

That ruling was accepted by the House, and the Bill was proceeded with, though eventually it lapsed because the preamble was not proved to the satisfaction of a Select Committee to whom it was referred. After the action of the House on that occasion, he did not think hon. members would stultify themselves by allowing this Bill to be brought in contrary to the rules of the House. As to the Standing Orders and the right of the Governor to introduce Bills for the consideration of the House, that right was vested in His Excellency by Act of Parliament, which over-ruled any Standing Order, and which enacted that it shall be lawful for the Governor to introduce the drafts of any such laws which may appear to him desirable to introduce. He presumed it was by virtue of that statute, and not with reference to the Standing Orders, that His Honor the Speaker had ruled that it was competent for His Excellency to introduce such Bills as he might deem fit.

THE SPEAKER having formally ruled that the Bill now proposed to be introduced was a private Bill, and could only be introduced in accordance with the Standing Orders, the motion for its introduction was dropped.

#### INCREASE OF SALARY TO TIDE-WAITER AT COSSACK.

MR. GRANT, in accordance with notice, moved, "That an Humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, praying that he will be pleased to place on the Estimates a sum of £25, in addition to the salary of £75 already received by Mr. Martin, as tidewaiter at Cossack."

Several hon. members opposed the motion, and upon a division it was negatived by a majority of 8 to 2.

#### BRANDS BILL, 1881.

On the Order of the Day for the third reading of this Bill,

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. C. Onslow) moved, That the order be discharged and the Bill be recommitted. Agreed to.

#### IN COMMITTEE.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. A. C. Onslow) moved several verbal amendments in the Bill, which were agreed to without discussion. [*Vide* "Votes and Proceedings," p. 100.]

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

### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

*Monday, 29th August, 1881.*

Extension of Tenure of Pastoral Lands: Adjourned Debate—Estimates: Further consideration of—Sandalwood Bill: further considered in committee—Adjournment.

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

#### PRAYERS.

#### EXTENSION OF TENURE OF PASTORAL LANDS.

##### ADJOURNED DEBATE.

On the Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate upon the resolution submitted by Mr. BURGESS, on the 25th August (*vide* p. 313, *ante*), relating to the extension of tenure as regards pastoral lands,—

MR. RANDELL said it was at his suggestion that the hon. member for Geraldton had moved the adjournment of the debate, so that those persons who were most capable of expressing an opinion upon the subject might have an opportunity of doing so, before the House proceeded to deal definitively with the resolution. The subject was one of great importance, but one with reference to which many of them were in ignorance, and his object in adjourning the debate was to elicit an expression of opinion from practical men outside the House, which might serve as a guide to hon. members in arriving at a decision on the subject, which he had hoped might be

postponed until another Session. He could see himself that there were elements in the resolution fraught with a great deal of good to the country, and, so far as he was able to judge at present, his sympathies were in favor of the proposed change, for he could see that one of the principal resources of the Colony would be considerably developed and benefited by the adoption of the resolution,—he did not say in its entirety, but as the basis of a scheme for reforming the regulations as regards pastoral lands. He felt a great deal of sympathy with what had fallen from the hon. member for Greenough in the course of the debate the other day—that it would be well if the Crown could see its way clear not to alienate any more, or very little more, of the land of the Colony, but lease it, as contemplated in the resolution before the House. He was prepared to allow that there were difficulties in the way of carrying out this proposal, and that grave reasons might be adduced on the other side; but he was not at present prepared to discuss the *pros* and *cons* of the question. He hoped, however, that those hon. members who were practically acquainted with the subject would do so, at this stage of the debate.

MR. HAMERSLEY said he would support the amendment (submitted by Mr. S. H. Parker, on August 25th), to refer the resolution to a Select Committee, for he had every confidence in those hon. members who were to sit on that Committee.

