

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

SESSION, 1888.

Friday, 27th January, 1888.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

This being the first day of the second meeting of the Fifth Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable Hugh Nelson, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the Seventh day of January, 1888.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor having entered the House, took his seat on the Throne, and was pleased to deliver the following gracious Speech:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

It affords me very great pleasure, in meeting you at this the opening of the Second Session of the fifth term of our Provincial Legislature, to be able to congratulate you upon another year of peace and prosperity.

The public revenue continues to show gratifying increase. Population is flowing in and finding remunerative employment and creating happy homes in our towns and rural districts.

The patient and industrious agriculturist has reaped a bountiful harvest, for which he has found a satisfactory market.

The auriferous grounds have yielded up their precious treasures liberally to the persevering miner; and if our quartz ledges have disappointed expectations formed at the beginning of the year, it cannot be denied that they give increasing promise of future wealth.

The yield of our coal mines considerably exceeds that of any previous year, while the fishing and lumber industries continue to flourish and expand.

Our seal fishing industry received a rude check by the high-handed acts committed under another flag in Behring Sea, inflicting serious loss upon enterprising citizens.

I have caused representations to be made upon the subject, and there is every reason to believe that the action taken by the Imperial Government will result in securing indemnity for the past and the peaceable enjoyment of our rights in the future.

The loan authorized by you has been negotiated on satisfactory terms, and it is highly gratifying to find our bonds bearing four and a half per cent. interest quoted in the English market at a considerable premium.

The establishment of a Battery of Dominion Artillery, after long delay, is matter for satisfaction; but much remains to be done in order to place the Province in a proper state of defence, and I have no doubt representations made at Ottawa will secure the early attainment of that important object.

In consequence of serious discontent amongst certain Indian tribes in Kootenay and on the North-West Coast, acting in conjunction with the Dominion Government, I sent Commissioners to confer and treat with the disaffected bands. The papers connected with these missions will be laid before you.

At the request of the Dominion Government, I commissioned one of my Ministers to proceed to Ottawa for the purpose of discussing several questions of public importance. The papers connected with that mission will also be placed before you.

In the case of the ownership of the precious metals within the Railway Belt, referred to the Supreme Court of Canada, the Judges (although not unanimous) have decided adversely to the claims of the Province, and the necessary steps are being taken for an appeal to the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council.

At the opening of last Session you were informed by my predecessor that preliminary steps had been taken against the sureties of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, for failure to fulfil the agreement for extension of the railway to Coal Harbour and English Bay. Legal proceedings for the recovery of the amount of the bond are still pending.

In consequence of the failure of the "Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Transportation Company" to comply with the terms of their agreement, the cash deposit made under the Act has been forfeited, and now forms part of the Consolidated Revenue of the Province, and the Act incorporating the company is now null and void.

While the past year affords much cause for congratulation, I cannot take leave of its record without referring to the terrible colliery calamity which befel Nanaimo, whereby that important community was suddenly plunged into deepest mourning, and a large number of families bereft of their bread-winners.

You will be asked to sanction a contribution made from the Public Treasury towards a fund for the relief of those rendered destitute by that dire calamity.

It also becomes my painful duty to refer to a similar, though, fortunately, less destructive, calamity which befel one of the Wellington collieries on Tuesday last, resulting in serious loss of life.

It will remain for you to consider whether additional legislative safeguards cannot be thrown around our hardy and industrious coal miners.

In response to certain representations, I authorized a Special Commissioner to proceed to the Mother Country, with a view to ascertain whether a practicable scheme could not be devised for the purpose of promoting a limited emigration from the north of Scotland of carefully selected fishermen, from among the class commonly known as "Crofters," and who, it is believed, would be eminently adapted for the development of our sea fisheries. This has been done without entailing any charge upon the public revenue, and you will probably be invited to consider how far such a scheme may be practicable.

It is now more than twenty years since the constitution of the Dominion was framed and brought into actual operation. It may be advisable for you to consider whether practical experience of its working for nearly a quarter of a century has not revealed defects in that constitution which it would be alike in the interest of the Province and of Confederation to have remedied.

The subject of irrigating the soil in the extensive dry region east of the Cascades is one of very great importance, and it may be well to consider whether the artesian well system could not be resorted to with advantage.

You cannot fail to be impressed with the importance of the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway; the necessity for the early construction of a railway connecting the great mineral region of Cariboo with the Canadian Pacific line; and the desirableness of extending the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway to the northern end of Vancouver Island.

For the first of these works you have already made liberal provision, and it only remains for the Dominion Parliament to extend to it that assistance which the Province has a right to expect. Exploratory surveys for the Cariboo Railway and for extension of the Island Railway have been made, reports of which will be submitted.

The Commissioners appointed to consolidate and revise the Provincial Statutes have nearly completed their labours. Their Report will be placed before you in the course of the Session, and Bills embodying suggested improvements submitted.

Amongst other measures to be submitted are, a Bill for constituting a County Court with limited jurisdiction in criminal matters; a Bill constituting a Court for the consideration of Crown Cases Reserved; a Bill for increasing the efficiency of the County Courts; and a Bill to regulate the issuing of wholesale liquor licences in rural districts.

The Public Accounts will be laid before you, and Estimates for the Public Service during the next year will be submitted for your consideration.

In leaving you to your deliberations, I pray that you may be directed by the Supreme Ruler in your efforts to promote the best interests of the Province.

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

Mr. Speaker stated that the Honourable *Forbes G. Vernon*, a Member for the Electoral District of *Yale*, had been re-elected to fill the vacancy caused by his acceptance of the office of Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works under the Crown;

That the Honourable *J. H. Turner*, a Member for the Electoral District of *Victoria City*, had been re-elected to fill the vacancy caused by his acceptance of the office of Minister of Finance under the Crown;

That *Henry Fry*, Esquire, had been elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of the Honourable *William Smithe*, a Member for the Electoral District of *Cowichan*;

That he had received the resignations of *Anthony Maitland Stenhouse*, Esq., Member for the Electoral District of *Comox*, and *Edward Gawler Prior*, Esq., Member for the Electoral District of *Victoria City*; and that he had issued Warrants to the Registrar of the Supreme Court to issue Writs to fill such vacancies; and that the Hon. *T. B. Humphreys* had been elected to represent the said District of *Comox*, and that *Simeon Duck*, Esq., to represent the said District of *Victoria City*.

The Certificates of Election were read by the Clerk as follows:—

“*Hon. Charles E. Pooley*,
“*Speaker of Legislative Assembly*;

“SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
“27th January, 1888.

“Whereas the Honourable *Forbes George Vernon*, a Member for the Electoral District of *Yale*, did, on or before the 1st day of April, 1887, accept office under the Crown, and did thereby vacate his seat for such District in the House of Assembly.

“And whereas on the 5th day of April, A. D. 1887, a Writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *William Dodd*, Esquire, the Returning Officer of such District.

“Now I do hereby certify that on the 9th day of May, 1887, the said Writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer with his certificate attached thereto, whereby it appears that the said *Forbes George Vernon* 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 of British Columbia.*”

“*Hon. Charles E. Pooley*,
“*Speaker of Legislative Assembly*;

“SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
“27th January, 1888.

“Whereas the Honourable *John Herbert Turner*, a Member for the Electoral District of *Victoria City*, did, on or before the 8th day of August, A. D. 1887, accept office under the Crown, and did thereby vacate his seat for such District in the House of Assembly.

“And whereas on the ninth day of August, 1887, a Writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *James E. McMillan*, Esquire, the Returning Officer of the said District.

“Now I do hereby certify that on the 27th day of August, 1887, the said Writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer with his certificate attached thereto, whereby it appears that *John Herbert Turner* 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 of British Columbia.*”

"SUPREME COURT, BRITISH COLUMBIA,
"24th January, 1888.

"To the Hon. C. E. Pooley,
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly:

"Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly, in consequence of the death of the Honourable *William Smithe*, a Member for the Electoral District of *Cowichan*.

"And whereas on the 19th day of April, 1887, a Writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *H. O. Wellburn*, Esquire, the Returning Officer of the said District.

"Now I do hereby certify that on the 9th day of May, A.D. 1887, the said Writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer with his certificate attached thereto, whereby it appears that *Henry Fry*, Senior, Esquire, has been, under and by virtue of said Writ, elected a Member to represent the said Electoral District of *Cowichan* in the Legislative Assembly.

"JAMES CHARLES PREVOST,
"Registrar Supreme Court of British Columbia."

"SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
"24th January, 1888.

"To the Hon. Chas. E. Pooley,
"Speaker of the Legislative Assembly:

"Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly, in consequence of the resignation of *Anthony Maitland Stenhouse*, Esquire, a Member for the Electoral District of *Comox*.

"And whereas on the 12th day of December, A.D. 1887, a Writ for the election of a Member for the Electoral District of *Comox* was duly issued to *G. F. Drabble*, Esquire, the Returning Officer of the said District.

"Now I do hereby certify that on the 17th day of January, A.D., 1888, the said Writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer with his certificate attached thereto, whereby it appears that *Thomas Basil Humphreys*, Esquire, has been, under and by virtue of the said Writ, elected a Member to represent the said Electoral District of *Comox* in the Legislative Assembly.

"JAMES CHARLES PREVOST,
"Registrar of Supreme Court of British Columbia."

"SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
"25th January, 1888.

"To the Hon. C. E. Pooley,
"Speaker of the Legislative Assembly:

"Whereas a vacancy occurred in the Legislative Assembly, in consequence of the resignation of *Edward Gawler Prior*, Esquire, a Member for the Electoral District of *Victoria City*.

"And whereas on the seventh day of January, A.D. 1888, a Writ for the election of a Member to represent such District was duly issued to *James E. McMillan*, Esquire, the Returning Officer of the said District.

"Now I do hereby certify that on the twenty-fifth day of January, A.D. 1888, the said Writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer with his certificate attached, whereby it appears that *Simeon Duck*, Esquire, has been, under and by virtue of the said Writ, elected a Member to represent the said Electoral District of the City of *Victoria* in the Legislative Assembly.

"JAMES CHARLES PREVOST,
"Registrar of Supreme Court, British Columbia."

Forbes George Vernon, Esquire, having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Honourable *Jno. Robson* and Colonel *Baker*.

John Herbert Turner, Esquire, having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Honourable *R. Dunsmuir* and *D. W. Higgins*, Esquire.

Henry Fry, Esquire, having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Honourable *T. Davie* and *H. Croft*, Esquire.

Simeon Duck, Esquire, having been duly sworn, was introduced by the Honourable *T. Davie* and *R. F. John*, Esquire.

Prayers by the Lord Bishop of British Columbia.

Ordered, That the documents relating to the election of new Members be entered on the Journals of the House.

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

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 the 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;
4. On Railways;

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.

The Honourable Mr. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Justices of the Peace and Coroners' Oaths Act, 1874.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a second time on Monday, 6th February next.

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. *Robson*, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *T. Davie*,—

Resolved, That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be taken into consideration on Monday the 6th day of February next.

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until two o'clock on Monday, the 6th February next.

And then the House adjourned at 3.45 o'clock, p.m.

Monday, 6th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

Mr. Speaker stated that the Address of congratulation to Her Majesty on the attainment of the fiftieth year of her reign, forwarded to the Colonial Office by him, as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, had been duly laid before the Queen, and that he had received a reply conveying Her Majesty's grateful acknowledgment of your loyal and dutiful Address.

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* presented a Petition from *R. Dickinson* and others (*re road to Harrison Hot Springs*).

Laid on the table.

