

Executive Council

Monday 22nd April 1872

Present -

H. E. Colonel D. Hey Governor
The Honble St. John's Rep
" " H. N. Watts Esq. M.D.
" " C. C. Turpin Esq.

The Council met pursuant
to summons.

The Governor introduced to
the Council, Mr. Travis, to act
as Honorary Clerk; he was
sworn in accordingly. Mr.
Hurst having proceeded to
Buenos Ayres on six months' leave
of absence from the Governor.

The Minutes of the last
Meeting were read and confirmed,
the Governor then said

" This Settlement has been
singularly free from the
calamity of fire dwelling
house taking fire. The
first occasion of any
moment

"moment took place, I
am sorry to say, in
Government House on
the afternoon of Friday
the 22nd of March at
past 5 when suddenly
the garret bedroom over
the dining room was
found to be in flames,
and so dense and over-
powering was the smoke
in the very narrow con-
fined staircase which
led to the room, that
it was impossible to
enter it. By the
prompt aid of the Garrison
and the Inhabitants, the
fire as you know was
got under, not, however,
until the room in question
and the roof of the
dining room were destroyed.

When we take into
consideration the high
winds we are so
constantly liable to,
together with the fact
that nearly all the houses
of Stanley are built of
wood

"wood, I think the time has arrived to legislate for the contingency, so that we may organize the means we have at hand promptly to stamp out fires, otherwise the whole town of Stanley might some day be in ashes!

I have drawn up a short Ordinance according to the experience I have gained in other Colonies for your consideration, involving but little expense on the Government. It is now for us to consider whether this is a fit and proper measure to introduce to the Legislative Council."

The Council after some little discussion agreed nemine contra-dicente that the measure was fit and proper to be taken to the Legislative Council.

The Governor then drew the attention of the Council to the proposed

proposed Savings Bank Ordinance
and said,

"Ever since my arrival
in the Colony I have seen
the great necessity for
establishing a Savings Bank
so as to prevent the
notorious wasteful expenditure
of hard earned wages which
the Inhabitants indulge in
so prejudicial to their
interests; we hear constantly
stories how Shepherds, Sealers,
and others arrive in Stanley
with their accumulated wages
say Thirty or Forty pounds £30 - £40.
on the Saturday, and on the
Monday they are in a
helpless state of intoxication
without a shilling in their
possession! The people
of the town, in every
particular, have the same
habits as the Inhabitants
of our sea-port towns in
the United Kingdom; and
where can you find a
more thoughtless set of
people in the world, or

"a more dissipated? as the saying is, 'earning like horses what they spend like asses' - until good men like Capt. Sir Wm. Hall Bart. and others gave their time and talents to ameliorate their condition by the foundation of Sailors' Homes and Savings' Banks; soon a very different state of things followed in England and the poor ignorant men are grateful to their superiors for leading them away from vice and its attendant misery to habits of thrift and prudence.

Let us in the same manner here in Stanley show the people that this Colonial Government is in loco parentis, and without any over legislation make it easy for the ignorant and improvident to place in safety, and out of temptation their hard earned savings.

I have drawn up
the

"the draft Ordinance
from the Imperial Savings
Bank Act modified
somewhat to suit our
local exigencies, and it
is for this Council to
pronounce whether it
is a fit and proper
measure to introduce
to the Legislative Council.

The draft Ordinance was then read
and after some discussion, all
the Members agreed that it was
a measure fit and proper to be
laid before the Legislative Council.

The Council then adjourned
sine die. —

G. Traoré
Acting Clerk to the Council

Executive Council

Thursday 5th December 1872.

Present

His Excellency Colonel D'Arey Governor
 The Hon^{ble} Stirling Esq.
 " " St. J. Watts Esq. M.D.
 " " C. C. Turpin Esq.

The Council met pursuant
 to summons -

The Minutes of the last
 Meeting were read and confirmed.

His Excellency then said

"The business before us
 this afternoon is but that
 of detail involving no
 principle. To save
 the residents of Darwin the
 trouble of riding into
 Stanley to register their
 children, I was desirous of
 appointing a Registrar for
 the little town, but although
 the Registration Ordinance gives
 the Governor the power to

appoint
 a Deputy

"a Deputy Registrar in Stanley no provision has been made to enable him to appoint one for Darwin. I am rather inclined however to think that it does by implication give me that power in the second clause, if you think with me then it will not be necessary to pass the Amendment Ordinance which I have here in draft."

Mr Ryng said

"he had doubts as to whether His Excellency had the power (under the Registration Ordinance) to appoint a Registrar at Darwin in the absence of a law to that effect and thought as the present law hereby empowered the Governor to appoint a Registrar only at Stanley and a Deputy in the event of illness, absence,

"or incapacity of any Registrar, that any future dispute that may arise on this point would once for all be settled by the proposed amendment of the Registration Ordinance"

The Members agreed that this was a fit and proper measure to lay before the Legislative Council.