The amendment in question was then put—"That this Resolution be referred to a Select Committee, with power to call for persons and papers, and that such Committee consist of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, Mr. Burges, Mr. Brown, Mr. Grant, Mr. S. S. Parker, and, by leave, Mr. Randell and Mr. Marmion."

This was agreed to.

#### LADIES' GALLERY.

MR. S. H. PARKER, before proceeding with the granting of supplies, directed the attention of the House to a question of grievance, with a view to its redress. He alluded to the uncomfortable accommodation provided for visitors in the Ladies' Gallery. He was sure if the

noble lord, the leader of the Government, would, under the head of "Works and Buildings," place a sum on the Estimates to provide improved accommodation for those ladies who were in the habit of attending the House for the purpose of listening to the eloquence of hon. members, there would be no opposition offered to such a vote, and the noble lord would entitle himself to the lasting gratitude of the fair sex.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said he had ascertained that improved accommodation could be provided in the Ladies' Gallery for about £40, and as there was a sum of £3,000 placed on the Estimates for "Minor Works," he considered they would be able to provide the necessary expenditure out of that vote, and the Government would see that the work was done.

#### ESTIMATES: FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF.

The House then went into Committee for the further consideration of the Estimates.

*Police Department*, Item £19,855 12s. 6d.:

This item was reverted to, and the Colonial Secretary having further explained the causes which had led to the slight increase made in the vote since the Estimates were originally framed, no opposition was offered to the vote.

MR. STEERE asked whether the Government intended to convert the Military Barracks at Perth, or one wing of it, into police quarters, as had been mooted some time ago? He thought it very desirable that this should be done, as it would effect a considerable saving in the item of lodging allowance for the police stationed at Perth.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said the Government did intend to convert a wing of the Barracks into quarters for the police, and a sum for that purpose was included in the vote for minor works.

MR. S. H. PARKER asked where the "first-class" detectives, for which provision was here made, were stationed?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford): At Perth.

MR. S. H. PARKER expressed his surprise at such being the case, as he

had never come across them. Judging from his experience of the detectives at Perth, he should have thought the "first-class" men must be somewhere in the remote interior. Certainly those employed in the city could only be regarded as second or third rate men, judging from what he had seen and heard of their exploits recently.

MR. SHENTON asked what check was kept upon the expenses incurred by the police when travelling? He had heard of several cases which had involved the Colony in great expense, but which all ended in smoke, and he should like to know if the Superintendent of Police kept a check upon the travelling expenses of his men, when they went about the country hunting up cases.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said the Superintendent did, as far as possible, keep a check upon these expenses, but there necessarily must be a considerable portion of such expenses over which it was very difficult to exercise any control, especially in outlying districts. Every effort was being made to curtail this vote, and the only alternative that could be adopted in place of the present system was to increase the pay of the police at outlying stations, and let them defray their own expenses. But the result of that would probably be that the men would not be inclined to travel from their stations even when required.

MR. SHENTON said, on the other hand, the present system of granting them a special daily allowance for every day they were absent from their stations was a great incentive to the men to prolong their travelling excursions unnecessarily.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said no doubt that was true, but the Superintendent exercised as much control and check upon the expenditure as circumstances would admit, and he knew of cases in which expenses charged by the men had been disallowed, because in the opinion of the Superintendent they had been incurred unnecessarily.

MR. STEERE said, although he should offer no opposition to the increased vote asked for the Police Department, in view of the extension of police protection to the Northern settlements, he hoped the vote would not be exceeded, and that

they should have no overdraft in connection with this department next year.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said the estimate, as amended, had been specially framed in order to avoid any overdraft. It was the desire of the Government that neither this nor any other vote should be exceeded, and, as regards this particular item, they believed the amount now asked for would cover every contingency that could be at present foreseen.

The vote was then agreed to.

*Gaol Department, Item £5,665 :*

MR. S. H. PARKER called attention to the item "Expenses of religious ministrations, £100," and asked if there was reason to suppose that these ministrations produced any salutary results, as regards the reformation of prisoners for whose benefit the money was voted?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said he was not in a position to state what effect the "religious ministrations" produced upon our criminals, but he could vouch that religious services were periodically held for their edification.

