

*Friday,
6th March, 1903*

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Council of the Governor General of India,

LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Vol. XLII

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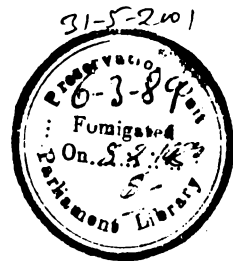
ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA:
ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING
LAWS AND REGULATIONS

1903

VOLUME XLII



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Proceedings of the Council of the Governor General of India, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Indian Councils Acts, 1861 and 1892 (24 & 25 Vict., c. 67, and 55 & 56 Vict., c. 14).

The Council met at Government House, Calcutta, on Friday, the 6th March, 1903.

PRESENT :

His Excellency Baron Curzon, P.C., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., Viceroy and Governor General of India, *presiding*.
His Honour Mr. J. A. Bourdillon, C.S.I., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.
The Hon'ble Mr. T. Raleigh, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Sir E. F.G. Law, K.C.M.G., C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Major-General Sir E. R. Elles, K.C.B.
The Hon'ble Mr. A. T. Arundel, C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson, K.C.S.I.
The Hon'ble Mr. Gopal Krishna Gokhale.
The Hon'ble M. R. Ry. Panappakkam Ananda Charlu, Vidia Vinodha Avargal, Rai Bahadur, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. L. P. Pugh.
The Hon'ble Sayyid Husain Bilgrami.
The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur B. K. Bose, C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Sir M. C. Turner, Kt.
The Hon'ble Mr. G. C. Whitworth.
The Hon'ble Mr. R. F. Rampini.
The Hon'ble Mr. G. F. T. Power.
The Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur.
The Hon'ble Mr. A. W. Cruickshank, C.S.I.
His Highness Raja Sir Surindar Bikram Prakash Bahadur, K.C.S.I., of Sirmur.
His Highness Agha Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah, Agha Khan, G.C.I.E.
The Hon'ble Mr. C. W. Bolton, C.S.I.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

His Highness THE AGHA KHAN, G.C.I.E., asked :—

“I. Will Government be pleased to state what proportion of the men in the Indian Army under the Command of the Lieutenant-Generals of Madras and

[His Highness the Agha Khan ; Major-General [6TH MARCH, 1903.]
Sir Edmond Elles.]

Bombay are permanent inhabitants of the Madras and Bombay Presidencies and what proportion in each of the above-named armies are inhabitants of other parts of India ?”

The Hon'ble MAJOR-GENERAL SIR EDMOND ELLES replied :—

“ The latest available Caste-returns are those of 1902. From these it would appear :—

First, as regards Madras, that out of 28,734 men 15,586 are recruited from the Madras area, *i.e.*, from the Madras Presidency and the Central Provinces, a few only being from the latter. The 28,734 include the 8 Burma battalions (6,650 men) which have no connection with Madras, and Burma has now been formed into a separate command.

Second, as regards Bombay, out of 27,081 men 14,308 are from the Bombay area, including Rajputana and Central India, but three Regiments of Cavalry and five of Infantry are localised in Baluchistan and Sind, and have no connection with the Bombay Presidency proper ; numbers of men are recruited from Rajputana, which is under the command of the Lieutenant-General, Bombay.”

His Highness THE AGHA KHAN, G.C.I.E., asked :—

“ II. Will Government be pleased to state the total number of the Imperial Service Troops, and also how many belong to the Cavalry, Infantry and Artillery, and how many to each of the various Special, Scientific and Army Supply Corps, and the total number of Native Officers serving with the Imperial Service Troops ?”

The Hon'ble MAJOR-GENERAL SIR EDMOND ELLES replied :—

“ According to the latest annual return (for the year 1901-1902) the total strength of the Imperial Service Troops stood at 17,403, made up as follows :—

Artillery	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	305
Cavalry	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6,707
Camel corps	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	617
Infantry	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7,141
Sappers	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	508
Transport	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2,125

The above include 464 native officers and 2,110 native non-commissioned officers.”

[6TH MARCH, 1903.] [*Major-General Sir Edmond Elles; Sir Denzil Ibbetson; Sir Montagu Turner; Mr. Raleigh.*]

INDIAN WORKS OF DEFENCE BILL.

The Hon'ble MAJOR-GENERAL SIR EDMOND ELLES presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for imposing restrictions upon land in the vicinity of works of defence in order that such land may be kept free from buildings and other obstructions. He said that he would reserve any observations in regard to the Report till the Bill came up for discussion.

PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR DENZIL IBBETSON presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to empower District Judges in certain cases to grant Probates of Wills and Letters of Administration having effect throughout British India. He said:—"When I introduced this short Bill, I explained with some fulness the considerations which had led us to propose legislation. The main provision of the Bill, which gives District Judges power, within certain narrow limits, to grant probate covering property situated in other parts of India, has met with general approval from the authorities whom we have consulted, while I have received from private individuals gratifying testimony to the reality of the hardship which we are attempting to remedy, and to the value which is attached to the change that we propose.

"We have adopted a number of useful drafting suggestions which we have received from our critics; and have also taken advantage of the opportunity, after embodying in the present Bill such portions of two small Acts as relate to probate, to repeal them and so to consolidate the existing law on the subject. Finally, we have extended the powers at present enjoyed by High and Chief Courts to the highest Court of Civil Appeal in each Province."

INDIAN TEA CESS BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR MONTAGU TURNER presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the levy of customs duty on Indian tea exported from British India, and to amend section 5 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894. He said that he would reserve his remarks on the Report of the Select Committee until the Bill came under discussion.

REPEALING AND AMENDING BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. RALEIGH moved that the Bill to facilitate the citation of certain enactments, to amend certain enactments and to repeal certain other enactments be taken into consideration.

The motion was put and agreed to.

[*Mr. Raleigh; The President; Sir Edward Law.*] [6TH MARCH, 1903.]

The Hon'ble MR. RALEIGH moved that the Bill be passed. He said that no objection or criticism had been received regarding the measure.

The motion was put and agreed to.

INDIAN PAPER CURRENCY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT explained that the next motion, in the name of the Hon'ble Sir Edward Law, that the Bill further to amend the Indian Paper Currency Act, 1882, be taken into consideration, would stand over till next week, as it was proposed to make a slight change in the Bill.

INDIAN POST OFFICE (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR EDWARD LAW moved that the Bill to amend the Indian Post Office Act, 1898, be taken into consideration.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR EDWARD LAW moved that the Bill be passed.

The motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Friday, the 13th March, 1903.

CALCUTTA;
The 9th March, 1903.

J. M. MACPHERSON,
*Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.*