

that statement. The Governor did not know his opinions, nor did the Government, and he was there to give his vote on any question fairly and conscientiously. He was in favor of denominational education, and he would have supported such a scheme as that suggested by the hon. member for Wellington, had he brought it forward. He considered that such a system of education would be the best and fairest to all taxpayers. The Roman Catholics had to support their own schools for the last 15 years, in addition to paying their share towards the Government schools, which he considered very unfair. The hon. gentleman then at considerable length pointed out how such a system could be made to work in the colony, and concluded by declaring his intention to vote for the grant to the Roman Catholic body.

Mr. NEWMAN moved that the grant be struck out.

Question put, "That the sum proposed to be struck out, stand part of the amount," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes	6
Noes	11

Majority against	5
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Ayes.	Noes.
The Hon. F. P. Barlee	The Hon. M. Fraser
The Hon. R. J. Walcott	Mr. Phillips
Mr. Drummond	The Speaker
Mr. Marmion	Mr. Newman
Mr. Logue	Mr. Moore
Mr. Brown (Teller.)	Mr. Monger
	Mr. Gull
	Mr. Bussell
	Mr. McKail
	Mr. Shenton
	Mr. Steere (Teller.)

Question thus negatived.

The amount of £500 was struck out.

Mr. SHENTON moved that the sum of £150, salary of first teacher, Boys' School, be struck out, as it was not necessary under the new arrangement.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said he would vote that the sum stand. Another master was coming from England. The Inspector of Schools would have a considerable amount of work to perform, and as soon as the master arrived, he would be relieved of that duty.

Mr. NEWMAN stated that he would vote in favor of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Mr. SHENTON withdrew his motion.

Mr. BROWN considered the salary of the Inspector of Schools excessive.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said the hon. gentleman did not know what the duties of the inspector were. He would explain them.

The item, reduced to £4,481, agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said that as they had now completed the whole of the establishments, and though it was late, he would make a few remarks thereon, more particularly to shew that the impression abroad that the increase in expenditure during the past 10 years was in establishments alone, and that the Government were only intent upon giving salaries to their friends, was incorrect. Now, in 1861 the amount for establishments was £36,335; in 1871, £48,447 4s. 2d.; or an increase of 40 per cent. The amount expended exclusive of establishments, in 1861, £23,512; in 1871, £53,012; or an increase of 130 per cent. The total increase in establishments from 1861 to 1871, was £16,700, and this sum was not for increasing the salaries of Government officers, but for services which the increased prosperity of the colony demanded. These are the items which caused the increase: Government Geologist, £1,000; Post Office, £1,300; Harbor Master's Department, £1,000; Medical Establishment, £600; Printing Establishment, £1,000; Scab Inspector, £1,300; Education, £3,000; Legislative Council, £250;—total £9,450. It would therefore be seen that of the increased sum for establishments, £9,450, was for new services, and two departments alone, during 1861 and 1871, for new expenses, increased £8,000, viz., the Police and Survey Departments. These expenses were necessary, consequent, as he had said, upon the increased prosperity of the colony; it would be seen further that while the establishments increased only £17,000, the expenditure exclusive of establishments had nearly increased to £60,000.

The Council adjourned at 11 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Thursday, 5th January, 1871.

Messenger for the House and Thompson's Road Steamer—Mason, Bird, and Company—Representation of the People Bill: select committee report—Steamers on the Coast—Police Ordinance, 1861, 35th Section Repeal Bill: second reading: in committee—Wild Horses and Cattle Nuisance Bill: in committee—Estimates: in committee.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4 p.m.
PRAYERS.

MESSINGER FOR THE HOUSE AND THOMPSON'S ROAD STEAMER

The SPEAKER enquired of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary if the sums of £20 for the

Messenger for the House and £1,000 for Thompson's road steamer were to be placed on the Estimates.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said he had heard nothing about it. He understood that an address to the Governor on the subject was to be adopted.