MR. CROWTHER regretted to find that it was proposed to remove one day and one night warder from Geraldton. He did not object to the night warder being done away with, but he thought it would be a great mistake to remove the day warder, whose pay, he might say, was provided out of municipal funds.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said, as the average number of prisoners confined in the local gaol at Geraldton was only 19, it was considered by the Departmental Commission that it did not require a gaoler and three assistants for the supervision of so few prisoners, and the proposal to reduce the strength of the staff was one which the Government believed might be carried out with advantage, especially in view of the fact that it was proposed in future to send long sentence men to Perth, and to reduce the maximum number to be retained at Geraldton to twelve. It was proposed to send some of these men to Albany, to perform the necessary work in connection with the sand-patch at that place.

MR. BROWN failed to see how it was possible for one warder to exercise supervision over the men when outside the

gaol and also to perform all the indoor duties, and he regretted that the Government had adopted the recommendation of the Commission in this matter. He believed it would be found to be false economy in the end. It was only a small matter perhaps, but it was such trifling things as these which tended to alienate the feeling of the people from the Government and the Legislature.

MR. STEERE thought it was very desirable indeed that every effort should be made to concentrate their prisoners in one central gaol, and that, in this respect, the recommendation made by the Commission was one well worthy of attention. The result of this suggestion being adopted as regards Geraldton would be that the services of two, if not three, assistant gaolers could be dispensed with. In no other country town but Geraldton did they have all this number of warders, and it had always been a mystery to him why the services of so many gaolers should have been required at Champion Bay.

The vote was then put and passed (the item, "one warder Geraldton £80, and one night warder, £80" being expunged).

*Rottnest Prison Department, Item £2,082:*

MR. STEERE asked how many inmates the Reformatory on the island would accommodate?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) thought it was eight, but he believed they could manage to squeeze in a dozen, if required.

MR. MARMION called attention to the fact that the vote for contingencies in connection with this department for next year amounted to £1,032, whereas the actual expenditure last year was only £850.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said the increase was mainly caused under the head of transport, clothing, and provisions, which must necessarily increase as the establishment on the island expanded. The Reformatory must be provided for, as well as the native prison.

MR. MARMION asked why it was considered necessary to have so many warders on the island? He understood that the number of native prisoners had been materially reduced during the last couple of years.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said the Government did not feel justified in reducing the staff of warders, as there were some notoriously bad characters among the native prisoners now confined on the island, who had been causing a great deal of trouble.

The item was then put and passed.

*Printing Department, Item £1,512 16s.:*

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said that, in view of the resolution adopted the other day with reference to the revision and consolidation of the statutes, it would be necessary to increase the vote for contingencies in connection with this department, so as to provide for the increased amount of labor which would consequently be required. In addition to this extra labor, considerable demands were made on the department in connection with the Stamp Duty Act, and the Railway Department, which had increased the work of the printers to a very great extent. As it was absolutely necessary that some provision would have to be made for printing the consolidated statutes, he would move that the item "Incidental Expenses" be increased from £50 to £200.

MR. STEERE thought it would be better to provide for this special service under the head of "Miscellaneous."

MR. SHENTON concurred, as from past experience he had found that when the House voted money for contingencies in connection with any department, the money, whether it was required for the particular purpose for which it had been voted or not, was sure to be expended.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) had no objection to placing the vote under the head of "Miscellaneous."

MR. S. H. PARKER asked whether copies of *Hansard*, the Blue Book, and the "Votes and Proceedings" were furnished to each mechanics' institute and working men's association throughout the Colony, in accordance with the resolution passed by the House two or three Sessions ago?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said he was not in a position to answer the hon. member, without making inquiry on the subject.

MR. MARMION was afraid that, like other resolutions of the House, this one

had escaped the notice of the Government.

