

Thursday, the 12th day of January, 1865.

Present.—The Hons. the Colonial Secretary, the Collector of Customs, the Attorney General, the Treasurer, C. Brew, P. O'Reilly, H. M. Ball, J. A. R. Homer, H. Holbrook, G. A. Walkem. and W. Moberly.

At 3 o'clock, His Excellency Frederick Seymour, Esquire, Governor of the Colony, entered the Council Chamber, accompanied by his Private Secretary, and, being seated in the President's Chair, administered the usual oath of allegiance and office to Clement Francis Cornwall, Esquire, the Member for the Yale and Lytton District, who was introduced by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, and, having subscribed the oath, took his seat at the Council.

His Excellency then delivered the following gracious Speech:

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:

Her Majesty's Royal Commands "direct and require me to frame and propose to "the Council for their adoption such Standing Rules as may be necessary for the "conduct of business, which Rules and Orders shall at all times be followed and "observed, and shall be binding upon the said Council, unless the same or any of "them be disallowed" by "Her Majesty."

2. The Royal Instructions leave me great discretionary power, and I have availed myself of it to give greater Legislative independence to the Council. The right of Members to introduce Bills is conceded. The mode in which business shall be conducted between the Governor and the Council, in their future usual position of distinct branches of the Legislature, is regulated with a view to your freedom of action, and you will find that nearly all the powers generally belonging to an elected Assembly are conferred on you. I trust that year by year we shall, without unduly weakening the Executive action, be able to take steps towards giving to the people a more direct share in the Government of the Colony.

3. Her Majesty specially directs me to make such Rules as may be necessary "to ensure punctuality of attendance of the Members of Council." With this object, I propose to give the President for the time being, with the consent of the Council, authority to fine Members for non-attendance. This provision is taken from the Rules of an Elective Assembly with which I was recently connected. I lay the Standing Rules before you.²

4. The Acts of the last Session have, with three exceptions, received Her Majesty's approval. A decision on the Customs Bill is deferred. The Ordinance regulating Inland Navigation cannot be submitted for the Queen's allowance in its present shape. The Secretary of State has not yet acquainted me with his views on the Bill intended to regulate the issue of Bank Notes.

5. The Estimates of expected Receipts and proposed Expenditure for the year shall be laid before you without delay. When you are in possession of the financial details, I think that you will concur with me in the opinion that our present Revenue is insufficient to meet the large outlay absolutely required. The Import duties are generally as high as trade can bear, and the Road Tolls should be reduced as soon as it becomes financially possible. It seems to me, therefore, that if we must increase taxation, that we should follow in the direction pointed out by the late Council, and I may add, by the late Secretary of State, and impose a duty on the export of Gold. I regret to have to suggest that we should cast any burden upon the Miners; but I would observe that the whole amounts raised by Loan have been expended for their benefit. It is no use closing our eyes to the fact that it is within the range of possibility that more tempting mines may depopulate our own Gold

² These Standing Orders were printed as an appendix in the *Journals of the Legislative Council of British Columbia*, 12 December 1864 to 11 April 1865 (New Westminster Government Printing Office, 1865), and are reprinted in Appendix A, p. 386.

districts, and the responsibility of the payment of the large loans contracted or authorized must rest with the settled residents alone. The migratory Miner, and the non-resident trader, may escape from all liability to our London creditors. I propose that the receipts from Gold, if the duty be imposed, shall be a separate fund, appropriated by Law to the benefit of the Mining Districts to be laid out in facilitating access to them; improving their internal communications; prospecting and exploring for the richer metals, and generally, for the sanitary and social benefit of the Mining population.

6. You will find, as usual, in the Estimates, that the principal amounts required are for the making and repairing of Roads to the Mines. First in importance is the Road which must be made to the Kootenay. I regret to say that as yet we have not discovered a line of Country to the new mines, which may without hesitation be pronounced to be the one upon which all the resources we can command should be expended. But Exploration is still going on, and I trust that before the Council is prorogued some satisfactory result will be announced. Should such not be the case, it will be our duty in the early spring, as a temporary expedient, to use every effort to make the present trail by Hope conveniently available for pack trains.

7. The Estimates contemplate a large outlay on the Roads in Cariboo, including the formation of a Street to connect Camerontown with Richfield. The claims of those who have made this Colony their home, and who are responsible for the Public Debt, should not be disregarded; and I propose to expend out of the Moneys to be raised on Loan such moderate amount as may, should the Municipal Council consent, make one or more of the main thoroughfares of New Westminster creditable to the seat of Government of this large and important Colony.

8. The erection of Public Buildings has become urgently necessary in more than one town. Moderate grants shall be asked for this purpose, and also in aid of Hospitals at Cariboo, Kootenay and New Westminster. I think it would be well to add a small amount to assist the formation of a Library at each of the places just mentioned. A subsidy towards securing Steam communication with San Francisco and Panama shall not be forgotten, and the establishment of a Light Ship or Light House at the Mouth of the Fraser will be provided for. A set of Iron Buoys to mark the Channel has been ordered from England. The expense will appear in the Estimates.

9. The late Council requested the Governor to introduce a system of Tariff Duties, proposed by an Honourable Member of the late and present Board. The question was transferred by my Predecessor to myself, but I considered it of too great importance for me to deal with in the first few days of my administration of the Government. I have now arrived at the opinion that the Tariff proposed would act beneficially to the trade of the Colony, and I shall direct a Bill adopting its general principles to be laid before you. I have, however, not found myself able to recommend the reduction in the Customs Revenue, which the measures advocated by the late Council proposed to effect.

10. I have seen with pain the operation of our Insolvency and Bankruptcy Acts. In a Gold Mining Country, at a vast distance from the Sea, a man must venture much if he would hope to profit fully by his exertions. The more enterprising the Miner the greater the risk he incurs, and some of our boldest prospectors and explorers have found themselves reduced to select between the alternative of flight from the Colony or the debtor's prison. Imprisonment for debt where no fraud is suspected is not suited to a community like this, where speculative and hazardous enterprise is necessary to the advancement of the Colony. A Bill to relieve Insolvent debtors shall be laid before you, and in pursuance of this object it will among other provisions abolish the distinction in Bankruptcy of trader and non-trader.

