

**COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL
OF INDIA**

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ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

1877

OF THE

Council of the Governor General of India,

ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING

LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

1876.

WITH INDEX.

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1877.

*Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Governor General of India,
assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the
provisions of the Act of Parliament 24 & 25 Vic., Cap. 67.*

The Council met at Government House on Monday, the 9th October 1876.

P R E S E N T :

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, G. M. S. I.,
presiding.

Major-General the Hon'ble Sir H. W. Norman, K. C. B.

The Hon'ble Arthur Hobhouse, Q. C.

The Hon'ble E. C. Bayley, C. S. I.

The Hon'ble Sir W. Muir, K. C. S. I.

The Hon'ble Sir A. J. Arbuthnot, K. C. S. I.

Colonel the Hon'ble Sir Andrew Clarke, R. E., K. C. M. G., C. B.

The Hon'ble John Inglis, C. S. I.

The Hon'ble T. C. Hope.

The Hon'ble F. R. Cockerell.

The Hon'ble the Mahārājā Sir Dig-Bijay Singh, Bahádur, K. C. S. I., of
Balrámpur.

OUDH LAWS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. HOBHOUSE moved that the Bill to declare what laws are in force in Oudh, as amended, be passed. He said that all that he had to remark on this subject he had said upon the last occasion when the Report was taken into consideration. Nothing had since occurred to make him think that any further observations were necessary, and he would therefore not trouble the Council with any further remarks unless any were called for by the course of the discussion. Seeing however how closely this Bill and the Oudh Land-Revenue Bill were connected together, he would ask His Excellency the President to suspend putting his motion until his hon'ble friend Mr. Inglis had had an opportunity of moving those motions that stood in his name, so that the two Bills might be before the Council at the same moment.

OUDH LAND-REVENUE BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. INGLIS presented the final Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and define the law relating to Land-Revenue

in Oudh, and moved that it be taken into consideration. He said: "A report by the Select Committee on this Bill was presented to the Council a short time ago by the Hon'ble Sir Henry Davies, who then explained fully all the changes that had been made in it since its introduction in 1872: it is consequently unnecessary for me to take up the time of the Council by going over the same ground again. I propose therefore to notice to-day those changes only which have been made in the Bill since the presentation of the Report in July last. A good many alterations have been made in it since then; some to render clear the meaning of certain sections, or to remove doubts that have been felt as to the construction to be put on others; and some to improve the arrangement of the Bill generally. Besides these there are only three changes made by the Committee which require particular notice.

"The first is the alteration made in the arrangement of sections 52 to 55, and the insertion of section 54. There is reason to believe that all the grants that have been made in lieu of rights previously possessed by the grantees have not been confirmed as required by section 52. In order to meet these cases the Committee have inserted section 54, which provides that if a Court, to which an application has been made under section 53, finds that the grant, which the grantor seeks to resume, has been made in consideration of the loss or surrender of a right previously vested in the grantee, but that it has not been confirmed or sanctioned as mentioned in section 52, the Court shall refer the case to the Chief Commissioner, who shall make such order in it as he thinks fit.

"The next section to which I have to ask the attention of the Council is section 158. To this section the Committee have added a clause, which provides, first, that if the Deputy Commissioner finds it necessary to annul the sub-settlement of any mahál in order to recover an arrear of rent due on it, he shall refer the case for the orders of the Chief Commissioner, and secondly, that on the expiration of the period for which any sub-settlement may have been annulled, a new sub-settlement shall be made under section 40 of the Bill. I am not certain that this last clause was necessary, but as doubts were entertained on the subject, and as the taluqdárs were apprehensive as to what the effect of the annulment of a sub-settlement might be the Committee considered it as well to provide distinctly that, on the expiration of the term for which any sub-settlement had been annulled, a new sub-settlement shall be made under section 40, that is in accordance with the provisions of Act XXVI of 1866, the Oudh Sub-settlement Act.

"The Committee have also inserted a clause in section 220 empowering the Chief Commissioner to determine the amount which may be retained by the Deputy Commissioner to defray the expenses of the recovery of arrears of rent under this section 158; and also empowering him to determine the extent to which an arrear of rent may be so recovered. It is not intended that applications for the recovery of an arrear of rent due for more than the year in which the application is made shall ordinarily be entertained under this section, but cases may occur when it may be found advisable to extend the period somewhat; such cases will be provided for by the rules issued under section 220.

