

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

SESSION 1883-84.

Monday, 3rd December, 1883.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

This being the first day of the second meeting of the Fourth Parliament or Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honour the Honourable Clement Francis Cornwall, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the Third day of November, 1883.

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:—

I have called you thus early to attend to your Legislative duties, feeling sure that you would recognize the importance of dealing with questions of vital moment to the future welfare and progress of the Province which I desire to submit immediately for your consideration.

The visit of the Honourable Sir Alexander Campbell, Minister of Justice, to the Province during the summer, and the opportunity thereby afforded of more thoroughly considering the terms of the Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and the Railway lands of the Province, resulted in the removal of the differences existing between the two Governments; and the delay in the consummation of the settlement, although at the time regretted, has afforded an opportunity to secure from the Dominion Government, through the Minister of Justice, concessions which are of great value to the general interests of the Province. An amended Bill, embodying the agreement entered into will be submitted to you, and, consequent upon your confirmation of the measure, will be the immediate commencement and vigorous prosecution of the Island Railway, a contract for which has already been executed, and ample security deposited.

I have to congratulate you upon the increased prosperity of the country. The progress in the settlement of agricultural land has been extensive, and the prospect for continued improvement in the agricultural districts is most hopeful and gratifying. The general trade of the Province has been prosperous. Established industries are in a thriving condition. The building trade has been unprecedentedly active, and the numerous lumber mills of the Province have been taxed to their utmost capacity to supply the demand for material. The drought of the past summer affected crops to a limited extent, but the increased prices of all kinds of produce fully compensated for any deficiency in the yield. In city and country alike, prosperity has been abundantly experienced, and I am encouraged to extend the efforts I have been making to induce immigration by making known as extensively as possible the advantages the country

possesses in its mineral and forest wealth, its productive soil and its equally productive waters, its salubrious climate, and its commanding geographical position as the Pacific gateway of the Dominion of Canada.

The opening of the Dominion Railway lands on the Mainland to settlement will be fully appreciated by you. It is an act of justice to the Province which has been long delayed on account of the unsatisfactory relations existing between the Dominion and Provincial Governments. The people had a right to expect the opening of the land held by the Dominion Government in the Province, but the price at which it should be sold was one which the Federal Government had alone the power to determine; it is therefore most gratifying that my representations, made in the interest of actual settlers and with a view of encouraging the rapid settlement of these lands, have resulted in the liberal concession made, that one dollar per acre shall be the price charged to *bonâ fide* settlers.

Immigrants have come in during the season in considerable numbers, and it is satisfactory to know that those who desired land have generally succeeded in finding suitable locations, and those who sought employment have been successful also.

The pamphlet published in the spring of the year has been extensively circulated, and it is intended to supplement the work with information relative to the Kootenay District and other valuable sections of the country. Continued efforts to promote a healthy immigration are felt to be necessary, and as liberal provision as possible should be made to meet the requirements of this branch of the public service.

Under the agreement entered into with the Dominion Government, the Graving Dock has been taken over, and tenders have been invited for the completion of the work. The drain which this undertaking has been upon the finances of the Province has thus ceased, and its early completion, at Federal expense, will enable all the advantages which can be derived from the work to be realized at an early date, without imposing a financial burthen upon the people to secure them.

Road work in the various districts of the Province has been prosecuted much more extensively than in former years. Among the more important works undertaken may be mentioned the Savona Ferry Bridge across the Thompson River. This important structure, when built, will prove of great value to the people of that section of the Province. It has been long required, and although the contract price for its construction is considerably in excess of the amount you voted for it at the last session of the Legislature, I feel assured that you will cheerfully supplement that vote by the amount required.

The coal mining industry continues to increase in importance. The output of the Wellington colliery was, for a time, considerably diminished on account of the strike of the miners there, but it is satisfactory to know that the advantages of the active working of that mine are being again realized by the people of Nanaimo. The Vancouver Coal Company, having opened up promising deposits of coal on new sections of their extensive and valuable property, are now in a position to give a fresh impetus to the coal export of the East Coast of the Island.

Little change in the condition of the gold mining industry is to be noted. Placer mines continue to yield satisfactorily, and enterprising men are renewing their efforts to establish that more permanent, and therefore more important branch of the industry—quartz mining. The prospects in this direction, in various sections of the Province, are favourable, and it is to be hoped that the day is not distant when British Columbia will take a prominent position as a quartz mining country.

I have urgently pressed on the Dominion Government the necessity of retaining a ship of war at Esquimalt, and my representations have been so far successful that on the departure of Admiral Lyons, Her Majesty's ship "Heroine" was left on the station.

I have also brought to the attention of the Dominion Government our claim to share in the benefits of the Halifax Fishery award, and the subject is still under consideration.

I have pressed on their notice the necessity of a more active control over the large Indian settlements, and the appointment of more Indian agents; and acting on these representations steps have been taken to carry out my views.

The condition of things at Metlakatlah has given me serious uneasiness, but I have reason to hope that the presence of the recently appointed Indian Agent will be the means of restoring law and order there.

The Chinese question was earnestly discussed with Sir Alexander Campbell when he was here, but until some active legislation take place on the part of the Dominion Government on this important subject, the chief practical remedy in your hands would appear to be to

encourage immigration of a class and character which will in time exclude the Chinese from the industries which they are now absorbing.

You will be pleased to know that the Supreme Court of Canada has recognised your undoubted right to regulate the procedure in civil matters of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, and that in pursuance of the opinion expressed by the former tribunal the Dominion Government have directed two of the Judges to reside upon the Mainland, namely—one for New Westminster and one for the Clinton Judicial District. I am also glad to inform you that the Dominion Government, while declining to continue a resident Supreme Court Judge in Cariboo, have agreed to appoint a resident County Court Judge for the united districts of Cariboo and Lillooet. This agreement has been the result of the County Court Act passed by you in your last Session.

The Act which you passed respecting the times of the holding of Assize Courts has ensured regularity in the conduct of criminal business, and has saved to jurors, suitors and witnesses time and expense.

The Jurors' Act, which was passed last Session, has removed a grievance, and is working satisfactorily.

The providing for the maintenance and comfort of those amongst us who are deprived of reason, is a subject which appeals to the highest and best instincts of humanity. I regret to say that the Lunatic Asylum in its character and capacity for accommodation of lunatics is wholly insufficient. I am sure you will make liberal provision for this matter. During the recess an investigation into the wants of this institution has been held, the results of which will be laid before you.

The subject of the custody of Provincial prisoners requires earnest consideration at your hands.

I have caused an exploratory survey of the Kootenay District to be made, in order that you may be better able to appreciate the importance of this District and the value of the concessions granted by you for the purpose of opening it up.

While experiencing a sense of loss in the retirement of the Marquis of Lorne and his Royal Consort, who were warm friends of the Province, I recognise that the appointment of Lord Lansdowne as Governor-General, will, owing to his marked ability and political training, be of great advantage to the Dominion.

The transcribing of the records for the District Land Registry Office at New Westminster has been well advanced, and it is hoped that the office will be established in the spring of the ensuing year.

