

Saturday, 15th August, 1857

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF INDIA,

FROM

January to December 1857.

VOL. III.

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being a member of the Bench of Justices, and had acted with them for several years; and he was certain that a more intelligent, public-spirited, and liberal-minded body of men could not be placed at the head of the municipal affairs of a town. He did hope, therefore, that the Sections of the Bill which related to this point, would be passed untouched.

The Council would observe that the Bill proposed to levy Town-Duties—that is, “duties at the rates specified in the Schedule annexed to this Act,”—only “in respect of the several things therein mentioned when imported from any place into the Town of Bombay and intended for consumption or use therein.” And on reference to the Schedule, it would be found that no articles were mentioned in it which were ever exported from Bombay. The only articles upon which Town-Duties would be levied were articles imported. But Bombay was a very small island. Cattle were not bred in it to any extent; very little grain was grown in its soil; chunam was not manufactured there; ghee was imported to a very considerable extent. As he had said when introducing the Bill, the scheme which it comprised had met with the cordial support of the inhabitants of Bombay, as far as their opinion could possibly be ascertained; and he trusted that the Council would think it advisable to tax them in the way which they themselves considered best for the municipal wants which had to be provided for.

MR. LEGEYTS Motion was carried, and the Bill read a second time.

MR. LEGEYT moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Mr. Currie, Sir Arthur Buller, and the Mover.

Agreed to.

#### PORT-DUES (CALCUTTA).

MR. CURRIE moved that, in the absence of Mr. Grant, the Chief Justice be added to the Select Committee on the Bill “for the levy of Port-dues and fees in the Port of Calcutta.”

Agreed to.

#### PORT-DUES (MOULMEIN, RANGOON, &c.)

MR. CURRIE moved that, in the absence of Mr. Grant, the Chief Justice

be added to the Select Committee on the Bill “for the levy of Port-dues in the Ports of Moulmein, Rangoon, Dalhousie, Akyab, and Chittagong.”

Agreed to.

#### THE DRAINAGE OF CALCUTTA.

MR. CURRIE said, with reference to the question asked by the Honorable and learned Member to his right (Mr. Peacock) on Saturday last, he wished to state that he had ascertained that no orders had as yet been passed by the Government of Bengal upon the Report of the Drainage Committee.

He had also ascertained from the Municipal Commissioners that it never had been their intention to apply any interest which might accrue on the investment of the sum set aside for drainage otherwise than to that particular object. In point of fact, however, they had not yet been able to set aside any such sum. Although the scheme of drainage to be adopted had not yet been finally sanctioned, the Commissioners had been authorized to make a commencement by purchasing all necessary materials, and making arrangements for the manufacture of bricks &c. This preliminary expenditure would probably consume the whole of the amount to be appropriated to drainage during the year.

The Council adjourned.

*Saturday, August 15, 1857.*

#### PRESENT :

The Hon'ble Joseph Alexander Dorin,  
*Vice-President.*

Hon. Major General | E. Currie, Esq.,  
J. Low, | and

Hon. B. Peacock, | Hon. Sir A. W.  
P. W. LeGeyt, Esq., | Buller.

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.