"And this brings me to the only really important alteration that has been made in the Bill since the presentation of the Report in July last, namely, to chapter XII of the Bill now before the Council. The Council will remember that Sir Henry Davies said, when he presented the Report two months ago, that section 208 of the Bill then before the Council had been retained in it as originally drawn, but that some of its clauses were still under consideration. The clauses to which he referred were those which gave power to the Chief Commissioner to frame rules relating to the appointment, punishment and remuneration of the patwárís of all maháls, whether they were included in taluqás or not. The taluqdárs have from the first protested against these clauses, and have presented several memorials against them. They urge, among other objections, that the power of appointing their own patwárís was conferred on them in 1858, and that if this power is now transferred to the Chief Commissioner, they will be deprived of a privilege which they value highly, and which they have exercised ever since the annexation of Oudh. Their objections are very clearly and temperately stated in the last memorial submitted by them, which was forwarded to the Government of India by the Chief Commissioner in April last. This memorial is among the printed papers which have been circulated to the Members of the Council.

"The question has been very carefully considered lately, and it has been decided that it will be better to strike out of section 220—the section which gives the Chief Commissioner power to frame rules about various matters—all the clauses relating to patwárís, and to provide for their appointment, punishment and remuneration in the Bill itself. This has accordingly been done by sections 203 to 215, which now form chapter XII of the Bill before the Council. Section 203 gives the Chief Commissioner power to require the appointment of a patwári for any village or local area. Section 204 imposes on all landholders

the responsibility of nominating duly qualified persons to fill the office of patwáris, and section 205 empowers the Chief Commissioner to make rules for regulating the qualifications, enrolment and duties of patwáris. The next seven sections Nos. 206 to 212 contain provisions relating to the appointment, punishment, supervision and remuneration of patwáris generally.

"Then comes section 213, which declares that the provisions of sections 206—212 shall not by force of the Act only apply to taluqás, but that they may be made applicable if the Chief Commissioner finds it necessary to do so; then section 214 gives the Deputy Commissioner power to order the patwáris' papers required by the rules made under the Act to be prepared for any one year at the expense of any taluqdár who may fail to have them submitted at the prescribed time; and lastly section 215 provides that, on the request of any taluqdár, or if any taluqdár persistently and repeatedly fails to nominate persons to fill the office of patwáris, or to ensure the punctual and accurate performance by his nominees of the duties prescribed for them under this chapter, the Chief Commissioner may direct that all or any of the provisions contained in sections 206 to 212 shall be applied to the taluqá of the taluqdár making such request or default, or to any local area therein, for such terms as he thinks fit: provided that, in the case of the taluqdár making such request, the term shall not exceed his life, and that, in the case of the taluqdár making such default, the term shall not exceed his life or fifteen years, whichever period first expires.

"Thus the privilege which the taluqdárs now possess of appointing their own patwáris is continued to them, but power is given to the Chief Commissioner to step in and take the necessary measures to ensure the appointment of efficient men, and the submission of correct returns and statements for their estates, whenever this may be rendered necessary by the neglect or contumacy of any taluqdár.

"I think that these sections do all that is wanted; and I feel certain that the taluqdárs will show that they deserve the confidence that has been placed in them; that they will appoint efficient men to be the patwáris of their estates; and that they will take the necessary measures to ensure that the returns and statements required from them are correctly prepared and punctually submitted.

Suggestions have lately been made that we should at once introduce into Oudh all the statements and returns that are now required from the patwáris of the North-Western Provinces. I have no hesitation in saying that we cannot do this at present; they enjoy in the North-Western Provinces in the matter of

