

**Wednesday, the 1st day of March, 1865**

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Acting Surveyor General, The Hons. R. Finlayson, H. Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Hon. R. Finlayson gave notice that he would introduce at the next meeting of the Council certain Resolutions in regard to the Union of this Colony with British Columbia.

The Acting Colonial Secretary laid on the Table the following Report of the Select Committee on the Census Bill—

27th February 1865.

Your Committee have considered "A Bill to provide for taking the Census of the Colony and for obtaining other statistical information" and are of opinion that in the absence of any sufficient machinery which would be provided by the creation of Registrars of Births Deaths and Marriages it is not at present practicable to carry out the provisions of the proposed Bill and that therefore it should be postponed.

Your Committee further beg to report that being impressed with the importance of collecting statistics at an early period they are of opinion that His Excellency the Governor should be requested to take such steps for that purpose as he may deem desirable pending Legislation on the subject.

The Acting Colonial Secretary gave notice that he wd. move at next meeting of Council that the Report be adopted by the Council and

That this Council is impressed with the importance of collecting Statistics at an early period and that His Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to take such steps for that purpose as he may deem desirable pending Legislation on the subject.

The Hon. H. Rhodes moved that A Bill Entitled An Act to explain and amend the Victoria Incorporation Act, 1862 be read a 3rd time.

The Acting Colonial Secretary 2nded the motion.

The Acting Attorney General moved that the Standing orders of the Council be suspended and the Bill be recommitted. 2nded by the Treasurer and carried.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again. Leave granted.

The Acting Attorney General moved that A Bill Entitled An Act to provide for the Postal Service be read a 2nd time.

Acting Colonial Secretary 2nded the motion and the Bill was read a 2nd time.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Hon. H. Rhodes reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

The Council adjourned to tomorrow at 3 o'clock.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

### Thursday, the 2nd day of March, 1865

The Council met this day pursuant to adjournment.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Acting Surveyor General, The Hons. R. Finlayson, H. Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Council resumed the consideration in Committee of a Bill Entitled an Act to explain and amend "The Victoria Incorporation Act 1862."

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported the Bill complete with Amendments.

Mr. Finlayson pursuant to notice introduced the following Resolutions which were 2nded by the Hon. Henry Rhodes—

1. That Her Most gracious Majesty may be requested to annex the Colony of Vancouver Island to the Colony of British Columbia.
2. That Her Most gracious Majesty may be pleased to direct the passage of An Act of the Imperial Parliament to provide a Constitutional mode of Government with representation on the basis of population to the British Possessions in the North Pacific.

The Treasurer handed in the following Amendment to the proposed Resolutions of the Hon. R. Finlayson

That this Council regards it as undesirable to express an opinion as to the expediency or otherwise of uniting the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia.

The Chairman having put the amendment of the Treasurer—the following were the Ayes and noes.

For the Amendment—The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, the Acting Surveyor General.

Against the Amendment—Hon. R. Finlayson and the Hon. H. Rhodes—amendment carried.

The Acting Colonial Secretary pursuant to notice moved the following resolutions.

Resolved, "That this Council do adopt the Report of the Select Committee to whom was referred A Bill to provide for taking the Census of the Colony and for obtaining other statistical information."

Resolved, That this Council is impressed with the importance of collecting statistics at an early period and that His Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to take such steps for that purpose as he may deem desirable pending legislation on the subject.

2nded by the Acting Attorney General and agreed to nem. con.

The Hon. H. Rhodes gave notice that he would hand in a Protest against the Resolution of the Council in regard to Union of this Colony with British Columbia.

The Council on motion of the Acting Attorney General then went into Committee on a Bill Entitled "An Act to establish the Postal service."

The Hon. H. Rhodes in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Hon. H. Rhodes reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

The Council adjourned to tomorrow at 3 O'clock.

Tho. L. Wood  
Acting Attorney General  
in the absence of the President.

### Friday, the 3rd day of March, 1865

The Council met this day pursuant to adjournment.

Present: The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and Confirmed.

The Treasurer rose to a question of privilege and requested that the following Statement might be entered on the Minutes of the Council—

In the report of the proceedings of this Council as published in the "British Colonist" newspaper the Treasurer is reported to have said that he was not prepared to say "that it (Union) was altogether desirable as it might work injuriously in some respects."

What I did say was this (speaking of the Resolutions of the House of Assembly) "That the request by the representatives of the people of this Colony would no doubt receive the earnest consideration of Her Majesty's Government, but it was not for me to say that Union however desirable or otherwise, could be granted by Her Majesty's Government. That it is quite immaterial whether we have union or annexation as in either case our political privileges would be regarded in the joining

together of our political institutions and that in the event of Her Majestys Government being unable to bring about the amicable union sought by the House of Assembly no doubt annexation would be the next step".

The Acting Attorney General and the Hon. Henry Rhodes coincided with the remarks of the Hon. the Treasurer as to the inaccuracies in the newspaper reports—and the correction of the Treasurer was ordered to be placed on the Minutes.

The Council then adjourned till Monday next at 3 o'clock.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

### Monday, the 6th day of March, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 O'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hons. R. Finlayson, Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes handed in the following Protest which was ordered to be placed on the Minutes.

To the Honorable The President of the Legislative Council

We the undersigned being the only unofficial Members of the Legislative Council present at the meeting on the 2nd instant and being Merchants in the City of Victoria do protest against the Resolution of the Legislative Council in regard to the Union Resolutions which then came up for discussion, Because,

1st The Resolution "That the Council regard it as undesirable to express an opinion as to the expediency or otherwise of uniting the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia" was carried by the official Members of the Council only who are at all times the majority of the said Council.

2nd We consider it unwise and impolitic to postpone indefinitely the consideration of the subject for the reason that we know the feeling of the Colony to be in favour of union of the Colonies and that since the question has been so thoroughly considered recently and the entire community agitated upon the subject the present is the most desirable time for decisive action in the matter.

That the postponement of the settlement of the question will greatly disturb commerce prevent enterprise and do much injury to both Colonies, while on the other hand the sooner the question is settled the better it must be for all the interests of both Colonies.

Victoria  
March 6, 1865

(signed) Henry Rhodes  
Rodd. Finlayson

The Council then resumed the consideration in Committee of The Postal Service Bill Clause XIII.

Hon. Henry Rhodes in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Hon. H. Rhodes reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

The Council adjourned till Wednesday next at 3 o'clock.

Tho. L. Wood  
Acting Attorney General  
in the absence of the President

### Wednesday, the 8th day of March, 1865

The Council met this day pursuant to adjournment.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was read returning A Bill entitled An Act to amend "the Land Registry Act 1860" and agreeing to the Amendments of the Council thereto— excepting two.

The Council then went into Committee on A Bill entitled An Act to provide for the Postal Service Clause XXIII.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

The Council adjourned to Saturday next at 2 o'clock.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Attorney General  
in the absence of the President

### Saturday, the 11th day of March, 1865

The Council met this day at 2 o'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Council went into Committee on A Bill Entitled "the Mercantile law Amendment Act."

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported the Bill as having been progressed with and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

The Council adjourned till Monday next at 3 o'clock.

T. L. Wood  
Acting Attorney General  
in the absence of the President

### Monday, the 13th day of March, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 o'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. H. Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and Confirmed.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was read transmitting A Bill entitled An Act to grant jurisdiction to Justices of the Peace and Stipendiary Magistrates in Civil cases.

The Bill was read a 1st time.

The Council then went into Committee on A Bill Entitled An Act to Establish the Postal Service.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes reported the Bill complete with admendments.

The Bill was then ordered to be brought up for a 3rd reading at the next meeting of the Council.

The Counter Amendments of the Legislative Assembly to the Amendments of the Council to a Bill Entitled "An Act to amend The Land Registry Act, 1860" were considered by the Council and agreed to—*nem. con.*

The Council then resumed the Consideration in Committee of A Bill Entitled "the Mercantile Law Amendment Act, 1865."

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again. Leave having been granted.

