

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

...
**Legislative Assembly
Prorogation of Parliament
9th July 1862**

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Extracted from the third party account as published in the
Courier 10th July 1862

THE PROROGATION.

Owing to the announcement made in both Houses of the Legislature on Tuesday that Parliament would be prorogued by his Excellency the Governor at three o'clock yesterday afternoon, a considerable number of persons assembled in Queen-street at that hour to witness the arrival of the vice-regal *cortege*. A guard of honor from the detachment of H. M. 12th Regiment was drawn up in front of the Parliamentary Chambers, and a few policemen were also in attendance. The Legislative Council met at three o'clock, and as they had some business to transact, in the way of rescinding a motion which they had passed on the previous day, the ceremony did not commence at the hour previously announced. His Excellency arrived from Government House in an open carriage, accompanied by his Aide-de-Camp, Lieut. Seymour, and attended by an escort of the Brisbane Mounted Rifles, under the command of Captain Bramstone, and, as his Excellency alighted from his carriage, the guard of honor presented arms.

The Legislative Council Chamber was crowded by a large number of ladies and gentlemen who received tickets of admission to witness the ceremony. Lady Bowen was not present, as she usually has been on similar occasions; but all the spare seats in the body of the House were occupied by ladies, whilst the strangers' gallery was filled as full as it could hold with visitors of the sterner sex.

Immediately after his Excellency had taken his seat, the Usher of the Black Rod was directed to summon the Assembly to attend, and seven or eight members of that House soon after entered, headed by the Speaker, the Colonial Secretary, the Colonial Treasurer, and the Minister for Lands and Works. His Excellency then announced that he had given his assent, on behalf of the Queen, to the Pastoral Occupation Bill, the Additional Judge Bill, the Diseases in Cattle Act of 1862 Suspension Bill, and the Common Law Procedure Bill.

The Speaker, in compliance with the usual form, congratulated the Governor on the close of the session, and presented the Appropriation Bill for the vice-regal assent, which was given. His excellency then read, in his usual emphatic manner, the following speech:—

**“HONORABLE GELTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND
GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY:—**

“1. The public business which has occupied your attention during the annual session has not been so far disposed of as to enable me to release you from your attendance in Parliament, and to dismiss you to those other duties which claim so large a share of your time and energy.

“2. The session now brought to a close, though comparatively short in duration, has produced several useful measures. Among these, one, in particular, deserves especial notice. The Pastoral Occupation Act, which was framed in order to obviate delays and evils urgently complained of by this community, and by persons desirous of introducing capital from abroad, will, it is confidently hoped, effect an important change in the position of pastoral investments in Queensland. By removing all obstacles from the path of the *bona fide* occupant, the revenue and

exports of the colony will be immediately increased, and the further occupation of our vast territory facilitated and hastened.

“3. Proposals have already been made to the Government on behalf of a projected Association at Melbourne, desirous of settling a portion of the territory to the north-west, which has been temporarily annexed to Queensland by her Majesty, in gracious compliance with an address from this Legislature. It will be the duty of the Government to further any well-considered project in accordance with our existing laws; and I am aware that I may rely on your enlightened liberality for making any provisions that may be necessary for the settlement and development of that rich accession of country which has been granted at your own request.

“GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,—

“4. I thank you, in the name of the Queen, for the liberal supplies which you have granted for the coming year. The provision which you have made should suffice, with economy, to secure efficiency in all branches of the public service; and it appears almost certain that the revenue of the current and ensuing years will considerably exceed the amount at which it has been estimated.

“HONORABLE GENTLEMEN, AND GENTLEMEN,—

“5. The co-operation of this Government with that of Victoria, in searching for traces of the lamented explorers, Messrs. Burke and Wills, has produced a result even beyond what we were entitled to anticipate. The ability and energy of Mr. Landsborough have placed him in the proud position of being the first leader of an expedition who has successfully connected the northern and southern shores of Australia, and who, at the same time, has brought his entire party across the continent in perfect health and safety. I congratulate you upon the happy and gratifying circumstance, that this exploit has been achieved by our own fellow-colonist, with a party selected and equipped at Brisbane, and within what is now principally our own territory.

“6. The final determination of her Majesty's Government with reference to the proposed station at Cape York, will probably reach me by the mail of this month; but there appears to be little doubt that military and naval protection will be afforded, periodical communication with the settled districts maintained, and the first buildings erected at the cost of the Imperial Government; while the Parliament of Queensland will be called upon to make provision only for such Civil Officers as may be found necessary. I need not dwell upon the great advantages that must accrue from the formation of this settlement, not only to this colony and to the British empire in Australia, but generally to the commerce of the world.

“7. I now declare this Parliament to stand prorogued until Tuesday, the 11th of November next.”

Immediately after the delivery of the speech his Excellency retired from the Legislative Council Chamber, and returned to Government House, escorted as before, and the third annual session of the Parliament of Queensland was at an end.