the importance of action upon this subject has not as yet apparently impressed itself upon the Dominion authorities.

The Private Company who obtained a charter for the construction of the Railway along the East Coast of Vancouver Island failed to comply with the terms of the Statute, and I have

brought to the notice of the Dominion Government the necessity of taking such steps as may be requisite to secure commencement of the Island Railway as early as practicable in the Spring.

I communicated with the Dominion Government in the early part of the year with reference to the advisability of assisting immigration to the Province, and if possible, inducing the Contractors for a portion of the Canadian Pacific Railway within British Columbia, to encourage and employ the labor of our own and kindred races instead of Chinese. I received in reply the information that the Government had not the means of inducing the Contractors to employ the class of labor requested.

I am of opinion that the subject of co-operation with the Dominion Government with a view to promote desirable immigration to our Province is one worthy of your earnest deliberation.

Having been informed that after the departure of Her Majesty's ships "Rocket," "Kingfisher," and "Comus" no vessel of Her Majesty's Navy would be permanently stationed in British Columbian waters, and realizing the grave disadvantages which might ensue therefrom, I brought the subject to the attention of the Federal Government, and requested that they would move the Imperial Government to cause vessels of war to be stationed at Esquimalt in accordance with our Terms of Union. My representations on this subject were promptly entertained by the Dominion Executive, who instructed the High Commissioner for Canada to wait upon the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and press upon Her Majesty's Government the importance of the maintenance of the squadron in British Columbian waters.

Much interest is doubtless taken by you in the Graving Dock at Esquimalt, the largest Provincial public work now under construction. One of the Engineers-in-Chief has recently visited Esquimalt, and his reports, and other papers, conveying full information on the condition of the work, will be at once transmitted to you.

The increasing evils arising from the unrestrained immigration of Chinese led me to urge the Federal Government to promote the necessary legislation for the purpose of restricting Chinese from entering this Province, and from obtaining employment on Dominion public works; and I shall ask you to make further representations on the same subject to the Parliament of Canada.

Copies of the Statutes referring to the restriction of Chinese immigration in force in Victoria, Australia, and in the United States of America, will be placed before you.

In accordance with the wishes of the previous Legislature, tenders were invited for keeping in repair the wagon road from Yale to Cariboo. Contracts were let in August, 1881, for the portions between Yale and Cache Creek, and Soda Creek and Cariboo. The experience of the past year leads me to think that it is a question for serious consideration as to whether or not the contract system on the portion of the road between Yale and Cache Creek should be continued; this subject will therefore be brought before you for deliberation.

A Bill to assimilate the Election and Ballot Laws with those of the Dominion will be submitted for your approval.

The increasing number of transactions in real estate on the Mainland, point to the necessity of immediately establishing a Land Registry Office at the City of New Westminster.

You will be asked to consider the question of the payment of indemnity to Jurors at Criminal Assizes, and I feel assured that it is a subject to which you will give every attention.

I am much gratified to find that our educational system continues to produce satisfactory results throughout the Province. The Report of the Superintendent of Education, which will be laid before you, will afford full particulars as to the condition of our schools.

The Public Accounts will be placed before you, and Estimates for the ensuing year will be presented for your approval.

It is gratifying to observe that the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, from Port Moody to Savona, is being pushed forward by the contractor with much vigor, but at the same time I feel assured that you will join with me in regretting that the work is so extensively performed with the assistance of Chinese labor.

The energy displayed by the Syndicate formed for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway through the central portion of Canada, leads me confidently to think that the work will soon reach our Eastern boundary, and that our long-deferred hope of being connected by rail with our sister Provinces may, in a few years, be realized. The importance to the Dominion of the opening of this highway across the continent can hardly be over-estimated.

In leaving you to your deliberations, I feel assured that your labors will be devoted to promoting the best interests of the Province.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor was then pleased to retire.

Prayers by the Lord Bishop of British Columbia.

Mr. Speaker reported that, to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of His Honour's Speech.

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. *Beaven*, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *Armstrong*, Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Interpretation Act, 1872,'" was introduced. The Bill was then read a first time.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time at the next sitting of the House.

Ordered, That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, being first perused by Mr. Speaker, and that he do appoint the printing thereof, and that no person, but such as he shall appoint, do presume to print the same.

Ordered, That Select Standing Committees of this House, for the present session, be appointed for the following purposes:—

1. On Standing Orders and Private Bills ;
2. On Public Accounts ;
3. On Printing ;

which said Committees shall severally be empowered to examine and enquire into all such matters and things as shall be referred to them by the House, and to report from time to time their observations and opinions thereon, with power to send for papers, persons, and records.

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person hath been elected or returned a Member of this House, or endeavoured so to be by bribery or other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices.

Mr. Speaker stated that he had received a Certificate from the Hon. *J. H. Gray*, entitled "In the matter of the Election for the Electoral District of *Esquimalt*, on the 24th July, 1882," which was read by the Clerk and is as follows:—

"IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

"In Re "The Trial of Controverted Elections Act, 1871."

"In the matter of the Election for the Electoral District of *Esquimalt* on the 24th July, 1882.

"Between MICHAEL MUIR, Petitioner, and JOHN ROLAND HETT, Respondent.

