THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 187.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 22ND JULY, 1902.

- 1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Petition.—Sir Langdon Bonython presented a Petition from the South Australian Chamber of Manufactures (Incorporated), under its common seal, praying that the same Customs duties may be imposed upon all importations by the Governments of the Commonwealth and of the States of the Commonwealth as are imposed upon the citizens of the Commonwealth.

 Petition received and read.
- 3. Departure of His Excellency the Governor-General.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had, on the 1st instant, waited upon His Excellency the Governor-General, and had presented to him the Resolution passed by the House on the 20th June last relative to His Excellency's departure, and that His Excellency had been pleased to make the following reply:—

Commonwealth of Australia, Governor-General.

Mr. Speaker,

I am deeply sensible of the high honour which your House has done me in passing the Resolution which you have just handed to me, and I thank the Representatives for their expressions of appreciation of the manner in which I have discharged my duties as the King's Representative during the past eighteen months. The prospect of so shortly terminating my official connexion with the Commonwealth is very painful to me, and I earnestly pray for the prosperity and happiness of the people of Australia.

HOPETOUN,

1st July, 1902.

Governor-General.

4. Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General.—Assent to Bills.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented by Sir George Turner, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker:—

HOPETOUN,

Governor-General.

Message No. 52.

A Bill intituled "An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Four hundred and forty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-two pounds to the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and two," as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House, Melbourne, 19th June, 1902.

HOPETOUN,

Governor-General.

Message No. 53.

A Bill intituled "An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Five hundred and eighty-seven thousand two hundred and nineteen pounds to the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and three," as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Government House, Melbourne, 23rd June, 1902.

5. Adjournment—Motion for Purpose of Discussion.—Mr. O'Malley rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The effect of the new regulation recently issued by the Government affecting the Postal, Telegraph, and Telephone system."

Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise

in their places, and five Members having accordingly risen-

Mr. O'Malley moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

6. Electoral Bill.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House having been read—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Chanter reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to ask, That the Committee may have leave to sit again. Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at two minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow, at half-past two o'clock p.m.

Members Present.—All Members were present except—The Prime Minister* (the Right Honorable Sir Edmund Barton, P.C., G.C.M.G.), the Minister of Defence* (the Right Honorable Sir John Forrest, P.C., G.C.M.G.), the Honorable Sir Philip Fysh, K.C.M.G., the Right Honorable Sir Edward Braddon, P.C., K.C.M.G., Messrs. Cameron, Chapman,* Conroy, Cruickshank,* R. Edwards, Ewing, Fisher,* Fuller, A. C. Groom, Harper, Hughes, Kennedy, Kirwan, Knox,* Macdonald-Paterson, McCay, Sir Malcolm McEacharn, Mr. F. E. McLean, Sir William McMillan, K.C.M.G., Messrs. Sawers, Bruce Smith, Sydney Smith, Spence, Thomas, Wilkinson, Wilks, and William Willis.

* On leave.

C. GAVAN DUFFY, Clerk of the House of Representatives.