JOURNALS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

OF THE PROVINCE OF

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SESSION 1875.

Monday, 1st March, 1875.

2 o'clock P. M.

This being the first day of the fourth meeting of the first Parliament of the Province of British Columbia, for the dispatch of business, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Honor the Honorable Joseph William Trutch, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, dated the 30th day of January, 1875.

Mr. Speaker informed the House that, during the recess he had received notification of two vacancies which had occurred in the Assembly, by the Honorable T. B. Humphreys and William Saul having resigned their seats for Lilloot District, and that he had issued a Warrant to the Registrar of the Supreme Court to issue a Writ to fill such vacancies, and that the Honorable T. B. Humphreys had been re-elected, and William Brown had been elected in the place of William Saul.

The Honorable T. B. Humphreys and Mr. William Brown, having been duly sworn, and being introduced by the Honorable Attorney-General Walkem and Mr. McCreight, took their seats.

The Notification of Resignation, and Certificate of Election, were read by the Clerk, as follows:—

"To James Trimble, Esq., Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

"Sir,—I hereby notify you that I have resigned my seat as a Member of the Legislative Assembly for the District of *Lillooet*.

(Signed) "T. Basil Humphreys.

"Clinton, September 26th, 1874.

(Signed) "Witness:
"ABRAM W. LAWSON,
"GEORGE DUNNE,"

" To Hon. James Trimble, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

"Sir,—I hereby notify you that I have resigned my seat as a Member of the Legislative Assembly for the District of Lillooet.

(Signed) "WILLIAM SAUL.

"Clinton, September 26th, 1874.
"Witness:

(Signed)

"ABRAM W. LAWSON, "GEORGE DUNNE."

"Supreme Court, British Columbia, "24th February, 1875.

"Whereas the Honorable Thomas Basil Humphreys and William Saul, Esquire, the two Members for the Electoral District of Lillooet, did, on or about the 5th day of October, 1874, resign their seats in the Legislative Assembly of the Province.

"And, whereas, on the 7th day of October, 1874, a Writ for the Election of two Members to represent such District, was duly issued to Edward Howard Sanders, Esquire,

the Returning Officer of the said District.

"Now I do hereby certify that, on the 28th day of November, 1874, the said Writ was returned to me by the said Returning Officer; whereby it appears that the Honorable Thomas Basil Humphreys and William Brown were duly elected to be Members of the House of Assembly for the said District.

(Signed) "Chas. E. Pooley, "Registrar, Supreme Court."

On the motion of the Honorable Attorney-General Walken, seconded by the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works Beaven,—

Resolved, That the documents referring to the election of the Honorable Thomas Basil Humphreys and William M. Brown, to be Members of this House, for the District of Lilloot, be entered on the Journals of the House.

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

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:-

It gives me great pleasure to meet you again to deliberate on the affairs of the Province.

During the past year the Railway question, a question of the utmost importance, not merely to British Columbia but to Canada, has been the subject of controversy, and has caused me much anxiety.

In consequence of the continued failure of the Dominion Government to commence the work of construction, I deemed it advisable to dispatch one of my Ministers to England to present to Her Majesty a Memorial setting forth the case of the Province, and

requesting Her gracious intervention.

I am informed by that Minister that after careful consideration of the Memorial, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, without proceeding to arbitration, which he had suggested, made certain recommendations to the Dominion Government, relative to the construction of the Railway, which recommendations have been agreed to and accepted by the Dominion Government. I have not yet received the despatches containing these recommendations, but immediately on their arrival they shall, with a Report and other papers on the subject, be laid before you.

You are, no doubt, aware that during last Session, the Dominion Parliament passed an Act authorizing the payment to this Province of a sum not exceeding \$250,000, to aid in the construction of a Dock at Esquimalt. It is gratifying to me to be able to state that since I last had the pleasure of meeting you, the Imperial authorities have agreed to contribute a further sum of £50,000 towards this work, and I shall, therefore, submit for your approval a measure to authorize the immediate construction of this important work. The correspondence on the subject will be laid before you.

The policy of opening up the interior of this Country by the construction of Roads, has already yielded good results. A large extent of land formerly neglected from want of means of access is now eagerly sought for by intending Settlers. The facilities of

communication, even now provided, will enable producers in a portion of the interior to avail themselves of our seaboard markets, which have hitherto been supplied from foreign sources. I propose, therefore, with your assent, to continue a policy so beneficial to the country, as every effort in this direction tends to advance the interests of our farmers and stock-raisers.

I am happy to be able to state that our Mines during the past season have proved not only generally remunerative, but more extensive than was before known; and I make no doubt that you will give every encouragement to the further development of

this important branch of our industries.

Amongst other measures I shall request you to afford facilities for the instruction of our youth in the higher branches of education, and also to provide means for the extension of the present Boarding School system.

The building used as the Asylum for the Insane being altogether unsuitable for the proper treatment of its inmates, I shall ask you to provide more fitting accommodation.

The Public Accounts will be at once laid before you, and Estimates for the current year are being prepared for your consideration.

An Act for the purpose of consolidating the several English and Provincial Statutes

relating to our County Court system, will be submitted to you.

I now leave you with a feeling of confidence that you have the interests of the Country at heart, and that you will be guided by a sense of duty in all your deliberations.

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

Mr. Speaker reported that, to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of His Honor's Speech, which was taken as again read.

On the motion of the Honorable Attorney-General Walken, seconded by the Honorable Provincial Secretary Ash,-

Ordered, That the Speech of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor be taken into

consideration on Thursday next, the 4th instant.

On the motion of the Honorable Attorney-General Walken, seconded by the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works Beaven,-

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned to Thursday next at 2 P.M.

On the motion of the Honorable Attorney-General Walkem, the following Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Licences Ordinance, 1867," was introduced and read the first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Friday, the 5th instant.

On the motion of the Honorable Attorney-General Walkem, seconded by the Honor-

able Provincial Secretary Ash,-

Resolved, That the Votes and Proceedings of this House be printed, having been first perused by Mr. Speaker; and that he do appoint the printing thereof; and that no person but such as he shall appoint do presume to print the same.

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

1. On Standing Orders and Private Bills;

2. On Public Accounts;

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

Resolved, That if it shall appear that any person hath been elected or returned a Member of this House, or endeavoured so to be, by bribery or other corrupt practices, this House will proceed with the utmost severity against all such persons as shall have been wilfully concerned in such bribery or other corrupt practices

The Honorable Attorney-General Walkem presented to the House the First Report of the Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages. (See Sessional Papers.)

The Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works Beaven, presented to the House, by command of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the Report of Public Works. (See Sessional Papers.)

The Honorable Minister of Finance and Agriculture Armstrong, presented to the House, by command of his Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, a Statement of Expenditure and Revenue of the Province. (See Sessional Papers.)

The Honorable Provincial Secretary Ash, presented to the House, by command of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, the Third Annual Report on the Public Schools of the Province. (See Sessional Papers.)

And then the House adjourned.

Thursday, 4th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P.M.

Mr. Hunter presented a Petition from William Robson and others, which was laid upon the Table.

The Honorable Attorney-General Walkem presented a Petition from N. F. Foster and others, which was laid upon the Table.