"The trial of this case having been concluded, I, the Honourable *John Hamilton Gray*, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, who tried the Petition in this case presented, have determined, and do determine, that the Honourable *John Roland Hett*, the Respondent in this case, was not duly returned or elected a member to represent the said *Esquimalt* District at the election above named; and that the said election was not and is not void; and further, that *Charles Edward Pooley*, Esquire, one of the Candidates at the said election was duly elected. And in pursuance of the 5th Subdivision of the 11th Section of the said "Trial of Controverted Elections Act, 1871," I do hereby certify, in writing, such my determination to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to the 4th Section of the said Act, there being at the time no Speaker; And pursuant to the 23rd Section of the said "Trial of Controverted Elections Act, 1871," I do hereby accompany this Certificate with a copy of the Evidence taken down by the short-hand writer appointed under the said Section to take down the same, and by him written at length.

"Dated the 21st day of November, 1882.

"J. H. GRAY,

Judge Supreme Court.

"To Thornton Fell, Esq.,

"Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, Victoria."

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned, at 3.30 p.m.

Friday, January, 26th 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Shildrick*.

Mr. *T. Davis* presented a Petition from *F. B. McNamee & Co.*, of *Montreal*.
Laid on the Table.

The Honourable Mr. *Beaven* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for the year ending 31st December, 1882. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Beaven* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Public Accounts of the Province from 1st July, 1881, to 30th June, 1882. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Beaven* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, an Order in Council relating to the Railway Reserve on the Mainland. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Beaven* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, an Order in Council relating to the withdrawal of Her Majesty's Ships from British Columbian waters. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Beaven* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, an Order in Council reporting upon the non-construction of the Island Railway. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Beaven* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, an Order in Council calling the attention of the Dominion Government to the immense influx of Chinese into the Province. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Beaven* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a copy of the United States Chinese Restriction Law.

The Honourable Mr. *Armstrong* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Eleventh Annual Report on Public Schools. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Armstrong* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the List of Voters for the year 1882. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Armstrong* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Ninth Annual Report of the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

Moved by the Honourable Mr. *Beaven*, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *Armstrong*,—
That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be now taken into consideration.

Mr. *Smith* moved, in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Orr*,—

That all the words after "That" be struck out, and the following inserted instead thereof:
"This House thanks His Honour for his gracious Speech, and desires loyally to assure His Honour that His Honour's Ministers do not possess the confidence of this Assembly. The House also takes this, the first, opportunity to express its regret that in view of a Government having been formed which had not been approved by the Legislature, His Honour's Ministers have violated the principles of Responsible Government by not advising His Honour to call the House together at a much earlier period."

On the question being put "Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," it was *Resolved* in the negative on the following division:—

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Smithe,</i>	<i>John,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Davie, A. E. B.,</i>
<i>Davie, T.,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Dingwall,</i>	<i>Wilson,</i>
<i>Orr,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Robson,</i>
<i>Drake,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>McTavish,</i>	<i>Raybould.—16.</i>

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Armstrong,</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>McLeese,</i>	<i>Galbraith.</i>
<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Helgesen.—8.</i>

On the question being put "Shall the words proposed to be substituted be inserted in lieu thereof," it was *Resolved* in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Smithe,</i>	<i>John,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Davie, A. E. B.,</i>
<i>Davie, T.,</i>	<i>Pooley,</i>	<i>Dingwall,</i>	<i>Wilson,</i>
<i>Orr,</i>	<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	<i>Robson,</i>
<i>Drake,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>McTavish,</i>	<i>Raybould.—16.</i>

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Armstrong,</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>McLeese,</i>	<i>Galbraith,</i>
<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Helgesen.—8.</i>

Original resolution, as amended, put and carried on the same division.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5.30 o'clock, p. m.

Monday, January 29th, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Shildrick*.

Mr. *Orr* presented a Petition from *Hugh Nelson* and others.
Laid on the Table.

A Petition from *F. B. McNamee & Co.* was read and received.

The Honourable Mr. *Armstrong* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a Statement of the names and places of residence of Collectors of Revenue paid by commission, rate of same, and date of authority therefor. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Armstrong* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a Statement of all Bonds deposited in the Provincial Secretary's Office by Civil Officers of the Province, for the due performance of their duties under the "Civil Officers Securities Act, 1872." (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Beaven* stated the Ministry had, in consequence of the vote given on Friday last, tendered their resignations to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, who had accepted the same.

Mr. *Smithe* stated that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor had called on him and asked him to assume the responsibility of forming a new Government, which he had undertaken to do; that the names of the gentlemen he had selected to fill the different positions in the Cabinet had been approved by His Honour, and were as follows:—

Mr. *W. Smithe*, Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

Mr. *A. E. B. Davie*, Attorney-General.

Mr. *John Robson*, Provincial Secretary and Minister of Mines, and Minister of Finance and Agriculture.

Mr. *M. W. T. Drake*, President of the Council.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until Monday, the 19th February next.

And then the House adjourned at 2.45 o'clock, p. m.

Monday, February 19th, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Steven*.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that, since the last sitting of the House, he had received a notification of vacancies which occurred in the Assembly by *William Smithe*, Esq., having accepted the office of Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works; and by *John Robson*, Esq., having accepted the office of Provincial Secretary and Minister of Finance; and by *A. E. B. Davie*, Esq., having accepted the office of Attorney-General, and that he issued a Warrant to the Registrar of the Supreme Court to issue new Writs to fill such vacancies.

The following papers relating thereto were read by the Clerk at the Table, and *Ordered* to be placed on the Journals of the House:—

“SUPREME COURT, BRITISH COLUMBIA,
“February 19th, 1883.

“Whereas the Honourable *John Robson*, a Member for the Electoral District of *New Westminster* District, did, on or before the twenty-ninth day of January last, accept office under the Crown, and did thereby vacate his seat for such District in the House of Assembly.

“And whereas on the twenty-ninth day of January last, a Writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *Adolphus Peele*, Esq., the Returning Officer of the said District.

