

*Friday,
1st February, 1889*

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Council of the Governor General of India,

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

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ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA,
ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING
LAWS AND REGULATIONS,

1889

VOLUME XXVIII



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*Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Governor General of India,
assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the pro-
visions of the Act of Parliament 24 & 25 Vict., cap. 67.*

The Council met at Government House on Friday, the 1st February, 1889.

PRESENT :

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, G.C.M.G.,
G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., *presiding*.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Bart., V.C., G.C.B., G.C.I.E., R.A.

The Hon'ble Lieutenant-General G. T. Chesney, C.B., C.S.I., C.I.E., R.E.

The Hon'ble A. R. Scoble, Q.C., C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Sir C. A. Elliott, K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble P. P. Hutchins, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Sir D. M. Barbour, K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble J. W. Quinton, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble R. Steel.

The Hon'ble Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, Kt.

The Hon'ble F. M. Halliday.

The Hon'ble Sir Pasupati Ananda Gajapati Razu, K.C.I.E., Mahárájá of
Vizianagram.

The Hon'ble Syud Ameer Hossein, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Rájá Durga Charn Laha, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Maung Ôn, C.I.E., A.T.M.

METAL TOKENS BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to prohibit the making or issue by private persons of pieces of metal for use as money and the making of coins in resemblance or similitude of coins of Foreign States be taken into consideration. He said :—

“I wish to take the opportunity of explaining briefly the nature of the changes which the Select Committee has recommended. Before doing so I may explain that a few verbal amendments have been found to be necessary in the Bill as reported by the Select Committee; they are purely verbal and formal alterations and I shall deal with them separately hereafter.

“The main objects of the original Bill were to prohibit the making of pieces of metal by private persons for use as money, to prohibit the import of such pieces of metal into British India, and to prohibit the putting of such pieces of metal into circulation for the first time, and these continue to be the main objects of the Bill as amended by the Select Committee.

“But, in order to carry out more fully the object of the Bill, the Select Committee has made the attempt to put pieces of metal into circulation as money for the first time punishable, as well as the actual putting into circulation, and has also made it an offence to be in possession of such pieces of metal with intent to put them into circulation for the first time.

“The object of the Select Committee in making these changes was to prevent persons from dealing in such pieces of metal with a view to their issue, and to these alterations, I think, no objection can be taken. In order that no person who is now in possession of such pieces of metal may be taken by surprise, the Committee has recommended that possession with intent to issue shall not be punishable till a period of three months has elapsed from the coming of the Act into force.

“Section 3, sub-section (5), of the original Bill conferred the power of search on police-officers in charge of stations. For this sub-section the Committee has substituted the provisions of section 98 of the Code of Criminal Procedure in respect to counterfeit coin. Consequently a police-officer will not be able to make a search of his own motion, and will only be able to proceed under warrant issued by a Magistrate.

“The Select Committee has also recommended that none of the offences punishable under section 4 other than the manufacture of pieces of metal for use as money shall be cognizable offences, and that the other offences referred to in that section shall not be taken cognizance of by a Magistrate outside the presidency-town without the previous sanction of the District or Subdivisional Magistrate. Several of the terms of imprisonment provided in the original Bill have also been materially reduced. These changes, as well as the restriction on the right of search just referred to, afford a valuable guarantee that the provisions of the Act shall not be abused. Indeed, the only question is whether the Select Committee has not gone too far in relaxing the provisions of the original Bill. The receipt of pieces of metal as money by railways and local authorities was prohibited in the original Bill. This prohibition has now ~~been made effective by providing that the receipt of pieces of metal as money~~

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by any person acting on behalf of a railway administration or local authority may be punished by the infliction of a slight fine not exceeding Rs. 10.

