



SUPPLEMENT
TO THE
BOMBAY GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

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FRIDAY, 9TH JANUARY 1863.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT, BOMBAY.

The following Extract from the Proceedings of the Council of the Governor of Bombay, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the Provisions of the Act of Parliament, 24 and 25 Victoria, Chapter 67, is published for the information of all whom it may concern:—

The Council met at Bombay, on Wednesday, the 7th January 1863.

PRESENT:—

His Excellency Sir H. B. E. FRERE, K.C.B., Governor of Bombay, Presiding.

The Honorable Mr. W. E. FRERE,
The Honorable Mr. J. D. INVERARITY,
The Honorable Mr. A. J. LEWIS, the Advocate General,
The Honorable Mr. W. B. TRISTRAM,
The Honorable Mr. MADHOWROW VITTUL VINCHOORKUR,
The Honorable Mr. JUGONNATH SUNKERSETT,
The Honorable Mr. PREMABHAI HEMABHAI,
The Honorable Mr. H. L. ANDERSON,
The Honorable Mr. A. D. ROBERTSON,
The Honorable Mr. M. H. SCOTT, and
The UNDER-SECRETARY.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT said that he had that morning received a voluminous Petition against the Bill to facilitate the adjustment of claims to exemption from the payment of land revenue; the Report of the Select Committee on which stood first for consideration in the Orders of the Day. It was desirable, on an important subject of this kind, to gather light from every quarter; and, with this view, the Petition, he thought, should be printed and taken into consideration by the Council, but coming so late in the day when the Bill had already been long before the public, he did not think that it should be suffered to delay the consideration of the Bill as it stood. He would move therefore that the Petition be printed and copies distributed to the Members of Council, but that the Bill be meanwhile now considered Section by Section, the second reading being deferred until the Petition had been printed and distributed.

Mr. JUGONNATH SUNKERSETT said he thought the Petition and the Bill ought both to be considered together.

The PRESIDENT remarked that it was the Petitioners' fault that they could not be considered together. The Petitioners ought not to have slept so long.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Council then proceeded to consider the Report of the Select Committee.

On the question that Section II. stand part of the Bill, the Advocate General inquired what was the meaning of the expression "fixed annual succession and transfer Nuzzerana."

Mr. ROBERTSON said that its meaning was that, in consideration of one Anna in the Rupee of the Assessment annually payable, Government would waive all claims which it might otherwise urge upon successions to, and transfers of, the land subject to this payment.

The ADVOCATE GENERAL remarked that the expression was an awkward one, and did not distinctly point out either what Government resigned or on what conditions.

After some further discussion, the question was put that the words from "subject to" in line 18 of the Section down to "Assessment" in line 22 be omitted, and the following words inserted, "an annual payment. Such payment shall consist of (1) a fixed annual payment as Nuzzerana in commutation of all claims of Government in respect of succession and transfer, and shall be calculated at the rate of one Anna for each Rupee of Assessment, (2) of a quit-rent equal to one-fourth of the Assessment. The said Assessment."

Carried.

On the question that Rule 3 stand part of the Bill, Mr FRERE asked what would occur if the Joodee should exceed the Assessment.

Mr. INVERARITY said that the Revenue Survey Rules limited the amount that could be levied in any case to the rate of the Assessment. There could therefore be no excess of Joodee over the Assessment.

The ADVOCATE GENERAL inquired why lands of the kind to which this rule applied should pay more than those under the other rules.

Mr. ROBERTSON explained that it was intended in every case to levy one-fourth of the amount of the exemption actually enjoyed by the landholder. Where the holding was subject to a Joodee, the amount of exemption enjoyed was the difference between the Joodee and the Assessment, and the rule provided for the levy of one-fourth of the difference.

On the question that Section III. stand part of the Bill, Mr. FRERE moved the omission of the words "succession and transfer" in line 8th of the Section, which was put and carried.

On the question that Section IV. stand part of the Bill, Mr. FRERE moved the omission of the words "succession and transfer" between the words "annual" and "Nuzzerana."

The PRESIDENT said it would be better by a single motion to authorize the omission of the words throughout the Bill wherever they occurred in this connection.

This was put and carried.

On the question that Section V. stand part of the Bill, Mr. FRERE inquired whether some limitation of the occasional Nuzzerana payable under the Section might not properly be prescribed in case of two or three successions occurring in a single year.

