a line between the Eastern Division and the Gascoyne and North-West Division, and endeavored so to arrange it as to take in the best of the land. As he pointed out the other day, these inland settlers had almost absolute security of tenure; there was very little probability of any special areas being declared, unless goldfields were discovered or something that would attract a large population. Of course the expense of carting was very great, but on the other hand there were counter-balancing advantages, as he pointed out the other day; and he thought it would be unwise to have more divisions than were absolutely necessary. The Government intended to adhere to the draft regulations, which were in accord with the recommendations of the select committee.

MR. SHOLL said it appeared to him that when it suited the Government they always fell back upon this select committee; but, when it did not suit them, they cared very little for the select committee or their recommendations. He would point out that they had already departed very considerably from the original proposals as regards some points; but, when it did not tally with the views of the Government, and any amendment was opposed to their policy, they immediately fell back upon this select committee. He did not suppose this select committee was infallible, any more than the rest of them. He thought it was preposterous that the same rent should be charged for land hundreds of miles inland as for land within a day's carting of the coast.

MR. GRANT thought the amendment a reasonable one, and of this he was very certain—unless times mended very much a great deal of this land would be thrown up altogether unless some reduction was made in the price of it. The cost of bringing wool to the market from these distant stations was actually more than it realised.

MR. MARMION said no doubt there was much to be urged in favor of the amendment. He knew himself that owing to the low price of wool during the last two years the cost of carting wool to Geraldton from parts of the Murchison district had almost absorbed what the wool realised in the market. Perhaps upon further consideration the Government might be disposed to consider the amendment more favorably, and he hoped the Commissioner would not put his veto upon it at once.

MR. LAYMAN opposed the amendment on the ground that the same principle of classification, if adopted in these divisions of the colony, should also be adopted in other divisions.

MR. PARKER said it appeared to him that a very strong case indeed had been made out in support of the amendment. It was self-evident that land situated a long way inland was of less value than land near a shipping port.

MR. VENN expressed himself in favor of reducing the rents and making the terms as easy as possible to these back-block settlers; but he could see that there would be some difficulty in drawing a hard and fast line from an irregular coast.

Progress was then reported, and leave given to sit again another day.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes to twelve o'clock, midnight.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Thursday, 12th August, 1886.

School fees: Right of Teachers to recover—Tenders for erection Courthouse and Telegraph Offices, Roebourne—Closure of Drummond Street Bill: first reading—Public Health Bill: third reading—Gold Duty Bill: in committee—Land Regulations: further consideration of—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at noon.

PRAYERS.

RIGHT OF TEACHERS TO RECOVER SCHOOL FEES.

MR. WITTENOOM asked the Acting Attorney General whether teachers can recover the school fees under the present Education Act? The hon. member said there seemed to be some considerable doubt about the question, and he should like to know, on the authority of the

Government, whether teachers could sue and recover from parents any arrears of school fees due to them.

THE ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt): I think this is a question that should have been asked through the Central Board of Education, and not of me in this House, as to whether teachers can recover school fees. I may state that, so far as my opinion goes, they cannot recover these fees.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, ROEBOURNE.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (Hon. J. A. Wright), replying to Mr. McRae, said that the contract for the erection of a Courthouse at Roebourne had been settled, and that the work would be proceeded with at an early date. With regard to the proposed telegraph and post office, a new set of drawings, rather less in extent than the original design, were being prepared, and the work would be proceeded with as soon as possible.

WATER FOR STOCK AND TRAVELLERS.

MR. SHOLL'S motion for a sum of money sufficient to provide a supply of water for stock and travellers along the Northern telegraph line, between the Ashburton and Wooramool Rivers, was postponed, pending the production of the Estimates.

NEW BILL.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS (Hon. J. A. Wright) moved the first reading of a bill to legalise the closure of Drummond Street, in the town of Guildford.

The motion was agreed to.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

GOLD DUTY BILL.

The House went into committee for the consideration of this bill, in detail.