“Section 6 of the original Bill made it penal to manufacture coin in resemblance of coin of a Foreign State which was a legal tender or which actually circulated in such State. If this provision had been maintained, it would have afforded greater protection to foreign coin than to Queen's coin. This result was one which it was impossible to justify, and the difficulty has been got over by adding an *explanation* to section 28 of the Indian Penal Code to the effect that a person who makes one thing to resemble another shall be assumed to intend the natural consequences of his action, namely, that some person should be deceived by mistaking the one for the other. Good authorities have held that this was always the law, but the *explanation* to be added to section 28 will put the matter beyond doubt ; and, if hereafter any person is found imitating either foreign coin or Queen's coin, it will be assumed, unless he can prove the contrary, that he intended to practise deception. He will consequently be punishable for counterfeiting coin.”

The Hon'ble RAJA DURGA CHARN LAHA said:—“The principle of this Bill was fairly discussed at the last meeting of the Council. The Bill was professedly a half-and-half measure, and, like all half measures, it cannot be expected to be very effective all at once ; but, in view of the explanation afforded by the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, I think it should be allowed a fair trial. The provisions against the making and issue of metal tokens are stringent enough and likely to discourage the making or use of them. On the whole, I see no objection to the passing of the Bill.”

The Hon'ble THE MAHARAJA OF VIZIANAGRAM said :— “As far as its main objects of prohibitory and monopolising nature of coinage of the Empire are concerned, there can hardly be two opinions as to the great expediency that will be effected, by the coming into force of this Bill, in securing both economical and administrative advantages to the Government, in harmony with the universal laws of currencies in different parts of the world, which, like so many other essential principles of government, prove profitable to the ruling power immediately, and to the subjects mediately. The Hon'ble Mr. Macaulay says, in his answer to the Secretary in the Legislative Department, that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that, by the success of this Bill, the profit that is now shared by the manufacturers in Nepal and by the money-changers in India would go to the Indian tax-payer. So,

that the Bill is one of urgent legislative importance cannot be doubted for a moment ; but at the same time, I think, I should be found wanting in duty if I were not to lay before your Excellency and this august body a few facts relating to the Bill on this, perhaps, my last opportunity of saying anything regarding the Bill. It is as much a matter for regret as of surprise to me, and I think to every one else who might spare a thought on the subject, that its legalization has not taken place long before now ; for, apace with the time, the evil against which this Bill is to militate has struck deep root into the land over large areas, not only in the northern but also in the southern parts of the Empire, with this difference, while they are coined and put into circulation in the north, in the south they are not coined, but they find a ready circulation, or rather, I should say, that they supply a very needy want, being the only handy means of exchange among the poorest agricultural classes, of whom, to the number of millions, inhabit, as far as my direct knowledge goes, throughout the Northern Circars, the population in its average density being about 353 per square mile, and the aggregate figure for the four districts comprising Northern Circars, being no less than 7,574,737. I hope to be able to show further on that the knowledge of the existence of copper token currency down in the south as well is not devoid of interest to this Government, when viewed in connection with opinions favoured by some of the authorities of either of the presidencies. Mr. H. G. Turner, our esteemed Collector of the Vizagapatam District, has contributed most valuable information which seems to be consonant with the consensus of the unions akin to that held in France, and issued its coin under the name of Latin Mint. I will read a passage or two, which run as follows :—

‘ There can be no free trade in labour and goods when there is not free coinage. We recognise this principle in the matter of silver coins, but depart from it when we deal with copper money.’

“ I beg to draw particular attention to the following passage of his :—

‘ The money, the principal money of rural India, is copper, not silver.

‘ Indian copper coin is not token coin in the same way that pence are tokens in England. Pence are in that country subsidiary to the daily-wage rate, which is expressed in silver. In India copper is the principal wages-paying coin. It is true that, as gold is the standard coinage metal in England, silver tokens are likewise unfair to the interests of her labouring classes ; but, inasmuch as the difference in metal value between gold and silver is vastly less than the difference between silver and copper, the harm done to labour in England is not so much felt, though that it is felt is obvious from the clamour now raised on the bimetallic question.

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[The *Mahárájá of Vizianagram.*]

'Not being really tokens, and not occupying the place of subsidiary coins for gha labour, they are not subsidiary; and not being actually convertible into standard coin, because no one can change a half or a quarter anna copper piece into silver, it follows that this coinage is nothing but an imperfectly convertible currency, akin in many respects to an inconvertible paper currency.

