

his advisers, the Ministry, will be the first to recognise that he has been of great service to them and the colony at large. I did not rise for the purpose of criticising the speech of the hon. gentleman; I rose to move the adjournment of the debate, so as to give other hon. members, and those who have been attacked like my hon. friend on my right (Mr. Canning) an opportunity of replying, when we have the speech in print. Before I sit down let me say that it gives me great gratification to find the colony in such a prosperous financial position, and to find that the hopes and prophecies of the Government have been more than realised and justified, and that our future is bright and cheering. I congratulate the colony on its financial position, and I congratulate the Ministry on their successful administration of the affairs of the country during the past 12 months. Having said this much I now propose, so that some of my friends may have an opportunity of criticising those figures which have been laid before us, and so that the hon. member for the Swan (Mr. Loton) may be able to again tell us what his views are on our future prospects, and so that my hon. friend the member for East Perth (Mr. Canning) may be able to reply to the remarks made by the hon. the Colonial Treasurer concerning him, that we report progress.

Question—That progress be reported—put and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at half-past 9 o'clock.

Legislative Council,

Friday, 29th January, 1892.

Municipal Institutions Act Amendment Bill: message from the Legislative Assembly—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THE PRESIDENT announced the receipt of the following message from the Legislative Assembly:—

“Mr. President,

“The Legislative Assembly returns to the Legislative Council the Bill intituled ‘An Act to amend the Municipal Institutions Act, 1876,’ and submits the following reasons for being unable to agree to the suggestions received 22nd January, 1892, from the Legislative Council:

- “1. The Assembly considers that, in the ‘interests of Education, ‘private ‘schools’ should be exempted ‘from municipal rates.
- “2. Many buildings used as Sunday ‘schools by various religious ‘denominations would become ‘rateable were this proposed ‘amendment to become law, inasmuch as they are often used ‘during the week as private ‘schools.
- “3. The probability is that the proposed amendment would have ‘the effect of closing private ‘schools now open, as the assessment would in some cases equal, ‘if not exceed, the rent obtainable.

“JAS. G. LEE STEERE,

“Speaker.

“Legislative Assembly Chamber, 27th ‘January, 1892.”

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

taken into consideration at the next sitting of the Council.

Question—put and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council at 3-10 p.m. adjourned until Tuesday, 2nd February, at 3 o'clock.

Legislative Assembly,

Friday, 29th January, 1892.

Agreement with Messrs. Neil McNeil and Co.—Noise from an adjacent building—Harbor Works at Fremantle: further reference to Sir John Coode—Game Bill: consideration of Legislative Council's Amendments—Aborigines Protection Act, 1886, Amendment Bill: second reading—Aboriginal Offenders Act, 1883, Amendment Bill: second reading—Patent Act Amendment Bill: second reading—Protection of Women and Girls Bill: in committee—Sharks Bay Pearl Shell Fishery Bill: consideration of Legislative Council's amendments—Proposed prohibition of Hawkers' Licenses to Asiatics—Public Health Act, 1886, Amendment Bill: first reading—Returns Midland Railway expenditure since date of the Government guarantee—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

COPY OF TIMBER CONCESSION AGREEMENT WITH MESSRS. NEIL McNEIL AND CO.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) laid on the table a copy of the original agreement between the Government and Messrs. Neil McNeil and Co., relating to special timber concessions. He said that the copy of the agreement laid on the table last session (it had since been discovered) was not a copy of the original agreement but of another agreement, though they did not differ in any material particular. As the latter, however, had been bound up with the Sessional Papers, it was considered desirable that the present copy, being the original agreement, should be included with the papers for this session,

OUTSIDE DISTURBANCE OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE.

THE SPEAKER called attention to the noise from the incessant hammering that was going on at the new buildings adjacent to the Assembly chamber, and which had been going on for several days. His Honor said it was very annoying, and some steps should be taken to prevent this disturbance. He could scarcely hear a word that was said, and other members had complained of the same thing. By an Act passed last session, the Parliamentary Privileges Act, the House was empowered to punish summarily, as for contempt, any person creating any disturbance in the House, or in the vicinity of the House, while the House was sitting.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) said he quite agreed with what His Honor had said, and was himself going to move that steps be taken to stop the disturbance. It was almost impossible for members to hear what was said, and he believed the reporters were equally inconvenienced.

THE SPEAKER instructed the Clerk to send a message to the persons creating the disturbance, requesting them to desist, while the House was sitting, from hammering or making any other noise calculated to disturb the proceedings of the House.

This was done, and the disturbance ceased.

FURTHER REFERENCE OF HARBOR QUESTION TO SIR JOHN COODE.

MR. MOLLOY, in accordance with notice, asked the Premier whether it was the intention of the Government to again consult Sir John Coode in connection with the Fremantle Harbor Works Scheme; and, if so, why?

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) said that the Government, with the information at present before it, was unable to answer the question.

GAME BILL.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL'S AMENDMENTS.

The House went into committee to consider the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Game Bill. The amendments were dealt with *seriatim*.