The House proceeded to take into consideration the Speech of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

Mr. Duck moved, seconded by Mr. Todd,-

- 1. That an humble Address be presented to His Honor thanking him for his gracious Speech at the opening of the Session, and informing His Honor that we are prepared again to deliberate on the affairs of the Province.
- 2. That we are aware that during the past year the Railway question, a question of the utmost importance, not merely to British Columbia but to Canada, has been the subject of controversy, and we feel assured that it must have caused His Honor much anxiety.
- 3. That, in consequence of the continued failure of the Dominion Government to commence the work of construction, we agree with His Honor it was advisable to dispatch one of His Honor's Ministers to England to present to Her Majesty a Memorial setting forth the case of the Province, and requesting Her gracious intervention.
- 4. That we are interested to learn that His Honor has been informed by that Minister that, after careful consideration of the Memorial, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, without proceeding to arbitration, which he had suggested, made certain recommendations to the Dominion Government relative to the construction of the Railway, which recommendations have been agreed to and accepted by the Dominion Government. And we regret that His Honor has not yet received the despatches containing these recommendations; but the assurance conveyed by His Honor that immediately on their arrival they shall, with a Report and other papers on the subject, be laid before us, is satisfactory.
- 5. That we are aware that during last Session the Dominion Parliament passed an Act authorizing the payment to this Province of a sum not exceeding \$250,000, to aid in the construction of a Dock at Esquimalt. We agree with His Honor that it is gratifying to His Honor to be able to state that since the last Session the Imperial authorities have agreed to contribute a further sum of £50,000 towards this work, and we are pleased to hear that His Honor will therefore submit for our approval a measure to authorize the immediate construction of this important work, and that the correspondence on the subject will be laid before us.

6. That we learn with pleasure that the policy of opening up the interior of this country by the construction of Roads has already yielded good results; that a large extent of land formerly neglected from want of means of access is now eagerly sought for by intending settlers; and that the facilities of communication, even now provided, will enable producers in a portion of the interior to avail themselves of our seaboard markets, which have hitherto been supplied from foreign sources.

That His Honor's proposition therefore, with our assent, to continue a policy so beneficial to the country meets with our cordial approval, as every effort in this direction

tends to advance the interests of our farmers and stock raisers.

- 7. That we regard with satisfaction the statement of His Honor that our mines during the past season have proved, not only generally remunerative, but more extensive than was before known, and we assure His Honor that we will give every encouragement to the further development of this important branch of our industries.
- 8. That we are pleased to observe that amongst other measures His Honor will request us to afford facilities for the instruction of our youth in the higher branches of education, and also to provide means for the extension of the present Boarding School system.
- 9. That we fully perceive the necessity that exists, owing to the building used as the Asylum for the Insane being altogether unsuitable for the proper treatment of its inmates, for His Honor to ask us to provide more fitting accommodation.
- 10. That we thank His Honor for the assurance that the Public Accounts will be at once laid before us, and that Estimates for the current year are being prepared for our consideration.
- 11. That an Act for the purpose of consolidating the several English and Provincial Statutes relating to our County Court system, which His Honor promises shall be laid before us, will meet with our consideration.
- 12. That we thank His Honor for his expression of confidence that we have the interests of the country at heart, and that we will be guided by a sense of duty in all our deliberations.

On the motion of Mr. Booth, seconded by the Honorable Attorney-General Walkem, it was Resolved,—

That the discussion of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech be postponed

until Tuesday next, the 9th instant.

On the motion of the Honorable Attorney-General Walkem, seconded by the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works Beaven,—

Resolved, That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned till Tuesday next, at 2 P.M.

And then the House adjourned.

Tuesday, 9th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P. M.

Mr. Robinson presented a Petition from the Williams Creek Bed-Rock Flume and Ditch Company (Limited), which was laid on the Table.

On the motion of Mr. Robson, seconded by Mr. Holbrook, it was Resolved,— That the further consideration of His Honor (1) a Lieutenant Governor's Speech be postponed until Wednesday next. 6

Wednesday, 10th March, 1875.

2 o'clock p. m.

On the motion of the Honorable Attorney-General Walken, seconded by the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works Beaven, it was Resolved,—

That the Standing Committee, on Standing Orders and Private Bills, shall consist of the following Members:—Messrs. McCreight, Barnston, Walken, Booth, Mara, and Tolmie.

The Honorable Attorney-General Walkem presented, by command of His Honor que Lieutenant-Governor, a Report on the subject of the Mission of the Honorable Mr. Walkem, Special Agent and Delegate of the Province of British Columbia to England, with regard to the non-fulfilment by Canada of the Railway Agreement of the Terms of Union. (See Sessional Papers).

On the motion of Mr. Holbrook, seconded by Mr. Booth, it was Resolved,— That the Address, in reply to His Honor's Speech, be taken up clause by clause. The first, second, and third clauses, being again read, were agreed to. The fourth clause being read, a debate arose.

Mr. Mara moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Robertson (Victoria District),-

That the following words be added at the end of the clause :-

"But we regret that these recommendations are of such an indefinite character that the Dominion Government is left at liberty to prosecute the construction of the Railway in such a manner that the inland producers will be deprived of much of the advantage usually derived from such works of construction; and they afford no assurance of early commencement on the Mainland, and are in the nature of a final award, thus depriving the people of all choice in a matter so materially affecting their interests, and at the same time violating the Resolution unanimously passed by this House at its last Session, affirming the principle that no alteration in the Railway Clause of the Terms of Union be permitted by the Government until the same has been submitted to the people for their endorsement."

On the motion of the Honorable Attorney-General Walken, seconded by the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works Beaven, it was Resolved,—
That the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until to-morrow at 2 p.m.

On the motion of Mr. Robson, it was Resolved,—That the debate be adjourned until to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned at 5.50 P.M.

Thursday, 11th March, 1875.

2 о'сьоск, р.м.

By leave of the House, Mr. Robson asked the Honorable Attorney-General Walkem the following question:—

Is legislation on the part of British Columbia, or of Canada, or of both, necessary to ve force and effect to the results of Lord Carnarvon's friendly intervention?

"The Constrable the Attorney-General Walkem replied as follows:—

The adjourned Debate on the proposed Amendment to the fourth clause of the proposed Address in reply to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech, was resumed.

The Amendment was put and negatived, on the following division :-

YEAS:

Messieurs.

Humphreys, Robson, Tolmie, Mara, Smith,

Brown, William A. Robertson, Smithe.—9. Holbrook,

NAYS:

Messieurs.

Cogan, Walkem, Robinson, Beaven, Todd, Ash, Semlin, Armstrong,

Hughes, Barnston, Duck.

McCreight, A. Rocke Robertson, Booth.-14.

The fourth clause was agreed to. The fifth to the twelfth clauses, inclusive, being again read, were agreed to.

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking His Honor for his gracious Speech at the opening of this Session.

Resolved, That the Resolution to present an Address to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, thanking His Honor for his gracious Speech, be referred to a Select Committee, composed as follows:—The Honorable Attorney-General Walkem, the Honorable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works Beaven, the Honorable Provincial Secretary Ash, and Messrs. Duck and Todd, with instructions to prepare and report an Address to His Honor.

The Honorable Attorney-General Walkem, from the Select Committee, reported an Address, which read as follows:-

To the Honorable Joseph William Trutch, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Honor for your gracions Speech at the opening of this Session.

We further respectfully inform Your Honor, that we are prepared to give our most

serious attention to the matters therein alluded to.

We are aware that during the past year the Railway question, a question of the utmost importance, not merely to British Columbia but to Canada, has been the subject of controversy, and we feel assured that it must have caused Your Honor much anxiety.

In consequence of the continued failure of the Dominion Government to commence the work of construction, we agree with Your Honor it was advisable to dispatch one of Your Honor's Ministers to England to present to Her Majesty a Memorial setting forth

the case of the Province, and requesting Her gracious intervention.

We are interested to learn that Your Honor has been informed by that Minister, that, after careful consideration of the Memorial, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, without proceeding to arbitration, which he had suggested, made certain recommendations to the Dominion Government relative to the construction of the Railway, which recommendations have been agreed to and accepted by the Dominion Government. And we regret that Your Honor has not yet received the despatches containing these recommendations; but the assurance conveyed by Your Honor that immediately on their arrival they shall, with a Report and other papers on the subject, be laid before us, is satisfactory.