'Circulating side by side with silver, it interferes with the rise and fall of prices which are governed by free silver and free commerce; for the forces which regulate those prices are in no way connected with the force which governs the issue of copper money.

'The copper coin is issued to the public at the expense of silver coin. Mr. Westland says that this profit is rightfully the property of the tax-payers. But, inasmuch as the loss falls ultimately on labour, it is really a case where the richer portion of a community benefits at the expense of the poorer portion.'

"In paragraph 6 he says—

'So far as I have been able to calculate, * * * there is in circulation in India not more copper coin than to the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ pence per head. * * * Perhaps copper coin to the value of 250 lakhs of rupees has been issued since 1835. About 97 lakhs were issued up to 1858. I have no account from 1858 to 1873, but I think the issue fell off during these years. From 1873 to 1884, 92 lakhs were issued. * * * The next following issue was of 1874, succeeded by coins of every year up to 1886, except 1880.'

"Making allowances for the coins dropped and lost,—10 per cent. for the dropped and 10 per cent. for the waste of the coins,—he says—

'if we guess * * * this would reduce the amount of copper in circulation to 200 lakhs of rupees, or twenty millions of rupees of copper for use amongst 250 millions of people. If the rupee = 1s. 6d., this gives a *per capita* distribution of 1½d. This amount is very sadly beneath the amount of copper coin current in other countries. Italy, for instance, had, when Professor Jevons wrote his work, 29½ pence per head, England 8½ pence. France 15 pence, and Belgium 21½ pence. Now, it is the opinion of some very able economists, Roseber for instance, that the poorer a country is the larger should be its circulating medium. Hence we may take it that a proper amount per head of copper coin for India would run to some figure vastly in excess of these European rates.'

"He also speaks very correctly that—

'in this connection I would remark that the complaints now springing up as to the hardships of the increased salt-tax are in some measure due not to the enhanced price but to the actual want of copper coins to permit of the people purchasing salt in petty quantities. In rural parts of this district there is such a deficiency * * * that transactions are to a great extent effected by barter, and in remote parts cowries are still in circulation.'

[*The Mahárájá of Vizianagram; Sir David Barbour; [1ST FEBRUARY, the Lieutenant-Governor.]*

“These facts are very clearly and cleverly set forth by Mr. Turner, and I doubt not that, by other executive channels, these evils will be soon remedied; hence and therefore I have nothing else to say in regard to the passing of this important Bill.”

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR said:—“In answer to what has fallen from the Hon'ble the Mahárájá of Vizianagram, I should like to say a word or two. It has been for many years a standing order of the Government that copper coins are to be supplied wherever they are wanted, and every Collector of a district is bound to see that the treasury has a full supply of copper coins and to issue them at a fair rate in exchange for silver. Any person who wants copper coins can always get them from the treasury at a fair rate, and, if in the tracts referred to by the Mahárájá there should be any want of such coin, it is the duty of the Collector to see that the necessary steps are taken to meet this want. I merely wish to point out that the Government has already done all that is in its power in order to ensure that there is a sufficient supply of small coins in all parts of the country.”

The Hon'ble THE MAHÁRAJÁ OF VIZIANAGRAM, in answer to the remarks of the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill, said:—“I am aware that Mr. Turner did bring these facts to the notice of the Madras Government, but somehow or other I find, from the remarks made by the then Secretary to the Madras Government, that he could not clearly see the facts, and therefore he did not pass any opinion as to the propriety of Mr. Turner's remarks.”

His Honour THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR said:—“As the discussion has been raised at this particular stage of the Bill, when the Motion before the Council is to take into consideration the Report of the Select Committee, I may say the few words I have to say now. If I had been in my place a fortnight ago when the Hon'ble Mr. Steel took part in the debate, I should have felt it my duty to support the hon'ble member's view that the Bill does not go far enough to effect what the Government have in their mind. The answer which the hon'ble member in charge of our finances gave us was to the effect that the alternatives were either to inflict great hardship or to buy up the existing amount of token coinage in circulation at a considerable loss to the Government. I must say that after thinking over his answer I do not see my way to contest the truth of his assertion that we have nothing but these two alternatives before us whether now or later, and we shall have to adopt one or the other of them. But the difficulty in the way of this Bill, leading even as a first step towards getting rid of the copper coinage called Goruckporee pice and generally spoken of as dumpy pice, was very great. The hon'ble member was

