

Executive Council.

Thursday. 9th March. 1865.

Present. H.E. Governor Mackenzie.
Honorable. Edward Riffards
Honorable. W.R. Pyne.
Honorable. A Bailey.

The Council met pursuant to summons.
The Minutes of the last preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

H.E. called the recollection of the Members of the Council to the previous meetings held for the purpose of considering the conduct of the Reverend Charles Bull and informed them that he had received the decision of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies in the matter.

H.E. then requested the Clerk of the Council to read the despatch received from the Right Honorable Edward Cardwell No. 4 of the 17th January 1865 which having been read H.E. informed the Council that a copy of the despatch would be forwarded to the Reverend Mr. Bull. Colonial Chaplain as desired by Mr. Cardwell. His Excellency also expressed a hope that the reprimand contained therein would have the desired effect, and trusted that he should never have to summon the Council again for such painful duties because that the censure of an officer must always be painful to me and much more so to those of his brother officers whose duties compel them to express their disapprobation of his conduct.

H.E. then thanked the Members for their attendance and adjourned the Council sine die.

A. Pyne
Clerk to the Council.

Executive Council.

Thursday, March 29th 1866.

Present. His Excellency Governor Mackenzie
Honorable E.R. Griffiths
Honorable A. Bailey.

The Council met pursuant to Summons.
The Minutes of the last preceding Meeting were
read and confirmed.

His Excellency then addressed the Council as follows:

Gentlemen, I have assembled you this
day for the purpose of laying before you an
application that I have received from Mr.
Tynes the Colonial Secretary requesting leave of
absence to proceed to England on the ground that
he had served eight continuous years in the colony.

The letter was then read and the Governor
requested the advice of the Members upon it.

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After some deliberation the Council unanimously
expressed their opinion that the ground of Mr. Tynes'
application was amply sufficient to entitle him
to leave of absence, and advised His Excellency
to grant the usual leave of twelve months to commence
from the date of departure from the colony.
The Governor then thanked the Members for their
attendance and said that he would take their
advice into consideration.

The Council then adjourned sine die.

A. Bailey
Clerk to the Council

Executive Council.

Monday. 18th June. 1866.

Present:

His Excellency Governor Mackenzie
The Hon^{ble} E. R. Griffiths.
The Hon^{ble} W. R. Payne
The Hon^{ble} Arthur Bailey. (Acting).

The Council met pursuant to Summons.

The Minutes of last preceding Meeting were read and confirmed.

His Excellency said that he had summoned the Council for the purpose of confirming the Minutes of the preceding Meeting.

His Excellency then informed the Council that he thought this would be about the last time he should have to assemble them as Her Majesty the Queen had been pleased to appoint him to the Governorship of St. Christopher, but before dismissing the Council he wished to thank the Members sincerely, for the advice and assistance they had given him from time to time during the period of his Governorship.

Mr. Payne begged His Excellency to allow him to express as well for himself, as for others, the regret which was generally felt in the Colony at His Excellency's departure after four years administration of the Government during which period the Colony seemed at last to have taken a start on the road to improvement after nearly 30 years of idle stagnation, in proof of which I need only say that the Rent Roll has within that time nearly doubled itself - that instead of nineteen grazing stations there were now thirty-seven,

and

"and every prospect of a further increase. —
 "The Imports and Exports showed a very
 "satisfactory condition of trade, the average
 "yearly value of each varying from £15,000
 "to £20,000. It was also much to the
 "advantage of the Colony that there had been
 "lately a great increase of the number of
 "shipping visiting the Port for repairs and
 "provisions. And perhaps the most impor-
 "tant improvement of all was the establish-
 "ment of a regular bi-monthly mail communi-
 "cation with Monto Video by means of the
 "Schooner "Foam". It must have been
 "gratifying to your Excellency to have watched
 "this progress in the Colony, and your
 "Excellency may be sure that your efforts
 "to promote the general good and prosperity
 "of the Colony will be long and gratefully
 "remembered. I would ask to add my
 "personal wishes for your Excellency's welfare
 "and happiness in your new government."

