

elections. He hoped the amendment would be withdrawn.

MR. DEHAMEL said that, for consistency, he must vote for the amendment, but he would prefer that, having thoroughly ventilated the subject, and as the Upper House would certainly reject the proposal if passed in this House, under present circumstances, the amendment should be withdrawn. He thoroughly believed in the principle, and he wanted to see the spinsters, widows, and *femes soles* enabled to vote in political elections.

MR. SIMPSON said he would apologise to the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the term he had used, and would be sorry to say anything that might wound the hon. gentleman's tender susceptibilities.

The committee divided on the amendment, with the following result:—

Ayes	...	...	...	10
Noes	...	...	...	12
Majority against				2
<hr/>				
AYES.		NOES.		
Mr. Clarkson		Mr. Burt		
Mr. DeHamel		Sir J. Forrest		
Mr. Molloy		Mr. A. Forrest		
Mr. Richardson		Mr. Hassell		
Mr. R. F. Sholl		Mr. Lefroy		
Mr. H. W. Sholl		Mr. Loton		
Sir J. G. Lee Steere		Mr. Marmion		
Mr. Throssell		Mr. Monger		
Mr. Traylen		Mr. Paterson		
Mr. Simpson (Teller).		Mr. Pearse		
		Mr. Solomon		
		Mr. Piesse (Teller).		

Amendment negatived, and the clause passed.

Clause 23.—“Sections 21 and 13 of this Act to take the place of Sections 39 and 53 of the principal Act:”

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) moved, as an amendment, that the words “sections twenty-one and thirteen of this Act” be struck out, and that the words “section twenty-one (after the coming into operation of Part II.) and to section twelve of this Act respectively,” be inserted in lieu thereof. He said this was a consequential amendment.

Amendment put and passed, and the clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 24.—“First Elections under this Act:”

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) moved, as an amendment, that the words “Part II of” be inserted between the words “of” and “this.”

Amendment put and passed, and the clause, as amended, agreed to.

New Clause:

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) moved that the following new clause be added to the Bill, and stand as Clause 14: “This part of this Act shall come into force on and after the dissolution of the present Legislative Assembly:”

Question put and passed, and the clause added to the Bill.

Ordered—That in consequence of the striking out of one clause and the insertion of another, the Bill be renumbered where necessary.

First Schedule.—“Time when repeal takes effect; extent of repeal:”

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) moved, as an amendment, that the words “Nelson, Sussex,” be inserted after the word “Swan,” under the heading “Extent of Repeal.”

Amendment put and passed, and the schedule, as amended, agreed to.

Bill reported with further amendments.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 11.25 p.m.

### Legislative Council,

Thursday, 10th August, 1893.

Perth-Bunbury Railway: completion of—Post Office Savings Bank Bill: third reading—Post and Telegraph Bill: second reading—Excess Bill, 1892: second reading: committee—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) took the chair at 4.30 o'clock p.m.

#### PRAYERS.

#### PERTH-BUNBURY RAILWAY—COMPLETION OF.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT asked the Colonial Secretary:—(1.) What was the date fixed for the completion of the final contract for the construction of the Perth-

Bunbury Railway. (2.) When will the railway be handed over to the Government by the contractors.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) replied:—(1.) The contract date for the completion of the line was the 14th July, 1893. (2.) It is hoped that the line will be handed over in a fortnight's time.

#### POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK BILL.

##### THIRD READING.

This Bill was read a third time, and *passed*.

#### POST AND TELEGRAPH BILL.

##### SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): It having become necessary to look through the Acts relating to the Post Office, it has been deemed advisable to introduce this Bill, which has already passed the Assembly. I do not think there is any occasion for me to go into detail on the measure at the present time, for it involves no principle, but merely relates to the mode in which various departmental matters shall be dealt with by the Postmaster General, and which I can more fully deal with when we go into committee. I will now simply move that the Bill be read a second time.

Question—put and passed.

#### EXCESS BILL, 1892.

##### SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time. It will be observed that the object of the Bill is to confirm an excess of £36,833 15s. 3d., which was expended over and above the votes of Parliament for the year 1892. The Bill has passed through all its stages in the House of Assembly, whose peculiar privilege it is to deal with the finances, and, therefore, I need say no more other than to ask hon. members to read it a second time.

Question—put and passed.

##### IN COMMITTEE.

The Bill was then considered in committee, and agreed to without amendment.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The Council, at 4:45 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, 15th August, at 2:30 o'clock p.m.

## Legislative Assembly,

*Thursday, 10th August, 1893.*

Civil Servants writing to Newspapers—Petition of John Charles Martin—Powers of Collector of Customs, &c., *re* Wreck inquiries—Alleged irregularities of Resident Magistrate at Wyndham—Repair of buildings on the Eucla Telegraph Line—Criminal Law Appeal Bill: first reading—Legal Practitioners Bill: first reading—Financial Guarantees by Fire and other Insurance Companies—Return showing Annual Statements of Western Australian Life Insurance Companies—Extension of Leave of Absence—Return showing Sandalwood Licenses in Victoria and Gascoyne Districts—Bank Deposits of Public Companies—Central Board of Health and the Small-pox Epidemic—Release of Road Board Funds locked up in Reconstructed Banks—Stock Tax Bill: in committee—Destructive Birds and Animals Bill: second reading—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 4:30 p.m.

#### PRAYERS.

#### CIVIL SERVANTS WRITING TO NEWSPAPERS.

MR. MONGER asked the Premier, without notice, whether there was any statute or regulation forbidding Civil servants from writing to newspapers; and whether the Premier considered it as singular that one Civil servant should comment on another Civil servant in the editorial columns of a newspaper.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) replied that the rules and regulations in regard to public servants contributing to newspapers were fairly well known, and were to be found in the Civil Service Regulations, and applied to the Crown colonies only; but, in the opinion of the Government, they applied also to this colony, under the present Constitution. No public officer had a right to contribute to newspapers unless he signed his name