We are aware that during last Session the Dominion Parliament passed an Act authorizing the payment to this Province of a sum not exceeding \$250,000, to aid in the construction of a Dock at Esquimalt. We agree with Your Honor that it is gratifying to Your Honor to be able to state that since the last Session the Imperial authorities have agreed to contribute a further sum of £50,000 towards this work, and we are pleased to hear that Your Honor will therefore submit to our approval a measure to authorize the immediate construction of this important work, and that the correspondence on the

subject will be laid before us.

We learn with pleasure that the policy of opening up the interior of this country by the construction of Roads has already yielded good results; that a large extent of land formerly neglected from want of means of access is now eagerly sought for by intending settlers; and that the facilities of communication, even now provided, will enable producers in a portion of the interior to avail themselves of our seaboard markets, which have hitherto been supplied from foreign sources.

Your Honor's proposition therefore, with our assent, to continue a policy so beneficial to the country meets with our cordial approval, as every effort in this direction

tends to advance the interests of our farmers and stock raisers.

We regard with satisfaction the statement of Your Honor that our mines during the past season have proved, not only generally remunerative, but more extensive than was before known, and we assure Your Honor that we will give every encouragement to the further development of this important branch of our industries.

We are pleased to observe that amongst other measures Your Honor will request us to afford facilities for the instruction of our youth in the higher branches of education, and also to provide means for the extension of the present Boarding School system.

We fully perceive the necessity that exists, owing to the building used as the Asylum for the Insane being altogether unsuitable for the proper treatment of its

inmates, for Your Honor to ask us to provide more fitting accomodation.

We thank Your Honor for the assurance that the Public Accounts will be at once laid before us, and that the Estimates for the current year are being prepared for our consideration.

An Act for the purpose of consolidating the several English and Provincial Statutes relating to our County Court system, which Your Honor promises shall be laid before us, will meet with our consideration.

We thank Your Honor for your expression of confidence that we have the interests of the country at heart, and that we will be guided by a sense of duty in all our deliberations.

The said Address, being read a second time, was agreed to.

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

And then the House adjourned, at 5.15 p.m., until Friday next, at 2 o'clock.

Friday, 12th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P.M.

Mr. Semlin presented a Petition from J. C. Barnes and others, which was laid on the Table.

The Honorable Provincial Secretary Ash presented to the House, by command of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, a Return of correspondence on the subject of additional Mail routes in the Yale District. (See Sessional Papers.)

The Honorable Attorney-General Walkem presented to the House, by command of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, a Return of the number of County Courts held in each district of the Mainland, and the places at which such Courts were held, from the 1st January, 1870, to the 1st November, 1873. • (See Sessional Papers.)

Mr. Robson asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Constitution Act, 1871,' by giving to Nanaimo an additional representative, and by creating a new Electoral District, to be known as the Cassiar District, with one representative."

Ordered That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday, 15th instant.

Mr. McCreight asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to render ineligible, as Members of the Provincial Assembly, persons accepting or holding offices or employment under the Dominion Government."

Ordered That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday, 15th instant.

Mr. Smithe asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Act, 1874.'"

Ordered That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday, 15th instant.

Mr. Semlin moved, seconded by Mr. Robinson,—

That a Select Committee, composed of Messrs. Humphreys, Smith, Robinson, Hunter, Mara and Semlin, be appointed to enquire into and report to this House upon the claim of J. C. Barnes, for remuneration for work done by him on a trail from Stuart's Lake to Manson Creek, in the Summer of 1871.

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Smith moved,—

That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the Petition of Alexander Burnet and others; said Committee to be composed of Messrs. Smith, Semlin, Brown, Robson, Holbrook, and Humphreys.

The motion was withdrawn by leave of the House.

Mr. Barnston moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Walkem,-

That the Standing Orders of this House be suspended, in order to enable him to introduce a Bill for the purpose of incorporating the Lightning Creek Fire Brigade Company.

Ordered That leave be granted.

Mr. Barnston asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 5) intituled "An Act to Incorporate the Lightning Creek Fire Brigade Company."

Ordered That leave be granted.

The Honorable Mr. Humphreys moved, seconded by Mr. Smith,-

That whereas the Legislature of this Province were induced to accept the Canadian Tariff and to enter the Union of the Dominion upon the following ratified stipulations:-

"The Government of the Dominion undertake to secure the commencement simul-"taneously, within two years from the date of Union, of the construction of a Railway "from the Pacific towards the Rocky Mountains, and from such point as may be selected, "east of the Rocky Mountains, towards the Pacific, to connect the seaboard of British

"Columbia with the Railway system of Canada; and further, to secure the completion "of such Railway within ten years from the date of the Union;"

And whereas the simultaneous commencement of the construction of such Railway has not been made as stipulated; and we feel no assurance that the completion of such Railway will be made as agreed upon, and serious injury has ensued in default thereof;

And whereas the Canadian Tariff, after a trial for four years, and under circumstances, in many respects peculiarly favourable, has resulted in failure and disaster, and has operated as a diminution of productive power-a restriction on growth, and a premium on foreign importations;

And whereas a trial for four years has proved that our inability to compete with the conterminous States and Territories consists not in a difference in the absolute cost

of production, but a difference in the comparative cost;

Be it therefore Resolved,—That it is expedient that this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of drafting a Petition to the Dominion Government, praying that a Protective Duties Schedule, such as may be agreed upon by this House, shall be imposed temporarily in the Province of British Columbia.

The consideration of the motion was postponed to Thursday, 15th instant.

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Robinson,—

That whereas, there arrives in this Province annually foreign drovers with large bands of cattle; and whereas these cattle are fed or pastured for some three months of the year in the valleys and winter runs, thereby destroying what our own settlers are endeavoring to preserve in order to provide for their stock in winter; therefore be it Resolved, -

That an humble address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor praying His Honor to have a Bill sent down imposing a Provincial Pasturage Tax per head on

all foreign stock entering or arriving in British Columbia.

It was moved in amendment, to strike out all the words after "Honor," in the last line but one, and to insert the following in lieu thereof:-"to take the matter into his earnest consideration, with a view of removing the grievance in such a manner as he may think proper."

Amendment, and motion as amended, put and carried.

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Semlin,-

That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the repeal or amendment of the "Road Tax Extension Act, 1873;" also to consider the expediency of requesting the Government to bring down a Bill fixing taxation on a more equitable basis. Said Committee to be composed of Messrs. Smith, Mara, Humphreys, Armstrong, Smithe, Semlin, and Talvin with power to call for a smith, Mara, Humphreys, Armstrong, Smithe, Semlin, and Tolmie, with power to call for persons and papers.

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Semlin moved, seconded by Mr. Todd,-

For leave to introduce a Resolution asking the Government to introduce a Bill prohibiting the collection of Tolls at Spence's Bridge over Thompson River. Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Semlin moved, seconded by Mr. Smith,—

For leave to introduce a Resolution praying the Government to introduce a Bill abolishing the present so-called Road Tax, and in lieu thereof, introduce a Bill imposing a general Property Tax, by which to raise a Revenue equal to the Revenue at present raised by the so-called Road Tax.

Mr. Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

On the motion of Mr. Robson, seconded by Mr. Mara, it was Resolved,-

Whereas a per capita tax is levied and collected in this community in the name and on behalf of the State of California, in respect of British subjects taking passage to San Francisco. And whereas there is reason to believe such a proceeding is inconsistent with treaty relations, Resolved—

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that the matter may be brought to the notice of the Dominion Government with

a view to discontinuance of the practice.