Mr. *Orr* presented a Petition from *John Wiggins* and others, settlers on lands in Group 1, *North Arm of Fraser River*.

Laid on the table.

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Sixteenth Annual Report on the Public Schools of the Province, for the year 1886-87. (*See Sessional Papers*).

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages in the Province for the year 1886. (*See Sessional Papers*).

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* 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 Hon. Mr. *Robson* 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 Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Public Accounts for Fiscal Year ended 30th June, 1887. (*See Sessional Papers*).

Pursuant to Order, the House proceeded to take into consideration the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

Mr. *S. Duck* moved, seconded by Mr. *Martin*,—

1. That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking him for his gracious Speech at the opening of the Second Session of the fifth term of the Provincial Legislature, and assuring him that we participate in his satisfaction at being able to congratulate us upon another year of peace and prosperity.

2. That we learn with pleasure that the public revenue continues to show gratifying increase, and that population is flowing in and finding remunerative employment and creating happy homes in our towns and rural districts.

3. That we are glad to hear that the patient and industrious agriculturist has reaped a bountiful harvest, for which he has found a satisfactory market.

4. That it is gratifying to us to learn that the auriferous grounds have yielded up their precious treasures liberally to the persevering miner; and we feel that if our quartz ledges have disappointed expectations formed at the beginning of the year, it cannot be denied that they give increasing promise of future wealth.

5. That we notice with much pleasure that the yield of our coal mines considerably exceeds that of any previous year, and that the fishing and lumber industries continue to flourish and expand.

6. That we regret to know that our seal fishing industry received a rude check by the high-handed acts committed under another flag in Behring Sea, inflicting serious loss upon enterprising citizens.

7. That we are glad, however, to learn that His Honour has caused representations to be made upon the subject, and that there is every reason to believe that the action taken by the Imperial Government will result in securing indemnity for the past and the peaceable enjoyment of our rights in the future.

8. That we are pleased to hear the statement that the loan authorized by us has been negotiated on satisfactory terms, and it is highly gratifying to us to find our bonds bearing four and a half per cent. interest quoted in the English market at a considerable premium.

9. That we agree with His Honour that the establishment of a Battery of Dominion Artillery, after long delay, is matter for satisfaction, and although much remains to be done

in order to place the Province in a proper state of defence, we trust that representations made at Ottawa will secure the early attainment of that important object.

10. That we learn with interest that in consequence of serious discontent amongst certain Indian tribes in Kootenay and on the North-West Coast, His Honour, acting in conjunction with the Dominion Government, sent Commissioners to confer and treat with the disaffected bands, and that the papers connected with these missions will be laid before us.

11. That we note with satisfaction that His Honour, at the request of the Dominion Government, commissioned one of his Ministers to proceed to Ottawa for the purpose of discussing several questions of public importance, and that the papers connected with that mission will also be placed before us.

12. That while we hear with regret that in the case of the ownership of the precious metals within the Railway Belt, referred to the Supreme Court of Canada, the Judges (although not unanimous) have decided adversely to the claims of the Province, we are glad to be informed that the necessary steps are being taken for an appeal to the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council.

13. That we are aware that preliminary steps had been taken against the sureties of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, for failure to fulfil the agreement for extension of the railway to Coal Harbour and English Bay; and are pleased to learn that legal proceedings for the recovery of the amount of the bond have not been discontinued.

14. That we thank His Honour for the information that in consequence of the failure of the "Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Transportation Company" to comply with the terms of their agreement, the cash deposit made under the Act has been forfeited, and now forms part of the Consolidated Revenue of the Province, and that the Act incorporating the company is now null and void.

15. That we can assure His Honour that we most deeply regret the terrible colliery calamity which befel Nanaimo, whereby that important community was suddenly plunged into deepest mourning, and a large number of families bereft of their bread-winners.

16. That we observe that we shall be asked to sanction a contribution made from the Public Treasury towards a fund for the relief of those rendered destitute by that dire calamity.

17. That we join with His Honour in referring with pain to a similar, though fortunately, less destructive, calamity which quite recently befel one of the Wellington collieries, resulting in serious loss of life.

18. That our earnest consideration will be given to the question whether additional legislative safeguards cannot be thrown around our hardy and industrious coal miners.

19. That it affords us satisfaction to learn that in response to certain representations, His Honour authorized a Special Commissioner to proceed to the Mother Country, with a view to ascertain whether a practicable scheme could not be devised for the purpose of promoting a limited emigration from the north of Scotland of carefully selected fishermen, from among the class commonly known as "Crofters," and who, it is believed, would be eminently adapted for the development of our sea fisheries, and that this has been done without entailing any charge upon the public revenue, and that we shall probably be invited to consider how far such a scheme may be practicable.

20. That in view of the fact that it is now more than twenty years since the constitution of the Dominion was framed and brought into actual operation, we agree with His Honour that it may be advisable for us to consider whether practical experience of its working for nearly a quarter of a century has not revealed defects in that constitution which it would be alike in the interest of the Province and of Confederation to have remedied.

21. That we feel that the subject of irrigating the soil in the extensive dry region east of the Cascades is one of very great importance, and that we shall be prepared to consider whether the artesian well system could not be resorted to with advantage.

22. That we beg to assure His Honour that we appreciate the importance of the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway; the necessity for the early construction of a railway connecting the great mineral region of Cariboo with the Canadian Pacific line; and the desirableness of extending the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway to the northern end of Vancouver Island.

23. That we concur with His Honour that for the first of these works we have already made liberal provision, and that it only remains for the Dominion Parliament to extend to it that assistance which the Province has a right to expect. It is gratifying to us to learn that exploratory surveys for the Cariboo Railway and for extension of the Island Railway have been made, and that reports thereof will be submitted to us.

24. That we are pleased to hear that the Commissioners appointed to consolidate and revise the Provincial Statutes have nearly completed their labours; that their Report will be placed before us in the course of the Session, and that Bills embodying suggested improvements will be submitted to us.

25. That we thank His Honour for informing us that amongst other measures to be submitted are, a Bill for constituting a County Court with limited jurisdiction in criminal matters; a Bill constituting a Court for the consideration of Crown Cases Reserved; a Bill for increasing the efficiency of the County Courts; and a Bill to regulate the issuing of wholesale liquor licences in rural districts.

26. That we are grateful to His Honour for the assurance that the Public Accounts will be laid before us, and that Estimates for the Public Service during the next year will be submitted for our consideration.

27. That we cordially join in the prayer that we may be directed by the Supreme Ruler in our efforts to promote the best interests of the Province.

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

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:15 o'clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 7th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

The Petition from *R. Dickinson* and others (*re road to Harrison Hot Springs*), was ruled out of order.

The Petition from *John Wiggins* and others, settlers on lands in Group 1, *North Arm of Fraser River*, was read and received.

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* presented a Petition from *F. McCleery* (*re road from Vancouver to North Arm of Fraser River*).

Laid on the table.

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on the consideration of the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, was resumed.

Resolution agreed to.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Address in reply to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech be taken into consideration at the next sitting of the House.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:55 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 8th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

The Petition from *F. McCleery* (re road from *Vancouver* to the *North Arm of Fraser River*), was ruled out of order.

Pursuant to Order, the House again proceeded to consider the Address in reply to the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

The first and second clauses being again read, were agreed to.

The third clause being again read,—

Mr. *Ladner* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *McLeese*,—

To strike out all the words after "That" and insert the following:—"we rejoice to learn and gladly accept the information, if authentic, that the patient agriculturist has reaped a bountiful harvest and found a satisfactory market. But we regret that a deceptive financial policy has greatly added to the burden of his taxation."

Question proposed—"Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," the House divided, and the names being called for they were taken down as follows:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Davie, T.</i>	<i>John,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>
<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Anderson—17.</i>
<i>Robson,</i>			

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Bole,</i>	<i>McLeese—7.</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>	

So it passed in the affirmative.

Original question proposed and agreed to.

The fourth to the seventh clauses, both inclusive, being again read were agreed to.

The eighth clause being again read,—

Mr. *Grant* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *McLeese*,—

To strike out all the words and substitute therefor the following:—"It may well be doubted whether it is not rather discreditable than gratifying 'to find our bonds bearing four and a half per cent. interest quoted in the English market at a considerable premium.' It is a confessed inability of Your Honour's Ministers to negotiate the million dollar loan at so high a rate of interest, as capatilists would evidently be willing to accept it at less."

Question proposed—"Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," and resolved in the affirmative.

Original question proposed and agreed to.

The ninth to the eleventh clauses, both inclusive, being again read were agreed to.

Clause twelve being again read,—

The Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Grant*,—

To add the following words, after the word "Council":—"We indulge the hope that the appeal to the Privy Council, 'in the case of the ownership of the precious metals within the Railway Belt,' may result in the rectification of a serious Ministerial blunder, involving a grievous public loss."

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

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* presented a Petition from the Hon. *A. E. B. Davie*.
Laid on the table.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:55 o'clock, p. m.

Thursday, 9th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

The Petition from the Honourable *A. E. B. Davie* was read and received.

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on the consideration of the amendment of the Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* to clause twelve of the Address in reply to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech, was resumed.

Question proposed—"Shall the words proposed to be added stand part of the question," the House divided, and the names being called for they were taken down as follows:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Bole,</i>	<i>McLeese—7.</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>	

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Davie, T.,</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Martin,</i>
<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Robson,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Anderson—16.</i>

So it passed in the negative.

Original question proposed and agreed to.

Clauses thirteen and fourteen being again read, were agreed to.

Clause fifteen being again read,—

The Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Ladner*,—

To strike out all the words after "That" and insert the following:—"we are highly gratified to gather from the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech that the past year affords some cause for congratulation. But while we sincerely deplore the 'terrible colliery calamity which befel Nanaimo,' we share the opinions expressed by the coal miners, that had Mr. Raybould's Bill, for the better protection of the men who worked in coal mines, become the law of the land, the

recent heart rending disasters could have been lessened, and, probably, would not have happened. And while all christian and impartial men must severely censure the Government for withholding the necessary and humane protection, we gladly avail ourselves of the tardy invitation to legislate the requisite 'safeguards around the hardy and industrious coal miners.'

After considerable debate the motion was withdrawn.

Clauses sixteen to nineteen, both inclusive, being again read were agreed to.

Clause twenty being again read,—

Mr. *Grant* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

To strike out all the words and insert the following:—"Past experience proves that many things in the working of the "British North America Act, 1867," and its application and interpretation by the Federal Government, works unfavourably to the Province, and reduces powers which should be exercised by the Provincial Authorities; that the money subsidies from the Federal Treasury are not commensurate with our requirements and the increasing cost of Government, whilst, at the same time, the Dominion draws a much larger sum from the Province for customs revenue and other sources than at the date of Union, and we regret that Your Honour's Ministers did not provide for a proper representation of the Province at the Inter-Provincial Conference, held at Quebec during the last summer, by delegates from all Provinces with the exception of British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, more especially as one of Your Honour's Ministers was in Ottawa during the sitting of said Inter-Provincial Conference, as we consider so favourable an opportunity to present our position to the representative men then assembled has never occurred since British Columbia united her destinies with Canada."

Question proposed—"Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," the House divided, and the names being called for they were taken down as follows:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Davie, T.,</i>	<i>John,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>
<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Anderson—17.</i>
<i>Robson,</i>			

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Bole,</i>	<i>McLeese.—7.</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>	

So it passed in the affirmative.

Original question proposed and agreed to.

Clauses twenty-one to twenty-seven, both inclusive, being again read, were agreed to.

The resolutions were read a third time, taken as read, and agreed to.

