

Perth Museum, £50.

Transport for Government Stores, £300.

Travelling Expenses of Officials, £400.

Payment of Interest on Funds in Post Office Savings Bank, £500.

Agreed to.

Purchase of a Vessel for North-West Coast, £1,500.

After some debate, this was agreed to.

Sericulture, £100.

Acclimatisation: plants, fish, and animals, £100.

Stationery for Public Offices, £800.

Postage for Public Offices, £1,600.

Agreed to.

Admiralty and Colonial Survey, £1,500.

After some debate, this was agreed to.

Telegraph Line to Eucla £18,000.

Agreed to.

Item agreed to.

Progress reported, and leave obtained to sit again.

GERALDTON AND NORTHAMPTON RAILWAY.

Message from the Governor—No. 4.

In Committee.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser) moved that this Council, after receiving the explanation afforded by His Excellency the Governor in his Message, has much pleasure in withdrawing the censure lately passed by it upon the late administration of the colony in the second paragraph of the report on the Geraldton and Northampton railway.

After some debate,

Mr. RANDELL moved, as an amendment, that the following words be added to the above motion in so far as in paragraph No. 2, line six from the top, these words occur: "that previously to the vote for raising a loan for the construction of the railway a change of gauge had been determined upon."

Mr. BROWN moved, as an amendment to the original question, that all words after the word "That" be struck out, and the following inserted in lieu thereof: "This Council has much pleasure in finding, from the explanation which His Excellency The Governor in his Message, No. 4, has afforded, that it was in error in concluding that the change of gauge from three feet to three feet six inches had been determined upon previously to the

vote for raising the Loan for the construction of the Railway in 1873, and it therefore withdraws the charge of want of candor made by it in consequence against the late administration. The Council, however, regrets to find that the Executive Government, in informing the Council during the Session of 1874 that the contract had been accepted, when, at any rate, they had determined on the change, did not make the Council acquainted with the fact and ask for the increased note necessary to carry it out, and think that such reticence under such circumstances, evidenced a want of consideration of the views and province of the Legislative Council."

Question, that the amendment moved by Mr. Brown be agreed to, put and passed.

The Council adjourned at 5 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Tuesday, 28th December, 1875.

Speaker of the House—Acting Speaker of the House—Sericulture—Petition—Papers Tabled—Geraldton and Northampton Railway: Message from the Governor, No. 4—Bridges and Jetties—Fremantle Lodge of Freemasons—Bill: second reading: in committee—Harbor Improvements, Fremantle: select committee report—Land Regulations for the Northern and Eastern Districts: select committee report.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 7 p.m.

PRAYERS.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. A. O'Grady Lefroy), in felicitous terms, congratulated the Speaker upon his safe return to the colony, and expressed the pleasure of the House at his resuming the position of Speaker.

Mr. STEERE followed in the same strain.

The SPEAKER, in acknowledging the congratulations, expressed his sense of the obligation he was under to the House for the consideration shown to him in every way during his unavoidable absence since the commencement of the session.

ACTING SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. A. O'Grady Lefroy) moved that the House desires to express to Sir Thomas Cockburn-Campbell its appreciation of the judgment, impartiality, and ability with which he had presided over its deliberations since the opening of the session on the 30th November, in the absence of the Speaker.

Mr. STEERE seconded the motion.

Sir Thomas COCKBURN-CAMPBELL suitably acknowledged the compliment.

Question put and passed.

SERICULTURE PETITION.

Mr. SHENTON presented a petition from Mons. Louis Augustin Beurteaux, praying that the Council would recognise his efforts and personal loss in endeavoring to establish sericulture in Western Australia.

The petition was received and read by the Clerk.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. A. O'Grady Lefroy) notified the House that the petitioner had forwarded to the Government, for the inspection of members, three ounces of grain produced from silkworms of his own educating.

PAPERS TABLED.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser) placed on the table the rules and regulations for surveyors employed by the Crown Lands Office.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. A. O'Grady Lefroy) placed on the table the northern district special revenue returns asked for by Mr. T. Burges on the 16th December.

GERALDTON AND NORTHAMPTON RAILWAY.

Message from the Governor—No. 4.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. A. O'Grady Lefroy) with reference to Message No. 4 from the Governor made the following statement:—

In connection with the Governor's Message No. 4, stating that the subject of a loan for the completion of the Geraldton and Northampton railway would receive immediate consideration, I am directed by His Excellency to inform this honorable Council that he has had a Bill prepared to raise the loan required.

BRIDGES AND JETTIES.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. A. O'Grady Lefroy): With reference to the Addresses adopted a few days ago by the House, and duly presented to His Excellency the Governor, requesting him to place on the Estimates a sum of £400 for a bridge over the Swan, £50 for a bridge over the Gingin Brook, £200 for the extension of the Perth Jetty, and £300 for the extension of Albany jetty head, I am directed by His Excellency to state that the item of £50 will be met when the vote for

roads and bridges comes to be distributed, but that he could not place the other items on the Estimates without causing an excess of expenditure over revenue. Should, however, this honorable Council, by resolution, authorise the expenditure and there be found ways and means to meet it, His Excellency has no objection to carry out the wishes of the House.

