

ed, and successfully carried through, and when we look and see with what a variety of subjects those bills deal, and the importance of many of them, and when we bear in mind the care displayed in drafting them, and the comparative facility with which they passed through this House—when we bear all this in mind I think it will be admitted that we owe a debt of considerable gratitude to him for his labors in the interests of the colony. I think it is almost unprecedented that the Government should be able to carry that large number of bills, many of them measures of great importance, without a single bill being rejected. There was one bill, a very important bill—the Roads Bill—which was not carried to its third reading. The Government, out of consideration for the wishes of a minority of hon. members, deemed it expedient not to press that bill through its last stages this session. But no bill presented by the Government has been rejected, and that I think is certainly a subject of self-congratulation for the hon. and learned gentleman. When we look round and see on the Treasury Bench two hon. gentlemen who have been, if not born in the colony, bred and educated in the colony, and see the admirable way in which they have conducted the Government business, filling their respective positions with credit to themselves and advantage to the colony, we cannot help thinking, I imagine, that when the time comes when we shall take upon ourselves the task of self-government, that we shall find other gentlemen also, in the colony, able and willing to assist in carrying on that form of Government with credit to themselves and advantage to the country. I now, sir, move the adjournment of the House.

THE ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. S. Smith) said, leaving his hon. colleagues to answer for themselves, he should like to say a few words in reply to what had fallen from the hon. member for Perth. The hon. member had paid him some very handsome compliments for the manner in which he had discharged his duties as leader of the Government, — compliments that were evidently endorsed, if he might say so, by the House; and he felt as if a blush were creeping over his countenance when

he listened to these compliments,—a blush that probably lingered there still. He could assure hon. members that when he first entered the House, a novice, inexperienced in parliamentary work, and undertook the duties of leader of the Government, he did so with a considerable amount of diffidence; but in a very short time, the uniform courtesy that was extended to him on all occasions removed that diffidence. It had been his endeavor, and it had been his determination on entering upon his duties—as he never could understand why there should be any strong feeling of opposition between the Government benches and the unofficial benches, because, after all, they had only one object in view, and that was the welfare of the colony—it had been his determination, so far as it would be in his power, to act on every occasion in harmony with the rest of the House. If he had succeeded, certainly his reward had been ample; and should he have the honor of occupying a seat on any future occasion—although he doubted it—he trusted he should be able to pursue the same course, and that his action would meet with the approval of the House, as he was glad to find it appeared to have done during the session now about to close.

The House adjourned at a quarter to nine o'clock, p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Thursday, 2nd September, 1886.

Message (No. 22): Replying to Addresses—Message (No 23): Assenting to Bills—Prorogation.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at noon.

PRAYERS.

MESSAGE (No. 22): REPLYING TO ADDRESSES.

THE SPEAKER announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:

"In reply to Address No. 25, of the 30th ultimo, the Governor has the honor to inform the Honorable the Legislative Council that papers showing the action taken by this Government in relation to the Aboriginal Natives of the colony will shortly be made public, and will include correspondence in connection with the questions lately raised by the Rev. J. B. Gribble.

"2. The Address of Your Honorable House No. 26, dated the 30th ultimo, advising further restrictions in the matter of the introduction of trees, shrubs, and plants into the colony, will receive due consideration, as will also the resolutions of Your Honorable House contained in Addresses Nos. 28 and 29, dated the 31st ultimo and 1st instant, respecting the completion of the Public Offices in Perth, and the amendment of the Building Act of 1884.

"Government House, Perth, 2nd September, 1886."

MESSAGE (No. 23): ASSENTING TO BILLS.

THE SPEAKER announced the receipt of the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:

"The Governor has the honor to inform the Honorable the Legislative Council that he has this day assented, in Her Majesty's name, to the undermentioned Bills:—

"23. *An Act for the Re-Appropriation of portion of certain moneys appropriated for Harbor Works at Fremantle, by 'The Loan Act, 1884.'*

"24. *An Act to confirm a certain Contract for the construction of a Railway from Guildford to the Greenough Flats, and to amend 'The Eastern Railway Extension Act, 1881.'*

"25. *An Act to provide for the better protection and management of the Aboriginal Natives of Western Australia, and to amend the law relating to certain Contracts with such Aboriginal Natives.*

"26. *An Act to regulate the granting of licenses under 'The Wines, Beer, and Spirit Sale Act, 1880,' in certain districts, and further to amend the said Act.*

"27. *An Act to provide for the constitution of Courts of General Sessions of the Peace in the Districts of East Kimberley and West Kimberley, and to amend the Law relating to the qualification of Jurors and the constitution of Juries in such Courts.*

"28. *An Act to amend 'The Supreme Court Act, 1880.'*

"29. *An Act to refer certain matters to the Federal Council of Australasia.*

"30. *An Act to enable the Trustees of the Swan River Mechanics' Institute to raise Money on Mortgage of certain Lands vested in them, and also to lease the same Lands.*

"31. *An Act to amend the Law regulating the Admission of Barristers, Solicitors, Attorneys, and Proctors to the Supreme Court.*

"32. *An Act to appropriate the sum of Three Hundred and Sixty Thousand and Five Hundred and Ninety-four Pounds Nine Shillings and One Penny out of the General Revenue of the Colony, for such Services as shall come in course of payment during the year One thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven.*

"2. The authenticated copies of the Acts are returned herewith.

"Government House, Perth, 2nd September, 1886."

PROROGATION.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR attended the Council Chamber shortly after noon, and delivered the following speech:—

"HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,—

"I am at length able to release you from the labors of a session marked by the transaction of much public business of importance.

"The code of Land Regulations to which you have given long and careful consideration will be recommended by me for Her Majesty's approval, and I

"have no doubt that, if brought into force, it will tend greatly to the development both of our agricultural and pastoral resources.

"The Act which you have passed for the protection and management of the Aboriginal Natives of this colony is a measure which meets the special circumstances of their case. This Act, and official papers shortly to be published, will clearly show the policy of this Government towards the Aboriginal race, namely, a policy of watchful protection of the natives, and of punishment, without respect of persons, of any illegal act committed to their detriment. This policy is not only pursued with your approval, but also with that of the community at large.

"The Act for the management of Gold-fields, the Public Health Act, and the other useful and necessary measures

"which are the result of the Session, will be brought into operation in due course.

"It will be my object to administer with care and economy the large sums you have voted for the Public Service.

"MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN,

"I thank you most heartily for the valuable assistance you have again given me in my administration of this Government, and I trust that, when I next have the pleasure of meeting you, it may be in my power to record the continued advancement and prosperity of the colony.

"I now prorogue this Council to Wednesday, the nineteenth day of January next."

HIS EXCELLENCY, having handed a copy of the speech to Mr. Speaker, withdrew from the Council Chamber, and the session closed.