Mr. STEERE said that as it had been stated that £1,000 would not be enough to cover the cost of introducing one of these eight-horse power engines, he had calculated the first cost, commissions, &c., and found that the total would amount to £802, which would leave £198 to cover all contingencies.

Mr. DRUMMOND said he had a letter from Mr. Thompson through Mr. Farmaner, who stated that he would allow 2½ per cent. discount on the purchase of one of the steamers.

MASON, BIRD, AND COMPANY.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) placed upon the table certain correspondence from Messrs. Mason, Bird, and Company requesting certain concessions of public lands on their carrying out conditions named therein.

The Clerk read the correspondence, as follows:—

With a view to entering into further extensive operations in regard to the export of jarrah timber, and to develop and facilitate as much as possible the opening up of the Colony of Western Australia by means of railway communication, the undersigned have the honor to place under the consideration of His Excellency the Governor the following propositions:—

1. We propose to construct, at our own expense, a line of Railway commencing at Fremantle, and proceeding by such route as may hereafter be agreed upon between us and the Government for the time being of the Colony, into the Canning Timber Ranges, and terminating at a spot over the Hills, not exceeding 25 miles from Fremantle, as may be mutually agreed upon, as a terminus.
2. The width of gauge of the said Railway shall be 3 ft. 6 in.; the rails shall be iron 40 lbs. to the yard; the engines, water supply, and rolling stock of every kind to be in all respects adequate for the proper working of the said Railway, and to the wants of the colony.
3. All plans and specifications of the proposed Railway, or any works in connection with the same, shall be

submitted, with an estimate of the cost of same, for the consideration of the Government, and no work shall be undertaken until such plans and specifications shall be approved by the Government.

4. To erect saw-mills and construct branch tramways, and &c., from suitable parts of the Timber Ranges to the main line of Railway, and connect same therewith, at an expenditure of about (£20,000) twenty thousand pounds.

In consideration of the above, we ask the following concessions:—

1. The Government to declare a line of Railway and to resume all lands necessary for the purpose of constructing same.
2. The actual cost of the construction of the said Railway to be paid to us by land in fee simple; such cost to be settled on the basis of the plans approved by the Government, and the land to be in the quantities and selected as follows, viz:—
3. An area of not less than five acres at the Fremantle Terminus of the said Railway, as near as practicable to the place of shipment, for the erection of a station, timber yard, sheds, and other buildings necessary for the proper carrying on of the works.
4. A sufficient quantity of land for the construction of the said Railway of a sufficient width, and such other land along the line of Railway as may be necessary for the erection of Stations, sheds, shunts, sidings, and other purposes of the said Company in prosecution of their works; such last-mentioned land not to exceed on the whole 5,000 acres, and the company to have the right of first selection of the same from all unappropriated lands of the Colony alongside of the said Railway; and the value of all lands to be given to the said Company to be taken at the Upset Prices of lands in their respective localities according to the existing Land Regulations.
5. The remainder of the land to be in one, two, or three blocks, within the limits of the Timber Ranges, and the price to be calculated at ten shillings per acre, in accordance with the existing Land Regulations; the fee simples for such land not to be issued by the Crown until all

conditions of this proposition or of any contract to be entered into in pursuance thereof, are complied with.

In addition to the above, we ask that a reserve of 256,000 acres be granted in our favor, for the term of thirty years for timber cutting purposes, and that within the limits of this reserve, no license to cut timber shall be granted to any other company during the period above stated: the Government, however, may reserve its own rights in that respect, as also for individuals to employ one pair of sawyers, as provided, by the existing regulations in that respect.

We further ask that a jetty should be erected at the Government expense, at Fremantle, alongside which vessels drawing 23 feet of water could lie, and on and to which jetty there should be a line of Railway constructed by us, running from and connecting the port terminus of the Company's line.

And we ask that upon all sawn or hewn timber exported by the Company the jetty dues or tolls (if any) chargeable, shall not exceed (3d.) three pence per ton of 50 cubic feet.

