

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF HONGKONG.

No. 11 OF 1875.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER, 1875.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Administrator (JOHN GARDINER AUSTIN).
The Honourable the Chief Justice (SIR JOHN SMALE).
The Honourable the Acting Colonial Secretary (CECIL CLEMENTI SMITH).
The Honourable the Attorney General (JOHN BRAMSTON).
The Honourable the Acting Colonial Treasurer (CHARLES MAY).
The Honourable PHINEAS RYRIE.
The Honourable WILLIAM HASTINGS ALEXANDER.
THE Honourable WILLIAM KESWICK.

ABSENT:

The Honourable HENRY LOWCOCK, absent on leave.

The Council meets this day at 2.30 P.M., by Special Summons.

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Legislative Council held on Tuesday, the 7th September, are read and confirmed.

The *Appropriation Bill for 1876* is read a second time.

The Honourable the Acting Colonial Secretary brings up the following Report of the Sub-Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to examine the Estimates for 1876:—

"Your Committee have carefully considered the Estimates for the year 1876, and have heard evidence regarding those details which required fuller information than that originally supplied.

"It is recommended that the Vote for Lighthouses be increased by \$444, with a view to giving increased salary to the Chinese Lightkeepers, that a better class may be obtained.

"Regarding the Police Force, it is thought that a saving might be properly caused by reducing by one-half at least the number of horses which are kept for the Mounted Police, and that the cost of clothing and accoutrements for the Force generally might be curtailed.

"To the Vote for the Fire Brigade, your Committee would strongly recommend an increase of \$2,000, in order to provide for the purchase of a new Hand Engine and a supply of Extincteurs.

"Lastly, at the suggestion of the Surveyor General, it is advised that the Vote for Land Surveys be increased by \$360, in order that an additional Chainman may be employed for the more rapid completion of this important work.

"CECIL. C. SMITH.

"C. MAY.

"P. RYRIE.

"W. KESWICK.

"Council Chamber, Hongkong, 16th September, 1875."

The Council then goes into Committee on the Bill, and, the increase to certain votes recommended in the Report of the Sub-Committee being agreed to, it is committed without further alterations, and is passed, bearing the Title of —*An Ordinance enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, to apply a Sum not exceeding Seven hundred and Sixty-seven thousand Dollars to the Public Service of the year 1876, — being "No.15 of 1875."*

The further consideration of the *Company's Amendment Bill* is again postponed until the next Meeting of Council

His Excellency adjourns the Meeting *sine die* at 3 P.M.

J. GARDINER AUSTIN,
Administrator.

Read and confirmed, this 23rd Day of November, 1875.

H. ERNEST WODEHOUSE,
Clerk of Councils.