Clause 1.—"For the purposes of this "Act, the term 'gold' shall mean and in- "clude gold in its natural state, whether "mixed with any other substance or not, "gold dust, and all other gold, whether "wrought or unwrought, except coined "gold issued from Her Majesty's "mint at London, or from either "of the branches thereof in Aus- "tralia, or of any foreign state, arti- "cles of plate, jewellery, or ornament "actually worn upon the person, or made "elsewhere than in Western Australia:"

MR. MARMION said the latter part of the clause seemed somewhat important and also somewhat ambiguous—what did it mean? Did it mean that gold made up into articles of plate, or jewellery or ornament, if made in the colony, would be liable to a duty, if exported?

THE ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) said it meant this—that if gold produced in the colony was made up into articles of plate or jewellery, and such articles were exported, they would be liable to this duty; otherwise nothing would be easier than evading the duty upon gold, by simply having it made up into plate or articles of jewellery or ornament. The same provision existed in the Acts of the other colonies.

MR. MARMION thought it would be a rather severe and unfair tax upon local industries, but he did not suppose it would be much felt, as he doubted whether it was ever likely to be enforced.

The clause was then agreed to.

Clauses 2 to 6:

Agreed to, *sub silentio*.

Clause 7—Commencement of Act:

THE ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) thought the Act should be made to come into operation at the same time as the Goldfields Bill, but there might be a difficulty in sending copies of the Act up to Derby and Cambridge Gulf for some little time yet. He would suggest that the Act should come into operation on the 1st October, 1886.

Agreed to.

Title and preamble agreed to.

Bill reported.

LAND REGULATIONS.

The House went into committee for the further consideration of the Land Regulations.

Clause 68—Pastoral leases, North-West, Gascoyne, and Eucla divisions (resumed debate):

MR. VENN, who had an amendment to propose in this clause, differing from

the amendment already moved by Mr. Wittenoom, consented to postpone his amendment until the regulations were recommitted. What the hon. member proposed was that the rentals throughout the districts in question should be 12s. 6d. for the first seven years; 17s. 6d. for the second term; 22s. 6d. for the third term; and that the leases may be granted in blocks of not less than 5,000 acres (instead of 20,000 acres, the minimum proposed by the Government).

MR. SHENTON, referring to Mr. Wittenoom's amendment reducing the rents for land situated 100 miles from the coast, said he was in favor of a reduction where the runs were far inland, because of the additional expense of transport, but he thought that a hard and fast line of 100 miles from the coast would not answer the purpose at all, and that the boundary should be defined by the Commissioner, by means of certain land marks.

MR. LOTON was very much in favor of a reduction in the rents of land in the far interior, if it could be arranged without entailing any loss upon the revenue which the colony would otherwise receive from the land in these divisions; and, in order to ensure that, he should like to see the rent of lands nearer the coast increased, something on the lines proposed by the hon. member for Wellington.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) said he was still unable to agree with the amendment submitted by the hon. member for Geraldton, that the rents should be reduced for all runs a hundred miles inland. The Government had carefully considered the matter, and were of opinion that in all these divisions of the colony the price of land should be uniformly the same, and that it would be unwise to have different rentals within one and the same division. It would be much better to have a new division created—if it were really considered desirable to make any difference in the price. He could see a good many objections to this 100-mile boundary, which, measured from an irregular coastline, must necessarily be a tortuous and indefinite line not easily found or defined. Moreover, land a long way from the coast was not always inferior to land nearer the coast, and certainly it was not so in these northern portions of the colony. Moreover, the graduated scale of increase proposed by the hon. member between the various terms of the lease seemed inconsistent: while the hon. member proposed an advance of 5s. (from 7s. 6d. to 12s. 6d.) between the first seven years and the second seven years, he only proposed a difference of 2s. 6d. (from 12s. 6d. to 15s.) between the second and third seven years, when the land had become more valuable, when the lessee's flocks had increased, and when he ought to be altogether in a better position to afford a higher advance in the price. The principle which he (the Commissioner) should like to see adopted as regards rentals was quite the reverse, commencing at a low rate and working higher and higher as the value of the land increased. Moreover, if it was proposed to apply this 100-mile division line to the Kimberley district, the lower rentals would apply to the country which was now the site of the goldfields, where there would probably soon be a large population, and a profitable market for stock.

