

Wednesday, January 31, 1877

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

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LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

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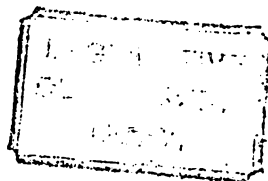
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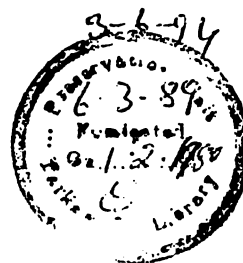
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1879.

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 Wednesday, the 31st January 1877.

PRESENT:

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

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.

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

The Hon'ble Sir Arthur Hobhouse, Q.C., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Sir E. C. Bayley, 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 Sir J. Strachey, K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I.

The Hon'ble D. Cowie.

The Hon'ble Mahārājā Narendra Krishna.

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

The Hon'ble F. R. Cockerell.

The Hon'ble B. W. Colvin.

The Hon'ble R. A. Dalrymple.

INDIAN FOREST BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. HOPE introduced the Bill to amend the law relating to the management and preservation of Government forests, to the transit of forest-produce, and to the duty leviable on timber, and moved that it be referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report in two months. He had scarcely anything to add to what he had said on the occasion when he obtained leave to bring in the Bill. He might merely point out that the third clause of section 1 was the one which contained a provision which would enable any portion of the Bill, without the whole of it, to be brought into operation in any particular province. There were some chapters in the Bill which would not be needed in some districts, as, for instance, chapter V, which gave, for the interest of the community at large, a control over forests not the property of Government, might not be required where there were no mountainous tracts. Again chapter VI, relating to duties on timber, might, and in many

cases would, be quite unnecessary; and probably parts of the provisions in chapter VII would often be superfluous.

He would allude to another point, clause (c) of section 5, merely for the purpose of explaining that the term "Forest Settlement Officer" had been inserted for the purpose of distinguishing between the special officer here intended and other Settlement Officers engaged in the settlement of the land-revenue. It was not intended that the Forest Settlement Officer should be a Forest Officer; perhaps quite the contrary. The Executive would probably select for the duty a person not in the Forest Department who had some particular qualifications.

Another point MR. HOPE would invite attention to was the last clause of section 32, which provided that nothing in that chapter (chapter IV), or in any rule made under that chapter, should be deemed to prohibit any act done "in the exercise of any right." Any person who did not notice this important matter might suppose that the whole of these very stringent provisions were to be applied to all persons who had any rights, without compensation or enquiry such as was provided for in the case of Reserved Forests.

The Hon'ble MR. DALYELL desired to make a very few remarks before this Bill was referred to a Select Committee. Although, owing to unavoidable circumstances, he had not had the advantage of hearing the observations which had fallen from his hon'ble friend when he obtained leave to introduce the Bill, he had carefully read the report of the proceedings of the Council on that occasion, and had attentively listened to the remarks which had been just made, but he confessed that his hon'ble friend had not satisfied him either that the Bill was correct in principle, or that its provisions were such as could be safely allowed to become law in any part of the Empire without considerable modifications. It was therefore very satisfactory to him to find the Bill in the hands of his hon'ble friend and not in those of any member of the Government. MR. DALYELL concluded from this that His Lordship's Government did not consider itself in any way pledged either to the policy of the Bill itself or to the principles upon which some of its provisions had been framed. His hon'ble friend had said that the Bill had been prepared on the plan of having a general Forest Law for the whole of India, and giving power to the Local Governments and Administrations to frame rules suitable to the peculiar circumstances of particular provinces. Now it seemed to MR. DALYELL that the forest-rights and privileges of individuals and communities must vary in precisely the same degree as did their land-tenures. Knowing as they did then the great variety of land-tenures, not only in the different provinces, but in

