

Council Chamber
Tuesday 31 January 1871

The Council met at 1 o'clock pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Speaker in the Chair as Usual

Present The Hon. Messrs. Mackenzie, Phillips, Smith, Hargrave,
Carrall, Prof. Rolton, Donderston, Skinner, Brewster, Selinger,
Thompson, Nelson, Mathew, Almon.

The Minutes of previous meeting read & confirmed

A message from His Excellency the Governor read as follows

See page 10.4.

Anthony Musgrave.
The Governor has received the Resolution of the Legislative Council
requesting him to send down a Bill to enlarge the number
of representative members including non-qualified members
from the Council so as to enable a new Legislative Body
and the form of Administration known as Responsible
Government to come into operation at the first Session of
the Legislature subsequent to the Union of this Colony with
Canada.

In compliance with this request the Governor submits for
the consideration of the Council a Bill entitled "an Act to amend
and alter the constitution of this Colony."

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On the motion of The Hon. the Attorney General
ordered that the Constitution Bill be now read 1st time

Read 1st time accordingly. ^{Thereupon}
Ordered to be read 2^d time on Friday next.

A further message read as follows.

See page 10.5

Anthony Musgrave.

The Governor has received the Resolution of the Honorable Legislative
Council respecting the propriety of postponing payment of the
instalments due on Land pre-empted under Vancouver Island
Resumption Proclamation 1861-2 until some convenient period
after next harvest.

The Governor regrets that he does not consider himself at liberty
to comply with the suggestion of the Council. These payments are due
to the Vancouver Island Crown Fund, and it is important that the
accounts of this Fund should be settled before the proposed Union
of this Colony with the Dominion of Canada.

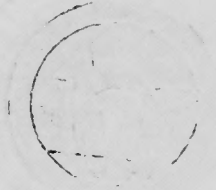
Government House

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Truly, remember the Council have lost their second
They talk not of and punishment but their blessed fumes
With some views and legal force my head is really sore.
I hope indeed to take a fence or view a fence no more
Tutik with some small part the Bill to a Select Committee
They throw it out, and praise which is methinks rapidly
By Mr. Cress proposes not to leave each clause a blank
and then in view of his paper the usury cloth like
Then Dutch divides active and makes it two three
and Helandian wishes to have must litigation three five
Not being talker that he was very understood
& Stanley stands before the house his coat tail in his hand
and when swears the four o'clock and wants to go away.
He is without his dinner heavers it does not pass
O'Neill's objection and complains for ever of the
in the Clerk's apartment a deep perchance is handy
Stokes passes his night in silence & either was a lord
and Harry says to show the law would really be absurd
Poor Bushy looks most awful bored and wishes out the done
all laws fence; wants a smoke, but finds it not in use.
All need have been going over the rail; pities the legislation
and thinks the Council to be uncommon small peccators
Stalks enquiring softly of them "understand the motion
O'Neill, looking quite beautiful, and smiles at such a notion
Poor old man tries to say a word, his voice is wholly drowned
For since the racket of the coals you cannot hear a sound.
At last his voice is heard to say he gives his pile or clods.
denies a carpenter, and on the matter he will not pass the odds
He gives the natives now astounded and calls for fence
The formal rows and asks him of perchance has been his fence
The unhappy, Clerk in vain believes to take the vote or motion
but for Helmet on interrupts with 51 Cress's motion
The book then suggests say that all the cups by his party will be robbed
O'Neill, hopes that your dropped will for all, be bottled.



Seventh Legislative Council of British Columbia, Victoria, 1870: *Front row* (left to right): A. DeCosmos, H. P. P. Crease, D. B. Ring (with dog), J. W. Trutch, T. B. Humphreys, J. Robson. *Back row*: House Messenger, H. Holbrook, W. O. Hanley, E. G. Alston, P. J. Hankin, M. W. T. Drake, T. L. Wood, H. M. Ball, E. Dewdney, A. T. Bushby. *Absent*: P. O'Reilly, A. F. Pemberton, E. H. Sanders, G. A. Walkem, F. J. Barnard, R. W. W. Carrall, J. S. Helmcken. PABC (Photo No. 53182).



Frederick Seymour

By His Excellency Frederick Seymour
Lieut. Governor and Commandant-in-Chief
of the Colony of British Columbia and its Dependencies,
&c., &c., &c.

To all to whom these presents shall come, or whom the same
may concern.

Greeting.

Know ye that, reposing especial confidence in the loyalty, integrity, and ability of
John Sebastian Helmcken Esquire, I do, in virtue
of the power and authority in me vested, hereby nominate and appoint him the said
John Sebastian Helmcken to be a Member of the Legislative
Council of British Columbia, willing and requiring him to conform in all things to the duties and
obligations of that Office.

PROVIDED, however, that this appointment shall be provisional only until it shall have
been approved by the Queen, through one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.
Provided, also, that, if not otherwise determined, it shall remain in full force until the 20th
day of *June*, in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty
eight, and no longer; and provided, always, that the said *John*
Sebastian Helmcken shall hold office as a Member of the said Council
during Her Majesty's pleasure only.

GIVEN under my hand and the Public Seal of the Colony, this
11 day of *January*, in the year of
Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty *seven*,
and in the *thirteenth* year of Her Majesty's
Reign.

By Command.

Robert A. Nichol