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

That the Resolution to present an Address to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking His Honour for his gracious Speech, be referred to a Select Committee, composed as follows:—

The Honourable the Provincial Secretary, the Honourable the Acting Attorney General, the Honourable the Minister of Finance, the Honourable the President of the Executive Council, the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, and Messrs. *Duck* and *Martin*.

The Honourable Mr. *Robson*, from the Select Committee, reported an Address, which read as follows:—

To the Honourable HUGH NELSON, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Honour for your gracious Speech at the opening of this, the Second Session of the fifth term of the Provincial Legislature, and assure you that we participate in your satisfaction at being able to congratulate us upon another year of peace and prosperity.

We learn with pleasure that the public revenue continues to show gratifying increase, and that population is flowing in and finding remunerative employment and creating happy homes in our towns and rural districts.

We are glad to hear that the patient and industrious agriculturist has reaped a bountiful harvest, for which he has found a satisfactory market.

It is gratifying to us to learn that the auriferous grounds have yielded up their precious treasures liberally to the persevering miner; and we feel that if our quartz ledges have disappointed expectations formed at the beginning of the year, it cannot be denied that they give increasing promise of future wealth.

We notice with much pleasure that the yield of our coal mines considerably exceeds that of any previous year, and that the fishing and lumber industries continue to flourish and expand.

We regret to know that our seal fishing industry received a rude check by the high-handed acts committed under another flag in Behring Sea, inflicting serious loss upon enterprising citizens.

We are glad, however, to learn that Your Honour has caused representations to be made upon the subject, and that there is every reason to believe that the action taken by the Imperial Government will result in securing indemnity for the past and the peaceable enjoyment of our rights in the future.

We are pleased to hear the statement that the loan authorized by us has been negotiated on satisfactory terms, and it is highly gratifying to us to find our bonds bearing four and a half per cent. interest quoted in the English market at a considerable premium.

We agree with Your Honour that the establishment of a Battery of Dominion Artillery, after long delay, is matter for satisfaction, and although much remains to be done in order to place the Province in a proper state of defence, we trust that representations made at Ottawa will secure the early attainment of that important object.

We learn with interest that in consequence of serious discontent amongst certain Indian tribes in Kootenay and on the North-West Coast, Your Honour, acting in conjunction with the Dominion Government, sent Commissioners to confer and treat with the disaffected bands, and that the papers connected with these missions will be laid before us.

We notice with satisfaction that Your Honour, at the request of the Dominion Government, commissioned one of your Ministers to proceed to Ottawa for the purpose of discussing several questions of public importance, and that the papers connected with that mission will also be placed before us.

While we hear with regret that in the case of the ownership of the precious metals within the Railway Belt, referred to the Supreme Court of Canada, the Judges (although not unanimous) have decided adversely to the claims of the Province, we are glad to be informed that the necessary steps are being taken for an appeal to the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council.

We are aware that preliminary steps had be taken against the sureties of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, for failure to fulfil the agreement for extension of the railway to Coal Harbour and English Bay; and are pleased to learn that legal proceedings for the recovery of the amount of the bond have not been discontinued.

We thank Your Honour for the information that in consequence of the failure of the "Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Transportation Company" to comply with the terms of their agreement, the cash deposit made under the Act has been forfeited, and now forms part of the Consolidated Revenue of the Province, and that the Act incorporating the company is now null and void.

We can assure Your Honour that we most deeply regret the terrible colliery calamity which befel Nanaimo, whereby that important community was suddenly plunged into deepest mourning, and a large number of families bereft of their bread-winners.

We observe that we shall be asked to sanction a contribution made from the Public Treasury towards a fund for the relief of those rendered destitute by that dire calamity.

We join with Your Honour in referring with pain to a similar, though fortunately, less destructive, calamity which quite recently befel one of the Wellington collieries, resulting in serious loss of life.

Our earnest consideration will be given to the question whether additional legislative safeguards cannot be thrown around our hardy and industrious coal miners.

It affords us satisfaction to learn that in response to certain representations, Your Honour authorized a Special Commissioner to proceed to the Mother Country, with a view to ascertain whether a practicable scheme could not be devised for the purpose of promoting a limited emigration from the north of Scotland of carefully selected fishermen, from among the class commonly known as "Crofters," and who, it is believed, would be eminently adapted for the development of our sea fisheries, and that this has been done without entailing any charge upon the public revenue, and that we shall probably be invited to consider how far such a scheme may be practicable.

In view of the fact that it is now more than twenty years since the constitution of the Dominion was framed and brought into actual operation, we agree with Your Honour that it may be advisable for us to consider whether practical experience of its workings for nearly a quarter of a century has not revealed defects in that constitution which it would be alike in the interest of the Province and of Confederation to have remedied.

We feel that the subject of irrigating the soil in the extensive dry region east of the Cascades is one of very great importance, and that we shall be prepared to consider whether the artesian well system could not be resorted to with advantage.

We beg to assure Your Honour that we appreciate the importance of the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway; the necessity for the early construction of a railway connecting the great mineral region of Cariboo with the Canadian Pacific line; and the desirableness of extending the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway to the northern end of Vancouver Island.

We concur with Your Honour that for the first of these works we have already made liberal provision, and that it only remains for the Dominion Parliament to extend to it that assistance which the Province has a right to expect. It is gratifying to us to learn that exploratory surveys for the Cariboo Railway and for extension of the Island Railway have been made, and that reports thereof will be submitted to us.

We are pleased to hear that the Commissioners appointed to consolidate and revise the Provincial Statutes have nearly completed their labours; that their Report will be placed before us in the course of the Session, and that Bills embodying suggested improvements will be submitted to us.

We thank Your Honour for informing us that amongst other measures to be submitted are, a Bill for constituting a County Court with limited jurisdiction in criminal matters; a Bill constituting a Court for the consideration of Crown Cases Reserved; a Bill for increasing the efficiency of the County Courts; and a Bill to regulate the issuing of wholesale liquor licences in rural districts.

We are grateful to Your Honour for the assurance that the Public Accounts will be laid before us, and that Estimates for the Public Service during the next year will be submitted for our consideration.

We cordially join in the prayer that we may be directed by the Supreme Ruler in our efforts to promote the best interests of the Province.

The said Address was read a first time, taken as read, and agreed to.

Read a second time and agreed to.

Read a third time, taken as read, and agreed to.

Ordered, That the Address in reply to the Speech be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor by such Members as are of the Executive Council.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:50 o'clock, p. m.

Friday, 10th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

Mr. *Semlin* presented a Petition from *B. C. Pettingell*, *J. Hawkins*, and *James Fell* (*re Victoria City District Election*).

Laid on the table.

Messrs. *Baker*, *Cowan*, *Martin*, *Bole*, and *Orr*, were nominated to form the Select Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.

Messrs. *John Allen*, *Thomson*, *McLeese*, and *Humphreys*, were nominated to form the Select Standing Committee on Printing.

Messrs. *Duck*, *Baker*, *Higgins*, *Beaven* and *Grant*, were nominated to form the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Messrs. *Cowan*, *Fry*, *Mason*, *Martin*, *Allen*, *Croft*, *Higgins*, *Duck*, *Baker*, *Anderson*, *McLeese*, *Orr*, *Boe*, *Semlin*, and *Ladner*, were nominated to form the Select Standing Committee on Railways.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3:45 o'clock, p. m.

Monday, 13th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Mr. *Beanlands*.

The Petition from *B. C. Pettingell* and others (*re Victoria City District Election*), was read and received.

The following decision of Mr. Speaker was *Ordered* to be placed upon the Journals:—

The matter left to me for consideration by the House is the question—Whether the resolution of the Honourable Member for *Comox*, which refers to the Honourable the Senior Member for *Nanaimo*, is an ordinary motion, which the mover can postpone at pleasure?

When the matter was placed before me on Friday last, I was of opinion that it involved a point of order; but the House gave me time to look more fully into the matter, and I find that my first impression was erroneous, as no question affecting the orders of the House is involved, but that the motion undoubtedly involves a matter of privilege, as it virtually questions the right of the Honourable the Senior Member for *Nanaimo* to sit in this House or take part in its proceedings.

The House has full control over its privileges, as also over the Members of the House.

In *May's Parliamentary Practice*, 9th edition, page 290, the following case, amongst others, is mentioned as follows:—“On the 22nd July, 1861, a motion being proposed concerning the conduct of a member, in connection with a joint-stock company, the Speaker said it was doubtful whether it was properly a matter of privilege; but as it affected the character of a member, it could be proceeded with, if it was the pleasure of the House. The member concerned having expressed his desire that the discussion should be proceeded with, the motion was made at once.”

The present resolution even goes further than this, as any Honourable Member will see. The Honourable the Senior Member for *Nanaimo* has the right to ask the House to proceed with the matter, and the House has the right, in its pleasure, to say when the motion shall be proceeded with.

This is not an ordinary motion, which the mover can postpone at pleasure.

Moved by the Honourable Mr. *Humphreys*, seconded by Mr. *Grant*,—

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for a return of all revenue warrants issued out of the Treasury during the year 1887 to date, under the hand of the Governor, in pursuance of Sec. 82 "Constitution Act, 1871."

The Honourable Mr. *Turner* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Croft*,—

That all the words after the word "That" in the first line of the Resolution to the end of the question be struck out, and the following words inserted:—"an Order of the House be made that all Revenue Warrants issued out of the Treasury during the year 1887, to date, be placed at the service of the Public Accounts Committee."

Question proposed—"Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," the House divided, and the names being called for they were taken down as follows:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>McLeese—7.</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>	

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Davie, T.</i>	<i>John,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>
<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Anderson—17.</i>
<i>Robson,</i>			

So it passed in the negative.

Question proposed—"Shall the words proposed to be inserted stand part of the question," and passed in the affirmative.

Original question, as amended, proposed and carried.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for a return of all letters, correspondence, and documents whatsoever, connected with or relating to the loan of \$1,000,000—"British Columbia Loan Act, 1887."

The Honourable Mr. *Turner* presented a Return of papers and documents relating to the loan of \$1,000,000—"British Columbia Loan Act, 1887."

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a return of all letters, applications, documents, and correspondence whatsoever, relating to or connected with the land recently surveyed by *John Gray*, in the District of *Comox*.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for a return of all Orders in Council, letters, documents, and correspondence whatsoever, connected with or relating to the Kootenay and Athabasca Railway Company.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for a return of all Orders in Council, letters, correspondence, and documents whatsoever, connected with or relating to the Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Transportation Company.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for a return of all Orders in Council, letters, documents, and correspondence whatsoever, relating to or connected with the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for a return of all Orders in Council, letters, documents, correspondence, applications, and money grants whatsoever, relating to or connected with the provisions of the Act to aid the development of Quartz Mines.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor praying for a return of all Orders in Council, tenders, contracts, letters, documents, and correspondence whatsoever, connected with or relating to the traffic bridge to cross *Fraser River* at *Lillooet*; the bridge to cross the *Thompson River* at *Kamloops*; also the Court House, Bastion Square, City of *Victoria*.

Moved by the Hon. Mr. *Humphreys*, seconded by Mr. *Grant*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a return of all applications, letters, and correspondence whatsoever, connected with or appertaining to timber, timber land, arable land, grazing land, mines, or mining land during the year 1887 to date.

The motion was negatived upon the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>	<i>McLeese—6.</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Beaven,</i>		

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Duck.</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Robson,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Anderson—14.</i>
<i>Davie, T.,</i>	<i>John,</i>		

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

That an Order of the House be granted praying for a return of all timber, timber land, arable land, grazing land, mines, or mining land, sold, leased, or alienated during the year 1887 to date, with price, conditions and names.