various localities of the same province, the natural result of this plan of his hon'ble friend's must be to leave to the Local Governments and Administrations the absolute power of framing such Forest-laws as they thought proper. That was very much the case under the existing law, Act VII of 1865; but in that Act there was this very important proviso, that nothing in the rules passed under it should abridge or affect any existing right; whereas in this Bill there was no such safe-guard. On the contrary, one of its main objects had been described as being "to define, to regulate, to commute and to extinguish all customary forest-rights." Now MR. DALYELL was sure that His Excellency the President and the majority of the Council would agree with him in thinking that a Bill with such an object as this—a Bill which professedly was intended to deal with local rights and local usages—was essentially a measure which should be framed, discussed and passed by the local legislatures. His hon'ble friend had told the Council last week that it was the desire of the Bombay Government that Forest-legislation, so far as that Presidency was concerned, should be imperial rather than local, and that the Forest Bill which had been prepared in the local Council there had been dropped. MR. DALYELL had no knowledge of the circumstances which had led that Government to come to this conclusion. But he had received a copy of a letter from the Madras Government which showed that they held very strong opinions of an opposite character, and he believed that their preference for local rather than imperial legislation as to forests was shared by the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State. He had no doubt too, that if His Lordship's Government came to the decision that this was the better plan, the local Councils of Bombay and Bengal would be quite prepared to take up the question. There would also be this additional advantage in the course which he ventured to urge. If the Bill was passed as it stood, being permissive in its nature, the Local Governments might or might not extend the Act to the provinces over which they had control. It was thus left to the discretion of the Local Governments to put in force or not an imperial enactment. Now, he believed it was questionable whether that was a perfectly legal course, and, at any rate, it had the disadvantage of leaving the Statute-book incomplete; for the Act would not bear on the face of it the provinces in which it was in force, thus necessitating a reference to provincial notifications in order to become aware whether it was in operation in any particular locality.

In any case, however, it would be necessary to legislate in this Council for those parts of the Empire outside of the local limits of Bombay, Madras and Bengal. It remained to be considered whether the present Bill would serve this purpose. He confessed he would prefer to see a separate measure for each prov-

ince, the course which had been followed in the Burma Bill now under the consideration of this Council. And he should be glad to see the main object of all such measures directed to the ascertainment and regulation of forest-rights and privileges, rather than to the extinction or commutation of such rights. On a former occasion a very similar Bill had been characterized by his colleagues in the Board of Revenue at Madras as "altogether too arbitrary, setting the laws of property at defiance, and leaving the determination of the forest-rights of the people to a Department which, in that Presidency at all events, had always shown itself eager to destroy all forest-rights except those of Government." Now, no doubt such criticism as that would be too strong to apply to the present Bill, which he quite believed had been very considerably modified by his hon'ble friend in the direction desired. But still he thought that there was a certain flavour of the original measure about some of the provisions of the present Bill. And when the Council remembered that the rights with which it was proposed to deal were those of the poorest, the most ignorant and the most helpless classes of the people, he was sure that every one of them would desire to see the subject approached in a more liberal spirit than had been done in the present Bill. Probably the most objectionable feature in the draft was that to which his hon'ble friend had just alluded, namely, the fact that under the Bill, as it stood, the original decision apparently, as regards all forest-rights and privileges, and the determination of the manner in which those privileges or rights were to be exercised in the future, were left to an officer who was, presumably under the Bill, a Forest officer, and who, so far as the Bill was concerned, might be altogether wanting in that judicial experience and training which were essential to the proper appreciation or adjudication of such questions. It was true, as his hon'ble friend had just said, that it was not the intention that this officer should be an officer of the Forest Department, but MR. DALYELL thought that it would prevent much misconception if this were made clear in the Bill itself. The natural conclusion from the draft before them was that he would be a Forest officer; and that had been the view taken by the Board of Revenue as to the former Bill and by the Government of Madras as to the present Bill.

Then the powers taken in section 3 of chapter II appeared to be much too wide. Under that section, it would be possible to convert any waste-land in the country in which a few trees were growing, and in which the Government might have any rights, such as rights in mineral produce, into a Reserved Forest, although the absolute proprietary right in the land itself might have been already given under settlement to individuals or communities.

Then again the requirement in clause (c) of section 7, that all claims to

forest-rights or privileges should be made in *writing*, appeared to be especially harsh when the class of the probable claimants was borne in mind ; and the rejection of such claims under clauses (a) and (b) of section 11, either because the right was not actually exercised at the particular time when the notification was published, or because in the opinion of the Settlement Officer the exercise of the right was not essential for the beneficial use of the land or of the person claiming the right, might prove in many cases very inequitable.

