

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL No. 23.

WEDNESDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1886.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM HENRY MARSH, C.M.G.,
Administering the Government in the absence of His Excellency SIR GEORGE FERGUSON BOWEN, G.C.M.G.
His Honour the Chief Justice, (SIR GEORGE PHILIPPO, Knt.)
The Honourable the Acting Colonial Secretary, (FREDERICK STEWART, LL.D.)
,, the Acting Attorney General, (EDWARD JAMES ACKROYD.)
,, the Colonial Treasurer, (ALFRED LISTER.)
,, the Surveyor General, (JOHN MACNEILE PRICE.)
,, PHINEAS RYRIE.
,, WILLIAM KESWICK.
,, THOMAS JACKSON.
,, WONG SHING.

ABSENT:

The Honourable the Attorney General, (EDWARD LOUGHLIN O'MALLEY,) on leave.
,, FREDERICK DAVID SASSOON (on leave).

The Council met pursuant to adjournment.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 31st ultimo, were read and confirmed.

THE PROPOSED LOAN.—REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.—The Acting Colonial Secretary read the following Report of the Finance Committee:—

The Committee, although still thinking that, for many reasons, it would be preferable to raise the money locally, especially as there is now reason to believe that funds could be obtained here at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., thus avoiding all risk of loss on Exchange, nevertheless unanimously assent to the proposal of the Secretary of State that the Loan should be issued in London, provided that a 4 per cent. Loan can be issued not below par.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.—On the motion of the Acting Attorney General, seconded by the Acting Colonial Secretary, the following Bills were read a first time:—

- (a.) A Bill entitled *The Loan Ordinance*, 1886.
- (b.) A Bill entitled *The Peace Preservation Ordinance*, 1886.

The Acting Attorney General gave notice that at the next meeting of Council he would move the second reading of these Bills.

BILL ENTITLED THE STAMP ORDINANCE, 1886.—The Colonial Treasurer stated that the Report of the Special Committee on this Bill was not yet ready.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.—On the motion of the Acting Attorney General, seconded by the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Bill entitled *The Spirits Ordinance*, 1886, was read a second time.

On the motion of the Surveyor General, seconded by the Honourable P. RYRIE, the Bill entitled *An Ordinance for the Incorporation of the Procurator for the Dominican Missions in the Far East, in Hongkong*, was read a second time.

The Acting Attorney General, and the Surveyor General respectively gave notice that at the next meeting of Council they would move that the Council go into Committee on these Bills.

BILL COMMITTED.—On the motion of the Acting Attorney General, the Council went into Committee on the Bill entitled *An Ordinance for the Relief of Widows and Children of Intestates where the personal estate is of small value*.

Bill reported without amendment.

The Acting Attorney General gave notice that at the next meeting of Council he would move the third reading of this Bill.

BILL IN COMMITTEE.—The Acting Attorney General moved the addition of a clause to the Bill entitled *An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Vagrants*.

After deliberation the Acting Attorney General moved that the consideration of the new clause be postponed *sine die*.

Question—put and passed.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE OTHER ORDERS OF THE DAY.—On the motion of the Acting Attorney General, the other Orders of the Day were postponed.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Council then adjourned to Wednesday, the 14th instant, at 4 P.M.

W. H. MARSH,
Administering the Government.

Read and confirmed, this 14th day of April, 1886.

ARATHOON SETH,
Clerk of Councils.