

"To the Honourable the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

"Sir,—The petition of Henry Theodore Bubeck, presented on the ninth day of May last, complaining of the undue election and return of John Fogarty and William Henry Groom, Esquires, as members to serve in the Legislative Assembly for the electoral district of Drayton and Toowoomba, was tried before the Elections Tribunal on the third, fourth, and sixth days of November instant.

"The assessors chosen by the parties were Thomas Dibley, George Jackson, Charles Moffat Jenkinson, John Leahy, Robert Harrison Smith, and William Bligh Henry O'Connell, Esquires, Members of the Legislative Assembly. Charles Moffat Jenkinson, Esquire, was absent on Saturday, the fourth day of November instant; and, save as aforesaid, all the assessors were present throughout the whole trial.

"The assessors unanimously decided that the petitioner had failed to prove the statements contained in the petition.

"The tribunal determined that the petition should be dismissed, and that John Fogarty and William Henry Groom, Esquires, had been duly elected and returned for the electoral district of Drayton and Toowoomba.

"The tribunal ordered and directed that the sum of one hundred pounds paid into court with the petition should be paid to the respondents for their costs, and that their costs should be fixed at and limited to the said sum.

"All which I hereby certify.

"A copy of the evidence given at the trial accompanies this certificate.

"There was not any corrupt practice proved to have been committed by or with the knowledge or consent of any candidate at the election to which the petition relates, and there is no reason to believe that corrupt practices have extensively prevailed at the said election.

"Dated this eighteenth day of November, 1899.

"PATRICK REAL, J.,
"Elections Judge for 1899."

MEMBERS of the Opposition: Hear, hear!

The PREMIER (Hon. J. R. Dickson, *Bulimba*): I move that the certificate of the Elections Judge intimating the dismissal of the petition of Henry Theodore Bubeck, and declaring that John Fogarty and William Henry Groom had been duly elected for the electoral district of Drayton and Toowoomba be entered in the journals of the House; and that the evidence taken in the case be printed.

Question put and passed.

PETITION OF DAVID BOWMAN.

The SPEAKER: I have also to report that I have received from the Elections Judge the following certificate of the determination of the Elections Tribunal in the matter of the petition of David Bowman *versus* William Walter Hood:—

"In the Supreme Court of Queensland.

"Court of Elections Tribunal for the trial of an election petition for the electoral district of Warrego, between David Bowman, petitioner, and William Walter Hood, respondent.

"To the Honourable the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

"Sir,—The petition of David Bowman, presented on the nineteenth day of May last, complaining of the undue election and return of William Walter Hood, Esquire, as a member to serve in the Legislative Assembly for the electoral district of Warrego, was tried before the Elections Tribunal on the twenty-third, twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth, twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth, and thirtieth days of October last.

"The assessors chosen by the parties were Albert James Callan, Thomas Dibley, Denis Thomas Keogh, John Leahy, Thomas Plunkett, and Robert Harrison Smith, Esquires, members of the Legislative Assembly. Denis Thomas Keogh and Thomas Plunkett, Esquires, were absent on Saturday, the twenty-eighth day of October, and Robert Harrison Smith, Esquire, was absent for one or two hours on the thirtieth day of October; and, save as aforesaid, all the assessors were present throughout the whole trial.

"The tribunal determined that the election of the said William Walter Hood, Esquire, was void.

"The tribunal made no order as to costs.

"All which I hereby certify.

"A copy of the evidence given at the trial accompanies this certificate.

"Dated this eighteenth day of November, 1899.

"PATRICK REAL, J.,
"Elections Judge for 1899."

The PREMIER: I beg to move that the certificate of the Elections Judge declaring void the election of William Walter Hood, for the electoral district of Warrego, be entered in the journals of the House, and that Mr. Speaker do issue his Writ for the election of a member to serve in this House for the said electoral district.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER: I move that the evidence in the case David Bowman *versus* William Walter Hood be printed.

Question put and passed.

CRIMINAL CODE BILL.

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL.

The SPEAKER announced the receipt of a message from the Council, intimating that they had agreed to this Bill without amendment.

QUESTIONS.

RESUMPTIONS OF LAND FOR DEFENCE PURPOSES.

Mr. JENKINSON (*Wide Bay*) asked the Secretary for Public Lands—

1. Have the resumptions of land intended for defence purposes, as notified in the *Government Gazette* of 29th July, 1899, been made?
2. If so, on what date?
3. Who were the owners of the areas, and what were the respective amounts paid to each?

The SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC LANDS (Hon. D. H. Dalrymple, *Mackay*) replied—

1. The resumption of land at Lytton intended for defence purposes have not yet been completed.
- 2 and 3. I am not aware what payments have so far been made by the Defence authorities; but I shall lay on the table of the House a return showing the names of the owners whose lands have been resumed, the areas resumed, the amount of compensation recommended for payment, and the dates on which payment was authorised.

NATIVE TRACKERS.

Mr. MOORE (*Murilla*) asked the Home Secretary—

1. What was the number of native trackers in the Police Force on the 30th June last?
2. What amount out of the vote last year was expended?
3. How is the vote of £4,000 for rations to native trackers administered?

The HOME SECRETARY (Hon. J. F. G. Foxton, *Carnarvon*) replied—

1. 126.
2. The whole.
3. By the Commissioner of Police, in providing trackers and their wives and children with rations.

PAPER.

The following paper, laid on the table, was ordered to be printed:—

Return showing land resumed for defence purposes in the parish of Tingalpa, town of Lytton.