

With regard to the sessional business before the House, he was entirely in the hands of hon. members. On the part of the Government he was prepared to proceed with the Estimates at once, or, on the other hand, postpone their consideration until such time as the House deemed desirable.

Mr. STEERE suggested that the House adjourn until next day.

The Council adjourned at 4.05 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Thursday, 19th November, 1874.

Swearing in of Member—Election Petition—Temporal Affairs of the Church of England Petition—Address in Reply to the Governor's Speech—Standing Orders—Law and Parliamentary Library Committee—Foreign Recruiting Bill: second reading: Chairman of Committee: in committee—Estimates: in committee—Messages from the Governor, Nos. 1 and 2—Estimates: in committee.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 12 noon.
PRAYERS.

SWEARING IN OF MEMBER.

The SPEAKER announced that His Excellency the Governor had authorized him to administer the Oath of Allegiance to the members. The Speaker administered the Oath of Allegiance to Mr. Bickley, who thereupon took his seat.

ELECTION PETITION.

The SPEAKER announced that the petition of Mr. S. S. Parker of York, a candidate at the election of a member of the Legislative Council of the York District against the return of Mr. J. H. Monger as member for the said district, had been forwarded to His Honor the Acting Chief Justice.

TEMPORAL AFFAIRS OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PETITION.

Mr. BURT presented a petition from the Right Reverend Mathew B. Hale, D. D., praying the Council to receive and pass a private Bill relating to the temporal affairs of the Church of England.

The petition was received and read by the Clerk.

ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

Mr. BROWN moved that the Address to His Excellency the Governor, in reply to his Speech, be presented by the Speaker and other members of the House.

Mr. MARMION seconded the motion.

Question put and passed.

The Council adjourned and reassembled at 1.30 p.m.

The SPEAKER announced that the Address to His Excellency the Governor had been presented in accordance with the resolution of the House.

STANDING ORDERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), in accordance with notice, moved that the Standing Orders of the last Session of the last Council be now adopted as the Standing Orders of the Legislative Council of this Colony, together with the following amendment, That the word "Six," in the first line of the Second Clause, be struck out and the word "Seven" inserted in lieu thereof.

Mr. STEERE seconded the motion.

Mr. BICKLEY moved, as an amendment that this Honorable Council do take into consideration the propriety of amending the following clauses of the Standing Orders of the Council as under:—Clause 66—To strike out the words "unless by leave of the Council." Clause 85—To insert, after the words "on some convenient day," the words "not earlier than seven." Clause 88 to be substituted by the following:—"That when a Bill shall have been reported with amendments, it shall be ordered to be printed as amended, and notice may be given of a motion that it be read a third time on any convenient day not earlier than five days after the fair print of the Bill shall have been placed before the Council; and that, when the motion is made for the reading of the Bill a third time, it may, on motion, be recommitted for further amendment, and when again reported with amendments it shall be printed as so amended, and may, on motion, be read a third time on any convenient day which the Speaker may order, provided the fair print of the Bill, as so amended, shall have been before the Council at least three days before such reading."

Mr. BURT seconded the amendment.

A conversational discussion ensued, after which the amendment was withdrawn.

Motion put and passed.

LAW AND PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake), in accordance with notice, moved that the hon. member for Wellington, Mr. Steere, be appointed by the Legislative Council as a member of the Law and Parliamentary Library Committee.

Question put and passed.

FOREIGN RECRUITING BILL.

Second Reading.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee), in moving the second reading of the Bill, said it had been introduced at the request of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and was a transcript of an Act already adopted in India, with the view of empowering the Governor in Executive Council to exercise full control over recruiting in this colony for the service of Foreign States.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

Chairman of Committees.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said the next stage was to move the committal of the Recruiting Bill, but as the House had not yet elected a Chairman of Committees it became necessary that it should now do so. There was at present a very considerable difficulty in finding amongst the members of the Council—not because there were not many hon. members well qualified for the post, there were many who were exceedingly well qualified—one who would accept the office. This difficulty was created, as he understood, by the fact that there was a constitutional question of very grave importance to come under the consideration of the Council, upon which the Chairman of Committees would be precluded from expressing any opinion on such details of the measure as he might wish to discuss. Hence the objection which hon. members entertained against accepting the office. But he was about to make a request—a request which he thought would be made with the concurrence and entire approbation of the House—that the Honorable the Speaker do during the present session consent to act as Chairman of Committees, and thereby render the House under deep obligations to him, as on former occasions. The opinions entertained by the Speaker with reference to the constitutional question at issue were well known throughout the colony, and whether he be in the Chair as Speaker or as Chairman of Committees his opinion would have equal weight, and his constituents would have no cause for dissatisfaction. Therefore, he ventured to ask him to confer another favor on the House by accepting the Chairmanship of Committees during the present session, and thereby increase the debt of gratitude which the Council already owed him.