Mr. ANDERSON said the landholder was allowed the option of paying a small sum annually or the occasional Nuzzerana provided by this Section; and if he chose the latter, he ought to take the risk of paying Nuzzerana even two or three times in a single year. In the Southern Muratha Country, if he remembered rightly, cases had been known of three successions in four years, and in such cases he believed a reduction of the Nuzzerana had usually been allowed by the Peishwa's Government; but this was a matter of favour, and should cases of the same kind recur, there was nothing to prevent the payer of Nuzzerana from coming before Government by petition now. The object of the Bill was to encourage annual payments of a small amount as less injurious to the landholders than the occasional payment of large sums.

Mr. FRERE said he would move a proviso to meet the case of two or more successions in a year.

Mr. ANDERSON said he thought it was not a good policy thus to tempt landholders to a choice which would prove injurious to their interests.

The ADVOCATE GENERAL said that if annual payments on the terms of the Bill were the most beneficial to the landholders, they would be quite acute enough to perceive this, and profit by it.

Mr. FRERE said that he thought no misfortune could be worse than that of the succession to a heavily encumbered estate: such an evil ought, if possible, to be averted.

Mr. ANDERSON said that the cases in which the proposed proviso could apply would be extremely rare.

The PRESIDENT inquired the opinion of Mr. MADHOWROW VITTUL VINCHOORKUR, who said he did not consider any change was required.

Mr. FRERE said that he would not press the amendment, and withdrew it.

Mr. ROBERTSON said that the Native Members of the Council were disposed to move the omission of the Clause altogether, but they wished to defer the consideration of that point until the Petition mentioned by the President had been brought before the Council.

The PRESIDENT said that the consideration of this Section might be reserved, which was put and carried.

On the question that Section VIII., Clause 3, stand part of the Bill, the ADVOCATE GENERAL said that the effect of this Clause would be to prevent all transfers of land once devoted to religious, or what were supposed to be, religious institutions. There was a strong tendency in Native Society to appropriate lands to purposes of this kind, and the result might be that a considerable portion of the land of the Presidency would eventually be tied up against transfer, and perhaps against improvement.

Mr. ROBERTSON said that the Bill would not have any such effect. It applied only to existing holdings from Government, and would not affect property of any kind obtained by religious institutions through bequest.

On the question that Section IX. stand part of the Bill, the ADVOCATE GENERAL inquired whether the expression "appointed by him" was meant to confer the power of appointment upon the Governor in Council.

Mr. FRERE said it would be better to provide that power expressly. He would move a change of the expression, so that the Section might run, "It shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to appoint officers to carry out the inquiries provided for in this Act in the Districts in which Act XI. of 1852 has the force of law, and to invest any officers so appointed with the authority conferred by the above Act on Inam Commissioners and Assistant Inam Commissioners."

This was put and carried.

On the question that Section XI. Clause IX. stand part of the Bill, Mr. JUGONNATH SUNKERSETT said that a longer notice than one of two months was necessary. The landholder might have partners at a distance whom it would be necessary to consult, or he might have to take legal advice on a number of documents.

Mr. MADHOWROW VITTUL VINCHOORKUR said he considered that two months notice would be quite enough.

Mr. JUGONNATH SUNKERSETT said that the time ought to be extended to six months and that Mr. PREMABHAI HEMABHAI concurred with him in that opinion.

Mr. FRERE said that the proceedings in relation to these holdings had been going on so long, and were so well known to the public, that the landholders were quite on the alert, and therefore two months notice would be long enough.

Mr. PREMABHAI HEMABHAI differed. He thought two months would be insufficient notice.

Mr. JUGONNATH SUNKERSETT after this discussion declined to press the amendment, which was withdrawn.

Mr. FRERE said that instead of the words "a reply" in line 6th of the Clause, which were somewhat indefinite, and might cause disputes, he would move the substitution of the words "an answer in writing," and that a corresponding change be made throughout the Act, wherever these words occurred in the same connection.

This was put and carried.

On the question that Clause XII. stand part of the Bill, the ADVOCATE GENERAL said he would move the addition of the words "and that such public officer shall be bound to search for and produce the same on application made to him" at the end of the Clause.

This was put and carried.

On the question that Section XII. stand part of the Bill, the ADVOCATE GENERAL inquired as to the expression "for the purpose of carrying out its objects", how these objects could have existed before the Act itself.

MR. ANDERSON said the objects of an Act not only could, but must necessarily exist before the Act itself. An Act was intended to enable previously defined objects to be attained. This was clear from the "Statement of Objects" prefixed to every Bill.