The Mineral Act, 1882, passed for the purpose of consolidating and amending the laws relating to minerals, other than coal, has been disallowed by the Dominion Government. It will therefore be necessary to again consider the mining laws; and a Bill relating thereto will be introduced. Papers regarding the disallowance of this Act will be laid before you.

The Kootenay Railway Act will require amendment, a measure for which will be submitted to you.

The growing demand by non-settlers for the purchase of Crown lands calls for your serious attention, and it may be well to consider whether the price of lands acquired for speculative purposes should not be increased.

You will be invited to deliberate upon a measure calculated to regulate the cutting of timber upon Crown lands and to derive a revenue therefrom.

The Public Accounts will be laid before you, and Estimates for the next fiscal year will be submitted for your approval.

I now leave you to your deliberations, feeling assured that in your hands the interests of the Province will be jealously guarded, and may Providence direct your labours to a successful issue.

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

Prayers by the Lord Bishop of British Columbia.

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

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.

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.

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

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

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

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* asked leave to introduce Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Notaries Public Appointment Act, 1872.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented Papers relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

Mr. Speaker stated that he had received a reply from the Governor-General to the Address of the Members of the Legislative Assembly, which was read and *Ordered* to be placed on the Journals of the House.

"GOVERNMENT HOUSE, VICTORIA,
"12th June, 1883.

"SIR,—I have the honour to enclose herewith the reply of His Excellency the Governor-General to the Address of the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

"*The Honourable the Speaker*
"of the *Legislative Assembly*.

"I have, &c.,
"ROBERT G. TATLOW,
"Private Secretary."

"*Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia* :

"GENTLEMEN:

"I have received the Address which you had the goodness to forward to me through His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor.

"The Princess joins with me in returning you our heartfelt thanks for this expression of loyalty to the Queen, and of personal regard for her representatives in Canada. Delightful as we found our stay in British Columbia to be, we should be disappointed if the visit had not led to some result, conferring tangible good upon the community, whose kindly reception of us, both on Island and Mainland, we can never forget. It is, therefore, with peculiar satisfaction that we find from your words that attention has been called to the vast resources possessed by your beautiful Province.

"It will be our desire and pleasure to labour to make the resources of your country, and its great value to settlers, still further known, and in the coming years we shall hope that the history of British Columbia may tell of peaceful and uninterrupted progress.

"12th May, 1883.

"LORNE."

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

Resolved, That the Speech of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor be taken into consideration on Wednesday next.

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

And then the House adjourned at 3.30 o'clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 5th December, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. Canon *Dwyer*.

Mr. *Raybould* presented a Petition from *W. H. Morton* and many other Electors of *Nanaimo*.

Laid on the table.

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

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented a Statement of the names and places of residence of Collectors of Revenue paid by commission, rate of same, and date of authority therefor. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented a copy of a despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, communicating Her Majesty's reply to the Address to Her Majesty from the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Ordered to be placed on the Journals of the House:—

"*Earl of Derby to the Marquis of Lorne.*"

"DOWNING STREET,

"16th May, 1883.

"MY LORD,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 75, of the 17th ultimo, forwarding an Address to the Queen from the Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, expressive of the devotion of that Body to the Crown, and referring to the recent visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. I have laid this Address at the foot of the Throne, and am commanded to inform Your Lordship that Her Majesty was much pleased with the expressions of loyalty and attachment to Her family which it contains. I have, &c.,

(Signed) "DERBY."

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

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

1. That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, to thank His Honour for his gracious Speech at the opening of the Second Session of the Fourth Term of the Legislature of this Province; and further to assure His Honour—

2. That, having been called thus early to attend to our Legislative duties, we recognize the importance of dealing with questions of vital moment to the future welfare and progress of the Province which His Honour desires to submit immediately for our consideration.

3. That we are greatly pleased that the visit of the Honourable Sir Alexander Campbell, Minister of Justice, to the Province during the summer, and the opportunity thereby afforded of more thoroughly considering the terms of the Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and the Railway lands of the Province, resulted in the removal of the differences existing between the two Governments; and that the delay in the consummation of the settlement, although at the time regretted, has afforded an opportunity to secure from the Dominion Government, through the Minister of Justice, concessions which are of great value to the general interests of the Province. We will give our most earnest attention to the amended Bill, embodying the agreement entered into, which will be submitted to us; and are pleased to hear His Honour's assurance that, consequent upon our confirmation of the measure, will be the immediate commencement and vigorous prosecution of the Island Railway, a contract for which has already been executed, and ample security deposited.

4. That we rejoice with His Honour upon the increased prosperity of the country; and that the progress in the settlement of agricultural land has been extensive, and that the prospect for continued improvement in the agricultural districts is most hopeful and gratifying; that

the general trade of the Province has been prosperous; that established industries are in a thriving condition; that the building trade has been unprecedentedly active, and that the numerous lumber mills of the Province have been taxed to their utmost capacity to supply the demand for material; that although the drought of the past summer affected crops to a limited extent, the increased prices of all kinds of produce fully compensated for any deficiency in the yield; that in city and country alike, prosperity has been abundantly experienced; and we receive with satisfaction His Honour's intimation that he is encouraged to extend the efforts he has been making to induce immigration by making known as extensively as possible the advantages the country possesses in its mineral and forest wealth, its productive soil and its equally productive waters, its salubrious climate, and its commanding geographical position as the Pacific gateway of the Dominion of Canada.

5. That we venture to assure His Honour that we fully appreciate the opening of the Dominion Railway lands on the Mainland to settlement; and that we feel with His Honour that it is an act of justice to the Province which has been long delayed on account of the unsatisfactory relations existing between the Dominion and Provincial Governments; that the people had a right to expect the opening of the land held by the Dominion Government in the Province, but that the price at which it should be sold was one which the Federal Government had alone the power to determine; it is therefore most gratifying that representations of His Honour, made in the interest of actual settlers and with a view of encouraging the rapid settlement of these lands, have resulted in the liberal concession made, that one dollar per acre shall be the price charged to *bonâ fide* settlers.

6. That we learn with satisfaction that Immigrants have come in during the season in considerable numbers, and it is satisfactory to know that those who desired land have generally succeeded in finding suitable locations, and that those who sought employment have been successful also; and that the pamphlet published in the spring of the year has been extensively circulated, and we applaud His Honour's intention to supplement the work with information relative to the Kootenay District and other valuable sections of the country. Continued efforts to promote a healthy immigration are felt to be necessary, and we will consider His Honour's suggestion that as liberal provision as possible should be made to meet the requirements of this branch of the public service.

7. That we are glad to hear that under the agreement entered into with the Dominion Government, the Graving Dock has been taken over, and that tenders have been invited for the completion of the work; and that the drain which this undertaking has been upon the finances of the Province has thus ceased, and that its early completion, at Federal expense, will enable all the advantages which can be derived from the work to be realized at an early date, without imposing a financial burthen upon the people to secure them.

8. That we observe with pleasure that road work in the various districts of the Province has been prosecuted much more extensively than in former years. We recognize the fact that the important structure, the Savona Ferry Bridge across the Thompson River, when built, will prove of great value to the people of that section of the Province. It has been long required, and although the contract price for its construction is considerably in excess of the amount we voted for it at the last session of the Legislature, His Honour may feel assured that we will cheerfully consider the supplementary vote required.

