Votes
No. 1.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, 29 MAY, 1883.

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION.—The House met at Twelve o'clock, at Noon, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor, bearing date the nineteenth day of May, 1883.

Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

The Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, read a copy of the said Proclamation, as follows:

"NEW SOUTH WALES, Proclamation by His Excellency the Right Honorable LORD AUGUSTUS WILLIAM FREDERICK SPENCER LOFTUS, Knight, Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the Parliament of New South Wales now stands prorogued to Tuesday, the twelfth day of June next, and whereas for divers weighty and urgent reasons it seems to me expedient that the said Parliament should assemble and be held sooner than the said day: Now I, LORD AUGUSTUS WILLIAM FREDERICK SPENCER LOFTUS, in pursuance of the power and authority in me vested as Governor of the said Colony, do hereby announce and proclaim that the said Parliament shall assemble for the despatch of Business at Twelve o'clock, at Noon, on Tuesday, the twenty-ninth day of May instant, in the buildings known as the Council Chambers, situate in Macquarie-street, in the City of Sydney: And the Members of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, respectively, are hereby required to give their attendance at the said time and place accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at Government House, Sydney, this nineteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, and in the forty-sixth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
ALEX. STUART.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!"

2. MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONERS.—The Usher of the Black Rod being admitted, delivered a Message, that "The Commissioners request the immediate attendance of this Honorable House in the Legislative Council Chamber, to hear the Commission for opening Parliament read."

The House went, and the President said:—"Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,—His Excellency the Governor not thinking it fit to be personally present here this day to declare the purpose for which this Session of Parliament is convened, has been pleased to cause a Commission to be issued under the Great Seal of this Colony, in order to give effect to the opening and holding of such Session, as will more fully appear by the Commission itself, which must now be read."

Whereupon the Acting Clerk of the Parliaments read the said Commission, as follows:

"Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, and so forth.

WHEREAS, by Proclamation, made on the nineteenth day of May instant, His Excellency the Right Honorable LORD AUGUSTUS WILLIAM FREDERICK SPENCER LOFTUS, Knight, Grand Cross of our Most Honorable Order of the Bath, our Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our Colony of New South Wales, did, in pursuance of the power and authority vested in him as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our said Colony, by virtue of the Act of the late Legislature thereof, intituled 'An Act to confer a Constitution on New South Wales and to grant a Civil List to Her Majesty,' as assented to by us, proclaim that a Session of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, constituted under the said Act, and composing the Parliament of our said Colony of New South Wales, should commence and be holden on Tuesday, the twenty-ninth day of May instant: And whereas, for certain causes, our said Governor and Commander-in-Chief cannot..."
The House adjourned at twenty-three minutes after Twelve o'clock, until Four o'clock This Day.

"cannot conveniently be present in person at the opening of the said Session: Now know ye, that we, trusting in the discretion, fidelity, and care of our trusty and well-beloved the Honorable Sir John Hay, K.C.M.G., President of the said Legislative Council, the Honorable William Bede Dalley, Q.C., Attorney General, and the Honorable Joseph Docker, Members of the said Legislative Council, do, with the advice of our Executive Council of our said Colony, give and grant by the tenor of these presents, unto the said Sir John Hay, William Bede Dalley, and Joseph Docker, so being such President and Members of the said Legislative Council, or any two of them, full power in our name, to open and hold the said Session of the said Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly on the said twenty-ninth day of May, on our behalf, and to do all things necessary to be done in our name, or in the name of our Governor of our said Colony, in and about the opening and holding of the said Session: Commanding also by the tenor of these presents all whom it concerns to meet in the said Session, that to the said Sir John Hay, William Bede Dalley, and Joseph Docker, or any two of them, they diligently attend in the premises in the form aforesaid."

"In testimony whereof we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of our said Colony to be hereunto affixed.

Witness, our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor, Sir AUGUSTUS WILLIAM FREDERICK SPENCER LOFTUS (commonly called Lord Augustus Loftus), Knight Grand Cross of our Most Honorable Order of the Bath, our Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our Colony of New South Wales, at Government House, Sydney, in our said Colony, this twenty-eight day of May, in the forty-sixth year of our Reign, and in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three.

"By His Excellency's Command, ALEX. STUART."

The President then read the Governor's Opening Speech,—and said, "Having heard His Excellency for this purpose." The President then read the Governor's Opening Speech,—and said, "Having heard His Excellency's Speech read, it will now be for you Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly, to take the matters submitted to you, and such other matters as in your wisdom you may deem fit, into your grave consideration, in those places in which you are appointed to sit."

And the House having returned,—

3. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:—Mr. Stuart informed the House that Mr. Wright, who hold the office of Postmaster General, had assumed the position of Secretary for Public Works, and that Mr. Trickett had accepted the office of Postmaster General.

4. VACANT SEAT:—Mr. Stuart moved, That the Seat of William Joseph Trickett, Esquire, be now vacant and is now vacant by reason of his acceptance of the office of Postmaster General since his Election and Return to serve in this House as a Member for the Electoral District of Paddington. Question put and passed.

The House adjourned at twenty-three minutes after Twelve o'clock, until Four o'clock This Day.

The House met at Four o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

5. ORDNANCE LANDS TRANSFER BILL:—Mr. Stuart, presented a Bill, intituled "A Bill for confirming the transfer to the Secretary at War in England from the Principal Officers of Ordnance there of certain Lands in New South Wales and for amending the Ordnance Land Act of Council 1840,"—which was read a first time pro forma.

6. THE GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH:—Mr. Speaker reported that the House had been at the Legislative Council Chamber, at the desire of the Commissioners appointed under the Great Seal of the Colony for holding this Session of the present Parliament, and that the President of the Council, being one of the said Commissioners, delivered the Opening Speech of His Excellency the Governor to both Houses of Parliament, in pursuance of His Excellency's commands, and of which Mr. Speaker said he had, for greater accuracy, obtained a copy,—which he read to the House as follows—

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

We are commanded by His Excellency the Governor to inform you that the urgent necessity of providing that the use of Steam Motors on Tramways should be declared legal is the cause of your being assembled at an earlier period than that to which Parliament was prorogued. 2. A judgment of the Supreme Court has been lately given by which it has been declared that the "Tramways Extension Act of 1880" did not sufficiently give effect to the known intentions of Parliament in legalising the use of such Motors. As the interruption of the service would have occasioned widespread inconvenience to the public, and as its continuance when it had been declared illegal would have been inexpedient and undesirable, it seemed to the Government that the only course to be pursued was the summoning of Parliament at the earliest period to deal with this pressing matter. A short declaratory measure legalising this service will be submitted to you at once, and His Excellency feels confident that you will give it that consideration which its urgency and importance entitle it to receive at your hands.

As you have been called together at a short notice, and necessarily to your personal inconvenience more so to brief a recess, no other business than that which has been indicated will be submitted to you. Mr.
Mr. Merriman then moved, and Mr. Levien seconded the motion,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to prepare an Address in reply to the Speech which His Excellency the Governor has addressed to both Houses of Parliament on opening this Session of the Parliament of New South Wales.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Gibbes, Mr. Poole, Mr. Hellyer, Mr. Moses, Mr. O'Mara, Mr. Levien, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

And the Committee retired to prepare the Address.

And Mr. Merriman having brought up the Address prepared by the Committee, the same was read by the Clerk, by the direction of Mr. Speaker, as follows:

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Lord Augustus William Frederick Spencer Loftus, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

May it please Your Excellency,—

We, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, desire to express our loyalty and attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty's Person and Government, and offer our respectful thanks for the Speech which you have caused your Commissioners to pronounce.

The Bill for declaring the legality of the employment of Steam Motors on our Tramways will receive our careful consideration.

The Bill for declaring the legality of the employment of Steam Motors on our Tramways will receive our careful consideration.

Mr. Merriman then moved, and Mr. Levien seconded the motion, That the Address in reply to the Governor's Opening Speech, as read by the Clerk, be now adopted by this House.

Question put and passed.

7. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH:—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had been to Government House, and there presented to the Governor their Address in reply to His Excellency's Speech on opening the Session,—and that His Excellency had been pleased to give thereto the following answer:—

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,—

I thank you for your Address, and the expression of your loyalty and attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty's Person and Government.

I regret the necessity which has arisen for requiring at much personal inconvenience your attendance in Parliament, and I rely with confidence on your wisdom and patriotism.

Government House, Sydney, 29th May, 1883.

8. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—Mr. Stuart moved, pursuant to Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill, intituled "A Bill to declare legal the employment of Steam Motors on Tramways constructed, worked, or maintained in pursuance of the 'Tramways Extension Act 1880'" through all its stages in one day.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 71.

Mr. Abbott, Mr. Badgery, Mr. Barbour, Mr. H. H. Brown, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Burns, Mr. Butcher, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Henry Clarke, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Dalton, Mr. Day, Mr. De Salis, Mr. Dibble, Mr. Farrell, Mr. D. A. Ferguson, Mr. W. J. Ferguson, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Gill, Mr. Gould, Mr. Gray, Mr. Groffébra, Mr. Harris, Mr. Hellyer, Mr. Hayden, Mr. Holborn, Mr. Hitkernann, Mr. Humphery, Mr. Hutchinsion, Mr. Jones, Mr. Levien, Mr. Loughban, Mr. Lynch, Mr. McCourt, Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Mccullough.

Noes, 7.

Mr. Coogan, Mr. Garvan, Mr. McEllhine, Mr. O'Glessen, Mr. Sydney Smith.