On the motion of Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Robinson, it was Resolved,-That an humble Address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying His Honor to recommend to the Dominion Government, the expediency of establishing a semi-monthly mail to the following places :- Okanagan Mission, the Head of Nicola Lake, Tranquille, and Foster's Bar; also, a monthly mail to Keremeoos, and Wild Horse Creek, Kootenay.

On the motion of Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Robinson, it was Resolved,-That a Committee be appointed to visit the Royal Hospital and Insane Asylum, with power to call for persons and papers, said Committee to be composed of Messrs. Smith, A. Rocke Robertson, Robinson, Todd, Ash, and Humphreys.

On the motion of Mr. Robson, seconded by Mr. Tolmie, it was Resolved,-

That a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that copies of correspondence between the Provincial and Dominion Governments, touching the boundary line between *British Columbia* and *Alaska* may be laid before this House.

On the motion of Mr. Booth, seconded by Mr. William A. Robertson, it was Resolved,— That a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will cause to be sent down to this House a full statement of the receipts and expenditure of the several Municipalities throughout the Province, as contained in the reports received by the Government from the said Municipalities for the year 1874.

On the motion of Mr. Tolmie, seconded by Mr. William A. Robertson, it was Resolved,—
That a Select Committee be appointed to examine into and report on the working
of the "Public School Act, 1872;" such Committee to consist of the following Members:
Messrs. A. Rocke Robertson, Semlin, Smith, Ash, Humphreys, and Tolmie.

On the motion of Mr. Holbrook, seconded by Mr. Smithe, it was Resolved,—

That a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, asking for Returns of lands taken up by purchase, by pre-emption, by timber lease, also land under application for at the present time, and lands given up, with the names of the parties holding or applying for the same, in the New Westminster District, from the year 1872 inclusive, to the present time.

On the motion of Mr. William A. Robertson, seconded by Mr. A. Rocke Robertson, it

was Resolved,-

That a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that copies of all correspondence and documents relating to the proposed Imperial and Dominion aid in constructing a Graving Dock at *Esquimalt*, may be laid before this House as soon as possible.

The Honorable Mr. Humphreys moved, seconded by Mr. Tolmie,—

That whereas many important alterations have been made in the Laws of this Province since Confederation.

And whereas such alterations have made it almost impossible to determine what is

and what is not Law.

Be it therefore Resolved,—That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the expediency of revising and simplifying the Laws of this Province.

The motion was withdrawn by leave of the House.

Mr. Tolmie asked the Honorable the Attorney-General the following question:—
Whether, when at Ottawa, en route for London, he made to the leader of the Dominion
Government any proposals relative to the Railway matter in dispute, and, if so, what
were the nature of those proposals.?

The Honorable Mr. Walkem replied as follows:-

"Beyond the right to apply for and obtain my credentials to England, I had no official status at Ottawa; nor had I any authority, direct or indirect, from the Provincial Government to make or receive any proposals in the above matter."

Mr. Holbrook asked the Honorable Mr. Beaven the following question:—
Have the Land, Buildings, Government House, and Grounds situated at the Campnear New Westminster been transferred to the Dominion Government; and if so, about the time such transfer was made?

The Honorable Mr. Beaven replied as follows:—

"There is no record in the Lands and Works Department of any formal transfer of land, at the Camp, to the Dominion Government; but I believe about seventy-seven acres were surveyed off for Penitentiary purposes; and, of course, a formal transfer of any reasonable quantity of land for that purpose would be made whenever the Dominion Government require it.

"The present buildings at the Camp, of course, are Provincial property."

Mr. Holbrook asked the Honorable Mr. Walken the following question :-

Has the Government received information of the difficulties to transit of goods and loss our merchants have sustained at Fort Wrangel, mouth of Stickeen River, during the past season, when engaged in commerce between this place and Cassiar, and in transporting goods up the Stickeen River; and if so, whether representations have been made to the Dominion Government asking them to make such arrangements with the United States Government, so as to enable our merchants to receive the same commercial facilities at Fort Wrangel they do in other Ports of the United States and that all impediments to the free navigation of the Stickeen be removed?

The Honorable Mr. Walken replied as follows:-

"None but verbal representations, as far as I am aware, have been received by the Government. I, informally, and at the request of the Provincial Secretary, brought the matter of the Alaska boundary before the Dominion Minister of Public Works, who authorized me to state that active steps had been taken to settle the question."

Mr. Brown asked the Honorable Mr. Beaven the following question:—
Upon what ground and by whose authority the Toll is collected on Spence's Bridge at Thompson River, and if it is the intention of the Government to pursue the collection of said Tell, and if so, for how long?

The Honorable Mr. Beaven replied as follows:--

"The tolls referred to were collected under authority of the *Thompson's Bridge* Ordinance, 1868, which makes it imperative that the moneys arising from the said bridge and tolls, less the cost of collection, shall be accounted for as part of the public revenue. I am unable at present to say whether that authority will be rescinded or not, but the subject is under consideration."

Mr. Robson asked the Honorable Mr. Walkem the following question:—
What steps, if any, have been taken towards securing a more satisfactory performance of the Ninth Article of the Terms of Union?

The reply of the Honorable Mr. Walken was postponed by leave.

Mr. Smithe asked the Honorable Mr. Beaven the following question:—
Why was the work of construction of the road across the Concident Flats suddenly abandoned when so near completion, and during weather favorable to the prosecution of the work; and is it intended eventually to finish the road, according to the original plans and specifications?

The Honorable Mr. Beaven replied as follows:-

"The contractor for the road across Cowichan Flats, suspended operations in consequence of the inclemency of the weather; and it is his intention to complete the work this Spring. I have every confidence that the contractor will eventually finish it properly."

And then the House adjourned at 5.15 P.M., until Monday next, at 2 o'clock.

Monday, 15th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P. M.

The Honorable Attorney-General Walken asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to make Powers of Attorney valid in certain cases,"

Ordered, That leave be granted. Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

The Honorable Attorney-General Walken asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Ordinances and Acts relating to the procedure of the County Courts in the Province of British Columbia."

Ordered, That leave be granted. Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Mr. Tolmie asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 8) intituled "An Act for regulating the Assessment of Real Property, and for amending the 'Municipality Act, 1872,' and the 'Municipality Act Amendment Act, 1873.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

The Honorable Mr. Beaven asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Religious Institutions Ordinance, 1869.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

Mr. Semlin asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act respecting the branding and ear-marking of Cattle."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Monday next.

Mr. Smithe moved, seconded by Mr. Brown,-

That the "Land Act Amendment Act," be referred to a Select Committee composed of the following gentlemen: -Messrs. W. A. Robertson, Semlin, Booth, Brown, Robson, and Smithe.

Mr. Speaker ruled the Motion out of Order.

On the motion of Mr. Smithe, seconded by Mr. Robson, it was Resolved,-

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will be pleased to send down to this House a copy of the petition of Estalon Jose Bitancourt to Lieutenant-Governor in Council, concerning a parcel of land to which said E. J. Bitancourt lays claim, together with all correspondence and documents cennected with and relating to said petition.

Mr. Brown moved, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Humphreys,—

That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the prayer embodied in the petition of Alexander Burnett, Philip Grinder and Thomas Hutchinson, with power to call for such petition, persons, and papers, and that the following gentlemen be named as of such Committee:—John Robson, Robert Smith, Chas. Semlin, T. B. Rumphreys, and W. M. Brown.

Mr. Speaker ruled the Motion out of Order.

An appeal being made against Mr. Speaker's decision, the same was supported on the following division :-

YEAS:

Messieurs.

Walkem, Beaven, Ash, Armstrong,

Cogan. Robinson. Todd. Hughes;

Barnston. Duck. McCreight,

Tolmie, Smithe, Booth.-14.