The SPEAKER: I have already considered this matter. I knew that the question must come before the House, and that a Chairman of Committees would have to be appointed. I have always been actuated by an earnest desire to facilitate the business of the Council in

every possible way within my power, and when, to that end, I, on a former occasion, consented to perform the dual duties of Speaker and Chairman, it would be in the recollection of the House that I was publicly called upon by my constituents to resign the chairmanship. I therefore cannot think, when so important a measure as that of constitutional change is likely to come under consideration, they would like to see me entirely precluded from taking part in the debates both in the House and in Committee.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake) thought the gentleman elected to discharge the duties of Speaker or Chairman of Committees in that House should be a gentleman representing a district returning two members, otherwise the electorate would be virtually unrepresented. Perth was very ably represented as well by His Honor the Speaker as by his colleague, who but for sickness would now be in his place in the House; and he thought it would be yielding to popular clamor of a most senseless nature if, in deference to the whim of a section of the constituency, and contrary to his own taste and his desire to serve the Council in its deliberations, the Honorable the Speaker declined the chairmanship. Virtually, no doubt, the Speaker had his mouth shut while the House was not in Committee, but his influence was not a whit impaired thereby; for, to a great extent, he exercised functions of a judicial nature, and by entering the arena of debate he relaxed the reins of his judicial authority. Nevertheless, as the Speaker of that honorable House, and in the position of first gentleman in Western Australia, he (the Speaker) was not one whit less a member for Perth, nor was his influence in the House lessened in any degree.

The SPEAKER: My great desire, as I have already said, is to assist the House in every possible way, and I trust that the course I am now about to pursue would be made known to my constituents and to the public. In the first place I would ask—Is there one single member of this House who does not wish me to accept the office which it is now proposed that I should fill in conjunction with the post of Speaker? If there is, I shall decline to accept it. On the other hand, if it is the unanimous wish of the House that I should undertake the dual duties of Chairman and Speaker, it must be thoroughly understood that in accepting the chairmanship I do so conditionally that if any number of my constituents, not less than six, express a wish that I should relinquish the office, I pledge myself to resign at once, and never to accept the chairmanship any more.

In Committee.

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3: If any person is within the limits of Western Australia obtaining or attempting to obtain recruits for the service of any Foreign State, in any capacity, the Governor in Council may, by order in writing, signed by the Colonial Secretary, either prohibit such person from so doing, or permit him to do so subject to any conditions which the Governor in Council thinks fit to impose—

Mr. BICKLEY moved, as an amendment, that the words "in any capacity," be struck out, inasmuch as they extended the provisions of the Bill to civil occupations, whereas the evident intention was to regulate recruiting for service under arms. Under the clause as it stood, if a person came here to engage a number of men for employment in any capacity outside the limits of the colony, without the sanction of the Governor in Council, he would render himself liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a term not exceeding seven years (as provided in clause 5)—a very nice thing indeed!

Mr. STEERE thought the clause as it stood would bear that interpretation.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake) said the object of the Bill was to prevent persons in the colony being inveigled away under any pretence, for service under a Foreign State. If the words proposed to be struck out were expunged we might have a Carlist arrive here ostensibly for the object of employing men for public works in Spain, whereas his real object might be to recruit for the Spanish military service, and the local Government would be powerless in the matter. Hon. members would observe that it was proposed to empower the Governor in Council either to prohibit recruiting or to permit it subject to any conditions it might be thought fit to impose.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said the Bill was an exact transcript of an Act passed by the Governor General of India in Council, and affirmed by the Imperial Government, at whose request it had been introduced here, as it no doubt would be in all British dominions.

Mr. STEERE pointed out that an Act that might apply to India might not be applicable here. In India coolies and other native inhabitants were not allowed to leave the country "in any capacity" without the sanction of the Government.

