

CORPORATION OF PORT ADELAIDE.

A public meeting of persons entitled to be placed upon the citizens' roll of Port Adelaide was held at the Ship Inn on Monday evening, for the purpose of determining upon the persons to be recommended to His Excellency for appointment *ad interim* to the various Corporate offices.

Mr. WILLIAM JAMES, who was unanimously called to the chair, reminded the meeting that a Committee had been appointed, upon a former occasion, to take all requisite steps for bringing the Corporation into operation at the Port. That Committee, pursuant to the instructions then given to it, had presented the necessary petition to His Excellency the Governor, who, as they were all aware from the *Gazette*, had acceded to its prayer by extending the provisions of the Corporation Act to Port Adelaide. It had occurred to the members of the deputation when they waited upon His Excellency with the petition that it would be necessary to give in the names of certain persons to be appointed to the various Corporate offices, and this they had done to the best of their ability; but a letter had since been received from the Crown Solicitor, informing them that names would be required for some further offices besides those which they had thus supplied, and they had then determined to call the citizens together and take their opinions as to the entire number of offices to be temporarily filled. They were all aware from the *Gazette* notice that the Corporate town of Port Adelaide was divided into West Ward and East Ward, the Commercial-road forming the boundary between the two. They would have that night to nominate a Mayor for the entire Corporation, and, for each ward, an Alderman, three Councillors, two Assessors, and a Collector. They would further have to nominate, for the entire Corporation, two Auditors, and a Town Clerk. These had better, perhaps, be taken in their order; and he would first call upon them to nominate a fit person for Mayor.

Mr. GROSSE moved that the meeting should simply elect Councillors, and leave to them the appointment of the Mayor and Aldermen. That would be the system under the Act when the permanent appointments were made, and he saw no reason why the rule so laid down should be departed from.

The CHAIRMAN would leave it entirely to the meeting.

Mr. SMITH preferred the plan the Chairman had suggested. He moved that the meeting proceed at once to the nomination of the Mayor.

Mr. CALTON seconded this. It would be casting their franchise to the wind to leave the appointment of Mayor in the hands of eight men.

The CHAIRMAN thought it proper to explain that there was nothing irregular in Mr. Grosse's motion, though it was not seconded. There was not really any franchise in the case, as they were at present only meeting to recommend persons to His Excellency for appointment; and when the permanent appointments were to be made they would, as Mr. Grosse had said, vest in the Councillors, not in the citizens at large.

MAYOR.

Proposals having been taken for the office of Mayor, the CHAIRMAN called for a show of hands, which resulted as follows:—

Mr. Collinson, proposed by Mr. Anthony	...	18
Captain French, do, Mr. Bower	...	18
Captain France, do, Mr. Grosse	...	7
Captain Simpson, do, Mr. Walter Smith—withdrawn.		

The CHAIRMAN said he would not give a casting vote between the two candidates for whom 18 votes had been recorded, as a second show of hands would bring into operation the seven votes which had been thrown away. He therefore put the two names again, when there appeared for Captain French 21 votes, and for Mr. Collinson 18. The former gentleman was therefore declared elected for nomination as Mayor *ad interim*.

ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS.

Nominations for Councillors were then taken, it being understood that he who had the largest number of votes in each ward would be its Alderman.

The following names were given in for West Ward:—

Mr. Bower	...	35
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The following names were given in for west ward:—

Mr. Bower	...	35
Mr. Walter Smith	...	35
Mr. Grosse	...	30
Mr. Collinson	...	28
Mr. Wooldridge	...	17

A second show of hands was taken, which gave 21 for Mr. Bower, and 20 for Mr. Smith. The nomination therefore stands thus for West Ward:—Alderman, Mr. Bower; Councillors, Messrs. Walter Smith, Grosse, and Collinson.

The following were proposed for East Ward:—

Mr. John Smith (Britannia)	...	39
Captain France	...	26
Mr. Galway	...	23
Mr. Cave	...	21
Mr. Turner	...	18

Mr. John Smith was accordingly declared for nomination as Alderman, and Messrs. France, Galway, and Cave as Councillors.

ASSESSORS.

The meeting next proceeded to appoint two Assessors for West Ward.

Mr. Robert Murray	...	27
Mr. W. F. Webster	...	21
Mr. S. Perry	...	15
Mr. E. Sawtell	...	8

The two first were appointed.

For East Ward the following were proposed:—

Mr. C. Boykett	...	30
Mr. J. Giles	...	29
Mr. D. G. Brock	...	17
Mr. T. Robia	...	14
Mr. Michelmore	...	11

The two first were appointed.

COLLECTORS.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon the meeting to elect a Collector for each ward. This, he explained, was a paid office, and the Collectors would be entrusted with the duty of preparing the citizens' lists. He might remark that it was not at present very clear where the money was to come from for paying these *ad interim* officers.

Mr. Perry was elected for West Ward, and Mr. Graham for East Ward.

AUDITORS.

The CHAIRMAN said the next officers to be nominated were not for the separate wards, but for the entire Corporation. They were the Auditors; but, as it was understood that the *ad interim* Corporation would be without funds, their office would, of course, be only honorary.

Messrs. Ferguson and Calton were appointed, the numbers being—

Mr. Ferguson	...	25
Mr. Calton	...	19
Mr. Reid	...	12
Mr. Sawtell	...	8

TOWN CLERK.