Mr. *Higgins* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to amend 'An Act relating to the Legal Professions.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Mr. *Higgins* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Ballot Act.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on the 20th instant.

Mr. *Higgins* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act relating to Pawn-brokers."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying for a return of all correspondence, Orders in Council, and other papers respecting the calling of steamships engaged in the Oriental trade at this port or *Esquimalt*, as expressed in a Resolution of this House, March 8th, 1887.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended.

The Honourable *T. Davie* then asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to prevent the spread of Contagious Diseases among Horses and other Domestic Animals."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Mr. *Orr* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to repeal 'An Act for the preservation of the peace within the Municipal Limits of the City of Vancouver.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Honourable *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to constitute County Judge's Criminal Courts."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Honourable *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to constitute a Court for the consideration of Crown Cases Reserved."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for copies of all papers connected with the dismissal of *Philip Woollacott* from the office of Gaoler, and all correspondence relating thereto subsequent to such dismissal.

Mr. *Beaven* moved, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Humphreys*, that the House do now adjourn. The motion was negatived.

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

That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire and report to this House whether any bona fide or other occupants, having occupied or made substantial improvements on lots in the Townplot of *Granville* previous to Mr. *Van Horne's* visit, have been allowed, or refused to be allowed, to purchase their locations at the price of \$200, as stipulated in the bargain for the cession of 6,000 acres at *Coal Harbour* and *English Bay* by the Government of British Columbia to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, or to trustees on their behalf; with power to call for persons, books and papers. Such committee to consist of Messrs. *Semlin*, *McLeese*, *Higgins*, *Martin*, and *John*.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:50 o'clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 14th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. A. *Beanlands*.

The Honourable Mr. *Turner* presented the Public Accounts of the Province for the half-year ended 31st December, 1887.

Colonel *Baker* presented a report from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders, recommending an extension of the time for receiving Petitions for Private Bills.

Received.

The Honourable Mr. *Vernon* presented the Report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for the year ending 31st December, 1887. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Humphreys*, seconded by Mr. *Ladner*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a return of all letters, documents, annual statements of expenditure, and annual rental whatsoever relating to the Quesnelle Dam Company, under an Act passed March 25th, 1881.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Humphreys*, seconded by Mr. *Ladner*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that His Honour may be pleased to send down to this House a copy of the Executive Oath of Office.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Humphreys*, seconded by Mr. *Orr*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all letters, papers, and documents whatsoever relating to the "Case of the ownership of the precious metals within the Railway Belt," referred to in the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech, with the names of Counsel retained in the case for the Government.

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

Whereas by the fourth clause of the Terms of Union it is provided that "The Dominion "will provide an efficient mail service, fortnightly, by steam communication, between Victoria "and San Francisco, and twice a week between Victoria and Olympia; the vessels to be "adapted for the conveyance of freight and passengers;"

And whereas it appears that the subsidy in aid of such mail service between *Victoria* and *San Francisco* has been discontinued, and the Province thereby deprived of an important means of communication by steam-vessels, as provided for under the Terms of Union;

Therefore be it resolved, that this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the withdrawal of the said subsidy, and to take such further steps as to this House may seem desirable to the effecting of a speedy restoration to the Province of mail communication by steam-vessels between *Victoria* and *San Francisco*.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, with Mr. *Croft* in the Chair.

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

Ordered, That leave be granted for Monday next.

The Hon. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'County Court Jurisdiction Act, 1885.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

The Hon. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Married Women's Property Act, 1887.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

The Hon. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 11) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Jurors' Act, 1883.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

The Hon. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act to enable Foreign Mining Companies to carry on business in British Columbia."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

The Hon. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 13) intituled "An Act for the better securing of Workmen's Wages."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* seconded by Mr. *McLeese*, it was *Resolved*,—

That an Order of the House be granted for a return of all letters, papers and documents whatsoever relating to the "Steps that have been taken against the sureties of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for failure to fulfil, within the time mentioned, the agreement for extension of the Railway to *Coal Harbour* and *English Bay*," with the names of Counsel retained in the case for the Government.

The Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* moved, seconded by Mr. *Grant*,—

That a Select Committee be appointed for the purpose of considering the expediency of drafting a Bill intituled "An Act to regulate Railroads within the Province of British Columbia," with power to call for persons and papers, and to move for further powers if necessary. Committee:—*Baker, Martin, Orr, Mason, McLeese, Bole*, and the mover.

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* moved in amendment, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *T. Davie*,—

That all the words after "That" to the second word "the" in the first line be omitted, and the following substituted therefor:—"it be an instruction to the Committee on Railways to consider"; and that all the words after "necessary" in the last line be omitted.

Amendment put and carried.

Original resolution as amended proposed, and it was *Resolved* as follows:—

That it be an instruction to the Committee on Railways to consider the expediency of drafting a Bill intituled "An Act to regulate Railroads within the Province of British Columbia," with power to call for persons and papers, and to move for further powers if necessary.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Humphreys*, seconded by Mr. *McLeese*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a Select Committee be appointed for the purpose of considering the expediency of altering and amending the "Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1877," so as to afford the requisite protection to the "hardy and industrious coal miners," and, so far as may be possible, to mitigate and guard against a recurrence of the "terrible colliery calamity" which recently befel *Nanaimo*; with power to call for persons and papers, to make full inquiry, to examine

witnesses, and to report to this House from time to time the result of their labours, and to move for further powers if found expedient and necessary. Committee:—*Cowan, Semlin, Humphreys, Thomson*.

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

Whereas it appears that, owing to illness, the Honourable *Alexander E. B. Davie*, a member of this Assembly representing the Electoral District of *Lillooet*, has been compelled to leave the Province, and cannot, without great detriment to his health, return during the present winter;

It is therefore ordered and resolved that permission be, and the same is hereby, granted to the said the Hon. *Alex. E. B. Davie* to be absent from this Assembly during the whole of its present session.

Mr. *Bole* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to repeal the 'Small Debts Act, 1886.'" "

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Mr. *Grant* moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

Whereas there is often times during debate in this Legislature a difference of opinion as to language used by Members;

Resolved, that a short-hand reporter be employed to take down the language so used by Members.

Ruled out of Order.

The Honourable Mr. *Humphreys* asked the Honourable the Provincial Secretary the following questions:—

What was the purport of the Hon. Provincial Secretary's visit to *Ottawa*? Was the Hon. gentleman charged with any mission, negotiation, or business of any kind connected with or relating to the affairs of this Province, or of the Federal Government?

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

"The papers on the subject, and promised in his opening Speech by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, will supply the information sought."

The Honourable Mr. *Humphreys* asked the Honourable the President of the Executive Council the following questions:—

Is it the intention of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company to construct and carry their railway to *Comox* in any of the following years, namely, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892? And if not in any of the years indicated, in what year will the Company commence and continue their railway to *Comox*?

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

"I, as the President of the Council, consulted the President of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway, and the President of that Railway Company informed me, as President of the Council, that I was to mind my own business; therefore I cannot answer the Hon. member's question."

Mr. *Higgins* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

Whether the Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Transportation Company, under the Act conferring upon them certain privileges, acquired any right or title to mining or other lands in *Kootenay District*? and, if so, whether it is the intention of the Government to declare the same forfeited to the Crown in consequence of the failure of the said Company to fulfil their agreement with the Government?

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

"The Company has not acquired any right or title to any lands under the provisions of the Act referred to."

Mr. *McLeese* asked the Honourable the Attorney-General the following question:—

At whose instance or recommendation was Mr. *Chas. Wilson* instructed to appear on behalf of the Government at the inquest held at *Wellington* after the late disaster?

The Honourable Mr. *T. Davie* replied as follows:—

"Nobody."

Mr. *Semlin* asked the Hon. the Leader of the Government the following questions:—

How many applications for liquor licenses have been received from *Rock Creek*? The names of such applicants? How many liquor licenses have been granted on *Rock Creek*, and to whom?

The Honourable Mr. *T. Davie* replied as follows:—

“Six: *McDonald & McBeath, Stephen Tanner, R. E. Lemon, W. F. McCulloch, J. Doyle, McKeon & Son.*”

“One: To *J. Doyle.*”

Mr. *Higgins* asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government to place a sum of money on the Estimates for the current year for the erection and maintenance of a school-house at or near the locality known as *Victoria West*, situated in *Esquimalt District*?

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

“The matter is under consideration.”

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 2) intituled “An Act to prevent the spread of Contagious Diseases among Horses and other Domestic Animals,” was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:45 p. m.

Wednesday, 15th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *A. Beanlands*.

Mr. *Anderson* presented a Petition from *John Nicholson*.

Laid on the table.

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

That the order for the Second Reading of Bill No. 4, intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Ballot Act, 1877,’” be discharged, and the Bill referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. *Orr, Baker, Fry, Humphreys* and the mover.

Mr. *Anderson* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 15) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Land Act, 1884.’”

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

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

That a Select Standing Committee on Mining be appointed, to whom shall be referred all matters relating to Mines. Such Committee to consist of seven Members.

The following Members were nominated to form the said Committee:—Messrs. *Cowan, Mason, Semlin, Allen, McLeese, Thomson, and Baker*.

The Honourable Mr. *Humphreys* asked the Honourable the Minister of Finance the following question:—

How much of the million dollar loan remains to the credit of the Treasury, and against which there exists no concurrent charge?

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

“Four hundred and fifty thousand (\$450,000) dollars.”

Mr. *Orr* asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following question:—

Is it the intention of the Government to pay to the *New Westminster* Woollen Mills Company, the Bonus fixed by Statute for that particular industry; and when?

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

“Immediately that the application for Bonus was made, the Government took proper steps to ascertain whether the *New Westminster* Woollen Mills Company was entitled to it; the required information has not yet been received by the Government.”

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 7) intituled “An Act to constitute County Judge’s Criminal Courts,” was read a second time and committed.

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

Report *Ordered* to be considered to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 8) intituled “An Act to constitute a Court for the consideration of Crown Cases Reserved,” was read a second time and committed.

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

Report *Ordered* to be considered to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 1) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Justices of the Peace and Coroners’ Oaths Act, 1874,’” was read a second time and committed.

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

Ordered, That leave be granted for to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:10 o’clock, p. m.

Thursday, 16th February, 1888.

TWO O’CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *A. Beanlands*.

Colonel *Baker* presented a Petition from *J. C. Ainsworth* and others, for a Private Bill (*Columbia and Kootenay* Railway).

Laid on the table.

Mr. *Fry* presented a Petition from the *Esquimalt* and *Nanaimo* Railway Company, for a Private Bill (*Otter Point* Railway extension).

Laid on the table.

Mr. *Martin* presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire *re* purchase by Squatters of *Coal Harbour* lands.

Read and received.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended, and the Report was then adopted.

Mr. *Higgins* presented a Report from the Select Committee to whom was referred Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Ballot Act, 1877,’” reporting a Bill.

Read and received.

Ordered, That the said Bill so reported, be placed on the Orders for second reading on Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. *Turner* presented a Statement of Special Warrants signed by the Lieutenant-Governor, together with expenditure incurred thereon, from 17th March, 1887, to 13th February, 1888, required by 42 Vic., chap. 29, sec. 39. (*See Sessional Papers*).

On the motion of Colonel *Baker*, seconded by Mr. *Orr*, it was *Resolved*,—

That the time limited for presenting petitions for Private Bills be extended to the 24th inst., and the time for presenting Bills to the 5th March.

