1st OCTOBER, 1898.

Present:-

His Excellency the Acting Governor, Major-General Black, C.B. (Officer Commanding the Troops).

Hon. T. Sercombe Smith (Acting Colonial Secretary).

Mr. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. R. Murray Rumsey (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police)

Hon. A. M. Thomson (Acting Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon, J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE (Clerk of Councils).

THE ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, Acting Attorney-General,

in the absence of the Hon. W. M. Goodman, was duly sworn.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted as a correct record.

THE ESTIMATES.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY—I have the honour to propose the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding \$2,587,898.80 to the public service of the year 1899. I may mention, sir, that the first reading of this Bill is brought on earlier this year than usual, to enable us to follow out our instructions and to allow of the Secretary of State for the Colonies sending out a written approval of the estimates before the end of the year.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council then adjourned until 3 p.m. on the 10th inst