FREMANTLE LODGE OF FREEMASONS BILL.

Second Reading.

Mr. PEARSE moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. H. H. Hocking) failed to see any necessity for such a Bill, as the trustees were already fully empowered to do what was here sought to enable them to do. He would, therefore move as an amendment that the Bill be read a second time that day six months.

Mr. STEERE seconded the amendment.

Amendment not agreed to.

Question put and passed.

The Bill was read a second time.

In Committee.

The Bill passed through Committee without discussion.

HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS, FREMANTLE.

Select Committee Report.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser), in accordance with notice, moved that the report be now taken into consideration with a view to its adoption. He said he did not anticipate that the report would be adopted unanimously; indeed, he was only too well aware that it would be sure to be opposed and attacked by his friend on the right (Mr. Bickley). The main difficulty the committee had to contend with was that of providing a scheme, which, while being within the means of the colony, was calculated to meet the requirements of the port.

After some discussion, Mr. RANDELL moved, as an amendment, that any scheme for a breakwater at Fremantle which does not embrace protection to the river entrance will not meet the requirements of the case, or have the approval of the House.

Mr. T. BURGESS moved, as an amendment on the amendment, that all words after the word "That" be struck out, and the following words inserted in lieu: "this House, without

expressing any opinion upon the scheme recommended by the select committee, would urge upon His Excellency the Governor the desirability of referring the whole question of harbor works at Fremantle, accompanied with the charts and plans from time to time laid on the Table of the House, to some competent authority in England, on whose character and experience in works of this nature we may rely for a practical solution of the difficulty, and that such authority may be asked to report what may be the best scheme to adopt that may at the same time be within the means of the colony, and embrace the advantage, as far as possible, of wharfage accommodation."

After some further debate, the amendment on the amendment was put, upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes 10

Noes 7

Majority for 3

Ayes.	Noes.
The Hon. A. O'Grady	The Hon. M. Fraser
Lefroy	Mr. Crowther
The Hon. H. H. Hocking	Mr. Munger
Mr. W. Burges	Mr. Brown
Mr. Shenton	Mr. Marmion
Mr. Padbury	Mr. Pearce
Sir Thomas Cockburn-	Mr. Steere (Teller.)
Campbell	
Mr. Randall	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Hurl	
Mr. T. Burges (Teller.)	

Amendment on the amendment thus passed.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

LAND REGULATIONS FOR THE NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICTS.

Select Committee Report.

The SURVEYOR GENERAL (Hon. M. Fraser) moved that the report of the select committee be now taken into consideration with a view to its adoption.

After some discussion,

Mr. MARMION moved, as an amendment,—That this House agrees with and adopts the report, with the exception of that paragraph making suggestions for placing the small farmer in a better position than at present as regards the depasturing of his stock; this House considering that it would be better to give the special occupation license holder the right to depasture a certain number of stock on adjacent Crown lands, in proportion to the quantity of land he holds.

Mr. BROWN moved as a further amendment that progress be reported, and that the

further consideration of the report be made an order of the day for the next sitting of the Council.

After some further debate, the amendment on the amendment was put, upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes 8

Noes 9

Majority against 1

Ayes.	Noes.
The Hon. A. O'Grady	Mr. Randall
Lefroy	Mr. Burt
The Hon. M. Fraser	Mr. Shenton
Mr. W. Burges	Sir Thomas Cockburn-
The Hon. H. H. Hocking	Campbell
Mr. T. Burges	Mr. Gale
Mr. Padbury	Mr. Monger
Mr. Crowther	Mr. Marmion
Mr. Brown (Teller.)	Mr. Pearce
	Mr. Steere (Teller.)

Amendment on the amendment thus negatived.

Amendment put, upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes 8

Noes 8

Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. Monger	The Hon. A. O'Grady
Mr. Pearce	Lefroy
Mr. Steere	Mr. Crowther
Mr. Randall	Mr. W. Burges
Mr. Burt	Mr. Padbury
Mr. Shenton	Mr. Gale
Sir Thomas Cockburn-	Mr. Brown
Campbell	Mr. T. Burges
Mr. Marmion (Teller.)	The Hon. H. H. Hocking
	(Teller.)

The voting being equal, the SPEAKER gave his casting vote to the Ayes.

Amendment thus passed.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

The Council adjourned at 12.30 a.m. (Wednesday).

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Wednesday, 29th December, 1875.

Railway Supplementary Loan Bill: first reading—Local Ordinance 28th Victoria, No. 2—Chairman of Committees—Swan Bridge and Perth and Albany Jetties: in committee—Estimates: in committee—Perth Drainage Bill: second reading and committee—Offenders Apprehension Bill: third reading—Municipal Institutions' Act, 1871, Amendment Bill: second reading—Trespass Act, 1872, Amendment Bill: second reading and committee—Remission of Penalties Amendment Bill: second reading and committee—Fremantle Lodge of Freemasons Bill—third reading.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 7 p.m.
PRAYERS.