11. In view of the enormous expense annually required for the repair of the roads, the damage to them being greatly aggravated by the insufficient width of the tires generally in use, a Bill shall, at your next meeting, be laid before you framed upon the principal of the English turnpike Acts, making heavily loaded waggons pay toll according to the amount of injury to the roads the construction of their wheels is likely to cause. You are aware that under the 4th Section of Proclamation No. 3, of 1862, it is competent to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, to do, by mere notice, that which I now propose we should do by Law. The responsibility seems to me too great to be thrown upon a single Officer,

12. A Bill shall be sent to you making important changes in the laws regulating the acquisition of lands. The subject is one of the utmost importance and difficulty. I trust therefore that I shall receive every assistance from you in adapting the Law to the promotion of the welfare of the Colony.

13. Of equal importance is the Ordinance which shall, at an early date be submitted to you, having for its object the consolidation and amendment of the Mining Laws. In this case I have relied principally upon the valuable assistance of the Mining Board.

14. Measures shall be brought forward for remodelling the Postal system; for amending the laws of evidence; to facilitate the solemnization of Marriages in the country districts; for extending the time granted to a Company for a monopoly of Traction Engines; for abolishing the exclusive privileges granted to the California State Telegraph; and for the protection of the great line of the Russian-American Telegraph, which will bring New Westminster into immediate communication with the electric systems of Asia, Europe and North Africa.

15. Probably the subject of Telegraphic communication is the only one to which I can now refer with altogether unmixed satisfaction. Before long, it is probable, that we shall have at least two distinct means of communication with the Mother Country and the whole civilized globe. It will be my earnest endeavour to attach our two Mining Districts to the great system, and to the head quarters of this Government. I need not point out to you the immense advantage we should derive from instantaneous communication with Cariboo and the Kootenay. It would double the effective strength of our Police force, and thus probably enable the Government to establish at moderate charges a secure Gold Escort. To the dwellers on the Gold Creeks and to the Merchants of New Westminster, the wire would be equally valuable.

16. I shall probably lay before you a Bill authorizing the Governor to grant, by Proclamation, on petition of a certain proportion of the inhabitants, Municipal powers to the several towns of the Colony. It would be well, I think, not to exclude aliens from the suffrage.

17. There are many other subjects of importance to which I shall draw your attention by Message during the progress of the Session, but I may as well at once say I shall omit the promised communication respecting Union with Vancouver Island. Your reply to the address, with which I opened the late Session, has convinced me that it is unnecessary for me to moot the question again now. I regret that the interests of two Colonies so near each other, and so remote from the Mother Country, should be in some respects antagonistic, but my duty to British Columbia is paramount, and I accept your decision. I trust that the entire separation which now takes place may ultimately lead to a desire for the most intimate relations and probably for an Union which, in some respects, I cannot but consider to be desirable.

18. I shall wait with much interest the results of your labours, for I think that if this Session be well employed it will form a turning point in the history of British Columbia for many years to come. Great and solemn interests are confided to our hands, and I trust that a sense of their importance will produce a spirit of candid and patient examination. Deeply conscious that of ourselves we can do but little to ensure the prosperity of this vast province, let us humbly ask the blessing of the Almighty, without which our labours would be but vain.

His Excellency's Speech was listened to with profound attention.

The Governor then left the Council Chamber.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary took the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary stated that, to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of the Governor's Speech, and moved, the Hon. Mr. O'Reilly seconding,

That the same be printed and distributed to the Members of the Council.

Ordered accordingly.

On the motion of the Hon. the Treasurer, the Hon. Mr. Holbrook seconding,
Ordered, That a Select Committee, to be named by the Presiding Member, be appointed to draw up and submit a Reply to His Excellency's gracious Speech.

The following Members were appointed accordingly:—the Hons. the Treasurer, Mr. Brew, Mr. Ball, Mr. Holbrook, and Mr. Walkem.

The Standing Orders, as laid before the Council by the Governor, were then read by the Clerk.³

Then, on the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General, the Council adjourned till Monday, the 16th instant, at 3 o'clock.

Monday, the 16th day of January, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

On the Members names being called over it was found that they were all present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

The Hon Mr. Crease gave notice of motion.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook gave notice of 4 motions.

The Hon. C. W. Franks, Chairman of the Select Committee appointed to prepare an Address in reply to His Excellency the Governor's opening Speech, brought up a Report, and the same was read as followeth:

Your Committee recommend the adoption by the Council of the following Address:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

We, Her Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council of the Colony of British Columbia, beg leave to return our thanks to Your Excellency for the Speech with which you have been pleased to open the present Session of the Council.

2. We notice with satisfaction the Standing Orders prepared by Your Excellency for adoption by the Council, and we recognize with unfeigned pleasure the spirit of liberality which pervades them.

3. We trust that those Ordinances which passed the Council last Session, but have not received the assent of Her Majesty, may yet in their main features become law.

4. The Estimates shall receive our most careful attention. We are gratified to learn that it has at length been determined to impose a duty on the Export of Gold.

5. The extension of Roads and other means of communication throughout the Colony appears to us a measure of the highest importance, and we believe that it will be of great benefit to the Colony to have direct steam communication with San Francisco and Panama. Our best aid shall be given in promotion of these measures.

6. Of hardly less importance appears to us the improvement of the navigation, and the placing of a Light Ship and Buoys at the mouth of the Fraser.

³ Attached as Sessional Paper, *Journals of the Legislative Council of British Columbia*, 1864-65, pp. i-iv.

7. We have every confidence that the alteration of the Tariff will have an advantageous influence on the trade and commerce of the Country.

8. We hail with great pleasure the measures proposed for the extension of Telegraphic communication throughout the Colony. Feeling fully confident that they will prove of the greatest advantage, we will give these and the other measures which Your Excellency proposes to lay before us our careful consideration.

9. While we concur with Your Excellency in regretting that the interests of two adjacent Colonies should be antagonistic, we are glad to see that our views with regard to the question of Union with Vancouver Island have been accepted.

10. In conclusion we would beg to refer with the utmost satisfaction to the vigorous determination, breathed throughout Your Excellency's Speech, to promote the interests of the Colony and to foster its advancement. Feeling the solemn responsibility imposed upon us, we will use our utmost endeavours in assisting Your Excellency to obtain objects so desirable.