The Council adjourned till tomorrow at 3 o'clock.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

**Tuesday, the 14th day of March, 1865**

The Council met this day pursuant to adjournment—(at 3 P.M.)

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Colonial Treasurer, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and agreed to.

A Bill Entitled An Act to establish the Postal Service was read a 3rd time and passed.

The Council then adjourned to tomorrow at 3 o'clock.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

**Wednesday, the 15th day of March, 1865**

The Council met this day at three P.M. pursuant to adjournment.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. H. Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and agreed to.

The Council resumed the consideration in Committee of A Bill Entitled the Mercantile law Amendment Act, 1865.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported the Bill complete with amendments.

The Council then adjourned sine die.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

**Friday, the 17th day of March, 1865**

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Colonial Treasurer, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Council met this day pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and agreed to.

A Bill to amend the Mercantile Law Act was read a third time and passed.

A Bill respecting Common Schools was read a 2nd time.

The Chairman of the Select Committee on a Bill respecting Common Schools handed in the following report.

Your Committee have considered this Bill and beg to recommend that it should be passed with the following modifications.

Strike out Clause 1.

Amend Clause 2 to read as follows;

I. It shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time to appoint not less than five persons who shall constitute a General Board of Education, three of whom shall form a quorum.

Amend Clause 3 to read as follows,

II. It shall be lawful for the Governor to appoint a Superintendent of Education for the said colony, who shall *ex officio*, be Secretary of the said Board, and record the proceedings thereof.

Insert between clauses 2 and 3 the following which become clauses 2 and 3,

The General Board of Education shall be a body corporate, with all the general powers by law affecting or relating to bodies corporate, and all school property shall be vested in such General Board. The General Board of Education shall meet at least once a month, and shall report to the Governor as to the state and condition of common schools, and other particulars relating thereto, at such times and in such manner and form as the Governor shall from time to time in that behalf direct.

Strike out clauses 4 and 5.

Amend clause 5 as follows,

IV. It shall be lawful for the said Board from time to time, with the approval of the Governor, to establish as many school districts in the said colony as they shall deem expedient, and to prescribe such course of education and discipline, and to select and prescribe for use in each district school such books as they may think best, and to authorized the purchase and distribution thereof.

Strike out clauses 7 to 40 and substitute for them the following,

V. It shall be lawful for the Governor from time to time to appoint such persons as he shall think fit, to be teachers of Common Schools.

VI. It shall be lawful for the Governor, from time to time, to appoint a local Board of Education, of not less than three persons, in any school district, if he shall think it expedient so to do.

VII. Such last named Board shall have power and authority to visit and report on the state of the schools within its district, for the information and guidance of the General Board of Education.

VIII. The general mode of transacting business by such Local Board of Education, and the nature of the reports to be furnished, shall be subject to the order and direction of the General Board of Education.

IX. The duties of all Teachers of Common Schools shall be subject to the order and direction of the General Board of Education.



X. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Education to visit Common Schools and report thereon, by the order and according to the instructions of the General Board of Education.

Amend clause 42 by inserting the word "General" before the word Board. Strike out clauses 43 to 55 and substitute the following,

XIII. Every Common School shall be open to the children of persons of all denominations, with power of expulsion in case of gross misconduct, at the discretion of the General Board of Education.

XIV. The General Board of Education shall have power to regulate the amount of School fees payable for Educational purposes in any Common School, so, however, that the same do not exceed fifty centimes per month for each scholar, and shall have power, if occasion require, to remit the payment of such fees in whole or in part. Provided always that such fees shall be applied by the said board to such school purposes as they may see fit.

The Hon. H. Rhodes moved 2nd by the Acting Attorney General that the Report be adopted as an amendment to the Bill sent down by the Lower House.

Agreed to nem. con.

The Standing Orders having been suspended.

The Bill was read a 3rd time & passed.

The Acting Attorney General moved the 2nd reading of the Medical Bill.

The Treasurer 2nded. Carried.

Acting Attorney General and Treasurer Content.

Mr. Rhodes non content. The Acting Colonial Secretary non content.

The Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of the Second reading.

Mr. Rhodes moved that Bill be referred to Select Committee. Treasurer seconded, carried.

Council adjd. sine die.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

### Friday, the 24th day of March, 1865

The Council met this day pursuant to a notice by the President.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hons. Henry Rhodes, R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and agreed to.

The Acting Attorney General moved that the Standing orders of the Council be suspended in order to [permit] the introduction of A Bill relating to Gold Mining.

The Treasurer 2nded. Agreed to nem. con.

The Acting Attorney General moved that the Bill be read a 1st time pro forma.

The Treasurer moved that the Bill be printed.

The Hon. H. Rhodes 2nded. Agreed to nem. con.

The Bill was thereupon ordered to be printed.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that A Bill to amend the Law of Evidence be read a 1st time.

Agree to nem. con.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the standing orders of the Council be suspended with a view to the introduction of a Bill to amend the Law of Evidence.

The Treasurer 2nded. Agreed to nem. con.

A Message from the Legislative Assembly was read transmitting a Bill to apply the sum of Two Hundred and ninety eight thousand six hundred and eighteen Dollars and Twenty five Cents out of the General Revenue of the Colony of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies to the service of the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty five.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the standing orders of the Council be suspended.

The Treasurer 2nded. Agreed to nem. con.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the Bill be read a 1st time.

The Treasurer 2nded. Agreed to.

Bill read a 1st time.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the Standing Orders of the Council be suspended—(The Treasurer 2nded) and that the Bill be read a 2nd time. Agreed to nem. con.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

The Acting Colonial Secretary in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Colonial Secretary reported progress and asked leave to sit again. Leave granted.

The Council then adjourned till Monday the 27th March at 3. P.M.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

## Tuesday, the 28th day of March, 1865

The Council met this day pursuant to adjournment.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Treasurer, The Surveyor General, Hon. R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and Confirmed.

The Council resumed the Consideration in Committee of the Appropriation Bill.

The Acting Colonial Secretary in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete without amendments.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the Bill be read a 3rd time and passed.

Hon. R. Finlayson 2nded.

The Bill was then read a 3rd time accordingly and passed the Council.

The Council then adjourned sine die.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

### Friday, the 7th day of April, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hons. R. Finlayson, Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that A Bill to Amend the Law of Evidence be read a 2nd time.

The Acting Attorney General 2nded the motion.

Bill read a 2nd time nem. con.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

The Treasurer in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Treasurer reported the Bill without amendments.

The Hon. H. Rhodes moved that the Standing orders of the Council be suspended and the Bill read a 3rd time.

2nded by Hon. R. Finlayson—and the Bill was read a 3rd time and passed the Council.

The Acting Attorney General moved that A Bill relating to Gold Mining be read a 2nd time.

Treasurer 2nded.

Bill read a 2nd time.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave granted.

The Council adjourned to Monday at 3. o'clock.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

### **Monday, the 10th day of April, 1865**

The Council met this day at 3 o'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and Confirmed.

The Council resumed the consideration in Committee of A Bill relating to Gold Mining.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday next at 3. o'clock.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

### **Wednesday, the 12th day of April, 1865**

A quorum of members not being present there was no meeting.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

### **Tuesday, the 18th day of April, 1865**

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The consideration in Committee of A Bill relating to Gold Mining was resumed.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported the Bill complete with amendments.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes moved that the Standing orders of the Council be suspended.

The Acting Attorney General 2nded and the Bill was read a 3rd time and passed the Council.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was read agreeing to certain of the amendments of the Council to A Bill respecting Common Schools with certain exceptions.

The Council agreed to the counter amendments of the House saving the following.

It insisted upon its amendment striking out Clause 4 of the Bill.

It agreed to the amendment of the House on the amendment of the Council striking out clauses from 43 to 55 to the extent of erasing the word "with" and inserting the word "the" and "shall be" only.

It adhered also to its amendment granting the Board of Education power to regulate the amount of School Fees.

The Council then adjourned sine die.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

## Tuesday, the 2nd day of May, 1865

---

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was read transmitting the following Bills.