Mr. *Duck* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assessment Act, 1878,' and the 'Assessment Amending Act, 1880.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

The Hon. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act respecting the changing of the name of Incorporated Companies."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday next.

Mr. *Ladner* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Under whose administration are the lands which are included within the limits of the "Sumas Dyking Act"?

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

"That of the Provincial Government."

Pursuant to Order, the House again went into Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Justices of the Peace and Coroners' Oaths Act, 1874.'"

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

Report *Ordered* to be considered on Monday next.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to repeal 'An Act for the preservation of the peace within the Municipal limits of the City of Vancouver,'" was read a second time and committed.

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

Report adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to constitute County Judge's Criminal Courts," was considered and adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to constitute a Court for the consideration of Crown Cases Reserved," was considered and adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Pursuant to Order, Mr. *Bole* moved that Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to repeal the 'Small Debts Act, 1886,'" be now read a second time.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until Monday next.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act relating to Pawnbrokers," was read a second time and committed.

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

Report considered and adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed, on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Davie, T.</i>	<i>Turner,</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>John,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Higgins</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>Anderson—15.</i>
<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Robson,</i>	<i>McLeese,</i>	

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Martin—5.</i>
<i>Bole,</i>			

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:05 o'clock, p.m.

Monday, 20th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a copy of the Oath of Office of the Members of the Executive Council;

Also a Return of all correspondence, Orders in Council, and other papers respecting the calling of steamships engaged in the oriental trade at this port or *Esquimalt*, as expressed in a Resolution of this House, March 8th, 1887;

Also a Return of all letters, documents, correspondence, applications, and money grants whatsoever, relating to or connected with the provisions of the Act to aid the development of Quartz Mines;

Also papers relating to the discontinuance of mail subsidy between *Victoria* and *San Francisco*.

The following Petitions were read and received:—

From *John Nicholson*.

From *J. C. Ainsworth* and others, for a Private Bill (*Columbia-Kootenay Railway*).

From the *Esquimalt* and *Nanaimo Railway Company*, for a Private Bill (*Otter Point Railway extension*).

The Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* moved, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

Whereas it is alleged that the Hon. *Robert Dunsmuir*, President of the Executive Council and Member of the Legislative Assembly, commonly called *Robert Dunsmuir*, owner of coal mines, steamships, and President of the *Esquimalt* and *Nanaimo Railway Company*, did, at divers times and places, in the presence of credible witnesses, openly express his desire to annex *Vancouver Island* to the *United States of America*;

And whereas it is further alleged that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did utter his determination to exert his power and influence to promote such annexation; and the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did allege that such annexation would make him the richest man on the Pacific Coast, and that he would save the American customs duty on his coal by the operation;

And whereas it hath been alleged that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did use similar disloyal, open and advised speaking at *Portland, Oregon*, *United States of America*, and such open, advised, and disloyal speaking was printed and published in the *Portland Daily News*, 23rd December, 1887, and reads as follows:—

“Mr. *R. Dunsmuir*, of *Victoria*, who came to *Portland* last Friday to attend the railroad celebration, is still in the city. Yesterday his two sons, one from *Wellington*, B. C., and the other from *San Francisco*, came here to confer with him in regard to their coal business in *San Francisco*, and an extension of the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railroad* to reach the *Dunsmuir's* new coal mines, eighty miles beyond *Nanaimo*. Mr. *Dunsmuir* regrets that the price of coal has been forced up so high in *San Francisco*, and one object of his conference with his sons, who manage that end of their business, is to effect a reduction. Besides his coal and railroad and steam and sailing vessels, Mr. *Dunsmuir* owns a large area of timber lands on *Vancouver Island*. The day before he came to *Portland* he sold the timber on 50,000 acres to a *Michigan* lumberman for \$250,000. The magnitude and value of his various enterprises, as well as the ability of their management, places Mr. *Dunsmuir* in the first rank among the business men on this coast. *The only regret we have heard him express respecting his situation is that Vancouver Island is not a part of the United States. It would be to his pecuniary advantage if that were the case, for during the first eleven months of this year he paid \$210,000 in duties on his coal in San Francisco. But, apart from this private consideration, he is rightly of the opinion that it would be better for British Columbia if it belonged to the United States of America, since its natural commercial interests are with this country.*”

And whereas, such open and advised speaking is disloyal to the Queen, a violation of allegiance and oath of office sworn and subscribed by the said *Robert Dunsmuir* as President of the Executive Council and Member of the Legislative Assembly; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that His Honour may be pleased to transmit the foregoing Resolution to His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, humbly entreating His Excellency to nominate and appoint a “Royal Commission of Inquiry,” to take evidence and examine witnesses touching the alleged open and advised speaking of the said *Robert Dunsmuir*.

Moved by the Hon. *T. Davie* in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Martin*,—

To leave out all the words after “Whereas” on the first line, and add:—“the Honourable *T. B. Humphreys*, in his capacity of a Member of this Assembly, on the 27th January, 1888, placed notice of moving a resolution upon the Orders of the House, and permitted such notice and resolution to remain upon the Orders continuously until the 16th February instant, inclusive;

“And whereas such Resolution reads as follows:—

“Whereas the Honourable *Robert Dunsmuir*, President of the Executive Council and Member of the Legislative Assembly, commonly called *Robert Dunsmuir*, owner of coal mines, steamships, and President of the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company*, did, at divers times and places, in the presence of credible witnesses, who are prepared to aver on oath that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did openly express his desire to annex *Vancouver Island* to the *United States of America*.

“And, further, that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did utter his determination to exert his power and influence to promote such annexation; and the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did allege that such annexation would make him the richest man on the Pacific Coast, and that he would save the American customs duty on his coal by the operation;

“And whereas it hath been alleged that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did use similar disloyal, open and advised speaking at *Portland, Oregon*, United States of America, and such open, advised, and disloyal speaking was printed and published in the *Portland Daily News*, 23rd December, 1887, and reads as follows:—

““Mr. *R. Dunsmuir*, of *Victoria*, who came to *Portland* last Friday to attend the railroad celebration, is still in the city. Yesterday his two sons, one from *Wellington*, B. C., and the other from *San Francisco*, came here to confer with him in regard to their coal business in *San Francisco*, and an extension of the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railroad* to reach the *Dunsmuir's* new coal mines, eighty miles beyond *Nanaimo*. Mr. *Dunsmuir* regrets that the price of coal has been forced up so high in *San Francisco*, and one object of his conference with his sons who manage that end of their business, is to effect a reduction. Besides his coal and railroad and steam and sailing vessels, Mr. *Dunsmuir* owns a large area of timber lands on *Vancouver Island*. The day before he came to *Portland* he sold the timber on 50,000 acres to a *Michigan* lumberman for \$250,000. The magnitude and value of his various enterprises, as well as the ability of their management, places Mr. *Dunsmuir* in the first rank among the business men on this coast. *The only regret we have heard him*

“express respecting his situation is that Vancouver Island is not a part of the United States. It would be to his pecuniary advantage if that were the case, for during the first eleven months of this year he paid \$210,000 in duties on his coal in San Francisco. But, apart from this private consideration, he is rightly of the opinion that it would be better for British Columbia if it belonged to the United States of America, since its natural commercial interests are with this country.”

“And whereas, such open and advised speaking is disloyal to the Queen, a violation of allegiance and oath of office sworn and subscribed by the said *Robert Dunsmuir* as President of the Executive Council and Member of the Legislative Assembly; be it, therefore,

“Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that His Honour may be pleased to transmit the foregoing Resolution to His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, humbly entreating His Excellency to nominate and appoint a ‘Royal Commission of Inquiry,’ to take evidence and examine witnesses touching the alleged open and advised speaking of the said *Robert Dunsmuir*;

“And, further, that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor may be pleased to exercise his prerogative and to suspend the said *Robert Dunsmuir* from holding and exercising the office of President of the Executive Council, until such ‘Royal Commission’ shall have determined whether the said *Robert Dunsmuir* is, or is not, guilty of the open and advised speaking with which he is charged;’

“Be it therefore resolved, that a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into the statement of the said Honourable *T. B. Humphreys*, as contained in the said proposed resolution, and to report their deliberations and the evidence taken by them to this House, with power to call for persons, books and papers.”

Moved by *Mr. Beaven*, in amendment to the amendment, seconded by *Mr. Grant*,—

To strike out all the words after “Whereas” in the amendment, and insert:—“it is alleged that the Hon. *Robert Dunsmuir*, President of the Executive Council and Member of the Legislative Assembly, commonly called *Robert Dunsmuir*, owner of coal mines, steamships, and President of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, did, at divers times and places, in the presence of credible witnesses, openly express his desire to annex Vancouver Island to the United States of America;

“And whereas it is further alleged that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did utter his determination to exert his power and influence to promote such annexation;

“And whereas it hath also been alleged that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did at *Portland, Oregon*, United States of America, express similar sentiments, which were printed and published in the *Portland Daily News*, 23rd December, 1887, and reads as follows:—

“*Mr. R. Dunsmuir*, of *Victoria*, who came to *Portland* last Friday to attend the railroad celebration, is still in the city. Yesterday his two sons, one from *Wellington, B. C.*, and the other from *San Francisco*, came here to confer with him in regard to their coal business in *San Francisco*, and an extension of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railroad to reach the *Dunsmuir’s* new coal mines, eighty miles beyond *Nanaimo*. *Mr. Dunsmuir* regrets that the price of coal has been forced up so high in *San Francisco*, and one object of his conference with his sons, who manage that end of their business, is to effect a reduction. Besides his coal and railroad and steam and sailing vessels, *Mr. Dunsmuir* owns a large area of timber lands on *Vancouver Island*. The day before he came to *Portland* he sold the timber on 50,000 acres to a *Michigan* lumberman for \$250,000. The magnitude and value of his various enterprises, as well as the ability of their management, places *Mr. Dunsmuir* in the first rank among the business men on this coast. The only regret we have heard him express respecting his situation is that Vancouver Island is not a part of the United States. It would be to his pecuniary advantage if that were the case, for during the first eleven months of this year he paid \$210,000 in duties on his coal in *San Francisco*. But, apart from this private consideration, he is rightly of the opinion that it would be better for *British Columbia* if it belonged to the United States of America, since its natural commercial interests are with this country;’

“Be it, therefore, resolved, That this House considers that a Statute should at once be passed authorizing, nominating and appointing a Commissioner to take evidence and examine witnesses under oath in open Court touching the above allegations, and that the evidence so taken should be submitted to this Legislative Assembly.”

Question proposed on the amendment to the amendment—"Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," the House divided, and the names being called for they were taken down as follows:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Robson,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>
<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Davie, T.,</i>	<i>John,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Duck.</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Anderson—16.</i>

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>McLeese—7.</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>	

Question proposed on the amendment to the original resolution—"Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," and resolved in the negative.

Question proposed—"Shall the words proposed to be added stand part of the question," and resolved in the affirmative.

