

would have to be removed to another site sooner or later.

MR. RICHARDSON said he only rose to repeat a remark made with regard to this institution the other day, by a distinguished visitor from South Australia, who, after going through it, said it was an "awful place."

MR. R. F. SHOLL said as he was one of the members of the select committee he should just like to say a few words. He had often been asked to visit this asylum, but had always avoided doing so, not caring for it; but, as a matter of duty, he felt compelled to do so with the other members of the committee. From what he saw, he could only reiterate that the building was quite unsuited for the purpose; and the sights they witnessed and the sounds they heard within those walls were such as would certainly never induce him to visit the place again out of curiosity. Incurable lunatics, without the slightest sense of decency, were mixed up with the temporary insane, simply because there was no means of separating them. The necessity for some improvement in the present accommodation must impress everyone who visited the place, and inspected the internal arrangements. To his mind it was not a question of pounds, shillings, and pence at all, but a question of common humanity; and it was the duty of the Government and of the Legislature to take immediate steps to place this institution in a more satisfactory condition. Funds might not be available at present to do all that was necessary, but something must be done to improve the existing state of things. He hoped the Government recognised the necessity of this, and that they would do all in their power to remedy what certainly was at present a discredit to the colony.

Amendment put and passed.

Original question, as amended, agreed to.

The House adjourned at ten minutes past 11 o'clock, p.m.

Legislative Council,

Friday, 20th February, 1891.

Loan Bill (£1,336,000); Message from the Legislative Assembly—Audit Bill; committee—Excess Bill 1889; first reading; Suspension of Standing Orders; second reading; committee; third reading—Excess Bill, 1890; first reading; Suspension of Standing Orders; second reading; committee; third reading—Loan Bill; committee—Audit Bill; Message from the Legislative Assembly; third reading—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Sir T. C. Campbell, Bart.) took the chair at 3 o'clock.

PRAYERS.

LOAN BILL (£1,336,000)—MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

The Order of the Day for the consideration of Message No. 9 from the Legislative Assembly, (p. 330, *ante*) in a committee of the whole Council, having been read, the President left the chair.

IN COMMITTEE.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: It is with very great satisfaction to me that a *modus vivendi* has been arrived at between this House and the other. Therefore I have to move, That the following Message be sent to the Legislative Assembly in reply to their Message No. 9: "That this House, while not admitting that Message No. 9 of the Legislative Assembly accurately declares the lawful rights of the Legislative Council in regard to controlling and dealing with Money Bills and the Estimates of expenditure, or that the constitutional practice laid down in the said Message is the one rightfully and properly to be pursued, is prepared, nevertheless, not to insist on the suggestion conveyed in its Message No. 5, and will agree to the Loan Bill now before the House, provided that the following clause be added to the Audit Bill now under consideration:—

"Whenever it is proposed to undertake any new works for the improvement of any harbor, the cost whereof is intended to be defrayed out of loan moneys, the plans and sections of the proposed works, or copies thereof, together with a statement showing the nature and extent thereof, shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament for their approval."

Nothing, I think, can be more courteous and considerate, and expressive of our

intention to work harmoniously with the other House, than the Message I have suggested.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: It is with the heartiest feelings of gratification that I second the resolution of my hon. friend, Mr. Leake, that this Message be sent to the Lower House. It is seldom that an episode, which at one moment threatened to be so full of complication, has been settled in so satisfactory a manner. Every right and every privilege of this House has been preserved, and the public welfare has been thoroughly maintained. In view of the fair, just, and considerate manner in which we have been met by the members of the Lower House, I ask this Council to pass this Message without any further comment, as a proof that we entirely reciprocate the generous feelings that have been evinced towards us.

Question—put and passed.

THE PRESIDENT: Before reporting to the House, I wish to make a short explanation in regard to my own action in this matter. I have been informed by some hon. members, and even by the Premier, that they were under the impression that I was the author of the resolution which went down to the Lower House. I beg to assure the House that I had nothing to do with it. I make this explanation so that hon. members may no longer be under the impression that has prevailed.

The resolution was then reported to the House, and ordered to be transmitted to the Legislative Assembly.

AUDIT BILL.