*Council Chamber,
17th January, 1865.*

CHARLES W. FRANKS,
Chairman.

On the motion of the Hon. the Treasurer, the Hon. Mr. Homer seconding,
Ordered, That the Address in reply to the Governor's Speech, as prepared by the Select Committee, be adopted.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. O'Reilly, the Hon. Mr. Elliott seconding,
Ordered, That the said Address be engrossed and signed by the Presiding Member.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Crease, the Hon. Mr. Walkem seconding,
Ordered, That the said Address be presented to the Governor by the whole House.

The Hon. the Presiding Member informed the Council that His Excellency would be prepared to receive the Address to-morrow, Tuesday, at 1½ o'clock.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General, the Council adjourned till Tuesday, at 1½ o'clock in the afternoon.

Tuesday, the 17th day of January, 1865.

The Council met at 1½ o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

On the names being called over the Hon. Mr. Walkem was found to be absent without leave granted.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

The Council then adjourned during pleasure.

On the Council resuming its sitting, the Presiding Member informed the Council that, in pursuance of the order of the Council, he, in company with several Members of the Council, had attended upon His Excellency, to deliver the Address in reply to His Excellency's Speech at the opening of the Session, and that His Excellency had been pleased to make thereto the following answer:

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:

I have received your Address with much satisfaction. It will always be my pleasure, as it is my duty, to co-operate with you in every way towards the advancement of the public good.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook presented a Petition from the inhabitants of Douglas praying for a grant of money for School purposes.

Ordered to be read. Read accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook presented a further Petition from the inhabitants of Douglas praying that no Ordinance might be passed rendering broad tires necessary.

Ordered to be read. Read accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook gave notice of 3 motions.

The Hon. Mr. Moberly gave notice of motion.

The Hon. the Attorney General laid on the table, by order of the Governor, the following Bills:

A Bill to amend the Law of Evidence;

A Bill regulating the construction of the International Telegraph;

A Bill extending the time of the Steam Traction Engine Company.

Ordered to be read the first time.

Read first time accordingly.

Ordered that they be read second time as follows:

Traction Engine Bill, Wednesday 18th;

Law of Evidence Bill, Thursday 19th;

International Telegraph Bill, Friday 20th.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook, the Hon. Mr. Elliott seconding,

Resolved, That His Excellency be respectfully asked to lay before the Council a Return of the amount collected for Tonnage Dues on goods going up river for the past 12 months, ending 31st December, 1864, at the Port of New Westminster.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook, the Hon. Mr. Elliott seconding,

Resolved, That His Excellency be respectfully asked to lay before the Council a Return of the amount of Road Tolls, collected during the last twelve months ending 31st December, 1864, on the road from Douglas to Lillooet, and the sum expended on such road during the same time; also the amount of Road Tolls collected on the road from Yale to Lytton, and the sum expended for the same period on such road.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook moved the following Resolution, the Hon. Mr. Homer seconding:

That a Select Committee of the House be formed to consider how an assisted emigration from Great Britain can be made available for the Colony, either by paying part of the passage money or giving grants of land, and that the Presiding Member name such Committee.

The Hon. Mr. Ball moved the following amendment, the Hon. Mr. Cornwall seconding:

That the Council go into Committee of the whole this day week on the subject of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook's Resolution respecting assisted emigration to this Colony.

The Hon. Mr. Moberly moved as amendment, the Hon. Mr. Walkem seconding,

That the appointment of the Committee be postponed until after the introduction of the new Land Bill in course of preparation by Government.

On the Hon. Mr. Moberly's amendment being put, the Council divided
Ayes 4, Noes 10.

So it passed in the negative.

On the Hon. Mr. Ball's amendment being put, it was carried unanimously, and

Ordered, That the House do resolve itself into a Committee of the whole this day week on the Hon. Mr. Holbrook's Resolution.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Brew, the Council adjourned till Wednesday, the 18th instant.

Wednesday, the 18th day of January, 1865.

The Council met at 1 o'clock, pursuant to order.

The Hon. the Attorney General took the Chair as Presiding Member, being the senior Member present.

On the names being read over, the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and the Hon. the Treasurer were found to be absent.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook presented a Petition from the inhabitants of Douglas praying that a grant might be made by the Council for deepening the small slough near Douglas.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook,

Ordered, That the Petition be read. Read accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook presented a Petition from the Inhabitants of Lillooet praying that the Road Tolls might not be collected on home grown produce.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook,

Ordered, That the Petition be read. Read accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Walkem rose to speak to a question of privilege in regard to the fine imposed upon him for being absent from the Council yesterday.

On the question being put as to whether the fine imposed be remitted, it was carried unanimously,

So it was *Ordered* that the fine in question be remitted.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook gave notice of 2 motions.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Steam Traction Engine Extension Bill, a debate arose.

The Council divided on the question being put.

Ayes 13, No 1.

So it was *Resolved* in the affirmative, and *Ordered*, That the Bill be read a second time at once. Read second time accordingly.

On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General,

Ordered, That the Bill be committed forthwith.

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Walkem in the Chair of Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose, and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through without amendments.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General,

Ordered, That this Bill be read a third time to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook asked leave to withdraw his motion asking the Government to bring in a Bill regulating Fisheries.

Ordered that leave be granted.

Bill withdrawn accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook moved for leave to bring in a Bill prohibiting, at certain seasons, that game should be bought, sold, or shot.

Ordered that leave be granted, and that the said Bill be read a first time on the 1st February.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook, the Hon. Mr. Moberly seconding,

Resolved, That the Government be asked to bring in a Bill to provide for the proper Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook, the Hon. Mr. Homer seconding,

That the Government be asked to bring in a Bill to impose a tax upon all unimproved lands bought or pre-empted from Government in this Colony.

The Hon. Mr. Ball moved the following amendment: That the words "and unoccupied" be inserted after the word "unimproved," and that the words "or pre-empted" be struck out.

On the amendment being put it was carried unanimously, and *Resolved* accordingly.

The original Resolution with amendments was then put and carried.