In the event of these concessions being made to us, we further engage:—

1. To commence the work within six months from the date of the concession being notified to us.
2. To complete the same within three years from such date.
3. To pay a Royalty to the Government of six pence per ton on all timber exported from all land granted to us in fee, and the usual license fees on other lands on which we may cut timber; provided, however, that no export duty be paid in respect of timber cut on land for which we pay licenses, or hold in fee.
4. To provide sufficient rolling stock and full accommodation for all timber, goods, merchandise, and passengers that may be required to be conveyed along the said Railway, at a tariff to be agreed upon.
5. To accommodate, permit to be connected with, and give proper running powers over the said line of Railway sanctioned by the Government, on being paid reasonable tolls, and compensation for so doing, to be agreed upon; provided, nevertheless, that this or any other clause of the agreement shall not extend, or be construed to

extend, to the authorization of any other person or company to use the said main line of Railway in any manner prejudicial to the interests of this Company.

6. At the end of the said term of thirty years, the Government for the time being shall have the privilege of purchasing the line of Railway constructed by us at a price to be fixed at valuation, or in case of difference, by arbitration, and in fixing such cost the valuers, or arbitrators, shall have due regard to the then profits of the working of the line of Railway.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said he had placed the correspondence on the table for the purpose of ascertaining the opinion of the Council. He believed it was the unanimous opinion of the Council that Mr. Mason was entitled to all the concessions the Council could grant.

Mr. GULL moved that the correspondence be printed. He agreed with the Hon. the Colonial Secretary that liberal concessions were due to Mr. Mason, who had carried on the timber trade for years on his own account.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) seconded the motion and said the subject could be brought forward again on Tuesday.

Question put and passed.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE BILL.

Select Committee Report.

Mr. STEERE brought up the first report of the committee and moved that the same be printed.

Question put and passed.

STEAMERS ON THE COAST.

Mr. McKAIL enquired whether the proposition he had made on the part of the Australasian Steam Navigation Company had been taken into consideration.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said the honorable member will recollect that when he (the Colonial Secretary) read the scheme of public works, he mentioned that there was a probability of having steamers on our coast, but that a reply from the company, which was represented by the honorable member, was expected in the course of a few days; that reply was received, and placed upon the Table of the House. No motion had been made that the letter of the company be taken into consideration.

Mr. McKAIL was not aware that any correspondence had taken place between the Hon. the Colonial Secretary and the company. The proposition he made emanated from himself on their behalf.

**POLICE ORDINANCE, 1861, 35th
SECTION REPEAL BILL.**

Second Reading.

Mr. MONGER moved that the Bill be now read a second time. He said that the Bill was simply one to repeal the 35th section of the Police Ordinance of 1861, and to enact another clause in lieu thereof.

Mr. STEERE did not consider legislation on the point necessary.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said that it was absolutely necessary, as under the present Ordinance the police were powerless to abate the nuisance caused by dead horses or cattle being left on the roadside.

Mr. MONGER spoke from experience; he knew many instances in which the nuisance caused by dead horses and cattle being brought to the notice of the police, and that they were unable to interfere in the matter. This Bill was to give them that power.

The Bill was read a second time.

In Committee.

The Bill passed through Committee, without discussion.

**WILD HORSES AND CATTLE NUISANCE
BILL.**

In Committee.

Resumed debate.

Messrs. BROWN and LOGUE contended that the Bill had not been drawn up by the Hon. the Attorney General in accordance with the report. Mr. Brown proceeded to point out several instances in which the report had not been adhered to, and proposed a number of amendments—so many that if carried there would little of the original Bill remaining.

Sitting suspended until 8 p.m.

Resumed debate.

Mr. STEERE moved that the Bill be read *pro forma* for the information of members.

Mr. BROWN rose to propose an addition to a clause, when the Hon. the Colonial Secretary said he was out of order.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. R. J. Walcott) had nothing to do with the Bill. He was not on the committee that drew up the report on which to frame the Bill. He was merely the amanuensis in the matter. If the Bill was not in accordance with the report, throw it aside and draw up a new Bill to be submitted to the House. Perhaps the hon.

member would do so. It is said that one can drive a coach-and-four through any Act of Parliament, but it was not easy to prevent four wild horses going through it.

