

*Thursday,  
10th August, 1893*

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
Council of the Governor General of India,  
  
**LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

**Vol. XXXII**

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ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA,  
ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING  
LAWS AND REGULATIONS,

1893

VOLUME XXXII



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1893

*Abstract of the Proceedings of the Governor General of India, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Acts of Parliament 24 & 25 Vict., cap. 67 and 55 & 56 Vict., cap. 14.*

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The Council met at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, on Thursday, the 10th August, 1893.

PRESENT :

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

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief K.C.B., G.O.I.E., V.C.

The Hon'ble Sir P. P. Hutchins, K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Sir D. M. Barbour., K.C.S.I.

The Hon'ble Sir A. E. Miller, Kt. Q.C.

The Hon'ble Lieutenant-General H. Brockenbury, C.B., R.A.

The Hon'ble Sir C. B. Pritchard, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.

The Hon'ble J. L. Mackey, C.I.E.

INDIAN TARIFF ACT, 1882, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR moved that the Bill to amend the Tariff Act, 1882, as amended by subsequent Acts, be taken into consideration.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR also moved that the Bill be passed.

The Hon'ble SIR ALEXANDER MILLER said that he should like to make a remark as to the rate of duty upon wet and dried salt-fish. He thought that it was worth consideration whether there ought not to be power to charge different rates of duty for wet and dried salt-fish, as the weight of salt in the one case was very different from what it was in the other. It was not clear that the provision in the schedule was sufficient for this purpose.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR said that he did not think that any special provision in the Bill with this object was necessary. There was no such difference in the case of dry salted fish and *gnapi* as to make separate rates of duty necessary. Besides, the point had been duly considered by the local

[*Sir David Barbour ; Sir Alexander Miller ; Sir Phillip  
Hutchins.*]

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authorities who were in the best position to form a judgment in such matters, and the Chief Commissioner recommended the same rate of duty on both articles.

The Hon'ble SIR ALEXANDER MILLER remarked that he knew something of the process of salting salmon, and he was aware that salt salmon in its wet state weighed a great deal more relatively to the amount of salt used than it did when it was dry. He presumed that the same was the case in respect to all other kinds of fish.

The Hon'ble SIR PHILIP HUTCHINS said he shared the doubt, expressed by the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Miller, as to the power of the Government under the Bill as it stood to impose a differential duty, but he thought that the difficulty could be readily met by adding the words "or rates" after "rate." He was not prepared to say that there was any necessity for such a differential rate, but what had fallen from the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Miller seemed to show that it might possibly become desirable, and the addition of these words would enable the Government to impose it while allowing them complete discretion to do so or not. With His Excellency's permission he would therefore move the following amendment in the Bill:—

That the words "or rates" be inserted after the words "such rate" and before the words "of duty" in the fifth column of the addition to the schedule proposed to be inserted by section 1 of the Bill.

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR said that he was unable to accept the amendment, because the Bill had been considered by the Government of India in communication with the Chief Commissioner of Burma and the local authorities, and there was not a particle of evidence to show that separate rates of duty were necessary. The evidence was all in the other direction. It might of course be said that the amendment was not likely to do any harm; but this seemed to him an insufficient reason for making an alteration in the Bill at the present stage. As a matter of principle it appeared to him that there were serious objections to amendments being moved at the last moment and without notice, on purely speculative grounds, by Members of Council who had no personal knowledge of the subject and who had never even seen the papers in which the question was discussed.

The amendment was put and agreed to.

*AMENDMENT OF INDIAN TARIFF ACT, 1832; AMENDMENT 297  
OF INDIAN PORTS ACT, 1889.*

1893.]

[*Sir David Barbour.*]

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR moved that the Bill, as amend be passed.  
.. The Motion was put and agreed to.

*INDIAN PORTS ACT, 1889, AMENDMENT BILL.*

The Hon'ble SIR DAVID BARBOUR also moved that the Bill to amend the Indian Ports Act, 1889, be taken into consideration on the 7th September next. He explained that the Bill was a small one, and that he did not anticipate any objection to it and did not propose to refer it to a Select Committee unless there should be some special reason for doing so.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Thursday, the 17th August, 1893.

SIMLA ;  
The 11th August, 1893. }

S. HARVEY JAMES,  
*Secretary to the Government of India,  
Legislative Department.*