NAYS:

Messieurs.

Robson, Semlin,

Humphreys, William A. Robertson,

Holbrook,

Brown,-6.

14

Pursuant to Order, Mr. Robson moved,—

That Bill (No. 2) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Constitution Act, 1871,' by giving to Nanaimo an additional Representative, and by creating a new Electoral District to be known as the Cassiar District, with one Representative" be now read a second time.

The Honorable Mr. Beaven moved, in Amendment, seconded by the Honorable Mr.

Ash,—
That the word "now" be struck out, and the words "six months hence" be substituted therefor.

Mr. Tolmie moved, in Amendment to the proposed Amendment, seconded by Mr.

That the words "six months" be struck out, and "three days" inserted in lieu

thereof.

The Motion for the second reading of the Bill, and for the Amendments, were withdrawn by leave of the House.

And then the House adjourned, at 5.20 p.m., until 2 o'clock on Tuesday next.

Tuesday, 16th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P. M.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson presented a Petition from the Victoria and Esquimalt Railway Company, which was laid on the Table.

Mr. McCreight presented a Report (being the first) from the Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

The Report was received.

Mr. Barnston moved the following Resolution:—

That an humble Address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that a Return be laid before the House, showing in detail the expenditure on roads, trails, bridges, or other public works in the Cassiar country, up to the end of the year A. D. 1874; also, that a similar Return be made as regards the Cariboo District, always excepting the expenditure on main Waggon Road.

The motion was withdrawn by leave of the House.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 1) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Licences Ordinance, 1867," was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. Robinson, Chairman of the Committee.

reported as follows:-

Your Committee of the Whole, to whom the "Licences Amendment Act, 1875," has been referred, beg to report that, in their opinion, it would be advisable that the said Act should be referred to a Select Committee, to be appointed by your House; and they ask that leave be granted to sit again after the report (if any).

The following Members were named to form the Committee: Messieurs McCreight,

Barnston, Hughes, Robson, and Tolmie.

On the Order of the Day being read for the second reading of Bill (No. 4) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Land Act, 1874."

Mr. Speaker ruled that the Bill was out of order.

And then the House adjourned, at 3.30 P.M., until 2 o'clock on Wednesday next.

Wednesday, 17th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P.M.

The Honorable Mr. Walken delivered to Mr. Speaker a Message from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, signed by His Honor.

The said Message was read by Mr. Speaker, and is as follows :-

JOSEPH W. TRUTCH.

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

I thank you for your dutiful and loyal Address, and for the assurance that the important subjects submitted to you will receive your earnest attention.

Government House, 17th March, 1875.

The Honorable Mr. Humphreys presented a Petition from H. B. Early and others, which was laid on the Table.

The Honorable Mr. Walkem asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 11) intituled "An Act to further amend the Schedule to the Constitution Act, 1871."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on a future day.

Mr. Tolmic asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act respecting injuries caused by animals of a domestic nature."

Ordered, That leave be granted. Bill introduced and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

Mr. William A. Robertson asked the Honorable Mr. Ash the following question:—
If Mr. H. Saunders' tender, in January last, for supplying the City Prison with groceries and provisions was lower than that of James Fell & Co., has the Honorable the Provincial Secretary any objection to state the circumstances under which the contract was awarded to the latter?

The Honorable Mr. Ash replied as follows:-

"Mr. Saunders was somewhat lower in some parts of his tender for groceries, &c., than James Fell & Co., and I have no objection to state the circumstances under which the contract for supplying the Gaol with groceries was awarded to the latter, viz.:—

"Because I found that Mr. Saunders had been supplying to the Gaol tea, sugar and tobacco of a very inferior quality, and far below the standards of the articles he had

undertaken to furnish.

"I considered it would be incompatible with my duty to pass over so grave a departure from the terms of his contract; and I further considered that a check should at once be placed upon such an improper system."

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to make Powers of Attorney valid in certain cases" was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. Robinson, Chairman of the Committee, reported progress, and asked for leave to sit again.

Ordered, That leave be granted for Thursday next.

The Order of the Day, for the second reading of Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Religious Institutions Ordinance, 1869,'" having been read, a debate arose, which was adjourned until Friday next.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to render ineligible, as Members of the Provincial Assembly, persons accepting or holding offices or employment under the Dominion Government," was read a second time, on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs

Walkem, Cogan,
Beaven, Todd,
Ash, Semlin,
Armstrong, Hughes,

Barnston, Duck, Mc Creight, Booth, A. Rocke Robertson, Smithe, Robinson.—15.

NAYS:

Messieurs

Robson, Tolmie, Mara, Brown,

W. A. Robertson,

Holbrook.-6.

And then the House adjourned, at 5.55 p.m., until 2 o'clock on Thursday next.

Thursday, 18th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P.M.

The Honorable Attorney-General Walkem presented to the House, by command of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, a Report on the subject of the promise of the Imperial Government to contribute £50,000 towards the construction of the Esquimalt Graving Dock. (See Sessional Papers.)

On the motion of Mr. McCreight-

Ordered, That Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to render ineligible, as Members of the Provincial Assembly, persons accepting or holding offices or employment under the Dominion Government," be committed on Friday next.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson presented two Petitions from the Corporation of the City of Victoria, which were laid on the Table.

Mr. McCreight presented a Report (being the second) from the Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

The Report was received.

Mr. Booth asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 13) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Controverted Elections Act, 1871.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

Mr. Robinson asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to amend and extend the provisions of the 'Williams Creek Flume Ordinance, 1866.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted. Bill introduced, and read a first time.

On the motion of Mr. Robinson,--

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

The Honorable Mr. Humphreys moved, seconded by Mr. Smithe,-

That whereas the Legislature of this Province was induced to accept the Canadian Tariff and to enter the Union of the Dor inion upon the following ratified stipulations:—

"The Government of the Dominion undertake to secure the commencement simul-"taneously within two years from the date of Union, of the construction of a Railway "from the Pacific towards the Rocky Mountains, and from such point as may be selected, "east of the Rocky Mountains, towards the Pacific, to connect the seaboard of British "Columbia with the Railway system of Canada; and further, to secure the completion of such Railway within ten years from the date of the Union;"

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And whereas the simultaneous commencement of the construction of such Railway has not been made as stipulated; and we feel no assurance that the completion of such Railway will be made as agreed upon, and serious injury has ensued in default thereof;

And whereas the Canadian Tariff, after a trial for four years, and under circumstances, in many respects peculiarly favourable, has resulted in failure and disaster, and has operated as a diminution of productive power—a restriction on growth, and a premium on foreign importations;

And whereas experience has proved that our inability to compete with the conterminous States and Territories consists in a difference in the comparative cost of production:

Be it therefore *Resolved*,—That it is expedient that this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of drafting a Petition to the Dominion Government, praying that a Protective Duties Schedule, such as may be agreed upon by this House, shall be imposed temporarily in the Province of *British Columbia*.

Mr. Robson moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Semlin,—

That, in paragraph 3 in the preamble, all the words after "stipulated" in the second line, to "and" in the third line, be omitted.

The amendment was put and carried.

Mr. Robson moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Semlin,— That the fourth paragraph in the preamble be struck out. The amendment was put and carried.

Mr. Smithe moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Tolmie,—

That the whole of the preamble be struck out, and the word "therefore" in the body of the Resolution.

The amendment was put and carried.

The original motion, as amended, was put and carried, on the following division:-

YEAS

		Messiculs	
Armstrong, Ash, Cogan, Semlin,	Robson, Barnston, Humphreys,	Tolmie, W. A. Robertson, Booth,	A. Rocke Robertson, Brown, Smithe.—13.