Mr. BROWN agreed with the Hon. the Attorney General that if the foregoing Bill was a specimen of his drafting, he could do as well himself. He could say that the Bill was not in accordance with the report.

Mr. NEWMAN reminded the honorable member that it was easier to drive a coach-and-four than four wild horses.

After a brief discussion on the Bill, and the proposed additional clauses, the Bill was ordered to be reprinted.

The CHAIRMAN reported that the Bill had passed the Committee *pro forma*, with amendments.

ESTIMATES.

In Committee.

Resumed debate.

Item: Pensions, Retiring, Allowances &c.,
£1,659 10s.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said that the amount for pensions and retiring allowance, £1,659 10s., would be reduced by the death of an officer. He moved that the amount be reduced to £1,558 13s. 4d.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. STEERE regretted very much that it had fallen to his lot to move a reduction in this amount to the extent of £200. There was no use beating about the bush. He moved the reduction because it was the intention of the Government to give an old officer a larger amount than the House intended to give. The elected members owed a duty to their constituents. They were raising taxes to meet current expenses, and hence they would be wanting in duty, did they allow the sum now before them to pass.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) asked on what grounds the hon. member proposed to reduce the amount.

Mr. STEERE complained that the Hon. the Colonial Secretary had not put down each item separately.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) replied that the pension list had been on the table one month that day.

Mr. STEERE contended that each item should have been inserted in the Estimates; then each item would be gone through.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) asked whose pension the honourable member proposed to reduce £200.

Mr. STEERE: The late Surveyor General's, for the reasons I have before given.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said that as the honorable gentleman had refused to give his reasons for

reducing the amount of the late Surveyor General's pension, he considered that his reasons were bad reasons, and to concur in that proposition would be doing an act of injustice to an old and deserving officer. That esteemed gentleman arrived in Western Australia in its earliest days, having landed here in 1829, before any person in this colony, and before the British flag was planted here. He watched the early days of the colony, and he worked for its formation, and during a great portion of that period only received a very small salary, yet he remained in the colony, and spent his money in the colony. For 60 years Captain Roe served his country faithfully and well, 40 years of which he had served in this colony. As a member of the Legislative Council, Captain Roe was hard working and industrious, and as a public servant he worked harder than any man in the colony. He would therefore say, without the fear of contradiction of any honorable member, was it unreasonable to ask that for such services Captain Roe be permitted, at the age of 75, during the short time he could be expected to enjoy a retiring allowance, the full amount of his salary? Captain Roe was a man who never spared himself; he was a man who had devoted his whole life to the colony, and was always an underpaid public servant. For two years had Captain Roe received a salary of £600 per annum, but for many many years had he toiled for £300, £400, and £500, and only for the two last of his service had he received the sum of £600. Now it was asked, in accordance with the regulations, that Captain Roe be allowed to retire on his full salary. The honorable gentleman who moved the resolution declined to give his reasons for opposing this intention, and he would say that he was wrong in not doing so, and in proposing that the pension of the honorable and gallant gentleman be reduced £200, he could hardly believe that he (Mr. Steere) wished to do an injustice to the honorable gentleman who was not there that evening to defend himself. But to carry out the proposal of the honorable member for Wellington would be doing an injustice. It was Captain Roe's right; it was his just right, and he would tell the honorable gentleman that it was not in his power to take it from him; and he would tell the House he was not speaking without book. He spoke warmly, and he felt warmly, for an old man for whom he wished to get justice. As to the pension and retiring allowance due Captain Roe, he would tell him (Mr. Steere) he was wrong, and he would tell the Council they were wrong if they agreed to the proposal. Captain Roe retired, sent in his resignation before the