patwáris and the returns required from them many advantages we have not in Oudh. In the North-Western Provinces the patwáris have been carefully and thoroughly trained and instructed in their duties by the Settlement officers under whom they have been employed during the progress of the revision of the assessments of the land-revenue now going on there,—the statements which the patwáris are there required to keep up have been in the first instance correctly prepared under the supervision of the Settlement officers, and the duty of the patwáris is, for the most part, merely to keep these returns up to date, by making in them the necessary corrections from time to time. In Oudh the case is altogether different: there the settlements have been completed some years ago—the patwáris are utterly ignorant and uninstructed: and most of the papers kept up in the North-Western Provinces will, if called for from Oudh, have to be prepared *de novo*. For these reasons I am certain that we must be contented, for the present at all events, with demanding from our patwáris the statements and accounts prescribed by the circulars issued by the Chief Commissioner in 1869 and 1872. These are amply sufficient for all practical purposes; if we try to get more we shall only harass and worry the people without the slightest chance of attaining our object; hereafter, when we have got these papers correctly prepared, when our patwáris have been thoroughly instructed in their duties, we may perhaps, if it is then thought necessary, take a step further in imitation of the North-Western Provinces.

“I do not think that any other alterations have been made by the Select Committee since July last which need be noticed. The Bill has now been before the Council for about four years; during that time it has been most thoroughly and carefully discussed by all parties interested in it; by the officers of Government as well as by the taluqdárs and other landholders of Oudh. The differences which existed as to some of its provisions, and which have been the cause of the delay in passing it, have been adjusted, and it is now the wish of every one connected with Oudh that it may become law as soon as possible. I hope therefore that the Council will consent to the motion I shall presently make, and by passing this Bill to-day give to Oudh the benefit of a short, clearly expressed, well arranged revenue law, in place of the confusion which now exists on that subject. The revenue law in force in Oudh at present is the revenue law of the North-Western Provinces, as it stood in 1858, subject to such alterations as may have been made in it by orders subsequently passed by the Government of India, and the circulars issued from time to time by various Chief Commissioners. The revenue law thus partially extended to Oudh is contained in more than 50 old Regulations and Acts. The earlier of

these Regulations were passed in 1793, originally for Bengal, and were afterwards extended at different times, either wholly or in part, with many modifications, to the ceded and conquered provinces. The difficulty of tracing the law backwards and forwards through all these old Regulations is in itself very great; but this difficulty has been materially enhanced in Oudh by the effect of the orders of Government and the circulars of the Chief Commissioners; and also by the fact that the taluqdári settlement granted to Oudh by Lord Canning has introduced into that Province many tenures unknown in Bengal when the earlier Regulations were passed. The result is that it is almost, in fact I may say quite, impossible to ascertain with any degree of certainty what the law actually is on many important questions connected with the revenue administration of the Province. In the place of all these old Regulations and Acts, all these orders and circulars, all this uncertainty, I hope we shall now have a short, clearly expressed Act, in which all doubtful points, so far as they have been brought to the notice of the Select Committee, are cleared up and settled, and the boon to the people and the officers of the Government will be very great. Of course I do not mean to say that the Bill which I have now the honour to present to the Council is altogether perfect, or that it may not be found necessary, after it has been in operation a few years, to propose some alterations or amendments in it; for it is no easy task to consolidate into one short Act the provisions of so many old Regulations and Acts, overridden as they are on so many points by an unlimited number of orders and circulars; especially when they relate to so large a subject as the law applicable to the assessment and collection of the land-revenue, the preparation and maintenance of a correct record of rights in land, the partition of estates, and other matters coming within the scope of this Bill; but the Select Committee have taken very great trouble with it, and have done their best. They have moreover received much assistance from Mr. Currie, the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh, and from the Revenue Officers of that Province, who have all been constantly consulted while the Bill has been in progress, and whose opinions have received the most careful attention and consideration. The Select Committee have also to acknowledge the assistance they have received from the taluqdárs of Oudh, who have from the first taken a very active and intelligent interest in the Bill. Thus, as I just now said, the provisions of this Bill have been most thoroughly and carefully discussed during the last four years by all parties interested in it, and I can, without hesitation, commend it to the approval of the Council.

In conclusion, my Lord, I wish to take advantage of this opportunity to express, as Officiating Chief Commissioner of Oudh, my sense of the fairness and

liberality that have been shewn by the taluqdárs as a body in the discussion and settlement of the many important questions affecting their rights and interests that have been raised while this Bill has been before the Select Committee. I refer especially to my friend the Mahárájá of Balrámpur who is now a Member of this Council; to Rájá Amír Hussain Khán, the Vice-President of the Taluqdárs' Association; and also to the other taluqdárs who have come up to Simla to be present at the final discussion on it. I have now, my Lord, to move that the final Report of the Select Committee on the Bill be taken into consideration."