The vote for the department was then agreed to.

*Inspection of Sheep Department, £1412; Educational and Registry Department, £9820; Poor Relief Department, £5557 12s. 6d.:*

Agreed to without discussion.

*Aboriginal Department, Item £1,150:*

MR. MARMION, referring to the item "Clothing and Blankets," asked if any blankets were furnished to the natives at the North-West?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said that this year a few had been sent as far North as Mount Wittenoom, but no farther.

MR. MARMION said, as the natives at the North-West were of great service to the settlers there, and were generally employed by them, he thought the settlers should provide the blacks in that part of the Colony with blankets, without encroaching upon this vote.

MR. BROWN hoped the remarks which had fallen from the hon. member for Fremantle would not be accepted by the Government as an expression of the wish of the House as regards the distribution of these blankets. There were aged and infirm natives to whom a blanket would be as great a boon at the North-West as it would be to natives in the more southern portions of the Colony, and he had seen settlers up there doing what he conceived ought to be the duty of the Government,—providing natives not only with clothing and blankets but also with the means of subsistence. His own feeling with regard to this vote was, that they were not doing half enough, in any part of the Colony, for these wretched natives, and he would sooner see the vote doubled than reduced in any way.

The item was then agreed to.

*Special Coast Survey, Item £2,000:*

MR. STEERE asked the Colonial Secretary if he could furnish the House with any information as to the probable longer duration of this coast survey? It had been going on for a great many years now, and had cost the Colony a good deal of money. How much longer was it likely to continue?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) was not aware of any definite

arrangement as to the duration or continuation of the service. He thought it entirely rested with the local Government and the Admiralty to say when these surveys should be discontinued. At present, the surveyors were engaged in doing very necessary work at the North-West, and he should be sorry to see the service now discontinued.

MR. MARMION asked whether the Government intended to fulfil its promise as regards laying on the Table of the House a copy of the report of the officer in charge of this survey? (*Hansard*, Vol. III., p. 220.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) was not aware that Captain Archdeacon's report ought to be laid on the Table of the House—Captain Archdeacon being an Imperial officer—but he would mention the matter to His Excellency the Governor.

MR. GRANT would be sorry to see this vote interfered with, especially in view of the extension of settlement in the Northern territory, and the necessity for having accurate surveys of the ports in that locality.

MR. BROWN thought the Colony must be reduced to very poor circumstances indeed, if it was felt necessary to do away with this most important and necessary work, especially in view of the great extent of coast remaining unsurveyed—even of coast-line alone, to say nothing of outlying dangers. At present, in consequence of the liberality of the Imperial Government, we were able to get the service performed at a comparatively small cost to the Colony, and he thought, so long as the Imperial authorities continued to treat us in this liberal manner, it would be very foolish on our part to withdraw from the existing arrangement. One thing was very certain—we could never get the survey carried out under more efficient or more economical auspices than that of the officer at present in charge.

MR. SHENTON thought, if we lost the present opportunity of having these surveys continued, we should never get another like it. He thought it was highly desirable that a proper survey should be made of our North-Western coast, for it was well known that nearly all the outlying dangers were inaccurately marked on the present charts.

The vote was then agreed to.  
*Government Storekeeper's Department,*  
 Item £416 10s. 7d.:

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said it had been found that, in consequence of the great amount of packing and unpacking which would have to be done in connection with railway materials, it would be absolutely necessary to have a laborer employed to assist the issuer and the storekeeper. He therefore would move to increase the vote by £60 for that purpose. The Government hoped to be able to effect considerable saving in connection with this newly-created department.

MR. SHENTON understood that the officer at present holding the position of issuer was in receipt of an Imperial pension, and he noticed that the amount placed on these Estimates for his salary was £116 10s. 7d. What would be the salary attached to the office, in the event of the retirement of the present issuer, and the appointment of another person not in receipt of any pension?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) did not think the salary attached to the office would be more than about £115.