9. That it is pleasing to learn that the coal mining industry continues to increase in importance, and that although the output of the Wellington colliery was, for a time, considerably diminished on account of the strike of the miners there, it is satisfactory to know that the advantages of the active working of that mine are being again realized by the people of Nanaimo; and that the Vancouver Coal Company, having opened up promising deposits of coal on new sections of their extensive and valuable property, are now in a position to give a fresh impetus to the coal export of the East Coast of the Island.

10. While observing that little change in the condition of the gold mining industry is to be noted, we are glad to hear that placer mines continue to yield satisfactorily, and that enterprising men are renewing their efforts to establish the more permanent, and therefore more important branch of the industry—quartz mining. We are also glad to hear that the prospects in this direction, in various sections of the Province, are favourable, and we join with His Honour in the hope that the day is not distant when British Columbia will take a prominent position as a quartz mining country.

11. That we thank His Honour for the announcements that he has urgently pressed on the Dominion Government the necessity of retaining a ship of war at Esquimalt, and that his representations have been so far successful that on the departure of Admiral Lyons, Her

Majesty's ship "Heroine" was left on the station; that he also brought to the attention of the Dominion Government our claim to share in the benefits of the Halifax Fishery award, and that the subject is still under consideration; and that he pressed on their notice the necessity of a more active control over the large Indian settlements, and the appointment of more Indian agents; and that acting on these representations steps have been taken to carry out his views.

12. That while regretting that the condition of things at Metlakatlah has given His Honour serious uneasiness, we are pleased to hear, and agree with him, that there is reason to hope that the presence of the recently appointed Indian Agent will be the means of restoring law and order there.

13. That we are glad to be informed that the Chinese question was earnestly discussed with Sir Alexander Campbell when he was here, and, while thinking with His Honour that until some active legislation take place on the part of the Dominion Government on this important subject, the chief practical remedy in our hands would appear to be to encourage immigration of a class and character which will in time exclude the Chinese from the industries which they are now absorbing, we shall gladly and earnestly consider any measure which may be submitted to us for the prevention of the further influx of Chinese and the regulation of the conduct of those of them who are now in the Province, or which may be calculated to induce the Dominion Government and Parliament to take action on this vital question.

14. That we thank His Honour for the information that the Supreme Court of Canada has recognized our undoubted right to regulate the procedure in civil matters of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, and that, in pursuance of the opinion expressed by the former tribunal, the Dominion Government have directed two of the Judges to reside upon the Mainland, namely—one for New Westminster and one for the Clinton Judicial District; and that the Dominion Government, while declining to continue a resident Supreme Court Judge in Cariboo, have agreed to appoint a resident County Court Judge for the united districts of Cariboo and Lillooet. We feel that this agreement has been the result of the County Court Act passed by us in our last Session.

15. That we are also pleased that the Act which we passed respecting the times of the holding of Assize Courts has ensured regularity in the conduct of criminal business, and has saved to jurors, suitors, and witnesses time and expense; and that the Jurors' Act, which was passed last Session, has removed a grievance, and is working satisfactorily.

16. That we agree with His Honour that the providing for the maintenance and comfort of those amongst us who are deprived of reason, is a subject which appeals to the highest and best instincts of humanity. We regret that the Lunatic Asylum in its character and capacity for accommodation of lunatics is wholly insufficient. The making of a liberal provision for this matter will receive our most serious attention; and we are glad to be informed that during the recess an investigation into the wants of this institution has been held, the results of which will be laid before us.

17. That we assure His Honour that the subject of the custody of Provincial prisoners will receive earnest attention at our hands.

18. That we are happy to know that His Honour has caused an exploratory survey of the Kootenay District to be made, in order that we may be better able to appreciate the importance of this District and the value of the concessions granted by us for the purpose of opening it up.

19. That we thank His Honour for the information that the transcribing of the records for the District Land Registry Office at New Westminster has been well advanced, and that we are pleased to hear that it justifies the hope that the office will be established in the spring of the ensuing year.

20. That we note the information that the "Mineral Act, 1882," passed for the purpose of consolidating and amending the laws relating to minerals, other than coal, has been disallowed by the Dominion Government, and we thank His Honour for calling our attention to the consideration of the mining laws, and for the assurance that a Bill relating thereto will be laid before us. We also thank him for the assurance that papers regarding the disallowance of the "Mineral Act, 1882," will be laid before us.

21. That we will give our attentive consideration to any amendments to the Kootenay Railway Act which may be submitted to us, as well as to any measure calculated to regulate the cutting of timber upon Crown lands and to derive a revenue therefrom.

22. That, while experiencing with His Honour a sense of loss in the retirement of the Marquis of Lorne and his Royal Consort, who were warm friends of the Province, we do not

fail to recognise, with him, that the appointment of Lord Lansdowne as Governor-General will, owing to his marked ability and political training, be of great advantage to the Dominion.

23. That we mark the information that the growing demand by non-settlers for the purchase of Crown lands calls for our serious attention, and we beg to assure His Honour that we will consider whether the price of lands acquired for speculative purposes should not be increased.

24. That we thank His Honour for the assurance that the Public Accounts will be laid before us, and that Estimates for the next fiscal year will be submitted for our approval.

25. That His Honour may rest assured that we shall earnestly endeavour to justify his reliance that in our hands the interests of the Province will be jealously guarded, and we pray that Providence may direct our labours to a successful issue.

The several clauses being, on motion, taken as again read, were agreed to, and it was *Resolved* accordingly.

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. *Smithe*, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *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 Attorney-General, the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, the Honourable the Minister of Finance, the Honourable the President of the Council, and Messrs. *Orr* and *McTavish*.

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

To the Honourable CLEMENT FRANCIS CORNWALL, 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 Fourth Term of the Provincial Legislature.

Having been called thus early to attend to our Legislative duties, we recognize the importance of dealing with questions of vital moment to the future welfare and progress of the Province which Your Honour desires to submit immediately for our consideration.

We are greatly pleased that the visit of the Honourable Sir Alexander Campbell, Minister of Justice, to the Province during the summer, and the opportunity thereby afforded of more thoroughly considering the terms of the Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and the Railway lands of the Province, resulted in the removal of the differences existing between the two Governments; and that the delay in the consummation of the settlement, although at the time regretted, has afforded an opportunity to secure from the Dominion Government, through the Minister of Justice, concessions which are of great value to the general interests of the Province. We will give our most earnest attention to the amended Bill, embodying the agreement entered into, which will be submitted to us; and are pleased to hear Your Honour's assurance that, consequent upon our confirmation of the measure, will be the immediate commencement and vigorous prosecution of the Island Railway, a contract for which has already been executed, and ample security deposited.