It was not necessary, however, that he should trouble the Council with further details as to the objections to the provisions of the Bill, as, relying on the assurance given by his hon'ble friend last week, Mr. DALYELL would trust to the Bill being so modified in Select Committee as to remedy these objections as well as the more general defects to which he had alluded.

In conclusion, he desired to explain that he was fully sensible of the urgent importance of Forest-conservancy in almost every province of the Empire, and that he was quite aware of the great difficulties which the officers of the Forest Department felt in carrying on their operations owing to the defective state of the law. At the same time he believed that if enactments were carefully framed, suitable to the varying circumstances of each locality, those difficulties might be got over with due regard to vested interests and private rights and privileges in forests.

THE HON'BLE SIR ARTHUR HOBHOUSE said that, with reference to the remarks which had fallen from his hon'ble friend Mr. Dalycell, he thought it very likely that there might be provisions in the Bill which would be more conveniently and effectively discussed in the local legislatures. But he wished to point out that there was nothing in the Bill to prevent such discussion. The Bill was framed on the same principle as the existing Forest Act, and before it came into operation anywhere, it must be preceded by some distinct executive act. If the Government of Madras found that the power of making rules did not satisfy their wants, or that there were provisions in this Bill which made it inexpedient to bring it into operation in Madras, there was no reason why they should not bring in a measure of their own. In point of fact it had been contemplated by the Madras Government to introduce a Bill into the local Council. Why that had not been done he did not know. It had been under discussion, and he believed at the present moment the Madras Government had in contemplation to adopt that course. That course was open to them now, though there was a general Forest Act in existence, and it would be equally open to them if this Bill passed into law in its present form. The Select Committee should take care that the local Councils were not excluded from action by

any language of this Act, and when such care was taken, the mischief which his hon'ble friend apprehended would be avoided.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said he understood that the operation of the Bill would not interfere with local legislation with reference to local rights where local legislatures existed.

The Hon'ble SIR ARTHUR HOBHOUSE assented.

The Hon'ble MR. HOPE did not propose to trouble the Council at any great length by way of reply, but there were three broad questions which he wished to touch upon. His hon'ble friend Mr. Dalryell commenced by an allusion to the fact of the Bill being in the hands of a member of the Council who was not a member of the Government. That was no doubt the case, and as far as he himself was concerned, it left him a greater amount of freedom in dealing with the Bill than if he had been a member of the Government bringing it in. At the same time it was due to himself and the Government that he should state that the Bill was no production of his own; it had not originated from his brain. It was simply an inheritance that he had received, as most of the other Bills in the hands of members here were inheritances, from a long time past. A Forest Bill had been on the anvil for the last seven years. When he said it was on the anvil he meant it was on the anvil in the executive department of the Government. He received the Bill from the executive department of the Government in a form in which it was understood to be generally approved by the Government, subject of course to any modifications which the Council at large might think proper to introduce.

The second point was one in regard to which he should be exceedingly brief, because his hon'ble friend who was in charge of the Legislative Department had anticipated most of what he would have said. With reference to the supposed interference with the powers of the local legislatures, it should be remembered that there were only three local legislatures. In the present case we had two of the Governments possessing them who represented that they were desirous of having a general Bill carried through this Council. There were at the same time a large number of other Governments and Administrations which did not possess local Councils of their own, but which, as far as he was aware, were also willing that the same course should be pursued. They had on the other hand one Government which was at present under what he considered a rather curious misapprehension as to what the Bill was, and which was averse to general legislation. That, he considered, was no reason why they should abstain altogether from passing a general Bill; and even if the

objectors were two instead of one, he should still think that to pass one general Bill, with separate local Bills for those two provinces, instead of seven or more, or as many Bills as there were Administrations, would be the proper course to follow. So far from this course being unfair to any one, the unfairness and inconvenience appeared to him to lie quite the other way.