After some further observations,

The CHAIRMAN put the question, "That the words proposed to be struck out stand part of the Bill," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes	8
Noes	9
Majority against	1

Ayes.	Noes.
The Hon. G. W. Leake	Mr. Bickley
The Hon. M. Fraser	Mr. Crowther
Mr. Burt	Mr. Gale
Mr. Clyde	Mr. E. Hamersley
Mr. Brown	Mr. Padbury
Sir Thomas Cockburn-	Mr. S. Hamersley
Campbell	Mr. Marmion
Mr. Munger	Mr. Pearce
The Hon. F. P. Barlee	Mr. Steere (Teller.)
(Teller.)	

Question thus negatived.

Amendment agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee): I am now advised by my hon. friend on the right (the Acting Attorney General) that the Bill as amended will be nugatory and inoperative.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake): It is simply utter nonsense.

Mr. BROWN: That's as much as to tell me that we are a pack of fools. (Hear, hear.) I should like to hear from the Hon. the Acting Attorney General some reason why the fact of the words expunged being struck out rendered the Bill nugatory, inoperative, or utter nonsense.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake) pointed out that by expunging the words alluded to, they were simply introducing means for evading the provisions of the Act, which was to empower the Governor in Council to control recruiting for Foreign States, under any pretence. As the Bill now stood, there was nothing to prevent or prohibit a Dutch emissary coming here to recruit men to assist in the attack upon the Achenese if, ostensibly, and for mere pretence, he came here to employ them in any other capacity. The Bill would be a dead letter, and sheer nonsense.

Mr. BURT, with the view of restoring some sense to the clause under consideration, and of carrying out the intention of the Act, moved, as an amendment, the insertion of the following proviso at the end of the clause:—"Provided that the word 'service' in this clause shall be read to extend to and include military service only."

After a desultory conversation,

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 4 agreed to.

Clause 5—

Mr. BICKLEY moved, as an amendment, that the word "Military" be inserted between the words "any" and "commission," in the third line of subclause a.

Amendment not agreed to.

Clause agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported, with amendments, and the report adopted.

ESTIMATES.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved that the House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the whole to take the Estimates of expenditure into consideration.

Question put and passed.

In Committee.

Mr. BICKLEY, in the exercise of a constitutional right wrong by our ancestors from Charles I, and confirmed by William III, moved an amendment on the motion for going into Committee of Supply, to the effect that in the opinion of the House it was highly impolitic to levy duties on stores belonging to vessels owned and fitted out by colonists, and engaged in the pearling industry, whereas stores belonging to foreign vessels employed in the same industry were not dutiable.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the House, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, had already gone into Committee of Supply, and that the amendment should have been proposed before he left the Speaker's Chair.

Item: His Excellency the Governor, £251 19s 2d.

Item: Legislative Council, £400.

Items agreed to.

Item: Colonial Secretary, £966.

Mr. STEERE objected to any increase of salary to this office, and failed to understand why it was proposed to augment it by one-fourth in one year. No doubt under the contemplated new Constitution, an increased salary would have to be paid to the chief clerk in the Colonial Secretary's department, but until that change was effected he objected to any increase of salary taking place. He would, therefore, move that the sum be reduced to £325.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) pointed out that no provision was made for any actual increase of salary to the official named. For the last two or three years he had been receiving the same pay, which included £75 a year as Registrar of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, and Registrar of Deeds, and which sum in former Estimates had appeared under the heading of Registry Office. In accordance with a recommendation made by the hon. member for Wellington when last year's Estimates were under discussion, the entire amount of salaries received by the holders of a plurality of offices was inserted in one lump sum opposite their name; and this was what had been done in the present instance.

After some discussion,

Mr. STEERE pressed his amendment.

Amendment put, "That the Item £400, Chief Clerk's Salary, be reduced to £325," upon which a division was called for, the result being as follows:—

Ayes	5
Noes	12

Majority against	7
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Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. S. Hamersley	The Hon. G. W. Lanke
Mr. E. Hamersley	The Hon. M. Fraser
Mr. Padbury	Mr. Crowther
Mr. Gale	Sir Thomas Cockburn
Mr. Steere (Teller.)	Campbell
	Mr. Brown
	Mr. Bickley
	Mr. Burt
	Mr. Marmion
	Mr. Pearse
	Mr. Monger
	Mr. Glyde
	The Hon. F. P. Barlee
	(Teller.)

Amendment thus negatived.

Item agreed to.

Item: Treasury, £460.

Item agreed to.

Item: Auditor General, £620.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) moved, that the sum of £90 be added for the services of an additional clerk.

Amendment agreed to.

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Item: Registry Office, £940.