We rejoice with Your Honour upon the increased prosperity of the country; and that the progress in the settlement of agricultural land has been extensive, and the prospect for continued improvement in the agricultural districts is most hopeful and gratifying; that the general trade of the Province has been prosperous; that established industries are in a thriving condition; that the building trade has been unprecedentedly active, and that the numerous lumber mills of the Province have been taxed to their utmost capacity to supply the demand for material; that although the drought of the past summer affected crops to a limited extent, the increased prices of all kinds of produce fully compensated for any deficiency in the yield; that in city and country alike, prosperity has been abundantly experienced; and we receive with satisfaction Your Honour's intimation that you are encouraged to extend the efforts you have been

making to induce immigration by making known as extensively as possible the advantages the country possesses in its mineral and forest wealth, its productive soil and its equally productive waters, its salubrious climate, and its commanding geographical position as the Pacific gateway of the Dominion of Canada.

We venture to assure Your Honour that we fully appreciate the opening of the Dominion Railway lands on the Mainland to settlement; and that we feel with Your Honour that it is an act of justice to the Province which has been long delayed on account of the unsatisfactory relations existing between the Dominion and Provincial Governments; that the people had a right to expect the opening of the land held by the Dominion Government in the Province, but that the price at which it should be sold was one which the Federal Government had alone the power to determine; it is therefore most gratifying that representations of Your Honour, made in the interest of actual settlers and with a view of encouraging the rapid settlement of these lands, have resulted in the liberal concession made, that one dollar per acre shall be the price charged to *bona fide* settlers.

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We are glad to hear that under the agreement entered into with the Dominion Government, the Graving Dock has been taken over, and that tenders have been invited for the completion of the work; and that the drain which this undertaking has been upon the finances of the Province has thus ceased, and that its early completion, at Federal expense, will enable all the advantages which can be derived from the work to be realized at an early date, without imposing a financial burthen upon the people to secure them.

We observe with pleasure that road work in the various districts of the Province has been prosecuted much more extensively than in former years. We recognize the fact that the important structure, the Savona Ferry Bridge across the Thompson River, when built, will prove of great value to the people of that section of the Province. It has been long required, and although the contract price for its construction is considerably in excess of the amount we voted for it at the last session of the Legislature, Your Honour may feel assured that we will cheerfully consider the supplementary vote required.

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While regretting that the condition of things at Metlakatlah has given Your Honour serious uneasiness, we are pleased to hear, and agree with you, that there is reason to hope that the presence of the recently appointed Indian Agent will be the means of restoring law and order there.

We are glad to be informed that the Chinese question was earnestly discussed with Sir Alexander Campbell when he was here, and, while thinking with Your Honour that until some active legislation take place on the part of the Dominion Government on this important subject, the chief practical remedy in our hands would appear to be to encourage immigration of a class and character which will in time exclude the Chinese from the industries which they are now absorbing, we shall gladly and earnestly consider any measure which may be submitted to us for the prevention of the further influx of Chinese and the regulation of the conduct of those of them who are now in the Province, or which may be calculated to induce the Dominion Government and Parliament to take action on this vital question.

We thank Your Honour for the information that the Supreme Court of Canada has recognized our undoubted right to regulate the procedure in civil matters of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, and that, in pursuance of the opinion expressed by the former tribunal, the Dominion Government have directed two of the Judges to reside upon the Mainland, namely—one for New Westminster and one for the Clinton Judicial District; and that the Dominion Government, while declining to continue a resident Supreme Court Judge in Cariboo, have agreed to appoint a resident County Court Judge for the united districts of Cariboo and Lillooet. We feel that this agreement has been the result of the County Court Act passed by us in our last Session.

We are also pleased that the Act which we passed respecting the times of the holding of Assize Courts has ensured regularity in the conduct of criminal business, and has saved to jurors, suitors, and witnesses time and expense; and that the Jurors' Act, which was passed last Session, has removed a grievance, and is working satisfactorily.

We agree with Your Honour that the providing for the maintenance and comfort of those amongst us who are deprived of reason, is a subject which appeals to the highest and best instincts of humanity. We regret that the Lunatic Asylum in its character and capacity for accommodation of lunatics is wholly insufficient. The making of a liberal provision for this matter will receive our most serious attention; and we are glad to be informed that during the recess an investigation into the wants of this institution has been held, the results of which will be laid before us.

We assure Your Honour that the subject of the custody of Provincial prisoners will receive earnest attention at our hands.

We are happy to know that Your Honour has caused an exploratory survey of the Kootenay District to be made, in order that we may be better able to appreciate the importance of this District and the value of the concessions granted by us for the purpose of opening it up.

We thank Your Honour for the information that the transcribing of the records for the District Land Registry Office at New Westminster has been well advanced, and that we are pleased to hear that it justifies the hope that the office will be established in the spring of the ensuing year.

We note the information that the "Mineral Act, 1882," passed for the purpose of consolidating and amending the laws relating to minerals, other than coal, has been disallowed by the Dominion Government, and we thank Your Honour for calling our attention to the consideration of the mining laws, and for the assurance that a Bill relating thereto will be laid before us. We also thank you for the assurance that papers regarding the disallowance of the "Mineral Act, 1882," will be laid before us.

We will give our attentive consideration to any amendments to the Kootenay Railway Act which may be submitted to us, as well as to any measure calculated to regulate the cutting of timber upon Crown lands and to derive a revenue therefrom.

While experiencing with Your Honour a sense of loss in the retirement of the Marquis of Lorne and his Royal Consort, who were warm friends of the Province, we do not fail to recognise, with you, that the appointment of Lord Lansdowne as Governor-General will, owing to his marked ability and political training, be of great advantage to the Dominion.

We mark the information that the growing demand by non-settlers for the purchase of Crown lands calls for our serious attention, and we beg to assure Your Honour that we will consider whether the price of lands acquired for speculative purposes should not be increased.

We thank Your Honour for the assurance that the Public Accounts will be laid before us, and that Estimates for the next fiscal year will be submitted for our approval.

Your Honour may rest assured that we shall earnestly endeavour to justify your reliance that in our hands the interests of the Province will be jealously guarded, and we pray that Providence may direct our labours to a successful issue.

The said Address in reply to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech was *Ordered* to be printed and taken into consideration forthwith, and, being again taken as read, was agreed to.

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

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until 2 o'clock on Friday next.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a copy of the provisional contract entered into under 46 Vic., Chap. 14, for the construction of the *Esquimalt* and *Nanaimo* Railway.

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

That the Resolution be amended by adding at the end thereof "when the same shall become the property of the Government."

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

And then the House adjourned at 5.45, p.m.

Friday, 7th December, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. Canon *Dwyer*.

Mr. *Dingwall* presented a Petition from the Electors of the constituency of *Comox*. The Petition was read, received, and *Ordered* to be printed. (*See Sessional Papers*.)

The Petition from the Electors of the constituency of *Nanaimo* was read, received, and *Ordered* to be printed. (*See Sessional Papers*.)

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing the names of all persons who, during the present year, have made claim to land within the original Railway Reserve on Vancouver Island, the names of those whose claims have been recognized by the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, and the nature, extent, and locality of the claim so recognized.

On the motion of Mr. *Beaven*, seconded by Mr. *Galbraith*, 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 unpublished correspondence during the year, referring to, or any offer or communication made to the Provincial Government, or any of its members, respecting the construction of the Island Railway or the *Esquimalt* Graving Dock.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to cause to be sent down to this House, copies of all unpublished Orders in Council, correspondence, telegrams, or communications, between the Provincial Government, or any of its members, and the Dominion Government, or any of its members, or the Hon. *J. W. Trutch*, C.M.G., respecting the lands transferred to the Dominion Government in trust for Railway purposes, the Island Railway, the *Esquimalt* Graving Dock, or the Statute of last Session, 46 Victoria, Chapter 14, intituled "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and the Railway Lands of the Province."