The Hon'ble THE MAHARAJA OF BALRAMPUR, speaking in Hindústání, said that the Oudh Land-Revenue Bill and the Oudh Laws Bill had been under consideration for the last four years. During this interval all those taluqdárs and others whom the provisions of these Bills concerned were given the opportunity to express their opinions. Consequently every section of these Bills was properly discussed and thoroughly considered, and the several points were properly determined by the Select Committee. In his opinion the legislation of these Bills was in reality an important one, for by their introduction many doubts had been removed. It was therefore his desire that the Bills might be passed by the Council.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. INGLIS also moved that the Bill as amended be passed.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said:—

"Before I put the question which has been moved by the Hon'ble Mr. Inglis, I wish to say a very few words in general reference to the subject of this Bill. It is not in my power to add any thing, nor is it necessary that I should attempt to add any thing, in the way of explanation, to the much that has been already written and spoken, and more especially to what we have heard to-day from the Hon'ble Member who moved that the Bill do now pass, respecting the details of this important measure, the circumstances which have rendered it necessary, or the numerous objects it is intended to effect. But the probable result of the motion, with which I shall conclude these remarks, is one upon which I desire to offer the sincere congratulations and grateful acknowledgments of the Government of India—in the first place, to those able and experienced administrators, Sir George Couper and Mr. Inglis, as also to the Judicial Commissioner in Oudh, Mr. Currie, who, by their valuable advice and energetic assistance, have enabled the Committee to bring this Bill to what we hope and believe to be a satisfactory completion;

and, in the next place, I wish to offer similar, and no less cordial, acknowledgments to the Mahārājā of Balrāmpur, and to those influential Native Noblemen and Gentlemen of Oudh, whose intelligent co-operation and unprejudiced criticism have so greatly aided the Government of India in its endeavour to reconcile the reasonable interests of the taluqdārs with that degree of security which the State, in its supreme capacity, as the impartial guardian of all classes and interests, is bound to provide, not only for the collection of its own revenue, but also for the rights of subordinate holders, and the adequate protection of the actual cultivator of the soil.

"It is with special satisfaction that I notice that our deliberations to-day have taken place in the presence of some of those gentlemen, who so worthily represent the intelligence and loyalty of the taluqdārs of Oudh; because I am thereby afforded the opportunity of publicly vindicating, in their hearing, the character of this Government from a very serious accusation—and, I must say, I think a very odious accusation—which has been publicly preferred against it by a writer of considerable eminence and authority. In a recent work by him upon the Primitive Forms of Property, M. Emile de Laveleye, the distinguished Belgian Publicist, has recorded and criticised the course of Indian legislation in reference to land-tenures in Oudh.

"Now, no doubt that subject is a very complicated and difficult one; but, I fear, it cannot be said that M. de Laveleye has treated it with his usual care and candour; indeed, his statements on this subject appear to me to have been made under a total misconception, not only of the principles, but also of the plainest facts, of our Indian land legislation. Those statements, however, have so special a reference to the questions with which this Bill is concerned, that, before I refer to them more particularly in detail, it may, perhaps, be convenient to revert for a moment to the origin and object of the measure now before us.

"The primary object of this Bill is, as we have heard from my hon'ble friend Mr. Inglis, to clarify the laws relating to land-revenue in Oudh, which have been obscured and confused by section 25 of the Indian Councils Act. That section declares to be law a great number of merely executive orders and regulations which were never intended to be law at all. Mr. Hobhouse gave us the other day the number of enactments which have been more or less applied in Oudh, subject to indefinite qualifications, by the executive order of February 1856; and, if I rightly recollect, it was no less than two hundred and

forty-seven. I gathered from his lucid analysis of the state of the law in Oudh, that it consisted, firstly, of the spirit of the Bengal Regulations modified by custom, secondly, of a few Acts of Council having special application to Oudh, and thirdly, of this mass of executive orders to which I have referred; and of which, I believe, it was said by a very eminent former Member of this Council (Sir Henry Maine), that he could rarely read one of them without being in doubt whether it was intended to convey a sarcasm, or to lay down a rule.