Tellers, Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
9. TRAMWAYS DECLARATORY BILL.—
(1.) Mr. Stuart moved, pursuant to Notice, for leave to bring in a Bill to declare legal the employment of Steam Motors on Tramways constructed, worked, or maintained, in pursuance of the "Tramways Extension Act 1880."
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Stuart then presented a Bill, intituled "A Bill to declare legal the employment of Steam Motors on Tramways constructed worked or maintained in pursuance of the 'Tramways Extension Act 1880,'"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time at a later hour of the day.

10. PRECEDENCE OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Stuart moved, pursuant to Notice, That, during the present Session, Government Business shall take precedence of General Business on each day on which the House meets for the despatch of Business.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

11. LEAVE OF ABSENCE.—Mr. Stuart moved, pursuant to amended Notice, That leave of absence for the present Session be granted to the following Members of this Assembly:—
George Campbell, Esquire, a Member for Carcoar.
William Robert Campbell, Esquire, Member for The Gwydir.
George Edwin Cass, Esquire, a Member for The Bogan.
William Clarke, Esquire, a Member for Orange.
John Cramsie, Esquire, a Member for Balranald.
Alfred Reginald Fremlin, Esquire, a Member for Redfern.
Thomas Garrett, Esquire, a Member for Camden.
Joseph Albert Gorrick, Esquire, Member for Wollombi.
John Lackey, Esquire, a Member for Central Cumberland.
Leyser Levin, Esquire, a Member for The Hume.
Richard Randolph Machattie, Esquire, a Member for Bourke.
Edward Quin, Esquire, Member for Wentworth.
Alexander Byrrie, Esquire, Member for Braidwood.
Robert Matteson Vaughn, Esquire, Member for Grenfell.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

12. CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.—Mr. R. B. Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That Angus Cameron, Esquire, be Chairman of Committees of the Whole House during the present Session.
Question put and passed.
Whereupon Mr. Cameron made his acknowledgements to the House.

13. TRAMWAYS DECLARATORY BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Stuart moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Garrard moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered that the Debate be adjourned until to-morrow.

The House adjourned at Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

EDMUND BARTON,
Speaker.
NEW South Wales.

No. 2.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, 30 MAY, 1883.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

DEPUTY SPEAKER’S COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER THE OATH:—Mr. Speaker reported that he had received a Commission, under the Seal of the Colony, dated 30th May, 1883, and signed by His Excellency the Governor, empowering Angus Cameron, Esquire, Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly, in the absence of the Speaker, to administer to Members the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance required by law, which Commission was read by the Clerk, as follows:—

By His Excellency the Right Honorable Lord Augustus William Frederick Spencer Loftus, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, a Member of Her Majesty’s Most Honorable Privy Council, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

"To all to whom these presents shall come,

"Greeting:

"In pursuance of the authority in me vested in that behalf, I, Lord Augustus William Frederick Spencer Loftus, as Governor of the Colony of New South Wales, do hereby authorize Angus Cameron, Esquire, Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly of the said Colony, in the absence of the Honorable the Speaker of the said Assembly, to administer from time to time, as occasion may require, to any Member of the said Assembly to whom the same shall not have been previously administered, the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen, required by law to be taken or made and subscribed by every such Member before he shall be permitted to sit or vote in the said Legislative Assembly.

"Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Colony, at Government House, Sydney, in New South Wales aforesaid, this thirtieth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, and in the forty-sixth year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

"AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.

"By His Excellency’s Command.

"ALEX. STUART.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Tramway Motors:—Mr. Poole asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) How many Tramway Motors are there in the Government Service?

(2.) How many are now running on the various Tramway lines?

(3.) Seventeen Motors, seven of which are undergoing a general overhaul; the remainder are in for minor repairs, which will occupy a few days only.

Mr. Wright answered,—

(1.) Fifty-four Motors.

(2.) Thirty-seven Motors.

(3.) Recreation Reserves:—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the money voted for the improvement of Recreation Reserves, Cemeteries, and Public Parks be distributed among the Municipal Councils and Trustees entitled to the same?

Mr. Parnell answered,—Arrangements are now being made for its distribution.
(4.) Prison Labour in Mudgee Gaol.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister of Justice.—
(1.) What steps does he propose to take in order to absorb the product of the Gaol labour at
Mudgee in other channels than the local market?
(2.) Will he give orders for the removal of the steam-saw now in use in Mudgee Gaol?
(3.) If not, will he give orders for the establishment of steam-saws in all the provincial prisons in
New South Wales?
(4.) When will he allow boots, saddles, and chemises to be manufactured in Darlinghurst Gaol,
and sold to the inhabitants of Sydney?
Mr. Cohen answered,—
(1.) It has already been determined that the present industrial arrangements at Mudgee Gaol are
not to be interfered with.
(2 and 3.) It is not my present intention to do so.
(4.) It is not contemplated to make any present alteration in existing arrangements.

(5) Gulgong Agricultural Association.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Lands,—
(1.) Has a parcel of land been either reserved or promised to the Gulgong Agricultural Associa-
tion for use as a Show Ground?
(2.) If so, when will the land be vested in Trustees, and a deed of grant issued to them?
Mr. Parnell answered,—
(I.) No land has yet been promised.
(2.) It is now proposed to dedicate 15 acres for a Show Ground.

(6.) Inspection of Weights and Measures.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will
he take steps to ensure a more regular inspection of weights and measures by the officers appointed
for that purpose under the Act 16 Victoria No. 34?
Mr. Cohen answered,—Yes, the requisite instructions will shortly be issued for this purpose.

(7.) Volunteer Infantry Company, Mudgee.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it
his intention to establish at an early date a Volunteer Infantry Company in Mudgee?
Mr. Stuart answered,—This, along with many other similar applications, is now being dealt with.

(8.) High Schools.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—
(1.) Has he decided yet in what towns he will establish High Schools?
(2.) Is Mudgee included in the list?
Mr. Reid answered,—
(1.) I have had under consideration reports called for upon this subject, and have decided to
recommend at once the establishment of High Schools for Boys and Girls at Bathurst, Maitland,
and Goulburn.
(2.) I hope to establish High Schools in other suitable localities, including Mudgee, at as early a
period as practicable.

(9.) New South Wales Artillery.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) Have any of the Lieutenants in the New South Wales Artillery been promoted during the
recess to the rank of Captain?
(2.) If not, when will the Government make the appointment, as contemplated by them on the 1st
of May?
Mr. Stuart answered,—
(1.) No.
(2.) Regulations are at present being made with a view to carry out this matter.

(10.) Railway Bridge over the Hawkesbury.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Public
Works,—
(1.) Has he been requested to invite tenders in this Colony for the construction and erection of
the Bridge over the Hawkesbury?
(2.) Will he reconsider his determination, and give colonial competitors the same right to tender
as is now conceded to certain English firms?
Mr. Wright answered,—
(1.) Yes.
(2.) Tenders will be invited in this Colony as well as in England for this work, and every facility
will be given to the colonial manufacturers.

(11.) Letter-carrier, Mudgee.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Postmaster General,—
(1.) Is he aware that the duties of Letter-carrier at the Mudgee Post Office are too heavy for one
man to perform, and that the appointment of a second Letter-carrier is an urgent necessity?
(2.) Will he make inquiries with a view to appointing a second Letter-carrier at Mudgee, if
requisite?
Mr. Wright answered,—The necessity for another Letter-carrier at Mudgee has not before been
represented to the Postmaster General, but inquiries will be made on the subject.

(12.) Supernumerary Staff, Government Printing Office.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Colonial
Treasurer,—Is it his intention to place the Supernumerary Staff of the Government Printing
Office on the same footing with regard to holidays as the supernumeraries in other branches of
the Public Service?
Mr. Dibbs answered,—The Supernumerary Staff of the Printing Office is paid by the piece, and it
would not be advisable to place it upon the footing of other employés.

(13.) Blacksmith's Shop in Mudgee Gaol.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister of Justice,—
(1.) Does he propose to cause the erection of a blacksmith's shop in Mudgee Gaol to be proceeded
with?
(2.) Will he allow the product of the labour of the prison blacksmiths to be sold in the local
market?
(3.) Will he permit horse-shoeing to be carried on in the Gaol?
(4.) What character of competitive work is to be performed in the blacksmith's shop in Mudgee Gaol?

(5.) When will the labour of the prison blacksmiths in Darlinghurst Gaol to be utilized by the Sydney people, and the Gaol manufactures to be sold in the Metropolitan market?

Mr. Cohen answered,—

(1.) It is proposed to erect a blacksmith's shop.

(2.) The arrangements for disposal of the products of the labour have not yet been made.

(3.) Horse-shoeing would not be carried on in the Gaol.

(4.) I cannot now specifically answer the question.

(5.) I am informed there is at present no occasion to go outside of the Government requirements.

(14.) General Cemetery, Mudgee.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has the subdivision of the General Cemetery at Mudgee been completed yet?

(2.) When will the General Cemetery be ready for general use?

Mr. Farnell answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The Cemetery cannot at present be dedicated, but there is no objection to it being used.

(15.) Trial Bay Gaol.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it necessary to pass a special Act of Parliament for the occupation of the Trial Bay Gaol as a Public Prison?

(2.) If so, will he cause a short Act to be prepared and assented to this Session, so as to enable the Trial Bay Prison to become available without delay?

Mr. Cohen answered,—New legislation is not deemed necessary for this purpose.

(16.) Mining Schools.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has he made provision yet for the establishment of Mining Schools in the chief mineral centres of the Colony?

Mr. Abbott answered,—No; there has been no time to consider the question, nor can it be done until Parliament provides funds for the purpose.

(17.) Loan on London Market.—Mr. Burns asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When will the capital be released by the London market?