“Now, I do hereby certify that on the fourteenth day of February, 1883, the said Writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer, with his Certificate attached thereto, whereby it appears that the said Honourable *John Robson* has been, under and by virtue of the said Writ, re-elected to be a Member of the House of Assembly for the said District.

“JAMES CHARLES PREVOST,
“Registrar, Supreme Court.”

"ELECTION REGULATION ACT, 1871.

"Certificate of Returning Officer (to be given to Candidate Elected.)

"[Section 85.]

"I do hereby certify that, in obedience to the Writ of Election to me directed, I have caused an Election to take place within the Electoral District of *Cowichan*, and that the Electors of the said District have chosen you to represent the said District as a Member for the said District in the Legislative Assembly.

"Dated this 15th day of February, 1883.

"HENRY FRY,
"Returning Officer."

"To the Honourable
"William Smithe, Somenos."

[TELEGRAM.]

"To J. C. Prevost,
"Registrar Supreme Court.

"CLINTON, February 15th, 1883.

"At the nomination here to-day, *Alexander Edmund Batson Davie* was duly elected a Member in the Legislative Assembly for *Lillooet* District by acclamation. Will forward Writ by first mail.

"F. SOUES,
"Returning Officer."

[TELEGRAM.]

"To John A. Mara,
"Speaker, Legislative Assembly.

"CLINTON, February 15th, 1883.

"At the nomination held here to-day, *Alexander Edmund Batson Davie* was duly elected as Member in the Legislative Assembly for *Lillooet* District by acclamation. Will forward Writ by first mail.

"F. SOUES,
"Returning Officer."

The Honourable *William Smithe* and the Honourable *J. Robson* having been duly sworn, were introduced and took their seats.

On the motion of Mr. *Orr*, seconded by Mr. *Martin*,—

It was *Ordered* That the House do resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the evidence relating to the re-election of the Honourable Attorney-General, in the absence of the formal return, and report immediately to the House.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the evidence submitted by Mr. Speaker, proves that *Alexander Edmund Batson Davie* was duly elected a Member of the Legislature of British Columbia for the District of *Lillooet*, and this House recommends that he be allowed to take his seat in this House.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Galbraith*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Resolution.

Moved by the Honourable Mr. *Smithe*, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *Robson*,—

That the Resolution of the Committee of the Whole, recommending that the Honourable *A. E. B. Davie* do take his seat as a member for the Electoral District of *Lillooet*, be adopted by the House, and that the Resolution be read three times and entered upon the Journals of the House.

Resolution read a first, second, and third time and passed.

The Honourable *A. E. B. Davie* having been duly sworn, was introduced and took his seat.

Messrs. *T. Davie, Orr, Allen, Galbraith, and Duck*, were nominated to form the Select Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders,

Messrs. *Wilson, John, Semlin, Grant, and Beaven* were nominated to form the Select Committee on Public Accounts.

Messrs. *McTavish, Martin, Raybould, Cowan, and Armstrong* were nominated to form the Select Committee on Printing.

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Annual Report on the Asylum for the Insane, for the year 1882. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Annual Printing Office Report, for the year 1882. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Drake* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Homestead Ordinance, 1867.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

On the motion of Mr. *Martin*, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a return of copies of all tenders sent in to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for the maintenance of a Ferry at *Savona's*, since January 1st, 1882, and for copies of correspondence between the persons tendering and the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

On the motion of Mr. *Martin*, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a return of copies of all correspondence between the Government and the contractors of the *Yale-Cache Creek* section of the Waggon Road.

Mr. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 3) intituled the "Wages Attachment Abolition Act, 1883."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

Mr. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Married Women's Property Act, 1873.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Mr. *Dunsmuir* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1877.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Interpretation Act, 1872,' " was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

Upon Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Orr*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete with amendments.

Ordered, That the Report be considered at the next sitting of the House.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Wednesday next.

And then the House adjourned at 4 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, February 21st, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Steven*.

Mr. *Orr* presented a Petition from *Robert W. Deane*, *L. R. McInnes*, and others, for a Private Bill.

The Petition was read and referred to the Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. *Pooley* presented a Petition from *J. C. Ainsworth* and others, asking for a Private Bill. The Petition was read and referred to the Committee on Private Bills.

On the motion of Mr. *T. Davie*, seconded by Mr. *Orr*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a Select Committee be appointed, to consist of Messrs. *Allen*, *Orr*, *Cowan*, *Duck*, and the mover, to enquire into the condition and working of the *Victoria Gaol*, with power to call for persons, books, and papers, and to report to this House.

Mr. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to repeal the 43 Vict., chap. 4, intituled 'An Act to abolish priority of and amongst Execution Creditors,' and for other purposes."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Mr. *Pooley* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 7) intituled "The Licences Amendment Act, 1883."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Mr. *Pooley* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government the following question:—

Whether it is the intention of the Government to place a sum upon the Estimates, this Session, for the purchase of a House for the use of the Admiral of the Station when resident in this Province?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

"The Government have the matter under consideration; and in view of the efforts being made to secure the permanent maintenance of *Esquimalt* as the head-quarters of Her Majesty's Fleet in the North Pacific, it is not improbable that steps will be taken to secure a residence for the Admiral of the station."

Mr. *Wilson* asked the Honourable the Attorney-General the following questions:—

1. Whether the 45 Vict., chap. 3, the "Provincial Superior Court Act, 1882," was allowed by the Dominion Government; and, if so, whether the appointments mentioned in section 8 of said Act have been made, and whether the public moneys have been applied as mentioned in section 13?