The ADVOCATE GENERAL said the objects of an Act could not be considered as having a definite legal existence apart from or prior to the Act itself.

MR. MADHOWROW VITTUL VINCHOORKUR said he wished to reserve the consideration of this Section until the Petition on the subject of the Bill had been brought before the Council.

It was then put and carried that the consideration of this Section be reserved accordingly.

The consideration of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bills—

- (1). For the Regulation of the District Police in the Presidency of Bombay.
- (2). For the Regulation of the Village Police in the Presidency of Bombay.
- (3). For entrusting Landholders with the charge of the Police within their respective lands, was deferred until the next meeting of the Council.

The Council then proceeded to consider the Report of the Select Committee on a "Bill to enable Magistrates to depute to Subordinate Magistrates power to try certain offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code."

On the question that the title stand part of the Bill, MR. ANDERSON moved the insertion of the words "of the Second Class" after the words "Subordinate Magistrates," and the substitution of the words "Subordinate Magistrates of the Second Class" for the words "District Police Officers."

This was put and carried.

MR. FRERE moved that the Bill be read a second time.

Carried.

MR. ROBERTSON said he was prepared to proceed with the "Bill for the Summary Settlement of claims to exemptions from the payment of land revenue in those parts of the Presidency not subject to Act XI. of 1852."

THE PRESIDENT said that, as several Petitions on the subject of the Bill had been received, he thought it would be desirable that those of them which preferred any specific prayer should be printed and distributed before the Report of the Select Committee was taken into consideration. The PRESIDENT then moved that four Petitions be printed and circulated.

This was put and carried.

The PRESIDENT then moved that the consideration of the Report of the Select Committee be adjourned until the next meeting of the Council.

Carried.

The Council then proceeded to consider the Report of the Select Committee upon a "Bill to empower Judges of the High Court and other authorities at Bombay to direct Convicts to be imprisoned either in the House of Correction or in the County Jail."

The several Sections, as amended by the Select Committee, having been put and carried, MR. FRERE moved that the Bill be read a second time and passed.

Carried.

MR. TRISTRAM in moving, pursuant to notice, for leave to introduce a "Bill to regulate the Burial and Disposal of the Dead in the Town and Suburbs of Bombay, said:—

"The powers of the Municipal Commissioners of Bombay, as relating to burial and burning grounds are distinctly laid down in the Municipal Act XIV. of 1856, Sections 105 to 110; but their powers in this, as well as in a great variety of other matters, are confined in their operations to the Town of Bombay, and give them no jurisdiction beyond its prescribed limits. The provisions of the Act as affecting the subject of disposing of the dead are deficient in several particulars, and do not give that scope which the importance of the subject demands, and which it seems desirable should exist.

"It is therefore advisable, when proposing to introduce a change such as is involved in carrying out any system having the effect of causing the dead to be disposed of beyond the prescribed limits of the Town and Suburbs, to clothe Government with sufficient powers to

act; and it is on such consideration, coupled with the conviction of the excessive need which exists for legislation in the matter, that, in pursuance of the notice I have given, I beg to move for leave to bring in a Bill to regulate the burial and disposal of the dead in the Town and Suburbs of Bombay.

"The subject of Intramural Burial, or disposing of the dead within the precincts of large Cities and Towns is so well known to Englishmen, and the question was so thoroughly ventilated some years ago, both in and out of Parliament, and the gigantic evils resulting from such a system of Burial were so notorious, as to lead to its being totally suppressed. There is therefore no need for me to take up the time of the Council with argument on the principle of the Bill which I am about to ask leave to introduce.

"There is, happily for us, in this land an absence in a great degree of the hindrances which hedged round the introduction of the Metropolitan Bills in the English Parliament. We have no Board of Health, and Burial Boards, and Private Cemeteries, and fifty or sixty Parishes in the City, who have to be got to combine for joint purposes, involving most difficult and complicated arrangements. But we have, nevertheless, amongst us a great and growing evil to contend with; one, which duly considered, must impress every thinking man with the importance of abolishing entirely the grievous nuisance in the midst of which we live, and by an Act of the Legislature, giving power to the Government to close all burial grounds and places used hitherto for the disposal of the dead within the Town and Suburbs of Bombay, which may be considered as inimical to the public health and public decency.