MR. WITTENOOM said as to the quality of the land near the coast or away from the coast, it was not a question of the quality of the land but of the distance of the land—the question of a shilling per mile extra for every ton that had to be carted to and from the station. As to its being unwise to alter the prices recommended by the select committee last year, those prices were fixed by the select committee in the belief that absolute security of tenure would be granted to lessees in these districts, whereas it was now proposed to have special areas. With regard to the difference of 5s. and 2s. 6d., made between the second and third seven years, the latter period was a difficult period for a lessee to tide over on all new stations. It was generally the time when buildings had to be put up and other expenses incurred incidental to a new establishment, and when the lessee could least afford to pay a largely increased rental. As to the difficulty of defining a line of separation, it appeared to him a very simple thing to draw a 100-mile line from the coast—not perhaps to a yard or two, but near enough for any rough system of classification like

this; and, once the principle was admitted, it would be easy enough for the Commissioner to define such a boundary as would answer every practical purpose.

Mr. BURGES said there could be no doubt that the proposal of the Government in asking these high rentals was an unreasonable one, and for that reason he was sorry that the House had rejected his own amendment yesterday, which he thought would have settled the matter in a more satisfactory manner for everybody concerned. Failing that, he felt that he was bound to support the present amendment rather than the Government proposal, as the lesser of two evils.

Mr. VENN said as his proposed amendments could not now be discussed, and as he thought they were bound to keep up the revenue derived from these lands in some way or other, he could not at present consistently support the amendment of the hon. member for Geraldton.

Mr. MARMION suggested that they should pass the clause as it stood for the present, and, by the time the regulations came to be re-committed, the Commissioner and the Government might see their way clear to create a new division, embracing the intermediate country between the Gascoyne and the Eastern divisions, where these lower rentals might be charged, instead of having a sinuous boundary line following the indentations of the coast, 100 miles inland.

The COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) thought the suggestion a good one. If the committee passed the clause now as it stood, the Government would no doubt be prepared to give their consideration to any proposal that might be brought forward when the regulations were re-committed. He certainly should prefer seeing a new division created rather than they should have different prices in one and the same division.

Mr. WITTENOOM said, upon that understanding, and if it was the wish of the House, he would withdraw his amendment.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause 69.—"Pastoral leases in the "form in Schedule No. will be granted "of land in the Eastern Division, in "blocks of not less than twenty thousand "acres, at a rent according to the term "for which the lease may be granted, as "follows:—For each thousand acres or "part of a thousand acres, two shillings "and sixpence for each of the first seven "years, five shillings for each of the "second seven years, seven shillings and "sixpence for each of the third seven "years of the lease. If the land is so "shut in by other holdings as not to con-"tain twenty thousand acres, a lease may "be granted for such lesser quantity; "but in no case shall a lease be issued "for less than £1 per annum:"

Mr. McRAE thought the minimum size of the blocks ought to be reduced. It was very hard that a man who only wanted 2,000 or 3,000 acres should have to take up and pay for 20,000 acres.

The COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) said the rent was very low, and, in the present circumstances of the colony, it did not affect but very few people, this portion of the colony not being yet settled. The hon. member must bear in mind that within this division there was some good land as well as bad, and it would never do to let people take up small blocks, and pick out all the springs and waterholes at the price here placed upon the land. It was essentially a squatting country, and he did not think 50s. a year would be felt by any lessee; which would be all he would have to pay for 20,000 acres.

Mr. VENN thought the minimum might be reduced to 10,000 acres.

Mr. HARPER was of the same opinion. As to springs and waterholes they were very rare in this part of the country. Generally speaking, the grazing land would be found in patches around the granite rocks, and he did not think that on an average they would exceed 3,000 or 4,000 acres; and it was rather hard that a man should have to pay rent for 20,000 acres, when he only used one or two thousand acres.

Mr. BURGES thought they ought to try and be a little consistent in dealing with this question. Let hon. members compare the low rents proposed to be charged for land in this division with the rents charged in other districts, such as the Gascoyne.

Mr. HARPER: Plenty of water there, whereas in this division people will have to sink for water.

Mr. RANDELL thought that any man who had a taste for pastoral pursuits and

for acquiring land would not begrudge to pay 50s. a year for 20,000 acres of country. It was really not worth talking about.