A Bill entitled An Act to exempt the Homestead and other property from forced seizure and sales in certain cases.

A Bill respecting the registration of Births Deaths and Marriages in Vancouver Island.

A Bill to amend the manner of taking the verdict of a Jury in Civil Cases.

A Bill for securing Liens to Mechanics and others.

A Bill entitled An Act respecting weights and Measures, and returning A Bill for obtaining a Declaration of Title amended by the House as follows, by erasing the words "shall come into operation on the first day of May one thousand eight hundred and sixty five" in Clause 58.

On motions of the Acting Colonial Secretary the first five Bills were read a 1st time.

The Acting Colonial Secretary presented the report of the Select Committee on A Bill respecting the Medical Board and practitioners in Medicine and Surgery and moved the adoption thereof.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes 2nded and the report was adopted nem. con.

The Council then adjourned sine die.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

---

### Friday, the 12th day of May, 1865

---

The Council met this day pursuant to Notice.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was read transmitting A Bill respecting the descent of Real property.

A message was also read transmitting A Bill respecting Common Schools, the Legislative Assembly insisting on their counter amendments on the amendments of the Council to the Bill.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the counter amendments of the Legislative Assembly be agreed to.

The Acting Attorney General 2nded and the amendments were agreed to nem. con.

The Amendment of the Legislative Assembly to A Bill for obtaining a Declaration of Title then came up and was agreed to by the Council.

The Council then adjourned to Tuesday next the 16th inst.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

---



---

### Wednesday, the 17th day of May, 1865

---

The Council met this day at 3 O'clock pursuant to a notice by the President.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and agreed to.

The Acting Attorney General moved that a Bill respecting the Medical Board and Practitioners in medicine and Surgery be recommitted.

The Acting Colonial Secretary 2nded and the Bill was recommitted accordingly.

The Bill was then reported complete with amendments and ordered to come up at next meeting of the Council for a 3rd reading.

The Acting Attorney General moved that A Bill to grant jurisdiction to Justices of the Peace and Stipendiary Magistrates in Civil Cases be read a 2nd time.

The Acting Colonial Secretary 2nded and the Bill was read a 2nd time nem. con.

A Bill entitled An Act to increase the jurisdiction of the Inferior Court of Civil Justice to the sum of Two Hundred pounds came up for a 2nd reading and on the question being put

The 2nd reading of the Bill was lost nem. con.

A Bill respecting the descent of real property was read a 1st time.

The Council then adjourned till tomorrow.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

### Thursday, the 18th day of May, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Hon. the Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A message was read from the Legislative Assembly transmitting A Bill to amend the Law as to imprisonment for Debt—Which Bill was read a 1st time.

A Bill respecting the Medical Board and Practitioners in Medicine and Surgery was then read a 3rd time and passed with amendments.

The Council then adjourned till Monday next the 22nd inst. at 3 o'clock.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

### Monday, the 22nd day of May, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and agreed to.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was read returning A Bill relating to Gold Mining with amendments thereto.

The Council then went into Committee on a Bill to grant jurisdiction to Justices of the Peace and Stipendiary Magistrates in Civil Cases.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

The Acting Attorney General moved and the Acting Colonial Secretary 2nded,

That a Select Committee of the Members present be formed for the purpose of considering the form of Amendments to be made to the Bill entitled "An Act to grant jurisdiction to Justices of the Peace and Stipendiary Magistrates in Civil Cases."

Agreed to nem. con.

The Council adjourned to tomorrow Tuesday the 23rd May 1865.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

### **Tuesday, the 23rd day of May, 1865**

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read & confirmed.

The Acting Attorney General handed in a Report from the Select Committee on A Bill to grant jurisdiction to Justices of the Peace and Stipendiary Magistrates in Civil Cases.

The Chief Justice moved that the Report be adopted.

The Acting Attorney General 2nded and the report was agreed to nem. con.  
The Council then adjourned to Friday next at 3 o'clock.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

### **Friday, the 26th day of May, 1865**

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and agreed to.

The Amendments of the Legislative Assembly to a Bill relating to Gold Mining came up for Consideration and were agreed to save with a further amendment by the Council to Clause 28—viz.

That the first part of the Clause be amended by the omission of the words from Commencement down to the word "and" before the words "all penalties."



A message from the Legislative Assembly was read transmitting A Bill to amend an Act passed in the year of our Lord 1862 entitled "An Act to repeal and amend the Laws affecting Trade Licences," which was read a 1st time.

A Bill to amend the manner of taking the verdict of a Jury in Civil Cases was on motion of the Attorney General 2nded by the Chief Justice read a 2nd time.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

The Acting Colonial Secretary in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Colonial Secretary reported the Bill Complete with amendments and the Bill was thereupon ordered to be brought up for 3rd reading at the next meeting of the Council.

A Bill respecting the registration of Births Marriages and deaths in Vancouver Island was read a 2nd time.

The Council then adjourned till Monday next the 29 Instant at 3 o'clock.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

### Monday, the 29th day of May, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hons. Henry Rhodes, R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was read returning A Bill relating to Gold Mining the further amendment of the Council upon the amendment of the Assembly to clause 28 not having been agreed to.

Upon motion by the Acting Colonial Secretary 2nded by the Hon. Henry Rhodes, it was resolved that the Council request a Conference with the Lower House upon the subject of the Amendment.

A Bill to amend the manner of taking the Verdict of a Jury in Civil Cases was read a third time and passed with amendments.

A Bill to grant jurisdiction to Justices of the Peace and Stipendiary Magistrates in Civil Cases was read a third time and passed with amendments.

A Bill for securing Liens to Mechanics and others came up for a 2nd reading and upon motion of the Acting Colonial Secretary 2nded by the Hon. Henry Rhodes was ordered to be read this day 6 months, nem. con.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was then read returning A Bill Entitled "the Vancouver Island mercantile Law Amendment Act" the amendments of the Council thereto having been agreed to with certain exceptions.

On motion of the Treasurer 2nded by Hon. H. Rhodes the Council agreed to insist upon their Amendments.

Messages from the House were also read transmitting the following Bills, viz.

A Bill to amend the Victoria Harbour Dues Act.

A Bill to make better provision for the Custody of the Estates of deceased persons

which were read a 1st time.

On motion of the Acting Colonial Secretary A Bill to amend An Act passed in the year of our Lord 1862 entitled "An Act to repeal and amend the Laws affecting Trade Licences" was read a 2nd time.

The Acting Attorney General moved, The Treasurer 2nded That "A Bill to amend the Law as to imprisonment for Debt" be read a 2nd time.

Agreed to nem. Con.

A Bill to exempt the Homestead and other property from forced seizure and sales in certain cases came up for a 2nd reading.

The Treasurer moved that the Bill be read this day 6 months.

The Acting Attorney General moved that the Bill be read a 2nd time.

Hon. Henry Rhodes 2nded.

The President having put the amendment to the question.

The Bill was read a 2nd time.

A Bill respecting weights and measures was read a 2nd time.

A Bill respecting the descent of real Property was read a 1st time.

The Council then adjourned till tomorrow at 3 o'clock.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

### Thursday, the 1st day of June, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Hons. R. Finlayson, Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and Confirmed.

Messages from the Legislative Assembly were read transmitting the following Bills viz.:

A Bill to impose landing permit dues on the importation of certain stock and carcasses and

A Bill to amend the Law relating to the Representation of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies

which were read a 1st time.

A message was also read transmitting A Bill to repeal a portion of "the First Telegraph Act 1864" which had passed the Legislative Assembly.

A Message from the Legislative Assembly was also read requesting a Conference with the Council on the subject of the Amendments to the Medical Bill and to a Bill to amend the Mercantile Law Act.

A Bill to amend "the Victoria Harbour Dues Act" then came up for a 2nd reading.

The Hon. R. Finlayson moved 2nded by the Hon. Henry Rhodes that the Bill be read this day six months.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that the Bill be read 2nd time. 2nded by Hon. the Acting Attorney General and carried.

For 2nd reading Chief Justice, Acting Colonial Secretary, Acting Attorney General, Treasurer.