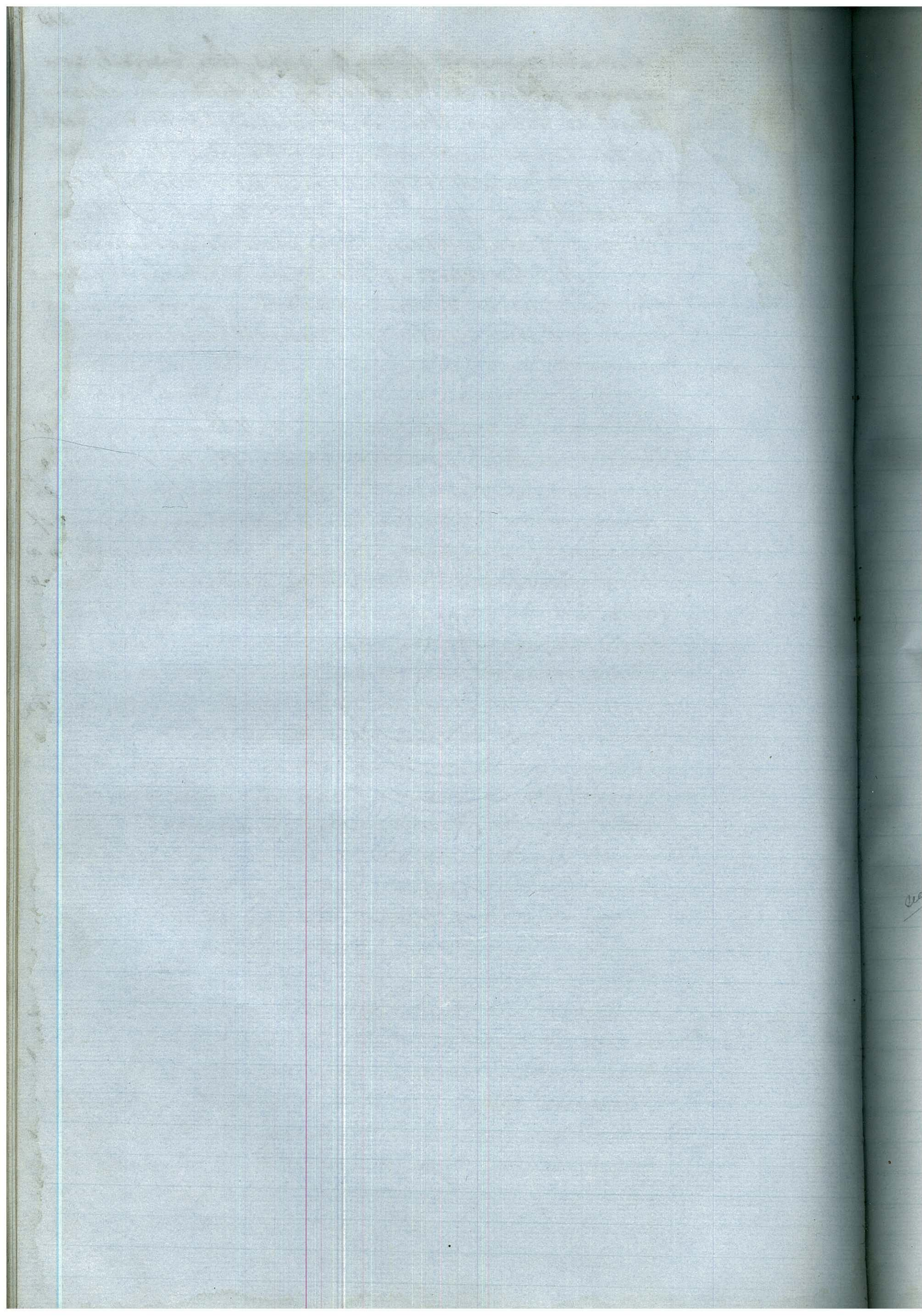
Mr. Griffiths said "he would not allude
 "to the statistics of the Colony, as he was not so
 "well able to judge of its progress as Mr. Fynes
 "was, but begged to express his thanks for the
 "courtesy and kindness shown to him personally
 "by the Governor, and to congratulate him
 "upon his appointment to a Colony of
 "higher importance."

Mr. Bailey rose to thank his Excellency
 "for the great kindness he had always shown to
 "him both officially and personally. — he said
 "that he quite agreed with Mr. Fynes's remarks
 "regarding the prosperity of the Colony and alluded
 "particularly to the important advantages
 "to be anticipated from sheep farming which
 "was so rapidly increasing."

On the proposal of Mr. Griffiths the Council were desirous before His Excellency the Governor adjourned them, to express their sincere thanks to His Excellency for his uniform courtesy and kindness to the Members, and to offer him their cordial congratulations upon his appointment by the Queen to an office of greater importance.