The clause was then put and passed.

Clauses 70 and 71: Pastoral leases, Kimberley division (rentals):

Agreed to, without comment.

Clause 72.—"Any lessee in the Kimberley Division or Eucla Division who "at any time within five years of the "date of these regulations shall have "within the district ten head of sheep, or "one head of large stock, for every one "thousand acres leased, shall, from the "first of January after he shall have "satisfied the Commissioner to the above "effect, have a reduction of rent for the "remaining years of the first fourteen "years of his lease, computed from the "1st January preceding the date of these "regulations, of one half the rental due "under these regulations. Provided that "the lessee shall furnish annually to the "Commissioner before the 1st March a "statutory declaration that he is pos-"sessed of stock in the division as afore-"said, and provided that the said reduc-"tion of rent shall only be allowed so long "as the stock as aforesaid shall continue "in the possession of the lessee in the "division:"

MR. LOTON objected to the small quantity of stock—ten head of sheep or one head of large stock within five years from date of these regulations—to entitle a lessee to a reduction of one half the rental for the remaining term of the first fourteen years of the lease. He had no wish to press unduly upon the *bonâ fide* holder, but he objected to speculating gentlemen coming in and participating in these concessions. With a comparatively small outlay in stocking, a man would be able to hold an enormous area of country, and in time make a very handsome profit out of it. He moved, as an amendment, that the clause be struck out.

MR. SCOTT said he should like to see some special provision made in this clause—which he noticed applied to Eucla as well as Kimberley—whereby a reduction of rent in the Eucla division might be allowed in consideration of expenditure incurred by lessees in looking for water. If water could only be discovered in that district it would tend more to develop the settlement of the country than anything else.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) said if the hon. member would look at the next clause he would see that expenditure incurred in searching for water was reckoned as an improvement which would count as against the penalty for non-stocking.

MR. GRANT expressed his surprise that any one should think of moving that this stocking clause should be struck out. Probably the hon. member had no idea what it cost to stock this Kimberley country. Perhaps he would be surprised to find that it cost on an average about £2 per head to land sheep there. Perhaps the hon. member was not aware that some companies who had taken up land there had already expended as much as £30,000 in establishing a station. The hon. member seemed to look upon ten head of sheep for every thousand acres taken up as a mere nothing, forgetting that a thousand sheep could be placed on runs in other parts of the country at much less expense.

MR. VENN said this stocking clause was capable of being used and also of being abused, and the question was which would be the rule,—whether it would not work as much to the advantage of the speculator as of the *bonâ fide* settler. He was quite in favor of giving every reasonable facility to the *bonâ fide* settler, but, judging from our past experience, we were not likely to get many of that class. [Mr. MARMION: All the more reason why we should offer them greater inducements in the future.] He did not think we should require to offer many inducements now for people going to Kimberley. The discovery of a goldfield would do more to settle the district than any land regulations which that House could frame; and the speculator—the mere land-grabber—would be very much benefited by this clause. [Mr. MARMION: Forty million acres of forfeited land now advertised for sale.] A precious good job. The land now would probably fall into the hands of people who would make some use of it; and there was a good market for them close at hand. Millions of acres of this land, to his own knowledge, had been hawked about by speculators in the other colonies, and bogus telegrams published to give it a fictitious value.

Mr. MARMION said he had had some little experience as to the difficulty of settling this Kimberley district, and had more to do with the pioneering settlement of the district than possibly any other man in the colony. All that he had ever predicted as to the difficulties in the way, and as to the necessity for making the regulations for this district as liberal as possible for the *bonâ fide* settler had come true; and he could assure hon. members, although the regulations had been rendered somewhat less stringent of late, there were many settlers in the district, and many of those who had expended capital in stocking it, who wished they had never attempted to do it. There was a general feeling now —and a more generous feeling, he was happy to say—towards these pioneer settlers, who had suffered so much in honestly endeavoring to carry out the conditions imposed upon them; and it was in the interest of this class, and of those who intended to follow in their footsteps—not in the interest of any other class; for whom he had not a word to say—that he appealed to hon. members' instincts of justice and fair play.