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[*The Lieutenant-Governor.*]

perfectly correct in saying that the orders were that wherever Government pice were wanted they should be supplied from the treasury, and they were so supplied, and he believed the Collectors of districts did their best to put them into circulation; but my experience is—and Sir David Barbour I believe will back me up—that after the famine of 1874 a very real attempt was made to put them into circulation, but unfortunately they found their way back to the treasury, and ultimately an enormous amount of Government pice which had been sent there for their free use in connection with the famine relief-works found their way back to Calcutta. When I was recently in Behar I made enquiries to see whether I could do something to give a fillip to the policy of the Government by introducing Government pice in payment for labour at the relief-works which were then going on. I got an energetic officer, who promised to try to do all he could; but from what I could ascertain of the general feeling of all those whom I consulted—planters and others—I gathered that so long as the circulation of dumpy pice was not made illegal we could not get the Government pice into circulation at all. The difficulties were these, that, in the first place, small shop-keepers would not take them at all, or, if they took them, they would only do so at a large discount. Government pice were in circulation at the sadar stations, as for instance at Durbhunga, but as soon as you got ten miles out into the villages not a Government pice was to be seen; and when I look at the proposal of the Select Committee making it an offence for any person not merely on behalf of a railway administration or local authority, but even on behalf of the lessee of any tolls leviable by such administration or authority, to receive as money any piece of metal which is not coined as defined in the Indian Penal Code, it occurs to me that the difficulty with which we would have to contend in carrying out this measure would be very considerable. Until the Government pice have taken the place of these dumpy pice it is perfectly certain that a man who wishes to cross a toll-bar, for instance, would have nothing else with which to pay the toll. If the lessee of the toll refuses to take dumpy pice in payment of the toll, the man must either go back, or it becomes a question whether the lessee himself, or a bunnia in his interest, is to do the exchange and thus make the man pay more as toll than the authorised toll. I do not say that this objection is one which ought to lead to the exclusion of the section, but I am not sure that the real importance of it has been considered. The principle of the Bill I entirely approve; but I do hope it will be worked on the one hand energetically and on the other carefully, and that it will lead to more stringent legislation before many years are over."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR then said :—"The inadvertent retention in section 3 of the Bill of the words 'or issued' in the ordinary sense of those words, and not in the special sense which we have found it necessary by the interpretation-clause to assign to the word 'issue' where it occurs in other parts of the Bill, compels me at this stage to ask for the omission of those words from section 3 and to move certain further amendments which their removal suggests. The amendments are verbal and their sole object is to carry out in clearer and more unmistakable language the intention of the members of the Select Committee.

"The amendments I have to move are the following :—

- (a) that in section 2 of the Bill, after the word 'put' in line 1, the words 'a piece of metal' be inserted, and for the words 'any piece of metal' in line 4 the words 'such piece having been' be substituted;
- (b) that from section 3 of the Bill the words 'or issued' be omitted;
- (c) that in section 4, sub-section (x), clause (a), of the Bill, the words 'in contravention of the last foregoing section,' with the addition of the word 'or', be placed immediately after the word 'makes';
- (d) that in section 4, sub-section (r), clause (b), of the Bill, the words 'issue the piece' be substituted for the words 'issue it in contravention of that section';
- (e) that the marginal notes to sections 3 and 4 of the Bill be modified with reference to the foregoing amendments."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR also moved that the Bill, as amended, be passed. He said :—"I have only one word to say, and that is with reference to the penalty provided in the case of a person who while acting on behalf of a railway administration or local authority receives these pieces of metal as money. This provision may no doubt in some cases occasion a certain amount of inconvenience, but I do not think the inconvenience will be very great, because if these pieces are refused at a railway-station some money-changer or bunnia at the place would immediately arrange to give Government pice in exchange for them; and, though some inconvenience might be caused to travellers, it would not be of great magnitude. The justification for causing even this limited amount of inconvenience is that, unless we take some steps in this direction, we shall never get rid of these pieces of copper that now do duty as money."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

MEASURES OF LENGTH BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. SCOBLE presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to declare the imperial standard yard for the United Kingdom to be the legal standard measure of length in British India.