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting His Honour to cause to be sent down to this House a Statement containing the name and place of residence of each person dying within the Province since the 20th July, 1871, and who, at the time of their death, were possessed of any personal property from which the Government have derived any revenue in the form of Probate Duty; the nature and value of such property, and the amount received in each case.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting His Honour to cause to be sent down to this House a Statement containing the names and places of residence of all persons who have died intestate in the Province since the 31st December, 1859, who, at the time of their death, were possessed of any personal or real property; the nature and value of the property of each such person; how and by whom administered; the costs of administering such property, and the final disposition of the same.

Mr. *Beaven* moved, in amendment, to insert after the word “property,” in the sixth line of the resolution, the words “and to whom paid.”

Amendment carried.

Resolution as amended put and carried.

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

That the Government be requested to send down to this House all letters, papers and correspondence, or copies thereof, in connection with the dismissal, at the end of August last, of Assistant Gaoler *Rogers*, at *Victoria*.

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 2) intituled “An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province.”

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, the Public Accounts of the Province from 1st July, 1882, to 30th June, 1883. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Papers relating to the disallowance of certain Acts of the Legislature of British Columbia. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

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

That this House do resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the best means of preventing Chinese Immigration.

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

Upon Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. *Galbraith*, Chairman of the Committee, reported the following Resolution:—

That a Select Committee be appointed to draft and submit to this House an Address to His Excellency the Governor-General in Council, concerning Chinese immigration and the evils consequent upon their presence in British Columbia in large numbers, with a view of inducing restrictive and remedial legislation on the part of the Dominion Parliament. Such Committee to consist of Messrs. *Drake*, *Beaven*, *T. Davie*, *Raybould*, *Duck*, *A. E. B. Davie*, *Cowan*, *Orr*, and *Martin*. And that the Committee be instructed to prepare an Act to restrict the immigration of Chinese, in addition to any Address which may be prepared.

Report *Ordered* to be considered forthwith.

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

That the report of the Committee of the Whole be adopted by the House.

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

Mr. *T. Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to further amend the 'Municipality Act, 1881.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday next.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will recommend to the Dominion Government the expediency of establishing a semi-monthly mail between *Victoria* and that portion of *Cassiar* to the south of the *Portland Canal* during the Summer months, and monthly mails between the above named places during the Winter season; and a monthly mail between *Victoria* and that portion of *Cassiar* approached via *Stickeen River* during the Summer months, and one mail during the Winter season.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing the names of all persons who have tendered for the construction of the Bridge at *Savona Ferry*, and all correspondence connected therewith.

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

Has the Government received any statement from the Resident Engineer of the Dry Dock showing the relative cost of the work done by day labour as against contract prices; and if so, what is it?

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

"A statement from the Resident Engineer of the Dry Dock was received by me a few days before the prorogation of the last session of the Legislature, showing, in a measure, the relative cost of day labour as against contract prices. I submitted the statement at the time to the House. I again present it as follows:—

COST BY DAY LABOUR.	COST AT CONTRACT RATES.
Yarding and dressing stone per c. ft..... \$1.083 Quarrying stone per c. ft..... 1.379 ----- \$2.462 To which should be added the cost of putting in the work.	Quarrying, yarding, dressing and putting in the work (sandstone) per c. ft\$1.00
Excavating, depositing and filling, per c. yd... \$0.563	Excavating, depositing and filling, per c. yd .\$.366
Concrete per c. yd..... \$2.147	Concrete per c. yd \$2.00
Bricks made, but not set in the work, per M. . . \$11.34 NOTE.—500 bricks will make a cubic yard in the work.	Bricks made and set in the work per c. yd.... \$5.00
Arterial drains per l. ft..... \$0.232 NOTE.—A small item, only \$216.35, spent in all upon drains.	Arterial drains per l. ft..... 40c. & 50c.

There are in the statement also, on the day labour side, a number of heads of expenditure, representing a great many thousand dollars, for which there is no counterpart in the contract."

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

What action has the Government taken in regard to a Resolution, passed by this House on the 11th May last,—“That a respectful address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying His Honour to urge upon the Dominion Government the necessity of at once appointing Quarantine Officers at *Victoria* and *New Westminster*, and providing suitable “Quarantine grounds”? And what has been the result of such action?

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

“The matter was fully discussed with *Sir Alexander Campbell*, when he was here, and the immediate appointment of Quarantine Officers at *Victoria* and *New Westminster* was strongly urged. The result is not known, beyond the announcement that steps are being taken for the establishment of a Quarantine Station at *Victoria*.”

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

Have the Government complied with the wishes of this House, as expressed by Resolution of the 20th of March, 1883, “That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the “Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will represent to the Dominion Government the neces-

“sity of introducing new varieties of food fish, such as lobster, shad, black bass, oysters, &c., to “the waters of this Province; and also the necessity of establishing fish hatcheries for propogating both fresh and salt-water varieties in this Province, similar to those of other Provinces;” and, if so, what action has the Dominion Government taken to comply therewith?

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

“Yes; but what steps have been taken towards complying with the prayer of the Address I am at present unable to say.”

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

What amount of Provincial Revenue Tax was collected from the employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway in the *Kootenay* District, for the present year, and what was the amount collected during the year 1882?

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

“Collected in November 1882.....\$93.00

Collected in 1883..... Nil.

NOTE.—Returns for 1883 have only been received up to September 30th.”

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

Has any correspondence taken place between the Government of British Columbia and the Government of the Dominion of Canada relative to the establishing of Quarantine Stations at *New Westminster* and *Victoria*?

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

“There has been no correspondence, but the matter was fully discussed with *Sir Alexander Campbell* when he was here.”

And then the House adjourned at 5.45 o'clock, p. m.

Monday, 10th December, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. Stevens*.

Mr. *R. F. John* presented a Petition from *John Nicholson*.
Laid on the table.

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* presented a copy of the Contract for the construction of the *Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway*. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a Return showing the names of all persons who, during the present year, have made claim to land within the original Railway Reserve on Vancouver Island; the names of those whose claims have been recognized by the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works; and the nature, extent, and locality of the claim so recognized. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, copy of an Order in Council relating to the appointment of County Court Judges in British Columbia. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

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

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

That an order of the House be granted for a copy of instructions to Messrs. *Farnell* and *Sproat*, before leaving for *Kootenay*, and a copy of their report on the Mining, Agricultural and Timber resources of that district.

Mr. *Beaven* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the Qualification and Registration of Voters Acts."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

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

Is it the intention of the Government to make provision for the construction and maintenance of a Provincial Penitentiary in some portion of *Victoria* District during the present session?

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

"It is the intention of the Government, during the present Session, to ask the House to make provision for a good and substantial Provincial Gaol. I am not now prepared to say where it will be erected."