The item was then put and passed.

*Works and Buildings, Item £6,718—*  
 (Steam Dredge, £100; furniture for public offices, £200; do. for Government House, £100; repairs and painting Government House, £100; jetty cranes and boat house repairs, £100; repairs and additions to public buildings, minor works, etc., £3,000; strong room, Land Titles Office, £105; railway platforms, North Fremantle, East Fremantle, and Butler's Swamp, £200; carriage shed, Fremantle, £1,000; purchase of railway trucks, £753):

MR. SHENTON pointed out that, as regards the Dredge, an economical arrangement might be made, as suggested by the Departmental Commission, by having a couple of paupers from the Dépôt stationed on board as caretakers.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said the Government intended to act upon this recommendation, that the present keeper of the Dredge had received notice to leave, and that the amount here set down was in the

event of any repairs being required, and occasion arising for the use of the Dredge.

MR. HAMERSLEY asked if the vote of £100 for furniture for Government House could not be increased so as to cover the cost of a new piano? The present instrument was a most wretched one, and he would defy the most critical ear to distinguish "God Save the Queen" from the Dead March in "Saul," when played upon it.

MR. BROWN asked if the present piano had been provided for Government House by the country.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford): I believe so.

MR. BROWN: I would ask the noble lord whether he does not consider it a disgrace to the country? I certainly do. There is not an hotel in the town of Geraldton but can boast of a vastly superior instrument.

MR. HAMERSLEY said it might pass for a hurdy-gurdy suffering from a severe attack of asthma, but to call it a piano was certainly a misnomer. He concurred with the hon. member for Geraldton that such an instrument was a disgrace to the Colony, and he hoped the House would wipe out the disgrace.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) suggested that the vote for furniture should be increased from £100 to £200, in order to carry out the wishes of hon. members.

This was agreed to.

MR. SHENTON failed to see the necessity for three additional platforms for the convenience of Fremantle people. He would move that the vote for these structures be reduced by £80. This would leave a sum sufficient for a platform at Butler's Swamp and at North Fremantle. The proposed platform at East Fremantle could be dispensed with; he believed its erection had only been advocated in order to meet the convenience of one person.

MR. RANDELL thought Perth should also have a couple of platforms, one at Lord Street and the other at Melbourne Road.

Question—That the item be reduced by £80—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes	...	...	6
Noes	...	...	10
			—
Majority against	...		4

AYES.	NOES.
Mr. Grant	Mr. Brown
Mr. Hamersley	Mr. Burges
Mr. Shenton	Mr. Burt
Mr. Steere	Mr. Crowther
Mr. Stone	Mr. Higham
The Hon. A. C. Onslow	Mr. S. S. Parker
(Teller.)	Mr. S. H. Parker
	Mr. Randell
	Mr. Venn
	Mr. Marmion (Teller.)

The amendment was therefore negatived.

MR. STEERE asked if the plans and specifications of the proposed hospital at Geraldton had been prepared? He hoped this £1,000 now asked for was not intended simply as an instalment towards the erection of this hospital, but that it would cover the whole cost.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said it was intended as a moiety of the cost of the proposed building. The Government did not intend to have such an expensive building as had been proposed some time ago; but still the cost would be about double the amount now asked for.

MR. SHENTON said, if that was the case, he would move to strike out the vote altogether. A sum of £1,000 ought to be ample for providing such accommodation as was at present required.

MR. RANDELL hoped the Committee would agree to the vote. The plans of the building, he believed, had been prepared with a view to its future extension, in case of necessity. Improved hospital accommodation at Geraldton was, he understood, absolutely necessary, and acknowledged as such.

MR. S. H. PARKER would be prepared to support the vote, on the understanding that not more than £1,000 should be expended in the completion of a building adapted to meet the present requirements of the district.