Mr. Dibbs answered,—Instructions have been cabled to the Agent General to place a Loan upon the market without delay.

(18.) Pyrmont Bridge Company.—Mr. Abigail asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has any progress been made towards a settlement of the Pyrmont Bridge Company's claim against the Government?

Mr. Wright answered,—Correspondence is still going on with reference to Pyrmont Bridge, but no definite action has yet been decided upon.

(19.) Mr. Thomas Dignan.—Mr. Abigail asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—Is the Mr. Thomas Dignan, lately gazetted as Assistant School Attendance Officer, the same person who was several times disrated, and afterwards dismissed from the Sydney Police Force?

Mr. Reid answered,—In reply to the Honorable Member, I desire to state I was not aware that the officer alluded to had been dismissed, although I understood he had to resign. I may add, that I personally referred to the Inspector General of Police as to the general character and qualifications of this officer before appointing him, and the result being generally favourable to him, appeared to me to justify the employment of Mr. Dignan, who has been a public servant for about a quarter of a century, and whose extensive knowledge of the Metropolitan District acquired as a member of the Police Force and collector of Electoral Rolls, was the reason for making the appointment.

(20.) Mail Contract with Orient Company.—Mr. Abigail asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it true that upon the question affecting the Orient Mail Contract at the Postal Conference during the present Session, the Colonial Secretary and the Postmaster General voted on opposite sides?

(2.) Is it true that the Colonial Secretary asked for a private conference with his Colleague, and that will other members of the Conference left them alone, and they arrived at a conclusion satisfactory to both and acceptable to the Conference?

(3.) Is it true that the said arrangement means that if this Colony enters into a Mail Contract with the Orient Company it is to be solely at our own risk?

(4.) Is it true that by the arrangement arrived at, should a Contract be made with the said Company, New South Wales will have to pay at the rate of 16s. per pound, and the other Colonies at the rate of 10s. for letters sent by that line, New South Wales having the whole responsibility?

(5.) Is it the intention of the Government to make any explanatory statement of the proceedings of the Postal Conference during the present Session?

Mr. Stuart answered,—

(1.) No; the voting was by colonies, not by individuals, and therefore they had only one vote between them.

(2.) No; the Colonial Secretary and Postmaster General conferred as to this vote, as they did upon all questions, the Conference, as a matter of course, received their vote, but whether it was acceptable or not is a matter of opinion.

(3.) The vote thus given had nothing to do with the Orient Company's matter.

(4.) It is not true; all that was secured was, that other Colonies using it should not pay less than 10s. per pound, which is the full Postal Union Rate, and thus be prevented from taking advantage of a power which in the opinion of some persons at present exists of their being able to send their letters on payment only of one penny per letter.

(5.) It is my intention to lay the proceedings of the Conference upon the Table this evening, which gives full explanations.
(21.) Single Couplings on Railways:—Mr. Targett asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Did he sanction or know of the recent departmental order which directed single couplings to be used on the Western Line?

(2.) Is he aware that in consequence of such order several breakages have taken place, one of which ended fatally, at the Great Zigzag?

(3.) Is he aware that officers of the department have been suspended in consequence of the said accident?

(4.) Will he direct a searching inquiry into the circumstances of the whole matter, and report the same to this Honorable House?

Mr. Wright answered,—

(1.) The order was issued by the Traffic Manager upon the advice of the Locomotive Engineer, because the double coupling, while it did not materially strengthen the draw-gear, assisted to break the draw-bars and hooks.

(2.) Two or three breakages have occurred, but these were breakages under the double coupling system.

(3.) The engine-driver of the break-away train has been suspended, because he will not produce the screw coupler which attached, or is assumed to have attached, his engine to the waggons which broke loose.

(4.) A searching inquiry is now being made, and when it is concluded there will be no objection to lay the papers upon the Table of the House.

(22.) Grafton and Glen Innes Railway:—Mr. Purves asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Have the surveys been completed of the Grafton and Glen Innes Railway Line, and of the Tenterfield and Grafton Line?

(2.) Have the plans, sections, and specifications of the above Lines been completed; if not, when will they be finished?

(3.) Will the Government next Session submit a proposal to construct a Line of Railway from the Clarence to New England?

Mr. Wright answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The plans and sections of both Lines are now in course of preparation, and will probably be completed by the end of June.

(3.) The Railway policy of the Government will be considered during the recess.

(23.) Police Magistrate, Goulburn:—Mr. Gannon asked the Minister of Justice,—What is the cause of the delay in the appointment of Police Magistrate for Goulburn, and when will the appointment be made?

Mr. Cohen answered,—This vacancy, together with others of a like nature, involves numerous departmental changes, which take time to adjust; but I hope to make this appointment immediately.

(24.) Railway from Goulburn to Crookwell:—Mr. Gannon asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Does the present Government intend to follow the policy of the late Government, by placing a sum of money on the Estimates for next year for the purpose of constructing a light Railway from Goulburn to Crookwell and Taralga?

Mr. Wright answered,—The Railway policy of the Government will be considered during the recess.

(25.) Railway from Orange to Manildra:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Are the working plans in a sufficiently advanced state to enable the Government to invite tenders for the construction of the first section of the Railway from Orange to Manildra via Molong; if so, when?

(2.) Is he aware that by delaying to proceed with the construction of this important public work he is inflicting a very serious loss upon settlers, the unemployed, and a large section of the community in the Western District?

Mr. Wright answered,—

(1.) The working plans of this extension are not yet completed.

(2.) I regret that loss or inconvenience should be suffered by any portion of the community, and every means shall be used to lessen it as much as possible, regard being had to due deliberation necessary in works of great magnitude.

(26.) Railway Accident on the Zigzag:—Mr. Hellyer asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Was not an inquest recently held before T.H. Neal, Esq., Coroner, upon the body of Daley, a Railway fireman, killed at or near Lithgow?

(2.) Did not the evidence therein disclose that an order had been issued that single couplings were to be used on the Railways in lieu of double couplings; was not the verdict of the jury, or the rider thereto,—that had double couplings been used probably death would not have ensued?

(3.) Was an order issued that single couplings instead of double couplings should be used on the Railway Lines?

(4.) If so, by whom was such order issued, and was it submitted to and adopted by any other officer of the Railway Department; and if so, by whom?

(5.) Has any investigation taken place respecting the discreetness of the order referred to; has or have the person or persons responsible therefor been suspended; if not, what action has been taken, or is intended to be taken in the matter?

Mr. Wright answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The evidence disclosed that a change had recently been made in the system of coupling. The Jury, in a rider to their verdict, said: "That the departmental order recently issued to dispose centre coupling chains in connection with screw couplings was injudicious, and are of opinion that if the centre coupling chains had been used with screw coupling the accident might not have occurred."
(3.) An order was issued to abstain from double coupling in the centre, and to use single couplers and side chains.

(4.) The order was issued by the Traffic Manager, upon the advice of the Locomotive Engineer, because the double coupling, while it did not materially strengthen the draw-gear, assisted to break the draw-bars and hooks.

(5.) As will be seen from the previous answer, the question of the relative security of double and single centre coupling is an open one. Single couplers only are used on English Railway Lines, and are occasionally broken; and our experience is, that couplers are broken whether double or single. The draw-gear of the vehicles is, and has been, receiving the closest attention.

(27.) Gundagai-Cootamundra Railway:—Mr. Brunker, for Mr. Bruce Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works.—

(1.) Whether tenders have yet been called for the Gundagai-Cootamundra Railway?

(2.) If not, when will they be called, and does he know of any impediment to their being called for at once?

Mr. Wright answered,—

(1.) Tenders have not yet been invited for the construction of this line.

(2.) The working plans and sections are nearly ready, and tenders will be called for as early as practicable.

(28.) New Gaol at Bathurst:—Mr. Suttor asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will tenders be called for the construction of this line?

Mr. Wright answered,—The plans are under consideration, and when approved, tenders can be invited for the work.

(29.) Railway from Glen Innes to Inverell:—Mr. Purcell, for Mr. W. J. Ferguson, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he state the reason survey of the Railway Line from Glen Innes to Inverell is not proceeded with?

Mr. Wright answered,—Two Surveyors left Sydney on the 23rd instant to Inverell to complete this trial survey.

(30.) Railway Refreshment Rooms:—Mr. Lyne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has any action been yet taken to provide suitable Refreshment Rooms and Refreshments on the Railways?

Mr. Wright answered,—Yes. In addition to the present accommodation, plans are being prepared for Refreshment Rooms at Goulburn, Yass, and Albury on the south, and Bathurst and Wellington on the west. The new Refreshment Rooms at Junee will be commenced at once, and temporary accommodation for the supply of refreshments has been made at Albury, and also at Wellington.

(31.) Bridge over Belmore River:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will tenders be invited for the erection of a Bridge over Belmore River for which money has been voted by Parliament?

Mr. Wright answered,—Section has been made, drawings are in progress, and tenders will be invited in a month.

(32.) Postal Service from Taree to Kempsey:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Postmaster General,—Is it the intention of the Government to extend the daily mail postal service from Taree, Manning River, to Kempsey, Macleay River, via Port Macquarie; if so, when will tenders be invited?

Mr. Wright answered,—Tenders will be at once invited, and the question of establishing a daily mail will be determined on receipt of tenders.

(33.) Court-house at Gladstone:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Minister of Justice,—When will tenders be invited for the construction of a Court-house at Gladstone, for which money has been voted by Parliament?

Mr. Cohen answered,—I am informed that tenders for the work will be invited as soon as the plans shall have been completed.