The Hon. Mr. Moberly moved, the Hon. Mr. O'Reilly seconding,

That the Government be respectfully requested to take such steps as may be necessary to have all the pre-empted and purchased lands in the Colony surveyed at as early a date as possible, and that when surveyed titles to the above lands be granted on payment of all dues thereon to the Crown being made.

The Hon. Mr. Brew moved as amendment, the Hon. Mr. Holbrook seconding, That the Government be respectfully requested to cause pre-empted lands throughout the Colony to be surveyed and the titles issued whenever the pre-emptors of such lands shall apply to have their lands surveyed.

On the amendment being put it was carried unanimously, and *Resolved* accordingly.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary rose to speak to a question of privilege in regard to his being absent at the time of meeting this day;

And on the question being put it was *Ordered* that no fine be imposed on the Colonial Secretary, and the explanation given being satisfactory that he be considered to have been present at the meeting of the Council.

The Hon. the Treasurer rose to speak to a question of privilege in regard to his being absent at the time of meeting this day;

And on the question being put it was *Ordered* that no fine be imposed on the Treasurer, and the explanation given being satisfactory that he be considered to have been present at the meeting of the Council.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, the Council adjourned.

Thursday, the 19th day of January, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to order.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

On the names being called over the Hon. the Attorney General was found to be absent.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

The Hon. Mr. Walkem gave notice of 2 motions.

The Hon. the Attorney General gave notice of 2 motions.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Native Evidence Bill,

Ordered that the same be read second time forthwith.

Read accordingly the second time.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Crease,

Ordered, That the Council do go into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole accordingly.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook in the Chair of Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose, and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with certain amendments.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General,

Ordered, That the said Bill be read the third time on Wednesday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the 3rd reading of the Traction Engine Extension Bill,

Ordered that the said bill be read third time presently.

Bill read a third time accordingly.

On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General,

Resolved, That this Bill do pass, and that its title be "The Traction Engine Extension Ordinance, 1865."

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook moved that his Resolution in regard to a Petition from the inhabitants of Lillooet and the neighbourhood standing as an Order of the day for the present day be allowed to be placed on the Order of the day for to-morrow.

Ordered that the same be placed on the Order of the day for to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the consideration of a Resolution to be moved by the Hon. Mr. Holbrook, having reference to the improvement of the slough near Douglas,

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook moved that this Resolution be considered this day month,

And it was *Ordered* accordingly.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General, the Council adjourned.

Friday, the 20th day of January, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to order.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

On the Members names being called over it was found that they were all present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

The Hon. Mr. Homer gave notice of 2 motions.

On the Hon. Mr. Holbrook giving notice of motion a debate arose, and on the question being put as to whether the motion shall stand on the Order Book for discussion,

The Council divided.

Ayes 7, Noes 6,

So it was *Resolved* in the affirmative, and *Ordered* accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall gave notice of motion.

On the Order of the day being read for the 2nd reading of the International Telegraph Bill,

Ordered, That this Bill be read the second time presently.

Read second time accordingly.

On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General, That this Bill be committed forthwith,

The Hon. Mr. Ball moved as an amendment that the said Bill be committed on Monday next.

And on the amendment being put it was carried unanimously, and *Ordered* accordingly.

The Hon. Mr. Walkem asked leave to bring in Decimal Currency Bill.

Ordered that leave be granted.

He accordingly presented the said Bill which was received, and on the motion of the Hon. Member,

Ordered, That the said Bill be now read a first time.

Read first time accordingly.

Second reading *Ordered* for Thursday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the first reading of the First Telegraph Amendment Bill,

Ordered that the same be now read the first time.

Read first time accordingly.

Ordered that the said Bill be read the second time on Monday next.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook moved the following Resolution, the Hon. Mr. Homer seconding,

That as the present Road Toll charged on farm produce carried along the road from Lillooet to Clinton, and from Clinton to Lillooet, imposes a tax on occupied land of from £5 to £12 per acre per annum, and is very detrimental to settlement, be it resolved that this Council recommend that His Excellency be pleased to remit the Toll on such road on native grown produce, such as hay, manure, lumber, and grain when being carried to a grist mill for the purpose of being ground to flour; and that the Council take into consideration the Petition from Lillooet on this subject.

The Hon. Mr. Moberly moved the following amendment, the Hon. Mr. Ball seconding,

That the motion of the Hon. Member for Douglas respecting the alterations in the Collection of Tolls on the Lillooet Alexandria Road be postponed for 1 month.

On the amendment being put the Council divided,

Ayes 13, *Noes* 1,

So it was *Resolved* in the affirmative, and *Ordered* accordingly.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook, the Council adjourned.

Monday, the 23rd day of January, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to order.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

On the names being called over all the Members were found to be present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

The Hon. Mr. Walkem moved for leave to bring in County Court Amendment Bill,
Ordered that leave be granted, and that the Bill be read first time on Friday next.

The Hon. Mr. Homer moved, the Hon. Mr. Holbrook seconding,

That the Government be recommended to introduce a Bill repealing the present Act which regulates the Pilot and Harbour dues, and in lieu thereof establish the rates of Pilotage at one dollar per foot, and appropriate the sum of Three hundred and fifty pounds for the support of Pilots.

The Council divided on the question being put.

Ayes 8, *Noes* 5.

So it was *Resolved* in the affirmative.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall moved for leave to bring in Thompson River Bridge Charter Bill.

Ordered that leave be granted, and that the Bill be read first time on Thursday next.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook moved the following Resolution, the Hon. Mr. Elliott seconding:

That whereas the prevailing opinion appears to be that the better way of keeping open the Harrison Rapids and Slough at Douglas is by the use of a Dredging Machine, be it resolved that the Government be respectfully requested to advertize in the next papers and *Gazette* for tenders, in order to ascertain the expense of keeping open such navigation either by that or in some other manner.

After some discussion the Hon. mover asked leave to withdraw the motion.

Ordered that leave be granted. Leave granted accordingly and motion withdrawn.

On the Order of the day being read for the Committal of the Telegraph Establishment Bill,

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with certain amendments.

Ordered that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the First Telegraph Amendment Bill,

Ordered that the same be now read second time. Read second time accordingly.

