

Opening of the New Courthouse at Inverell.

INVERELL, MONDAY.

Judge Murray arrived here at half-past 10 o'clock last night, having ridden from Emmaville on horseback, a distance of 48 miles. The furniture from the old courthouse has been removed into the new building for the present. Punctually at 10 o'clock this morning his Honor opened the new Courthouse with the District Court business. Mr. Harris, the Crown Prosecutor, and Mr. Forster, barrister, were present, as also a number of local legal gentlemen. His Honor looked fatigued after his

long journey on the previous day over bad roads. Upon the Judge taking his seat on the bench, Mr. Mayne, on behalf of the members of the legal profession, congratulated his Honor upon having so far recovered his health as to be able to take his seat on that occasion in the new courthouse where, the members of the profession hoped, he would long preside. The Judge thanked Mr. Mayne and the members of the profession he represented for their congratulations and good wishes expressed with regard to himself. He in turn congratulated the district upon the possession of such a handsome building for the administration of justice. The new courthouse might probably be regarded at the present time as somewhat of a white elephant, and he hoped, as far as the number of criminals to be dealt with were concerned, it would always retain that character, not so with civil business, however, because as a rule, the more prosperous a district became, the more numerous were the civil cases. The Government were, perhaps, often justly charged with being ready to lavish money upon public buildings. In this instance, if an apparently large amount had been expended in providing a new court-house, he was glad the outlay had taken place in a district pre-eminently entitled to consideration at the hands of the Government. After having sat about an hour disposing of several undefended cases, his Honor said he would allow the defended cases to stand over until 2 o'clock, when the somewhat icy courthouse would probably be a little more comfortable. His Honor then proceeded to make some strong remarks as to the conduct of the Government in reference to their officers. When he became too ill to work he had to bully the Government in order to obtain any concession, and then only a short leave was granted him. He intended for the future to study his own convenience to a certain extent, because he knew by experience that if he again became incapacitated for work he would have the greatest difficulty in getting adequate leave of absence. When public officers not only performed their duty, but did extra work in order to save expense, and to study the public convenience, they were surely entitled to some credit, but this they did not receive. In his own case he had sat early and late, with the result that his health had broken down. He had received but scant consideration from the authorities, and for the future intended to have some regard for his own health, and to perform his duty but no more. The cases disposed of were of an unimportant character.