Original question, as amended, proposed and resolved in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Robson,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>
<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Davie, T.,</i>	<i>John,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Anderson—16.</i>

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>McLeese.—7.</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>	

And it was *Resolved*,—

Whereas the Honourable *T. B. Humphreys*, in his capacity of a Member of this Assembly, on the 26th January, 1888, placed notice of moving a resolution upon the Orders of the House, and permitted such notice and resolution to remain upon the Orders continuously until the 16th February instant, inclusive;

And whereas such Resolution reads as follows:—

"Whereas the Honourable *Robert Dunsmuir*, President of the Executive Council and Member of the Legislative Assembly, commonly called *Robert Dunsmuir*, owner of coal mines, steamships, and President of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, did, at divers times and places, in the presence of credible witnesses, who are prepared to aver on oath that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did *openly express his desire to annex Vancouver Island to the United States of America*;

"And, further, that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did *utter his determination to exert his power and influence to promote such annexation*; and the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did allege that such annexation would make him the richest man on the Pacific Coast, and that he would save the American customs duty on his coal by the operation;

"And whereas it hath been alleged that the said *Robert Dunsmuir* did use similar disloyal, open and advised speaking at *Portland, Oregon*, United States of America, and such open, advised, and disloyal speaking was printed and published in the *Portland Daily News*, 23rd December, 1887, and reads as follows:—

"*Mr. R. Dunsmuir, of Victoria*, who came to *Portland* last Friday to attend the railroad 'celebration, is still in the city. Yesterday his two sons, one from *Wellington, B. C.*, and the other from *San Francisco*, came here to confer with him in regard to their coal business in

'*San Francisco*, and an extension of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railroad to reach the *Dunsmuir's* new coal mines, eighty miles beyond *Nanaimo*. Mr. *Dunsmuir* regrets that the price of coal has been forced up so high in *San Francisco*, and one object of his conference with his sons, who manage that end of their business, is to effect a reduction. Besides his coal and railroad and steam and sailing vessels, Mr. *Dunsmuir* owns a large area of timber lands on *Vancouver Island*. The day before he came to *Portland* he sold the timber on 50,000 acres to a *Michigan* lumberman for \$250,000. The magnitude and value of his various enterprises, as well as the ability of their management, places Mr. *Dunsmuir* in the first rank among the business men on this coast. *The only regret we have heard him express respecting his situation is that Vancouver Island is not a part of the United States. It would be to his pecuniary advantage if that were the case, for during the first eleven months of this year he paid \$210,000 in duties on his coal in San Francisco. But, apart from this private consideration, he is rightly of the opinion that it would be better for British Columbia if it belonged to the United States of America, since its natural commercial interests are with this country.*

"And whereas, such open and advised speaking is disloyal to the Queen, a violation of allegiance and oath of office sworn and subscribed by the said *Robert Dunsmuir* as President of the Executive Council and Member of the Legislative Assembly; be it, therefore,

"Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that His Honour may be pleased to transmit the foregoing Resolution to His Excellency the Governor-General of Canada, humbly entreating His Excellency to nominate and appoint a 'Royal Commission of Inquiry,' to take evidence and examine witnesses touching the alleged open and advised speaking of the said *Robert Dunsmuir*;

"And, further, that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor may be pleased to exercise his prerogative and to suspend the said *Robert Dunsmuir* from holding and exercising the office of President of the Executive Council, until such 'Royal Commission' shall have determined whether the said *Robert Dunsmuir* is, or is not, guilty of the open and advised speaking with which he is charged;"

Be it therefore resolved, that a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into the statements of the said Honourable *T. B. Humphreys*, as contained in the said proposed resolution, and to report their deliberations and the evidence taken by them to this House, with power to call for persons, books and papers.

Messrs. *Baker, Fry, Martin, Duck, Allen, and Anderson*, were nominated to form the said Committee.

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Annual Report of the Minister of Mines for the year ending 31st December, 1887. (*See Sessional Papers*).

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:57 o'clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 21st February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *J. Reid*, D.D.

Mr. *Bole* presented a Petition from *J. R. Brown* and others, for a Private Bill (*Harrison Hot Springs Tramway Company*).

Laid on the table

Mr. *Bole* presented a Petition from the Corporation of the City of *New Westminster* (*New Westminster City Corporation Act*).

Laid on the table.

Colonel *Baker* presented a Petition from *F. W. Alymer* and others, for a Private Bill (*Crow's Nest and Kootenay Lake Railway Bill*).

Laid on the table.

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* presented a Petition from *J. Derocher* and others, residents and property owners of the District of *New Westminster* (*re fencing of the C. P. Railway*).

Laid on the table.

Mr. *Martin* presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire as to the squatters on *Coal Harbour* and *English Bay* lands being allowed, or refused to be allowed, to purchase their lands by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, reporting the evidence taken by the Committee.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Turner*, seconded by the Hon. Mr. *Robson*,—

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended, and it was then *Resolved* that the Public Accounts generally, up to date, be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

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

That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into the procedure which governs the office of Sheriff, and the remuneration of that office, and to suggest any legislation in respect of this office which may be deemed to be of advantage to the Province, with power to call for persons, books, and papers; such Committee to consist of Hon. *T. Davie*, *Mason*, *Bole*, *Fry*, and the mover.

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 and correspondence between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, not printed in the Sessional Papers, with reference to the disallowance, or otherwise, of the Provincial Statutes passed in the Sessions of 1884, 1886, 1887.

On the motion of Mr. *Beaven*, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*, 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 the Orders in Council under which the Honourable *John Robson* acts as Premier, and the Honourable *Theodore Davie* represents the Attorney-General's Department; together with copies of the public notice that the Statute requires should be given when the powers and duties of an Executive Councillor are assigned and transferred to another member of the Council.

Mr. *Orr* moved, seconded by Mr. *Ladner*,—

This House considers that the Government might very properly ask for authority to transfer to the general expenditure of the Province of British Columbia, the sum now charged to the Corporation of the City of *Vancouver*, under "An Act for the preservation of the peace within the Municipal limits of the City of *Vancouver*."

Motion withdrawn with leave.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all petitions, letters, and telegrams between the Provincial Government, or any of its Members or officers, including the Superintendent of Police, and any person or persons, relating in any way to the application or granting of liquor licences on *Rock Creek*, since January 1st, 1887.

Mr. *Ladner* moved, seconded by Mr. *Orr*,—

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will cause to be sent down to this House all Orders in Council, letters, and telegrams respecting the mode agreed upon between the Dominion and Provincial Governments of dealing with the lands embraced within what is known as the Sumas Dyking Act.

Motion withdrawn with leave.

The Hon. *T. Davie* raised a point of order with reference to the entry on yesterday's Votes and Proceedings, claiming that the names of those Members who were proposed by him to sit on the Committee for enquiry into the charges against the President of the Council, and who refused or declined to act, should appear on the Votes and Proceedings as having been so proposed and that they so refused to act.

Mr. Speaker stated that only the results of the proceedings of the House were entered on the Journals, and not the proceedings by which those results were arrived at, and decided that the Votes and Proceedings were correctly recorded.

The Hon. *T. Davie* appealed from the decision to the House, and the question being proposed—"Shall the Chair be sustained," the House divided, and the names being called for they were taken down as follows:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Bole,</i>	<i>Duck,</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>	<i>McLeese—12.</i>

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Davie, T.,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>John</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Robson,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Turner,</i>	<i>Anderson—12.</i>

Mr. Speaker voted with the yeas.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:59 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 22nd February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Right Rev. Bishop *Cridge*.

The Hon. Mr. *Dunsmuir* presented a Petition from the *Nicola Mining Company, Limited*, for a Private Bill (*Nicola Mining Company Incorporation Bill*).
Laid on the table.

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Papers relating to the Commission appointed to enquire into the state and condition of the Indians of the *North-West Coast* of British Columbia. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The following Petitions were read and received:—

From *J. R. Brown* and others, for a Private Bill (*Harrison Hot Springs Tramway Co.*)

From the Corporation of the City of *New Westminster* (*New Westminster City Corporation Act*).

From *F. W. Alymer* and others, for a Private Bill (*Crow's Nest and Kootenay Lake Railway Bill*).

From *J. Derocher* and others, residents and property owners of the District of *New Westminster* (*re fencing of the Canadian Pacific Railway*). *Ordered* to be printed and referred to the Select Standing Committee on Railways.

Colonel *Baker* presented the Second Report from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders, reporting the rules, as to notices, complied with in regard to the *Kootenay* and *Columbia* Railway and Transportation Company's Bill, and the *Nanaimo* and *Esquimalt* Railway Bill.

The Report was read and received.

The Hon. Mr. *T. Davie* presented a Return to an Order of the House of copies of all letters, papers, and documents whatsoever relating to the "Steps that have been taken against the sureties of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for failure to fulfil the agreement for extension of the Railway to *Coal Harbour* and *English Bay*," with the names of Counsel retained in the case for the Government.

Colonel *Baker* presented the Third Report from the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills, recommending that the time for receiving Petitions for Private Bills be extended to the 27th instant.

Read and received.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended and the Report adopted.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended, and the Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire as to the squatters on *Coal Harbour* and *English Bay* lands being allowed, or refused to be allowed, to purchase their lands by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, reporting the evidence taken by the Committee, was received and adopted.

The Standing Rules and Orders were suspended.

Mr. *Ladner* then moved, seconded by Mr. *Bole*, and it was *Resolved*,—

That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the reason why the gazetted road from the mouth of *Chilukthan Slough*, *New Westminster District*, has been fenced so as not to allow the requisite width of 66 feet to be used as a public highway. Said Committee to consist of Messrs. *Thomson*, *Martin*, *Orr*, *Semlin* and *Fry*.

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

Whereas the administration of intestate estates in the Province of British Columbia is expensive and unsatisfactory;

Be it therefore resolved, that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the state of the law, and the methods of administering such estates, with a view to the greater security of the public.

The Committee to have power to call for persons, letters, books, documents, and accounts whatsoever, relating to such estates, and to make such recommendations to this House as may be found expedient.

Messrs. *Humphreys*, *Higgins*, *Cowan*, *Duck*, and *Anderson*, were nominated to form the said Committee.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, asking His Honour to urge upon the Federal Government the importance of immediately establishing weekly mail communication through British Columbia with *Rock Creek*.

The Hon. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act for increasing the efficiency of County Courts."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

The Hon. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assize Court Act, 1885.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

Mr. *Beaven* asked the Hon. the Acting Attorney-General the following question:—

Has a lease of any portion of *Perry Creek, Kootenay District*, been granted to Lieut.-Colonel *Baker*, M. P. P.? If so, what are its terms and conditions, and does it contain a clause restricting the employment of Chinese?

The Honourable *T. Davie* replied as follows:—

“A lease of a portion of *Perry Creek, Kootenay District*, has been granted to Lieut.-Colonel *Baker*, M. P. P., and Hon. *Frederick W. Alymer*, for a term of twenty-five years, at an annual rental of \$200. The lease is granted on the condition that not less than \$5,000 is expended on the leased premises during the 1st year; not less than \$6,000 during the 2nd year; not less than \$7,000 during the 3rd year; not less than \$8,000 during the 4th year; and thereafter not less than \$2,000 during each and every year of the remainder of the said term.

“The lease contains a clause not only restricting but penally prohibiting the employment of Chinese, either directly or indirectly, ‘in or about or concerning any work or services ‘authorized by the lease, or required to be done or performed by the lessees.’”

Mr. *Ladner* asked the Hon. the Provincial Secretary the following question:—

Do the Government intend to take any action to prevent the importation of Rabbits into this Province?

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

“Not until they are in possession of more definite information.”

Pursuant to Order, the Hon. *T. Davie* moved that Bill (No. 12) intituled “An Act to enable Foreign Mining Companies to carry on business in British Columbia,” be read a second time now.

A debate arose, which was adjourned until Friday next.

Mr. *Beaven* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Has any member of the Executive Council made application to acquire Crown land or other public property, or obtained a Crown grant of such property, since 1st January, 1887? If so, what is the date and nature of the application, and name of applicant?

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

“Yes; application to purchase 640 acres of land in *Kamloops District* by *J. H. Turner*, was received at the Lands and Works Office March 2nd, 1887, and a Crown grant has been issued.”