"Sir, I am deeply impressed with the evils arising from burials in this City, and of the importance of endeavouring to pass this measure. For it is one of the most important branches of sanitary reform, and draining and ventilation are of small use, so long as the plague-spots to which I shall presently refer, are permitted to poison the most densely populated portions of the Town, and indirectly carry the seeds of disease into what might otherwise be healthful districts of the City.

"And here I may allude to what is a strong point in favour of, and reason for, closing the Grave-yards of Bombay. Every one in the place knows that for nearly eight months in the year, the refreshing sea breeze blows steadily from the West and North-West; and these prevailing winds I presume were as constant 100 years ago as they are now, and yet with a strange perversity, people were content in those days, to allow Towers of Silence to be erected on Malabar Hill, Grave-yards and burning grounds to be established in the margin of Back Bay, dead cattle to be hidden in the sand, foul drains to be laid down to its shallow waters, discharging their filthy contents broad-cast on the shore, and other abominations to be carried on to windward of the whole Island. These evils, bad enough in bye-gone days, are, I regret to add, being repeated at the present time.

"In his Minute on the Land Defences and removal of the present Ramparts of Bombay, His Excellency Sir William Mansfield states:—

"Taking all these facts into consideration, it must be admitted that, Bombay as it stands on its strangely indented peninsula, is full almost to bursting. It is absolutely necessary to undertake the execution of some great plan, by which this overcrowding may be remedied, and some alleviation brought to bear on the alarming figures, by which the state of the Public Health is demonstrated."

"I think, Sir, I shall be able to show presently that what His Excellency states with so much force, as regards the overcrowding of this teeming City, is fearfully true with reference to the resting places of the dead; and that it behoves us to make some great change in the hitherto existing arrangements for their disposal, lest a worse evil befall us.

The chief Grave-yards in Bombay are situated at Colaba, and in the districts of Sonapore and Girgaum, which are contiguous, and lie along the shore of Back Bay. They are:—

1. The Presbyterian burial Ground, situated immediately to windward of the Lines of the Marine Battalion,
2. Native Christian,
3. Roman Catholic,
4. Borahs,
5. Mussalman, and
6. Protestant Grave Yards.

While part of the Hindoo population resort to a spot adjoining the Mussalmen ground for the purpose of cremation.

"There are other Grave-yards in the Town : one a Mussalman, also the Jews' Grave-yard, and cemeteries for burying low-cast Hindoos, to which I shall presently refer. But first of all I wish to direct the attention of the Council to the state of the Scotch Burial ground, and in doing so, to acknowledge the valuable assistance and information I have received from Dr. Broughton, Surgeon in charge of the Marine Battalion, with reference to the effect produced upon the health of the inhabitants of the district of Sonapore, by the existence of this, and other Grave-yards; I would particularly point to his remarks on the effect produced upon the springs of fresh water which supply the wells in the neighbourhood, and which, by reason of the proximity of the Grave-yards, may be said to be almost, if not entirely, poisoned at their source. Dr. Broughton states, "The Presbyterian burial ground is not so over-crowded as to occasion unsightly exposure on opening fresh graves; but its main evils are, its situation in a densely crowded Suburb of the native Town, jammed in by a Hospital, and the lines of the Marine Battalion.

"Close beneath the surface of the ground in this part of Bombay is a layer of moist sand, in which the bodies seethe and rapidly decompose. This layer of sand extends in all directions, and the moisture loaded with the chemical products of animal decomposition, penetrates through and mingles with the fresh water springs which supply the various wells in the neighbourhood. One of these wells, situated in the burial ground itself, has been closed after some controversy, with considerable benefit to the poor ignorant residents of this region.

"This ground is now in process of draining, and at first sight one might imagine with advantage to the public; but I fear the contrary will be found to be the result.

"A deep trench has been cut across the ground and also surrounding it. This trench leads into a drain which conducts to the sea shore upon which its mouth opens, and at low tides the solution will spread out upon the sands, and evaporating in the sun, contribute to contaminate the air, to windward of the 18th Hospital.

"At high tides however, the effect will be the reverse, and the filthy salt water will rush up the said drain, and filling the cuttings in the burial-ground sink into this stratum of sand, and in my opinion materially increase the danger to the inhabitants of this already poisoned district. If a certain supply of Vehar water could be depended on, it would be highly advisable to close all the wells; but as long as these wells are used, they should be defended from such contaminations as burial-grounds and sewers.

"I was on the ground this morning, and the stench from the newly cut drain was very perceptible.