Mr. LOTON said he wished to withdraw his amendment to strike out the clause. He had moved it with a view to elicit discussion more than anything else.

The clause was then put and passed.

Clause 73.—Penalty for non-stocking (Kimberley and Eucla) within seven years:

Agreed to, without comment.

Clause 74.—"*Poisoned Land.*—Land "shall be considered as 'Poisoned land' "when in the opinion of the Commis- "sioner it is so infested with poisonous "indigenous plants that sheep or cattle "cannot be depastured on it. Poisonous "plants shall be considered to have been "eradicated when it has been proved to "the satisfaction of the Governor in "Council that land originally infested "with poisonous plants has been render- "ed safe for depasturing cattle and sheep "at all seasons, and has continued so "for a term of not less than two years. "Provided always that land held under "lease as 'Poisoned land' shall be "deemed Crown land under these Re- "gulations; but no alienation shall take "place out of such lease, except for re- "serves under Clauses 20 and 32 of "these Regulations or for mining pur- "poses:"

Mr. SHENTON asked how these regulations would apply as regards the London syndicates, who he believed had applied for some millions of acres of this poisoned land?

The COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) presumed that if the applications were entertained they would be granted under such regulations as were in force at the time.

Mr. SHENTON: Have not the applications been already approved?

The COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest): They have not been before the Governor-in-Council yet.

Mr. SHENTON: How much land have they applied for?

The COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest): About a couple of million acres, I think.

Mr. SHENTON said he could not see how the colony was going to be protected against agricultural lands being included in these immense grants. Some of the land within these large grants might be very valuable land, and the colony ought to be protected.

The COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) said all applications for land under this clause had to be approved by the Commissioner, who must be satisfied that the land was so infested with poison that sheep or cattle could not depasture upon it.

Mr. WITTENOOM said his own experience was that these poisoned lands seldom or ever included any land fit for agriculture. He thought we could not be too liberal in dealing with these lands. Let us get rid of the poison, he should say, at any price, and if a man did come across a bit of land that was fit for agriculture, he thought he deserved all he got. This poison was the curse of the colony. It had done more to keep back the country than anything else, and nothing in his opinion would be too much to pay for getting rid of the stigma.

Mr. MARMION said the difficulty, to his mind, was that under these regulations the man who took up this poisoned land would be able to hold the land for twenty-one years against all comers, without doing anything in the way of

eradicating the poison. He should like a condition inserted, requiring so much of the land to be cleared of poison every year.

MR. LOTON said if the land was really poisoned land—and it was the duty of the Commissioner to see that none other should be taken up under these sections—we could not be too liberal; but every care ought to be exercised that it was only land that was infested that should be allowed to be taken up, upon these conditions.

MR. GRANT said he had had a great deal of experience in regard of poisoned land. He and his partners had spent some thousands of pounds within a few years in carrying out the conditions imposed under the present regulations as regards the eradication of poison. He assured hon. members it was a very costly affair. It would almost have been cheaper for them to have gone into the market and selected their land under the S.O.L. regulations, or bought it out under the present regulations than to have struggled and struggled as they had. If there should be here and there a few little patches of good land, of any use, a man deserved all he got under these regulations. It was absolutely necessary, to make the thing pay at all, that there should be some bits of available land amongst all this poisoned land. They must take the good and the bad, and leave it to the Commissioner to say whether the land was such as ought to come under these poison regulations. He would be inclined almost to give the land away, and good luck attend anybody who got possession of it. That was all the harm he wished them.

MR. BURGES thought the regulations were somewhat liberal, but not too much so, and he hoped they would be agreed to.

MR. GRANT asked whether those who held poisoned lands under existing regulations would have the privilege of coming under these new regulations, like other lessees?

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) said there was no provision to that effect, but it would be competent for the hon. member to move a clause providing that privilege, which would be duly considered.

MR. BROCKMAN said he did not think hon. members need be afraid of making these regulations as to poisoned lands too liberal, or that lessees would be able to get rid of the poison very easily. He had been trying to eradicate it from a small piece of land for the last fifteen years, and his father and brother had been at it for twenty years before, and to his certain knowledge there had not been a plant of it gone to seed within ten miles of the spot; yet it had not been eradicated.