Mr. STEERE asked if it was true that a qualified legal practitioner in the colony had offered to perform the duties of this office for £500 a year? He thought that if we had men in the colony capable of filling offices in the public service with efficiency we should not go out of the colony to secure public servants.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said such an offer had never, within his knowledge, been made to the Government. To the best of his belief only one application for the office of Commissioner of Titles had been made, and no definite answer had been given the applicant, who was a resident of this colony. With reference to the appointment of officers to the public service, he would remind the House that all such appointments in this colony were in the hands of the Governor, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State. It had always been the practice of the present Government to appoint persons in the colony to offices in the public service in preference to persons outside the colony, when practicable, and when the efficiency of the public service was not likely to be thereby impaired. With reference to the department now under consideration (the Registry Office) he might add that the various items connected therewith had been fixed on the lowest possible scale and he was not at all prepared to say that the work of the department could be conducted at that cost.

Mr. BROWN said it was perfectly well known to the House that all appointments to the public service in this colony were vested in the Executive, and it was equally well known that the desire of the Executive had been to bestow such offices on efficient candidates residing in the colony to the exclusion of strangers; but the outside public, perhaps, were not so fully cognizant of the practice obtaining, which he considered a good one, so long as local candidates were fit for the discharge of the duties appertaining to the office, and the efficiency of the public service was maintained.

After some further discussion,

Item agreed to.

Item: Surveyor General, £5,000.

Item agreed to.

Item: Office of Works, £1,028.

Mr. STEERE, who understood that it was proposed to appoint the Surveyor General to this office, with an addition of £100 to his salary, moved that the item £100, Commissioner, be struck out. He saw no reason why the duties should not for the present be performed by that official without any extra pay, and thought it very undesirable in the face of the contemplated constitutional change to make any alteration in the status of any public officer.

Progress reported, and leave obtained to sit again.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR—

Nos. 1 and 2.

The SPEAKER announced the receipt of the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor:—

No. 1

Monetary Recognition of Mr. J. Forrest's Exploratory Services:—

The Governor recommends Your Honorable Council to make provision for recognizing the services of Mr. John Forrest and the Exploring Party under his charge, by appropriating the sum of 500 guineas for that purpose.

Government House, Perth, 19th November, 1874.

No. 2

Salary of Hon. Colonial Secretary:—

The Governor, in a Despatch dated 30th May, 1872, received authority from the Right Honorable The Earl of Kimberley, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, to propose to Your Honorable Council an increase to the salary of the Honorable F. P. Barlee, Colonial Secretary, in consideration of his services. On my communicating this proposal to Mr. Barlee, he requested me not to bring the matter forward in the position the Colony was then in.

The great increase in the revenue of the Colony has now removed the objection so handsomely put forward at the time by Mr. Barlee, in opposition to his personal interests; and the Governor feels that he would not be doing justice did he not before leaving the Colony bring the matter under the consideration of Your Honorable House, by recommending that a sum of £100 be added to the salary of Mr. F. P. Barlee when the Estimates are before you.

Government House, Perth, 19th November, 1874.

ESTIMATES.

In Committee.

Resumed debate.

Item: Office of Works, £1,028.

Progress was reported on the Item after the following amendment had been moved:—That the Item £100, Commissioner, be struck out.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said there were very extensive and important public works now in course of construction and in contemplation, some of them at a great distance from head quarters, and that it was absolutely essential that some competent and responsible officer should be

appointed by the Government, in the interest of the public, to undertake the supervision of those works. So long as the public works of the colony were on a limited scale, and confined to the erection of a few small buildings and the construction of two or three small jetties, the works department might without much fear of impairing the public service continue on the same footing as at present; but with a railway in course of construction two or three hundred miles from head quarters, with a projected telegraph line to Eucla, extending over hundreds of miles, with harbor improvements at Fremantle in contemplation, and other public works of magnitude and importance it was absolutely imperative that we should have some person who would be held responsible to the Government and to the colony for the proper execution of such works, and through whom all communications and correspondence relating thereto should be conducted. The time was at hand when the colony would have to establish a department of public works, and at its head employ—and he feared at a high salary—an efficient, properly qualified engineer. As the colony advanced, and public works increased in magnitude and importance, the interests of the public would necessitate the appointment of such an official; but, in the meantime and pending the constitutional changes which were in contemplation, the Government, after giving the matter very careful consideration, considered that the best and most economical course to adopt was to appoint the Surveyor General, who is conversant with the art of engineering, as Commissioner of Works. Now it would be very unfair and unreasonable when an official undertook to perform certain duties at a certain salary, that other duties extraneous to his department should be imposed upon him without granting him some remuneration for the discharge of these additional duties. Mr. Fraser, when he accepted the office of Surveyor General, in no way undertook the supervision of public works, and it would be neither fair nor just to saddle on his shoulders the grave responsibilities attached to the supervision of public undertakings involving a present expenditure of £100,000 without in any way remunerating him. Neither the Surveyor General nor he had any desire to press the item. The duties involved would demand a great deal of time, care, and thought, and involve very serious responsibility; and at no distant date the colony must be prepared to expend a much larger sum in the supervision of its public works.