His Excellency then thanked the Members for their kind sentiments and good wishes and adjourned the Council sine die.

H. Byng
Secy to the Council



Executive Council.

Monday. 27th August. 1866.

Present.

His Excellency Governor Robinson.
The Honorable E.R. Griffiths
" W.R. Pyne.
" A Bailey.

The Minutes of the last preceding meeting were read and confirmed.

The Governor then stated "that the object for which I have assembled you today is for the purpose of laying before you a letter I have received from a Mr. Waldron who is desirous of taking up a large tract of land on the West Falkland Island, for the purposes of Sheep farming, and as a compliance with Mr. Waldron's request would necessitate some alteration in the Proclamation of the 4th April 1861, I am desirous of obtaining your opinions and advice on the Subject."

Mr. Waldron's letter dated 14th August 1866 was then read by direction of the Governor.

His Excellency said he was aware that the Council had the subject of the occupation of Land under their consideration before, and he thought that perhaps the most convenient way to make known to them his views in the matter, which he had formed after much careful deliberation and back-reading of Official records would be to read to them a despatch he had drafted on the subject, addressed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, after which he would invite the Members (whose local experience was of course greater than His Excellency's) to express their opinion upon the subject, and to say how far they considered it might be desirable to entertain Mr. Waldron's proposal.

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or how far it might be desirable to abide by the existing Regulations.

Despatch N^o. 7 dated 28th August 1866 was read accordingly.

After some slight discussion Mr. Payne, said
 "I rise to express my entire concurrence with the
 "general views which your Excellency has taken of the
 "question of occupation of Land in the Colony. ~
 "And I especially concur in that portion of your
 "Excellency's despatch where it is so explicitly made
 "clear that the proposed alteration of the Proclamation
 "of 1861 is not so much intended as a corrective
 "measure but rather as an extension of a
 "regulation which has hitherto been found so
 "effectual for its purpose. One of the principal
 "objects of the Original Proclamation was to
 "promote and encourage sheep farming and if
 "I understand your Excellency correctly it is
 "partly because this object has been so well
 "attained that your Excellency considers it
 "desirable to divest the present Proclamation
 "of such prohibitory provisions as will enable
 "it to continue in the good work it has begun.
 "I have no doubt but that the course your Excellency
 "has proposed will meet with general approbation
 "in the Colony, for it is admitted on all sides
 "that the present Regulation is sound and good
 "in as far as it extends; and no person could
 "contend that because a regulation is good
 "it shall therefore not be made better. It is
 "to my mind clearly desirable that every
 "inducement should be given to draw capitalists
 "from other quarters, and it is equally clear
 "that the present Proclamation as it stands is too
 "cramped to meet the views of persons like Mr.
 "Waldron who may be desirous to commence
 "farming operations on a larger scale."

Mr. Griffiths remarked that "he thought
 "the principal object of the Proclamation of 1861,
 "was to prevent persons holding any large

"tract

tract of lands whatever." It was explained to him that that Proclamation had particularly in view the prevention of large tracts of land being taken up solely for the purpose of exclusion and not being made use of in any way, but providing that every lease should be conditional on actual occupation and stocking with Cattle or Sheep.

Then after some further discussion Mr Griffiths said that he quite agreed with His Excellency's views on the general subject before them.

Mr Bailey stated that he thought that the Lessees of Land should be prevented from killing the Cattle on those lands because that the sole object of many in taking up districts, was for the purpose of exterminating the Cattle thereon by a nominal payment of £5 or £10 per annum.

Mr Pyne observed that the Lessees of Land "had an undoubted right to destroy the Cattle on their Stations since a recent decision of the Privy Council had declared those animals to be *feræ naturæ*, and it had not been thought desirable to enact any law to prevent their destruction."

Mr Bailey said that "he quite agreed with the opinions that had been expressed and with His Excellency's propositions;" and the Members expressed their unanimous opinions that it would be unwise to reject Mr. Waldron's proposal for a Lease of 42,000 acres on the West Falkland Island, but that the existing Proclamation should be maintained as regards the Eastern Island.

The Governor stated he would forward a copy of the Minutes of the Meeting to the Secretary of State, and His Excellency thanked the Members for the consideration they had given the subject and expressed his pleasure

at

at meeting the Members of this Council for the first time, and said he trusted that the same friendly feelings which now characterized their Private and Official intercourse might continue to exist throughout his term of service in the Colony.

