

# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, No. 17.

TUESDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 1889.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR

(SIR G. WILLIAM, DES VOEUX, K.C.M.G.)

The Honourable the Colonial Secretary (FREDERICK STEWART).

" the Acting Attorney General, (ANDREW JOHN LEACH).

" the Acting Colonial Treasurer, (HENRY ERNEST WODEHOUSE, C.M.G.).

" the Acting Registrar General, (NORMAN GILBERT MITCHELL-INNES).

" the Surveyor General, (SAMUEL BROWN).

" PHINEAS RYRIE.

" WONG SHING.

" CATCHICK PAUL CHATER.

" BENDYSHE LAYTON, (*vice* the Honourable ALEXANDER PALMER MAC EWEN).

" JAMES JOHNSTONE KEWSICK, (*vice* the Honourable JOHN BELL-IRVING).

The Council met pursuant to notice.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. SAMUEL BROWN, Surveyor General, took the usual Oath and his seat at the Council table, as an Official Member.

The Minutes of the last Meeting, held on the 27th ultimo, were read and confirmed.

VOTE REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.—Read the following Minute by His Excellency the Governor:

## G. WILLIAM DES VOEUX.

C.O. Desp.  
91 of 1889.

The Governor recommends the Council to vote the sum of £100, being a gratuity to the father of the late Police Constable STEPHEN FOX, a member of the Fire Brigade, who lost his life by the falling of a wall during the suppression of a fire in November, 1857.

Government House, Hongkong, 8th June, 1889.

The Colonial Secretary moved that this Vote be referred to the Finance Committee.

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and passed.

VOTE PASSED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.—The Colonial Secretary, by direction of His Excellency the Governor, laid on the table the Report of the proceedings of the Finance Committee (No. 8), dated the 27th ultimo, and moved that the following Vote referred to therein be passed, viz.:—

C.S.O.  
588 of 1889. Expenses in connexion with the Fire Brigade:—

Establishment,.....	\$ 392.00
Exclusive of Establishment,.....	1,380.00
	<u>\$ 1,772.00</u>

The Acting Colonial Treasurer seconded.

Question—put and passed.

STORM DAMAGES.—Mr. RYRIE, pursuant to notice, asked:—

*Can the Government inform the Council when the heaps of felid smelling mud, which blocks up Queen's Road and other thoroughfares, are to be removed; as in the opinion of the residents generally this mud is dangerous to the health of the Community.*

The Surveyor General replied.

Mr. RYRIE then, pursuant to notice, moved:—

*That the Government be requested to lay on the table such papers and reports as have been furnished with reference to the damage by the late rainstorm, its probable causes, the plans proposed for repairing the damages, and their probable cost.*

Mr. LAYTON seconded.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

GAP ROCK LIGHT.—Mr. LAYTON, pursuant to notice, asked:—

*What progress, if any, has been made with the erection of the light on the Gap Rock.*

The Colonial Secretary replied.

SEARCHES BY OPIUM FARMER'S OFFICERS.—Mr. RYRIE, pursuant to notice, asked:—

*Is it with the sanction of the Government that all passengers travelling by the River Steamers from Canton and Macao are liable and subject to search by the Runners of the Opium Farmer in Hongkong.*

The Colonial Secretary replied.

C.O. Desp.  
98 of 1889. FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.—His Excellency the Governor informed the Council that intimation had been received from Her Majesty's Government to the effect that the Government had given notice to the French Government to determine the Postal Convention with France of 24th September, 1856, at the expiration of one year from the 30th April last.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MERCHANT SHIPPING CONSOLIDATION ORDINANCE, 1879.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of this Bill.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CHINESE EMIGRATION CONSOLIDATION ORDINANCE, 1889, AND TO MAKE PROVISION AGAINST CERTAIN EMIGRATION ABUSES.—The Acting Attorney General moved the first reading of this Bill.

The Colonial Secretary seconded.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

BILL ENTITLED THE CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION ORDINANCE, 1889.—On the motion of the Acting Attorney General, the Council resumed Committee on this Bill.

Bill reported with a verbal amendment.

The Acting Attorney General then moved that the Bill be read a third time.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

Question put—that this Bill do pass.

Bill passed, and numbered as Ordinance 23 of 1889.

BILL ENTITLED THE CHINESE EXTRADITION ORDINANCE, 1889.—On the motion of the Acting Attorney General, the Council went into Committee on this Bill.

Bill reported with amendments.

ADJOURNMENT.—The Governor then adjourned the Council till Tuesday, the 25th instant, at 4 PM.

G. WILLIAM DES VOEUX,  
*Governor.*

Read and confirmed, this 25th day of June, 1889.

ARATHOON SETH,  
*Clerk of Councils.*