Ordered that the said Bill be committed on Thursday next.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Brew, the Council adjourned.

Tuesday, the 24th January, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to order.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

On the names being called over the Hon. Mr. Walkem was found to be absent.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall gave notice of motion.

On the Order of the day being read for a Committee of the whole on Assisted Emigration,

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. O'Reilly in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported progress, handing in a Resolution of the Committee, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Cornwall, the Hon. the Attorney General seconding,

Resolved, That the Resolution of the Committee of the whole be adopted, viz: That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the subject of Assisted Emigration to this Colony, and to draw up a Report on the subject to be laid before the House at the expiration of one month from this date.

The following Members were appointed to form the Committee in question:

The Hons. Messrs. Ball, Cornwall, Homer, Holbrook, and Moberly.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read was as follows:

Message No. 1.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

In compliance with the request of the Legislative Council, the Governor lays before the House a Return of the amount of Tonnage Dues collected at the Port of New Westminster during the year 1864.

*Government House,
24th January, 1865.*

According to the Order of the day the Hon. the Attorney General brought in Gold Export Duty Bill.

Ordered that the said Bill be now read first time.

Read first time accordingly.

Ordered that the said Bill be read second time on Friday next.

On the motion of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary,

Ordered, That the second reading of the Currency Bill, now standing on the Order of the day for Thursday, be altered to Wednesday.

The Hon. Mr. Homer moved the following Resolution, the Hon. Mr. Moberly seconding:

That the Government be recommended to introduce a Bill for the purpose of establishing statute labour in the Colony.

On the question being put the Council divided,

Ayes 2, Noes 12.

So it passed in the negative.

The Hon. the Attorney General brought in Waggon Tire Bill.

Ordered that the said Bill be now read the first time.

Read first time accordingly.

Ordered that the said Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Walkem moved that the fine leviable on him for non-attendance at the opening of the Council this day be remitted.

Ordered that the fine be remitted.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. the Collector of Customs, the Council adjourned.

Wednesday, the 25th day of January, 1865.

The Council met at 1 o'clock, pursuant to order.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

On the Members names being called over the Hon. the Treasurer was found to be absent.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Native Evidence Bill

The Hon the Attorney General moved that the said Bill be re-committed.

Ordered accordingly.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with certain amendments.

Ordered that the Bill be now read a third time.

Read a third time accordingly.

Ordered that this Bill be brought up for passing to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Telegraph construction Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read third time.

Read third time accordingly.

Ordered to be brought up for passing to-morrow.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall moved for leave to bring in Pounds Bill.

Ordered that leave be granted. Leave granted accordingly.

Ordered that the said Bill be read first time on Monday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Currency Bill.

Ordered that the said Bill be now read the second time.

Read second time accordingly.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Homer that this Bill be now committed,

The Council divided.

Ayes 8, Noes 4.

So it was *Resolved* in the affirmative and ordered accordingly.

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. O'Reilly in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose, the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the first reading of the Waggon Tire Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read first time.

Bill read first time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be read second time a fortnight hence.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Brew, the Council adjourned.

Thursday, the 26th day of January, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to order.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

On the names being read over all the Members were found to be present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 2.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor acquaints the Legislative Council that he has received an application from the Honourable Gentlemen appointed severally to represent the districts of Cariboo, East and West, Yale, and Lytton, to be relieved from the alternative of attending a Meeting of the Council or of paying a fine of ten dollars.

The Governor, though with regret, consents to make such alterations in the Standing Orders as may meet the wishes of the Honourable Members referred to, but as this will probably necessitate some important changes he will not be able to lay the amendment before the Council until Monday.

Pending the proposed changes the Governor has given leave of absence to the Honourables Clement Francis Cornwall, George Anthony Walkem, Walter Moberly.

Government House,

26th January, 1865.

The Hon. The Treasurer rose to speak to a question of privilege in regard to his being absent from the Council at the hour of meeting yesterday, and begged that the fine might be remitted.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Cornwall, the Hon. Mr. Elliott seconding,
Ordered, That the fine be remitted.

On the Order of the day being read for the first reading of the Lytton Thompson River Bridge Charter Bill.

Ordered that the same be now read the first time.

Read the first time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be read a second time on Monday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the Committal of the First Telegraph Amendment Bill,

Ordered that the Council do go into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with certain amendments.

Ordered that the said Bill be read the third time on Monday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the passing of the Native Evidence Bill,

Resolved that this Bill do pass and that its title be the "Native Evidence Ordinance, 1865."

On the Order of the day being read for the passing of the Telegraph construction Bill,

Resolved that the said Bill do pass and that its title be the "International Telegraph Ordinance, 1865."

On the Order of the day being read for the Committal of the Currency Bill,

Ordered that the Council do now go into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose, the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for Wednesday next.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Brew, the Council adjourned till Monday next.

Monday, the 30th day of January, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to order.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

On the names being called over the whole of the Members were found to be present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 3.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor lays before the Legislative Council certain alterations that he has made in the Standing Orders.

Clauses 1 and 2 are struck out; the following occupy their place:

1. The Council shall at each day's adjournment fix the day and hour for the next meeting as may be deemed most convenient for the dispatch of business.

2. As near as may be to the hour of meeting fixed for any particular day, the member present who shall be senior in order of precedence shall take the Chair.

In Section 3, after the word "contempt," the words "unless he shall have obtained leave of absence from the Governor" are added.

Section 6 stands thus:—Except on the first day of Session, all such Members as shall be absent without leave at the expiration of half an hour from the time fixed for meeting shall be fined ten dollars.

In Section 33, "Every Bill except those sent down to the Council by the Governor shall be introduced by leave granted to some Member on motion therefor." The remainder of the clause is struck out.

*Government House,
30th January, 1865.*

A further Message from His Excellency, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 4.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor has received the Resolution of the Legislative Council of the 18th instant, requesting him to bring in a Bill to impose a tax upon all unimproved and unoccupied land bought from Government in this Colony.

The Governor is not sufficiently impressed at present with the expediency of the measure to be disposed to take the initiative in it, but any Bill which may carry out the wishes of the Council in this respect will, when placed before him, meet with the most earnest and respectful consideration.