Nays: Messieurs

Beaven, Hughes, Todd, McCreight.—6.
Robinson, Duck,

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. Hughes, Chairman of the Committee, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered, That leave be granted for Friday next.

On the motion of Mr. William A. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Booth, it was Resolved,—
That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into the manner in which a
contract for the supply of the City Prison with groceries and provisons, was awarded to
James Fell & Co.; said Committee to consist of Messrs. W. A. Robertson, McCreight, Brown,
Smithe, and Robinson, and have power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. Robson asked the Honorable Mr. Walkem the following question:—
What steps, if any, have been taken towards securing a more satisfactory performance of the Ninth Article of the Terms of Union?

The Honorable Mr. Walken replied as follows:-

"In 1872, a strong representation on this subject was made by the Provincial Government to the Dominion Government, and a reply was given that it would receive 'early consideration."

Bill (No. 7) intituled "An Act to consolidate and amend the Ordinances and Acts relating to the procedure of the County Courts in the Province of British Columbia," was referred to a Select Committee, composed of the following Members: Messrs. McCreight, A. Rocke Robertson, Barnston, Walkem, Semlin, and Robson.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to make Powers of Attorney valid in certain cases."

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. Robinson, Chairman of the Committee,

reported the Bill complete with amendments.

Ordered, That the report be considered on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned, at 4.30 P.M., until 2 o'clock on Friday next.

Friday, 19th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P. M.

Mr. Holbrook presented a Petition from John A. Webster, which was laid on the Table.

The Honorable Mr. Humphreys moved, seconded by Mr. Brown,-

That whereas public notice has been given that sealed tenders will be received by the Government for the right of maintaining a Ferry, for a term of five years, on Dease Lake, and from the mouth of Dease Creek to Thibert's Creek, Cassiar District;

And whereas the publication of such notice has caused no inconsiderable alarm :—

1. Because the granting such ferry rights will tend to create a mischievous monopoly;

2. Because it will seriously disturb commercial arrangements already made:

3. Because its natural tendency is to raise the price and limit the supplies required by the miners in the Cassiar District.

Be it therefore Resolved,—

That, in the opinion of this House, it is not expedient to grant such rights and privileges as indicated in such notice.

Mr. Robinson moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Semlin,-

That all the words after "Cassiar District," in the third line be struck out, and the following inserted:—

"And, whereas, a feeling exists amongst certain miners from that section of the Province, that it would be detrimental to their interests should such Ferries be estab-

lished; be it therefore Resolved,-

"That this House is of opinion, that it may not be advisable to establish Ferries at the points indicated; and recommend the Government to exercise the closest scrutiny and investigation before establishing the Ferries referred to, or issuing the Licences therefor."

The amendment, and the original motion, were withdrawn, by leave of the House. Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 12) intituled "An Act respecting injuries caused by animals of a domestic nature," was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. Smithe. Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete, without amendment.

Report adopted.

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

Bill read a third time.

Resolved, That the Bill do pass.

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Religious Institutions Ordinance. 1869," was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. Todd, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete, with amendments.

Ordered that the Report be considered on Monday next.

And then the House adjourned, at 4 P.M., until 2 o'clock on Monday next.

Monday, 22nd March, 1875.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson presented a Petition from the Protestant Orphans' Home Association.

The Petition was not received, the time for receiving Petitions for Private Bills

having expired.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to repeal the 'Game Amendment Act, 1873.'"

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

On the motion of Mr. A. Rocke Robertson, seconded by Mr. Smithe, it was Resolved,—
That a Committee, to consist of the mover, seconder, and Messrs. Cogan, Semlin, and
Robinson, be appointed to prepare, and report to this House, a Bill to prevent the careless
distribution of poison in the attempt to destroy wild animals.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson presented a Report from the Committee appointed to examine and report on the working of the "Public School Act, 1872."

Ordered to be printed. (See Sessional Papers.)

Mr. Smithe made the following Motion, seconded by Mr. Brown,-

Whereas the 61st and 62nd Clauses of the "Land Act, 1874," give the Government the power to sell the public lands of this Province without limit to the amount to be purchased, and without conditions as to requirement of settlement upon or cultivation of land acquired by purchase under the authority of the said 61st and 62nd Clauses of the said "Land Act, 1874;"

And whereas the acquisition of land in any considerable quantities by persons who hold it in a waste state for speculative purposes has been proved in other new countries, and even already to some extent in this Province, to be an unmitigated evil, calculated

to retard the development of the agricultural resources of the country;

And whereas the Government has, during the past year, taken advantage of the aforesaid Clauses of the Land Act to alienate from the Crown, at private sale, extensive tracts of valuable agricultural lands to persons who seem not to contemplate settlement thereof;

And whereas, moreover, the Government has also fostered the spirit of speculation in lands by forcing the sale of Crown Lands at public auction, whereby large areas of some of the best lands in the Province have been disposed of to persons who, in a majority of cases, appear to hold their land so acquired for speculative purposes only, and

not for purposes of cultivation; be it therefore Resolved,-

That this House is strongly of opinion that no more of the agricultural land of this Province should be placed in the market for sale at public auction; and that this House is further of opinion that the power to sell lands, contained in Sections 61 and 62 of the "Land Act, 1874." should in no case be used by the Government for the purpose of selling rural lands, except to bona fide settlers, and not to them in such considerable quantities as to make it appear that speculation as well as partial cultivation and settlement is intended.

Provided always, that the Government shall have power to enter into any agreement for the acquisition of tracts of land by any person, or any company of persons, desirous of planting a colony or colonies of agricultural settlers in any district within this Province, care being taken, in such cases, that such definitely stipulated conditions shall be made by this Government as shall secure the proper accomplishment of any colonization project.

Mr. Speaker ruled the Motion out of Order.

An appeal being made against Mr. Speaker's decision, the same was not supported.

The Honorable Mr. Walkem presented to the House, by command of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, a Report, being an Appendix to the Report on the subject of the Mission of the Honorable Mr. Walkem to England. (See Sessional Papers.)

The Honorable Mr. Beaven moved in amendment to Mr. Smithe's motion:-That a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into the selling of land under the "Land Act, 1874."

Amendment, and motion as amended, put and carried.

The following Members were named to form the Committee: Messrs. Beaven, Semlin, Smithe, Booth, Hughes, and Robinson.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson asked the Honorable the Attorney-General the following

question :-

Whether the dimensions and character of the Dry Dock, at Esquimalt, have been agreed on between Her Majesty's Government and the Provincial Government; if not, whether negotiations are now pending for that purpose?

The Honorable Mr. Walkem replied as follows:-"The dimensions have been settled as follows-

Length for coping	400 fe	et
Do. on floor	370 .	
Width at coping	90	,
Do. on floor	45	
Do. of entrance	65 ,	,

The last measurement may be subject to some variation, depending upon the Caisson which may hereafter be adopted. "Midship sections of the 'Nelson' and 'Northampton' armour-clad vessels, have been taken as a guide for the altars of the Dock."

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 6) intituled "An Act to make Powers of Attorney valid in certain cases," was considered.

Report adopted.

Ordered That the Bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time.

Resolved That the Bill do pass.

The consideration of the Report on Bill (No, 9) intituled "An Act to amend the Religious Institutions Ordinance, 1869," was postponed until Wednesday next.

Pursuant to Order, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to render ineligible, as Members of the Provincial Assembly, persons accepting or holding offices or employment under the Dominion Government.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. Brown Chairman of the Committee, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered, That leave be granted for Tuesday next.

And then the House adjourned, at 6 P.M., until 2 o'clock on Tuesday next.

Tuesday, 23rd March, 1875.

2 o'clock P.M.

