

**COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL
OF INDIA**

VOL. 15

JAN. - DEC.

1876

P. L.

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.

VOL. XV.



Published by the Authority of the Governor General.

Gazettes & Debates Section

Parliament Library Building

Room No. FB-025

Block 'G'

CALCUTTA:

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING.

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 Tuesday, the 4th January 1876.

PRESENT :

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 A. Hobhouse, Q. C.

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

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

The Hon'ble J. R. Bullen Smith, C. S. I.

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

The Hon'ble Sir Douglas Forsyth, C. B., K. C. S. I.

The Hon'ble Ashley Eden, C. S. I.

The Hon'ble T. C. Hope.

The Hon'ble D. Cowie.

The Hon'ble Rájá Narendra Krishna Bahádur.

INDIAN TELEGRAPH BILL.

The Hon'ble Mr. HOBHOUSE moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the law relating to Telegraphs in India be taken into consideration. He said that this was a Bill which was introduced into the Council in last July for the purpose of amending the defects in the laws which he had explained at the time. The Council would recollect that there were two previous Acts passed on the subject, the one in 1854 and the other 1860; and owing to an oversight in the Act of 1860 it was found that the Government could not make rules to regulate telegraphs which were worked under licenses granted under the Act of 1854. That fact was brought to their notice by the Advocate General, who had also drafted some clauses for the purpose of remedying it. That was the principal cause for introducing this Bill. At the same time the opportunity had been taken to bring the penalty clauses into accord with the Penal Code, which had been passed subsequently to the Act of 1860. In that state the Bill went to the Committee. The Committee made a few alterations which were all detailed in the Report. They consisted

almost entirely of some amendments of the law with the view of preventing fraudulent tampering with the telegraph and the abstraction of messages, which we were told was an evil to be carefully guarded against in times of commercial excitement. The alterations made by the Committee were nearly all matters of detail and were described in the Report, and he did not think he need go into them further, because there was not one of them of sufficient importance to call for explanation to the Council.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

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

The Motion was put and agreed to.

BURMA LAND REVENUE BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. EDEN presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to declare the law relating to interests in land, and to regulate the assessment and collection of land-revenue, capitation-tax and other taxes in British Burma.

The Council then adjourned to Tuesday, the 18th January 1876.

CALCUTTA,
The 4th January 1876. }

WHITLEY STOKES,
Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Legislative Department.