The Governor then said

"In consequence of the Captain of the Portuguese Schooner signing a false Report admitting thereby vessels into the town, it becomes necessary to make the quarantine regulations more stringent and to carry out this desideratum, I wish to incorporate a recent Act of Parliament into our Colonial Statute Book that of 30 and 31 Victoria - Cap 124."

After some discussion the Members agreed

agreed that this was a proper measure to be placed before the Legislative Council.

The Governor then drew the attention of the Council to the sheep farming interests and said

"we now come to a short Ordinance as an amendment of the Sheep Ordinance of 1867 providing a clause with a penalty for its infringement preventing Owners of stock driving flocks infected with the scab over the lands of their neighbours without due notice to the Owners or Occupiers thereof, this has been rendered necessary in consequence of an application from Mr Edward Vicks to have a road proclaimed from No 1 Station thro Mr Waldron's Station to Port Bay

Incidentally I became aware some time ago that

"that a trifling pastoral
 jealousy had sprung up
 between Mehu E. Packe and
 the Waldrons - the old
 story - one alleged his
 flocks were pure as the
 driven snow but that
 his neighbor's flocks were
 tainted with the scab!
 shortly afterwards Mr E.
 Packe applied to me to
 proclaim a road through
 Mr Waldron's Station in
 order that the flocks from
 No 1 Station might be
 driven to Fox Bay where
 there is a dip. I
 hesitated and took advice
 and both Mehu Pyng and
 Bailey were of opinion
 that it would be impossible
 to grant permission unless
 this clause was added
 to the Ordinance, after
 which time a road might
 be proclaimed. The
 clause compels each Lessee
 to give 'so many days'
 warning before he can
 "use the road, to enable
 the

"The Owner of the ground through which the flocks travel to remove his stock out of the way: at first sight it appears hard upon a Lessee that he cannot drive his flocks by land to be dipped or shorn, and yet again the injury which might accrue from contagion with healthy flocks might be very serious."

Mr Byng said

"he thought by passing this Bill it would be legislating for the interests of one individual."

Doctor Watts said

"in his opinion it would be the means of spreading an infectious disease and that prevention was better than cure."

His Excellency seeing that the measure was thus unanimously opposed announced his intention of not placing the clause as an amendment to

to the Sheep Ordinance, on the
Legislative table.

The Governor then said

"Finally we come to an
"amendment of the Wreck
and Salvage Ordinance, a
draft clause to admit
wrecked property free of duty,
it having been found in the
case of the "Antonia" that
the duty swallowed up all
the proceeds of the sale, the
cargo consisting of Spirits,
leaving but a small sum
for the Underwriters and Owners.

It becomes a question
"how this Ordinance may
interfere with the interests
of the only two houses
who import Wines and Spirits,
it certainly will have the
effect of keeping their
valuable stock longer on
hand, yet again they will
probably be the principal
purchasers of the wrecked
"Spirits.

The revenue will I
"fear slightly suffer from
"this

"this liberality yet
"the advantages arising
"to the Port are manifest.

The Member thought it would
tend to raise the good name of
the Port and agreed with His
Excellency that in the case of the
wrecked property ex "Antonia" it
did appear hard that the share
of the Owners and Underwriters should
be so small compared to the Salvage,
yet the Underwriters might think
themselves fortunate in getting even
One hundred and sixty pounds (£160) L/100
when they remembered that the wreck
took place on the barren, uninhabited
and inhospitable shores of Patagonia.

The Member agreed nomine
contradicente that the measure was
fit and proper to be laid before
the Legislative Council.

The Council was then adjourned
sine die, -

Jos. Travis
Acting Secy to the Council -

Executive Council

Monday 9th December 1872

Present

His Excellency Colonel D'Arcy Governor
 The Honble Mr. Byng Esq.
 " Mr. Wallis Esq. M.D.
 " C. F. Turpin Esq.

The Council met pursuant to
 summons.

The Minutes of the last Meeting
 were read and confirmed.
 The Governor then said.

"I was informed shortly
 "after we dispersed last
 "Thursday that the admittance
 "of wrecked spirits and wines
 "free of duty would be
 "opposed by the Merchants,
 "on the reasonable grounds
 "that parties at Montevideo
 "or Buenos Ayres might
 "under cover of the con-
 "sideration introduce a
 "cargo into the Port on
 "the plea of its being
 "wrecked

"wrecked and so
underwell the Merchant
with his datiable stock
on hand, to prevent
unnecessary opposition
in the Legislative Council
I have introduced a
clause in the proposed
Ordinance which I
think will meet our
requirements.

Mr Byng said

"he thought it was
very unlikely any parties
would bring a wrecked
cargo to the Falkland
Islands from Montevideo
as the same could be
so much more advantageously
sold in the River Plate;
moreover, the Governor
has already the power
to remit the duty, at
his discretion.