Constitution of the colony was altered, when it was a Crown colony. The Government then did what they were obliged to do, and nothing more than the law permitted in naming the pension they had to Captain Roe. He was aware that all questions of finance must be brought before the Council, but he must tell the Council they were not in a position to reject the sum, because it was due to Captain Roe before the colony became a representative colony. It was not a question as to how much he (Captain Roe) was to have, but it was what does the law say? He would ask them to vote what the law says is his (Captain Roe's) due, and when he told them what Captain Roe was entitled to receive, he believed there was hardly any member in the House that would throw away a vote he had to give that night. It must be borne in mind that as far as the voting of the public money went, it was not altogether in their hands. He would be sorry to see any serious difference of opinion between the Government and the Council on this matter, or that their recommendations would be in opposition to one another, but he would ask the honorable members to give a fair hearing to what is said, and not come to the House prepared to vote for this or against that question, and if they gave the subject an imperative hearing, they would agree with him that it would be an act of injustice to strike £200 off the pension of an old and deserving officer of this colony. Under the Superannuation Act, which was not now in force here, with reference to all officers entitled to a pension, the Act laid down what shall be given to any officer who entered the service at a certain date. That Act was passed in 1837. In that Act there is a clause which provides that any one who entered the service five years previous to the passing of that Act would be entitled after so many years' service to his full pay as a retiring allowance. That was the provision of the 4th and 5th William the IV., chap 24, and the Council were bound to go by that law. Captain Roe entered the service in 1828, before many of those present that night were born, and before the flag was planted in the colony. Captain Roe landed here first in June, 1829; hence the gallant officer did not come under the Superannuation Act. Captain Roe, he might say, stood alone; there was no other officer in the service so circumstanced. But even under the Superannuation Act special power was given to recommend such further sum as a pension than two-thirds of an officer's salary. And the Act William the IV., provides that the rate of pension, according to the period of service—10, 15, 20, 40, and 45 years does not

exceed two-thirds of the salary. Thus, that would give £500 out of the £600 which Captain Roe now enjoys. Captain Roe came under that Act, and the Government, in the exercise of the discretion placed in them while this was a Crown colony, considering the distinguished services of Captain Roe, considering his great services to this colony, bearing in mind that he has only enjoyed the sum of £600 for two years, he (the Colonial Secretary) would ask for the gallant gentleman what he is entitled to—£600. He could demand £500, and he certainly thought he was not asking from them too much, and the Government only hope that the Legislative Council will accept their recommendation, and he believed it was what the whole colony would wish. He never spoke to a settler with reference to the retirement of Captain Roe but the remark was that he (Captain Roe) had fairly earned all that this colony can give him. If the Council refused to acquiesce, it would be necessary to appeal to the Secretary of State, who could pay the amount out of the land fund; but the land fund he would like to see left intact, and that no hold should be taken of it by the Government. He contended that Captain Roe was fully and fairly entitled to receive his full pay as retiring allowance, and he would be sorry to find that at the first meeting of the Legislative Council of this colony it would refuse to support an act of justice. Captain Roe stood alone in his claim, and he would only say that Captain Roe was held in the deepest and most affectionate regard by every settler in this colony.

Mr. BROWN fully endorsed the sentiments of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, and in a very able speech reviewed the service of Captain Roe in this colony, and forcibly pointed out his peculiar claims to the consideration and gratitude of the settlers.

Mr. SHENTON moved that the retiring allowance to the former Surveyor General be reduced from £600 to £500.

Mr. DRUMMOND thought he would be acting an improper part did he not rise to give his entire support to the measure before the House. He arrived in this colony with Captain Roe, and no one could tell better than he could the important services which Captain Roe had rendered this colony since his advent in 1829. No officer in the colony had such claims as Captain Roe. He had therefore much pleasure in supporting the amount of retiring allowance to that gentleman.

Mr. McKAIL thought that the retiring allowance of Captain Roe might be taken as a precedent.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) assured the honorable gentleman that Captain Roe's case was singular.