2. When the next County Court will be held in *Cariboo*, and whether it is the intention of the Government to provide for County and other Courts being held at stated times throughout the year?

The Honourable Mr. *A. E. B. Davie* replied as follows:—

"1. The Act referred to has not been disallowed by the Dominion Government, nor can it come into force (*see* section 8) until Judges shall have been appointed under it. No appointments have been made, nor have any public moneys been expended, as provided by section 13. The constitutionality of the Judicial District Act of 1879, and other Acts of our Legislature relating to the Administration of Justice, have been referred to the Supreme Court of Canada by His Excellency the Governor-General in Council.

"2. The Government is not at present prepared to state when the next County Court will be held in *Cariboo*. It is intended to regulate the Assize Courts by Statute; and steps will be taken to ensure the holding regularly of County Courts, at convenient places and times, throughout the Province."

Mr. *T. Davie* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government to introduce, during the present Session, an Act aimed at the restriction of Chinese immigration; and does the Government intend to take any, and what, steps to prevent the further influx of Chinese?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“Whilst not in a position at present to say definitely how the Chinese question can be constitutionally dealt with by statute, the Government are prepared to do all possible to accomplish the object the Honourable Member for *Victoria* has in view; and by encouraging and assisting white immigration of labouring men and their families, they hope, to some extent, to abate the Chinese evil; and any other measure considered likely to attain the same end will be gladly undertaken.”

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 1) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Interpretation Act, 1872.’” was considered.

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order Mr. *T. Davie* moved, That Bill (No. 3) intituled the “Wages Attachment Abolition Act, 1883,” be now read a second time.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until Monday next.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o’clock on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 4.15 o’clock, p. m.

Monday, February 26th, 1883.

TWO O’CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Watson*.

Mr. Speaker stated that he had received the Certificate of the return of the Honourable Mr. *Smithe*.

Ordered, That the same be placed on the Journals of the House.

“SUPREME COURT, BRITISH COLUMBIA
“23rd February, 1883.

“Whereas *William Smithe*, Esquire, a Member for the Electoral District of *Cowichan*, did, on or before the twenty-ninth day of January last, accept office under the Crown, and did thereby vacate his seat in the House of Assembly.

“And whereas on the twenty-ninth day of January last, a Writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *Henry Fry*, Esquire, the Returning Officer of the said District.

“Now, I do hereby certify that on the twenty-first day of February instant, the said Writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer, with his Certificate attached, whereby it appears that *William Smithe*, Esquire, has been, under and by virtue of the said Writ, elected a Member to represent the said Electoral District of *Cowichan* in the Legislative Assembly.

“JAMES CHARLES PREVOST,
“Registrar, Supreme Court.”

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* presented copies of all correspondence between the Government and the Contractors of the *Yale-Cache Creek* section of the Waggon Road.

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* presented copies of all tenders sent in to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for the maintenance of a Ferry at *Savona's*, since January 1st, 1882, and for copies of correspondence between the persons tendering and the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

Mr. *Pooley* presented a Petition from *Robert Dunsmuir* and *W. N. Diggle*, for a Private Bill.

The Petition was read and received.

Mr. *Wilson* presented a Petition from *C. W. D. Clifford* and *James J. May*, for a Private Bill.

The Petition was read and received.

Mr. *T. Davie* presented the First Report from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. *Orr* presented a Minority Report from the same Committee.

Ordered, That the Majority Report be adopted.

Mr. *Pooley* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 11) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Transportation Company."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Referred to the Private Bills Committee.

Mr. *Orr* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Fraser River Railway Company."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Referred to the Private Bills Committee.

The Honourable Mr. *Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to remove certain disqualifications of Justices of the Peace."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Honourable Mr. *Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to legalize the appointments of certain Provincial Officers."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Honourable Mr. *Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to fix the times for holding Courts of Assize and other Courts."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. *McLeese* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 13) intituled "The Sleigh Regulation Act, 1883."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

Mr. *Raybould* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to amend the Coroner's Inquest Act, 1882."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

The Honourable Mr. *Drake* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act, 1873.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Moved by Mr. *Beaven*, seconded by Mr. *Duck*,—

That the attention of the Government of the Dominion of Canada be respectfully called to a Minute of the Executive Council of British Columbia, approved on 19th August, 1882, referring to the immense influx of Chinese into the Province; and that they be requested by this Legislative Assembly, by telegram from the Honourable the Speaker, to cause an Act, similar in principle to the United States Restriction Law, to become law during the present Session of the Parliament of Canada; and that Mr. Speaker do also communicate the substance of this Resolution, by telegram, to the representatives of this Province in the Parliament of Canada.

Moved in amendment by Mr. *T. Davie*, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*:—

That all the words after "That" be struck out, and the following words inserted:—

"This House strongly urges upon the Government of the Province the importance of adopting every constitutional method which can be devised for restricting the further immigration of Chinese into British Columbia; for compelling those who are now resident here to comply with the revenue and other laws of the Province, and for inaugurating a liberal scheme of assisted white immigration; and this House much regrets that, owing to the persistent holding to office of the late Government, no opportunity has been afforded the present administration for opening negotiations with the Dominion Government with a view to concurrent action upon these vital questions in time to be submitted to the Dominion Parliament and this House respectively at their present sessions."

A debate arose, which was adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

On the motion of Mr. *Beaven*, seconded by Mr. *Armstrong*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to cause to be sent down to this House copies of all Orders in Council, correspondence, and papers, since 5th October, 1882, relating to the withdrawal of Her Majesty's Ships from British Columbian waters.