*Government House,
30th January, 1865.*

A further Message from His Excellency, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 5.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor lays before the Legislative Council copies of two letters received from the Agents General for Crown Colonies, relative to the difficulty of borrowing money on Colonial securities, in the present state of the London market.

*Government House,
30th January, 1865.*

The letters alluded to were read aloud by the Clerk.

The Hon. The Attorney General gave notice of motion.

On the Order of the day being read for the first reading of the Pounds Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read the first time.

Read first time accordingly.

Ordered that the said Bill be read second time on Thursday, the 9th instant.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Lytton Thompson Bridge Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read second time.

Read second time accordingly.

Ordered that the Bill be committed to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Telegraph Amendment Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read the third time.

Read the third time accordingly, and

Resolved that this Bill do pass, and its title be "The Telegraph Amendment Ordinance, 1865."

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Gold Export Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read the second time.

Read the second time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be committed to-morrow.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Brew, the Council adjourned till 3 o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, the 31st January, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

All the Members present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

On the Order of the day being read for the first reading of the Game Protection Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read the first time.

Read the first time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be read the second time on Friday the 10th proximo.

On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Lytton Bridge Bill,

Ordered that the Council do now go into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Elliott in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with certain amendments.

Ordered that the said Bill be read the third time on Tuesday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Gold Export Duty Bill,
Ordered that the Council do now go into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Walkem, the Council adjourned till 1 o'clock to-morrow.

Wednesday, the 1st day of February, 1865.

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

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

All the Members present.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Gold Export Duty Bill,
Ordered that the Council do now go into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose, the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the Committal of the Decimal Currency Bill,
Ordered that the Council do now go into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. the Collector of Customs, the Council adjourned till 3 o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, the 2nd day of February, 1865

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

All the Members were present.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Gold Export Duty Bill,
Ordered that the Council do now go into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with certain amendments.

Ordered that the Bill be read the third time on Monday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the Committal of the Decimal Currency Bill,
Ordered that the Council do now go into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with certain amendments.

Ordered that this Bill be read the third time on Monday next.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. O'Reilly, the Council adjourned till Monday the 6th February.

Monday, the 6th day of February, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook absent on leave; all other Members present.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

On the Order of the day being read therefor, the Hon. the Attorney General brought in Trustees' Relief Bill.

Ordered that this Bill be now read the first time.

Read first time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be read the second time on Wednesday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Gold Fields Amendment Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read second time.

Read second time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be committed on Wednesday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the first reading of the Bankruptcy Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read first time.

Read first time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be read second time on Monday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Gold Export Duty Bill,

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall moved, the Hon. Mr. Elliott seconding,

That this Bill be read the third time on Monday next.

On the question being put the Council divided.

Ayes 7, Noes 4.

So it was *Resolved* in the affirmative and Ordered accordingly.

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Decimal Currency Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read the third time.

Read the third time accordingly, and *Resolved* That this Bill do pass and that its title be the "Decimal Currency Ordinance, 1865."

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. O'Reilly, the Council adjourned till Wednesday the 8th instant, at 1 o'clock.

Wednesday, the 8th day of February, 1865.

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

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook absent on leave; all others present.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 6.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor acquaints the Legislative Council that he has assented, in Her Majesty's name, to the Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to extend the term of the Steam Traction Engine Ordinance, 1864."

*Government House,
7th February, 1865.*

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Waggon Tire Bill,
On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General,
Ordered, That the second reading of the said Bill be postponed till Friday the 10th instant.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Trustees' Relief Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read the second time.

Read second time accordingly.

Ordered to be committed to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Gold Fields Acts Amendment Bill,

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Lytton Bridge Bill,

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall moved that the said Bill be re-committed to-morrow.

Ordered accordingly.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Walkem, the Council adjourned till tomorrow, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Thursday, the 9th day of February, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook absent on leave; all other Members present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

Message No. 7.

The Governor acquaints the Legislative Council that he has assented, in Her Majesty's name, to a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Law of Evidence."

*Government House,
8th February, 1865.*

A further Message from His Excellency, which being read is as follows:

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

Message No. 8.

In fulfilment of a promise made by his predecessor, the Governor lays before the Legislative Council a petition from certain inhabitants of Lytton praying for compensation under circumstances stated by them.

The Governor acquaints the Legislative Council that he has already considered the petition in Executive Council, and was not advised to comply with its prayer. He is simply carrying out his predecessor's pledge in placing the petition before the Legislative Council.

*Government House,
8th February, 1865.*

- On the Order of the day being read for the re-committal of the Lytton Bridge Bill,
On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Cornwall,
Ordered, That the said Bill be re-committed to-morrow.
- On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Pounds Bill,
Ordered that the said Bill be now read the second time.
Read second time accordingly.
Ordered to be committed on Wednesday the 14th [15th] instant.
- On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Trustees Relief Bill,
The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.
The Presiding Member left the Chair.
The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of the Committee.
The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.
The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with some slight amendments.
Ordered that the said Bill be read third time on Monday next.
- On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Gold Fields' Amendment Bill,
The Council resolved itself into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.
The Presiding Member left the Chair.
The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.
The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.
The Committee rose, the Chairman reported some progress made with the Bill, and asked leave to sit again.
Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.
- On the motion of the Hon. the Presiding Member,
Ordered, That the second reading of the Game Bill, standing on the Order of the day for to-morrow, do stand as an Order of the day for that day week.
- Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Walkem, the Council adjourned till 3 o'clock in the afternoon to-morrow.

Friday, the 10th day of February, 1865.

- The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.
The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.
- The Hon. the Treasurer and the Hon. Mr. Holbrook absent on leave; all other Members present.
The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.
- The Hon. the Attorney General gave notice that on Monday next he would bring in a Bill altering the Customs Laws.
- On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Waggon Tire Bill,
On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General,
Ordered, That the second reading of the said Bill be postponed till this day week.

On the Order of the day being read for the re-committal of the Lytton Bridge Bill,
On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General,
Ordered that the said Bill be now read third time.

Read the third time accordingly, and *Resolved* that this Bill do pass and that its title be "The Lytton Bridge Toll Ordinance, 1865."