Against—Hon. Henry Rhodes & Hon. R. Finlayson.

The Council then went into Committee on a Bill entitled The Trade Licence Amendment Act 1865.

The Chief Justice in the Chair.

The Bill was reported progress with Clause 1 having been postponed.

The Council then adjourned to tomorrow at 3.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

### Friday, the 2nd day of June, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hons. Henry Rhodes, R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Council took under consideration a Message from the Legislative Assembly requesting a Conference with the Council upon the subject of the Amendments made by the Council to the Medical Bill and the Mercantile Law Amendment Bill.

The Council agreed to have a Conference with the Lower House and appointed Wednesday next at two o'clock for the purpose.

The Council then resolved itself into Committee upon A Bill to amend An Act entitled "An Act to repeal and amend the Laws affecting Trade Licences."

The Chief Justice in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Chief Justice reported the Bill complete with Amendments.

A message was read from the Legislative Assembly insisting on their Amendment to a Bill relating to Gold Mining in Clause 28.

The Council then went into Committee on a Bill to Amend the Victoria Harbour Dues Act 1862.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Bill was reported progress with.

The Council then adjourned to Wednesday next at 3 o'clock.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

### Wednesday, the 7th day of June, 1865

Present: The Chief Justice, The [Acting] Colonial Secretary, Mr. Rhodes, The Acting. [Acting] Atty. Genl.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A Message from the Legislative Assembly was read transmitting A Bill entitled "The Vancouver Island Jury Act 1865" the amendments of the Council thereto having been agreed to.

The Acting Colonial Secretary pursuant to notice moved that the Trade Licence Amendment Bill be recommitted.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes moved that it be postponed on account of the absence of the Hon. R. Finlayson.

The Bill was postponed accordingly.

The Council then resumed the consideration in Committee of A Bill to amend "the Victoria Harbour Dues Act."

The Chief Justice in the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete with amendments and ordered to be brought up for 3rd reading at the next meeting of the Council.

The Acting [Colonial Secretary] moved the 2nd reading of a Bill entitled the Stock and Carcass Act 1865.

The Acting Attorney General 2nded and the Bill was read a 2nd time.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes non content.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved 2nded by the Actg. Attorney General That the Standing orders of the Council be suspended and the Council go into Committee on the Bill.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes non content.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported the Bill from the Committee complete as amended.

The Bill was then ordered to be brought up for a 3rd reading at the next meeting of the Council.

A Bill respecting the descent of Real Property then came up for a 2nd reading—and on motion of the Acting Attorney General 2nded by the Acting Colonial Secretary the Bill was ordered to be read this day six months nem. con.

The Council then adjourned till 3 o'clock tomorrow.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

---

### Thursday, the 8th day of June, 1865

---

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Acting Surveyor General, The Hons. R. Finlayson, H. Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved the 3rd reading of A Bill to amend the Victoria Harbour Dues Act 1862.

The Acting Attorney General 2nded and the Bill was read a 3rd time.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes & Hon. R. Finlayson non content.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved that A Bill entitled the Stock and Carcass Act be read a 3rd time.

The Acting Attorney General 2nded and the Bill was read a 3 time.

The Hon. R. Finlayson & the Hon. Henry Rhodes non content.

The Hon. the Acting Colonial Secretary moved the recommittal of the Trade Licence Amendment Bill.

The Acting Attorney General 2nded.

Agreed to. The Hon. Henry Rhodes & the Hon. R. Finlayson non content.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

The Chief Justice in the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete with amendments.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved 2nded by the Actg. Attorney General that the Standing orders be suspended which was agreed to. Hon. R. Finlayson & Hon. H. Rhodes dissenting.

Acting Colonial Secretary then moved that the Bill be read a 3rd time.

The Acting Surveyor General 2nded and the Bill was read a 3rd time and passed.

Hon. H. Rhodes & Hon. R. Finlayson opposing.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes gave notice of motion of Protest against the passing of the foregoing Bills.

A message was read from the Legislative Assembly requesting a conference with the Council on the subject of the Amendments to A Bill to grant Jurisdiction to Stipendiary Magistrates and Justices of the Peace.

The Council agreed to have a conference<sup>3</sup> tomorrow at 2 o'clock.

The President brought before the notice of the Council that a conference had taken place with the Legislative Assembly on the subject of the amendments to the Medical Bill and Mercantile law Bill and that it rested with the Council to accept the views of the Lower House or insist upon its own amendments.

The Council agreed to insist upon its amendments.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

---

<sup>3</sup> Original reads "Council."

---

## Tuesday, the 13th day of June, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 o'clock.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Hons. R. Finlayson, Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Council fixed Friday next at 2 O'clock for the Conference with the Lower House upon the subject of the Amendments to a Bill to grant jurisdiction to Justices of the Peace and Stipendiary Magistrates in Civil Cases.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes pursuant to notice presented the following Protest.

To the Hon. the President of the Legislative Council

We the undersigned unofficial Members of the Legislative Council and being Merchants in the City of Victoria beg to record our Protest against the action of the Legislative Council in passing on the 8th instant the following Bills, namely A Bill to amend the Victoria Harbour dues Act 1862 and A Bill to impose landing Permit dues on the importation of Stock and Carcasses—as the said Bill although only professing to make a charge for landing permits on the goods yet impose in the first case, a small ad valorem duty, and in the second case a very heavy import duty upon all stock and meat imported, thereby destroying the Free Port which has already done so much towards establishing Victoria as a Commercial depot and upon the assumption of the continuance of which large sums have been invested in permanent improvements in Victoria which would not otherwise have been so invested and upon the maintenance of which in its fullest integrity during the Continuance of the existing relations with the Colony of British Columbia the undersigned believe that the prosperity of Victoria greatly depends.

The undersigned also protest against the action of the Legislative Council in passing a Bill to amend An Act passed in the year of our Lord 1862 entitled An Act to repeal and amend the laws affecting Trade Licences as by clause 1 a tax of 2½ per cent on all sales by Auction is imposed which they consider inexpedient and think that which as a source of revenue it will be almost unproductive it will interfere with and impose restrictions that cannot fail to be highly injurious to the business of the Colony.

Victoria V.I. June 13, 1865  
(signed) Henry Rhodes  
(signed) Rodk. Finlayson

The Council then went into Committee on Bill respecting the Registration of Births Marriages and Deaths.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Bill was reported progress with and the Council adjourned to tomorrow at 3.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

### Wednesday, the 14th day of June, 1865

---

The Council met this day at 3 o'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

Messages from the Legislative Assembly were read agreeing to the Amendments of the Council to "A Bill entitled the Stock and Carcass Act, 1865" and To A Bill entitled the Harbour Dues Amendment Act 1865.

A Message from the Legislative Assembly was also read returning A Bill entitled An Act to amend Act passed in the year of our Lord 1862 entitled An Act to repeal and amend the Laws affecting Trade Licences—the amendments of the Council thereto having only been agreed to in part.

The Acting Attorney General moved The Treasurer 2nded That the Council waive its amendments which have not been agreed to by the House—agreed to *nem. con.*

The Acting Attorney General requested that the following record might be entered on the records of the Council.

In passing The Trade Licence Bill Amendment Act 1865 the members of the Legislative Council now present desire to have it recorded that the amendments above referred to were in their judgment advisable as providing against manifest errors and omissions. The Amendments in Clause I were intended by this Council to prevent the section 37 of the Trade Licence Amendment Act of 1862 from being repealed as and from the time of the passing of this Act thereby absolving auctioneers from paying any tax in respect of sales for 5 months antecedent to the 1st day of June 1865.

The Amendment of Clause 5 was for the purpose therein clearly expressed and intended to remedy the practice of general traders especially in Country Districts taking out liquor licences with a view to escape taxation on their general business transactions.

For considerations however of general expediency the Members of the Legislative Council aforesaid deem it sufficient not to insist on this amendment but to put their reasons for such their amendments unmistakeably on the records of the Council.

The Council then [went] into Committee on a Bill respecting weight and measures.