(34.) Railway from Armidale to Trial Bay:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has the trial Railway survey been completed from Armidale to Trial Bay; if so, has the report of the survey been received by the Engineer-in-Chief for Railways and submitted to the Minister for Public Works?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to give this matter consideration during the recess, with a view to the early construction of the proposed Railway?

Mr. Wright answered,—The trial survey has not been completed. A report from the Surveyors on the route selected has been received, and the survey is being proceeded with both from Armidale and from Trial Bay.

(35.) Wright, Heaton & Company:—Mr. McElhone asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that large numbers of letters for Wright, Heaton & Co. are carried in private bags on the Railways in guard or other vans free and without postage for that firm?

(2.) Is it a fact that any member of the firm of Wright, Heaton & Co., or any of their employees, except Mr. Wright, M.P., travel free by rail?

(3.) If so, will he at once put a stop to these objectionable practices?

Mr. Wright answered,—

(1.) No letters are carried in the way referred to; but invoices of goods forwarded are so carried not only for Wright, Heaton & Co., but for everybody applying for same, as it facilitates the conduct of the business.

(2.) Many years ago it was decided that any firm contributing trainage revenue to the extent of £50,000 per annum should have a free pass. Under this condition a free pass was issued to the firm of Wright, Heaton & Co. in 1878.
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(36.) Refreshment Rooms at Junee.—Mr. Lyne asked the Secretary for Public Works.—Have
tenders been accepted for the erection of Refreshment Rooms at Junee; and if so, when will the
building be completed?
Mr. Wright answered.—My answer to a previous question conveyed this information. Tenders
have been invited for a Refreshment Room at Junee.

(37.) Railway from Gerogery to Corowa.—Mr. Lyne asked the Secretary for Public Works.—Will
he cause a survey to be made, with as little delay as possible, of the proposed Line of Railway from
Gerogery or Culcairn to Corowa; also a survey of the proposed line of Railway from Culcairn to
Gerogery?
Mr. Wright answered.—The Railway policy of the Government will be considered during the recess.

3. PAPERS:
Mr. Stuart laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Proceedings, &c., of the Postal Conference held in Sydney in May, 1883.
(2.) Petition of Inhabitants of Lord Howe Island against the reinstatement of Captain Armstrong
as Resident Magistrate.
(3.) By-laws of the Borough of Albury, under the Nuisances Prevention Act.
Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Abbott laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Regulations under the Rabbit Nuisance Act of 1883.
(2.) Regulations under the Imported Stock Act of 1871, with regard to the admission of Sheep
from the United States of America.
(3.) Additional Timber Regulations.
Ordered to be printed.

4. EARNSHAW’S ESTATE BILL:
(1.) Sir Wigram Allen presented a Petition from Ambrose Thornley, representing that Earnshaw’s
Estate Bill, which passed this House during the last Session, and was sent to the Legislative
Council, was interrupted by the close of the Session; and praying that leave may be granted to
proceed with the said Bill in this Session.
And the 65th Standing Order of this House permitting of the prayer of the said Petition being
entertained,—
Petition received.

(2.) Sir Wigram Allen then moved, That leave be given to re-introduce Earnshaw’s Estate Bill,
passed by this House during the last Session of Parliament.
Question put and passed.

(3.) Sir Wigram Allen presented a Bill, intituled “A Bill to enable the Executor of the last Will
and Testament of Ono Earnshaw deceased to sell and lease certain Land near Bedlam Point on the
Parramatta River in the Parish of Hunter’s Hill County of Cumberland Colony of New South
Wales and to make provision for the investment of the proceeds of the sale thereof,”—which was
read a first time.

(4.) Bill then, on motion of Sir Wigram Allen, read a second time.

(5.) Bill then, on motion of Sir Wigram Allen, read a third time, and passed.

(6.) Sir Wigram Allen then moved, That the Title of this Bill be (in the original terms) “An Act
to enable the Executor of the last Will and Testament of Ono Earnshaw deceased to sell and lease
certain Land near Bedlam Point on the Parramatta River in the Parish of Hunter’s Hill County of
Cumberland Colony of New South Wales and to make provision for the investment of the proceeds
of the sale thereof,”—which was

(7.) Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council, with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled “An Act to enable the
Executor of the last Will and Testament of Ono Earnshaw deceased to sell and lease
certain Land near Bedlam Point on the Parramatta River in the Parish of Hunter’s Hill County of
Cumberland Colony of New South Wales and to make provision for the investment of the proceeds
of the sale thereof,”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 30th May, 1883.

5. TRANSMISSION OF MESSAGES BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES:—Mr. Stuart (by consent) moved, without
Notice, That the Order respecting the transmission of Messages agreed to by the two Houses during
the Session of 1886–7 shall stand as a Sessional Order of this House for the present Session.
Question put and passed.

6. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. A. G. Taylor moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.

7. TRANSMITTED DECLARATORY BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the
motion of Mr. Stuart, “That this Bill be now read a second time,”—
And the Question being again proposed,—the House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

**THURSDAY, 31 MAY, 1883, A.M.**

Question put, That this Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

**Ayes, 57.**

Mr. Stuart, Mr. Butcher,
Mr. Reid, Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Wright, Mr. Slater,
Sir Patrick Jennings, Mr. McConaghy,
Mr. Abbotts, Mr. Pigott,
Mr. Young, Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Gill, Mr. Hargreaves,
Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Gibba,
Mr. Zece, Mr. A. G. Taylor,
Mr. Sutherland, Mr. Harris,
Mr. Griffiths, Mr. Hallyer,
Mr. Cameron, Mr. Lyons,
Mr. Farrell, Mr. Gibbons,
Mr. Marriman, Mr. Murray,
Mr. R. B. Smith, Mr. Combes,
Mr. Cohen, Mr. Purves,
Mr. Targett, Mr. Poole,
Mr. Copeland, Mr. Meckanion,
Mr. Leven, Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Gray, Mr. Suttor,
Mr. Ellis, Mr. White,
Mr. Sen, Mr. Metville,
Mr. Brunker, Mr. Withers,
Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Holborow,
Mr. Barbour, Mr. Buma,
Mr. Day, Tellers,
Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Garnet,
Mr. Holtermann, Mr. Garnet,
Mr. De Sallis, Mr. Longman,
Mr. Oliff, Tellers,

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Stuart, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

Mr. Stuart moved, That the report be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

(3.) Bill read a third time,—and, on motion of Mr. Stuart, passed.

(4.) Mr. Stuart then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "An Act to declare legal the employment of Steam Motors on Tramways constructed worked or maintained in pursuance of the 'Tramways Extension Act 1880.'"

Question put and passed.

(5.) Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council, with the following Message:—

*Mr. President,*

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "An Act to declare legal the employment of Steam Motors on Tramways constructed worked or maintained in pursuance of the 'Tramways Extension Act 1880,'" presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 31st May, 1883, a.m.

The House adjourned at eight minutes before Four o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

EDMUND BARTON,
Speaker.
1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:—Mr. Stuart (by consent) moved, without Notice, That the Clerk of the House shall enter upon the Minutes of the Votes and Proceedings the Questions, of which formal notice shall have been given, put to the Members representing the Government in this House, and the Answers returned to the same.

Question put and passed.

2. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Stuart (by consent) moved, without Notice, That this House at its rising This Day do adjourn until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

Question put and passed.

3. QUESTIONS:

(1.) Provisional Schools:—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—Will he alter the Regulations under the Public Instruction Act so as to allow a Provisional School to be established at Clarke's Creek, and at other places which, although not 4 miles distant from the nearest Public Schools, are so inconveniently situated that 3 miles is harder for the children to travel than 5 or 6 miles in most other parts?

Mr. Reid answered,—In special cases, where the difficulties of approach are very great, the Regulation alluded to has been relaxed; but Clarke's Creek is not considered such a case, there being two Schools within reasonable distance and not difficult of approach.

(2.) Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act:—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will he extend the operations of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act to the Municipalities of Mudgee, Gulgong and Hill End?

Mr. Wright answered,—The Act in question is at present in operation; it is for the Municipalities concerned to comply with its terms. The whole question, however, will be considered by the Government in view of contemplated legislation in connection with Local Government.

(3.) Railway Passengers from Capertee:—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Public Works,—(1.) Is he aware that great inconvenience and annoyance are caused to passengers per rail from Capertee at finding when reaching Wallerawang that the seats in the Railway carriages are monopolized by passengers from Dubbo, Bathurst, Orange, &c.?

(2.) Will he set apart special carriages for the passengers arriving from Capertee, or take other measures to allay the inconvenience?

Mr. Wright answered,—(1.) I am not aware that this is the case, nor can I learn that any representation of the kind has been made to the Department.

(2.) Yes, if it be found necessary. I have directed inquiry to be made.

(4.) Postal Communication with places between Mudgee and Wallerawang:—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Postmaster General,—Has he given instructions yet for a mail-bag containing letters and papers for the residents between Mudgee and Wallerawang to be made up at the Mudgee Post Office on Saturday for transmission by Cobb & Co.'s Coach, which leaves that day?

Mr. Wright answered,—The sum asked by the contractors for carrying this mail (£65 a year) is considered much in excess of the value of the service, as the mail would only carry correspondence for places between Mudgee and Capertee, no train leaving the latter place on Saturday. Negotiations are, however, still proceeding, and there will be no objection to pay a small sum for the accommodation asked for.

(5.) Mudgee Gaol:—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister of Justice,—(1.) How many prisoners have been despatched to Mudgee Gaol from other prisons during the past six weeks?

(2.) What were the several trades or occupations of these prisoners?