Mr. S. HAMERSLEY thought the additional duties proposed to be imposed on the Surveyor General would interfere with the efficient discharge of the duties connected with

his own department, which were already very heavy and multifarious. If it were intended to grant him an additional £100 a year as Commissioner of Works, he thought his salary as Surveyor General and Commissioner of Crown Lands should be correspondingly decreased. He did not think the hon. gentleman could efficiently perform more work than he was doing at present.

Mr. BURT said the question after all was this—was there any necessity for the appointment of a Commissioner of Works; if there was—and this was admittedly the case—let him be paid the value of his services, whether it be £100 or £500. They could not expect such an officer, whoever he might be, to work for nothing.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said it must be manifest to every hon. member that such an appointment was essential in the interests of the public. Large sums were now being expended on public works, the supervision of which ought to be entrusted to some competent official who should be held responsible to the Government and the public for the proper expenditure of the public funds. He was formerly of opinion that the colony would save a great deal on money even by the appointment of a Commissioner of Public Works at a salary of £1,500 a year, which they would have to pay for a first-class, efficient, duly qualified official, whose sole duty should be the supervision of all public undertakings, and who should be responsible for every expenditure connected therewith defrayed out of the public funds. Until such an appointment were made, and merely as a temporary arrangement, he thought the colony could not do better than avail itself of the services of the Surveyor General, himself an engineer of considerable experience in public works.

Mr. CROWTHER alluded to the recent blunder committed in connection with the lighthouse at Champion Bay as a proof of the necessity of the appointment of some responsible person at the head of the Works department. Had the Surveyor General, when the structure was erected, been in the position which it was now proposed to place him in, the error would never have been committed, and the country would have been saved the increased expenditure which the blunder had involved. Our public works were now assuming an importance, and were of too great magnitude to be played with. What was wanted was a responsible and competent person to supervise such undertakings as were already in operation, and, in time to come, those now projected—a person in whom the public could rely

that the money voted for such works were being judiciously expended. If for the trifling sum here asked for, the work could be performed by the Surveyor General, he would be glad to support the vote, but certainly not as a permanent arrangement. We shall soon have public works in operation that will occupy the entire attention of a trained professional engineer; in the meantime the item now under consideration would, in his opinion, be money well and judiciously spent.

Mr. MARMION endorsed what had fallen from the hon. member for Greenough, and would have been glad to see a sum placed on the Estimates for next year towards obtaining the services of a competent official to supervise the public works in operation and in contemplation.

Mr. BROWN concurred, and supported the vote, as a temporary arrangement.

After some brief observations from Mr. PADBURY and the ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. G. W. Leake),

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) said he was not at all sorry that the item had provoked discussion. The debate had tended to clear the atmosphere, and had shown very clearly that the Council and the Government were in entire accord on the question of the necessity of establishing a department of works with an efficient and responsible head.

Mr. S. HAMERSLEY asked if the increase would affect the Surveyor General's pension or bonus should he retire, under the proposed new Constitution?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) replied it would not.

After a little more discussion,

Amendment not agreed to.

Item agreed to.

Item: Customs Department, £2,696.

After some discussion, on the motion of Mr. MARMION, relative to an increase in the pay of the Collector of Customs, the various items connected with this department were agreed to *seriatim* and without alteration.

Item: Postal and Telegraph Department, £14,296 10s.