Amendment put, "That the retiring allowance to the Surveyor General be reduced from £600 to £500," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes	8
Noes	9

Majority against	1
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Ayes.	Noes.
The Speaker	The Hon. F. P. Barlee
Mr. Newman	The Hon. R. J. Walcott
Mr. Moore	The Hon. M. Fraser
Mr. Monger	Mr. Phillips
Mr. Gull	Mr. Drummond
Mr. Bussell	Mr. Marmion
Mr. Shenton	Mr. Logue
Mr. Steere (Teller.)	Mr. Brown
	Mr. McKail (Teller.)

Amendment thus negatived.

The announcement of the result of the division was received with loud applause.

Item agreed to.

Item: *Revenue Service*, £200.

Item agreed to.

Item: *Administration of Justice*, £1,425.

Mr. STEERE moved that the amount for travelling expenses of the Supreme Court—£100—be struck out as it was never used.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) considered such a course would be exceedingly inadvisable.

Mr. McKAIL: The Chief Justice has never been at a trial in Albany.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said that for that reason it was advisable to leave the amount on.

Mr. STEERE: If it was left on it would only be in the power of the Executive Government.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee): The Executive Government has no power to spend money for one purpose which had been voted for another. He said there was no use in Mr. Steere trying to mislead members of the House.

Mr. STEERE said he knew as well as the Colonial Secretary the Government had done it.

Mr. DRUMMOND stated that as there was no travelling Chairman of Quarter Sessions, he could not see why it was placed on the Estimates.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. R. J. Walcott) said it was placed on the Estimates for many reasons. In cases of emergency it might be necessary for the Supreme Court to travel.

Mr. McKAIL: There is a sum on the Estimates to meet contingencies.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said there was no sum to meet

contingencies that were apparent. The £300 on the Estimates was to meet unforeseen contingencies.

Mr. NEWMAN thought that if money voted by the Council were spent for any other purpose than that intended, they were not fit to be there.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said that what had been asked for was for unforeseen services. The money placed at the disposal of the Government was for services they could not foresee.

Amendment put, "That the amount for travelling expenses of the Supreme Court—£100—be struck out," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes	8
Noes	9

Majority against	1
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Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. Drummond	The Hon. F. P. Barlee
Mr. Logue	The Hon. M. Fraser
Mr. Moore	The Hon. R. J. Walcott
Mr. Monger	Mr. Phillips
Mr. Gull	Mr. Marmion
Mr. McKail	Mr. Brown
Mr. Shenton	The Speaker
Mr. Steere (Teller.)	Mr. Newman
	Mr. Russell (Teller.)

Amendment thus negatived.

Mr. NEWMAN remarked on the items, payment to witnesses and jurors, that the jurors' list ought to be extended; at the present time it was a great hardship to those who were often called upon to attend.

Item agreed to.

Item: Ecclesiastical, £3,543.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said that increase was necessary in that grant. The Church of England, which was 70 per cent., was now only 59 per cent., the Roman Catholics had increased from 22 per cent. to 29 per cent., and other denominations in proportion. The Church of England would not receive any increase. The Roman Catholics would now receive £1,067, Wesleyans £206, and Presbyterians £79. The whole question would have to be considered, as the grant could not go on increasing.

Mr. NEWMAN considered the whole question should be gone into. He did not approve of the manner in which the grant was distributed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee): When the grant was given by direction of the Home Government, there was no other way of doing it.

Mr. LOGUE asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary if the amount was paid to the Bishop.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee): The amount is now paid to the Bishop as is done to the heads of other churches. The Government, of course, exercises a control.

Mr. LOGUE: Then the amount is placed at the disposal of heads of departments this year?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee): In such a way that it can be concurred in by the Government.

Mr. McKAIL: Every chaplain is entitled to his full share in the amount?

Mr. STEERE asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary if in calculating this grant he had taken into account the convicts.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee): It would not make £50 difference in the grant.

Item agreed to.

Item: Charitable Allowances, £2,500.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said the sum had increased considerably. During the first nine months of 1870, it amounted to £2,500. He hoped that with the improved prospects of the colony, so large a sum would not be required this year.