(3.) When their sentences expire, are they to be discharged on the streets at Mudgee, or will they receive free passes back to the place from whence they came?
Mr. Cohen answered,—
(1 and 2.) Thirteen prisoners were received in Mudgee Gaol during the past six weeks. Twelve of these came from Darlinghurst to relieve that Gaol, and were labourers, not tradesmen; one was from Coonabarabran, and he was a farmer.
(3.) I am informed that in cases where it can be shown that their relatives live elsewhere, and that there is a probability of employment, passes are given. It is not, as a general rule, considered desirable to facilitate the return of Metropolitan criminals from the country districts, all of which are treated alike.

(6.) Mining on Private Property.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Mines,—
(1.) Has he drafted a measure yet to permit and regulate mining on private property?
(2.) If not, will he cause one to be prepared, ready for introduction next Session?
Mr. Abbott answered,—
(1.) I have not.
(2.) At the present time I am unable to say, as there is no very urgent necessity for such a measure; it, in all probability, will have to await the disposal of more pressing subjects for legislation.

(7.) Bridge over Wilbetree Crossing and Pipeclay Creek.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Will he cause further inquiry to be made into the alleged necessity for the erection of a Bridge over Wilbetree Crossing and Pipeclay Creek?
(2.) Has it been officially reported that such a Bridge will cost £2,000, and that the present traffic does not justify the expenditure?
(3.) Is he aware that a single structure would span both creeks, and that the meagre character of the traffic is largely due to the dangerous and often unfordable nature of the two rivers?
(4.) If not, will he cause inquiries to be made, with a view to erecting a Bridge over the two creeks, even at a cost of £2,000?
Mr. Wright answered,—
(1.) Yes.
(2.) It has been reported that a Bridge would cost £3,000, but last report makes no mention of the traffic.
(3.) I am not aware that a single structure will span both creeks, nor that the traffic is prevented by want of bridges, except in floods, when access is afforded by the Pipeclay and Mudgee Bridges.
(4.) Further inquiries will be made.

(8.) Police Quarters at Wollar.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) Has he decided yet what additions to make to the Police Quarters at Wollar?
(2.) If not, will he cause the matter to be expedited, and plans of the contemplated additions to be prepared without delay?
Mr. Stuart answered,—
(1.) The additions authorized to be made consist of a wooden Court-room and one or two cells.
(2.) The work will be put in hand without delay.

(9.) Public Schools conducted in Churches and Chapels.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—
(1.) How many Public Schools throughout the Colony are conducted within the precincts of Churches and Chapels?
(2.) Does he intend to cause suitable School Houses to be erected in localities where at present Churches and Chapels do duty for School Buildings?
Mr. Reid answered,—
(1.) Fifty-four.
(2.) To replace twenty-seven of these, Buildings are now in course of erection or tenders for them have been invited. In the case of nineteen others, steps have been taken for the securing of suitable sites and the erection of School Buildings. In respect to the remaining eight, the attendance and future prospects would not warrant expenditure on permanent Buildings at present.

(10.) Messrs. Morris and Ranken’s Land Report.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Lands,—
Did he furnish, or cause to be furnished, a copy of Messrs. Morris and Ranken’s Land Report to any of the representatives of the Sydney Morning Herald before the said Report was laid upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Farnell answered,—No.

(11.) Messrs. Morris and Ranken.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Lands,—
(1.) Have Messrs. Morris and Ranken, or either of them, forwarded their claim for remuneration for services rendered by them in the late Land Inquiry?
(2.) If so, have they been paid yet, and how much?
(3.) What was the cost of preparing and printing the sketch-map, issued with the Report?
(4.) What was the cost of printing the Report?
(5.) What was the entire cost, actual or approximate, of the inquiry conducted by Messrs. Morris and Ranken?

Mr. Farnell answered,—Messrs. Morris and Ranken have not yet rendered any account. As the preparation of maps, printing, &c., was distributed in the Government Departments, it is difficult to state upon so short a notice the cost. If a Return is moved for, I shall be glad to supply the information.

(12.) Merrendee Public School.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—
Has a Teacher been appointed at the Menindie Public School since Mr. Lynch was removed to another School?

Mr.
Mr. Reid answered,—No change has for a considerable period been made in the teachership of the Menindie Public School, nor has any Teacher named Lynch ever had charge of it. It is very probable that the School means is the Public School at Murrundee, near Mudgee. A successor to Mr. M. D. Lynch took charge of that School on the 7th May instant.

(13.) The Eight-hour System of Labour on Railway Contracts:—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will the Government consider during the next recess the propriety of legislating with a view to making the adoption of the Eight-hour System one of the conditions of all future contracts for Railway Extensions?

Mr. Wright answered,—This question will receive the consideration of the Government during the recess.

(14.) Appointments made on recommendation of Mr. G. L. Carter and Mr. John Davies:—Mr. Poole asked the Postmaster General,—Will he at an early date lay upon the Table of this House a Return showing the names and salaries of all persons appointed to places in the Postal and Telegraph Departments for the preceding seven years, ending 1st January, 1883, who were recommended by Mr. G. L. Carter and Mr. John Davies, C.M.G., or either of them?

Mr. Wright answered,—The Return asked for will be laid upon the Table as soon as possible, but its preparation will necessarily occupy some considerable time.

(15.) Titles to Land Resumed and Purchased by the Government:—Mr. Purves asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) How many requisitions for titles for land resumed or purchased by Government have been received by the Crown Solicitor during the last twelve months?
(2.) How many incomplete ones were in hand twelve months ago?
(3.) How many titles have been completed during that time?
(4.) How much has been agreed to be paid by the Government for these resumptions and purchases?
(5.) How much has been paid?
(6.) What rate of interest do the Government allow?
(7.) On how much do the Government pay interest?
(8.) Does the Minister intend to employ extra assistance to further the completion of the above resumptions and purchases?

Mr. Cohen answered,—The information asked for in these questions is so extensive that the Crown Solicitor has been unable to furnish me with it.

(16.) Bridge over the Murray at Howlong:—Mr. Lyne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he cause negotiations to be entered into with the Government of Victoria with a view of carrying out the promise made last Session to construct a Bridge over the Murray at Howlong, provided such Bridge does not exceed a cost of £8,000?

Mr. Wright answered,—Yes, upon the conditions that the total cost does not exceed £8,000.

(17.) Wright, Heaton & Co.:—Mr. Garvan asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he give an account of the Public Works Department, to Wright, Heaton & Co.?

Mr. Wright answered,—I will lay this information upon the Table of the House in the form of a Return as soon as it can be prepared.

(18.) Northern Coast Railway:—Mr. Young asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Have instructions been given for the survey of the Northern Coast Railway Line?
(2.) Has the work been commenced?

Mr. Wright answered,—Yes.

(19.) Glove Contest:—Mr. Young asked the Colonial Secretary,—Did the Attorney General give an Opinion as to the legality or otherwise of the recent contest with gloves at the Academy of Music in this city; if so, has he any objection to lay it upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Stuart answered,—The Attorney General has not given any Opinion whatever as to the legality of such contest.

(20.) Clothing for Railway Guards:—Mr. Olliffe asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that the material used for clothing for the Railway Guards is of such a very inferior description that, although the clothing has to be worn for another four months or longer, it is at present worthless?
(2.) Will he be good enough to institute inquiry,—If the material has ever been equal to pattern; and if not, to ascertain the cause thereof?
(3.) In making this inquiry, will he be good enough to ascertain facts for himself, instead of, as usual, depending upon the reports of the sub-officers of the Department?

Mr. Wright answered,—

(1.) I am not aware that this is the case.
(2.) Yes.
(3.) Yes.

(21.) Engine-driver Woods:—Mr. Olliffe asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has Driver Woods, in connection with the late Railway accident on the Western Line, been suspended; if so, what are the charges against him?

Mr. Wright answered,—Yes; the charge against him is that he will not produce the screw-coupler which, according to his own evidence, attached his tender to the train on the occasion referred to.
(22.) Temporary Draftsmen, Survey Office.—Mr. Olliffe asked the Secretary for Lands,—
(1.) Will he kindly inform this House if the £4000 voted by way of bonus for the temporary
draftsmen of the Survey Office has yet been allotted, and if arrangements have been made to pay
the same in due course?
(2.) If no allotment or arrangement has yet been made, will he state when it will be, and the
cause of delay?
(3.) Has the Surveyor General yet found time to draw any part of the extra £100 per annum
addition to his salary?
Mr. Farnelli answered,—
(1.) No.
(2.) It will be made shortly, but has had to await the transfer of some temporary draftsmen to the
permanent staff.
(3.) The Surveyor General has not yet received any portion of the increased salary.

(23.) Hansard Staff.—Mr. Cameron, for Mr. Fletcher, asked the Colonial Secretary,—With reference
to his statement in reply to question asked by the Honorable Member for the Upper Hunter (Mr.
McElhone), on the 20th February last, that he had taken steps to propose that the Hansard Staff
should be removed from the Department of the Colonial Secretary and placed under that of the
Speaker,—Can he say when the contemplated transfer is likely to take effect?
Mr. Stuart answered,—I am not able at present to fix any date. The matter has been engaging
my attention.

(24.) Bordeaux Wine Exhibition.—Mr. Burns asked the Colonial Secretary,—When the proceeds
of the Wines sent from this Colony to the Bordeaux Exhibition will be paid to the respective
shippers?
Mr. Stuart answered,—Certain remittances on this account have been received through the Agent
General in London, and have been forwarded by my direction to the Honorable Member, as
President of the New South Wales Committee, for distribution.

(25.) Loan of Rifles to Honorary Members of Rifle Association.—Mr. Humphery asked the Colonial
Secretary,—Will he accede to the application of the New South Wales Rifle Association for the
loan of rifles for the use of Honorary Members, the Council undertaking to be answerable in every
way for the rifles?
Mr. Stuart answered,—Yes.