The Honourable Mr. *Drake* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Municipality Act, 1881.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. *Orr* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

What was the amount due to Mr. *Murchison*, of *Langley*, for work done under contract for the Government, and why the amount was not paid?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

"This is one of the many unsettled claims left by the late Government. The amount is \$403.48. Payment was first refused by the Honourable Mr. *Walkem*, as Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, because of alleged lack of authority. Subsequently the position was taken that the claim was excessive, but no steps appear to have been taken by the late Government to effect a settlement of the matter on an equitable basis."

Mr. *Orr* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Whether the Dry Dock work and the work in the stone quarry is still continued by day-work, and whether it is the intention of the Government to continue the work on the same system, and what is the daily average of expenditure in connection with the said works?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“The Government have not yet made any change in the conduct of the work at the Graving Dock. The late Government left no information in the Departments as to the relative cost of the work by day labour as against contract prices. With a view of determining the comparative cost of the two systems, I, two weeks ago, instructed the Resident Engineer to measure up the work done by day labour, in order that a complete comparison might be made under the various heads of the several classes of work. Mr. *Bennett*, having been ill, has not yet been able to make the measurements and to report upon the subject. Tenders were called for by the late Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for the completion of the Dock, but none so far have been received. The daily expenditure on Dock account—Contract No. 3—for the period from 1st July, 1882, to 31st December, 1883, (7 months or 182 days) is \$235,—the daily average for the month of January being \$285. These figures do not include payments for cement, &c., or Resident Engineer’s salary, which are not chargeable against Contract No. 3.”

Mr. *Pooley* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government the following question:—

Whether it is the intention of the Government to take any steps towards placing a sum on the Estimates, this Session, for the payment of bounties for the destruction of Wolves and Panthers within the settled Districts of the Province?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“The question of placing a small sum on the Estimates for the purpose indicated in the question of the Honourable Member for *Esquimalt* is under consideration.”

Mr. *Raybould* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government the following question:—

If they are aware that a Petition has been forwarded to the Dominion Government by the settlers in *Cedar, Cranberry, Wellington, Mountain, Comox, and Cowichan* Districts; and if it is the intention of the Provincial Government to respect the squatters’ rights if it is found that the Island Railway lands have reverted to the Province?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“The Government are aware that such a Petition was forwarded. The lands are reserved, for railway purposes, to the Federal Government, against whom a claim exists for keeping the lands so long from settlement without building the Island Railway. In the event of those lands reverting to the Province it will be the aim of the Government to deal equitably with all bonâ fide settlers.”

Mr. *Allen* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

At whose expense, and by what authority, the Road Party of Section 3 of the Main Trunk Road, rebuilt a bridge leading to *William Saul’s* farm; said bridge being one mile from the Waggon Road?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“At the expense of the Government, and upon the authority of the Honourable Mr. *Beaven*, as Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.”

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Married Women’s Property Act, 1873,’” was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o’clock to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order Bill (No. 5) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1877,’” was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

Upon Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Semlin*, Chairman of the Committee, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5.30 o’clock, p. m.

Tuesday, February 27th, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Watson*.

Mr. *Dunsmuir* presented a Petition from the British Columbia Board of Trade, which was read, received, and *Ordered* to be printed. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

Mr. *T. Davie* presented the Second Report from the Private Bills Committee.

Mr. *Pooley* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act to authorize Robert Dunsmuir and Wadham Neston Diggle to construct a Railway to connect the South Wellington wharf at Departure Bay, and the South Wellington and Wellington Railways."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Mr. *John* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government to continue the construction of the Graving Dock at *Esquimalt* by day-work?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

"Having already answered a similar question put by the Honourable Member for *New Westminster*, I must refer the Honourable Member for *Victoria* District to that answer, and ask him to accept it as a reply to his question also."

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to remove certain disqualifications of Justices of the Peace," was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Duck*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to legalize the appointment of certain Provincial Officers, was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Wilson*, Chairman of the Committee, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered, That leave be granted for Monday next.

Pursuant to Order, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Married Women's Property Act, 1873.'"

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Grant*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete, with amendments.

Ordered, That the Report be considered to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1877.'"

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Semlin*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete, with amendments.

Ordered, That the Report be considered to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, February 28th, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Watson*.

Mr. *T. Davie* presented the Third Report from the Private Bills Committee. The Report was received.

Mr. *Grant* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Mineral Act, 1882.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. *Semlin*, seconded by Mr. *Martin*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an order of the House be granted for a Return of the amount of Revenue collected in the Electoral District of *Yale* for the year ending the 31st of December, 1882.

On the motion of Mr. *Beaven*, seconded by Mr. *Helgesen*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor requesting him to cause to be sent down to this House copies of all Orders in Council, correspondence, and papers relating to a Petition of Right signed *F. B. McNamee & Co.*

On the motion of Mr. *Beaven*, seconded by Mr. *Grant*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to cause to be sent down to this House copies of all Orders in Council, correspondence, and papers relating to the appointment of Judges under the "Provincial Superior Court Act, 1882," and the reference of the constitutional questions in the *Thrasher* case to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Mr. *Dunsmuir* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Provincial Revenue Tax Act, 1881.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Mr. *Allen* asked the Honourable the Provincial Secretary the following question:—

What Bills had the late Government printed and ready to place before the Legislature at the time they were defeated?

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* replied as follows:—

"One only, viz., the Act to amend the "Interpretation Act, 1872."

Mr. *Allen* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

What was the quantity, and what the cost of the cement destroyed by fire on the 12th of May last at *Esquimalt*? Was it insured? And, if so, for what amount?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

"At the time of the fire the store-house contained about 185 tons of cement, of which some 35 tons were saved (*see* Chief Commissioner's Report, 1882, folio 301). The cement was not insured."

