ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA

LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

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OF THE

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ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING

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WITH INDEX.









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OALCUTTA:

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING:

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 26th February, 1879.

PRESENT:

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

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, 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., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Sir J. Strachey, G.C.S.I.

General the Hon'ble Sir E. B. Johnson, K.C.B., C.I.E., R.A.

The Hon'ble Whitley Stokes, c.s.1.

The Hon'ble Rivers Thompson, c.s.I.

The Hon'ble Mumtáz-ud-Daulah Náwáb Sir Muhammad Faiz Alí Khán Bahádur, k.c.s.i.

The Hon'ble T. H. Thornton, D.C.L., C.S.I.

The Hon'ble G. H. P. Evans.

The Hon'ble F. R. Cockerell.

The Hon'ble Sayyad Ahmad Khán Bahádur, c.s.1.

Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble Sir M. K. Kennedy, R.E., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, c.s.i.

The Hon'ble B. W. Colvin.

The Hon'ble Mahárájá Jotíndra Mohan Tagore.

DESTRUCTION OF RECORDS BILL. •

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes presented the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to authorize the destruction of Useless Records in Courts in British India.

INDIAN RAILWAY BILL.

Colonel the Hon'ble SIR ANDREW CLARKE presented the final Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Railways in India.

PRESIDENCY BANKS ACT, 1876, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR JOHN STRACHEY moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Presidency Banks Act, 1876. He should explain in a very few

words the object of the little Bill which he asked leave to introduce. The Presidency Banks Act had now been in force nearly three years, and had worked, so far as the Government was informed, in a very satisfactory manner. The object of the Bill he proposed to introduce was not to alter any of the substantive provisions of the existing Act, but only to provide for a few omissions and improvements in detail which had been suggested. Amongst these proposed changes, the only change which had any real importance had been suggested by the Banks themselves, and it was with the object of meeting the wishes of the Presidency Banks that he now asked leave to introduce this Bill. Its necessity had mainly arisen from doubts which had been expressed as to whether the Banks had power, under the Act of 1876, to borrow money by pledging the assets or property of the Bank. The need for such a power was obvious; and this omission having been brought to the notice of the Government by the three Presidency Banks, it was with the object of removing these doubts that it was proposed to introduce the present Bill.

• The other changes which it was proposed to take the opportunity of making in the existing law were for the most part so unimportant, that he need not take up the time of the Council in explaining them.

The Hon'ble Mr. Hope said he heard with great satisfaction that it was proposed to amend the Presidency Banks Act. He was not aware of the exact nature of the amendments proposed; but he felt at the time the Act was being passed, and when he sat as a Member of the Select Committee, that it was in many points very incomplete. He trusted that the amendment the Act would receive would not only affect matters of detail, but that its general tendency would be to increase the security of the public and the shareholders of the Bank. The present Act was still in many respects defective, and the very serious malpractices which had come to light both in India and in England showed that a much greater amount of stringency than had hitherto been considered necessary, was desirable in all Acts of this description.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 5th March, 1879.

CALCUTTA;
The 26th February, 1879.

D. FITZPATRICK,

Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

Exd.—J. G.

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