The Treasurer in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Treasurer reported progress with the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

The Council adjourned to tomorrow a 3 o'clock.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

---

---

### Friday, the 16th day of June, 1865

---

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Attorney General, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Council resolved itself into Committee on A Bill respecting the registration of Births Deaths and Marriages.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

Messages from the Legislative Assembly were read transmitting the following Bills.

A Bill to apply the sum of Fourteen Thousand nine hundred and forty dollars out of the General Revenue of the Colony of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies to the service of the year 1865.

The Bill was read a 1st time.

A Bill entitled An Act to apply the sum of Thirty seven thousand six hundred and eight dollars and thirty nine cents for the service of the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty Four.

On motion of the Acting Colonial Secretary the Standing orders of the Council were suspended and the Bill read a 1st 2nd and 3rd time and passed.

The Council then adjourned till Monday next at 2 o'clock.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

---

---



---

**Monday, the 19th day of June, 1865**

The Council met this day pursuant to adjournment.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A Bill to apply the sum of \$14940 to the service of the year 1865 was read a 2nd time.

On motion of the Acting Colonial Secretary the Standing orders of the Council were suspended and the Council went into Comtee. on the Bill.

The Acting Colonial Secretary in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete and was read a 3rd time and passed.

The Council then went into Committee on A Bill respecting Weights & Measures.

The Treasurer in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

Progress with the Bill was reported and the Council adjourned to Wednesday next at 3.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

**Wednesday, the 21st day of June, 1865**

The Council met at 3 o'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Hon. Henry Rhodes, The Hon. Treasurer.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was read forwarding the following Bills.

A Bill to amend the Victoria Pilot Act 1864 which was read a 1st time.

A Bill to impose a Tax of one half of one per cent upon all Real Estate within the City of Victoria & for other purposes relating thereto which was read a 1st time.

The Acting Attorney General moved the suspension of the Standing orders. Agreed to nem. con. and the Bill was read a 2nd time.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

The Treasurer in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.  
 The Bill was reported complete without amendments.  
 The Standing orders being then suspended.  
 The Bill was read a 3rd time and passed.

The Council then went into Committee on a Bill respecting Births Deaths and Marriages.

Hon. Henry Rhodes in the Chair.  
 Progress having been reported with the Bill.

The Council adjourned to tomorrow at 3.

Henry Wakeford  
 Acting Colonial Secretary  
 in the absence of the President

### Thursday, the 22nd day of June, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 o'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Hon. R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Council resolved itself into Committee on A Bill respecting the Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.  
 The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported the Bill complete with amendments and the Bill was ordered to be brought up for a 3rd reading at the next meeting of the Council.

A message from the House was read transmitting A Bill to impose a tax on Salaries and for other purposes which was read a 1st time nem. con.

The Council then went into Committee on A Bill respecting Weights and Measures.

The Treasurer in the Chair.  
 The President having resumed the Chair.

The Treasurer reported progress in the Bill.

The Council then adjourned to tomorrow at 3.

Henry Wakeford  
 Acting Colonial Secretary  
 in the absence of the President

---

### Friday, the 23rd day of June, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 o'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and agreed to.

The Treasurer moved 2nded by the Acting Attorney General that A Bill to impose a tax on salaries and for other purposes be read a 2nd time.

Agreed to nem. con. and the Bill was read a 2nd time nem. con.

On motion of the Treasurer the Council went into Comtee. on the Bill.

The Treasurer in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Treasurer reported the Bill complete with amendments.

The Acting Attorney General then moved that the Bill be read a 3rd time and the Bill was read a 3rd time accordingly nem. con.

The Council then adjourned to Monday at 3 O'clock.

---

### Monday, the 26th day of June, 1865

The Council met at 3 O'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer.

The Acting Attorney General introduced A Bill to explain the Chief Justices Salary Act 1864 which was read a 1st and 2nd time nem. con.

A Bill respecting the registration of Births Marriages and Deaths was then read a 3rd time and passed.

The Council then adjourned till tomorrow at 3.

Henry Wakeford  
Acting Colonial Secretary  
in the absence of the President

---

### Tuesday, the 27th day of June, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 O'clock.

Present: The Acting Colonial Secretary, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Honbles. R. Finlayson, Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the two last meetings having been read and confirmed.

A Bill entitled An Act to Explain the Chief Justices Salary Act 1864 was read a 3rd time.

The Council then went into Committee on A Bill respecting weights and measures.

The Treasurer in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair the Treasurer reported the Bill Complete with Amendments.

The Acting Attorney [General] moved that the Standing Orders of the Council be suspended.

The Treasurer 2nded nem. con.

And the Bill was read a 3rd time.

The Acting Attorney General moved that A Bill to amend the law as to imprisonment for Debt be read a 2nd time nem. con. and the Bill was read a 2 time.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill.

The Acting Attorney General in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Acting Attorney General reported progress in the Bill.

A Message from the Legislative Assembly was read returning A Bill to impose a Tax on Salaries and for other purposes the Amendments of the Council thereto not having been agreed to.

The Council thereupon agreed not to insist upon its amendments.

The Council then adjourned to Wednesday at 3.

Tho. L. Wood  
Acting Attorney General  
in the absence of the President

---

### Wednesday, the 28th day of June, 1865

A quorum of Members not being present.

The Council was adjourned to Thursday next at 3.

---

### Thursday, the 29th day of June, 1865

The Council met at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Acting Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

In the absence of the other Members of the Council the Members present agreed to adjourn the meeting sine die.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

[Memo:] Minutes up to above date sent home Nov. 65.

---

### Monday, the 3rd day of July, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 P.M.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Treasurer, The Surveyor General, The Honble. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and Confirmed.

Messages from the Legislative Assembly were read.

No. 1. Returning Chief Justices Salary Explanation Bill with no amendments.

2. Transmitting a Bill to regulate the payment and application of fees for Marriage licences—which was read a 1st time.

The Council then adjourned to Thursday next at 3. O'clock.

David Cameron C.J.  
President

### Friday, the 7th day of July, 1865

The Council met at one O'clock.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. H. Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read & confirmed and the Members of the Legislative Assembly being present—His Excellency The Governor delivered the following Speech.

*Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly.*

The period has now arrived when I am able to release you from further attendance on your legislative duties.

I have in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty assented to the following Acts passed during the Session:

An Act for the Election of a Mayor and Councillors for the City of Victoria, on the 8th day of November, 1864.

An Act respecting Barristers and Attorneys at Law.

An Act to apply the sum of \$298,618.25 out of the general revenue of the Colony of Vancouver Island and its dependencies to the service of the year 1865.

An Act to amend the Land Registry Act, 1860.

An Act respecting Common Schools.

An Act for obtaining a Declaration of Title.

An Act to repeal a portion of the First Telegraph Act, 1864.

An Act to Amend the Manner of Taking the Verdict of a Jury in Civil Cases.

An Act to Impose Landing Permit Dues on the Importation of certain Stock and Carcases.

An Act to amend the Victoria and Esquimalt Harbour Dues Act, 1862.

An Act to amend an Act passed in the year of our Lord 1862 entitled "An Act to repeal and amend the Laws affecting Trade Licences."

An Act to grant a Supplemental Supply of \$37,608.39, for the service of the year 1864.

An Act to apply the sum of \$14,940 out of the general revenue of the Colony of Vancouver Island and its dependencies, to the service of the year 1865.

An Act to impose a Tax of one half of one per centum on all real estate within the City of Victoria and for other purposes relating thereto.

An Act to impose a Tax on Salaries, and for other purposes.

An Act to explain the Chief Justice Salary Act, 1864.

I reserved "A Bill to appropriate the sum of £1200 sterling per annum from the general revenue of the colony for the salary of a Chief Justice," and the explanatory Bill since passed will, I anticipate, insure its allowance by Her Majesty.

Of these Acts I may more particularly advert to the Act to amend the manner of taking the verdict of a jury in civil cases, and that respecting Common Schools.

