

The question—"That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the question"—was put and carried, on a division, as follows:—

<p>Ayes, 14.</p> <p>Mr. Palmer " Bell " Ramsay " Thompson " Handy " Lilley " Walsh " Ferrett " Stephens " Cribb " Johnston " Fyfe " Wienholt " J. Scott</p>	<p>Noes, 8.</p> <p>Mr. Bramston " Buchanan " W. Scott " Clark " Royds " Heunmant " MacDevitt " Griffith.</p>
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The motion, that the Bill be read a second time, was then agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, 16 August, 1872.

Suspension of Standing Orders.—Territorial Annexation.
—Joint Library Committee.—Homestead Areas Bill.—
Loans Consolidation Bill.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL moved, without previous notice, and unopposed—

That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as will enable the Council to pass Bills through all their various stages in one day.

He should not, he said, ask the House to pass more than one Bill, to-day, the Homestead Areas Bill, which it was desirable and necessary to pass before the resolutions for the resumption of lands from runs came on for consideration. If there were not many amendments made in committee, the third reading of the Bill was a merely formal matter. On Monday he should ask the House to pass through other Bills as necessity required.

Question put and passed.

TERRITORIAL ANNEXATION.

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL moved—

1. That in the opinion of this House it is desirable that the Islands lying within sixty miles of the coasts of the Colony of Queensland should be annexed to, and become part of, the said colony.

2. That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to exercise the powers in that behalf conferred upon him by the Letters Patent, of date the 30th May, 1872, laid upon the table of this House, by command, on the 13th instant.

The reason for his asking the House to pass the resolutions, was, that there were several islands to the northward which were at more than three miles distance from the coast—the present territorial jurisdiction of Queensland—and cases of difficulty had arisen from the doubt as to whether they were under New South Wales or under this colony.

Question put and passed.

JOINT LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

Upon the Order of the Day being called, the consideration of the report of the Joint Library Committee,

The PRESIDENT moved that the Order be discharged. The Library Committee wished that provision should be made for the purchase of furniture, which was considered necessary for the library. He saw that a sum for that purpose was placed on the Supplementary Estimates; and, therefore, at this period of the session, he thought it was unnecessary to go further into the subject. He had intended to bring before the Council a resolution, in consequence of that report, which would have embraced more important matters; that was to say, it would have gone towards the general supply necessary for the requirements of the Parliament in the various departments. As the session was drawing so near the close, it would be hardly of advantage to do so now; and he should, therefore, defer taking further notice of the subject until another time.

Question put and passed.

HOMESTEAD AREAS BILL.

Upon the Order of the Day being read,

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL moved the House into Committee of the Whole for the consideration of this Bill.

Clause 6—

"Selections may comprise both agricultural and pastoral land but shall be made in one block and the total area shall not exceed six hundred and forty acres."

The Hon. J. F. McDougall moved—

That the words "six hundred and forty" be struck out, with a view to the insertion of "three hundred and twenty."

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL said he was in charge of the Bill, and he thought that it would not be well for him to allow such an amendment to pass without expressing his opinion upon it. He should, of course, divide the House if he was not aware, from what took place yesterday, that the amendment for limiting the area of homestead selections to 320 acres would be carried; and as that area was originally proposed by the Government in the Bill, he had less compunction in allowing the amendment to pass.

The Hon. J. Taylor regarded the amendment as a just one. He trusted that when the Bill went to the other House, it would be accepted; and that, although, as he was aware, there had been a fair fight for the increase of the area to 640 acres, yet that they had sufficient good sense and reason left to allow this amendment of the Council to pass.

Question put and amendment affirmed, and the clause as amended was passed.

Clause 11—Lands resumed from runs not open to selection until proclaimed.