

## ORDERS OF THE DAY.

*Tuesday, 31st August.*

Orders of the day that were for consideration on Friday, the 27th August.

1. Melbourne Municipal Franchise Bill.—Second reading.
2. Impounding Act Amendment Bill.—Second reading.
3. Costs in Criminal Cases Taxation Bill.—Second reading.
4. Government Printing Establishment.—Consideration of report.
5. General and Quarter Sessions Courts Bill.—Third reading.
6. Passengers Bill,—Consideration of Lieutenant-Governor's Message, No 21.
7. Courts of Requests Bill.—To be further considered in Committee.

## NOTICES OF MOTION.

Dr THOMSON: To move—

That an Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that he will cause to be laid on the table of the House, the following Returns:—

1. Copies of all correspondence between the Sydney Government, or the Surveyor-General of New South Wales, with the Executive of Port Phillip, or

the Surveyor in charge at Melbourne, in respect to Reserves of Land for sale or other purposes, from the date of the Proclamation of the Orders in Council, under date, October 7th, 1847, to the First of July, 1851.

2. Copies of all instructions from His Honor the Superintendent of Port Phillip on the same subject, for the same period.

3. Copies of all correspondence between the Executive Government of Victoria, and the Surveyor-General on the same subject, from the First of July, 1851, to the present date.

Mr CAMPBELL to move

That an Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid on the table of this House:—

1. A return of the number of claims to leases of runs beyond the Settled Districts acquired under the sanction of the Proclamation of Sir Charles Fitz Roy, of the 1st January, 1848, shewing the estimated extent, the capabilities, and the district in which situated.

2. A return of the number of claims to leases obtained by tender from 1st January, 1848, to 1st July, 1852, shewing the estimated extent, the capabilities, the amount of premium paid, and the district in which situated.

## ORDER OF THE DAY.

1. Introduction of Convicts Prevention Bill—To be further considered in Committee.
2. Immigrant Ships' Investigation Bill.—Adoption of Report.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

It is necessary to guard those who read the reports of the proceedings of the Legislative Council against looking upon the decisions of that body as expressing the opinions of the Colonists of Victoria. While our Legislature is so constructed, that it is simply a mockery of representation, this fact should never be forgotten when estimating the value of its decisions. In an Assembly of thirty members, ten are nominees of the Crown; and the right of returning the twenty elected members is so artfully distributed through the Colony, as very materially to check the free expression of popular opinion. The majorities in the Council, therefore, not only do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Colonists, but are very frequently diametrically opposed to them. The members representing large and important constituencies are—Messrs Westgarth, Johnston, and O'Shanassy, for Melbourne; Mr Strachan and Dr Thomson, for Geelong; Messrs Smith and Dight, for North Bourke; Mr Miller, for South Bourke; Mr Heroer, for Grant; Mr Osborne, for Belfast and Warrhambool; Mr Wilkinson, for Portland; Mr Rutledge, for Villiers and Heytesbury; Mr Snodgrass, for the Kilmore Boroughs; Mr Fawkner, for the counties adjacent; and Mr Turnbull, for Gipps Land. Only where the names of these gentlemen occur, whether in a majority or minority, are the opinions of the great mass of the Colonists indicated.

*Friday, 27th August.*

At three o'clock the following members were present—the Colonial Secretary, the Chairman of Quarter Sessions, the Solicitor-General; Messrs O'Shanassy, Miller, Splatt, Fawkner, Murphy, Wilkinson, and Anderson.

The Clerk said it was his duty to inform the House, that he had received a letter from the Speaker, announcing that through illness he was unable to attend. Under these circumstances, he would suggest that some hon member should move the adjournment of the House.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that there were some Orders of the Day on the Notice Paper, which it would be very inconvenient should be discharged. He wished to know if it would be competent to suspend the Standing Orders, so that these Orders of the Day might take precedence of other business on Tuesday next.

The Clerk said that the notices of motion would have to be renewed, but that the Orders of the Day might be made to take precedence on Tuesday.

The CHAIRMAN OF QUARTER SESSIONS then moved the adjournment of the House till three o'clock on Tuesday next.

The motion was seconded and carried, and the House adjourned.