

tion be presented to His Excellency in an humble address.

Carried.

#### ALTERATIONS IN CUSTOMS TARIFF (MESSAGE No. 15).

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. Sir M. Fraser), without comment, moved "That an humble address be presented to His Excellency in reply to Message No. 15, informing His Excellency that this House approves of the report of the Select Committee appointed to consider the advisability of making alterations in the Customs tariff."

Motion put and passed.

The House adjourned at eleven o'clock, p.m.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

*Tuesday, 16th August, 1887.*

Roads Bill: in committee—Innkeepers Relief Bill: in committee—Pearl Shell Fishery Regulation Acts Amendment Bill: further considered in committee—Crown Lessees Arbitration Bill: further considered in committee—Building Act Amendment Bill: adoption of report—Message (No. 13): Amendments in Kimberley Goldfields Regulations: report of select committee—Message (No. 26): Prohibition on Importation of Fruit Trees: consideration of postponed—Message (No. 27): Establishment of Victoria Public Library: consideration of—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at noon.

PRAYERS.

#### ROADS BILL.

On the order of the day for the further consideration of this bill in committee, MR. SHENTON moved that progress

be reported; and, the committee having divided, the numbers were—

Ayes ...	...	...	9
Noes ...	...	...	8

Majority for ... 1

Ayes.	Noes.
Mr. Hensman	Mr. E. R. Brockman
Mr. Keane	Mr. Congdon
Mr. Loton	Hon. Sir M. Fraser
Mr. McRae	Mr. James
Mr. Parker	Mr. Marmion
Mr. Pearce	Mr. Randell
Mr. Sholl	Mr. Richardson
Hon. J. G. Lee Steere	Hon. C. N. Warton
Mr. Shenton (Teller.)	(Teller.)

Progress reported, and leave given to sit again on Thursday, August 18.

#### INNKEEPERS RELIEF BILL.

This bill passed through committee without amendment, or discussion.

#### PEARL SHELL FISHERY REGULATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

On the order of the day for the consideration of the report on this bill, Mr. RICHARDSON moved that the bill be re-committed, for the purpose of moving an amendment in clause 3.

The motion was carried, and the amendment—the insertion of "and a Justice of the Peace" in clause 3, adopted in committee.

On the Speaker resuming the Chair, the ATTORNEY GENERAL did not, according to the custom of the House, move the adoption of the report of the committee.

THE SPEAKER asked who was in charge of the bill.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. C. N. Warton) said that he was. He was willing to help members in their amendments, but he had been defeated on a question of principle, and did not intend to do anything further with the bill.

THE SPEAKER then asked if any other member wished to move the adoption of the report.

MR. PARKER said he would move the adoption of the report. The third reading could be moved at any time, on notice being given.

The report was then adopted.

#### CROWN LESSEES ARBITRATION BILL.

The House went into committee for the further consideration of this bill, and

several verbal amendments were agreed to, without discussion. [*Vide "Votes and Proceedings,"* p. 154.]

# **BUILDING ACT AMENDMENT BILL: REPORT STAGE.**

The committee's report on this bill was adopted, *sub silentio*.

## **KIMBERLEY GOLDFIELDS REGULATIONS (MESSAGE No. 13).**

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. Sir M. Fraser), speaking to the order of the day for the consideration of the select committee's report on the amendment of the goldfield regulations, said that since the committee had brought up their report, the Government had received the report of the Warden on the matter. The committee, acting on the opinions formed by the evidence they obtained, and judging from all they heard and read outside, were led to the conclusions embodied in the report. But since they had received the information contained in that most interesting report of the Warden, the members had been able to see both sides of the question. The committee had had presented to them only one side of the question, and that was the point of view of the capitalist. Now, they were bound to respect the rights of those who did not possess capital, the rights of those who were now in possession of the goldfields, those men who had risked their lives and gone through very great hardships in proving the goldfield. It now appeared that the Goldfield Regulations now existing were well adapted to the nature of the Kimberley goldfield. Those regulations were based upon the regulations in force in Queensland, where the goldfields were very similar to that at Kimberley. The Warden was satisfied with those regulations, and did not recommend their amendment. This being so, he did not think it advisable to proceed with the report of the select committee. He moved, therefore, that an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, informing His Excellency that the further consideration of this question had been postponed.

MR. A. FORREST thought that clause 81 of the regulations, dealing with rewards for the discovery of goldfields, should be amended. As it stood, fifty goldfields might be discovered at Kimberley and £50,000 paid in rewards.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. Sir M. Fraser) said that any new discoveries for which rewards would be paid must be without the declared area of the goldfield. The declared area at Kimberley was of vast extent.

MR. MARMION said he for one would not object to the paying of £1,000 each for every goldfield discovered outside of the declared area of the Kimberley goldfield.

The motion was agreed to.

## **THE IMPORTATION OF FRUIT TREES (MESSAGE No. 26).**

MR. HARPER said that he did not feel able to go on with his motion for the adoption of the select committee's report on this matter that afternoon. He therefore asked for an adjournment.

MR. A. FORREST objected to the adjournment.

MR. MARMION said that the hon. member for York might let the matter stand over until next session. This step would save it from further discussion.

MR. HARPER: Perhaps the hon. member will take the same course with regard to the harbor works.

MR. MARMION: There is a great difference between the two matters.

MR. SHENTON said that if the proposal of the select committee were pressed to a division, he would vote against it.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. C. N. Warton) moved that the report of the committee should be adjourned *sine die*.

The motion was carried.