Mr. *Allen* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Is it true that the Road Foreman, *W. Boyd*, of Sections 2 and 3, received \$130 per month for the months of November and December, 1881, and January, February and March, in 1882?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

"Mr. *Boyd* was paid \$130 per month for the period indicated in the Honourable gentleman's question."

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to remove certain disqualifications of Justices of the Peace," was read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Married Women's Property Act, 1873,'" was considered.

Report adopted.

Ordered to be read a third time on Thursday next.

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1877,'" was considered.

Resolved. That the words "of the age of twelve and" be inserted after the word "boy," in the third line of section 1.

Report, as amended, adopted.

Ordered to be read a third time on Thursday next.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Homestead Ordinance, 1867,'" was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed on Tuesday next.

Pursuant to Order, Mr. *T. Davie* moved the second reading of Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to repeal the 43 Vic., chap. 4, intituled 'An Act to abolish priority of and amongst Execution Creditors.'"

A debate arose, which was adjourned until the next sitting of the House.

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on the motion for the second reading of Bill (No. 7) intituled the "Wages Attachment Abolition Act, 1883," was resumed.

Bill read a second time.

Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on Mr. *Beaven's* motion dealing with the Chinese question, was resumed.

Moved by Mr. *Pooley*, in amendment to the amendment, seconded by Mr. *John*,—

That all the words after "House," in the sixth line, to "negotiations" on the eighth line, be struck out, and that the following be inserted in place thereof:—"requests the Government at once to open."

Amendment to the amendment put and carried unanimously.

Amendment put and carried unanimously.

The original resolution, as amended, put and carried unanimously, as follows:—

That this House strongly urges upon the Government of the Province the importance of adopting every constitutional method which can be devised for restricting the further immigration of Chinese into British Columbia; for compelling those who are now resident here to comply with the revenue and other laws of the Province, and for inaugurating a liberal scheme of assisted white immigration; and this House requests the Government at once to open negotiations with the Dominion Government with a view to concurrent action upon these vital questions in time to be submitted to the Dominion Parliament and this House respectively at their present sessions.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned, at 5.55 p.m.

Thursday, March 1st, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Watson*.

Mr. *Orr* presented a Petition from *C. B. Sword*, asking for a Private Bill.
The Petition was read and received.

Mr. *T. Davie* presented the Fourth Report from the Private Bills Committee. The Report was received.

Mr. *Orr* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the New Westminster Southern Railway Company."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

The Honourable Mr. *Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act relating to Jurors and Juries."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. *Robson*, seconded by Mr. *Dunsmuir*, it was *Resolved*—

That a Select Committee, consisting of Messrs. *Orr*, *Armstrong*, *Duck*, *T. Davie*, and *Dingwall*, be appointed for the purpose of enquiring into the claim of the Honourable *Amor DeCosmos* for compensation for services as Agent for British Columbia at *Ottawa* and *London*, with power to call for persons and papers, and report to this House.

On the motion of Mr. *Pooley*, seconded by Mr. *McTavish*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the House do resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the following Resolutions:—

That, notwithstanding any Ordinance, Statute, or Law to the contrary, applications for retail liquor licences shall only be made to a Licensing Court held in the Electoral District in which are situate the premises in respect whereof the licence is sought; and no Justice of the Peace who does not reside in the Electoral District wherein the application shall be made shall sit or vote upon the application, or sign or grant any certificate or licence in respect of such application;

And that an Act be introduced into this Honourable House for the purpose of carrying out the aforesaid Resolution, to be known as the "Licences Amendment Act, 1883."

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the Resolution.

The Committee rose without Report.

On the motion of Mr. *T. Davie*, seconded by Mr. *Duck*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will cause to be sent down to this House a Return showing what timber leases and privileges have been granted by the Government since May, 1878, and giving full particulars regarding dates and the area of land granted, the terms of such leases or privileges, and the names of the persons or corporations to whom the same have been granted.

On the motion of Mr. *Wilson*, seconded by Mr. *Grant*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of this House be granted for a Return of the number of opium licences, and the amounts collected for such licences, before the passing of 42 Vic., c. 23, the "Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1879," and the number of licences and amounts collected since the said Act has been in operation, showing the Electoral Districts wherein such licences were issued.

On the motion of Mr. *Wilson*, seconded by Mr. *Cowan*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for the production of all plans, specifications, papers, and correspondence in connection with a proposed Waggon Road from *Stanley* to *Barkerville*, via *Chisholm Creek*, *Devil's Canon*, and *Jack of Clubs Lake*.

Mr. *Armstrong* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government to establish a Land Registry Office at *New Westminster* early this summer?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

"It is the intention of the Government to establish a Land Registry Office at *New Westminster* as soon as possible, but it is feared there will not be time during the present Session for the necessary legislation."

Mr. *Allen* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government the following question:—

What sum was paid *Beegan* and *Haley* for prospecting on *Vancouver Island*? What portions of the Island did they visit? Did they render a report of their trip; and what discoveries (if any) did they make?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“There was paid to *W. Haley* for prospecting on the North Fork of *Leech River*, \$60, on the 27th July, 1882, and to *J. Gosnell*, for provisions furnished to *Haley*, \$40, on the 3rd August, 1882; on the 12th August \$100 was paid to *S. Clay* for provisions for *Beegan*, *Argall*, and *Cowling*, prospecting head-waters of *Jordan River*. No report was made, and no discovery, so far as I am aware.”

Mr. *Allen* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Can any intending settler ascertain by application at the Land Office, what lands in the Province are open for settlement, and the character of them?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“Yes, any person can learn at the Land Office what lands are open for settlement, and some idea of their character can generally be given.”

