

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE FIRST PARLIAMENT.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The Third Session of the First Parliament was prorogued by His Excellency the Governor on the 13th January, 1893, to the 26th April; and thence to the 5th July for the despatch of business; and the Fourth Session commenced on that day.

Parliament was opened by His Excellency the Governor.

Legislative Council,

Wednesday, 5th July, 1893.

Opening of Council—Governor's Speech—Destructive Birds and Animals Bill: first reading—Address-in-Reply—Duke of York, approaching marriage of: address to the Queen—Adjournment.

OPENING OF COUNCIL.

The Council met at three o'clock, pursuant to a Proclamation, which was read by the Clerk of Parliaments.

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

The members of the Legislative Assembly, in obedience to the Governor's command, attended the Chamber, whereupon His Excellency delivered the following Speech:—

“MR. PRESIDENT AND HONOURABLE
“GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE
“COUNCIL,—

“MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE
“LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

“The change in the termination of the financial year from the 31st December to the 30th June enables me to have the pleasure of meeting you earlier than has hitherto been the case.

“2. During the last few months, owing to various causes, a financial crisis has

“occurred in the Eastern colonies of Australia, necessitating the suspension of many of the great banking institutions with a view to reconstruction, and amongst them two institutions having branches in this colony, which, however, I am glad to say, have successfully re-arranged their business, and are again in active operation. These financial difficulties have resulted in great inconvenience, and have had an injurious effect on trade; but there is every reason to believe that these troubles are over, and that a period of prosperity will ensue, as the general prospects of the colony are most encouraging,—the agricultural and pastoral interests promising excellent returns, while the mineral interests are surely and quickly developing.

“3. The continued progress made in the development of the mineral resources gives hope and confidence in the future. The discoveries of gold in so many parts of the colony seem to strengthen the general opinion that Western Australia is to become one of the great gold-producing parts of the world. During the past half-year gold to the value of £146,574 has been exported through the Customs, being £46,574 greater value than the export for the corresponding period of last year; and, in addition to this, a large

"quantity has been taken away without being entered at the Customs. It has also been proved that coal in large quantities exists on the Collie River, and already it has been used with complete success on our Railways. The Government intend to raise a considerable quantity for local use, and a survey for a railway to the coalfield will be undertaken as soon as possible.

"4. The public works authorised by Parliament are being proceeded with in a satisfactory manner. The railway from Perth to Bunbury has been almost completed and is already in use for public traffic, supplying a means of rapid transit which it is believed will prove of great benefit, not only to the South-Western Districts, but to the whole colony. The Yilgarn Railway is being speedily constructed, and by the end of the year the first section of 67 miles will be opened for public traffic. The railway from Boyanup to Minninup, along the Preston River, which will soon be completed, will be of great service to the agricultural district of the Upper Preston, will bring the Greenbushes Tinfields within 30 miles of a railway, and will encourage the occupation of the agricultural lands in the Blackwood District. The Mullewa Railway has been commenced, and is being satisfactorily proceeded with, and the railway to Busselton will be commenced as soon as possible. The Breakwater in connection with the Harbour Works at Fremantle has been constructed for about 1,200 feet, and there is every hope that it will be completely successful as a means of protecting the present Harbour at Fremantle, as well as the contemplated works at the mouth of the Swan River. Of smaller works, the harbour improvements at Albany, Geraldton, Ashburton, Cossack, Derby, and other places are being carried out. The telegraph line from Derby to Wyndham has been completed, and is working satisfactorily, and the lines from Condon to Marble Bar, and from Geraldton to the Murchison Goldfields, will be put in hand at once. Public buildings at Perth, Geraldton, York, Southern Cross, and other towns have been completed, or are in course of construction, and there never was a time in this colony when so many useful and

"important public works were being carried out.

