

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

...
**Legislative Assembly
Prorogation of Parliament
21st May 1863**

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Extracted from the third party account as published in the
Courier 21st May 1863

THE SPEAKER took the chair at twenty minutes past 3 o'clock, and read the usual form of prayer.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY rose, and said as follows:—Mr. Speaker, I have to make a brief statement to this house; and in so doing I shall endeavor to avoid, as much as possible, entering into any matters out of the notice of which a discussion might arise. The government have had under their consideration, during this day, the proceedings of last evening in this house; and, after mature reflection and consideration of the manner in which the important measure introduced by them was received by one-half of this house, the absence of arguments on the question itself, and the apparently evident intention of a large portion of this house to oppose the measure, not on its merits, but as evincing by such opposition that the government was not in possession of the confidence of the house, and that large measures would not be received though they were brought forward by the government for the good of the country, and in accordance with promises held out by them to the house. Under these circumstances, the advisers of his Excellency have recommended his Excellency that the present parliament should be dissolved, and a new parliament should be elected, which it is thought will better represent the people. The policy of the government during the present session could not be characterised by any want of boldness or decision; on the contrary, it was somewhat adventurous; and I believe that hon. members will concur with me that the measures introduced were for the good of the colony at large. It has been asserted by many hon. members that, in consequence of the great increase of population, the present Assembly does not properly represent the country. I may say that to a certain extent I agree with that opinion. I now produce a proclamation from his Excellency the Governor, that this parliament stands prorogued until Tuesday, the 26th instant. I may further state that the prorogation is only preliminary to dissolving this house, with the view to the calling together of a new house so soon as the election can be concluded. (Great cheering.)

The SPEAKER then read the proclamation as follows, and left the chair:—

PROCLAMATION.

By his Excellency Sir George Ferguson Bowen, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of the colony of Queensland and its dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

In pursuance of the power and authority in me vested, as Governor of the said colony, I, Sir George Ferguson Bowen, do hereby prorogue the parliament of Queensland, until Tuesday, the twenty-sixth day of May instant.

Given under my hand and seal, at Government House, Brisbane, this twentieth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in the twenty-sixth year of her Majesty's reign.

[L.S.] G. F. BOWEN,
By His Excellency's command,
ROBERT G.W. HERBERT.