The clause was then agreed to.

Clause 75—Lease of poisoned land, how obtained:

Agreed to, without comment.

Clause 76—"Should the Commissioner "provisionally approve of such appli- "cation the applicant shall, within "twelve months from the date of appli- "cation and for which rent has been "paid, forward to the Commissioner a "proper survey of the land, conducted "under the direction of the Commissioner "and by a surveyor approved by him, "and shall also forward to the Commis- "sioner sufficient proof that the land "applied for is 'Poisoned land,' under "these Regulations. In the event of the "survey and evidence not being for- "warded within the twelve months "allowed, the application will be can- "celled:"

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) moved that the following words be added to the clause, "and the deposit forfeited."

Agreed to.

MR. WITTENOOM thought there might be some inconvenience experienced, owing to the great scarcity of surveyors. [THE COMMISSIONER: Scarcity of money.] It would be rather hard if a man had to forfeit his deposit and have his application cancelled, through no fault of his own, but simply because he could not get the land surveyed.

MR. HARPER thought there ought to be something more definite as to what information the Commissioner ought to have before him prior to provisionally approving of these applications. He did not suppose there was much danger of any abuse under our present régime, but, under another form of Government, it might open the door to one of those

frauds which were so common in the other colonies in connection with land.

Mr. MARMION would have an affidavit to start with, and a declaration from some well-known settlers in the vicinity of the land applied for, stating that in their opinion the land was poisoned land.

Mr. WITTENOOM said the hon. member for Fremantle seemed to think this poisoned land a perfect El Dorado, which required to be hedged round with all sort of conditions. The hon. member ought to be glad to see this land taken up at any price, so long as this curse in the shape of poison was removed.

The clause was then agreed to.

Clause 77—Conditions of lease:

Agreed to without discussion.

Clause 78—Present lessees in South-West division to have exclusive right for twelve months:

The COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. J. Forrest) moved that the following words be added to the clause, "and shall in all cases be subject to the approval of the Commissioner.

Agreed to, and clause as amended put and passed.

Progress reported.

The House adjourned at half-past four o'clock, p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Friday, 13th August, 1886.

Gold Reward: List of claimants—Proposed amendment of Scab Act—Responsible Government: Adoption of—Adjournment.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at seven o'clock, p.m.

Prayers.

LISTS OF CLAIMANTS FOR GOLD REWARD.

Mr. MARMION, in accordance with notice, asked the Acting Colonial Secretary to place upon the table of the House a list of claimants to the reward for the discovery of a goldfield, together with copies of the correspondence, if any, accompanying the application of each such claimant. The hon. member also asked the Acting Colonial Secretary, whether the Government had arrived at any decision as to awarding the reward for the discovery of a goldfield, when 10,000 ounces of gold shall have been exported; and if so, to whom it was intended to award the amount, and, if there was any intention of distributing the reward between any of the claimants, to state the method of such distribution. Also, whether any steps were being taken to ascertain the quantity of gold exported? The hon. member said it was generally known that there were several claimants for the reward offered by the Government, and some of the claimants were then in the neighborhood of Perth anxiously waiting for some information on the subject.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. M. S. Smith) said the Government had received a few applications for the the reward offered for the discovery of a goldfield, and he should be happy to give the hon. member, privately, the names of the various claimants, but the Government did not think it would be advisable at present to place the correspondence on the subject on the table of the House. They had not yet arrived at any decision as to the award, nor taken any steps for ascertaining the quantity of gold exported. The terms and conditions on which the reward had been offered would be found in the *Gazette* notice recently republished, and the burden of proof as to the fulfilment of those conditions lay with the applicant. Those conditions were as follows: the goldfields must be within a radius of 300 miles from some declared port of the colony. It was not payable unless 10,000 ounces of gold, either alluvial or crushed from quartz, and obtained from such goldfield, be entered and cleared at a Customs House in some port in Western Australia, and actually shipped to Great Britain within a period of two years from the date of the registration in the office of the Colonial Secretary of the exact position of such goldfield. The Governor in Executive Council was to finally determine to whom