"5. The Pump Hopper Dredger ordered by the Government through the late Sir John Coode arrived safely in the colony in February last, and was at once sent to Albany to deepen the entrance into Princess Royal Harbour. It has already deepened the channel to a considerable extent, and there now exists a straight entrance 300 feet wide and 30 feet deep, which it is proposed to widen to 600 feet, so that the largest ships will be able to enter the inner harbour at all times, day or night. The success which has been already achieved by this dredger is most encouraging, and by its means it will be possible to materially improve many of the harbours and river entrances of the colony.

"6. During the recess the Government appointed a Commission to inquire into the working of the Tariff Act, and also a Commission to inquire into the condition of the Fremantle Railway Workshops. The reports of these Commissions will no doubt prove of great advantage in dealing with these difficult and important questions. It is generally felt that a revision of the present tariff is necessary, as it has been in existence several years, during which the circumstances of the colony have considerably changed, and my Ministers are prepared to deal with the question as soon as it is possible. It will of course be clearly recognised that any reduction of the revenue derived from Customs must be made good in some other way, as the calculations of the Government are based upon the present tariff.

"7. My Ministers have had under consideration the question of further encouraging the settlement and improvement of the Crown lands of the colony, and, with this object, have decided to introduce a Homesteads Bill, which they believe will meet with the approval of Parliament.

"8. The Constitution Bill, which last session failed to become law, will be again submitted for your consideration.

"9. Your approval will be asked of a measure to enable the Government to provide funds for the works already sanctioned by Parliament, viz., the completion of the railway to Mullewa, and

“the deviations on the Eastern Railway. Provision for other pressing works of a minor character will also be included in the Bill. It is not proposed to raise the money at once, but my Ministers wish to be in a position to do so when a favourable opportunity occurs. There is still £436,000 of the authorised Loan of 1891 to raise, and it is proposed to raise this amount at an early date.

“10. There will also be submitted to you Bills on the following subjects:— A Bill to authorise the issue of Treasury Bills; a Bill to amend the Savings Bank Act; a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Municipalities; a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Post Office; a Bill to amend the Education Act; and several others of importance.

“11. The importation of Chinese under ‘The Imported Labour Registry Act, 1884,’ in numbers not contemplated when the Act was passed, has necessitated the amendment of that measure; and my Ministers propose to submit for your approval that the law regarding the admission of Chinese should be brought into accord with that of the Eastern Colonies. My Ministers believe that in taking this step they are acting in accord with the sentiments of the people, and in the interests of the future of the colony.

“MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE
“LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

“12. The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1894, as well as the Estimates of the proposed expenditure from Loan Funds for the same period, will be placed before you as soon as possible. These Estimates will be framed with a due regard to economy, and the many and increasing requirements of the colony. During the two and a half years my Ministers have been in office they have had to contend with an adverse financial market in London, which has lately been accentuated by the recent Bank suspensions in the Eastern colonies. With the exception of a temporary delay in the issue of new contracts, and an increased caution in regard to financial operations, my Ministers are of opinion that no special action will be necessary to maintain the

“credit of the colony, unless in concert with the other colonies it may be found desirable to pass a law having for its object the closer supervision and control of public companies. Notwithstanding the exceptional circumstances I have referred to, the revenue for the past six months has exceeded that received for the corresponding period of last year, there is a substantial balance to credit in the Treasury on current account, an excellent season is assured, and everything in the colony is in a condition which gives good promise for the future, provided wise and moderate counsels prevail.

“MR. PRESIDENT AND HONOURABLE
“GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE
“COUNCIL,—

“MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE
“LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

“13. I have pleasure in informing you that the Midland Railway Company has placed upon the market, with every prospect of success, the £500,000 issue of debentures, under the terms provided by ‘The Midland Railway Loan Act, 1893,’ and there is every reason to believe that in a few days the construction of this railway will be proceeded with. The lands between Guildford and the Greenough belonging to the Company, as well as the Crown lands, after being excepted from sale for seven years, will at once be opened for sale and occupation; and, with the advantages of railway communication, it may be said that a new agricultural district has been made available for profitable settlement; besides which, the effect of certain and quick means of transit between Perth and Geraldton, and the connection of the Southern and Northern Railway systems, cannot but prove of great benefit to the whole colony.