According to Order, the House again went into Committee of the Whole on Mr. *Duck's* Resolution of 14th February, 1888, *re* withdrawal of subsidy for mail service between *Victoria* and *San Francisco*.

(IN THE COMMITTEE.)

Resolved, That a Select Committee be appointed to draft and submit to this House an Address to His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, concerning the withdrawal of the mail service by steam-vessels between *Victoria* and *San Francisco*, and the great inconvenience and loss to merchants and others occasioned thereby. Also with a view of representing to His Excellency the unconstitutionality of such withdrawal, and to respectfully demand an early restoration of the said mail service. Such Committee to consist of Messrs. *Turner, Grant, Duck* and *Beaven*.

Upon Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Croft*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Resolution.

Report adopted.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Ballot Act, 1877,’” was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:55 o'clock, p. m.

Thursday, 23rd February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Right Rev. Bishop *Cridge*.

The Petition from the *Nicola Mining Company, Limited*, for a Private Bill (*Nicola Mining Company Incorporation Bill*), was read and received.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a return of all letters, papers, and documents whatsoever, relating to or connected with the estate and disposition of the property of *Isaac Humphreys*, deceased intestate.

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

Whereas Mr. *J. H. Turner*, a member of the Legislative Assembly, now a member of the Executive Council and Minister of Finance and Agriculture, attached his signature to the following document, which was circulated extensively in the United States of America and Canada :—

“To the lovers of civil and religious liberty in America:—The bearer, Mr. *William Duncan*, for thirty years a devoted missionary of religion and civilization in British North America, and during the whole of that period well known to the undersigned, is on his way to *Washington*, deputed by the native Christian brethren of *Metlakatla* to confer with the United States authorities on matters affecting their interest and desire.

“Like the Pilgrim Fathers of old, this afflicted but prospering and thrifty flock seek a refuge from grievous wrongs, and hope to find it under the American flag. They prefer abandoning the home of their fathers and the precious fruits of their industry, to submitting to the violent seizure of their land and the intolerable stings of religious greed and interference. We, therefore, most respectfully commend Mr. *Duncan* and his mission to such brothers and friends in our sister country—the land of the free—as may be disposed to use their influence in aid of the oppressed.”

(Signed)
”
”
”
”

“*J. H. TURNER*, Member of Provincial Parliament, *Victoria*, B. C.

“*16th November, 1886.*”

And whereas the Provincial Government appointed Commissioners to enquire into the *Metlakatlah* disturbances, whose report was considered by the Legislative Assembly and the following resolution adopted :—

“*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this House, there are valid reasons for believing that the Indians of *Metlakatlah* and the *North-West Coast, Queen Charlotte Islands*, have been taught that the Dominion laws relating to Indians have no application to these tribes, and that the lands outside the Reserves are still the property of the Indians ;

“That these teachings have led to widespread dissatisfaction amongst the Indians, and the white settlers who are carrying on mining and other important industries in the *West-Coast District* are liable to be seriously interfered with ;

“That, under the Terms of Union and the British North America Act, the control of the Indians and management of their lands is vested in the Dominion Government ;

“*Resolved*, That it is the duty of the Dominion Government, at once, to take active and energetic steps to enforce the Indian Act in its integrity amongst these tribes, and to compel obedience to the law ;

“That the Provincial Government proceed to carry out the survey of the lands at *Mission Point* as Government land.

“*Resolved*, further, That in the meantime the Provincial Government take measures to protect the white settlers from the encroachments of the Indians.”

And whereas many hundreds of the industrial native population of the Province have left "the homes of their fathers" through the instrumentality of the above letter, signed by Mr. *Turner*, and have settled in the adjoining Territory of *Alaska*, and deprived the Province of the results of their industry;

And whereas the conduct of the Honourable *J. H. Turner* in becoming a member of a Government which he considers has allowed such "grievous wrongs" to be inflicted upon a portion of our population and caused them "to submit to the violent seizure of their land," is highly inconsistent with what is right.

This House is of opinion that the action of the Honourable *J. H. Turner* in this matter was highly prejudicial to Provincial interests, and that he should be removed from his position as an adviser of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

Colonel *Baker* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Duck*,—

To strike out all which follows the name "*J. H. Turner*" on the first line, down to and inclusive of the word "Canada" on line four, and insert—"member elect, representing the City of *Victoria* in the Legislature, on or about the 16th November, 1886, before he had been "sworn in or taken his seat as such member (in conjunction with others), attached his signature "to the following document:"

To strike out all the words after "oppressed" on line 16, except "*16th November, 1886*," and to add—

"And whereas since the said date, viz., on the 8th day of August, 1887, the said *J. H. Turner* accepted the office, under the Crown, of Finance Minister for the Province, and "thereby vacated his seat as a member of this Assembly;

"And Whereas on or about the 20th day of August, 1887, the said Honourable *J. H. Turner* was again duly elected as a member of this Assembly whilst holding office as aforesaid, and still holds such office;

"Be it therefore Resolved, that in the opinion of this House the signing of the above "document by Mr. *Turner* in no way prejudices his position as a member of this House or as "a Minister of the Crown, and this House has the fullest confidence in his loyalty."

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

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.

Friday, 24th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Right Rev. Bishop *Cridge*.

Colonel *Baker* presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the charges brought by Honourable *T. B. Humphreys* against Honourable *R. Dunsmuir*, President of the Council.

Colonel *Baker* moved that the Report be received.

A point of order was raised by Mr. *Beaven*, viz.:—"That the Committee could not recommend the House to expunge any resolution from the Votes and Proceeding of this House."

Mr. Speaker reserved his decision.

The House proceeded to the Orders of the Day.

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on Mr. *Beaven's* Resolution relative to charges of disloyalty against Honourable *J. H. Turner*, was resumed.

Question proposed—"Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," the House divided, and the names being called for they were taken down as follows:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Bole,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>McLeese—8.</i>

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Robson,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Davie, T.</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Anderson—15.</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	

So it passed in the negative.

Question proposed—"Shall the words proposed to be added stand part of the question," and *Resolved* in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Robson,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Davie, T.</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Anderson—15.</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Bole,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>McLeese—8</i>

Original question as amended proposed, and *Resolved* in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

<i>Cowan,</i>	<i>Robson,</i>	<i>Fry,</i>	<i>Croft,</i>
<i>Mason,</i>	<i>Davie, T.,</i>	<i>Duck,</i>	<i>Thomson,</i>
<i>Higgins,</i>	<i>Vernon,</i>	<i>Dunsmuir,</i>	<i>Anderson—15.</i>
<i>Baker,</i>	<i>Allen,</i>	<i>Martin,</i>	

NAYS:

Messieurs

<i>Semlin,</i>	<i>Humphreys,</i>	<i>Bole,</i>	<i>Orr,</i>
<i>Grant,</i>	<i>Ladner,</i>	<i>Beaven,</i>	<i>McLeese—8.</i>

And it was *Resolved*,—

Whereas Mr. *J. H. Turner*, member elect, representing the City of *Victoria* in the Legislature, on or about the 16th November, 1886, before he had been sworn in or taken is seat as such member (in conjunction with others), attached his signature to the following document:—

"To the lovers of civil and religious liberty in America:—The bearer, Mr. *William Duncan*, for thirty years a devoted missionary of religion and civilization in British North America, and during the whole of that period well known to the undersigned, is on his way to *Washington*, deputed by the native Christian brethren of *Metlakatla* to confer with the United States authorities on matters affecting their interest and desire.

"Like the Pilgrim Fathers of old, this afflicted but prospering and thrifty flock seeks a refuge from grievous wrongs, and hope to find it under the American flag. They prefer abandoning the home of their fathers and the precious fruits of their industry, to submitting to the violent seizure of their land and the intolerable stings of religious greed and inter-

“ference. We, therefore, most respectfully commend Mr. *Duncan* and his mission to such “brothers and friends in our sister country—the land of the free—as may be disposed to use “their influence in aid of the oppressed.

“16th November, 1886.”

And whereas since the said date, viz., on the 8th day of August, 1887, the said *J. H. Turner* accepted the office, under the Crown, of Finance Minister for the Province, and thereby vacated his seat as a member of this Assembly;

And whereas on or about the 20th day of August, 1887, the said Honourable *J. H. Turner* was again duly elected as a member of this Assembly whilst holding office as aforesaid, and stills holds such office;

Be it therefore Resolved, that in the opinion of this House the signing of the above document by Mr. *Turner* in no way prejudices his position as a member of this House or as a Minister of the Crown, and this House has the fullest confidence in his loyalty.

The adjourned debate on the motion—That Bill (No. 12) intituled “An Act to enable Foreign Mining Companies to carry on business in British Columbia” be read a second time now, was resumed.

Bill read a second time and committed.

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

Ordered, That leave be granted for the next sitting of the House.

The Hon. *T. Davie* presented copies of all papers connected with the dismissal of *Philip Woollacott* from the office of Gaoler, and all correspondence relating thereto subsequent to such dismissal.

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, 27th February, 1888.

TWO O’CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *A. Beanlands*.

Mr. *Semlin* presented a Petition from *Ronald Campbell* and others, settlers of the *Okanagan Mission Valley*.

Laid on the table.

Mr. *Orr* presented a Petition from *L. J. D’Herbomez* and others, settlers of *Matsqui Prairie*, for a Private Bill (“Sumas Dyking Act, 1878,” repeal).

Laid on the table.

Mr. *Martin* presented a Petition from *H. S. Mason* and others, land owners of *Matsqui* (opposing repeal of “Sumas Dyking Act, 1878,” &c.)

Laid on the table.

Colonel *Baker* presented the Fourth Report from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders, reporting the rules as to notices complied with in regard to the following Bills:—

New Westminster City Incorporation Bill.

Nicola Mining Company Incorporation Bill.

Crow’s Nest and Kootenay Lake Railway Bill.

Harrison Hot Springs Tramway Bill.

The Report was read and received.

Mr. Speaker gave his decision reserved on the point of order raised by Mr. *Beaven* upon the presentation of the Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the charges brought by Honourable *T. B. Humphreys* against Honourable *R. Dunsmuir*, President of the Council, viz.:—"That the Committee could not recommend the House to expunge any resolution from the Votes and Proceedings of this House."

Mr. Speaker decided that the Committee had only power to report their deliberations to the House and could not make any recommendations. The Report was therefore out of order.

The Hon. *T. Davie* presented a Return to an Order of the House for copies of all petitions, letters, and telegrams, between the Provincial Government, or any of its members or officers, including the Superintendent of Police, and any person or persons, relating in any way to the application or granting of liquor licences on *Rock Creek*, since January 1st, 1887.

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a Return to an Address for copies of the Orders in Council under which the Honourable *John Robson* acts as Premier, and the Honourable *Theodore Davie* represents the Attorney-General's Department; together with copies of the public notice that the Statute requires should be given when the powers and duties of an Executive Councillor are assigned and transferred to another member of the Council.

Mr. *Ladner* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to prevent the spread of Noxious Weeds."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

On the motion of Mr. *Higgins*, seconded by Mr. *John*, it was Resolved,—

That a Select Committee be appointed, with power to call for persons and papers, to enquire into the application of *Donald McKenzie* to pre-empt Section 98, *Esquimalt District*, or (in the event of the refusal of such pre-emption record) to enquire into the value of the improvements effected by him upon such land and to report to this House. Said Committee to consist of Messrs. *Semlin*, *John*, *Baker*, *Cowan*, and the mover.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. *Humphreys*, seconded by Mr. *Orr*, it was Resolved,—

That an order of the House be granted for a return of all letters and telegrams between the Government or other the members of the Executive and Mr. *James Champion*, or other persons, relating to the appointment of Mr. *James Champion* as Government Mining Engineer.