SEA CUSTOMS ACT, 1878, AND INDIAN TARIFF ACT, 1882, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR moved that the Bill to amend the Sea Customs Act, 1878, and the Indian Tariff Act, 1882, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Mr. Scoble, the Hon'ble Mr. Steel, the Hon'ble Mr. Halliday, the Hon'ble Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit, the Hon'ble Rájá Durga Charn Laha and the Mover.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

PORTS BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR also moved for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Ports and Port-charges. He said:—

“ Since the Indian Ports Act of 1875 was enacted, no less than nine amending Acts have been passed, and, if it were not for the introduction of the present Bill for consolidating the existing enactments, it would have been necessary to pass a tenth. These facts are sufficient to show the necessity that exists for the consolidation of the existing law, and I need not say anything more on this point.

“ With regard to the amendments of the existing law which it is now proposed to introduce, I may explain that a draft Bill has been already circulated to the maritime Governments—Madras, Bombay, Bengal and Burma—and considered by them. Of the changes which they have suggested, some have been incorporated in the present Bill, while others will be considered by the Select Committee, and a few have been left to be dealt with by local legislation.

“ The changes which it is proposed to make in the existing law are set forth in the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the Bill, and I need only mention a few of the more important.

“ The first proposal is that the provisions of sections 40 and 41 of the present Act shall apply to all ports in future without the necessity of their being spe-

cially extended to each port by the Local Government. The provisions of these sections prevent certain acts from being done in ports without the permission of the conservator. The alteration will save trouble, and it appears to be free from objection.

“The next alteration to which I desire to call attention is one affecting the liability of a master for certain acts of his servants or agents.

“Under section 22 of Act XII of 1875, the present Ports Act, any person who, by himself or another, casts ballast or rubbish or anything which is likely to impede navigation into a port is liable to fine. It has been held under this section that a contractor who had undertaken to remove ballast from a vessel and whose servants cast the ballast into the port was not liable to fine, because it could not be proved that he abetted or connived at the offence.

“To meet such a case as this it is proposed that, if a person contracts to remove ballast or rubbish and his servants cast it into the port, such person shall be liable to fine on the ground that a person who undertakes a work of this character is bound to see that his servants act in a legal and proper manner, and so as not to injuriously affect public interests and rights.

“It also appears that Port Commissioners and Trustees have in some cases made grants to sailors' homes and for other objects connected with the well-being of seamen on shore. The men for whose benefit these grants have been made are subject to great temptations when on shore, and are, for many reasons, entitled to some special consideration at the hands of the public authorities. But, as doubts have been raised whether such grants could legally have been made under the law as it stood, advantage will be taken of the present opportunity to validate all such grants that may have been made in the past, and to remove any doubts as to the legality of making them in the future.

“A provision has been inserted to provide for ascertaining the tonnage of vessels which are of such a nature that they do not admit of being measured for this purpose.

“It sometimes happens that firewood and other articles are conveyed from port to port in the Bombay Presidency on rafts of which it is impossible to ascertain the tonnage by measurement, although, for certain purposes connected with ports, it is absolutely essential that the tonnage should be known. To meet such cases it will now be provided that, where measurement is impossible

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[*Sir David Barbour ; Mr. Steel.*]

in accordance with the provisions of the law, the conservator shall have power to declare the tonnage according to such estimate as may; under the circumstances of the case, be reasonable. This seems to be the easiest and best way of getting over the difficulty.

“A provision will also be introduced into the Bill giving power to local authorities, with the previous sanction of the Local Government, to deal with any immoveable property that may be vested in them so as to make it available for use in connection with a sailors’ home or other institution for the benefit of sailors. Such a provision will obviously be of use under certain circumstances and cannot be productive of evil; it is taken from the English law on the subject.