On the Order of the day being read for the further committal of the Gold Fields Bill,
The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported some progress made with the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for Monday next.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Walkem, the Council adjourned till Monday next, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Monday, the 13th day of February, 1865

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hon. the Treasurer and the Hon. Mr. Holbrook absent on leave; all the other Members present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Bankruptcy Bill,
On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General,
Ordered, That the said Bill be read the second time on Thursday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Gold Export Duty Bill,
The Hon. Mr. Ball moved the re-committal of the Bill.
On the question being put the Council divided.

Ayes 7, Noes 4.

So it was *Resolved* in the affirmative and Ordered accordingly.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Ball in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with some amendments.

On the motion for the third reading made by the Hon. the Attorney General,
The Council divided.

Ayes 7, Noes 4.

So it was *Resolved* in the affirmative and Ordered that the Bill be now read the third time.

Read the third time accordingly, and *Resolved* that this Bill do pass, and that its title be "The Gold Export Ordinance, 1865."

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

Message No. 9.

The Governor lays before the Legislative Council a petition presented to him against the Bill now before the Council for regulating the width of tires upon the public roads.

*Government House,
13th February, 1865.*

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Trustees' Relief Bill, Ordered that the said Bill be now read the third time.

Read the third time accordingly, and *Resolved* that this Bill do pass, and its title be "The Trustees' Relief Ordinance, 1865."

On the Order of the day being read for the first reading of the Customs Amendment Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read first time.

Read first time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be read the second time to-morrow.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Walkem, the Council adjourned till 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

Tuesday, the 14th day of February, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hon. the Treasurer and the Hon. Mr. Holbrook absent on leave; all the other Members present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Customs Amendment Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be read second time.

Read second time accordingly.

On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General.

Ordered, That the same Bill be committed at once.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Moberly in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with some amendments.

Ordered that the said Bill be read third time to-morrow.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Elliott, the Council adjourned till to-morrow, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday, the 15th day of February, 1865

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

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hon. the Treasurer and the Hon. Mr. Holbrook absent on leave; all the other Members present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

The Hon. Mr. Moberly gave a notice of motion.

On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Pounds Bill,
Ordered that the same be placed on the Order of the day for to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Customs Amendment Bill,

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Homer,
Ordered, That the said Bill be re-committed.

The Council resolved itself into Committee of the whole again upon the said Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported an amendment made to the Schedule of the Bill.

Ordered that the said Bill be now read the third time.

Read the third time accordingly, and *Resolved* that this Bill do pass, and its title be "The Customs Amendment Ordinance, 1865."

On the Order of the day being read for the further Committal of the Gold Fields Bill,

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again presently.

Ordered that leave be granted.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 10.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor acquaints the Legislative Council that he has assented, in Her Majesty's name, to an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Duties of Customs."

*Government House,
15th February, 1865.*

On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General,

The Council again resolved itself into Committee of the whole on the Gold Fields Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for tomorrow.

On the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General for adjournment,

The Council divided.

Ayes 5, Noes 4.

So it was *Resolved* in the affirmative, and the Council adjourned till Thursday the 16th, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Thursday, the 16th day of February, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hon. Mr. Homer and the Hon. Mr. Walkem absent on leave; all other Members present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 11.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

In compliance with the request of the Legislative Council, the Governor forwards a Return of the amount of Road Tolls collected during the year 1864, on the road from Douglas to Lillooet, and the sum expended on such road during the same time; also a Return of the amount of Road Tolls collected on the road from Yale to Lytton, with the sum expended for the same period on such road.

*Government House,
16th February, 1865.*

The Hon. Mr. Holbrook presented and read a petition from certain Merchants and Traders, praying against goods crossing the Southern Boundary being exempted from Road Tolls.

Ordered that the said Petition be considered to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read therefor, and on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook, the Hon. Mr. Moberly seconding,

It was *Resolved* That this Council recommend that His Excellency be pleased to comply with the petition from the inhabitants of Douglas, for the improvement of the Slough from Harrison Lake to Douglas Lake, and grant a sum of money sufficient for that purpose.

On the Order of the day being read therefor, and on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Moberley, the Hon. Mr. Holbrook seconding,

It was *Resolved*, on a division of the Council, *Ayes 7, Noes 3,*

That His Excellency be respectfully requested to impose a small toll on all goods, merchandize, animals, and carriages passing over the Waggon Road

between Quesnelmouth and Williams Creek, so soon as that road is completed, and that the monies derived from the above Tolls be expended in keeping that road in repair. Also, that if the above tolls are imposed that the proposed Waggon Tire Ordinance be withdrawn.

On the motion of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary,

Ordered, That the further Committal of the Gold Fields Bill, standing next on the Order of the day, be transferred to the Order of the day for to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Pounds Bill,

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. the Treasurer in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose, the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for tomorrow.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. the Attorney General, the Council adjourned till 3 o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, the 17th day of February, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hons. the Attorney General, the Collector of Customs, and Mr. Homer absent on leave; all other Members present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

On the Order of the day being read for the consideration of the petition from the inhabitants of Lillooet,

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook,

Ordered that the Council do now go into Committee of the whole on the said petition.

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Moberley in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman handed in a Resolution of the Committee for the adoption of the Council.

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Cornwall, the Hon. Mr. Walkem seconding,
Resolved, That Agricultural produce in an unprepared state should pass free of charge over the Toll Roads in this Colony; but where such produce of a greater weight than 100 lbs. be carried over such roads then a double toll shall be charged on the animal or animals carrying or drawing such load.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 12.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor has received the Resolution of the Legislative Council praying that a Toll be imposed upon goods passing on the road between Quesnelmouth and Williams Creek, and that the Waggon Tire Bill be withdrawn.

He lays before the Council a petition, presented to him this day, in favour of the Waggon Tire Bill and against the proposed Toll.

Although it cannot be denied that the narrow tires now commonly in use do an amount of detriment to the public roads, which the large amount of expenditure incurred can hardly obviate, the Governor has received earnest representations that a large and important interest, not now in the most flourishing condition, would suffer from the immediate passing of the Bill before the Council.

He complies, therefore, with the wishes of the Council and withdraws the Bill. He trusts, however, that a knowledge, on the part of the public, that the Government is convinced of the correctness of the principle of the proposed measure, and that it will probably be re-introduced at a future period, will tend to diminish the existing private interests in favour of the narrow tire.