MR. MARMION would be prepared to do the same, on the conditions mentioned by the hon. member for Perth. It appeared to him useless to construct a large and costly building, altogether beyond the wants of the district. Not only would the expense of erection be

great, but the expense of keeping up a larger staff than was absolutely necessary would also have to be taken into consideration.

MR. CROWTHER said the present building was a downright disgrace to any civilised community. The scenes witnessed in it were enough to harrow the feelings of the most callous, and would not be tolerated in any other country on British soil. It was not fit for a stable for a horse, much less as a hospital for sick and infirm human beings, and he hoped the House would no longer tolerate the existence of such a blot upon our boasted civilisation. He appealed to the better feelings of hon. members—he appealed to their humanity—to let this vote pass, without further parley, or splitting of straws.

MR. STEERE said, if the House were assured that £1,000 would suffice to construct a building suitable to the requirements of the place, he did not believe a single dissentient voice would be raised against it; but the House had no guarantee that if £1,000 were voted this year, another £1,000 would not be required next year to complete the building.

MR. BROWN said one good object, at all events, had been gained by the discussion of this subject, which for some years past had engaged the attention of the House,—hon. members had at last been led to acknowledge that a hospital was needed at Geraldton, and the question had now resolved itself into whether £1,000 or £2,000 ought to be expended on the building. He would remind hon. members of the high price of timber in the district, and also of labor, and he put it to their own intelligence to consider how far £1,000 would go towards the completion of a suitable hospital for a large district like the Victoria District. Having agreed that a hospital was necessary, surely the House was bound to go further and authorise sufficient expenditure for providing a proper and suitable building. It should be borne in mind that the hospital was not intended for the accommodation of the Geraldton people alone, but the inhabitants of other districts, all far removed from any other hospital or infirmary of any kind. There was Dongarra with its farming population; the inhabitants of the Irwin,

and down to Victoria Plains; the Greenough Flats, with its large agricultural population, and also the mining population at Northampton,—all of whom would have to be accommodated in this hospital. A thousand pounds would be nothing like sufficient to provide a building that would accommodate such an extensive district as that. He had never pretended that it would. He trusted that, before hon. members refused to do an act of justice to themselves, as the custodians of the public purse, they would satisfy themselves as to the kind of hospital that could be built at Geraldton for £1,000. He was of opinion himself that a suitable building could not be provided for £2,000, but it was not unlikely that by expending £1,000 in the erection of a new hospital and by utilising the present building, it might be many years before it would be necessary to come to the House for the additional amount necessary to complete a new building really suitable to meet the growing requirements of the district.

MR. MARMION said a great deal of time might have been saved in the discussion of this matter, if the recommendation made by the House two years ago—as to providing plans and specifications of proposed public buildings, for the information and guidance of the House—had been adopted in this instance. At present, no one seemed to have any definite idea as to the style and extent of the proposed building, and everyone was equally at a loss to say how much it would eventually cost. He had always maintained that it was highly desirable and expedient that when a vote was asked for the construction of a new public building, the House should be furnished with a plan and specifications, showing the kind of building proposed to be erected, and giving some idea as to what it would cost. Hon. members would then know what they were doing, and would be in a position to say “yea” or “nay” to the vote, when put to them. He trusted that in all future cases this would be done.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) said he had never led the House to believe that £1,000 would suffice to complete the building which it was proposed to erect as a hospital at Geraldton. The present vote was regarded by the

Government as the first moiety of the cost of such building, and it was as such that the House was asked to sanction it. The Government had no desire or intention to mislead the House on the subject.

The vote was then agreed to.

*Ecclesiastical Grant*, Item £3,543 :

MR. CROWTHER said hon. members would consider it strange and inconsistent on his part, after his promise of last Session—to bring forward some definite resolution with reference to the abolition or reduction of this grant—that he should now offer no opposition to it. But he had been asked to postpone any action in the matter until the Census returns had been published. He believed that the feeling in favor of the abolition of the grant was growing in force every year, and that before next Session he would have a strong majority at his back. Indeed, he thought he might calculate upon a majority now, if he were to press the question, but, as he had already said, he would defer taking any action in the matter until next Session.