Doctor Watts concurred with Mr Byng.

The Governor said the Merchants
of the place had commented on this
contingency, and it was with the
view

view of legislating for the same
that he had summoned them.

After some further discussion
it was agreed to lay the measure
before the Legislative Council.

His Excellency then spoke of the
intemperate habits of the Settlers
and said

"The recent sudden death
"of Henry Flinton van Zandt
"in a state of intoxication
"on board the schooner 'Eagle'
"forcibly brings to my
"recollection that during the
"three years I have been in
"the Colony no less than
"five human Beings have
"lost their lives, having in
"the same sad state fallen
"off the jetties at night
"when attempting to board
"their vessels, and on a
"careful compilation with the
"keeper of his records we
"found that during his
"sojourn in the Colony no
"less than twenty two have
lost

"lost their lives from the
"same cause more or
"less; this is all very
"deplorable and loudly
"calls for the interference
"of the Government.

"We have not the
"recent Acts of Parliament
"as a guide but if I
"may judge from the
"press, Publicans are now
"liable to a heavy penalty
"if they serve liquor to
"an intoxicated Customer.
"But I have gleaned from
"some Colonial Acts a
"few clauses which I
"think will nearly meet
"our requirements.

"It appears that the
"last thing at night on
"closing the public houses
"the crews of vessels
"our own Schooners especially
"are in the habit of
"individually purchasing
"a bottle of spirits to take
"on board to finish up
"the night with; such

"such determined intoxication
 "is sufficient to caused the
 "frequent loss of life now
 "before us.

"Such a practice we
 "might at least prohibit
 "under penalty and in the
 "event of this amendment
 "Ordinance being passed it
 "will become imperative on
 "the Government entertaining
 "an additional foretable in
 "order that drunken men
 "might be apprehended night
 "or day and fined according
 "to the law already in
 "existence or perhaps in
 "greater severity.

"Furthermore so serious
 "do I think of this evil
 "and how necessary and
 "incumbent it is for us
 "to endeavour to lead the
 "people especially the sailors
 "away from their intemperate
 "habits that I purpose
 "inviting the Society to
 "meet me at Government
 "House to discuss the
 expediency

"expediency of establishing
"a Sailors' Home in this
"town, where they may
"be able to obtain a warm
"meal. Such an
"Institution will require
"the aid of Government and
"the aid of the community
"whose social status
"places them intellectually
"so much above the people.
"Afterwards it will be
"I hope self supporting
"and remain a permanent
"benefit to those who "go
"down to the sea in ships"
"and occupy their business"
"in great waters."

The Members entirely coincided with
the Governor, deplored the prevailing
habit of drunkenness, and agreed
that the measure was fit and proper
to be placed before the Legislative
Council.

The Governor concluded the meeting
by asking the advice of the Council
on the necessity of prosecuting the
matter

Master of the schooner "Lucataya" Thomas Howard, - for signing a false return to the effect that the vessel under his command was exempt from sickness whereas he must have known that one of his passengers was suffering from measles, which disease has since spread in the Settlement, especially amongst the children.

D^r Watts feared there might be a difficulty of getting a conviction.

W^r Byng agreed with D^r Watts ^{on the difficulty of getting a conviction,} but it was necessary at any rate to make some demonstration or public protest against the infraction of the law, so as to deter other Masters of vessels from attempting to follow out their own ends to the detriment of the community.

The Council was then adjourned sine die.

By Travis
Acting Clerk of Council.

Executive Council

Monday 30th December 1872

Present

His Excellency Colonel D'Arcy Governor

Mr. H. H. Poyne
" W. W. Watt Esq.
" A. Bailey.

The Members met pursuant to
summons.

The Minutes of the last meeting
were read and confirmed.
The Governor said

" In a few days the Bishop
will be leaving us. During
the six months he has been
acting for the Colonial Chaplain
his Lordship has worked a
great reform in the Govern-
-ment School by the organiza-
-tion of the ministerial system.
Parents complained that after
two years attendance their children
could not read or write; on
the Bishop's looking into this
grievance

"grievance he found that
 W. Clarke could not possibly
 attend to 100 children, the
 elder boys and girls in fact
 monopolized his time;
 with great diligence and
 care and some expense from
 his private means the Bishop
 carefully weeded out all those
 children who could not write
 or read, classified and handed
 them over to female monitors
 whom he daily instructed,
 the consequence is that now
 the reproach is removed
 from the school and things
 are, most hopeful. I
 therefore have the honour
 of proposing that the
 thanks of the Council be
 given to His Lordship for
 his untiring zeal and
 perseverance in carrying
 out so good a work."

The Members admitted that the Bishop had laboured
 successfully and agreed with His Excellency that the
 thanks of the Council, in parchment, should be
 presented to His Lordship.

The Council was then adjourned sine die.

Geo. Francis
 Clerk to the Council