"I feel convinced that this burial-ground is a sad cause of disease, and that if its further use can be prevented, it will add materially to the health of the district."

"I now proceed to the Protestant Burial-ground at Girgaum. This consecrated Grave-yard was first used for interments in 1763, that being the earliest date entered in the Burial Register of St. Thomas' Cathedral Church. The total number of bodies which have been interred in the ground up to the 30th June 1858 was 18,783, as shown by the Register books of the Cathedral and Christ Church, Byculla. The area occupied by vaults, and which cannot be used except by members of the same family, amounts to about 2,368 square yards, which consequently reduces the whole area available for burials to 14,280 square yards. This it will be seen, gives a trifle more than one body to every square yard: it is more than 11 bodies to every 10 square yards, whereas the space which should be allotted, and is ordinarily allowed to each body, is 6 square yards. I beg to state this calculation was made in 1858, since which time, there have been upwards of 550 bodies buried in this Grave-yard: a strip of land has also been consecrated since then, and filled; and for about a year past, I am informed, old graves have been re-opened.

"Representations, as to the necessity of closing the old and opening new burial grounds, based on considerations for the public health, no less than for the decencies of Christian burial, were addressed to the late Lord Elphinstone, and Government named a Committee, to take into consideration and report on the best available site for a new Burial-ground. The report was made I believe in last March. It is evident therefrom, that no suitable accommodation for public Burial-grounds is to be found in Bombay, and further it is to be gathered from the Report that other grounds besides the Grave-yard at Girgaum, are over-crowded, while the Portuguese yard also at Girgaum, a thickly inhabited neighbourhood, was then over-crowded to a degree that required immediate attention, but I am unaware of any steps having been taken to close this ground to the present time. A proposal was made to purchase land at Tardeo for a new Grave-yard for Europeans, but the Municipal Commissioner's most wisely foresaw that, the mere shifting the site of a Grave-yard from one populous quarter to

another likely in a few years to become so, would be only an aggravation of evil, and accordingly the Committee pointed to a site to be selected on the line of the Baroda Railway at Bandora, for a Cemetery for the whole Christian community.

"I have entered at some length into this portion of the subject to show that, so far as the Government, and the Christian community are concerned, efforts have not been wanting to remedy the existing state of things, and that sacred as is the respect, and regard, in which Englishmen hold the depositories of their dead, no such considerations blind them to perpetuating a great evil, or to a sense of what is right to be done in matters affecting vitally, the health and convenience of the General Public.

"So much for the European branch of the subject. I now turn to the Native portion, and I do confess, when I consider the divers creeds and sects having different modes of disposing of their dead, when I think of the magnitude of the population, and when I look on the array of figures, marshalled with such fearful precision in the Bills of Mortality, the question of effecting a change appeals strongly to my sympathy, while, at the same time, it suggests an amount of difficulty, which is not without its weight with me; but I have a strong confidence in the spirit of improvement happily manifest in the minds of the educated members of the Native community, which only requires to have an evil represented, and a remedy proposed, and an example set, to respond to an invitation, and give their co-operation to a provision, whereby great public good may be done, and the health and happiness of their humble fellow-citizens improved and increased.

"From Mortuary Returns printed by order of Government, I find that, deducting the Christian community already dealt with, and excluding the higher castes of Hindoos who burn their dead, there have died and been buried in the Grave-yards of Bombay—

In 1859.....	8,907 persons,
In 1860.....	9,060 persons,
In 1861.....	10,229 persons,

making a total in 3 years of 28,196 persons buried within the Town and Suburbs.

"In the old Mussulman Grave-yard at Sonapore, I find from returns furnished by the Police that—

In 1860 there were then buried	2,294 persons,
In 1861.....	2,301 persons,
to 31st October 1862	2,145 persons.

making a total of 6,740 persons buried in one Grave-yard in less than 3 years. This said Grave yard has been for many years past the chief burial place of the immense Mahomedan community of Bombay. It is of some extent, and its dimensions are duly registered, but at the rate at which burials have taken place, and continue to take place within it, no useful conclusion can be drawn by stating the size in square yards: the whole place is a mere mass of corruption, and I refrain from entering into particulars of the present condition of this and other Grave-yards in the Town, but merely state that it is such as should not be allowed to continue.