Mr. *John* asked the Honourable the Minister of Finance and Agriculture the following question:—

Does the Minister of Finance and Agriculture intend to present a report on agriculture this session?

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

"It is improbable that a separate report on Agriculture will be presented this Session, but the subject will most likely be treated in connection with Immigration."

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

Have the Government received any applications, or has any correspondence taken place between the Government and any person or persons, within the Province or elsewhere, with respect to the bonus offered by Statute for the erection of a Woollen Mill within the Province, and if so, what is the nature of such correspondence?

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

"There has been no correspondence beyond a letter from Mr. *E. G. Johnstone*, *Birtle*, *Manitoba*, and a reply to the same, forwarding all available information. Several verbal applications have been made, but no practical results have been reached."

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

Is there any stipulation made between the Dominion and Provincial Governments as to what time construction will be resumed on the Graving Dock; if so, when is work to commence, and what time is the Dock to be completed?

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

“Yes; the particulars of the agreement are to be found in the Settlement Bill now before the House.”

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

Is it the intention of the Government to deal with the question asked last Session, viz.: “Is it the intention of the Government, this Session, to amend the ‘Licences Amendment Ordinance, 1879,’ Chap. 23, sec. 1, so that a larger revenue may be derived from the sale and use of opium?”

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

“The Government does not propose to increase the amount payable in respect of a licence for the sale of opium. Otherwise the question is under consideration.”

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 1) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Notaries Public Appointment Act, 1872,’” was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

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 Wednesday next.

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, a return to an Address for copies of all unpublished correspondence during the year, referring to, or any offer or communication made to the Provincial Government, or any of its members, respecting the construction of the Island Railway or the *Esquimalt* Dock. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

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

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on Mr. *Beaven’s* motion for an Order of the House for a copy of the Contract for the construction of the *Esquimalt* and *Nanaimo* Railway, was resumed.

Amendment put and carried.

Resolution as amended put and negatived.

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

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

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

And then the House adjourned at 4.10 o’clock, p. m.

Wednesday, 12th December, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. Stephen*.

Mr. *Orr* presented a Petition from *J. S. K. de Knevett, Chas. Foster*, and others, for a Private Bill.

Laid on the table.

Mr. *Armstrong* presented a Petition from the *New Westminster and Port Moody Railway Company* for a Private Bill.

The Petition from *John Nicholson* was ruled out of Order.

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

That a Committee be appointed, with power to call for persons and papers, to enquire into the quality and probable value of the lands on the *East-Coast* of Vancouver Island and in the *Peace River* District, which it is proposed shall be granted to the Government of Canada, under Bill No. 2 of this Session. The Committee to consist of Messrs. *Semlin, Pooley, Armstrong, Orr*, and *Raybould*.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to bring to the attention of the Dominion Government the importance of at once making the Dominion timber lands within the Province available to the use of mill-owners and others.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all lands sold for taxes under the Lands Assessment Acts, specifying: (1) The lands sold; (2) The lands redeemed; (3) The names of the purchasers; (4) The amount of taxes due on the lands sold; (5) The price which was realized; (6) The dates of sale; (7) The names of the officers conducting the sales; (8) The lands for which grants have been made; and (9) The lands for which no grants have been made.

The Honourable Mr. *Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act relating to the Legal Professions."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

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

Is the *Comox Valley*, or any part of the district, open to settlement; if so, upon what conditions?

Is the Immigration Agent authorized to send any settlers there; if so, on what terms?

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

"No part of the *Comox* District is open to settlement at present, any more than it has been during the last ten years. Settlers of course can hold Crown lands by occupation pending the settlement of the Island Railway question. Intending settlers are advised to that effect by the Immigration Agent.

"Provision is made in the Settlement Bill, now before the House, for the sale of the land within the Railway belt to settlers at one dollar per acre, by the Provincial Government, acting as Agents of the Dominion Government."

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

What acreage of land is held by pre-emption right, or by Crown grant, within the limits of the tract of land on Vancouver Island, known as the Railway Reserve, and what number of acres are so reserved?

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

“The area held under pre-emption, or by Crown grant, is about 64,000 acres.

“The number of acres now under reservation is, approximately, 1,800,000.”

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

What steps were taken by the Government, if any, to make the value of the Vancouver Island Railway Reserve, and the land in the *Peace River Valley*, known to capitalists of Canada, Europe, and the United States, before concluding the present arrangement with the Dominion Government?

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

“The arrangement with the Dominion Government referred to, was made immediately after the present Government took office. The steps taken by the Government before that time, in the direction indicated by the question, are now matters of history; the chief, however, would appear to have been the appointment of the Honourable *Amor DeCosmos*, as Agent of the Provincial Government at *Ottawa* and *London*. The world was in full possession of all the information that gentleman had given as to the value of the Railway Reserve lands, as also of all the information the late Government had made public during their term of office, before the arrangement referred to was made.

“The steps taken by the present Government to disseminate information as to the value of the reserve lands, and of the lands of the Province generally, are embraced in the publication and extensive circulation of a pamphlet which deals pointedly with the subject; the distribution of hundreds of copies of the “*British Columbia Directory*” and the Appendix thereto; and last, but not least, the circulation, monthly, of that valuable publication, the “*Resources of British Columbia*,” which has, among other important information furnished as to the value of the various sections of the country, given the evidence of Mr. *Dawson*, before a Committee of the House of Commons, at *Ottawa*, upon the resources of the Province, including the *East Coast of Vancouver Island*.”

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

What has been done to carry out the views of this House, as expressed by Resolution of the 28th of February, 1883, as follows:—

“That this House strongly urges upon the Government of the Province the importance of “adopting every constitutional method which can be devised for restricting the further immigration of Chinese into British Columbia, for compelling those who are now resident here to comply with the Revenue and other laws of the Province, and for inaugurating a liberal scheme of assisted white immigration; and this House requests the Government at once to open negotiations with the Dominion Government, with a view to concurrent action upon these vital questions, in time to be submitted to the Dominion Parliament and this House respectively at their present Sessions”? And what has been accomplished in the desired direction as the result of such action?

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

“(1.) The necessity for restrictive measures was strongly urged upon the Dominion Government, and it is proposed to seek legislation in that direction during the present session.

“(2.) Negotiations were entered into with the Dominion Government, with a view to carrying out a liberal immigration scheme, but little has been done by that Government beyond taking over the Agency in this City and the circulation of a hand-book on this Province.

“(3.) The pamphlet published at the Government printing office, last spring, has been extensively circulated, also a large number of copies of the “*Resources*,” a valuable monthly magazine published in this city, together with various other publications containing useful information, including some fifteen hundred copies of the June, 1881, number of the “*West Shore*,” purchased, but neglected to be circulated, by the previous administration.

“(4.) Emigration agencies have been established in this city and at *New Westminster*; also at *London* and *Paris*, and upwards of five hundred letters, answering enquiries and giving information, have been written and sent from the Department here alone.

“(5.) It would be impossible to speak definitely as to what has been the result of such action; but it may be stated generally that a gratifying movement of population and capital

towards our shores is observable, and the Reports from the local immigration agencies will show a very satisfactory result in substantial additions to the agricultural settlements. Nevertheless, the principal result of these efforts cannot reasonably be looked for till next season."

