



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

OPENING OF THE FIRST
PARLIAMENT

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.



Members of both Houses will meet at the time and place set forth in the Proclamation of the Governor-General.

The Clerk of the Parliaments will read the Proclamation to the Senate.

The Clerk of the House of Representatives will read the Proclamation to that House.

And the Houses will await the arrival of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York and His Excellency the Governor-General.

Who being come :

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York directs the Usher of the Black Rod, through the Clerk of the Parliaments, to let the House of Representatives know that : “ His Royal Highness, authorized by virtue of His Majesty’s Commission, desires the immediate attendance of that Honorable House in this place to hear the Commission read.”

Who being come :

PRAYERS.

PSALM C.

ALL people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice ;
Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell ;
Come ye before Him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed ;
Without our aid He did us make ;
We are His flock, He doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us take.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 The God whom Heaven and earth adore,
 From men and from the Angel-host
 Be praise and glory evermore. *Amen.*

O LORD, our heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, the only Ruler of princes, who dost from Thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth ; Most heartily we beseech Thee with Thy favour to behold our most gracious Sovereign Lord King EDWARD, and so replenish him with the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that he may always incline to Thy will, and walk in Thy way : Endue him plenteously with heavenly gifts, grant him in health and wealth long to live, strengthen him that he may vanquish and overcome all his enemies ; and finally after this life he may attain everlasting joy and felicity, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, the fountain of all Goodness, we humbly beseech Thee to bless our gracious Queen ALEXANDRA, GEORGE Duke of Cornwall and York, the Duchess of Cornwall and York, and all the Royal Family : Endue them with Thy Holy Spirit ; enrich them with Thy Heavenly Grace ; prosper them with all Happiness ; and bring them to Thine everlasting Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ALMIGHTY God, we humbly beseech Thee to regard with thy merciful favour the people of this land, now united in one Commonwealth. We pray for Thy servants the Governor-General, the Governors of the States, and all who are or who shall be associated with them in the administration of their several offices.

We pray Thee at this time to vouchsafe Thy special blessing upon the Federal Parliament now assembling for their first session, and that Thou wouldst be pleased to direct and prosper all their consultations to the advancement of Thy glory and to the true welfare of the people of Australia, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who has taught us when we pray to say—

OUR Father, which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done in Earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation ; But deliver us from evil : For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all, evermore. *Amen.*

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York will address both Houses to the effect that His Majesty King Edward the Seventh has thought fit by Letters Patent under the Royal Sign Manual to give to him full power in His Majesty's name to do or cause to be done all things necessary to the holding of this Parliament as by Letters Patent will more fully appear, which must now be read.

Letters Patent read by the Clerk of the Parliaments.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York will then address to both Houses of the Parliament his Speech declaring the Message of His Most Gracious Majesty the King.

And thereupon His Excellency the Governor-General will address both Houses to the following effect :—

GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE, GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES—

I am desired by His Royal Highness to acquaint you that so soon as the Members of your Houses shall be sworn, and a President of the Senate and a Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be chosen, I will declare to you the causes of this Parliament being called. The Members of the Senate and the Members of the House of Representatives will therefore now make and subscribe before me, the Governor-General, the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance, as by the Constitution Act provided, which will be administered by me.

Members of the Senate will then make oath or affirmation, repeating the same after His Excellency, and will subscribe the Test Roll. After which Members of the House of Representatives will be sworn and subscribe.

And thereupon :

His Excellency the Governor-General will further address both Houses to the following effect :—

GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE, GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES—

It being necessary that a President of the Senate and a Speaker of the House of Representatives should be first chosen, you will repair to the places where you are to sit, where you, Gentlemen of the Senate, will proceed to choose some proper person to be your President, and you, Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, will proceed to choose some proper person to be your Speaker,

and thereafter you respectively will present such persons for my approval at such time and place as I shall hereafter appoint.

“Hallelujah Chorus.”

“Rule Britannia.”

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cornwall and York and His Excellency the Governor-General having retired :

“God Save the King.”

Both Houses repair to Parliament Houses and proceed with the Election, either forthwith or after a temporary suspension.

The Leader of each House, on the election being made, acquaints the House of the time and place appointed by His Excellency to receive the President or the Speaker, as the case may be, and the House adjourns to that time, and then proceeds to present the Elect to the Chair to His Excellency the Governor-General.

On return the usual formalities are observed, and the House adjourns till eleven of the forenoon of the next day.

By authority,

E. G. BLACKMORE,
Clerk of the Parliaments.