

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF HONGKONG.

No. 7 of 1858.

WEDNESDAY, 17th MARCH, 1858.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, AND ALL THE MEMBERS.

The Council met to-day by special Summons.

The Minutes of the last Council were read and approved.

The Excellency The Governor stated that, as experience had proved the desirableness of introducing certain modifications in the Ordinance No. 6 of 1857, and as the circumstances of the Colony had so improved that such modifications might now be satisfactorily adopted, it was his purpose, after communication with the Heads of several Departments, to propose at an early period a reconsideration of portions of the said Ordinance.

He desired the opinion of Members as to the opportunity of extending the period at which the Chinese are allowed to remain out-of-doors (without Passes) from 8 to 9 o'clock P.M.; and as no objection was made, His Excellency stated his intention at an early date to permit of such extension.

The Council then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Opium Retail Ordinance.

Certain Sections being recommitted and amended, several new clauses were introduced; and the Ordinance having gone through Committee, it was resolved that the same do pass,—and that the title be, "*An Ordinance for licensing and regulating the Sale of prepared Opium;*" and that the number thereof be No. 2 of 1858.

It was ordered, that this Ordinance be published, in English and Chinese, in the next *Government Gazette*, for general information.

The Council then adjourned till Monday next, the 22d instant, at 12 o'clock.

By Order of His Excellency The Governor,

L. D'ALMADA E CASTRO,
Clerk of Councils.