Mr. Barnston presented a Report (being the third) from the Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills. The Report was received.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 3) intituled "An Act to render ineligible, as Members of the Provincial Assembly, persons accepting or holding offices or employment under the Dominion Government."

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete, with amendments.

Ordered, That the Report be considered on Wednesday next.

Pursuant to Order, the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of drafting a Petition to the Dominion Government, praying that a Protective Duties Schedule, such as may be agreed upon by this House, shall be imposed temporarily in the Province of British Columbia.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the Chair, Mr. Hughes, Chairman of the Committee,

reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered, That leave be granted for Wednesday next.

And then the House adjourned, at 5.45 p.m., until 2 o'clock on Wednesday next.

Wednesday, 24th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P.M.

Mr. McCreight presented a Report (being the fourth) from the Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills. The Report was received.

Mr. Robson asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 16) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Constitution Act, 1871,' by giving to Nanaimo an additional representative, and by creating a new Electoral District, to be known as the Caledonian District, with one representative."

Ordered, That leave be granted. Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, 31st March.

On the motion of Mr. Tolmie, seconded by Mr. Robson, it was Resolved,-That His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor be respectfully asked to lay before this House, copies of all correspondence relating to Indian affairs, between the Dominion, and Provincial Governments, since the beginning of 1874.

Mr. Smithe moved, seconded by Mr. William A. Robertson,-

That any person through whose land any road may be originally, or by way of variation or alteration, laid out or made, or whose private road may be entered and taken possession of, or from whose land any gravel, timber, or stone, or other materials may be taken, should be entitled to compensation therefor; such compensation, in case of dispute, to be ascertained in the manner prescribed in the "Public Works Extension Act, 1873;" and that he should have the right to such compensation, notwithstanding any reservations to the contrary in any Crown Grant of his land, or in any Act, Statute, or Ordinance.

Mr. Booth moved in amendment, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Ash,—
That all the words after "That" be left out, and the following inserted instead:— "this House does not consider it advisable, this Session, to pass any Resolution of a nature to change any of the provisions of the 'Land Act, 1874."

The amendment was withdrawn, by leave of the House.

The original motion was put and negatived, on the following division:-

YEAS:

William A. Robertson, Smithe,

Messieurs Robson,

Tolmie .- 4.

NAYS:

Messieurs

Walkem, Cogan,
Beaven, Semlin,
Ash, Todd,
Armstrong, Humphreys,

Hughes,
Barnston,
Duck,
McCreight,

Booth, Holbrook, Robinson.—15.

The Standing Orders were suspended, in order to allow a Petition of the Protestant Orphans' Home Association to be received.

Mr. Smithe presented the Petition, which was laid on the Table.

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 9) intituled "An Act to amend the 'Religious Institutions Ordinance, 1869," was considered.

By leave of the House, the motion for adoption of the Report was withdrawn.

On the Order being read for the House to go into Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of drafting a Petition to the Dominion Government, praying that a Protective Duties Schedule, such as may be agreed upon by this House, shall be imposed temporarily in the Province of *British Columbia*.

The Honorable Mr. Humphreys moved, seconded by Mr. Robson,—

That the Order to go into Committee of the Whole on the question of the Tariff be discharged, and that a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into and report upon the same, and that the following gentlemen be named as of such Committee:—Messrs. Semlin, Cogan, Smith, Mara, Tolmie, Humphreys.

The motion was put and carried.

And then the House adjourned, at 4.15 p.m., until 2 o'clock on Thursday next.

Thursday, 25th March, 1875.

2 o'clock P. M.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to prepare and Report a Bill to prevent the careless distribution of poison in the attempt to destroy wild animals.

The Report was received.

Mr. McCreight presented two Reports (being the fifth and sixth) from the Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

The Reports were received.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson, by leave of the House, asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 17) intituled "An Act to amend the Corporation of Victoria Water Works Act, 1873."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

Referred to Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

Mr. Todd asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 18) intituled "An Act to explain and amend the "Cemetery Ordinance, 1870."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

It ntr duced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday, 31st March.

The Honorable Mr. Walkem asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to make better provision for the Qualification and Registration of Voters."

Ordered That leave be granted. Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday, 30th March.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 20) intituled "An Act to amend and consolidate the Municipal Laws of the City of Victoria."

Ordered, That leave be granted. Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Referred to Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

Mr. Holbrook asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 21) intituled "An Act to declare legal and valid the title of persons who have purchased certain real estate sold in satisfaction of Municipal Taxes due the City of New Westminster, by order of the Stipendiary Magistrate of that place."

Ordered That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Referred to Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

On the motion of Mr. William A. Robertson, seconded by Mr. Smithe, it was Resolved,—
That a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, praying that he will take into consideration the advisability of offering a premium, with a view of encouraging the establishment of a Woollen Factory in this Province, the following suggestions in connection therewith being respectfully submitted: That such Woollen Factory should be of a capacity of working not less than from 125 ths. to 150 ths. of clean wool per day of twelve hours into blankets, flannels, and tweed cloths.

On the motion of Mr. Robson, seconded by Mr. William A. Robertson, it was Resolved,—
That a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that copies of all correspondence between Benjamin Richardson, of the City of Nanaimo, and the Government, respecting a certain piece of land situate in the Nanaimo District; and between John Gemmill, of the City of Nanaimo, and the Government, respecting a certain piece of land situate in the New Westminster District, may be laid before this House.

Mr. Smithe asked the Honorable Mr. Ash the following question:-

What were the reasons that induced the Government to supersede Mr. H. A. S. Morley as Collector of Votes for Cowichan by the appointment of Mr. A. Dods to the position? And why was the usual courtesy of notification of removal from office not extended to Mr. Morley?

The Honorable Mr. Ash replied as follows:

"The Government did not supersede Mr. H. A. S. Morley as Collector of Votes at Cowichan. His office was abolished by an Act of the Legislature."

Mr. W. A. Robertson asked the Honorable Mr. Walken the following question:—
Is the promised Imperial contribution of £50,000 towards the Graving Dock, in the nature of a loan advanced to this Province under "Colonial Docks Act," or otherwise, or is it a bonus or free gift?

Is the promised Canadian advance of a sum not exceeding \$250,000 towards the Graving Dock, to be charged against this Province, or is it in the nature of a bonus?

The Honorable Mr. Walkem replied as follows :-

"On this subject I refer the Honorable gentleman to the report of the mission of the Honorable A. De Cosmos, published in the journals of last session, to my report lately laid before the House, and to the Statute passed last session by the Dominion Parliament, from which it will appear that the \$500,000 is a free contribution towards the construction of the Dock, without any condition whatever."

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson asked the Honorable Mr. Walkem the following question:—
Have the Dominion and Provincial Governments arranged as to the amount of land to be appropriated for the Indians in British Columbia; if not, what has occasioned the delay; and what is the state of negotiations now pending on the subject?

The Honorable Mr. Walkem replied as follows:-

"No. This matter is one which cannot be settled without mature consideration; it will, moreover, receive the earliest attention possible from the Government. The Dominion Government have made a request for larger concessions than they originally asked for and obtained. This request remains to be considered."

Pursuant to order, Bill (No. 14) intituled "An Act to amend and extend the provisions of the 'Williams Creek Flume Ordinance, 1866," was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the chair, Mr. Duck, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete without amendment.

Ordered that the Report be considered on Tuesday, 30th March.

The order for the second reading of Bill (No. 13) intituled "An Act to amend the Controverted Elections Act, 1871," was discharged.

On the motion of the Honorable Mr. Walkem, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Armstrong,

it was Resolved-

That the "Controverted Election Amendment Act, 1875," be referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Messrs. Mc Creight, Robson, Booth, Tolmie, Semlin, and the mover.