I anticipate substantial benefits to the community will result from these measures, and I confidently rely on the honour and character of the gentlemen composing the Board of Education for a faithful and impartial administration of their high trust in the spirit intended by the Legislature.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

The supplies you have granted will be administered with the strictest economy consistent with the efficiency of the public service.

I have to thank you for the provision made for a residence for the Governor of this Colony, which I hope to have ready for occupation, if not completed, at a cost considerably less than the sum you have so liberally voted.

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

I now in Her Majesty's name prorogue this Council and Assembly, and they are hereby prorogued accordingly to the 3rd October next.

## Tuesday, the 28th day of November, 1865

Pursuant to a Proclamation summoning the Legislature to meet on Tuesday the 28th day of November, 1865, for the dispatch of business. The Members of the Legislative Council and Assembly attended in the Legislative Council Chamber at one O'clock when His Excellency the Governor delivered the following Speech.

*Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:*

I have deferred calling you together until this late period of the year in the expectation that I should be thereby enabled to submit to you in some conclusive form matters affecting the settlement of important questions concerning the future condition and prosperity of the Colony. In that hope I regret I am compelled to inform you I have been disappointed.

2. Despatches from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the colonies on the subject of the Crown Lands of Vancouver Island will be laid before you. I forbear to enlarge upon this subject beyond expressing an earnest hope that the wisdom and moderation of the Legislature may find a way to a final settlement of this question, the agitation of which so injuriously retards the progress and settlement of the Colony.

3. I regret that I am not in a position to make any communication to you in reply to the Resolutions adopted by the Legislature in the last session, recommending the union of this Colony with British Columbia. I have no doubt that the subject is receiving that consideration from Her Majesty's Government which its importance

demands, and that due weight will be given to the wishes of the people expressed through their representatives.

4. The discredit and danger to public health arising from the unrepaired streets and want of drainage in the City of Victoria cannot longer be ignored without seriously deteriorating the value of private property, while the inhabitants are without legal power to raise revenue for the correction of the admitted evils. The Municipal Government of the City might, probably, be rendered more effectual by attempting less. Schemes of inferior importance have been prosecuted while more important needs have been neglected.

5. The importance of direct steam communication between Vancouver Island and San Francisco cannot be overlooked, and the absence of it is now most seriously felt. I would recommend liberal provision being made to enable the Government to carry out this service at the earliest period, either separately or in conjunction with the Government of British Columbia. The anomalous state of the law regarding the Postal service of the Colony, generally, demands your attention. There is no law authorizing the Executive Government to frame Rules and Regulations, or fix the rates of postage. The expenditure for this branch of the public service during the year 1864 amounted to \$14,487, while the revenue reached only \$3510, showing an excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to \$10,997 [*sic*]—a disproportion which must be expected to continue in the absence of suitable laws and regulations.

6. I would earnestly bespeak the attention of the Legislature to the insufficiency of the Law for the prevention of the sale of intoxicating liquors to the Native Tribes by which they are demoralized and decimated. This iniquitous traffic is carried on by a worthless and degraded class of men, the cost of whose maintenance in prison and repeated convictions arising from inadequate punishment, falls heavily upon the public funds. Moving appeals have been made to me by Ministers of every denomination and by the Chiefs of several Indian Tribes to put an end to a crime which must eventually recoil upon the legitimate commerce of the Colony and society at large. Deplorable murders of Indians *inter se* as well as the murder of white men by Indians are of frequent occurrence and notoriously resulting from the illegal sale of liquors on the coast of this and the neighbouring Colony. I can see no difficulty in suppressing this unholy traffic if the existing faulty and insufficient Law be amended and with the object I have directed a Bill to be prepared and laid before you.

7. The existing Law of debtor and creditor in this Colony will come under your consideration. I feel confident that in whatever changes may be deemed necessary the principle will be held in view that imprisonment should be a punishment for crime and not for a simple failure to pay unaccompanied by dishonesty.

8. I regret to state that the expenditure of the current year has exceeded the revenue, still leaving demands for public improvements unsatisfied. On the other hand, sums have been expended in connection with the projected Harbour improvements considerably exceeding the original estimate for that service, and also for providing a Government House, which cannot occur again and ought not to be regarded as belonging to the ordinary expenditure of the Colony. To restore the equilibrium between revenue and expenditure is a matter of first importance, and I apprehend little difficulty will be found in devising legitimate means of raising the receipt and reducing the expenditure without either pressing unduly upon the people, or impairing the efficiency of the public service. While I deem it beyond the province of my duty to discuss matters, the decision upon which properly belongs to the Legislature, I feel bound to offer as the result of my experience that grave and numerous objections exist to new countries being drawn into debt except for the purpose of reproductive investment. I regard this Colony as a growing, not a stationary community whose interests must be looked for in the future rather than the present.

9. I have caused the Attorney General to prepare the following Bills, which will be submitted for your consideration without delay namely:

1. To provide for the reception of native evidence.
2. To regulate the use of weights and measures.
3. To regulate and provide for postal services.
4. To regulate gold mining.
5. To provide for the registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

6. To provide for the administration of Intestate Estates.
7. To provide exemption from Imprisonment for Debt.
8. To grant jurisdiction to Stipendiary Magistrates for the recovery of Small Debts.
9. To provide for the exemption of Homestead from Liability.
10. Coroners Bill.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly—

10. The Estimates for the coming year will be laid before you without delay, and I trust you will find them framed with every regard to economy consistent with the efficiency and credit of the public service. A statement will accompany the Estimates showing the probable condition of the Public Finances on the 31st December, 1865.

11. Sums are annually voted to a considerable amount for services and establishments over which the Executive Government has no sufficient control, and for purposes of local rather than general utility, and I would beg you to consider the propriety of these charges being borne by the General Revenue and this practice continued.

Hon. Gentlemen and Gentlemen —

12. Though the year about to close cannot be considered one of great progress, I have full faith in the future of this Colony; and it is gratifying to observe the increased number and improved character of the middle class dwellings which have sprung up, and are still springing up, affording one of the most conclusive proofs of the confidence of the people in its resources and stability. The agricultural classes have struggled manfully with the difficulties which beset the farmer in new countries, and the excellence of the produce exhibited at the annual show, places the fertility and capability of the soil and climate beyond a doubt.

We have, during the last year, experienced the inestimable blessings of peace and public health, and I trust that the same beneficent Providence which has watched over us in the past, may guide us in the path to future prosperity and peace.

The Chief Justice having taken the Oath of allegiance.

The Council adjourned till tomorrow at 3 O'clock.

Joseph Needham C.J.  
President

### Wednesday, the 29th day of November, 1865

The Council met this day pursuant to adjournment.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hons. Henry Rhodes, R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Colonial Secretary rose to ask for information in regard to the rules and orders that govern the conduct of the business of the Council.

Certain information having been afforded by the Treasurer

The Colonial Secretary moved 2nded by the Attorney General

“That a Committee be appointed to draft Rules and regulations for the guidance of this Council in the transaction of its business.”

Agreed to nem. con.



The Hon. H. Rhodes moved that a Committee be appointed to draft a reply to the Governor's speech at the opening of the Legislature.

The Colonial Secretary 2nded the motion, which was agreed to nem. con. and the following gentlemen nominated a Committee: The Colonial Secretary, The Surveyor General, The Hon. H. Rhodes.

The Attorney General moved that leave be given to bring in a Bill to alter and amend the law of arrest and imprisonment for debt.

2nded by Colonial Secretary and agreed to nem. con.

The Attorney General then introduced the Bill and moved that it be read a 1st time.

The Colonial Secretary 2nded the motion and on the question being put

The Bill was read a 1st time nem. con.

The Colonial Secretary moved that the Bill come up for a 2nd reading on Monday next and that the Bill be printed.

With the leave of the Council the Colonial Secretary withdrew the motion and moved

"That the 2nd reading of A Bill entitled A Bill to amend the law of arrest and imprisonment for debt be taken on Wednesday next the 6th December."

2nded by the Treasurer and agreed to nem. con.

The following Gentlemen were nominated a Committee on Standing orders: The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Hon. H. Rhodes.