The third point was as to the measure being a stringent one. The Bill was not very similar to the one contemplated and criticised by the Madras Government in 1871. He denied that there was any provision whatever in it of unreasonable stringency; on the contrary, he thought it might be possible to prove in detail that the effect of the existing law as regards the important subject of creating Reserved Forests, which was a point which his hon'ble friend selected for animadversion, were much more stringent than was contemplated under the present Bill. His hon'ble friend noticed correctly that Act VII of 1865 saved all existing rights, whereas this Bill, he said, extinguished them. But although Act VII of 1865 saved all those rights, the Land Acquisition Act of 1870 existed in full force for the purpose of extinguishing them if required. The present procedure, if you wished to make a Reserved Forest, was to take it up under the Land Acquisition Act, and what could be the difference in principle between taking it under the Land Acquisition Act and under the proposed Act he failed to perceive. When they came to details, they found that the provisions of the present Bill were on the whole a great deal more favourable to the person whose rights were being enquired into than those of the Land Acquisition Act. He spared the Council a detail of the differences between the two Acts which would take time. But it seemed to him better to have a special officer appointed to enquire into the rights of individuals throughout a tract of country, which would ordinarily be done under the present Bill, than to leave them to be dealt with by the usual revenue authorities. Besides that, this officer would go into the forest, the whole enquiry would be conducted on the spot without expense in the presence of the parties interested. And finally, if they were dissatisfied with the decision come to, they would be entitled to an appeal either to some Revenue Court to which they were accustomed to resort in all other revenue-cases, or to a Special Court selected for the purpose. He ventured to think that the Appellate Court provided in this Bill would be quite as superior to the Appellate Court under the Land Acquisition Act, as the enquiry under the present Bill would be superior to an enquiry under that Act. He could hardly conceive anything more oppressive and liable to defeat the ends of justice than entrusting the appeal, as was necessary under the Land Acquisition Act, to the Civil Court of the district where the case might not come on for a year or two, and then would

be burdened with all the elaboration of formalities and assessors, adjournments, fees, pleaders, and so on, which rendered justice in those Courts so exceedingly expensive and dilatory.

He need not revert again to the question of Forest Officers, except to say that he did not see what there was in the use of the term "Forest Settlement Officer" to suggest the idea that he was to be an Officer of the Forest Department. As he said before, it was not so intended, and he hoped that in Select Committee they would be able to find some other designation which would better answer the purpose.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. HOPE also moved that the Bill be published in the *Gazette of India* in English, and in the local Gazettes in English and in such other languages as the Local Government directs.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

BROACH AND KAIRA THAKURS INCUMBRANCES BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. HOPE also introduced the Bill to relieve from Incumbrances the estates of Thakurs in Broach and Kaira, and moved that it be referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report in six weeks. He had nothing to add to the explanation he had given when soliciting leave for its introduction.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. HOPE also moved that the Bill be published in the *Gazette of India* in English and in the *Bombay Government Gazette* in English and in such other languages, if any, as the Local Government directs.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

SALT TRANSPORT BY SEA BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. HOPE also introduced the Bill to restrict the transport of salt by sea, and moved that it be referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report in one month.

The Hon'ble MR. DALYELL regretted to find himself again in opposition to his hon'ble friend in regard to this Bill. It seemed to him that this measure was quite as arbitrary as, if not more so than, the Forest Bill to which he had just taken objection. His hon'ble friend's Statement of Objects and Reasons,

and his remarks when asking for leave to introduce the Bill last week, would lead to the assumption that the Bill referred to the Bombay Presidency only, but MR. DALYELL found that it would operate throughout the whole of British India, and it seemed to him that it would affect very seriously and impose considerable hardships upon a large number of people in the Madras Presidency who were engaged in the salt-trade, unless indeed the proviso in clause (b) of section 2 were very liberally worked. So far as he was aware neither the Government of Madras nor the Government of Bengal had complained that there was any great smuggling of salt on the coast, and he thought therefore that it would be only proper, before passing a measure which could not but restrict very seriously the trade between the eastern and western districts of Madras, and which must also affect very injuriously the salt-trade which now existed between the Madras Coast and the Straits Settlements and Ceylon and other places, a great part of which must be carried on in vessels of smaller tonnage than three hundred tons, it should be ascertained whether the smuggling of salt was so considerable as to require any measure of the kind. And as, in order to obtain correct information on that point, it might be necessary to refer to the officers of the coast-districts, it would, perhaps, be well to allow a little more time than one month for the submission of the Select Committee's report.