Mr. DRUMMOND had called for a return showing the number of paupers on the hands of the Government, distinguishing those who had been expiries. That return had been placed on the Table of the House, and he was sorry to think that the colony would be burdened with a class of men who were utterly useless. If the colony had the money it would be cheaper to send them back to the parishes from whence they came.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) admitted that the matter was a difficult one to deal with, and that the men were a great burden to the colony.

Item agreed to.

Item: Hospitals, £1,410.

Item: Police, £7,300.

Item: Gaols, £2,350.

Item: Rottnest Penal Establishment, £850.

Item: Rent, £472.

Item: Transport, £950.

Items agreed to.

Item: Conveyance of Mails, £5,075.

Mr. NEWMAN did not consider a weekly mail between Champion Bay and the capital necessary, and was of the opinion that the Colonial mail could start from Perth and leave Albany on the same day as the English mail. A great saving would thus be effected.

Mr. GULL concurred in the remarks that fell from the honorable member for Fremantle.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) did not consider that such an arrangement would give satisfaction, however desirable.

Mr. MONGER said he would oppose any such motion.

Mr. LOGUE considered the weekly mails to Champion Bay a great convenience.

After a few remarks from Messrs. NEWMAN and DRUMMOND, and the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the subject dropped.

Item agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), in accordance with notice, moved that the existing arrangements under which the Sand Hills at Geraldton are being covered with bush be continued. He referred to the works that had been carried on in Champion Bay to prevent the Sand Hills covering up the town of Geraldton, and as the farmers who are in debt to the Government were willing to continue the work which was necessary he urged its continuance.

Question put and passed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), in accordance with notice, moved that the Government be authorized to expend such sum of money as may be necessary, not exceeding £200, in preparing land for planting coffee and other seeds likely to be hereafter productive of commercial value in the colony.

Question put and passed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), in accordance with notice, moved that, with a view to carrying out the provisions of an Act passed by this Council for the working of telegraphs by public funds in this colony, the sum of £435 be placed on the Estimates for buildings, clerks, and messengers at Perth and Fremantle.

Question put and passed.

Item: *Works and Buildings*, £6,150.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that this item stand at £6,560.

A brief discussion ensued when the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the sum of £150 be made available for addition to the accommodation of the Survey Office.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. STEERE said that there was £1,000 on the Estimates for a school-house at Fremantle. He had seen a tender on the table to do the work for £600.

At the request of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary the matter was left until he could communicate with the Clerk of Works, Fremantle.

Progress reported, and leave obtained to sit again.

The Council adjourned at 11 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, 6th January, 1871.

Papers Tabled—Public Loan Bill: first reading—14th Victoria, No. 6. Amendment Bill: third reading—Estimates: in committee—Messages from the Governor, Nos. 5 and 6—Estimates: in committee.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4 p.m.

PRAYERS

PAPERS TABLED.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser) laid on the table a memorandum from His Excellency the Governor as to the Survey and Land Department. Also, suggestions by the late Surveyor General as to Land Regulations.

Ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC LOAN BILL.

First Reading.

Mr. STEERE, in accordance with notice, moved that leave be given to introduce a Bill to raise a loan for the construction of public works.

The Bill was read a first time.

14th VICTORIA, No. 6, AMENDMENT BILL.

Third Reading.

Mr. DRUMMOND moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

ESTIMATES.

In Committee.

Resumed debate.

Item: *Works and Buildings*, £6,560.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said he had communicated with the Clerk of Works, and found that the sum of £686 was the estimate for the building of the school-house at Fremantle. He moved that the sum of £700 be placed on the Estimates for that purpose.

The motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) then moved that the item, works and buildings, stand at £6,260.

The motion was agreed to.

A discussion then took place respecting the Printing Department—as to whether the work could not be done cheaper by contract.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said it could not be done cheaper; in fact, it could not be done at all by any private printing establishment in the colony.

Progress reported, and leave obtained to sit again.