The Council then adjourned until Friday next at 3 O'clock to take into consideration the Governor's speech.

Joseph Needham  
President

### Friday, the 1st day of December, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 O'clock.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Col. Secretary, The Attorney General, The Surveyor General, The Hon. H. Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes from the Committee appointed to draft a reply to the Governors opening speech handed in the following Address.

*To His Excellency Arthur Edward Kennedy Esquire, Companion of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Colony of Vancouver Island and its Dependencies &c. &c. &c.*

May it please Your Excellency:

We the Legislative Council of Vancouver Island have received with much attention the speech with which Your Excellency has opened the present Session of the Legislature.

We join in Your Excellency's regret that you are unable to announce a definite decision in respect of those important matters affecting the future of this Colony which have of late engaged so much attention. We would hope that such decision may soon be forth coming, for we cannot but view the present unsettled state of the public mind in connection therewith as obstructive to the advancement of the Colony, in chilling enterprise, fettering the transactions of commerce, and retarding the permanent settlement of the Country.

We are gratified to hear Your Excellency's Expressions of confidence in the Colony, and we would render to Your Excellency the earnest assurance of our desire, so far as in us lies, to aid Your Excellency in maintaining and providing laws not alone to promote present welfare, but likewise to be a firm and substantial basis for the future.

We acknowledge with devout thankfulness the blessings which a kind providence has vouchsafed to this Colony in the past, and we join in Your Excellency's prayer that the same Almighty power will guide us in the future to prosperity and peace.

The Attorney General moved that the Report be adopted.

2nded by the Surveyor General and agreed to nem. con.

The Col. Secretary moved that the Address be presented to His Excellency The Governor on Monday next the 4th Instant at noon if it be found that such hour be convenient to His Excellency, and that the Council do adjourn until Monday accordingly.

2nded by Hon. Henry Rhodes and agreed to nem. con.

Joseph Needham  
President

### Monday, the 4th day of December, 1865

The Council met this day at 12 O'clock.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Members of the Council proceeded to the Governor's office for the purpose of delivering the Address which had been adopted at the previous meeting of the Council in reply to His Excellency's speech at the opening of the Legislature.

The Chief Justice read the Address to His Excellency. His Excellency thanked the Members of the Council for their Address and expressed his hope that with their wisdom and intelligence to aid him much would be achieved for the good of the Colony.

The Members returned to the Council Chamber and the Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Council adjourned till Wednesday next the 6th December.

Joseph Needham  
Presiding Member

---

### Wednesday, the 6th day of December, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 O'clock.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Surveyor General, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A Bill to amend the Law of arrest and imprisonment for Debt came up for a 2nd reading.

The Attorney General moved that the Bill be read a 2nd time. The Colonial Secretary 2nded the motion and on the question being put the following were the Ayes and Noes

For the 2nd reading—The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Surveyor General, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Chief Justice not voting.

The Bill was read a 2nd time.

The Treasurer moved that the consideration of the Bill in Committee be postponed, and that the Bill be printed in accordance with the Standing order of the Council requiring that All Bills brought into the Council be printed.

The Colonial [Secretary] 2nded the motion for the postponement of the further consideration of the Bill but objected to its being printed.

The Surveyor General moved that the Standing Order of the Council in regard to the Bills of the Council being printed be suspended and that this Bill be not printed.

The Col. Secretary 2nded the motion which was carried nem. con.

The Attorney General gave notice of motion for leave to bring in "A Bill to facilitate the recovery of small debts" and also "A Bill to establish a Postal Service."

The Council then adjourned 'till Friday next the 8th Decr. at 3 O'clock.

Joseph Needham  
Presiding Member

---

### Friday, the 8th day of December, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 O'clock.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hon. Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Attorney General pursuant to notice, moved for leave to bring in a Bill to facilitate the recovery of small debts and other demands.

The Treasurer 2nded the motion which was agreed to nem. con.

The Attorney General then introduced the Bill and moved that it be read a 1st time.

The Treasurer 2nded the motion and the Bill passed a 1st reading nem. con.

The Attorney General requested to be permitted to postpone the introduction of "A Bill to establish A Postal Service."

Agreed to.

The Council then resolved itself into a Committee on "A Bill to amend the law of arrest and imprisonment for debt".

The Treasurer in the Chair.

The Colonial Secretary moved 2nded by the Hon. H. Rhodes that the Committee report progress with the Bill—agreed to.

The Chairman of the Committee reported progress accordingly and asked leave to sit again, which was granted and the Council adjourned until Wednesday next the 13th Instant at 3 O'clock.

Joseph Needham  
Presiding Member

### Wednesday, the 13th day of December, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 O'clock.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Surveyor General, The Hons. R. Finlayson, Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and Confirmed.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was received with the following Bills.

1. "The Homestead and Exemption from Execution Act 1865."
2. "The Bills of Sale Act 1861 Amendment Act 1865."
3. "A Bill to increase the Jurisdiction of the Inferior Courts of Civil Justice, 1865."

The Colonial Secretary moved 2nded by the Attorney General that "The Bill of Sale Act 1861 Amendment Act 1865" be read a 1st time.

Agreed to nem. con. and Bill passed a 1st reading.

The Attorney General moved 2nded by Hon. H. Rhodes That "A Bill to exempt the Homestead and other property from forced seizure and sales in certain cases" be read a 1st time.

Agreed to nem. con. and the Bill passed a 1st reading.

The Colonial Secretary moved 2nded by the Hon. H. Rhodes That A Bill entitled "An Act to increase the Jurisdiction of the Inferior Court of Civil Justice" be read a 1st time.

Agreed to nem. con. and the Bill passed a 1st reading.

The Attorney General moved 2nded by the Colonial Secretary that A Bill entitled "An Act to facilitate the recovery of small debts and other demands" be read a 2nd time.

Agreed to nem. con. and the Bill passed a 2nd reading.

The Colonial Secretary moved 2nded by the Surveyor General that the Bill be recommitted.

Agreed to.

The Treasurer in the Chair.

The Chief Justice moved 2nded by the Hon. H. Rhodes that the Committee adjourn until the 12th January 1866.

Agreed to nem. con.

The Chairman of the Committee reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again on the 12 January next.

Leave having been granted.

The Council adjourned until Friday next at 3 O'clock.

Joseph Needham  
Presiding Member

### Friday, the 15th day of December, 1865

The Council met this day at 3 O'clock.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Hons. R. Finlayson, H. Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Attorney General introduced A Bill Entitled "An Act to Establish the Postal Service" and moved that it be read a 1st time. 2nded by the Colonial Secretary and the Bill passed a 1st reading nem. con.

The Council then resolved itself into Committee on a Bill to facilitate the recovery of small debts, &c.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes in the Chair.

The President having resumed the Chair.

The Hon. Henry Rhodes reported progress in the Bill and asked leave to sit again.

Leave having been granted.

Upon motion by the Colonial Secretary the Council adjourned until Wednesday next at 2.

Alex Watson Treasurer  
Presiding Member

---

**Friday, the 12th day of January, 1866**

---

The Council met this day at 3 O'clock.

Present: The Treasurer, The Hons. Donald Fraser, Henry Rhodes, R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A Petition from the Harewood Railway Company was read praying that the Legislative Council will pass a Bill extending the time for the Completion of their works.

A Message from the Legislative Assembly was also read forwarding

- (1) A Bill to amend the Law as to imprisonment for debt and
- (2) A Bill respecting Barristers and Attorneys at Law.

The Council then adjourned till Thursday next the 18th Instant at 2 O'clock.

William A. G. Young  
Presiding Member

---



---

**Thursday, the 18th day of January, 1866**

---

The Council met at 2 O'clock pursuant to adjournment.

Present: The Colonial Secretary, The Treasurer, The Attorney General, The Surveyor General, The Hons. Donald Fraser, R. Finlayson, Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

A message from the Legislative Assembly was read forwarding the following Bills

- (1) A Bill to amend the Law of Partnership.
- (2) A Bill respecting the descent of real property.
- (3) A Bill to amend The Franchise Act 1859.