“14. The Federal Council of Australasia met at Hobart on the 26th of January last, and this colony was, for the first time, represented by two members. A resolution was passed suggesting that the Governments of the colonies represented in the Federal Council should move an Address to the Queen in their respective Legislatures, praying Her Majesty to be pleased to issue an Order in Council to increase

“the number of representatives from each colony to five, instead of two as at present. You will be asked to approve of this Address to Her Majesty, as my Ministers consider that the influence and usefulness of the Federal Council would be much increased by the proposed change; and it is to be hoped that the colonies of New South Wales and South Australia will also join the Federal Council.

“15. In conclusion, I may with confidence say that there is every reason to hope that the progress which has marked this colony during the present Parliament will continue, and I leave you to perform your important duties, in the firm belief that, with Divine assistance, your labours will result in the adoption of measures having for their object the permanent advancement of the best interests of the colony.”

His Excellency the Governor and the members of the Legislative Assembly then withdrew from the Chamber, and the President (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) took the chair.

DESTRUCTIVE BIRDS AND ANIMALS BILL.

This Bill was introduced, and was read a first time.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

THE HON. E. T. HOOLEY: I rise with pleasure to propose an Address-in-Reply to the very interesting Speech of His Excellency the Governor, and I might say that I am quite in accord with a great part of what it contains. His Excellency has referred to the financial disasters which have overtaken Australasia, and there is no doubt but that they have been widely felt. Their effects have been felt considerably in this colony; but not to so great an extent as in the colonies to the East. Still, it certainly says a great deal for the resources of Western Australia, that during the period of these disasters and troubles there has not been one serious failure. Upon this we might one and all congratulate ourselves, and I might add that the absence of any serious failure was largely due to the forbearance of people one with another, a course I hope will prove to be of lasting benefit to the colony and its progress. With regard to

the mining industry referred to in the Speech, I consider the colony has a very great future before it. We now know that our gold mines extend from the Dundas ranges, near the Southern coast, to Kimberley in the North, a distance of some 1,500 miles as the crow flies. Although gold has not been found all through, it has been touched at different distances; and I have no doubt but that eventually the precious metal will be discovered throughout the whole length of the line, and that a large population will be supported by it. It has been said that gold mining does not pay those engaged in the industry. This may be so, but it maintains a large number of people, who all contribute to the revenue, and who aid in adding to the productiveness and wealth of the colony. I have also heard it urged against gold mining that the gold is sent out of the colony. Of course it is, and I would like to know what would be the use of keeping it here? Wool is sent out of the colony, and so is sandalwood; but we always receive something in return for it. Another pleasing announcement in the Speech is that relating to the discovery of coal on the Collie River. His Excellency said that it has been proved that coal in large quantities exists, and that already it has been used with complete success on the railways. If we could only work the mine profitably we would save thousands of pounds which are now sent out of the colony. I am glad to see that mention is made of the proposed survey of a line of railway to the field; but at the same time I should be sorry to see the Government constructing a line until the seam has been properly tested and is likely to prove payable. I am pleased to find that the public works undertaken by the Government are progressing satisfactorily. We are told that in a few weeks' time the South-Western Railway will be complete. In the past it has been said that this was the only means of bringing the Southern districts into notice; and I hope, now that the line is almost an accomplished fact, much good will accrue from it. I remember having a conversation with a leading settler of the district, from whom I inquired how he was getting on. He said that there had been a capital season, and that the crops were splendid, but he added that