MR. HARPER: Hon. members don't mind in the least stultifying themselves. They passed a motion in favor of this very proposal last year.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY (MESSAGE No. 27).**

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. Sir M. Fraser) said it was scarcely likely that the House, at that late stage, would

attempt to deal with the proposals of the select committee on this matter; but there was one of those proposals as to which there should be no delay. A portion of the £3,000 voted towards the founding of a public library was available, and could be devoted, if the House agreed to the committee's proposal to the renting of the premises lately occupied by the Western Australian Bank, and to the placing in it of a stock of books to the value of £1,000. He would ask the House whether it was desirable to secure those buildings, send to England for books, and appoint a competent librarian. He would move: "That, in the opinion of this House, arrangements should be made for an early opening of the Victoria Public Library,—these to include the leasing of a portion of the premises lately occupied by the Western Australian Bank, and the conversion of the same into a Reading Room; also the sending at once to England for books, to the value of £1,000."

MR. SHOLL said that there was no hurry for this matter, and that it might very well stand over. He questioned whether the spending of this money in the way suggested was not illegal. It seemed to him that they were proposing to divert the money from the purpose for which it was voted—the commencement of the building of the library.

MR. RICHARDSON thought this was a very important matter, and should not be delayed.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. C. N. Warton) thought that the books proposed to be bought could be very well selected by His Honor the Chief Justice; Mr. G. W. Leake, Q.C.; the Auditor General; and Mr. J. C. H. James, all widely-read gentlemen.

MR. MARMION said he had been opposed to this library from the beginning. The site had been wrongly chosen, not being central for the population for which it was intended, and the adoption of that site would mean the building of a new school for boys. The £3,000 had been voted for the building and should be spent upon it.

MR. SHENTON supported the motion. The site he said had been carefully selected. It was chosen in a quiet neighborhood, in a pleasant situation and

was as central as any of the suitable Government reserves that were available. There would be a fine open piece of ground about the library, which would be laid out as an ornamental garden, into which visitors to the library could retire to read if they felt so inclined. The boys' school would be removed to the neighborhood of the girls' school, which was a more suitable position for it. As it would be some time before the library building could be erected, he thought they should form a nucleus of the library, and he therefore supported the motion.

MR. A. FORREST opposed the motion. The money, he said, was voted to begin the library building, but instead it was being diverted to beginning a library in a small way. There was no need for a small library when they had the Mechanics' Institute, and the Law and Parliamentary Library. The spending of the money as proposed would be waste. What was wanted was a building erected for a library, and he understood that the sum of £2,000 was to lay the foundations. The voting of money for the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee was a different thing to putting the books in the W.A. Bank. He was surprised at the hon. member for Toodyay making this proposal considering the present state of the finances of the colony. The finances of the colony would never be in a better state as long as the present members were in it. Every project brought forward for the benefit of the colony was pooh-poohed and thrown out. They had had the colony in their own hands for years, and they intended to keep it there as long as possible. He was glad to say that the day was not far distant when a third of the members present would never be returned again to that House. He would oppose the motion.

THE COMMISSIONER OF TITLES (Mr. J. C. H. James) thought that the question was whether they should have building first or books first. He thought the very best foundation of that building would be made of books.

MR. HENSMAN supported the motion and suggested that the books should be carefully selected by a committee, so that the tastes of all classes of the community might be met.

The motion was then carried.

It was agreed that the Book Selecting Committee should be named on a later day.

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

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

*Wednesday, 17th August, 1887.*

Hospital Accommodation at Fremantle—Municipal Institutions Act Amendment Bill: first reading—Innkeepers Relief Bill: third reading—Building Act Amendment Bill: third reading—Fremantle Harbor Works (Message No. 25): resumed debate—Appropriation Bill (Supplementary), 1887: second reading—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION AT FREMANTLE.

MR. CONGDON, in accordance with notice, asked the Colonial Secretary whether the Government had taken any steps towards complying with the expressed wish of the Fremantle Municipal Council, that hospital accommodation should be provided for the town of Fremantle, by transferring the present Convict Hospital, temporarily or otherwise, to the use of the town?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. Sir M. Fraser) said that the building to which the question alluded was within the walls of Fremantle Prison, and before any arrangement could possibly be made to convert it to the use of the town, it must be walled off from the gaol. It was impracticable to use it for a hospital for the town at present. The Government were considering the matter; but, as he had pointed out, there were difficulties in the way.

### MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

MR. SHENTON introduced and moved the first reading of a bill to further amend "The Municipal Institutions Act, 1876."

Motion agreed to.  
Bill read a first time.

### INNKEEPERS RELIEF BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

### BUILDING ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

### FREMANTLE HARBOR WORKS (MESSAGE No. 25).

The debate on this question was resumed in committee.

MR. HARPER said that though he did not approve of the resolution before the House, he thought also the amendment of the senior member for Perth (Mr. Parker) went too far. The question of whether the revenue of the colony should be burdened for ever by debt contracted in carrying out Sir John Coode's scheme was an important one. The information of Sir John Coode, as shown by his report, with regard to the source of the sand deposits at the mouth of the river, appeared to be very uncertain, and that was a point that bore very strongly upon the question of whether the harbor could be made within the river. If the sand was shown to have drifted from the river, and if it could be shown that it was possible to arrest the drift of sand out of the river, it might very materially alter the character of the harbor works and the expense in constructing them. There were several other points with regard to this report which were of a very unsatisfactory character, showing, apparently, that Sir John Coode had acted on erroneous impressions. On the face of the report they could find sufficient reasons for pausing before adopting it. If they did commit themselves and the country to the construction of a breakwater, as recommended by Sir John Coode, they were for ever and a day—or at any rate for two or three generations—setting aside the opening up of the river. The possibility of the making of a dock should not be overlooked. A dock would be of