A Bill Entitled (4) "The Representation Extension Act 1866."

The Attorney General moved 2nded by the Surveyor General that A Bill Entitled An Act to amend The Bills of Sales Act 1861, be read a 2nd time.

Agreed to. The Surveyor Genl. & Mr. Rhodes non-content.

Bill passed a 2nd reading and was ordered to be committed.

The Attorney General moved 2nded by the Treasurer That A Bill entitled An Act to increase the jurisdiction of the Inferior Courts of Civil Justice be read a 2nd time which was agreed to nem. con.

The Bill passed a 2nd reading and was ordered to be committed.

The Attorney General moved 2nded by the Treasurer that A Bill entitled An Act to establish a Postal Service be read a 2nd time.

Agreed to nem. con.

The Bill passed a 2nd reading and was ordered to be committed.

The Attorney General moved 2nded by the Treasurer that A Bill entitled An Act to exempt the Homestead and other property from forced sales in certain cases be read a 2nd time.

Agreed to nem. con. and the Bill passed a 2nd reading and was ordered to be committed.

The Attorney General moved The Hon. Donald Fraser 2nded That A Bill Entitled An Act to amend the law as to imprisonment for debt be read a 1st time.

The Bill passed a 1st reading nem. con.

The Attorney General moved The Hon. Donald Fraser 2nded That A Bill Entitled An Act respecting Barristers & Attorneys at Law be read a 1st time.

The Bill passed a 1st reading nem. con.

The Attorney General moved 2nded by Hon. D. Fraser That A Bill to amend the law of Partnership be read a 1st time. Agreed to nem. con.

The Attorney General moved 2nded by Hon. Donald Fraser That A Bill respecting the descent of real property be read a 1st time.

Agreed to nem. con.

Attorney General moved 2nded by Hon. the Treasurer That A Bill to amend the Franchise Act 1859 be read a 1st time.

Agreed to nem. con.

The Attorney General moved 2nded by the Treasurer That the Representation Extension Bill be read a 1st time.

The Council then resolved itself into Committee on A Bill Entitled An Act to facilitate the recovery of small debts.

The Treasurer in the Chair.

Progress was reported in the Bill and leave granted to sit again.

The Council then adjourned till tomorrow at one o'clock P.M.

William A. G. Young  
Presiding Member

---

### Friday, the 19th day of January, 1866

The Council met this day at One O'clock.

Present: The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Surveyor General, The Treasurer, The Hons. Henry Rhodes, Donald Fraser.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Council resumed the consideration, in Committee, of a Bill Entitled "An Act to facilitate the recovery of small debts and other demands."

The Surveyor General in the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete with amendments.

The Council then adjourned to Tuesday the 23rd instant at 2 O'clock.

William A. G. Young  
Presiding Member

---

---

**Tuesday, the 23rd day of January, 1866**

The Council met at 2 O'clock.

Present: The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Surveyor General, Hons. Donald Fraser, Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Colonial Secretary stated that a message had been received from the Lower House enclosing A Bill Entitled "The Harewood Company's Extension Act 1866" and that a Petition had been laid before the Council praying that the said Bill may pass the Council and also a Petition against its passing the Council.

The Col. Secretary moved 2nded by the Hon. Donald Fraser That Bill be read a 1st time.

Agreed to nem. con.

The Council then resolved itself into Committee on A Bill Entitled "The Bills of Sales Act Amendment Act 1866."

The Surveyor General in the Chair.

Progress in the Bill was reported and leave granted to sit again.

The Council then went into Committee on a Bill to Establish the Postal Service.

The Surveyor General in the Chair.

Progress was reported & leave granted to sit again.

The Council then adjourned till Friday next at 2.

William A. G. Young  
Presiding Member

---

**Friday, the 26th day of January, 1866**

The Council met this day at 2 O'clock.

Present: The Colonial Secretary, The Surveyor General, The Treasurer, The Hons. R. Finlayson, D. Fraser.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

On motion by the Hon. D. Fraser 2nded by the Surveyor General, A Bill Entitled "The Harewood Railway Company's Extension Act 1866" was read a 2nd time nem. con.

The Honble. Donald Fraser moved 2nded by the Hon. the Treasurer that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee to meet on Monday next at 11 A. M. to take evidence on the Petition of the Vancouver Coal Company and also on the Petition of the Harewood Railway Company and that the Clerk of the Council notify the day and time of such meeting of Committee of Council to Messrs. Drake & Jackson on behalf of the Vancouver Coal Company & to



Messrs. Pearkes & Green on behalf of the Harewood Railway Company that such evidence as they may advance will be then heard, by serving them with a copy of this motion.

Agreed to nem. con.

The Presiding Member nominated the following Gentlemen to be members of the Committee: The Surveyor General, The Hon. R. Finlayson, The Hon. D. Fraser.

The Council then resolved itself into Committee on A Bill Entitled, "An Act to amend the Bills of Sale Act, 1861".

The Surveyor General in the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete with amendments.

The Council then went into Committee on a Bill to Establish the Postal Service.

The Surveyor General in the Chair.

Progress in the Bill was reported and

The Council adjourned until Wednesday next at 2 O'clock.

Presiding Member.  
Joseph Needham

---

### Wednesday, the 31st day of January, 1866

---

The Council met at 2 O'clock.

Present: The Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Surveyor General, The Hons. R. Finlayson, Donald Fraser, Henry Rhodes.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and Confirmed.

Mr. Fraser, as Chairman of the Select Committee on "the Harewood Railway Company's Extension Bill," reported that the Committee had heard Counsel for and against the passing of the Bill and had come to the conclusion that no sufficient Evidence had been given to justify the Committee in recommending otherwise than that the Bill be allowed to pass the Council.

The Chief Justice was of opinion that a written report with the evidence on which it is based should be handed in by the Committee.

The Colonial Secretary moved that the report made by the Select Committee appointed in respect of "the Harewood Railway Company's Extension Act 1866", viz. "that no cause has been shewn against the Extension of time prayed for by the company in the Bill in question" be adopted, and the Bill referred to a Committee of the whole Council.

The Attorney General 2nd the motion.

The Treasurer moved that the word "verbal" be inserted in the first line of the Colonial Secretary's motion between the words "the" and "report." Mr. Fraser 2nded. Agreed to. Colonial Secy. non-content.

The Treasurer moved that the consideration of the Report of the Select Committee be postponed in order that it may be laid before the Council in writing & a proper record made of the proceedings of the Committee.

2nded by [blank].

The motion of the Colonial Secretary having been put by the Presiding Member was carried. The Treasurer non-content.

The Colonial Secretary moved—2nded by the Hon. Donald Fraser that A Bill Entitled “An Act to facilitate the recovery of small debts” be re-committed.

Agreed to nem. con.

Bill recommitted.

The Surveyor General in the Chair.

The Presiding Member of the Council having resumed the Chair.

The Surveyor General reported the Bill complete with amendments.

The Report was adopted by the Council.

The Council then went into Committee on A Bill to Establish A Postal Service at clause VII.

The Surveyor General in the Chair.

The Bill was reported progress with and

The Council adjourned until tomorrow at 2.

Tho. L. Wood  
Presiding Member

### Thursday, the 1st day of February, 1866

The Council met this day at 2 O'clock.

Present: The Attorney General, The Treasurer, The Surveyor General, The Hons. H. Rhodes, Donald Fraser, R. Finlayson.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed.

The Surveyor General moved 2nded by the Treasurer that A Bill Entitled “The District Court Act, 1866” be read a 3rd time.

Agreed to nem. con. and the Bill passed a 3rd reading.

The Council then went into Committee on a Bill to establish The Postal Service.

The Surveyor General in the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete with amendments.

The Council then went into Committee on a Bill Entitled “The Harewood Railway Company’s Extension Act, 1866.”

The Attorney General in the Chair.

The Bill was reported complete with amendment.

The Council then adjourned until tomorrow the 2nd February at 2 O'clock.

William A. G. Young  
Presiding Member