he did not cultivate much because he could not get his crops to market. I replied, "Why, you have the river;" to which the settler replied that it did not pay to send by that means, but if he had a railway he would cultivate more. He also stated that he had 19 bales of wool. Now they have the railway, and I hope it will do much good, and that instead of one man in the district having 19 bales of wool, we shall find 50 or 60 people with an equal amount. I was opposed to the construction of the line, being rather sceptical as to the returns we should get from it; but this, time alone can tell, although no one will be better pleased than myself to see it paying working expenses, and a profit besides. Fair progress is also being made with the Yilgarn line; and, when complete, I hope it will be the means of securing a return to the unfortunate shareholders in the mines there. Another public work with which good progress is being made is the Breakwater at Fremantle. For many years the question has been a vexed one. We have had the opinion of many engineers, both professional and amateur, amongst the latter being myself; and the various opinions expressed resulted in a commission being appointed to inquire into the whole question, which ultimately decided in favour of the river scheme. I am glad to say that I was one of the majority which decided in this way, and I hope I shall live long enough to see the work brought to a successful issue, and the steamers lying at the wharves inside the river. I am glad to learn that the dredge imported by the Government is doing such excellent work, and I am sure that the money in this direction has been well spent. When the dredge leaves Albany, I hope, before it comes to Fremantle, it will be sent to some of the ports at the North, particularly Carnarvon. A jetty has been erected there to enable the settlers to ship their goods; but although there is an abundance of water alongside the jetty for ships and steamers, there is an intermediate mud bank, which stops the traffic, and which could be removed by the dredge in a very short time. The Speech refers to the Commissions which are sitting on the subjects of the Railway Workshops and the Tariff. I am a member of the latter Commission, and I might

say that the object of those composing it is, if possible, to reduce the duty on the necessities of life without interfering with the revenue. I am glad to see that the Government intend to introduce again the Homesteads Bill, although I hope it will be on somewhat different lines to the measure put forward last session. We have plenty of waste land which is of no use in its present state, and we should encourage settlement upon it, and thus prevent large sums of money being sent out of the colony for produce which can well be grown here. There are large quantities of land still adapted for the growth of corn, wheat, and potatoes. I cannot include oats, for perhaps we cannot grow them here as well as in other parts; but poultry farming might be encouraged, and thus stop the importation of eggs from the other colonies. I notice also that the Government intend to again introduce the Constitution Bill, and if it comes to us in a somewhat modified form to that proposed last session, there may be some chance of its becoming law. Another Bill which is to be reintroduced is the Treasury Bills Bill. Last session the Council thought the measure was not required, but now there appears to be more reason for it, and at all events we can trust to the present Government not to abuse any powers they may get under it. I now come to the most important matter in the whole Speech—the reference which is made to the Bill which it is proposed to introduce to prevent an influx of Chinese. There is no doubt we are getting a large number of objectionable people in the colony, and this should be prevented. At the same time we must be careful not to stop the Northern settlers from obtaining the class of labour they require. On some stations, most of the water drawing is done by Chinese, and no doubt coloured labour is needed in other ways. We want Chinese for cooks and for gardeners, but we must not allow Hang Hi or Sing Woh Lee to import Chinese under fictitious agreements. If these coloured races come to the colony they should come under agreement to well known colonists. We are informed that the Midland Railway Company have placed their bonds on the market with success, and I am glad to hear it, although I wish His Excellency were in a position to assure us that the money had been subscribed.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: We have received a telegram stating that the bonds have been over-subscribed.

THE HON. E. T. HOOLEY: I would have liked to have heard that a substantial deposit had been paid. However, with the Government guarantee, I believe the bonds will be placed. With respect to the Federal Council, I am glad that the Government propose to have the colony represented by five members instead of two. Before concluding, I must congratulate our President on the honour conferred upon him by Her Majesty, for I take it that it is not only an honour conferred upon the President individually, but an honour bestowed upon the House. I now move that the following Address be presented:—

To His Excellency Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Western Australia and its Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the members of the Legislative Council of Western Australia in Parliament assembled, desire to assure Your Excellency of our continued loyalty and affection towards the Throne and Person of our Most Gracious Sovereign.

We thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to deliver to us, and beg to assure you that the various matters to which Your Excellency has referred, and all other matters that may be brought before us, shall receive our most careful consideration and attention, and it shall be our anxious endeavour so to deal with them as to promote the advancement and welfare of this portion of Her Majesty's dominions.

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST: It is with very great pleasure, Mr. President, that I rise to second the motion of the hon. member who has just sat down. He has, however, so ably and fully spoken to it that he has left me very little to say. Before referring shortly to the Speech, I should like to join with my hon. friend in congratulating you, sir, on the well-merited honour which has been conferred upon you, and I hope you may long be

spared to enjoy it. Coming now to the Speech, I note with satisfaction that a change has been made in the time for the meeting of Parliament. In former days, when we met in the summer time, hon. members became tired and languid in consequence of the heat, and were not so well able to perform their duties as they will be in the cooler part of the year. I can only re-echo the expression contained in the Speech on the subject of the financial depression which, for some time past, has existed, and hope that it is really now all over. The large and rich finds of gold, and the excellent season, should help, to some extent at any rate, to recoup us for the losses we have made through the stoppage of the banks. It is quite true, as my hon. friend has said, that the gold goes out of the colony, but we must remember that many people are employed in obtaining it, all of whom spend the money they get here, and consequently are the means of doing a large amount of good to the colony, and I am sure that when the railways to Yilgarn and Mullewa are completed, still more good will be done. As to the coal, I am informed by the Hon. Mr. Wright that there is a very good chance of a large and payable field being discovered near Albany. The opening of the Railway to Bunbury will also be the means, I hope, of doing much good. It will enable those who reside in this part of the colony to obtain certain of their supplies at a cheaper rate. Already we are getting splendid fish from Mandurah, and when the line is officially opened we shall no doubt be still better off. As to the Breakwater at Fremantle, we have already had evidence of its being able to stand very heavy gales. For days together we have experienced very stormy weather, and although it was considered by some that portions of the breakwater would subside, it has been found that it has been constructed in so masterly a manner as to withstand the severest elements. I hope before long to see the whole work finished, and steamers lying along wharves inside the river. Speaking of wharves reminds me of the Fremantle workshops. I have heard opinions expressed outside that it would be a good thing to remove the workshops altogether from their present site. The land where they are situate is very valuable, but very small; and as there is a

commission sitting on the subject, I hope they will consider the expediency of selling the land, and removing the shops to a more convenient and suitable place. The dredger appears to be doing useful work at Albany. Already the channel has been deepened to a width of 300ft., and it is proposed to further widen it to 600ft. When that is done we should endeavour to get an Admiralty survey, and then we shall ensure the large ocean-going vessels anchoring in the inner harbour. From the reports in the newspapers, I notice that the Tariff Commission, now sitting, is doing excellent work. I may, however, be permitted to express the hope that they will consider machinery employed in viticulture as well as implements used for agricultural purposes, and assimilate the duties on each. From the Speech we learn that the Homesteads Bill, which came before another place last year and was withdrawn, is to be again brought forward. The discussion that took place last session will not, I hope, be without effect, and that when the measure comes before us now it will be without the objectionable clauses previously contained in it. There is no doubt but that such a measure will facilitate the cultivation of the land, and when we remember that so much of our land is idle as to be almost a disgrace to the colony, some such measure seems to be most desirable. With regard to the Constitution Act Amendment Bill, which was thrown out last session, I was one of those who voted for the second reading. If we had gone into committee we might have removed certain of the parts which hon. members objected to. A promise was undoubtedly made by our delegates when at Home that the property qualification for members would be abolished, and that promise should be ratified. The Mullewa railway I do not know much about. It is probably a sop to the North, but no doubt it will do much good, as railways generally do. There is one point with which I cannot agree, and that is as to the deviations on the Eastern Railway. No new land will be opened up by them—they will, in fact, be mere loop lines. In my opinion, when a work of this kind is undertaken, new land should be opened up by it, so that sufficient revenue may be derived to pay the working expenses of the railway. I hope some amendment will be made in

