

September, 1864, this colony, in two years four months and eleven days, received £109,902 19s. 6d., and in the subsequent five years £300,000—in all, £409,902 19s. 6d., not one penny of which would have been paid if the Victorian Government could have prevented it. It is my desire that our Treasury should receive the duties to which it is fairly entitled, and no energy has been—no energy shall be—spared on my part to secure to this heavily-taxed community the entire sum that those duties amount to. It would have been easy for the Government to have accepted the resolution moved by Mr. Jennings, and so have avoided the possibility of a crisis on this border question. But we thought it was our duty rather to stand by what we considered to be the public interest, and refuse, under any circumstances, to leave open to the hazard of dispute and disagreement a portion of the public income, about our right to which there could have existed no possibility of doubt. This Government has throughout acted liberally and in good faith with Victoria. My colleagues and I have acted with firmness also, and we feel assured that, in taking the stand we have done, we shall be supported by the country.

I am, &c.,

JAMES MARTIN.

To the electors of East Sydney.

(E.)

WEDNESDAY, 26th JUNE, 1872.

12. *Border Duties Convention Bill*.—The adjourned debate on the motion of Mr. Parkes, "That this Bill be now read a second time," resumed.

Question put. The House divided.

*Ayes*, 37.—Mr. Parkes, Mr. Butler, Mr. Farnell, Mr. Piddington, Mr. Innes, Mr. Sutherland, Mr. Nelson, Mr. G. A. Lloyd, Mr. Bawden, Mr. Tunks, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Driver, Mr. McLaurin, Mr. Scholey, Mr. Hoskins, Mr. Single, Mr. Nowlan, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Jacob, Mr. Neale, Mr. Forster, Mr. Moses, Mr. Macleay, Mr. Greville, Mr. Lee, Mr. Hurley (Narellan), Mr. Oakes, Mr. Grahame, Mr. Rodd, Mr. Taylor, Mr. De Salis, Mr. Teece, Mr. W. C. Browne. *Tellers*: Mr. Creed, Mr. Burns.

*Noes*, 17.—Sir James Martin, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Lord, Mr. J. S. Smith, Mr. West, Mr. Booth, Mr. Macintosh, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Hill, Mr. Warden, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Hannell, Mr. R. B. Smith, Mr. Coombes, Mr. Lackey. *Tellers*: Mr. Garrett, Mr. Stewart.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative. Bill read a second time.

(F.)

WEDNESDAY, 24th JULY, 1872.

9. *Border Duties Convention Bill*.—The adjourned debate, on motion of Mr. Samuel, That this Bill be now read a second time, upon which Mr. Docker had moved, by way of amendment, That the question be amended by the omission of the word "now," with a view to add at the end the words "this day six months," resumed.

Question put, That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the question. The House divided.

*Ayes*, 8.—Mr. Samuel, Mr. Allen, Mr. Hay, Mr. Owen, Mr. Alexander Campbell, Mr. Weekes. *Tellers*: Mr. Blaxland, Mr. Holt.

*Noes*, 9.—Mr. Docker, Sir William Macarthur, Mr. Moore, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Park, Mr. John Campbell, Mr. Byrnes. *Tellers*: Mr. Lord, Mr. Darley.

*Point of Order*.—Upon the question being proposed, That the words "this day six months," proposed to be added at the end of the question, be there added, an honourable member offered to amend the proposed amendment by omitting the words "six months," and adding the word "week" in lieu thereof.

The President stated that, in his opinion, the amendment thus proposed was irregular, but that if the House negatived the addition to the question of the words "this day six months," any honourable member might then propose to fill the blank with such other time as he may think fit.

Question then put, That the words proposed to be added at the end of the question be then added. The House divided.

*Ayes*, 9.—Mr. Lord, Mr. Gordon, Mr. John Campbell, Sir William Macarthur, Mr. Docker, Mr. Darley, Mr. Byrnes. *Tellers*: Mr. Park, Mr. Moore.

*Noes*, 8.—Mr. Samuel, Mr. Allen, Mr. Holt, Mr. Hay, Mr. Owen, Mr. Blaxland. *Tellers*: Mr. Alexander Campbell, Mr. Weekes.

Whereupon question, That this Bill be read a second time this day six months, put and passed.

No. 2.

Governor Sir HERCULES ROBINSON to the SECRETARY of STATE for the Colonies.  
(No. 41.)

MY LORD,—

Government House, Sydney, 27th August, 1872.

In my despatch, No. 34, of the 10th instant, I transmitted a minute of the Cabinet on the constitution of the Legislative Council, and promised to communicate in a subsequent despatch my own views on the question which was thus submitted for your Lordship's consideration.

2. I have since perused the correspondence which has passed on this subject from the date of the establishment of the existing Constitution to the present time, and it will perhaps be convenient that I should give here a brief narrative of the facts which are presented by the papers to which I have been enabled to refer.

3. When the Constitution Act (No. 41 of 1853) was under discussion, it was decided, after lengthy deliberation, that the Legislative Council should be a nominated and not an elected Chamber. The Act prescribed also, amongst other provisions, that the minimum number of the