

On Mr. Speaker resuming the chair, the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again, and also that the committee had adopted the following resolutions, and recommended the same to the House:—

- (1.) Native Land Purchase Department:—That, on consideration of his Excellency's Message, recommending the expenditure on account of the Native Land Purchase Department, That, having reference to former resolutions of this House, according to which the Land Fund became Provincial revenue from the 1st July last, the Governor be authorized during the ensuing year to provide from time to time, under the advice of his responsible ministers, out of the temporary loan of £100,000, whatever may be required by him for payment of charges incidental to the purchase of Native Lands.

That, during the ensuing year, the Governor be authorized to provide out of such temporary loan whatever sums may be required for the purchase of Native Lands, not exceeding £40,000, including the above mentioned charges of Departments; such sums to be expended in accordance with the terms of relation settled between the Governor and his responsible ministers, and the financial resolutions adopted by this House on the 2nd July; the definition of the particular lands to be purchased to be under the advice of responsible ministers.

Question, That the foregoing resolution be adopted by this House, put and passed.

- (2.) Land Purchases and Surveys:—That, in the opinion of this House, in reference to the last resolution, the final decision upon any such new purchases should not be taken without previous communication with, and as far as possible, the concurrence of, the Superintendent of any Province in which such purchases are made.

That, in the opinion of this House, it is not expedient to attach a surveying staff to the Native Land Purchase Department, but that the necessary surveys should, as far as practicable, be effected by, or in conjunction with, the respective Provincial authorities.

Question, That the foregoing resolution be adopted by this House, put and passed.

- (3.) Houses of Assembly:—That the Governor be authorized to pay the sum of fifteen pounds, the charges for fencing and enclosing the land on which the General Assembly buildings stand.

Question, That the foregoing resolution be adopted by this House, put and passed.

6. A Message from the Legislative Council having been duly announced, Mr. Speaker was presented with the Resident Magistrates' Courts Extension of Jurisdiction Bill, and the Local Posts Bill, as amended in the Legislative Council.

7. Resident Magistrates' Courts Extension of Jurisdiction Bill:—On motion of Mr. Hall, the amendments by the Legislative Council in this Bill were read and adopted by the House, and Mr. Hall and the Colonial Treasurer were ordered to signify the same to the Legislative Council.

8. Local Posts Bill:—On motion of the Colonial Treasurer, the amendments by the Legislative Council in this Bill were read and adopted by the House, and the Colonial Treasurer and Mr. Beckham were ordered to signify the same to the Legislative Council.

9. Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1856-7:—On motion of the Colonial Treasurer, Mr. Speaker left the chair, the House resolving itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the original, supplementary, and additional Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1856-57.

On Mr. Speaker resuming the chair, the Chairman reported that the committee had gone through the various items in the supplementary Estimates for the year 1855-56, and in the original and revised Estimates for the year 1856-57, as well as the additional items proposed by his Excellency the Governor in Messages Nos. 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 44, 45, and 46, to be appropriated for the service of the year 1856-57, and brought up the following resolutions:—

- (1.) Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1856-57:—

1. Resolved, that a sum not exceeding £4782 1s be appropriated to defray the salaries, allowances, and contingencies of the Executive Department of the General Government for the year 1856-57, being £888 16s for the establishment of his Excellency the Governor, £993 5s for the Colonial Secretary's Department, £250 for the Colonial Treasurer's Department, £350 for the Auditor-General's Department, £300 for extra clerical assistance for the three last above-named Departments, £1500 for the Native Secretary's Department, and £500 for the Registrar-General's Department.

2. Resolved, that a sum not exceeding £6029 be appropriated to defray the salaries and allowances of the Legislative Department of the General Government for the year 1856-57, being £829 for the establishment of the Legislative Council, £4200 for the Establishment of the House of Representatives, and £1000 for printing and general contingencies for both Houses.

3. Resolved, that a sum not exceeding £700 be appropriated to defray the additional salaries and allowances of the Judges of the Supreme Court for the year 1856-57.

4. Resolved, that a sum not exceeding £1375 be appropriated to defray the salaries and contingencies of the Departments of the several Registrars of the Supreme Court for the years

1856-57,