Mr. *John* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

How much of the \$4,000 voted by the Legislative Assembly of 1882 for Roads, Streets, and Bridges, for *Victoria District*, has been expended on such works in said district, up to 31st December, 1882?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“The sum of \$2,951.61.”

Mr. *T. Davie* asked the Honourable the Provincial Secretary the following question:—

At what rate per acre are the *Hudson's Bay Co.* and *Puget Sound Co.* taxed for the unoccupied lands which they respectively hold in the Districts of *Victoria* and *Esquimalt*?

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* replied as follows:—

“These lands are, with one or two trifling exceptions, rented, the tenant paying the taxes. A list hereto appended will show the rates at which the lands are assessed”:—

ASSESSMENT ROLL, 1882-83, VICTORIA AND ESQUIMALT DISTRICTS.

OCCUPANT.		OWNER.	SECTION.	ACRES.	RATE PER ACRE.	DISTRICT.	AMOUNT.
Atkins, Thomas.....	T	Puget Sound Co...	I.	620	\$ 10 16	Esquimalt.....	\$ 6,300 00
Parker, John.....	„	„ „ „ „	II.	600	27 50	„ „ „ „	16,500 00
Thomson, C. W. R.....	„	„ „ „ „	„	1	„ „ „ „	3,000 00
Hudson Bay Company.....	F	„ „ „ „	„	5	4,000 00	„ „ „ „	20,000 00
Williams, J. W.....	T	Puget Sound Co...	X.	581	17 21	„ „ „ „	10,000 00
Whelstone, A.....	„	„ „ „ „	XI.	5	240 00	„ „ „ „	1,200 00
Parker, John.....	„	„ „ „ „	„	579	150 00	„ „ „ „	86,850 00
Hudson Bay Company.....	F	„ „ „ „	XIV.	20	7 50	„ (Wild Land).	150 00
Parker, John.....	T	Puget Sound Co...	XXI.	31	40 00	Victoria.....	1,240 00
Van Volkenburgh & Co.....	„	Hudson Bay Co...	XXXI.	1,020	22 50	„ „ „ „	22,950 00
Deans, George, estate of.....	„	„ „ „ „	„	77	38 96	„ „ „ „	3,000 00
Hong Yuen.....	„	„ „ „ „	„	30	50 00	„ „ „ „	1,500 00
Reynolds, F.....	„	„ „ „ „	XXXII.	460	26 08	„ „ „ „	12,000 00
Hudson Bay Company.....	F	„ „ „ „	XLIV.	64	18 75	„ (Wild Land)..	1,200 00

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Married Women’s Property Act, 1873,’” was read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 5) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1877,’” was read a third time and passed.

And then the House adjourned at 5.20 o'clock, p. m.

Friday, March 2nd, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Watson*.

Mr. *Duck* presented a Petition from the Catholic Bishops of British Columbia.
Laid on the Table.

Mr. *Duck* presented a Petition from *James Hamilton, Edgar Marvin*, and others, for a Private Bill.

The Petition was read and received.

Mr. *T. Davie* presented the Fifth Report from the Private Bills Committee.
The Report was received and adopted.

Mr. *Orr* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Sumass Dyking Act, 1878.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Referred to the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills.

Moved by Mr. *T. Davie*, seconded by Mr. *Orr*,—

That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into the manner in which copies of the Australian Acts, relating to Chinese, were obtained by the late Government; what copies were obtained; what copies struck off in the Printing Office; what has become of the same; and what is the reason that the copies promised in His Honour's Speech have not been laid before the House,—with power to call for persons, books, and papers. Such Committee to report to the House. The Committee to consist of Messrs. *Martin, McTavish, Helgesen, Cowan*, and the mover.

Moved in amendment by the Honourable Mr. *Drake*, seconded by Mr. *Allen*:—

To insert after the word "Office," in the third line, the following:—"and whether tabulated statements connected with the Revenue, and the Judgment in *Murne v. Morrison*, have been printed by the Government Printing Office."

Amendment put and carried.

Resolution, as amended, put and carried.

On the motion of Mr. *Wilson*, seconded by Mr. *Cowan*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of this House be granted for details of the expenditure of Vote No. 158 for Explorations, showing who received the money, when the explorations were made, and the reports of the explorers.

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. *Robson*, seconded by Mr. *Orr*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the Financial Statement laid before this House on Tuesday, and the Public Accounts generally up to date, be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *T. Davie*, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *Smithe*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into the circumstances and reasons connected with the payment of \$11,900 to *Reed Bros. & Co.*, to the exclusion of local creditors, with power to call for persons, books, and papers; such Committee to report to this House. The Committee to consist of Messrs. *Pooley, McLeese, Dunsmuir, Semlin*, and *Grant*.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday next.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 13) intituled "An Act to regulate the gauge of Sleighs," was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 4.55 o'clock, p. m.

Monday, March 5th, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Petition from the Catholic Bishops of British Columbia, was read, received, and Ordered to be printed. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

Mr. *T. Davie* presented the Sixth Report from the Private Bills Committee. The Report was received and adopted.

On the motion of Mr. *Semlin*, seconded by Mr. *Martin*, it was Resolved,—

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, soliciting His Honour to obtain from the Dominion authorities a copy of the report of the Engineer in reference to the *Spallmuckeen Canal*, and to transmit the same for the information of this House.

Moved by Mr. *Orr*, seconded by Mr. *Cowan*,—

That, in the opinion of this House, it is unadvisable to alienate large tracts of mineral lands in *Kootenay* or other parts of the Province, by any special Acts or charters, as the individual rights of free miners and others under the present Mineral Acts and Ordinances should be protected.