the Licensing Act this session, and that some provision will be made for the sale of colonial wine. We are constantly having strangers among us who have been in the habit of buying their glass of colonial wine. Here they cannot get it, and consequently they purchase whiskey instead, much to their detriment. I think some provision should be made by which colonial wine could be sold in small quantities throughout the city; and I hope, when the amending Bill comes before the House, steps will be taken to have such a clause inserted. I now come to the question of importation of Chinese, and I agree with the Hon. Mr. Hooley that this is one of the most important matters we shall have before us. It will not do, as he says, to go blindly to work and forbid Chinese coming here altogether. In the North I believe Chinese servants are absolutely necessary, and in the South a certain number of them are required as household servants. We must not, therefore, prohibit them altogether, but must endeavour to work out some scheme which will meet the case of everyone. As to the Midland Railway, I noticed a sort of smile on certain faces when the paragraph referring to it was read out; but we know that a telegram has been received by Mr. Sayer, the attorney to the company in this colony, stating that the issue of debentures has been over subscribed, and that the list would close on the following day. It is high time this work was gone on with, and the lands thrown open again for selection, and no doubt this will be so very shortly after the debentures have been taken up. The line will open a considerable amount of good country, and some bad; but we have the consolation of knowing that even in the latter there is some good sport to be obtained, for it is the home of the wild duck and the tamar. With reference to the Federal Council, I think it will be a good thing for the colony to have five delegates representing us there instead of two, and I hope that South Australia and New South Wales will be induced to join the Council. In conclusion, let me say that I am sure the sentiments in the last paragraph of the Speech will be carried out, and that we shall all do our duty to the colony in the future, as we have always done in the past.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT moved,
 "That the debate be adjourned until the
 next sitting of the House."

Question—put and passed.

DUKE OF YORK—APPROACHING
 MARRIAGE OF.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) announced the receipt of the following Message from the Legislative Assembly:—

"Mr. President,—

"The Legislative Assembly having this day adopted the enclosed Address of Congratulation to Her Majesty the Queen, on the Marriage of His Royal Highness the Duke of York and the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, and having further adopted an Address to His Excellency the Governor requesting him to communicate the said Address by telegraph to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, for presentation to Her Majesty, presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

"JAS. G. LEE STEERE,

"Speaker,

"Legislative Assembly Chamber, Perth,
 "July 5th, 1893."

"To Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen."

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

"We, Your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Western Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to approach Your Majesty with our sincere congratulations on the approaching Marriage of His Royal Highness the Duke of York with the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, an alliance which is viewed with so much pleasure and satisfaction by the whole British nation.

"We assure Your Majesty of our continued loyalty to Your Throne and Person, and we fervently hope that Your Majesty may long be spared to rule over the British Empire, which has enjoyed innumerable blessings and unparalleled prosperity during Your Majesty's long and auspicious Reign."

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) moved that Standing Orders 205 and 208 be suspended, to allow the Message to be at once considered.

Question—put and passed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) moved that the words "Legislative Council and" be inserted before the words "Legislative Assembly."