"When in this locality are closely packed the over-crowded European and Native Christian Grave-yards, as well as those before mentioned, can we wonder that, "*the District of Girgaum*" is stated by Dr. Haines, the Superintendent of Mortuary Returns, when alluding to the out-break of Cholera in 1861, to have "*contributed even more than its usual high proportion of victims to this terrible scourge,*" or that he should add so significantly "*the signs of increased population are not so marked as in other parts of the Town, and the greater mortality is probably due to the increasing insalubrity of the District.*"

"There is another Mussulman burial ground on the Grant Road, in the centre of the Island, and quite close to the Duncan Road, and its crowded bazars. The ground is of moderate extent, yet from the Police Returns I find, there have been interments there in 1860 of 993 persons; in 1861 of 998 persons; to end of October 1862 of 785 persons.

"I would submit this last statement to the serious consideration of the Council. Of late years, a Cemetery for low-caste Hindoos has been opened on the Flats, and dead cattle are also, I believe, buried in the locality, a most objectionable place for such a purpose, being to windward of the Districts of Byculla, Mazagon, and the Native Town.

I cannot but believe, after these statements, that the introduction of such a Bill as I propose will be a boon to the community, and that the Council will appreciate the necessity which exists, in a City, whose dimensions barely meet requirements of the living, for affording a practical remedy to such a pressing evil.

"The only class to whom I have not alluded is the Parsee community, (and here I have to regret the absence today of my Honorable Colleague Mr. Rustomjee Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy) a distinct race, of whom the majority have settled in the Presidency Town. Yet as far as I have been able to discover, no mention is made of them, nor is there any provision for their singular funeral rites in Act XIV. of 1856 or any previous Act. This is a striking omission. Their Cemeteries or Towers of Silence where they expose their dead, are situated on Malabar Hill, once doubtless, a barren deserted spot, but now partly covered with dwellings, and at once the coolest, as it is the finest, and most salubrious part of Bombay, a very large portion of the Hill, however, is taken up by the approaches to the Towers and the grounds in which they stand.

"I am in accord with those who hold that, of all modes of disposing of the dead, cremation is the most innocuous; nor am I prepared to state that exposure, as practised by the Parsees is likely to be prejudicial to health, if it be true, as I am credibly informed, that in one hour a body so exposed is devoured by birds. But, Sir, in the Bill I ask leave to introduce, I desire to be perfectly impartial. It matters not the race or creed, whether European or Asiatic, whether Christian or Hindoo, believer in the Prophet or follower of Zoroaster, to subserve public decency, and public health, consideration for the dead should give place to what is due to the living. The Bill proposes to give power to the Governor in Council to restrain the opening of new burial grounds or places for the disposal of the dead, and to close any hitherto used within the Town and Suburbs of Bombay, and provides that new burial grounds, burning grounds, or places for the exposure of the dead, are not to be opened contrary to the order of the Governor in Council, and is framed upon the model of the Statute 16 and 17 of Victoria Cap. 134, "An Act to amend the laws concerning the Burial of the Dead in England beyond the limits of the Metropolis, and to amend the Act concerning the burial of the dead in the Metropolis."

"Sir, I do not wish to anticipate here any objections or difficulties which might be raised, to the provisions of the Bill. They may not all be quite satisfactory, and amendments may be proposed, and acceded to, with regard to them, but I ask the Council to assent to its general principle, and to grant leave to introduce the Bill, convinced as I am that it will furnish a practical remedy to a most notorious evil; and that, if its provisions are carried out, as I doubt not they will be, with as little violence as possible, to the feelings, habits, customs, and rights, of the different sects and races in this City, the Bill will prove to be generally acceptable to the people, and conducive in all time to come, to the health, happiness, and physical improvement, of the present, and future generations.

"With these remarks I beg to move for leave to bring in a Bill to regulate the Burial and Disposal of the Dead in the Town and Suburbs of Bombay."

Leave was then given to Mr. Tristram to introduce the Bill.

Mr. FRERE introduced a "Bill for the Establishment and Regulation of Reformatory Schools for Juvenile Offenders."

He said that the purpose of the Bill was sufficiently explained by the Statement of Objects and Reasons, and moved that it be read a first time and referred to a Select Committee consisting of

The Honorable the ADVOCATE GENERAL,

The Honorable Mr. JUGONNATH SUNKERSETT,

The Honorable Mr. M. H. SCOTT,

And the Mover.

Carried.

The PRESIDENT then adjourned the Council to Wednesday, the 14th instant, at 3 P. M.

By order of His Excellency the Governor in Council,

R. WEST,

Bombay, 7th January 1863.

Officiating Under-Secretary to Government.