On the Item "Conveyance of Mails throughout the colony," £2,600, being read,

Mr. PADBURY asked if the expense of conveying the mails to Albany overland for which tenders were now invited in the *Government Gazette* was to be an additional charge on the revenue, or was the cost of the service to be deducted out of the subsidy voted for the mail steamer, the *Georgette*?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) replied that he hoped the expense connected with the overland mail to Albany would not be altogether an additional charge upon the public revenue. The early arrival of the English mail at Albany, consequent upon the P. & O. Steamers availing themselves of the Suez Canal, had rendered the overland service advertised for necessary, otherwise the *Georgette* would have to remain at Albany, eight or nine days each trip, instead of a day or two as was understood by the owners when they entered into the contract with the Government. The contractors, however, he was free to confess, had not been particularly careful in adhering to the terms of the agreement, and they had been informed by the Government that, inasmuch as they had committed a breach of contract a fresh arrangement would have to be entered into. There might be, and probably there would be, a reduction made in the subsidy under the new agreement, in consideration of the steamer not having to convey the outgoing colonial mail to Albany, or the incoming English mail from Albany. He was therefore in hope that but little additional expenses would be involved by the arrangement alluded to by the hon. member for Swan.

Mr. BICKLEY said steam on the coast was a necessity, consequently he should be sorry indeed to see any stoppage put to the existing mail steamer service. At the same time, the service had been carried out so badly, without any regard to the convenience of the public, that he thought there was nothing for it but to put an end to it. Repudiation was a step he did not wish to see adopted except on rare occasions, and upon very good grounds, which grounds, he thought, in the present instance, warranted the Government in repudiating the contract, with the owners of the *Georgette*, and in entering into an arrangement with some one else who would perform the service in a proper manner.

Mr. BURT concurred; he did not intend to say that the colony had not derived much benefit and advantage by the introduction of steam on the coast, but with regard to the foreign mail service the public had been fooled altogether. It was satisfactory to find that the eyes of the Government had at last been

opened to the fact that the terms of the contract were not being adhered to by the owners of the steamer, and that some fresh—and he trusted a more effective—arrangement was about to be made. The Colonial Secretary having intimated that a new agreement was in contemplation, he (Mr. Burt) would refrain from moving a resolution he had prepared relating to the matter.

Item agreed to.

Item: Harbor and Light Department, £3,675.

Item: Administration of Justice, £8,560.

Items agreed to.

Item: Medical Establishment, £4,777 15s.

Mr. PADBURY asked that provision be made for a Resident Medical Officer and resident magistrate for the Melbourne district, but the request was not complied with.

Mr. S. HAMERSLEY moved, That the salary of the Resident Medical Officer at the Murray be increased from £50 to £100, the latter sum being the stipend paid to the Resident Medical Officers of every other district.

Mr. BROWN seconded the motion, which was also supported by Mr. STEERE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) offered no objection on the part of the Government.

Amendment agreed to.

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Item: Police Department, £21,620 10s.

Progress reported, and leave obtained to sit again.

The Council adjourned at 6 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

Friday, 20th November, 1874.

Standing Orders—Church of England Incorporation Bill: first reading: select committee—Philadelphia Exhibition—Smelting Works: Bonus—Sericulture—Monetary Recognition of Mr. J. Forrest's Exploratory Services: Governor's Message No. 1: in committee—Salary of Colonial Secretary: Governor's Message No. 2: in committee—Foreign Recruiting Bill: third reading—Estimates: Discussion of Grievances: in committee—Suspension of Standing Orders.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 7 p.m.
PRAYERS.

STANDING ORDERS.

The SPEAKER announced to the House that he had presented the Standing Orders, as amended by the Legislative Council, to His Excellency the Governor, who had been pleased to approve of the same.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND INCORPORATION BILL.

First Reading.

Mr. BURT, in accordance with notice, moved for leave to bring in a Bill for the incorporation of the Standing Committee of the Diocesan Synod of Perth as Trustees of the Branch of the Church of England in Western Australia.

The Bill was read a first time.

Select Committee.

The Bill was referred to a select committee, consisting of Mr. Steere, Mr. Padbury, and the Mover (Mr. Burt).

PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. F. P. Barlee) brought under the consideration of the House, Mr. Jules Joubert's letter, urging upon the attention of this colony the importance of uniting with the New South Wales Agricultural Society, of which he is the secretary, and with the other colonies of the Austral group, with a view of having Australia, as a whole, represented at the international exhibition which is to be held at Philadelphia, in the United States, in 1876. If, said the Colonial Secretary, it were deemed desirable that this colony should take part therein, and make a creditable appearance, a great deal more public enthusiasm than had ever hitherto been evoked in connection with such movements would have to be manifested, and a considerable sum of money, certainly not less than £1,000, would have to be voted for the purpose.

Mr. STEERE thought that for many reasons it was desirable that the colony should be represented at the world's exhibition, but he should not be prepared to advise it should be done at an expenditure of £1,000, which he