

**Record of the  
Proceedings of the Queensland Parliament**

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**Legislative Assembly  
5th July 1860**  
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Extracted from the third party account as published in the  
Moreton Bay Courier 7<sup>th</sup> July 1860

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The SPEAKER took the chair at twenty minutes past three o'clock.

**COMMISSIONER BOYLE.**

Mr. FERRETT asked the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer—Whether Mr. Commissioner Boyle be allowed full pay for all the time he has lately been absent from his district.

The COLONIAL TREASURER replied in the affirmative, there being no other arrangement provided by the act.

**GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.**

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of grammar schools in Queensland. He stated that a corresponding measure had already been introduced into the other house for the establishment of schools of a primary character, and it was very probably that both Bills would come on for discussion about the same time.

The motion having been seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER was put and passed.

**STATE AID TO RELIGION.**

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved for leave to introduce a Bill to discontinue grants from the revenue in aid of religion.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded the motion, which was put and passed.

**PETITION.**

Mr. FITZSIMMONS presented a petition from 78 inhabitants of the Wide Bay district, complaining that an unduly large amount of the public money had been set apart for improvements in Brisbane, with a view to retaining that township as the capital of the colony, and praying that a more equitable distribution might be made.

The petition was subsequently read by the clerk, and elicited considerable merriment.

Mr. FITZSIMMONS then moved that the petition be received.

Mr. BUCKLEY observed that, as the allegations contained in the petition had some especial reference to the New South Wales Government, over which they had no control, he did not see how it was possible they could receive it at all.

Mr. MACALISTER pointed out that the petitioners merely presented a case for their consideration. Whether the house could take effective action upon the petition or not, was another question, but as it was respectfully and properly worded he maintained they were bound to receive it.

The motion was then put and passed.

## CENSUS BILL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY after explaining his reasons, obtained leave to postpone the second reading of this bill until Tuesday next.

## PETITION OF DR. LANG.

Mr. LILLEY moved—"That a select Committee, consisting of five members, exclusive of the mover, be appointed by ballot, with power to call for persons and papers and leave to sit during any adjournment, to enquire into and report upon the prayer of the petition of the Reverend J. D. Lang, D.D., presented to this honorable House on the 3rd instant." In making the motion, he said it was not necessary for him to trouble hon. members with many observations of his own, as the petition in full had been previously read to the house. The prayer referred to pecuniary losses in immigration, which the hon and rev. gentleman had incurred in promotion the general good of Queensland. As to the nature of those losses, and how they could be best reimbursed, these were questions which the proposed committee would have to determine. Dr. Lang, he was assured, had many—at all events, some friends, in that house to whom his case might be very fairly entrusted, and he therefore hoped that the result of the ballot would not be a disappointment. The rev. gentleman had been instrumental at his own cost in bringing to the colony 600 immigrants on the understanding that those persons would receive the equivalent of their passage money in grants of land from the Crown. This understanding had been arrived at by a series of interviews which the Doctor had with the Under-Secretary of State, but in consequence of the negociation not having been officially recognised in New South Wales, the land was withheld from the immigrants, and the rev. gentleman had accordingly to bear a very large proportion of the expense of bringing these people out. It must be borne in mind, moreover, that the system of immigration which the Doctor then initiated had been tried in other colonies, especially in New Zealand, and had been found to work admirably, but in saying this he (Mr. Lilley) had no desire to identify himself exactly with all the principles involved. One thing, however, was very certain—the immigrants introduced into Queensland, through the instrumentality of Dr. Lang, were of a very superior class. They had cultivated the soil, erected decent homesteads, and had given to the colony a moral as well as physical character, which it might not have acquired under the ordinary 'regime.' (Hear, hear.) He might add, moreover, that the settlement of these people in Queensland had been the means, in the first place, of stopping transportation, and in the second place, of achieving separation. (Hear, hear.) Under all these circumstances, he thought the reverend petitioner, whose zeal and ability in their behalf had been distinguished by such glorious results, should have the privilege of a fair and impartial enquiry as to the pecuniary losses he had sustained in carrying out the enterprise. He would merely add, in conclusion, that Dr. Lang was the first to move in the matter of separation, and the most effective in carrying it out. It was to him they were indebted for the clause inserted in the Imperial Act, assenting to the New South Wales constitution. That clause gave them separation, and thus it formed, to a certain extent, the Magna Charta of their constitutional liberties (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MACALISTER seconded the motion.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY would not object to the inquiry, although he might have some doubt as to what result the committee should arrive at. He was quite free to admit that the reverend Doctor was the first to move in the matter of separation, and that he had thus placed the colony under some obligation to him.

The question was then put and passed, and a ballot having been taken, the following members were declared to be the committee duly appointed, viz. :—Messrs. Lilley, Taylor, Watts, Ferrett, Gore, and Blakeney.

## APPOINTMENT OF CLERK ASSISTANT TO THE ASSEMBLY, AND ERECTION OF QUARTERS FOR THE CLERK.

On the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY the Speaker left the chair, and the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY then moved—

“That an Address be presented to his Excellency the Governor, transmitting a report of the Standing Orders Committee, recommending the appointment of a Clerk Assistant at the table of this house, and the erection of quarters within the precincts of the legislative buildings, for the clerk of the Assembly, and praying that his Excellency will be pleased to take the necessary steps for giving effect to the recommendation of that report.” He said that a report had been received from the Colonial Architect, stating that two refreshment rooms, a smoking room, and a residence for the clerk might be erected in one building, on the premises, at a cost of between £1500 and £2000. The building would be a wooden one; and were the two houses to agree to share the one refreshment room, this cost would be lessened.

In reply to Mr. Raff, the COLONIAL SECRETARY said it was also in contemplation to provide stabling accommodation.

Mr. O'SULLIVAN advocated the erection of a brick building, as being in the long run more economical.

A desultory discussion ensued, many members opposing the adoption of the address on the score of economy, and a division having been called for, the motion was carried by a majority of 9, the numbers being:—

Ayes, 15.

Noes, 6.

Mr Herbert	Mr Haly	
“ Pring	Forbes	
“ Raff	O'Sullivan	
“ Buckley	Lilley	
“ Edmonstone	Gore	} Tellers
“ Thorn	Moffatt	}
“ Fitzsimmons		
“ Jordan		
“ Taylor		
v Watts		
“ Richards		
“ Ferrett		
“ Royds		
“ Blakeney		} Tellers.
“ Mackenzie		}

On the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY the chairman left the chair, and reported progress, and brought up the reports that had been previously agreed to in committee relative to a grant of £250 for water works at Gladstone, and of £200 in aid of the hospital at Rockhampton. The resolutions having been adopted by the house.

## ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the adjournment of the house till Tuesday next. He said there was no important business on the paper for to-morrow, and the labors of the select committees would be materially accelerated by the house agreeing to this lengthy adjournment.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL having seconded the motion, the question was put and

passed, and the house adjourned accordingly at half-past four o'clock.