(26.) Advertising in Tram-cars.—Mr. Sydney Smith, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for
Public Works,—
(1.) Is it a fact that a private offer for the right to advertise in the Tram-cars has been accepted
by the Government?
(2.) If so, the name of the contractor, and the amount to be paid per annum?
(3.) Is it true that £1,000 per year over the contract price has been offered by another firm?
Mr. Wright answered,—
(1.) Yes.
(2.) Mr. Thomas Atkinson is the contractor. The amount to be paid is £500 for twelve months.
(3.) There is no record of any such offer.

(27.) Post and Telegraph Offices, Frederickton.—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Postmaster General,—
(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to amalgamate the Post and Telegraph Offices at
Frederickton, Macleay River; if so, when?
(2.) Will the Government make early provision for the erection of suitable buildings for the
transaction of the business of the Postal and Telegraph services?
Mr. Wright answered,—
(1.) Inquiries are being made as to the desirableness of amalgamating the Post and Telegraph
Offices at Frederickton.
(2.) Inquiry is also being made as to the necessity for the erection of an Office at the place
mentioned.

(28.) Prison Buildings and Breakwater, Trial Bay.—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public
Works,—
(1.) What is the cause of delay in the completion of the Prison Buildings at Trial Bay?
(2.) When will the Buildings be ready for the reception of prisoners?
(3.) When will the proposed Breakwater be commenced?
Mr. Wright answered,—
(1.) The cause of delay was the want of the necessary funds to complete the Buildings. Funds
have now been voted, and arrangements are being made for a recommencement of the work.
(2.) Probably about the end of this year.
(3.) As soon as the prisoners are sent to Trial Bay, after the completion of the works.

(29.) Glebe Island Abattoirs.—Mr. McElhone asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Is it his intention, or the intention of the Government, to close up the Glebe Island Abattoirs
at the end of the present year?
(2.) Has he stated that he intends to have the Glebe Island Abattoirs closed at the end of the
present year?
Mr. Dibbs answered,—The question of the Abattoirs and their closing or continuance, which is a
very important one to the grazier and consumer and to the public health, is now under the con-
sideration of the Government.

(30.) Public Wharf and Store at Pelican Island.—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public
Works,—When will tenders be invited for the construction of a Public Wharf and Receiving Store
at Robinson's Point, Pelican Island, Macleay River, for which provision has been made by Parliament?
Mr. Wright answered,—As soon as the surveys and plans are ready.

(31.)
(31.) Post and Telegraph Office, Kempsey:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Postmaster General,—
As the present Post and Telegraph Office at Kempsey is totally inadequate for the transaction
of public business, and the public is very seriously inconvenienced,—Will he direct that tenders
be forthwith invited for the construction of a Post and Telegraph Office at Kempsey, for which
money has been voted by Parliament?
Mr. Wright answered,—The Colonial Architect has been instructed to prepare plans for the new
Offices. When these are completed, and a site determined upon, no time will be lost in inviting
tenders.

(32.) Punt at Fernmount, Summer Island, and Gladstone:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary
for Public Works,—When will tenders be invited for the construction of Punt at Fernmount,
Summer Island, and Gladstone, respectively?
Mr. Wright answered,—As soon as possible; drawings are in hand.

(33.) Road from Grafton to Bellinger River, and from Fernmount to Grafton:—Mr. R. B.
Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will tenders be invited for the construction
of the Road from Grafton and Armidale Road to the Bellinger River, and also for the Road from
Fernmount to Grafton?
Mr. Wright answered,—Tenders were accepted for part of work in beginning of May. Tenders
have been invited for further works, and all will be let in a month or two, unless difficulty as to
land or surveys arise.

(34.) Bellinger River:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he direct
the immediate expenditure of the money voted by Parliament for the removal of the impediments to
the navigation of the Bellinger River?
Mr. Wright answered,—The money in question is now being expended.

(35.) Public Wharfs, Macleay River:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
Will he cause tenders to be invited as soon as practicable for the construction of Public Wharfs
at Warranoot (Nelson's), Seven Oaks, and Kinchela, Macleay River, respectively, for which
provision has been made by Parliament?
Mr. Wright answered,—The several matters referred to are now being dealt with.

4. PAPER:—Mr. Farrell laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order made
27th February, 1883,—
"Appraisement of Town Lots at Temora and Gulgong."
Ordered to be printed.

5. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. A. G. Taylor moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.

6. TRAMWAYS DECLARATORY BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative
Council:—
Mr. Speaker,
The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "An Act
to declare legal the employment of Steam Motors on Tramways constructed, worked, or maintained in
pursuance of the Tramways Extension Act 1880;"—with the amendments indicated by the accompany-
ing Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative
Assembly.
Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 31st May, 1883.
JOHN HAY,
President.

TRAMWAYS DECLARATORY BILL.
Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 31st May, 1883.

ADOLPHUS P. CLARIN,
Acting Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 10. Omit "The employment by" insert "It shall be lawful for."
" 1, clause 1, line 11. After " Government" omit " of" insert " to employ."
" 1, clause 1, line 18. After " 1880" omit remainder of clause.
" 1, clause 2, line 17. Before " Provided" insert " Provided always that no action brought
" since the eighteenth day of May one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three and eighty-three
" claim except as hereinafter mentioned existing previous to that day by reason of the
" working of steam motors shall be maintainable in a Court of Law."
" 1, clause 2, line 17. Omit "always" insert "also"

Examined,—
W. R. BIDDINGTON,
Deputy Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be forthwith taken into
consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Stuart, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself
into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Council's amendments.
And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 1 JUNE, 1883, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again to-morrow.

7. PAPER:—Mr. Dibbs laid upon the Table,—Report of the Royal Commission on Noxious and Offensive Trades.
Ordered to be printed.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes after Twelve o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

EDMUND BARTON,
Speaker.
New South Wales.

No. 4.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, 1 JUNE, 1883.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

TRAMWAYS DECLARATORY BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Stuart, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT.

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message dated 31st May, 1883, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the "Tramways Declaratory Bill,"—

Agrees to the amendments in clause 1.

Agrees to the amendments in clause 2,—but proposes to amend them by omitting the first words "Provided always that"; by omitting after "brought" the word "since" and inserting the words "on or after"; by omitting after "claim" the words "except as hereinafter mentioned"; by omitting after "maintainable in" the word "a" and inserting the word "any"; by omitting after "Court" the words "of Law" and inserting the words "on the ground of any alleged illegality in the use of the Steam Motors hereinbefore referred to"; and by omitting after "Provided" the word "also" and inserting the word "nevertheless",—in which amendments the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 1st June, 1883.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Mudgee Gaol:—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Are boots, saddles, safes, bird-cages, ploughs, &c., still manufactured in Mudgee Gaol and sold to the townspeople?

(2.) When will he arrange for the manufacture and public sale of similar articles in Darlinghurst and Parramatta Gaols?

(3.) Is it a fact that for years past boots and shoes have been manufactured in Darlinghurst Gaol, but retained for use in prison and pauper institutions in place of selling them in the open market?

(4.) Is it a fact that any citizen at Mudgee can have new boots made him, or old ones cobbled, in Mudgee Gaol on leaving the money for the work?

(5.) Can any citizen of Sydney get boots made or repaired in Darlinghurst Gaol?

(6.) Are the prisoners in Mudgee Gaol employed to perform miscellaneous repairs and odd jobs for the townspeople?

(7.) Among odd jobs so performed, are there such items as these:—"Stitching saddle-flap, threepence"; "repairing looking-glass, twopence"; "making wax-end, one penny"; "cleaning tooth-instruments, sixpence"; "repairing arm-chair, a shilling"; "hemming window-blind, three-pence"; "making a chemise, twopence"; "painting names on sixty drays, three pounds"; "making a saddle-strap, threepence halFPenny"?

(8.) Are saddle-flaps stitched, looking-glasses repaired, wax-ends made, tooth-instruments cleaned, arm-chairs mended, window-blinds hemmed, drays painted, and chemises and saddle-straps manufactured in Darlinghurst Gaol?

(9.) Is there any other Gaol in the Colony besides Mudgee where prison labour partakes of the peculiarly competitive character detailed above?

(10.) Are the Mudgee carpenters, blacksmiths, wheelwrights, painters, saddlers, harness-makers, coach-builders, cabinet-makers, shoemakers, chemise manufacturers, and other skilled labourers competed against in the open market by convict artisans in Mudgee Gaol?

(11.)
Will the Minister consider the propriety of extending the principle to other departments of skilled labour, and subject the professional gentlemen at Mudgee to competition from the solicitors, barristers, clerks, conveyancers, physicians, surgeons, druggists, dentists, bankers, actuaries, printers, pressmen, poets, phonologists, phonographers, photographers, bakers, butchers, confectioners, hairdressers, taxidermists, clergymen, surveyors, architects, engineers,, aesthetes, lecturers, musicians, and pagan philosophers, who now are, or hereafter may be confined in Mudgee Gaol?

Is a steam-saw still employed in Mudgee for cutting wood by machinery, and is wood so cut retailled to the townpeople?

Will he take steps to endeavour as much as possible to absorb the products of gaol labour in the requirements of prison and pauper institutions instead of selling them in the open market at Mudgee?

Will he give orders for the discontinuance of the multitudinous jobs and repairs already referred to?

Mr. Reid answered,—On behalf of my Honorable Colleague, I have been requested to state that he is not prepared to answer these questions.

Has the site for proposed new Public School Buildings at Pyangle been secured yet?

Is it his intention to refuse the request?

