

ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL LAW BILL.

Second Reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the Bill be now read a second time. He said that it was designed to remove some defects in the administration of the criminal law.

The Bill was read a second time.

In Committee.

The Bill passed through Committee without discussion.

WARRANTS OF DISTRESS BILL.

Second Reading.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. H. H. Hocking) moved that the Bill be now read a second time.

The Bill was read a second time.

In Committee.

Clause 1—

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. H. H. Hocking) moved to strike out the word "is," in the second line, and insert the words "shall be or has been" in lieu.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported, with an amendment.

IMPORTATION OF CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PIGS BILL.

Second Reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the Bill be now read a second time. He said that the Bill was introduced in pursuance of a resolution adopted at the Intercolonial Conference, its purport being the prohibition or the regulation of the importation of cattle, sheep, or pigs into this colony, on sanitary grounds.

After a few observations from Mr. LOGUE,

The Bill was read a second time.

The Council adjourned at 10.10 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Thursday, 3rd July, 1873.

Swearing in of Member—Paper Tabled—Quarantine Station and Regulations—Steam Communication—Crown Lands and Survey Report: printing—Warrants of Distress Bill: third reading.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 12 noon.

PRAYERS.

SWEARING IN OF MEMBER.

The SPEAKER administered the Oath of Allegiance to Mr. W. Padbury.

PAPER TABLED.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) laid upon the Table of the House a copy of a letter from W. R. Bunbury, with enclosures, relative to a proposed land tax.

QUARANTINE STATION AND REGULATIONS.

Mr. HASSELL, in accordance with notice, asked the Colonial Secretary what steps the Government intended to take with regard to a quarantine station and quarantine regulations at the Port of King George's Sound.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) replied that there existed a great diversity of opinion relative to the nature of the quarantine regulations which ought to be adopted for this colony, and that steps had been taken by the Government to procure a copy of the quarantine regulations in force in the other Australian colonies, upon receipt of which His Excellency the Governor proposes to appoint a commission to consider the same and report thereupon.

STEAM COMMUNICATION.

Mr. STEERE, in accordance with notice, moved that the contract between the Government and Messrs. Connor & McKay for placing a steamer on the coast be laid on the Table of the House.

Question put and passed.

CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY REPORT.

Printing.

Mr. CAREY, in accordance with notice, moved that the report on Crown lands and surveys, laid on the Table of the House by the Colonial Secretary on the 23rd June, be printed.

Question put and passed.

WARRANTS OF DISTRESS BILL.

Third Reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the Bill be now read a third time.

The Bill was read a third time and passed

The Council adjourned at 12.45 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Friday, 4th July, 1873.

Papers Tabled—Public Works Loan Bill: first reading—First Readings—Standing Orders—Prosecution of Mr. L. C. Burges—Immigration—Departmental Expenditure: select committee—Arrangement of the House—Printing Committee: appointment—Increase of Members in Legislative Council Bill: second reading—Duty on Transfer of Landed Property Bill: second reading: in committee.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 6 p.m.

PRAYERS.

PAPERS TABLED.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) laid upon the Table of the House drawings and papers relative to the proposed Geraldton and Northampton Railway line, viz.—

1. General plan and seconds of whole line.
2. Three sheets of detailed drawings.
3. Engineer's report and estimate of traffic.
4. Specification of work.
5. General conditions.
6. Letter from engineer to Surveyor General giving reasons why the detailed estimate should not be made public for the present.

PUBLIC WORKS LOAN BILL.

First Reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), in accordance with notice, moved that leave be given to bring in a Bill to raise the sum of £100,000 for the construction of certain public works. He said that the two undertakings contemplated in the Bill were the construction of a railway and telegraph from Geraldton to Northampton through the mineral portion of the Victoria district, for which £89,000 was set down, and also the construction of a telegraph line from Newcastle to Champion Bay, for which £11,000 was provided. With regard to the first item the hon.

gentleman thought it better not to enter into details relative to it at present; he would simply lay on the Table of the House for the information of hon. members a schedule of plans, drawings, and papers connected with the proposed railway, as also the engineer's report, specifications of the work to be performed, and an estimate of the cost and of the traffic. Being desirous that ample time should be afforded hon. members to peruse and consider the various papers connected with the undertaking, he would postpone the second reading of the Bill until such time as the House would be prepared to discuss it with some knowledge of its details. With reference to the construction of the telegraph line from Newcastle to Champion Bay, the House had already sanctioned the work, and His Excellency was in receipt of a despatch from the Secretary of State for the colonies affirming the resolution of the House and empowering His Excellency to approve of a Bill to raise the necessary sum for the construction of the line. As it was considered inadvisable for the colony to go into the market for the purpose of borrowing such a small sum as £15,000 or £16,000 it was proposed to incorporate in one loan the capital necessary for the construction of the two undertakings, thereby increasing it to £100,000—a sum which it was proposed to raise in this colony and in Victoria, where there would be no difficulty in obtaining the required amount at a rate of interest not exceeding 5 per cent. per annum. With these few observations he would move that the Bill be read a first time, and, if in accordance with the wish of the House, he would move that the second reading be made an order of the day for Friday, the 10th instant.

The Bill was read a first time.

FIRST READINGS.

The following Bills were read a first time, in accordance with notice, on motions by the Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. P. Barlee): Pearl Shell Fishery Regulation Bill, Local Revenues in Northern District Bill, Provision for further Government of Northern District Bill, Survey of Land for Railway Purposes Bill, and Abolition of Forfeitures for Treason and Felony Bill.

STANDING ORDERS.

Mr. LOGUE, in accordance with notice, moved the adoption of the following as a Standing Order:—

That it shall be incumbent on any member, except the Speaker, to serve as Chairman of Committees during the session, when chosen by a majority of votes.