“In the case of Rangoon and Chittagong, it is provided that tugs and river-steamers shall pay port-dues once in six months. This is obviously a proper provision, and the case of these vessels is not provided for in the present law.

“The schedule of port-dues for the Madras ports is still under the consideration of the Government of that presidency, which will also have to consider whether it is necessary any longer to maintain Madras Act II of 1872; hitherto it has not been found necessary for the Government to make use of the provisions of that Act.

“An important provision in that Act which gives power to detain the master of a ship, and consequently the ship itself, for certain departmental purposes, has not been inserted in the Bill, although a provision of a somewhat similar nature has been supported by the Trustees of the Port of Bombay. The proposal of the Trustees is one which obviously cannot be adopted except after careful consideration. It would be a serious evil in the present days of keen competition to do anything which might lead to a vessel being detained except on public grounds of clear necessity. The Select Committee will no doubt give their attention to this question.”

The Hon’ble Mr. STEEL said:—“I would suggest to the hon’ble mover that, by the statement he has just made, he has not supplied us with all the information which should be before us to justify legislation. He has described the Bill he proposes to introduce as designed rather to consolidate than to change the existing law, but this will not relieve the legislature from responsibility for the principles on which the Bill is founded. It will be admitted that funds raised in the form of port-dues should be devoted to the specific purpose

[*Mr. Steel; Sir David Barbour.*] [1ST FEBRUARY,

of providing facilities for trade, and that it would be improper to allow them to be merged in the general revenues. This principle is carefully applied in the case of the larger Indian ports whose affairs are administered by trustees, but we have no assurance that the same rule holds good with regard to the smaller ports, and it is in respect of these that I ask for information. The ports on the Madras coast are 149 in number. Of these the great majority are not ports in the ordinary sense of the word, but merely open roadsteads, marked out on the coast-line by a flagstaff on which by night a small lamp is hung. At these places of call there are no facilities provided for loading or discharging cargo, no buoys to mark the proper anchorage. No public officer comes alongside a vessel except a coolie on a catamaran. Now, for calling at one or more of a group of these ports, a steamer is charged the considerable sum of Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 according to her size. It appears to me that no commensurate service is rendered in exchange. I would remark that during the past few years the steam tonnage employed in the coasting trade has more than doubled, and presumably the revenue from port-dues has increased in similar proportion. We may, therefore, assume either that in past years the revenue has been insufficient to meet the charges, or that it must now be more than sufficient, or else that some new expenditure has been undertaken to provide facilities for trade. If the last hypothesis be the true one, the public have no information concerning it. With this explanation I suggest to my hon'ble friend that before asking for a vote on his Bill he should supply us with a statement showing the amount annually levied in the form of dues at the small ports in the Madras Presidency, and the purposes to which the funds are applied."

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR said:—"With reference to the remarks made by the Hon'ble Mr. Steel, I may say that I agree with him that all port-dues should be expended upon the legitimate purposes of the port, and I wish also to add that, so far as I have been able to ascertain, this is the case at present. In the Madras Presidency, and in Bombay also, a number of ports are grouped together for certain purposes; but, so far as I am aware, the money raised by the port-dues is spent upon those ports. If in any of these ports the facilities for trade are not great, I believe it is due to the fact that the income of the port is not large. But I shall be happy, at a future stage of the Bill, to give the hon'ble member all the information I possess, or which I can obtain, on the subject; and I hope he will consent to serve on the Select Committee on the Bill, when he will have a further opportunity of bringing the facts to notice."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

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[*Sir David Barbour ; Mr. Hutchins.*]

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR also introduced the Bill.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the Gazette of India in English, and in the Fort St. George Gazette, the Bombay Government Gazette, the Calcutta Gazette and the Burma Gazette in English and in such other languages as the Local Governments think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

MADRAS CORONER'S BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. HUTCHINS moved that the Select Committee on the Bill to abolish the office of Coroner of Madras be instructed to submit their Report at the next Meeting of the Council.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Friday, the 8th February, 1889.

S. HARVEY JAMES,

*Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.*

FORT WILLIAM; }
The 8th February, 1889. }