Mr. Wright answered,—No alterations were petitioned for between Bathurst and Hill End, but alterations have been asked for between Bathurst and Hill End Road, and Tambaroon.

One hundred and thirty-three.

The local officer reported the alteration as unnecessary; the present road was sufficient during the rush, and now that the traffic has decreased, further outlay is not advisable.

Has the Cudgegong Progress Committee applied for a sum of money to aid them in fencing the Cemetery at Cudgegong?

Not yet. The application, with others of a similar character, is now receiving attention.

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Has the Cudgegong Progress Committee applied for a sum of money to aid them in fencing the Cemetery at Cudgegong?

Will the Postmaster General cause a Railway Gate to be erected at Tong-Bong-street, in the town of Rylstone?

The Time-gun at Mudgee is not under the control of the Department, and I regret that I cannot approve of the Department undertaking the responsibility of firing it.

The Time-gun at Mudgee is not under the control of the Department, and I regret that I cannot approve of the Department undertaking the responsibility of firing it.

Is it his intention to establish a Post Office at Cundulla, Lower Finlande, as requested by a Petition from the residents on the 23rd April last?

It is intended to establish a Post Office at the place named as soon as possible.

Is he aware that the Time-gun at Mudgee is not used because of the neglect of the department to employ a man to perform that duty?

Will be approve of a small annual expenditure for the payment of some person qualified to perform the duty of firing this Time-gun twice a week?

The Postmaster General furnishes the following reply:—The Time-gun at Mudgee is not under the control of the Department, and I regret that I cannot approve of the Department undertaking the responsibility of firing it.

Will he cause a Railway Gate to be erected at Tong-Bong-street, in the town of Rylstone?
(10.) Repair of Bombandi Road and Road to Ilford Cemetery.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he decided yet to grant sums of money for the repair of the Bombandi Road, and for the repair of the road from Mudgee Road at Ilford to the Ilford Cemetery?

Mr. Wright answered,—With regard to Bombandi Road, the last report was: "I cannot recommend "unless traffic increases." As the opening of the Railway will alter the direction of the traffic here, it is not considered advisable to incur extra expense on the Road at present. With regard to the Road, Ilford to Ilford Cemetery, inquiry is being made as to the expenditure of a previous grant before issuing a further sum.

(11.) Ilford Public School.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—
(1.) Has a Class-room been erected yet at the Ilford Public School?
(2.) If not, what is the cause of the delay?

Mr. Reid answered,—
(1.) No; but a tender was accepted for the work on the 29th March, and it is now in progress.
(2.) A tender was accepted on the 15th December last, but the acceptance of the tender had to be cancelled in consequence of the inability of the tenderer to carry it out.

(12.) Bridges across Meroo Creek and Clarke's Creek.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he decided yet to construct Bridges across the Meroo Creek and Clarke's Creek, near Windeyer?

Mr. Wright answered,—The local officer reports that the present ford on Meroo Creek is a good one; that the traffic is very small, and that an expenditure of £1,000 in building Bridge here is not advisable. The culvert at Clarke's Creek is not a large work, and the Road Trustees have been instructed to carry it out.

(13.) Court of Petty Sessions at Windeyer.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister of Justice,—Has he decided yet to re-establish a Court of Petty Session at Windeyer?

Mr. Reid answered,—Having already made careful inquiry into this matter, I cannot see my way at present to recommend the re-establishment of Petty Sessions at Windeyer.

(14.) Public School, Beryl.—Mr. A. G. Taylor asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—Has the site for the new Public School Buildings at Beryl, in the Mudgee Electorate, been marked out yet for the contractor?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes.

(15.) Leichhardt Tramway.—Mr. Abigail asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will the Leichhardt Tramway be opened to Trafalgar Street?

Mr. Wright answered,—Inquiry is being made. It is thought that it will be ready for opening this month.

(16.) Superior and Public Schools.—Mr. Abigail, for Mr. Teece, asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—
(1.) The number of days in the year during which the Superior and Public Schools are actually opened?
(2.) The number of hours each week during which the children are actually under instruction, excluding recesses, &c.?
(3.) The time devoted each week to singing and drawing, and whether this is included in the ordinary school hours?
(4.) The like information in respect to drill in ordinary Schools and in Schools that have Cadet Corps respectively?

Mr. Reid answered,—
(1.) Two hundred and thirty-six.
(2.) Twenty-three and three quarter hours.
(3.) One and a half-hour to each. This is included in the ordinary school hours.
(4.) In ordinary Schools the time for drill varies from half-an-hour to one and a half-hour a week. In Schools having cadet corps, extra drill is given after the prescribed school hours.

(17.) Clerk of Petty Sessions, Picton.—Mr. McCourt asked the Minister of Justice,—Has he had under consideration the appointment of a Clerk of Petty Sessions at Picton; and if so, what decision has he arrived at?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes; the question as to appointment of a Clerk of Petty Sessions at Picton has been under attention, and when the necessary further inquiry shall have been completed, the matter shall receive the most careful consideration.

(18.) Bowral Railway Station.—Mr. McCourt asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will the works in connection with the new Railway Station promised to be erected at Bowral be proceeded with?

Mr. Wright answered,—The plans are being prepared with a view to tenders being invited about August next.

(19.) Advertising at Railway Stations.—Mr. McCourt asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Was the right to advertise at all the Railway Stations in New South Wales let by tender or private arrangement?
(2.) The name of the person or persons having such rights, the annual amounts paid for the privilege, and when will the present arrangement expire?

Mr. Wright answered,—
(1.) The right was let by tender.
(2.) The lessee is Mr. Alfred Bennett; annual rent, £700; contract will expire on 31st December, 1889.
(20.) Lessees of Railway Refreshment Rooms:—Mr. McCourt asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) The name of the Lessee of the Refreshment Rooms at present existing on the Southern, Western and Northern Railways, the date at which the lease for each Refreshment Room will expire, and the annual rent in each instance?

Mr. Wright answered,—

(1.) Mr. Castner is the Lessee of the Refreshment Rooms on the Southern and Western Lines for five years, to 30th June, 1888; and Mr. Walker is the Lessee of the Refreshment Rooms on the Northern Line, till 31st December next. The latter leases Singleton at £200 a year, and Murrurundi at £200 a year. The former, in addition to £25 a year for each Refreshment Station, has to pay 7 per cent. interest upon the sum expended upon the requisite buildings. The Lessee for Albury Refreshment Station is Mr. S. S. Moses, to the 31st December, 1888; he pays £320 a year.

(2.) Those not already leased will be advertised to let by tender.

(21.) The Eight-hour System of Labour:—Mr. McCourt asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

Will the Eight-hour System be extended to maintenance men employed under Road Superintendents throughout the Colony?

Mr. Wright answered,—The maintenance men are paid for wet and dry weather, are constantly employed, and it is reported by the Commissioner that it would be most inconvenient to have the hours restricted. I will, however, have further inquiries made.

(22.) Schools at Huon and Moorwatha:—Mr. Day asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—

Is it his intention to build a Public or Provisional School at Huon; if so, when will tenders be invited for same?

Mr. Reid answered,—In reply to the Honorable Member, I have to state that this officer at the time of applying for appointment submitted to me written testimonials, dated 12th September last, as to his good character. One of those testimonials is from Mr. Edward Ross Fairfax, who stated that he had known Mr. Dignan on and off duty for nineteen years. The other was from Messrs. Bradley, Newton & Lamb, who stated that they had known Mr. Dignan for many years. These testimonials were given to Mr. Dignan a few months ago, after his connection with the Police Force terminated and when he was seeking a position outside the Public Service, in which, perhaps, above all others, a character for honesty and steadfastness was required. In ordinary cases every one feels, or ought to feel, the greatest reluctance to mention names, and I only do so in this case because I am sure that the gentlemen I have alluded to will not be sorry to allow their favourable knowledge of Mr. Dignan for so long a period to be set against the charges made against that officer. If I have gone too far in giving this old public servant of about twenty-five years standing a chance of retrieving his position in life, the fault is entirely my own, for no pressure of any kind, or from any quarter, either inside this House or out of it, was brought to bear upon me in reference to this appointment. I need scarcely add that the statements made yesterday by the Honorable Member for West Sydney will, of course, meet with the prompt consideration to which they are entitled.

(23.) Nambuccara River:—Mr. Abigail asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—The names of the persons who recommended Thomas Dignan for the position of Assistant School Attendance Officer?

Mr. Reid answered,—In reply to the Honorable Member, I have to state that this officer at the time of applying for appointment submitted to me written testimonials, dated 12th September last, as to his good character. One of those testimonials is from Mr. Edward Ross Fairfax, who stated that he had known Mr. Dignan on and off duty for nineteen years. The other was from Messrs. Bradley, Newton & Lamb, who stated that they had known Mr. Dignan for many years. These testimonials were given to Mr. Dignan a few months ago, after his connection with the Police Force terminated and when he was seeking a position outside the Public Service, in which, perhaps, above all others, a character for honesty and steadfastness was required. In ordinary cases every one feels, or ought to feel, the greatest reluctance to mention names, and I only do so in this case because I am sure that the gentlemen I have alluded to will not be sorry to allow their favourable knowledge of Mr. Dignan for so long a period to be set against the charges made against that officer. If I have gone too far in giving this old public servant of about twenty-five years standing a chance of retrieving his position in life, the fault is entirely my own, for no pressure of any kind, or from any quarter, either inside this House or out of it, was brought to bear upon me in reference to this appointment. I need scarcely add that the statements made yesterday by the Honorable Member for West Sydney will, of course, meet with the prompt consideration to which they are entitled.