Motion withdrawn with leave of the House.

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. *Smithe*, seconded by Mr. *Allen*, it was Resolved,—

That a Select Committee be appointed to fully enquire into and report upon the condition of the Civil Service, with power to call for persons, books, papers, and accounts; the Committee to consist of Messrs. *T. Davie*, *Galbraith*, *Dunsmuir*, *Grant*, *Robson*, and *McTavish*.

On the motion of Mr. *Orr*, it was Resolved,—

That the name of Mr. *Martin* be added to the Private Bills Committee.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended to enable the Private Bills Committee to be increased by one.

On the motion of Mr. *T. Davie*, seconded by Mr. *Orr*, it was Resolved,—

That the name of Mr. *Semlin* be added to the Private Bills Committee.

On the motion of Mr. *Semlin*, seconded by Mr. *Martin*, it was Resolved,—

That an order of the House be granted for a Return of all Magistrates appointed for the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, and the Province; the dates of such appointments, together with the dates of the resignation of such Magistrates as have resigned, and the names of those still in commission.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended.

Mr. *Dunsmuir* then moved, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *Smithe*, the adoption of the following Address to Her Majesty Queen Victoria:—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty:

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN:

We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, on the occasion of the first Session of the Assembly after the visit of a member of Your Majesty's illustrious family to this part of the Empire, humbly beg to approach Your Majesty with renewed expressions of our devotion to the Crown, our attachment to the Mother Country, and our warmest wishes for Your Majesty's welfare and happiness.

The recollection of the recent visit of His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne, who so ably and acceptably represents Your Majesty in this Dominion of Canada, and of his illustrious wife, who, by her many acts of gracious kindness, gave ample proofs that Her Royal Highness unites the Royal virtues of her exalted station with the inherited qualities which all Your Majesty's subjects are accustomed to appreciate and admire, will ever be treasured in the hearts of the people of this Province.

The presence of the daughter of their beloved Queen has quickened the pride which our people have ever had in their connection with the Mother Country, and in the constitutional Government which they enjoy, while it has afforded fresh proof of the solicitude of the Parent Empire to reciprocate their loyal affection.

We sincerely trust and pray that Your Majesty's beneficent reign may be prolonged, so that all parts of Your Majesty's vast and prosperous Dominions may continue to grow in strength, prosperity, and renown, under Your Majesty's gracious rule.

The Address was adopted unanimously.

Ordered, That the Address be engrossed, signed by Mr. Speaker, and forwarded through the usual channel.

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* presented the plans, specifications, papers, and correspondence in connection with a proposed Waggon Road from *Stanley* to *Barkerville*, viâ *Chisholm Creek*. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* presented a Return of all timber leases and privileges granted since May, 1878. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

On the motion of Mr. *Martin*, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a Select Committee, composed of the mover and Messrs. *Raybould*, *McTavish*, *John*, and *Armstrong*, be appointed to enquire into the claims of *R. M. Clementson*, ex-Deputy Superintendent of Education, and the *British Columbia Express Co.*, as per Statement No. 2, issued by Audit Office; and to enquire into the reason why the Report of the Committee of last Session was not carried out by the Government, and why the Report was not published in the Journals of the House or Sessional Papers.

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented details of the expenditure of Vote 158 for explorations, together with the reports of the explorers.

Mr. *McTavish* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act relating to the Legal Professions."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Mr. *McTavish* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Whether Messrs. *Blasdel*, *Ainsworth*, and others, who have a Private Bill now before the House, have deposited maps and plans of the country through which their proposed lines of railway and steamboats are proposed to pass, at the Lands and Works Office; and whether such maps and plans are to be brought before the House?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

"Maps have not been deposited."

Mr. *John* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government, during the present year, to advertise the resources of the country abroad, by the issue of maps and hand-books, so that immigrants might be attracted to this Province?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

"Yes; the Government intend to do so, as extensively as possible."

Mr. *Allen* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Has a shed to store cement been erected by the Government at *Esquimalt*? If so, when, and at what cost? Also, what is the total rent previously paid by the Government for storing cement, through not having a shed in which to store it?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“Yes; last autumn, after *Selleck's* warehouse was burnt; cost about \$1,100. Rent was paid for *Selleck's* warehouse from April, 1875, to May, 1882, at the rate of \$80 per month; in all \$6,900.”

Mr. *Armstrong* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government to place a sum on the Estimates to build a new Gaol at *New Westminster* this year?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“The Government fear they will not be able to build a new Gaol at *New Westminster* this year.”

Mr. *T. Davie* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government, during this Session, to impose a stumpage tax, or other tax or licence, upon Saw Mill Companies, or companies and persons engaged in cutting timber and devastating the forests; or otherwise, what return to the revenue does the Government intend to exact from these parties for the privileges which they enjoy?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“The Government are fully impressed with the importance of the subject, but are not yet in a position to state what action will be taken in regard to Saw Mill Companies and the timber lands of the Province.”

Mr. *Armstrong* asked the Hon. the Leader of the Government the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government to establish a High School at *New Westminster* this summer?

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* replied as follows:—

“The Government have the matter under consideration.”

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 9) intitled “An Act to legalize the appointment of certain Provincial Officers.”

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Wilson*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete without amendment.

Report adopted.

Ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 13) intitled “An Act to regulate the gauge of Sleighs.”

Upon Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Helgesen*, Chairman of the Committee, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for Monday next.

And then the House adjourned at 5.20 o'clock, p. m.