Mr. *Beaven* moved, seconded by Mr. *Grant*,—

Whereas a petition has been presented, in accordance with section 51 of the "Trial of Controverted Elections Act, 1871," from certain electors of the Electoral District of *Victoria City*, alleging that there is reason to believe that corrupt practices extensively prevailed at the last election for the said district, which was held on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th days of January, 1888; be it, therefore,

Resolved, That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that Commissioners may be appointed to enquire into the allegation contained in the above petition, in accordance with the section of the Statute above mentioned.

The House divided, and the names being called for they were taken down as follows:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

Semlin,
Grant,

Humphreys,
Ladner,

Beaven,

McLeese—6.

NAYS:

Messieurs

Cowan,
Mason,
Higgins,
Baker,

Robson,
Davie, T.,
Vernon,
Allen,

Fry,
John,
Dunsmuir,
Turner,

Martin,
Croft,
Thomson,
Anderson—16

So it passed in the negative.

The Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* asked the Hon. the Minister of Mines the following question:—

At whose instance or recommendation was Mr. *James Champion* appointed Government Mining Engineer, for the purposes of the "Act to aid the development of Quartz Mines?"

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

"Having had my attention called to the presence in the Province of Mr. *Champion*, and having made enquiry in *California* and *Cariboo* respecting his standing, professionally and otherwise, and the reports having been satisfactory, Mr. *Champion* was appointed."

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

Under what authority was *W. H. Ladner* allowed to encroach on and dispose of part of the public road from the landing near the mouth of *Chilukthan Slough*, and running straight in a south-easterly direction about 30 chains to a point where the line dividing Townships Nos. 5 and 6 crosses said slough, said public highway having been gazetted 66 feet wide by notice in the British Columbia Gazette, dated Victoria, December 22nd, 1873?

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

"Not by authority of the Government. The regulation and preventing the obstruction of roads in Municipalities is vested in the Council by the Municipality Act."

Mr. *Grant* asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance the following questions—

What sum of money in Dominion currency has the loan of 1887 netted to the Government, at Victoria, after deducting exchange, discount, commission, accrued interest, and charges of all description? On what date was the money received here by the Government, and is there any outstanding claim in connection with it?

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

"Nine hundred and seventy-five thousand five hundred and seventy-dollars and three cents (\$975,577.03).

"On July first (1st), 1887.

"There are no outstanding claims in connection with it."

The Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following question:—

Has any member of the Executive Council, or other persons, made application to acquire Crown land, or other public property, at or in the vicinity of *Fort Rupert*, or *Beecher Bay*, or obtained a Crown grant since 1st January, 1887? If so, what is the date and nature of the application and name of applicant?

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

"No application for land in the vicinity alluded to has been made by any Member of the Executive Council.

"By reference to the Government Gazette the Hon. Member can find the names of all applicants to purchase unsurveyed lands."

The Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

What is the character of the land—640 acres—purchased by *J. H. Turner* in *Kamloops District*? Is it timber, mineral, or both?

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

"The land was purchased under section 59 of the 'Land Act, 1884,' and the Crown grant issued after compliance with section 2 of the amendment to the Land Act of 1887."

The Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* asked the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions:—

What is the extent, in acres or miles, of the lease of the portion of *Perry Creek* granted to Lieut.-Colonel *Baker*, M.P.P., and Hon. *Frederick W. Alymer*? And under what Act or authority was the lease granted?

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

“Five miles of *Perry Creek*—500 feet on each side of said creek. Under ‘Mineral Act, 1884,’ Part IX.”

The Hon. Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a Return to an Address for copies of all Orders in Council and correspondence between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, not printed in the Sessional Papers, with reference to the disallowance, or otherwise, of the Provincial Statutes passed in the Sessions of 1884, 1886, and 1887.

Pursuant to Order, the House again went into Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 12) intituled “An Act to enable Foreign Mining Companies to carry on business in British Columbia.”

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

Ordered, That leave be granted for to-morrow.

The Order for the second reading of Bill (No. 9) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘County Court Jurisdiction Act, 1885,’” was discharged.

The Order for the second reading of Bill (No. 15) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Land Act, 1884,’” was discharged.

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 1) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Justices of the Peace and Coroners’ Oaths Act, 1874,’” was considered and adopted.

Bill read a third time and passed.

The Order for the House to resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 2) intituled “An Act to prevent the spread of Contagious Diseases among Horses and other Domestic Animals,” was discharged.

Pursuant to Order, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Ballot Act, 1877.’”

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

Ordered, That leave be granted for to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:58 o’clock, p. m.

Tuesday, 28th February, 1888.

TWO O’CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

The following Petitions, respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors, were presented and laid on the table:—

By Mr. *Semlin*, from the residents of *Nicola*.

By Mr. *Semlin*, from the residents of *Kamloops*.

By Mr. *Bole*, from the residents of *New Westminster City*.

By the Hon. Mr. *Robson*, from the residents of *North Arm, Fraser River*.

By the Hon. Mr. *Robson*, from the residents of *Fort Langley*.

By the Hon. Mr. *Robson*, from the residents of *Vancouver City*.

By the Hon. Mr. *Dunsmuir* from the residents of *Nanaimo*.

The following Petitions were read, received, and *Ordered* to be printed:—

The Petition of *Ronald Campbell* and others, settlers of the *Okanagan Mission Valley*.

The Petition of *L. J. D'Herbomez* and others, settlers of *Matsqui Prairie*, for a Private Bill ("Sumas Dyking Act, 1878," repeal).

The Petition of *H. S. Mason* and others, land owners of *Matsqui* (opposing repeal of "Sumas Dyking Act, 1878," &c.)

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented a Return to an Order of the House for copies of all letters and telegrams between the Government or other the Members of the Executive and Mr. *James Champion*, or other persons, relating to the appointment of Mr. *James Champion* as Government Mining Engineer.

Colonel *Baker* presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the charges brought by Honourable *T. B. Humphreys* against Honourable *R. Dunsmair*, President of the Council.

The Report was read, received, and *Ordered* to be printed.

Mr. *Bole* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to amend the law relating to the Liens of Mechanics and others."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

On the motion of Mr. *Mason*, seconded by Mr. *Bole*, it was *Resolved*,—

That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into the claims of the Rev. *George Ditcham* to certain land in the vicinity of *Coal Harbour*. Said Committee to consist of Messrs. *Ladner*, *Bole*, *Anderson*, *Croft*, and the mover, and to have power to send for persons and papers, and to report to this House.

Mr. *Ladner* moved, seconded by Mr. *Orr*,—

That in the opinion of this House that portion of the "Municipality Act, 1887," should be repealed which confers upon two Justices of the Peace the power to issue liquor licences, at their discretion, in a municipality through which a railroad passes.

Mr. *Beaven* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Semlin*,—

To insert on line two, after "Justices of the Peace," the words—"with the consent of a majority of the managing directors of a railroad."

Amendment put and carried.

Original resolution as amended put and carried.

Pursuant to Order; Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act for increasing the efficiency of County Courts," was read a second time and committed.

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

Ordered, That leave be granted for Monday next.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Assize Court Act, 1885,'" was read a second time and committed.

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

Report adopted.

Bill *Ordered* to be read a third time to-morrow.

Pursuant to Order, the House went again into Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act to enable Foreign Mining Companies to carry on business in British Columbia."

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

Report *Ordered* to 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 5:59 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 29th February, 1888.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Venerable Archdeacon *Scriven*.

Colonel *Baker* presented a Petition from *R. Lang* and others, residents of *Kootenay District* (re appointment of Road Overseer).

Laid on the table

Colonel *Baker* presented a Petition from *R. Lang* and others, residents of *Golden* and vicinity (re construction of bridge over *Kicking Horse River*).

Laid on the table.

Mr. *Beaven* presented a Petition from the residents of the City of *Victoria* (respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors).

Laid on the table.

The Hon. Mr. *Humphreys* presented a Petition from the residents of *Comox* (respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors).

Laid on the table.

The following Petitions, respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors, were read and received :

The Petition from the residents of *Nicola*.

Do.	do.	<i>Kamloops.</i>
Do.	do.	<i>New Westminster City.</i>
Do.	do.	<i>North Arm, Fraser River.</i>
Do.	do.	<i>Fort Langley.</i>
Do.	do.	<i>Vancouver City.</i>
Do.	do.	<i>Nanaimo.</i>

Mr. *Martin* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to enable the *Nicola Mining Company, Limited*, of London, to hold lands in the Province of British Columbia, and for other purposes."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered, That the Bill be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

Colonel *Baker* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the *Kootenay Railway and Navigation Company*."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered, That the Bill be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Railways.

Mr. *Bole* moved, seconded by Mr. *Grant*,—

That it is, in the opinion of this House, desirable that the Government should introduce legislation to provide official stenographers in connection with this House and the Supreme Court.

The Hon. *T. Davie* moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Allen*,—

To strike out the words "this House and" on the second line.

Amendment put and carried.

Original resolution as amended put and carried.

Mr. *Ladner* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Municipality Amendment Act, 1887.'"

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

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

That the Select Committee appointed to enquire and report to this House whether any bona fide or other occupants, having occupied or made substantial improvements on lots in the Townplot of *Granville* previous to Mr. *Van Horne's* visit, have been allowed to purchase their locations at the price of \$200, as stipulated in the bargain for the cession of 6,000 acres at *Coal Harbour* and *English Bay* by the Government of British Columbia to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, or to trustees on their behalf; with power to call for persons, books and papers, be instructed to include in their enquiries, or any bona fide applicants to purchase any of said lots, such words to be inserted in the third line, between the words *Granville* and previous.

On the motion of Mr. *Mason*, seconded by Mr. *McLeese*, it was *Resolved*,—

Whereas the Postmaster-General of Canada has called for tenders for the conveyance of H. M. mails between *Clinton* and *Barkerville*;

And whereas the notice inviting tenders does not provide for passenger accommodation; only asks as a guarantee for the satisfactory performance of the work that the contractor should be bound with two sureties in the sum of \$5,000, and seeks to divide the service into two or more contracts;

And whereas under former contracts the Dominion Government stipulated for the conveyance of these mails in a four-horse passenger coach, and bound the contractors with two sureties in a sum of \$20,000, as a guarantee that the service would be faithfully performed;

And whereas the present contractors have not been bound to furnish a passenger coach, the result of which has been found detrimental to the public interest;

Resolved, That an humble address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that His Honour will urge upon the Dominion Government the importance of maintaining the service efficiently between *Clinton* and *Barkerville*, with a four-horse passenger coach during the summer months, and not less than a two-horse passenger vehicle during the winter months, and that the contractors be held with two sureties under a bond of \$10,000, as a satisfactory guarantee that the work will be properly performed.

Mr. *Bole* asked leave to introduce a Private Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the City of New Westminster."

Leave granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered, That the Bill be referred to the Select Standing Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

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

That an humble 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, letters and correspondence relating to the gazetting the public road from *Ladner's Landing* to the townships' line dividing townships 5 and 6, *New Westminster District*.

Pursuant to Order, Mr. *Higgins* moved—That Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to amend 'An Act relating to the Legal Professions,'" be read a second time now.

Moved in amendment by Mr. *Martin*, seconded by Mr. *Allen*,—

To leave out the word "now" and add "this day six months."

A debate arose, which was adjourned until to-morrow.

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

And then the House adjourned at 5:55 o'clock, p. m.