Pursuant to order, Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to repeal the 'Game Amendment Act, 1873,' " was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the chair, Mr. Semlin, Chairman of the Committee, reported the Bill complete without amendment.

Ordered That the Report be considered on Wednesday, 31st March.

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 3.) intituled "An Act to render ineligible as Members of the Provincial Assembly, persons accepting or holding offices, contracts, or employment under the Dominion Government," was considered.

Report adopted.

Ordered That the Bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time.

Resolved That the Bill do pass.

Pursuant to order, Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act respecting the Marking of Cattle," was read a second time.

Ordered to be committed forthwith.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the chair, Mr. Hughes, Chairman of the Committee, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered, That leave be granted for Wednesday, 31st March.

And then the House adjourned at 5.30 P.M., until 2 o'clock on Tuesday, 30th March.

Tuesday, 30th March, 1875.

2 o'clock, p.m.

The Honorable Mr. Walken presented a Petition from Mrs. Chapman and others, which was read, and referred to Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

Mr. Duck asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 22) intituled "An Act to amend the Victoria and Esquimalt Railway Act, 1873."

Ordered, That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Referred to Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

The Honorable Mr. Walken asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act respecting the construction of a Graving Dock at Esquimalt, and of other Provincial Public Works."

Ordered That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

On the motion of Mr. Robson, seconded by Mr. William A. Robertson, it was Resolved,—
That a respectful Address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor,
praying that additional polling places may be established in the Electoral District of
Nanaimo, as follows: One Polling place on Gabriola Island; one Polling place at the
Wellington Colliery.

The Honorable Mr. Walkem asked Mr. Robson the following question:

Does he know that a per capita tax is levied in the name of the State of California on members of this community, being British subjects, taking passage to San Francisco; and if such tax be levied, what is its amount, and in what individual instance has it been imposed, and when?

Mr. Robson replied as follows:-

"I am so informed, at the office of the Steamship Company in this City, where the Honorable the Premier can doubtless obtain all necessary information.

"The amount of the tax is seventy cents."

Mr. Holbrook asked the Honorable Mr. Beaven the following question:

Whether the Returns of Lands sold and pre-empted in the New Westminster
District asked for by this House will be on the table before its rising?

The Honorable Mr. Beaven replied as follows:-

"The Return referred to is in course of preparation, and I trust that it will be placed before the House before its rising."

Pursuant to Order, the Honorable Mr. Walkem moved the second reading of Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to make better provision for the Qualification and Registration of Voters."

The motion was postponed to Wednesday next.

And then the House adjourned at 3.30 p.m., until 2 o'clock on Wednesday next.

Wednesday, 31st March, 1875.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Mr. A. Rocke Robertson asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 24) intituled "An Act to amend the Acts relating to Public Schools."

Ordered, That leave be granted. Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

Mr. Booth presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the selling of land under the "Land Act, 1874."

The Report was received.

Mr. Duck asked leave to introduce a Bill (No. 25) intituled "An Act to incorporate the British Columbia Protestant Orphans' Home Association."

Ordered That leave be granted.

Bill introduced, and read a first time.

Referred to Select Committee on Standing Orders and Private Bills.

On the motion of Mr. Smithe, seconded by Mr. Brown, it was Resolved,-

That a Committee be appointed to enquire into and report to this House upon the condition of the Indians in *British Columbia* with respect to their lands and reserves, with power to call for persons and papers; such Committee to consist of the mover, seconder, and the Honorable Attorney-General, Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works, Mr. McCreight, and Dr. Tolmie.

Mr. Robson asked the Honorable Mr. Walken the following question:

Have the despatches referred to in the Lieutenant-Governor's opening Speech as not having been received yet, come to hand? What is the nature of these despatches?

The Honorable Mr. Walkem replied as follows:—

"The Despatches referred to have not been received."

Mr. Robson asked the Honorable Mr. Beaven the following question :-

The Premier of Canada having stated in his place in Parliament, that the British Columbia Government have power under the 11th section of the Act of Union, to allow persons to go upon the lands reserved on Vancouver Island for Railway purposes, and having intimated that the Dominion Government would be disposed favorably to regard the exercise of such power, is it the intention of the Government to permit preemption upon said lands?

The Honorable Mr. Beaven replied as follows:—

"No official information has been received by this Government on the subject referred to, but application was made to the Dominion Government, on behalf of the Province, for the purpose of securing the settlement of the lands reserved for railway purposes on the East Coast of Vancouver Island, without jeopardizing the rights of British Columbia to railway construction; but no such arrangement has been consummated. The Government do not intend, at present, to issue any certificates of pre-emption for lands in the reservation referred to."

Pursuant to Order, Bill (No. 19) intituled "An Act to make better provision for the Qualification and Registration of Voters," was read a second time, on the following division:—

YEAS:

Messieurs.

Walkem, Robinson, Mara, Mc Creight,
Ash, Cogan, Semlin, Duck,
Beaven, Todd, Hughes, Booth.—13.

NAYS:

Messieurs

Humphreys, Holbrook, Robson, Brown.—7.
Tolmie, Smithe, W. A. Robertson,

Ordered to be committed on Friday next.

On the motion of the Honorable Mr. Walken, seconded by the Honorable Mr. Armstrong,—

The House proceeded to take into consideration the Speech of His Honor the

Lieutenant-Governor at the opening of the Session.

And a motion being made, That a Supply be granted to Her Majesty,--

Resolved, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee to consider that motion.

Ordered, That that part of His Honor's Speech which relates to a Supply be referred to the said Committee.

Pursuant to Order, the Report on Bill (No. 15) intituled "An Act to repeal the Game Amendment Act, 1873," was considered.

Report adopted.

Ordered That the Bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time.

Resolved That the Bill do pass.

Pursuant to Order, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on Bill (No. 10) intituled "An Act respecting the marking of Cattle."

On Mr. Speaker resuming the chair, Mr. Hughes, Chairman of the Committee,

reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered, That leave be granted for to-morrow.

And then the House adjourned, at 5.40 p.m., until 2 o'clock on Thursday next.

Thursday, 1st April, 1875.

2 o'clock p. m.

Mr. William A. Robertson presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the manner in which a contract, for the supply of the City Prison with groceries and provisions, was awarded to James Fell & Co. (See Sessional Papers.) The Report was received.

The Honorable Mr. Humphreys presented a Report from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into and report upon the Tariff question. (See Sessional Papers.) The Report was received.

Ordered to be considered on Monday next.

The Honorable Mr. Humphreys moved, seconded by Mr. Brown,-

That a respectful Address be presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will take into consideration the advisability of offering a premium with a view of encouraging the culture and manufacture of Tobacco.

The following suggestions herewith are respectfully submitted:—That the condition should be for the first one hundred pounds weight of merchantable Tobacco grown and manufactured in this Province.

Mr Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Smithe asked the Honorable Mr. Ash the following question:-What Act, and which section of that Act, removed Mr. H. A. S. Morley from office as Collector of Voters for Cowichan?

The Honorable Mr. Ash replied as follows:— "Act No. 12 of 1874, Section 1."

Mr. W. A. Robertson asked the Honorable Mr. Walken the following question:-Has the Government agreed to any proposal, in any way whatsoever, for the alteration, modification, or relaxation of the Railway clauses in the Terms of Union; and, if so, what is the nature of the same?

The Honorable Mr. Walkem replied as follows:--" No."

Pursuant to Order, the Honorable Mr. Walken moved the second reading of Bill (No. 23) intituled "An Act respecting the construction of a Graving Dock at Esquimalt, and of Provincial Works."

A debate arose, which was adjourned until Friday next.

And then the House adjourned, at 6 P.M., until 2 o'clock on Friday next.