The CHAIRMAN informed the meeting that there was only one other office to be filled up—that of Town Clerk. In answer to an enquiry, he said it was better to appoint a person in the legal profession, but the Act did not make it compulsory.

The only persons nominated were Mr. William Boykett and the Chairman himself, and both immediately withdrew, Captain France being temporarily called upon to preside. He appointed Messrs. Grosse and Walter Smith scrutineers.

A show of hands was then taken with the following result:—

Mr. Boykett	...	33
Mr. James	...	9

Mr. Boykett was accordingly declared for nomination as Town Clerk.

The candidates having returned, and having been informed of the result,

Mr. BOYKETT thanked the meeting for his appointment.

Mr. JAMES also returned thanks to those who had supported him, and reminded all present that he had not canvassed for the office, nor solicited a single vote.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. James for his conduct in the chair, and for the exertions he had used in

A vote of thanks was passed to MR. JAMES for his conduct in the chair, and for the exertions he had used in securing the extension of the Corporation Act to Port Adelaide.

This compliment he briefly acknowledged, and declared the proceedings closed.

ALARM OF FIRE.—On Sunday evening last the police at the Port discovered that some fire had taken effect upon a part of the fence at the back of Mr. Sawtell's premises; but though the dry condition of the ignited wood threatened the adjoining buildings, which are nearly all of the same combustible material, with immediate destruction, by promptly adopting measures to extinguish the flames they saved the Port from a conflagration, which would most probably have destroyed property to a very considerable amount.

SUDDEN DEATH.—A man was found on Saturday morning in a shed near the Company's Mill, evidently in a dying state. By direction of Mr. Stevens he was sent to the Hospital on a dray, but life was discovered to be extinct before the dray arrived there. Dr. Thomas, the Resident Surgeon, made a *post mortem* examination of the body, and at once gave his opinion that death was caused by a rupture of the spleen and internal hemorrhage. Intimation was at once conveyed so the Coroner, who proceeded to the Hospital, and after making some enquiries, and ascertaining the result of the examination, he gave a warrant for the interment of the remains of the poor man. We have not yet heard whether the body has been identified.

THE CONDEMNED ABORIGINALS.—The Acting Sheriff left for Port Lincoln yesterday in the Government schooner Yatala to attend the execution of the four aboriginals under sentence of death for the murder of a shepherd near Franklin Harbour. The condemned prisoners have also gone round in the Yatala under an escort of police. We believe Thursday morning next has been appointed for the execution.

DEPARTURE OF MR. NASH, COLONIAL SURGEON.—The departure of this old colonist on leave of absence has called forth a very warm expression of the estimation in which he has been held, not only by the medical profession of South Australia, but by a large body of his fellow-colonists. In addition to a numerous-attended dinner, including nearly the whole of the medical body, at which he has been entertained, and at which the utmost good feeling and expression of attachment prevailed, his medical brethren have presented to him an address on this, the eve of his departure, of which the following is a copy:—

"Dear Sir—As the time for your departure on leave of absence draws near, we the members of the medical profession of South Australia have thought that to possess a record of the estimation in which you have for a period of 18 years been held would be gratifying to you, have determined to offer you such a tribute of respect.

"The honourable manner in which you have ever upheld the dignity of the profession, the energy, exactitude, and skill with which you have discharged the onerous duties that have devolved on you, and, above all, the courteous and gentlemanly demeanour we have always experienced at your hands, call for our best thanks and approbation. And as a private friend there are few of us who have not reason to regard you with warmer feelings than those arising out of mere professional intercourse.

"We heartily wish you, Mrs. Nash, and family a prosperous voyage to your native land, and when you return to us we feel sure that a welcome awaits you as sincere as the regret that attends your departure.

"We are, dear Sir, your sincere friends.

[Signed by all the medical men.]

"To J. G. Nash, Esq., Colonial Surgeon."

Mr. Nash, with his lady and family, will embark for England this day, having taken passage on board the Irene.

LONDON ART UNION.—A correspondent suggests a fear that the local agent (if any) will be too late in inviting subscribers to the London Art Union this year. As the drawing takes place in March, we think our correspondent's fears are too well founded.

THE LATE GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA.—Yes-

think our correspondent's fears are too well founded.

THE LATE GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA.—Yesterday, at the Port, the Union Jack was hoisted half-mast high on the Government flagstaff, and similar demonstrations of respect for the memory of the late Sir Charles Hotham appeared on board the Government schooner, as well as among the shipping generally.

ACCIDENT AT THE NEW HOSPITAL.—On Monday morning an accident occurred to a poor fellow fellow named James Mitchell, of North Adelaide, brick-layer, while engaged at the building intended for the new Hospital, now in course of erection on North-terrace. It appears that the workmen were mounting the scaffolding by means of an inclined plank, and Mitchell had nearly reached the highest part of the plank, some ten or twelve feet from the ground, before it had been properly secured, when it suddenly gave way. With the endeavour to save themselves Mitchell, and a man who was following him jumped off; but while the latter escaped unhurt, Mitchell twisted his foot and ankle in some way, and sustained a compound fracture of the leg, a little above the ankle joint. He was immediately taken to the Hospital, and remains under the careful treatment of Dr. Thomas.

SECOND SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BUILDING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETY.—Seven and three-quarter shares were sold by this Society last evening at an average price of £35 5s. per share. The entrance fee for the ensuing month was fixed at £6 5s. per share.