FURTHER CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 19.—Loan Estimates: to which an amendment had been moved by the Hon. J. A. Wright to insert the words "and approved by" between the words "to" and "Parliament."

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: I beg to assure the Colonial Secretary that when I moved the amendment to this clause, I had no intention of captious criticism. I thought the words were omitted by a clerical error, and I consequently called attention to it.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): The bill came to me from the Assembly when it was in charge of the Attorney General, and, feeling that I

could not consent to such an amendment without consulting my hon. colleagues, I therefore moved that progress be reported.

THE PRESIDENT: I may point out that the matter is provided for by clause 2 of the Loan Bill.

The amendment was then put and negatived, and the clause agreed to.

Clauses 20 to 43 were then agreed to without amendment.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I now beg to move that the following new clause be added to the bill, to stand as clause 21: "Whenever it is proposed to undertake any new works for the improvement of any harbor, the cost whereof is intended to be defrayed out of Loan Moneys, the plans and sections of the proposed works, or copies thereof, together with a statement showing the nature and extent thereof, shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament for their approval."

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I have no objection whatever to the clause proposed.

The clause was agreed to.

The Schedule was agreed to without amendment, and the bill, as amended, was reported to the House.

EXCESS BILL, 1889.

This bill was received from the Legislative Assembly, and was read a first time.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton), in moving the second reading of the bill, said that the expenditure to which the bill referred had to be incurred owing to there having been no session of the Legislative Council last year. The present Government had nothing to do with it, but it was advisable, and in accordance with precedent, to confirm the expenditure by statute.

Question—That the bill be now read a second time—put and passed.

The bill was then taken through its remaining stages and passed without amendment, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly.

EXCESS BILL, 1890.

This bill was received from the Legislative Assembly, and read a first time.

The Standing Orders were suspended. THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton), in moving the second reading, said hon. members would remember that during 1890 there was no sitting of the Legislative Council, and the Government, in order to meet certain unforeseen expenses, had to fall back on the provisions of the Audit Act for authority for the expenditure. The Schedule, he might point out, contained the different items which had been incurred; but it was necessary to pass this bill. The present Government had nothing to do with this expenditure; but he could say, as a member of the old Committee of Advice, that everything had been carefully looked into, before being recommended.

Question—That the bill be now read a second time—put and passed.

The bill was then taken through its remaining stages and passed without amendment, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly.

LOAN BILL (£1,336,000).

IN COMMITTEE:

Schedule:

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved that the Schedule be agreed to.

Question—put and passed.

The bill was then reported to the House.

AUDIT BILL—MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THE PRESIDENT announced the receipt of the following Message from the Legislative Assembly:—"Mr. President, 'The Legislative Assembly acquaint the 'Legislative Council that this House has 'no objection to the insertion of the proposed clause (*vide* p. 338, *ante*) in the 'Audit Act now before the Legislative 'Council.—JAS. G. LEE STEERE, Speaker."

The Standing Orders were suspended to enable the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was then read a third time and passed, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly.

LOAN BILL (£1,336,000).

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved that the Standing

Orders be suspended to enable this bill to be read a third time.

Question—put and passed.

The bill was then read a third time and passed, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly.

ADJOURNMENT.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Saturday, 21st February, at 11:30 a.m.

Question—put and passed.

The Council, at 4:15 p.m., adjourned until Saturday, 21st February, at 11:30 a.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Friday, 20th February, 1891.

Information for selectors of land—Message from His Excellency the Governor: Supply—Overcrowding of s.s. "Albany"—Message from His Excellency the Governor recommending increase in the duty on unmanufactured tobacco: consideration of—Estimates of Expenditure, 1891: recommended—Ministerial explanation: Governor Robinson and the Delegation to England—Message from Legislative Council *re* Loan Bill; Reply to do.—Scab Act Amendment Bill: in committee—Message from Legislative Council *re* Audit Bill—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 2:30 p.m.

PRAYERS.

INFORMATION FOR SELECTORS OF LAND.

THE SPEAKER: I observe that the first question on the Notice Paper is one standing in the name of the hon. member for Northam. It is to ask the Commissioner of Crown Lands "If it is