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

What is the acreage of land held by pre-emption right, or by Crown grant, within the limits of the tract of land on the Mainland, conveyed to the Dominion Government in trust for Railway purposes?

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

"The information desired will be found in the Sessional Papers for 1881, on folio 491."

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

What arrangement did the Government enter into with *William Baillie-Grohman* in connection with Messrs. *Sproat* and *Farwell's* visit to *Kootenay*, and what sum did he receive for horse hire and supplies?

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

"Arrangements were made with Mr. *Baillie-Grohman* to furnish transport and supplies, not to exceed \$325 per month. This included men, horse hire, boats, and provisions.

"The time occupied was from 19th July to 30th October—3 months and 13 days.

"The amount paid is—

"For all services, in accordance with agreement, including extras,	\$1,167 19
"Telegrams and messenger	23 80

"Total..... \$1,190 99"

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

Is it the intention of the Government to deal with the question asked last Session, viz.: "Does the Government intend to submit a measure to the House for the purpose of dealing with the placer mining claims of the Province at present covered with Crown grants, said measure to have for its object the working of those claims or else rescinding of said Crown grants?"

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

"The Honourable gentleman, I presume, refers to Crown grants of mining claims issued under the Real Estate Act of 1873. The Government has no intention of depriving the grantees of their rights under the grants. The lands however are subject to taxation."

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

Is it the intention of the Government to grant the lease applied for on page 431 of the British Columbia Gazette, and dated 29th November, to Messrs. *Mara & Wilson*, for 50,000 acres of timber lands on the *Shuswap River*; if not, at what date will the public be notified that such lease is not granted, and cause said eighty square miles to be again thrown open for pre-emption or purchase?

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

"It is not the intention of the Government to grant the lease of 50,000 acres of timber lands on the *Shuswap River*, as applied for by Messrs. *Mara* and *Wilson*. A lease of an area, in proportion to the capacity of their mill, would no doubt be granted to the applicants on the same terms and conditions as are at present exacted from other mill-men.

"The application of Messrs. *Mara* and *Wilson* has never closed the land in question against pre-emption and purchase, so that it does not require to be again thrown open."

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

That the Public Accounts generally up to date, be referred to the Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. *Robson* presented a Return to an Order of the House for all letters, papers, and correspondence, or copies thereof, in connection with the dismissal, at the end of August last, of Assistant Gaoler *Rogers* at *Victoria*. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

Pursuant to Order, the Honourable Mr. *Smithe* moved, seconded by the Honourable Mr. *Davie*, That Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province," be now read a second time.

A debate arose.

Mr. *Beaven* moved the adjournment of the debate, which was carried.

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* moved—That the debate stand adjourned until to-morrow.

Mr. *Beaven* moved, in amendment, to leave out the word "to-morrow," and insert in lieu thereof the word "Monday."

Amendment put and lost—12 to 10.

Original resolution put and carried.

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

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, copy of an Order in Council on the subject of the claim of the Province to a share in the benefits of the *Halifax* Fishery Award. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

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

Thursday, 13th December, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. Stephen*.

The Petition from the *New Westminster* and *Port Moody* Railway Company, was read and received.

The Petition from *J. S. K. de Knevett* and others, was received.

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

Has the contract entered into between the Provincial Government and Messrs. *F. B. McNamee & Co.*, in 1880, for the construction of the Graving Dock at *Esquimalt*, been cancelled; and, if so, at what date and how?

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

"The contract was cancelled on the 27th day of June, 1882, when the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, in exercise of the powers vested in him under the contract, took possession of the Dock for default in the prosecution of its construction."

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

Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill, at this Session of the Legislature, to prevent the manufacture and storage, of large quantities of powder, in dangerous proximity to the centres of population?

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

"A Bill will be introduced upon the subject during the Session."

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

Is it the intention of the Government to abolish the Tolls on the *Yale-Cariboo Road* this season?

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

"The Government do not intend to abolish the *Cariboo Road* Tolls this year, although a change is under consideration, but is not intended to take immediate effect."

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on the motion for the second reading of Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province," was resumed, and continued until the rising of the House.

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* presented a memorandum of arrangement made at Victoria, on the Twentieth day of August, 1883, relative to the various points remaining unsettled between the Government of the Dominion and that of the Province of British Columbia. (*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 5.45, p.m.

Friday, 14th December, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P.M.

Prayers by the Rev. *R. Stephen*.

Mr. *Armstrong* presented a Petition from the Corporation of the City of *New Westminster*.
Laid on the table.

Mr. *Orr* presented a Petition from *Jno. Irving, Joseph S. K. de Knevett*, and others.
Laid on the table.

Mr. *T. Davie* presented the First and Second Reports from the Select Standing Committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders.
The Reports were received.

Mr. *Armstrong* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to amend the 'New Westminster and Port Moody Railway Act, 1882.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

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

The House proceeded to the Orders of the Day.

Pursuant to Order, the adjourned debate on the motion for the second reading of Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province," was resumed.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair at six o'clock.

HALF-PAST SEVEN O'CLOCK, P. M.

The debate was again resumed.

The motion was then put and agreed to on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

Smithe,
Davie, A. E. B.,
Robson,
Drake;

Martin,
Allen,
Wilson,
Semlin,

Pooley,
Duck,
Davie, T.,
Orr,

McTavish,
Cowan,
John—15.

NAYS:

Messieurs

Beaven, *Galbraith,* *Raybould,* *Dingwall—7.*
Armstrong, *Helgesen,* *McLeese,*

Ordered to be committed on Monday next.

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

And then the House adjourned at 10.30 p. m.

Monday, 17th December, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The House proceeded to the Orders of the Day.

On the Order of the Day being read for the House to go into Committee on Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province,"

Mr. *Beaven* moved—

That the Committee be empowered to insert the necessary provision in Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province," to prevent the employment of Chinese in the construction of the Public Works referred to therein.

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of Order, as the Committee already had the power to make the proposed alterations if it thought fit.

Mr. Speaker then put the question "That I do now leave the Chair."

Mr. *Armstrong* moved, in amendment, seconded by Mr. *Helgesen*,—

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

"As Bill (No. 2) intituled 'An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province,' proposes important alterations in the Terms of Union, action thereon by this Assembly should be deferred until the Electors have been consulted as to its provisions, by an immediate dissolution of the Legislative Assembly."

On Mr. Speaker putting the question—"Shall the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the question," it was *Resolved* in the affirmative on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

Smithie, *Allen,* *Duck,* *Martin,*
Davie, A. E. B., *Wilson,* *John,* *McTavish,*
Robson, *Orr,* *Pooley,* *Cowan—14.*
Drake, *Davie, T.,*

NAYS:

Messieurs

McLeese, *Beaven,* *Galbraith,* *Helgesen—7.*
Armstrong, *Raybould,* *Grant,*

Question "That I do now leave the Chair" again proposed and carried.

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

Ordered, That leave be granted for 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.

Tuesday, 18th December, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev. *C. Watson*.

The House proceeded to the Orders of the Day.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province."

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

Report adopted.

Ordered, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

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

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to draw the attention of the Dominion Government to the importance of establishing a Quarantine Station at *New Westminster City*.