Question—put and passed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I beg to move that this Council concurs in the address. I believe, sir, that the marriage of the Duke of York will take place to-morrow, and consequently if this address be forwarded immediately from this remote dependency of Her Majesty, it will arrive at a most opportune time. Living at this distance, we do not get an opportunity of basking in the sunshine of Royalty; nevertheless we pride ourselves on being as dutiful and loyal subjects as Her Majesty possesses in any of her dominions. With regard to the Duke of York, he is one of the Royal family who has visited this colony, and sometime ago Albany had the advantage of entertaining him, and of giving some recreation in the bush. I have no doubt at some future time, when he comes to the Throne, he will not look with less favour upon Western Australia in consequence of his trip to it. With regard to the Princess Mary of Teck, recent occurrences, to which I need hardly allude, have endeared her to the British public. The announcement of her engagement was received with acclamation and joy by the whole British people, and we may feel sure that the fact of the future King of England marrying an English woman has added to the joy of the people. I need not, sir, say anything to commend this address to hon. members, and I will now only ask them to join with the Legislative Assembly in forwarding it to Her Majesty.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: I have much pleasure in seconding this address. With what has fallen from my hon friend opposite I perfectly agree, except that he has not made his remarks quite strong enough. He referred somewhat lightly to the loyalty of the Australians, whereas the people of this continent are known to be the most loyal of Her Majesty's subjects, and I believe that West Australians are far more loyal than the people of any of the other colonies. We have now an opportunity of sending this message to Her Majesty so that it will arrive just before the wedding—a most auspicious chance for Western Australia. I have the greatest

pleasure in seconding it, and I feel certain that it will not only be carried with acclamation in this House, but will also be endorsed in every resort where loyal Englishmen are to be found.

Question—put and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council, at 4:10 o'clock p.m., adjourned until Thursday, 6th July, at 7:30 o'clock p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Wednesday, 5th July, 1893.

Meeting of the Legislative Assembly—Message from His Excellency the Governor—Representation of East Kimberley—Auditor General's Annual Report laid on the Table—Treasury Bills Bill: first reading—Royal Marriage: Address of Congratulation—Address-in-Reply to His Excellency's Speech—Message from the Legislative Council—Adjournment.

MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The Legislative Assembly met at 3 o'clock, p.m., pursuant to Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor, bearing date the 22nd day of April, 1893, which Proclamation was read by the Clerk.

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

A Message was delivered at the Bar by the Usher of the Black Rod, requesting the immediate attendance of the Legislative Assembly in the Chamber of the Legislative Council.

Accordingly Mr. Speaker, with Members of the House, went to attend His Excellency, who then delivered the Opening Speech.

REPRESENTATION OF EAST KIMBERLEY.

MR. SPEAKER announced that he had, since the Prorogation, issued a writ for the election of a Member to serve for the Electoral District of East Kimberley,

in the place of Mr. Baker, deceased, and that by the return thereto it appeared that Mr. Francis Connor had been duly elected in pursuance of the said writ.

Mr. Connor was then introduced, and took and subscribed the oath required by law, and signed the Members' Roll.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S ANNUAL REPORT.

MR. SPEAKER laid upon the table of the House the following paper:—Public Accounts for the financial year ended 31st December, 1892, accompanied by the second Annual Report of the Auditor General, under the Audit Act, 1891.

Ordered—That the paper be printed, and lie upon the table of the House.

TREASURY BILLS BILL.

Introduced by the COLONIAL TREASURER, and read a first time.

ROYAL MARRIAGE: ADDRESS OF CONGRATULATION TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): Mr. Speaker,—Sir, I have a very pleasant and agreeable duty to perform to-day, and that is to move, without notice, and ask members to give their assent to, an Address to Her Majesty, testifying our loyalty and devotion to Her Majesty's throne and person, and also offering our congratulations on the approaching marriage of His Royal Highness the Duke of York and the Princess Victoria Mary of Teck. In moving that this address be presented to Her Majesty, very few words, I am sure, will be necessary from me, as we in Australia are all good and loyal citizens, I believe. Australia is intensely loyal to the Throne and Government of Her Majesty the Queen; and we honour the institutions of the great mother country from which our fathers came. I am sure there is in the minds of everyone in Australia—of all that is best, at any rate, in Australia—a feeling of esteem and respect for the great old mother country, and for her great institutions. We seem to rejoice when the Royal Family of England are joyous, and we seem to mourn in their afflictions and bereavements. There is something within us, I think, which seems to move us in a different way from our ordinary feelings