MR. BURGESS: Magnanimous.

The vote was then agreed to.

*Volunteer Grant*, Item £1,900 :

Agreed to without discussion.

*Pensions*, Item £2,040 13s. 6d. :

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Lord Gifford) moved to increase the pension of Mr. R. J. Sholl, late Government Resident at Roebourne (in accordance with a resolution passed by the House the other day), from £110 13s. 4d. to £179 16s. 8d.

This was agreed to, and the vote, as amended, put and passed.

*Revenue Cutter* (North-West Coast), Item £1,000 :

Agreed to without discussion.

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

#### SANDALWOOD BILL, 1881.

The House then went into Committee for the further consideration of this Bill.

MR. MARMION said that, since the adjournment of the debate the other evening, the hon. member for Geraldton and himself had agreed upon a modification of the details of the clauses which he (Mr. Marmion) had put forward; but the principle of closed areas had been



adhered to. As he was prepared to accept the amendments of the hon. member for Geraldton, he would, with leave, withdraw the clauses standing in his name.

Leave given, and clauses withdrawn.

MR. BROWN, in accordance with notice, moved, That the following new clause be added to the Bill, to stand as clause 2:—"It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council from time to time to proclaim and define one or more area or areas of Waste Lands of the Crown, within which no live or growing sandalwood tree shall be cut or grubbed up for the period to be named by the Governor in such proclamation. And from and after the proclamation of any such area in the *Government Gazette*, if any person shall cut or grub up any live or growing sandalwood tree within the limits of any such area during the period set forth in such proclamation, he shall be deemed to be in the unlawful occupation of the Waste Lands of the Crown within the meaning of 'The Waste Lands Occupation Act, 1872.'" The hon. member said they were told by the Attorney General the other day that there was no occasion to legislate for this purpose, as the Governor was already empowered to proclaim and define such areas, and to prevent the cutting within them of any sandalwood; but he (Mr. Brown) hoped that no objection would be made to the passing of this Bill, as it afforded the Government an indication of the desire of the House to legislate in this direction, and upon the principle here contemplated. If this Bill became law, it would be necessary to annul that portion of the Land Regulations prohibiting the cutting upon waste lands of the Crown of sandalwood less in diameter than six inches, and he would move an address to that effect on the following day.

The clause was then agreed to.

MR. BROWN, in accordance with notice, moved, That the following new clause be added to the Bill, to stand as clause 3:—"Waste Lands of the Crown shall not, for the purposes of this Act, be considered to include lands held under Special Occupation Leases or Licenses."

The clause was agreed to without discussion,

Preamble and title agreed to, and Bill reported.

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

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

*Tuesday, 30th August, 1881.*

Amendment of Land Regulations as regards cutting Sandalwood on Crown Lands—Fencing Bill, 1881: in committee—Distillation Act, Amendment Bill, 1881: first reading—Law and Parliamentary Library Act, Amendment Bill, 1881: first reading—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

### CUTTING SANDALWOOD ON CROWN LANDS.

MR. BROWN, in accordance with notice, moved, "That an Humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, praying that he will be pleased to request Her Majesty's Secretary of State to annul that portion of the Land Regulations prohibiting the cutting upon Waste Lands of the Crown of sandalwood less in diameter than six inches." The hon. member said, as the House had agreed to a Bill empowering the Governor to proclaim areas within which no sandalwood shall be cut for a given number of years, it would be necessary to annul that portion of the Land Regulations here referred to, as they were in antagonism with the principle of the Bill in question.

MR. S. H. PARKER asked the hon. member to explain in what way the regulation prescribing the cutting of wood less than six inches in diameter was antagonistic to the measure which the House had agreed to the other day. He failed to see why the restriction as to the minimum size of the wood allowed to be cut should not remain in force, notwithstanding the adoption of the principle of prescribed areas.