The Hon'ble SIR ARTHUR HOBHOUSE said, that having had some experience in the business of the office which he held, he might say that these directions of the Council as to the time within which reports of Select Committees should be submitted were habitually disobeyed by their servants the Select Committees. There was not one Bill in thirty in which the report of the Select Committee was made in the given time, so he hardly knew why any time was mentioned. On the Civil Procedure Code they should have reported about a year before they did. The fact was that the Select Committee took its own time in accordance with the communications which it received and the magnitude of the business, and he for one was quite willing that the words which fixed a time should be left out of this motion.

The Hon'ble MR. BULLEN SMITH concurred in what had fallen from the hon'ble member who had last spoken as to the manner in which the limits of time for the presentation of reports of Select Committees were frequently or generally exceeded; but at the same time he thought it was desirable that they should be agreed as to the general scope of a measure before sending it to a Select Committee, and he must confess that even before hearing the remarks of his hon'ble friend Mr. Dalzell, he had expected to

receive further information from the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill. He MR. BULLEN SMITH did not know on what information the Bill had been called for, although he assumed that there was such information before the Government of India as to render it in their opinion necessary. He would like to know the basis on which the provision in clause 2 had been framed, providing that transport of salt by sea should be confined to vessels of a certain rig and of a tonnage far exceeding that of the bulk of those now engaged. It was doubtless in the knowledge of some hon'ble members that at a certain season of the year, namely, during the north-east monsoon, the trade between Calcutta and the Orissa and Ganjam coasts was carried on chiefly in very small craft, and he believed a similar class of vessels found employment towards Chittagong and Arakan. Into this carrying trade he believed salt largely entered, and yet all such vessels would be barred by the section he had mentioned, or if protected by the pass from a special officer mentioned in clause 4, the result would be to except almost the entire class of vessels to which, as far as his knowledge went, the Bill might be expected to apply. It would be satisfactory to him to have further information as to the need for this Bill, before referring it to a Select Committee.

His Excellency THE PRESIDENT said that, with reference to the observations which had been made, he should be glad to know whether the general character of the Bill was the result of communications which had already passed with the Governments of Madras and Bombay.

The Hon'ble MR. HOPE said in reply that, with reference, first, to the period within which it was proposed that the Committee should report upon the Bill, he might say that the Bill had been handed over to him by the Executive Government, and it was an instruction to him that it was considered desirable, in order to put an early stop to the smuggling that was going on, that the Bill should be passed through the Council as rapidly as was possible, and in consequence of that he had applied for the term of one month, having also in view the time remaining before the close of the session of the Council at Calcutta, and the fact that it was quite evident that such a Bill should not be passed in the absence and without the advice of the mercantile members of the Council. If it should be found that a reference would have to be made to the local officers, and that further consideration was necessary, there was nothing to compel the Committee to send in their report within the time specified; and as the hon'ble member in charge of the Legislative Department had shown, it was very seldom that the instructions of the Council in this respect were obeyed. If a report was ready even within the time, it was presented, but if it

was not ready the Committee sometimes took double or treble, or ten times, the period fixed for its presentation. There was one advantage, however, in naming a short period, namely, that it gave the public at large a knowledge of what the period for report was supposed to be, and it also gave fair warning to those interested to send in their representations as soon as they could, instead of, as had often been the case, their coming at the last moment and then stating that they did not know the Bill was to be reported upon, and that they wanted further time.