The Governor does not think that enough has yet been done on the road from Quesnelmouth to Williams Creek to call for the imposition of Tolls on goods making use of it.

*Government House,
17th February, 1865.*

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Game Bill,

The Hon. the Treasurer moved that the Orders of the day be suspended for the present to enable him to give notice that, on Monday next, he would move the following Resolution:

That in the opinion of this Council, formed after due consideration of the circumstances under which the Customs Amendment Ordinance became law, and the character of the shipments it has affected, it is inexpedient to levy the increased duties upon goods imported into this Colony by the steamer arriving at this port on Wednesday the 15th instant.

That this opinion be respectfully submitted to the Governor, with a request that he will be pleased to direct that the difference between the duties leviable under the old and new tariffs may be returned to any persons who apply for it.

On the motion of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary,

Ordered, That the motion in question be not allowed to appear on the Order Book.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook,

Ordered that the Game Bill be now read second time.

Read second time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be committed on Tuesday next, the 21st instant.

On the Order of the day being read for the consideration of the petition from certain Merchants to impose Road Tolls on goods crossing the Southern Boundary,

On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Holbrook,

Ordered that this Petition be considered in Committee of the whole on Tuesday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the further committal of the Gold Fields Bill,
The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.
The Presiding Member left the Chair.
The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.
The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.
The Committee rose and the Chairman reported some progress made with
the Bill and asked leave to sit again.
Ordered that leave be granted for Monday next.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Brew, the Council adjourned till 3 o'clock
on Monday next.

Monday, the 20th day of February, 1865.

The Council met at 3 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.
The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

The Hon. Mr. Haynes absent on leave; all other Members present.
The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 13.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor acquaints the Legislative Council that he has assented, in Her Majesty's name, to a Bill entitled "An Ordinance in aid of the Trustees' Relief Act."

*Government House,
18th February, 1865.*

A further Message from His Excellency, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 14.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor recommends that the following amendments be made in the Bill entitled "An Ordinance for the construction of a Toll Bridge across Thompson River, at Lytton."

That in the first section the words "within a distance of twelve miles" be expunged, and the words "within a distance of five miles" be inserted in their place.

That in the second section the words "to twelve miles above" be expunged, and the words "to five miles above" be inserted in their place.

*Government House,
20th February, 1865.*

On the motion of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
Ordered, That the Council do now go into Committee on the amendments
made to the said Bill by His Excellency.
The Council resolved itself into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.
The Presiding Member left the Chair.
The Hon. Mr. O'Reilly in the Chair of the Committee.
The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the amendments made by the Governor assented to without alteration.

Ordered that the Governor be acquainted that the Council has agreed to the amendments made by His Excellency to the Bill entitled "An Ordinance for the construction of a Toll Bridge across the Thompson River, at Lytton."

The Chairman of the Select Committee on Immigration stated that he was prepared to hand in the Report of the Committee, whenever the Council were prepared to receive it.

Ordered that the Report of the said Committee be received to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the second reading of the Bankruptcy Bill,

Ordered that the said Bill be now read second time.

Read second time accordingly.

Ordered that the same be committed on Thursday next.

On the Order of the day being read for the further Committal of the Gold Fields Bill,

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Brew, the Council adjourned till to-morrow at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Tuesday, the 21st day of February, 1865.

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

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

All the Members were present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

On the Order of the day being read therefor,

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Game Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Haynes in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported the Bill gone through with certain amendments.

Ordered that the said Bill be read third time to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the consideration, in Committee of the whole, of a petition from certain merchants and traders that the Road Tolls be charged on goods coming into the Colony by the Southern Boundary,

The Hon. the Attorney General moved that the Council do now go into Committee of the whole on the Gold Bill.

On the question being put the Council divided.

Ayes 5, Noes 8.

So it passed in the negative, and Ordered that the Council resolve itself into Committee of the whole on the said petition.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. O'Reilly in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose without making any Report.

On the Order of the day being read therefor,

The Hon. Mr. Ball, from the Select Committee appointed to draw up a Report on the subject of Free and Assisted Emigration, brought up the same.⁴

Ordered to be read by the Clerk.

Read accordingly.

Ordered that the said Report be printed and laid on the table.

On the Order of the day being read therefor,

The Council resolved itself in a Committee of the whole on the Gold Fields Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported some progress made with the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read therefor,

The Council resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the Pounds Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. the Treasurer in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose and the Chairman reported that no progress had been made with the Bill but asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for tomorrow.

Then, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Walkem, the Council adjourned till 1 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. iv-vi.

Wednesday, the 22nd day of February, 1865.

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

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary in the Chair as Presiding Member.

All the Members present.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read over and confirmed.

A Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 15.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor acquaints the Legislative Council that he has assented, in Her Majesty's name, to the undermentioned Ordinances:

"An Ordinance to encourage the construction of a line of Telegraph connecting the Telegraphs of British Columbia with the Telegraph lines of Russia and the United States and other countries, and for other purposes."

"An Ordinance for the construction of a Toll Bridge across Thompson River, at Lytton."

*Government House,
22nd February, 1865.*

A further Message from His Excellency the Governor, which being read is as follows:

Message No. 16.

FREDERICK SEYMOUR.

The Governor acquaints the Legislative Council that he has assented, in Her Majesty's name, to a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the First Telegraph Ordinance, 1864."

*Government House,
22nd February, 1865.*

On the Order of the day being read for the third reading of the Game Bill,
Ordered that the said Bill be now read the third time.

Read the third time accordingly, and *Resolved* that this Bill do pass, and its title be the "Game Ordinance, 1865."

On the Order of the day being read for the further committal of the Gold Fields Amendment Bill,

The Council resolved itself into Committee of the whole on the said Bill.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. Mr. Cornwall in the Chair of the Committee.

The Presiding Member resumed the Chair.

The Committee rose, the Chairman reported some progress made with the Bill, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered that leave be granted for to-morrow.

On the Order of the day being read for the committal of the Pounds Bill,

The Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

The Presiding Member left the Chair.

The Hon. the Treasurer in the Chair of the Committee.