

Saturday, June 19, 1858

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
INDIA**

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF INDIA,

January to December 1858.

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1858.

the villages; but it appeared that no information had been given to the Police of any such robbery until after the enquiry regarding the twigs had been instituted, and the story of its occurrence seemed hardly deserving of credit. Under all the circumstances, and seeing that the system of carrying signs from village to village afforded great facility for disseminating secret intelligence through the country, Sir R. Shakespear and the Government of Bombay were of opinion that some legislation was necessary to prohibit all persons from taking charge of signs without the direct orders of the Government. There was no Law at present under which the transmission of signs by villagers could be treated as a penal offence, though there was a Regulation under which village Officers in the service of Government, who after prohibition disobeyed orders in passing on these signs could be dealt with. The object now was to put a stop to the transmission of such signs entirely, whether by villagers or by village Officers. He had not thought that he would be justified in preparing a special Bill upon this subject. The Government of Bombay, in forwarding the correspondence to him, had requested that he should "submit for the consideration of the Legislative Council of India the propriety of rendering the system, as applicable to India generally, a penal offence." It appeared to him that the best way of dealing with the matter was to move, as he now did, that the communication received by him from the Government of Bombay on the subject of rendering the transmission of signs from village to village a penal offence, be laid upon the table and referred to the Select Committee on "The Indian Penal Code."

Agreed to.

#### CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (BENGAL).

MR. CURRIE moved that a communication received by him from the Bengal Government on the subject of private prosecutions in cases of forgery be laid upon the table and referred to the Select Committee on the Bill "for extending the jurisdiction of the Courts of Criminal Judicature of the East India Company in Bengal, for simplifying the Procedure thereof, and for in-

vesting other Courts with Criminal jurisdiction."

Agreed to.

#### STATE OFFENCES.

MR. PEACOCK moved that the Standing Orders be suspended to enable him to proceed with the Bill "to make further provision for the trial and punishment of offences against the State."

MR. HARRINGTON seconded the Motion, which was then agreed to.

MR. PEACOCK moved that the above Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Vice-President, Mr. Harrington, and the Mover, with an instruction to report upon it at the next Meeting of the Council.

Agreed to.

The Council adjourned.

Saturday, June 19, 1858.

#### PRESENT :

The Hon'ble the Chief Justice, *Vice-President*.

Hon. B. Peacock,

H. B. Harrington, Esq.

E. Currie, Esq.,

and  
H. Forbes, Esq.

The Members assembled at the Meeting did not form the quorum required by law for a Meeting of the Council for the purpose of making Laws.

Saturday, June 26, 1858.

#### PRESENT :

The Honorable the Chief Justice, *Vice-President*,  
in the Chair.

Hon. J. P. Grant,

E. Currie, Esq.,

Hon. H. Ricketts,

H. B. Harrington, Esq.,

Hon. B. Peacock,

and

P. W. LeGeyt, Esq.,

H. Forbes, Esq.

#### KURNOOL.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT read a Message informing the Legislative Council that the Governor General had assented to the Bill "for bringing the District of Kurnool under the Laws of the Presidency of Fort St. George."