In answer to the question put by one or two hon'ble members, and by His Excellency the President, as to what communications had taken place in connection with this Bill, Mr. HOPE might say that the Bill was the result of very complete and prolonged communication with the Local Governments. He did not happen to bring the papers with him, but as well as he recollected, the question had been mooted for the last four years at least. The measure had been objected to by Madras. Their objections had been sent for the consideration of the Salt Commission, the members of which were selected from the Madras, Bombay and Bengal Presidencies, and they, after full consideration, reported that they thought the Bill ought to be proceeded with, and suggested certain improvements and amendments in it. As to the objection that it would injure the trade in salt by affecting small vessels, he might say that to controul them was exactly the object which was intended. It was by means of these small vessels that all the smuggling took place. He believed that smuggling did go on a good deal more on the West coast than the East; but whether on the West or East, the legitimate trade on the one coast or the other—in fact all legitimate trade—could be protected by the grant of a pass under the provision which was made in the Bill for that purpose. He would also point out that, as regards the interior of British India, no salt could be carried within large areas without being properly protected by a pass, and there were various provisions of the law which were required to be observed in order to show that the salt was not contraband, and other regulations of a like restrictive nature. He failed to see why, if salt was restricted when it was carried in a cart, it should be unrestricted when carried in a boat. If any suggestion could be made in Select Committee for modifying the conditions of section 3, by which the legitimate trade in salt could be saved from annoyance, he for one would be most happy to consider it.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble Mr. HOPE also moved that the Bill be published in the *Gazette of India* in English, and in the local Gazettes in English and in such other languages as the Local Government directs.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

SPECIFIC RELIEF BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR ARTHUR HOBHOUSE presented the final Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to define and amend the law relating to certain kinds of Specific Relief.

REGISTRATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR ARTHUR HOBHOUSE also presented the final Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Indian Registration Act, 1871.

ACT No. XIII OF 1875 AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR ARTHUR HOBHOUSE also introduced the Bill to amend Act No. XIII of 1875, and moved that it be referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report in a week. He explained last week what the object of the Bill was, and he had now no further remarks to make. The Council would see that the Bill consisted of a single section, by which the expression "High Court" was defined in a distinct way. The High Courts contemplated by the Probates Act were defined to be the chartered High Courts, the Chief Court of the Panjáb, and the Court of the Recorder of Rangoon.

With reference to the instruction proposed to be given to the Select Committee to report in one week, he might say that on this particular occasion he would undertake that the Select Committee would act in accordance with the instructions of the Council.

The Hon'ble MAHÁRÁJÁ NARENDRA KRISHNA said the object of introducing this Bill in His Excellency's Council appeared to him, from the remarks which fell from the Hon'ble Sir Arthur Hobhouse, to be, that minor Courts in the outlying parts of British India should not exercise the power of granting letters of administration or probates having effect throughout the whole of British India which the High Courts were only empowered by law to grant. Under the provisions of the Succession and the Hindú Wills Acts, the district Judges had the power of granting probates affecting property lying within their respective jurisdictions, and it was very desirable that the same power should continue to be exercised by the minor Courts in the outlying provinces. He believed it was not intended by the Bill to take away wholly the testamentary jurisdiction possessed by these Courts. If he was correct in his surmise, he would humbly suggest the propriety of adding a few words to that effect in the amended Bill, in order to prevent any misapprehension on the part of the public of the true import of the proposed Bill.

The Hon'ble SIR ARTHUR HOBHOUSE said the Mahárájá was perfectly correct in the view which he had taken of the law and of the intention of the Bill. SIR ARTHUR HOBHOUSE's only answer was a request that his hon'ble friend would consent to serve on the Select Committee, and he would then be able to see what was the exact thing done, and that the Bill did not interfere with the jurisdiction he wished to preserve:

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The following Select Committees were named :—

On the Bill to amend the law relating to the management and preservation of Government forests, to the transit of forest-produce, and to the duty leviable on timber—The Hon'ble Sir Arthur Hobhouse, the Hon'ble Sir A. J. Arbutnot, and the Hon'ble Messrs. Cockerell and Dalzell and the Mover.

On the Bill to relieve from Incumbrances the estates of Thákurs in Broach and Kaira—The Hon'ble Sir Arthur Hobhouse, the Hon'ble Sir E. C. Bayley, and the Hon'ble Messrs. Cockerell and Dalzell and the Mover.

On the Bill to restrict the transport of salt by sea—The Hon'ble Sir Arthur Hobhouse, the Hon'ble Sir A. J. Arbutnot, and the Hon'ble Messrs. Bullen Smith, Cockerell and Dalzell and the Mover.

On the Bill to amend Act No. XIII of 1875—The Hon'ble Mahárájá Narendra Krishna, and the Hon'ble Mr. Cockerell and the Mover.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 7th February 1877.

CALCUTTA,
The 31st January 1877.

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