Moved by Mr. *Allen*, seconded by Mr. *Dingwall*,—

Whereas it has been stated in the public press that, at a recent Public School Examination, the Government, in order to keep up appearances, were under the necessity of directing the admission to the High School of pupils who had not qualified:

Be it resolved that a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into and report to this House as to the truth of said statement, with power to call for persons, books, and papers. Such Committee to consist of Messrs. *Duck*, *Cowan*, *T. Davie*, *Orr*, and the mover.

Withdrawn by leave of the House.

Mr. *Wilson* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Sleigh Regulation Act, 1883.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The Honourable Mr. *Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Transportation Company Act, 1883.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return showing the number of cases tried by Stipendiary Magistrates appointed under the Act 46 Vic., ch. 30, 1883.

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

That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will cause to be sent down to this House, copies of all correspondence between this Government and that of the Dominion with regard to a Resolution passed by this House on the 20th March, 1883, viz.:—"That an humble Address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will represent to the Dominion Government the necessity of introducing new varieties of food fish, such as lobster, shad, black bass, oysters, &c., to the waters of this Province; and also the necessity of establishing fish hatcheries for propagating both fresh and salt-water varieties in this Province, similar to those of other Provinces."

The Honourable Mr. *Davie* asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to Gold and other Minerals, excepting Coal."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading on 10th January next.

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

That Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to Gold and other Minerals, excepting Coal," be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. *Cowan*, *Wilson*, *Galbraith*, *Orr*, *Grant*, and the Honourable Mr. *Davie*.

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

Whether it is the intention of the Government to provide for the erection of a bridge across the *Thompson River*, at the most convenient point in the neighbourhood of *Cache Creek*, to connect the *Cariboo Waggon Road* with the Canadian Pacific Railway?

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

"The Government have the matter under consideration."

Mr. *Semlin* asked the Honourable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works the following questions, with reference to the *Eagle Pass Waggon Road*,—

1st. What proportion of the aforesaid road has been completed?

2nd. Does the work come up to the requirements of clause 1 of "An Act relating to the construction of a waggon road through *Eagle Pass*"?

3rd. If the road is not of the width mentioned in clause 1 of aforesaid Act, by whose authority was the change made?

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

"1st. The Superintending Engineer reports that three-fifths in value of the whole of the work has been completed. About 24 miles of road has been made, and about 18 miles have still to be constructed; in addition to which there are four lakes, aggregating $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length, upon which the Engineer strongly recommends that scows, or barges, should be placed, as it would be impossible to operate a waggon road round the lakes after Railway construction had been commenced.

"2nd. The Engineer reports that the work has been completed in accordance with the Specification, which was framed in conformity with the provisions of the Act, and a copy of which is herewith submitted.

"3rd. No authority for changing the width of the road has been given."

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

What reply, if any, has been received to a Resolution of this House, passed March 5th, 1883; said resolution being as follows:—

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

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

"This Address has never been received at the Provincial Secretary's Office, and has, apparently, been overlooked.

"The Address moved by the Honourable Member on the 14th March, 1883, urging on the Dominion Government the desirability of immediately commencing the construction of the *Spallmucheen Canal*, was duly forwarded to *Ottawa*, and its receipt acknowledged in a Despatch from the Secretary of State, dated 16th April, 1883."

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

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

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

“The Government has already announced its intention of asking the House to make provision for a Provincial Gaol, but, as previously stated, is not now prepared to say where it will be erected.”

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

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

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

“The matter is under consideration.”

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

1st. Was a Petition forwarded to the Attorney-General, through their junior Member, in October last, from the voters of the *Big Bar* Polling Division in the *Lillooet* District; if so, was said Petition acted upon, if not, why not?

2nd. Did the Attorney-General send any reply to the Petitioners?

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

“The petition was received, and it asked for the appointment of a Justice of the Peace. In the press of other business it wholly escaped my attention, but is now under the consideration of the Government.”

The Honourable Mr. *Smithe* presented, by command of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, copies of all unpublished Orders in Council, correspondence, telegrams, or communications, between the Provincial Government, or any of its members, and the Dominion Government, or any of its members, or the Honourable *J. W. Trutch*, C. M. G., respecting the lands transferred to the Dominion Government in trust for Railway purposes, the Island Railway, the *Esquimalt* Graving Dock, or the Statute of last Session, 46 Vic., ch. 14, intituled “An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province.” (*See Sessional Papers.*)

The Honourable Mr. *Robson* presented a Return to an Order of the House for a return of all lands sold for taxes under the Lands Assessment Acts, specifying—(1) The lands sold; (2) The lands redeemed; (3) The names of the purchasers; (4) The amount of taxes due on the lands sold; (5) The price which was realized; (6) The dates of sale; (7) The names of the officers conducting the sales; (8) The lands for which grants have been made; and (9) The lands for which no grants have been made. (*See Sessional Papers.*)

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

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 3) intituled “An Act to further amend the ‘Municipality Act, 1881,’” was read a second time,

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

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

Ordered, That the Report be considered to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 4.45 p. m.

Wednesday, 19th December, 1883.

TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayers by the Rev *C. Watson*.

Mr. *Semlin* presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the value of the lands proposed to be granted to the Dominion Government.

The Report was read and received.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return specifying—1st. The acreage of land granted under lease to *William Baillie-Grohman*, in the Lower *Kootenay* District; 2nd. The time for which the lease is granted; 3rd. The amount of rent to be paid yearly; 4th. The amount to be expended yearly in reclaiming said land; 5th. The price to be paid to the Government for the land when so reclaimed.

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

That an Order of the House be granted for a Return of all papers and correspondence between the Government and Messrs. *F. B. McNamee & Co.*, or any person in behalf of either, relating to the cancellation of the Contract for the construction of the Graving Dock at *Esquimalt*, on the 27th June, 1882.

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

That a Committee be appointed to draft an Address of welcome to His Excellency the Governor-General; said Committee to consist of Mr. *Beaven* and the mover.

Bill (No. 3) intituled “An Act to further amend the ‘Municipality Act, 1881,’” was re-committed.

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

Report considered forthwith and adopted.

Ordered, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

His Honour *Clement Francis Cornwall*, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, entered the House, and being seated in the Chair, assented, in Her Majesty’s name, to the following Bills:—

An Act relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock, and Railway Lands of the Province.

An Act to amend an Act of last Session, No. 21, intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Municipality Act, 1881.’”

The titles of the Acts having been read by the Clerk of the House, His Honour’s assent was announced in these words:—

“In Her Majesty’s name, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor doth assent to these Bills.”

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 8) intituled ‘An Act to amend the ‘Sleigh Regulation Act, 1883,’” was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

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

Report adopted.

Bill *Ordered* to be read a third time forthwith.

Bill read a third time and passed.

The Honourable Mr. *Davie* moved that Bill (No. 9) intituled “An Act to amend the ‘Columbia and Kootenay Railway and Transportation Company Act, 1883,’” be now read a second time.

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, p. m., on Monday, 7th January, 1884.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 4) intituled “An Act to amend the Qualification and Registration of Voters Acts,” was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

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

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

And then the House adjourned at 4.40 p. m.