"Well, the present system of land-revenue in Oudh which this Bill, when passed, will materially modify and, we trust, greatly improve, was based on the Panjáb system, as that system existed in what I suppose I may call the pre-scientific era; that is to say, before it had been codified by Mr. Fitzjames Stephen and Mr. Egerton; and the Bill now before us was, I believe, when first introduced, drawn upon the lines of the Panjáb Act XXXIII of 1871.

"Since then it has, I need not say, been copiously recast in general accordance with the principles of the North-Western Provinces Act XIX of 1873. Now, it is quite unnecessary for me to follow this Bill through all its previous stages, to the final and definite form in which we hope to pass it to-day.

"The history of the Bill has been very ably sketched by Hon'ble Members, who not only on this, but on former occasions, have spoken on the subject of it; and, in listening to the exceedingly interesting account they have given us of the progress of this measure, I have often been reminded of a very curious and very extraordinary statement—(a statement almost as extraordinary as those of M. de Lavalaye)—by an old Greek writer, who seriously affirms it to be a fact in natural history, that the eagle habitually lays three eggs, sits upon two, and hatches only one. Now, however untrustworthy that statement may be in regard to the natural history of eagles, I think it is, at least, more or less applicable to the natural history of the legislative incubations and productions of a Government which, like this of India, has to legislate with careful reference to the most complex, the most curious, and the most delicate diversities and varieties of difference in the fundamental social facts of the numerous dissimilar communities whose rights and interests are committed to its charge. In fact, the Indian legislature, in reference to subjects like the present, is obliged to deal with its Bills much in the same way as the eagle has been said to deal with her eggs; that is to say, the Bills finally brought into legal existence represent only the carefully selected residuum of numerous projects and principles which, in the meantime, have been sedulously tested and silently eliminated in Committee.

"I believe that the great difficulties with which the Committee have had to deal in framing the present Bill, have arisen out of the exceeding complexity of the relations of the population of Oudh, on the one hand to the soil, on the other hand to the State. That population is composed, broadly speaking, of three dissimilar, yet closely inter-related, classes. In the first place, there are the taluqdárs; then, there are the rest of the proprietors and the village communities; and lastly, there are the under-proprietors and other subordinate holders. The taluqdárs are directly responsible to Government for the payment of the land-revenue assessed on their estates; as are also the other proprietors and village communities; while the under-proprietors and subordinate holders pay the revenue assessed on their lands to a taluqdár, or some other superior proprietor, in addition to the share of the profits to which he is entitled. The Government of India therefore, in legislating on the subject of land-revenue in Oudh, has had to consider most carefully, not only the relative rights of the taluqdárs, superior proprietors, under-proprietors, and subordinate holders, but also the grounds on which those rights repose in ancient usage and custom, as well as the conditions whereby they should be regulated and defined in accordance with modern requirements. In fact, the task which the Government has had to undertake has been to reconcile, as far as possible, the vested rights and interests of the taluqdárs with the interests of the subordinate holders, the interests of the cultivator, the interests of the State, and the interests of the soil itself. Now, I should certainly have thought that a legislature, thus practically engaged in the conscientious endeavour to work out to a just solution one of the most perplexing—though, at the same time, one of the most interesting—problems in legislation, might have fairly and reasonably reckoned on receiving from a publicist so eminent as M. de Laveleye, should he deign to notice their labours—well, if not a sympathetic interest in the difficulty of those labours, at least a perfectly impartial recognition of their results. But I will now ask Hon'ble Members to allow me to read to them a few passages from the work by M. de Laveleye, to which I have referred; and if those passages are not already in the recollection of Hon'ble Members, I am sure they will hear them with considerable surprise.

" 'In Oudh,' says M. de Laveleye, 'the British Government has considered the taluqdárs as the sole proprietors of the soil, *without any reserve whatever on behalf of the interests of the subordinate holders.*'

"And having thus concisely stated the assumed fact, he proceeds to enlarge upon it thus:

"During that period of anarchy which preceded the annexation of Oudh, the taluqdárs (who were merely the ancient heads of clans, feudal seigneurs, and collectors of imposts, just

like the zamindárs) usurped the position of independent proprietors; and, after the suppression of the last insurrection, the British Government *purchased their support* by recognizing them in that capacity.'

