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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL No. 15.

FRIDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 1887.

PRESENT :

- His Honour the Chief Justice, (SIR GEORGE PHILIPPO, Knt.), *President*.
- The Honourable the Acting Colonial Secretary, (FREDERICK STEWART.)
- „ the Acting Attorney General, (EDWARD JAMES ACKROYD.)
- „ the Surveyor General, (JOHN MACNEILE PRICE.)
- „ HENRY GEORGE THOMSETT, R.N.
- „ PHINEAS RYRIE.
- „ WONG SHING.
- „ JOHN BELL-IRVING, (*vice* the Honourable WILLIAM KESWICK, on leave).
- „ ALEXANDER PALMER MAC EWEN, (*vice* the Honourable THOMAS JACKSON, on leave).
- „ CATCHICK PAUL CHATER, (*vice* the Honourable FREDERICK DAVID SASSOON, on leave).

ABSENT :

- His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government (WILLIAM HENRY MARSH, C.M.G.), from indisposition.
- The Honourable the Colonial Treasurer, (ALFRED LISTER), by leave.

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 4th instant, were read and confirmed.

VOTE OF MONEY REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.—Read the following Minute by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government:—

W. H. MARSH.

Mis. Doc.
1857 of 1886,
and
80 of 1887.

The Officer Administering the Government recommends the Council to vote the sum of \$816 to defray the expenses of collecting Village Taxes and Squatters' Licence Fees, by the Treasury.

This service, which has hitherto been performed by the Registrar General's Department, is now to be carried on by the Treasury:—

A Shroff,	\$240.00	per annum.
An Assistant Shroff,	180.00	„
A Coolie,	108.00	„
Indian Constable,	188.00	„
Contingencies,	100.00	„

\$816.00

The sum of \$613 will be saved in the Registrar General's Department, and is, therefore, a transfer vote. The remaining \$203 is the additional sum required.

Government House, Hongkong, 4th February, 1887.

The Acting Colonial Secretary moved, that this vote be referred to the Finance Committee.

Captain THOMSETT, seconded.

Question—put and passed.

QUESTION.—Mr. CHATER, pursuant to notice, asked the following question, and addressed the Council:—

As there is a general desire on the part of the Community of Hongkong to celebrate Her Majesty's Jubilee year in a fit and appropriate manner, I wish to ask whether the Government would co-operate in any movement made by the public for that purpose?

The Chief Justice replied.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO REMOVE DOUBTS AS TO THE APPLICATION OF ORDINANCE No. 2 OF 1875.—The Acting Attorney General moved the second reading of this Bill, and addressed the Council on the objects and reasons of it.

The Acting Colonial Secretary seconded, and addressed the Council.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE CARRYING AND POSSESSION OF ARMS.—On the motion of the Acting Attorney General, seconded by the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Council went into Committee on this Bill.

Progress reported, clauses 8 and 9 being postponed for further consideration.

BILL ENTITLED THE CATTLE AND MARKETS ORDINANCE.—The Acting Attorney General informed the Council that, owing to several changes in this Bill, it was necessary to substitute a new Bill for the one now before the Council. He therefore moved that this Bill be expunged from the Order of the Day.

Question—put and passed.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE LAW RESPECTING DEFAMATORY WORDS AND LIBEL.—On the motion of the Acting Attorney General, seconded by the Acting Colonial Secretary, this Bill was read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed, and numbered as Ordinance No. 5 of 1887.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE OTHER ORDERS OF THE DAY.—On the motion of the Acting Attorney General, the other Orders of the Day were postponed.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council was then adjourned to Friday, the 18th instant, at 4 P.M.

W. H. MARSH,
Administering the Government.

Read and confirmed, this 18th day of February, 1887.

ARATHOON SETH,
Clerk of Councils.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 64.

The following Bill, which was read a first time at a Meeting of the Legislative Council held yesterday, is published for general information.

ARATHOON SETH,
Clerk of Councils.

Council Chamber, Hongkong, 19th February, 1887.