

By direction of His Excellency, the Acting Colonial Secretary laid on the table the correspondence on the subject of the above Minute (C.S.O. 66 of 1886).

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved, and the Colonial Treasurer seconded, that the above Minute be referred to the Finance Committee.

The Honourable W. KESWICK moved, as an amendment, that the proposed vote be taken into consideration now without being referred to the Finance Committee.

The Honourable T. JACKSON seconded.

Question—put and passed.

The Honourable W. KESWICK, pursuant to notice, moved the following resolution, and addressed the Council:—

That it is desirable to amend the Merchant Shipping Consolidation Ordinance, 1879, by adding immediately after the words (1) *That the hull of the ship is sufficient for the service intended and in good condition* (section V sub-section 8 clause (a) paragraph 1.), the words following, that is to say, *provided that such Government Surveyor shall declare that the hull of any wooden paddle-wheeled river steamer is sufficient for the service intended and in good condition without requiring such river steamer to be docked, if it be reasonably proved to him that such river steamer has been re-metalled within the three years immediately preceding the date of survey and that she has not grounded since the last survey.*

The Honourable P. RYRIE, seconded and addressed the Council.

The Honourable the Attorney General addressed the Council, suggesting a reference of the question for the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Honourable T. JACKSON addressed the Council.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government addressed the Council in support of the Attorney General's suggestion.

The Honourable W. KESWICK then withdrew his motion, promising to state a case for the consideration of the Secretary of State.

BILL ENTITLED THE RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES AND FESTIVALS ORDINANCE, 1886.—SECOND READING.—On the motion of the Attorney General, seconded by the Acting Colonial Secretary, this Bill was read a second time.

The Attorney General gave notice that, at the next meeting of Council, he would move that the Council go into Committee on this Bill.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE OTHER ORDERS OF THE DAY.—The Honourable P. RYRIE moved, and the Honourable T. JACKSON seconded, that the other Orders of the Day be postponed.

Question—put and passed.

The Council then adjourned until Wednesday, the 10th instant, at 4 P.M.

W. H. MARSH,
Administering the Government.

Read and confirmed, this 10th day of February, 1886.

ARATHOON SETH,
Clerk of Councils.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 53.

Notice is hereby given that Messrs. MEYER & Co. and Mr. ADALBERT SCHEINOST have complied with the requirements of Ordinances 16 of 1873, and 13 of 1885, for the registration in this Colony of their joint Mark as applied to Matches; and that the same has been duly registered.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 8th February, 1886.