His Excellency then said - "Gentlemen before dismissing you I have one more subject to bring under your notice, a renewed application from Mr Pyne for leave of absence. This application was made about 5 months ago to my predecessor Governor Mackenzie, and this Council unanimously decided that the grounds of Mr Pyne's application were amply sufficient to entitle him to the leave required. My predecessor however for reasons of his own did not grant that leave. Mr Pyne has renewed this application to me and I propose that the leave should be granted."

The Council unanimously agreed to His Excellency's proposal.

After which the Governor adjourned the Council sine die.

A. Pyne
Clerk to the Council.

Oath of Member of Executive Council.

I Henry Byng do swear that I will in the
Place and Office of Member of the Executive Council
of the Falkland Islands well and faithfully serve
and assist the Governor of the said Islands for the time
being with my best advice, and that I will keep
secret the secret debates of the said Council.
So help me God.

Oath of Clerk of Executive Council.

I Edward Packe do swear that as Clerk to the Executive
Council I will keep secret the secret debates of the said
Council, and faithfully enter all proceedings, deliberations,
acts, votes, and resolutions, of the said Council, accord-
ing to such direction as I shall receive from the said
Council.
So help me God.

Executive Council

Wednesday. December 5th 1866.

Present: - H.E. Governor Robinson.
E. Griffiths Esq.
A. Bailey Esq.
H. Byng Esq.

The Council met in pursuance of summons.
The Oath of Office was administered to H. Byng Esq.
as Member of the Council.
The Oath of Office was administered to Edward
Packe Esq. as Clerk to the Council.

His Excellency the Governor in addressing the
Council said that the first subject he would bring
before the notice of the Members was in connection with
the Welsh settlers in the neighbourhood of the Chupat
River.

River, Patagonia: it was well known that these settlers had represented themselves to be in a wretched condition and destitute of all the necessities of life, and consequently steps had been and were being taken to alleviate their sufferings. His Excellency had received a letter (see Letter Book ^{Vol. 15} 30 Oct. 1866.) from Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Buenos Aires, which he would read to the Council, and would then enquire of the Members their opinions with regard to the expediency of inviting a certain number of well conducted men and women to take up their abode in these Islands, and would wish to hear the opinions of the Council on the number of such men and women likely to meet with continuous employment here. His Excellency would suggest that the question should be judged from a labourer's point of view, rather than from that likely to be taken by employers of labour who would naturally wish, by means of increasing the number of inhabitants, to lower the rate of wages. His Excellency then read the letter above referred to, and after a short deliberation:

The Members were unanimously of opinion that it would not be advisable to import any specified number of men as likely to obtain continuous work, as in the event of such men (or any of them) being for a time out of employment, they would have some grounds to consider themselves, in a manner, under the protection of, and consequently dependent on, the local Government; but that 5 or 6 female domestic servants would be readily employed.

The Members would advise His Excellency, in answer to Mr. Mathew's letter, to invite the attention of the Welsh settlers to the fact of the high rate of wages obtained in Stanley, and would leave it to themselves to determine whether they would come, on the chance of being employed, or not.

His Excellency then said that the second point, which he would wish the Members of the Council to consider and advise him upon, was - the very unsatisfactory terms of the license issued to Sealers and others for the outlying Islands - Grand and Heeple Jason. He had

received

applications from the holders of Occupation licenses for these Islands, to allow them to take out leaves without first stocking, as is necessary by the terms of the Proclamation of 1861, on the ground of the unsuitability of the islands (which are entirely destitute of grass) for Grazing Stations. The Object of the licenses is to obtain oil from Penguins. It seemed to His Excellency unfair to insist on the terms of the Proclamation being strictly adhered to and he invited the advice of the Executive Council as to what would be the most desirable course he should pursue. Mr. Bailey thought it would be best to increase the rental of these islands and to rent them year by year; that at the expiration of the year granted in the Occupation license, the islands, if not stocked according to the strict terms of the Proclamation under which the license was issued, should revert to the Crown, and that each year the rent of such islands should be sold by Public Auction: it was absolutely necessary that occasionally the Penguins should have a rest of a year or more and it would then be in the power of the Government to let or not to let as might be thought right.

The Governor thanked the Members for their attendance and would take their advice into his consideration. His Excellency then adjourned the Council sine die.

Edward Packe
 Clerk to the Council.