(24.) Road from Turner's Flat to New England Road:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) For how many years has the question of survey and proclamation of the Road Turner's Flat to the junction of the New England Road been under the consideration of the Department?

Mr. Stuart answered,—No.

(27.) Road from Turner's Flat to New England Road:—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) For how many years has the question of survey and proclamation of the Road Turner's Flat to the junction of the New England Road been under the consideration of the Department?

Mr. Wright answered,—None that I am aware of.
Mr. Dibbs answered,—The Road, Turner's Flat to the junction of the New England Road, was applied for in 1881, and has been the subject of many reports of Surveyors. It has, however, been decided to lay the Road out for proclamation under 4 William IV. No. 11, and the District Surveyor was so instructed on the 4th ultimo.

(28.) Road on North Bank of Bellinger River.—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Lands.—
(1.) For how many years, or lesser period, have the officers of his Department been engaged in considering the question of the survey and proclamation of the Road on the north bank of the Bellinger River?
(2.) Is it likely a decision will be arrived at; if so, when?

Mr. Dibbs answered,—Instruction for the survey of this Road issued in December, 1880, but in consequence of the want of Surveyors in 1881 to carry out the work, and subsequently the necessity that areas for time to be allowed to the farmers in which their crops might grow and be gathered in before survey could be effected, the plan of survey has but recently been received. It is, however, now under examination, and will in a few days be ready for the preliminary notification of the Road to appear in the Government Gazette.

(29.) Ferry at Fredericton.—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Have not repeated representations been made to his Department, pointing out the very great inconvenience which the travelling public are suffering owing to the Public Ferry at Fredericton, Macleay River, being laid up and not worked?
(2.) Will the Minister direct that steps be forthwith taken to work and use the Ferry as heretofore, in order that the public may be benefited thereby?

Mr. Wright answered,—
(1.) The punt and appliances have been provided and all arrangements made. The delay only rests with the inhabitants and those benefited, who are demanding inordinate compensation, which has prevented the approaches being opened.
(2.) As soon as this is settled the Ferry will be available.

(30.) Road to Fredericton Ferry.—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Lands,—
(1.) The cause of delay in not opening the Road on the opposite side of Fredericton leading to the Ferry?
(2.) As representations have been repeatedly made urging the opening of the Road in question, will the Minister direct that the Road be now forthwith opened for public requirement and convenience?

Mr. Dibbs answered,—All the necessary steps to establish this Road under 4 William IV No. 11 have been taken, but the formal opening is deferred until the claims for compensation (now with the Works Department) be settled.

(31.) Police Station and Lock-up, Fredericton.—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Minister of Justice,—As a Police Station and Lock-up at Fredericton is very much required, and the Police are unable to satisfactorily perform their duties,—Will the Honorable Minister cause tenders to be invited with as little delay as possible for the erection of the necessary building?

Mr. Reid answered,—This matter is now being inquired into, and shall receive due consideration.

(32.) Bridge over South Arm, Nambucca River.—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) What is the cause of delay in inviting tenders for the construction of a Bridge over the South Arm, Bowra, Nambucca River, for which money was voted by the last Parliament?
(2.) Will he direct tenders to be invited without any further delay?

Mr. Wright answered,—
(1.) Awaiting further information.
(2.) Yes, as soon as the required information is received.

(33.) Road Votes, Electorate of Macleay.—Mr. R. B. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he cause tenders to be invited as early as practicable for the expenditure of all Road Votes in the Electorate of the Macleay?

Mr. Wright answered,—Tenders have already been invited for a great many of the works, but it is not possible, nor would it be desirable, to let all the works at once.

3. PAPERS:
Mr. Stuart laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Mr. Thomas Dignan's Defaulters Sheet during his service in the Police Force.
(2.) Further Correspondence respecting the Naval Depot.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wright laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order made on 2nd May, 1883, "Railway Trial Survey from Forbes to Murrumburrah Loop-line."

Ordered to be printed.

4. TRAMWAYS DECLARATORY BILL.—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker,
The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 1st June, 1883, in reference to the "Tramways Declaratory Bill,"—agrees to the Assembly's amendments upon the Council's amendments in clause 2 of this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 1st June, 1883.

JOHN HAY,
President.
5. **RAILWAY COMMUNICATION BETWEEN NEW SOUTH WALES AND VICTORIA.**—Mr. Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, that the proposed arrangement of running the New South Wales train into Wodonga and the Victorian train into the Albury Railway Station should not be carried out, as such arrangement would entail considerable and unnecessary expense to the Department, and cause great damage and delay in trucking stock and produce. Debate ensued. 
Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

6. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Mr. Stuart moved, That this House do now adjourn. Debate ensued. 
Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.
Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only nineteen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely,—Mr. Henry Clarke, Mr. Day, Mr. Farnell, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Griffiths, Mr. Holtermann, Mr. McCallioch, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. McVille, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Murray, Mr. Roberts, Mr. See, Mr. R. B. Smith, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Targett, and Mr. Withers,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House at ten minutes after Eight o'clock.

EDMUND BARTON,
Speaker.
PROCLAMATION.

New South Wales, 

Proclamation by His Excellency The Right Honorable Lord Augustus William to wit.

Frederick Spencer Loftus, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council,

Augustus Loftus, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS by the Bill passed by the Governor and Legislative Council of New South Wales, in the seventeenth year of the reign of Her Majesty the Queen, intituled "An Act to confer a Constitution on New South Wales and to grant a Civil List to Her Majesty," and assented to by Her Majesty, under the authority of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, passed in the Session of the eighteenth and nineteenth years of the said reign, intituled "An Act to enable Her Majesty to assent to a Bill as amended of the Legislature of New South Wales to confer a Constitution on New South Wales and to grant a Civil List to Her Majesty," it was amongst other things enacted that it should be lawful for the Governor of New South Wales to prorogue the Legislative Council and Assembly thereof from time to time: And whereas it is expedient to prorogue the said Council and Assembly: Now therefore I, Lord Augustus William Frederick Spencer Loftus, the Governor aforesaid, in pursuance of the power and authority so vested in me, do hereby prorogue the said Legislative Council and Assembly until Tuesday, the tenth day of July next, and the same stand so prorogued accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at Government House, Sydney, this second day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, and in the forty-sixth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

ALEX. STUART.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!
1883.
(SECOND SESSION.)

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

BUSINESS UNDISPOSED OF AT THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION.
(PROROGUED BY PROCLAMATION, SATURDAY, 2 JUNE, 1883.)

GENERAL BUSINESS—NOTICES OF MOTIONS:—

1. Mr. Sydney Smith to move, That, in the opinion of this House, simultaneously with the invitation of tenders elsewhere, tenders for the supply of all materials required by the Government should be invited from manufacturers within the Colony, and the most eligible tenders accepted.

2. Mr. McElhone to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House, a Return giving the amount of all commission or rebates paid to or allowed to the firm of Wright, Heaton & Co., on Wool or other goods sent by them by Railway by the Government or the Commissioner for Railways.

3. Mr. Buttart to move, That, in the opinion of this House, in the event of any Member calling the Speaker's attention to the presence of Strangers in the House, the Speaker shall thereupon put the Question,—That strangers shall withdraw,—no debate being allowable,—and the Question being decided in the affirmative, strangers shall withdraw accordingly.

4. Mr. Buchanan to move, That William Clarke, Esquire, Member for Orange, be granted leave of absence for the remainder of this Session.

5. Mr. Letten to move, That the Report from the Select Committee on "The Case of Captain Armstrong," brought up on the 26th March, 1883, be now adopted.
1883.
(SECOND SESSION.)

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS IN DIVISIONS AND COUNTS-OUT,
DURING THE SECOND SESSION OF 1883.

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<th>Member</th>
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<th>Divisions in Committee</th>
<th>Counts-out</th>
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<td>Abigail, Francis, Esq.</td>
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* Seat declared vacant on the first day of the Session.
### BUSINESS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW SOUTH WALES DURING THE SECOND SESSION OF 1883.

1. New Writs issued... 1
2. Select Committees:
   - On Public Matters... 1
   - On Private Bills... 0
3. Standing Committees
4. Public Bills:
   - Originated in the Assembly—
     - Asent not reported to the House... 1
     - Dropped or otherwise disposed of... 2
   - Brought from the Council—
     - Received the Royal Assent... 0
     - Dropped or otherwise disposed of... 0
5. Private Bills:
   - Originated in the Assembly—
     - Received the Royal Assent... 0
     - Dropped or otherwise disposed of... 1
6. Petitions received:
   - Printed... 0
   - Not printed... 1
7. Divisions:
   - In the House... 2
   - In Committee of the Whole... 1
8. Sittings:
   - Days of Meeting... 4
   - Hours of Sitting... 31 h. 60 m.
   - Hours of Sitting after Midnight... 71 h. 57 m.
9. Votes and Proceedings:
   - Entries in Votes and Proceedings—
     - Of Business done... 33
     - Of Notices of Motion... 25
     - Of Orders of the Day... 5
     - Of Questions... 120
     - Of Contingent Notices... 0
     - Daily Average... 10
   - After commencement of Business... 1
10. Contingent Notices
11. Orders for Papers... 0
12. Addresses for Papers... 0
13. Other Addresses... 1
14. Papers laid upon the Table:
   - By Message... 0
   - By Command... 9
   - By Speaker... 0
   - In Return to Orders... 2
   - In Return to Addresses... 0
   - Reports from Standing and Select Committees... 0
   - Ordered to be printed... 11
   - Not ordered to be printed... 0

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Legislative Assembly Offices, Sydney, 2nd June, 1883.

STEPHEN W. JONES,
Clerk of Legislative Assembly.