"M. de Laveleye then adds, that although the Government instituted an enquiry into the question whether the ryots possessed any rights at all in connection with the soil they cultivated, yet they (the *ryots*) were *terrified* into answering that enquiry with a negative. And then, after having drawn this double indictment against the British Government for bribery and intimidation (bribery in our dealings with the taluqdárs—intimidation in our dealings with the ryots), M. de Laveleye continues:

"'In Oudh the State' (that is, of course, the British Government) '*has stipulated no guarantee whatever for the ryot*. This is a fault, and something more. It is a crime—the crime of high treason against humanity.'

"Well, now, what can one say of assertions like this, unless it be what Horace Walpole, I believe, said of a certain lady of his acquaintance. 'She has,' he said, 'as good a set of teeth as any woman can possibly have, who has only three teeth, and each of them black.'

"Is it too much to say of such a passage as this, that it is as full, candid, and accurate, as any passage can be which contains only three statements, and each of them false? M. de Laveleye is, I believe, a member of the Cobden Club; and, if so, he is certainly one of the most distinguished members of it; and I have no doubt whatever that to his numerous continental readers this circumstance will have been an all-sufficient guarantee for the accuracy of his statements upon the subject of Indian legislation. But, what are the facts? Now, I speak here in the presence of experienced Indian legislators. There is not a single Hon'ble Member sitting at this table who will not be able to correct me immediately if I am unwarranted in asserting, that in the whole history of our land legislation for Oudh, there has been no period at which the legislature of this Empire has ignored the existence of proprietary rights in the soil of that province, other than those of the taluqdárs; that at no period has it disregarded the interests of the subordinate holders of those rights; that at no period has it omitted to take elaborate precautions for the protection of the tenant and the ryot from any abuse of powers which, though recognized by our generosity, have always been restrained by our justice.

"I appeal to the records of our land legislation for Oudh, which I now hold in my hand.

"Act XXVI of 1866 is entirely and exclusively devoted to the affirmation and definition of the claims of subordinate proprietors in Oudh. Now, this Act was passed within ten years after the annexation of the Province of Oudh; but its very preamble attests the pre-existence of rules and regulations issued by the Government of India for—what are the words?—*'the better determination of claims by persons possessed of subordinate rights of property' in Oudh.*

"Again, I turn to Act XIX of 1868, and I find that Act to be one elaborate code of law for the maintenance of subordinate proprietary rights, and for the protection of tenants in Oudh. Section 5 of this Act defines the rights of occupancy, which include those of the ryot. Sections 22 to 26 secure to the tenants of Oudh the right of compensation for improvements. Chapter IV limits the maximum rates of rent; Chapter V strictly circumscribes the power of ejectment; and the same consistent tendency of our land legislation for Oudh is continued in this direction and carried on by the Bill which we hope to pass to-day. Section 25 of that Bill subjects to important exemptions the right to resume rent-free grants; and, again, section 135 reserves to the State comprehensive powers for the rescue and preservation of the interests of tenants whose land is sold for arrears of revenue.

"Now, I make no apology to Hon'ble Members for having inflicted upon their patience this reference to facts with which they are all thoroughly familiar; because I am sure they will feel that, on an occasion like the present, and as the Executive Head of the Government of India, I need make to the members of its legislature no excuse for endeavouring to refute the unfounded aspersions cast upon their policy by so distinguished a critic of it as M. de Lavalaye. And if, indeed, some echo of my words should reach beyond this room, I trust it may tend to confirm the taluqdars of Oudh in that considerate recognition which, I am bound to say, they have given to the many and great difficulties involved in the task undertaken by this Government, and also to the impartial and conscientious spirit in which the Government has endeavoured to perform that task, in legislating upon a subject which materially concerns the interests of other classes in Oudh besides their own.

"I have now only to put the question before me; and the question is that the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

• OUDH LAWS BILL.

The Hon'ble Mr. Hobhouse's motion that the Bill to declare what laws are in force in Oudh, as amended, be passed, was then put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned *sine die*.

SIMLA;
The 9th October 1876. }

WHITLEY STOKES,
*Secretary to the Government of India,
Legislative Department.*