

# SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Wednesday, the 27th day of September, 1871.

1. Hon. Mr. GISBORNE, in Committee, to move the following clauses in lieu of clauses 6 to 11, inclusive, of Highway Boards Empowering Bill:—

The Governor may from time to time appoint officers to be called Rate Inspectors for any one or more Highway District or Districts and may fix the salary to be paid to every such Rate Inspector not exceeding in any case the sum of £            per annum. Rate Inspectors to be appointed.

The duties of every Rate Inspector shall be as follows:— Their duties.

- (1.) To examine every valuation and every estimate of acreage and measurement of all ratable property within every Highway District for which he is appointed made for the purpose of rating and to hear all objections thereto and to hear the governing body of the district in support thereof and to amend every such valuation and estimate in accordance with his decision thereon.
- (2.) To examine and inquire into the fairness justice and legal validity of every rate made for any Highway District or part of any Highway District and in like manner to hear all objections and the governing body and to amend such rate in accordance with his decision thereon.
- (3.) Whenever in his opinion it shall be necessary for the decision of any question coming before him to determine any difficult question of law and the matter appears to him of sufficient importance to state a case in writing with the privity of the objector and of the governing body for the opinion of the Supreme Court sitting at such place as he shall deem most convenient for the contending parties and when such question of law has been determined by the judgment of the said Court to make his decision in accordance therewith and if need be to act upon the same by amending any valuation estimate or rate.

Every Rate Inspector shall have the following powers:—

- (1.) To determine the times and places at which he will hear questions coming before him and to adjourn his sittings from time to time. Their powers.
- (2.) To administer oaths to every person who shall appear to give evidence before him.
- (3.) To fine every person who shall be insolent to him while sitting in discharge of his duties or who shall in his presence while so sitting behave in a disorderly manner in any sum not exceeding five pounds for each offence and every such fine shall be a debt to the Crown recoverable by process under "The Crown Debts Act 1866."

There shall be no appeal from any decision of a Rate Inspector nor shall any proceedings before or by him be removed by *certiorari* or otherwise into the Supreme Court. Decisions of Rate Inspector final.

The remuneration of every Rate Inspector shall be a first charge upon and be paid out of the rates made in the Highway District for which he is appointed or if he be appointed for more than one such district then his salary shall be paid out of the rates of the several districts for which he is appointed in shares to be fixed by the Governor. Salaries to be paid out of rates.

When any case is stated by a Rate Inspector for the opinion of the Supreme Court the Court shall appoint a day for considering the same and may hear Counsel for the persons and body respectively interested in maintaining the affirmative and negative of the questions raised in such case and may make such order as to payment of costs by the persons and body interested as to the said Court shall seem just. Argument of case in Supreme Court.

2. Mr. BRADSHAW to move, when in Committee of Supply on the Estimates:—

That the item £14,575, chargeable on Land Fund (Gold Fields Revenue), for Officers' Salaries on Gold Fields, be reduced by a half, or the sum of £7,287 10s.