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Separate paging is given to this Part, in order that it may be filed as a separate compilation.

PART VI.

BILLS OF THE COVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The following Bill was introduced in the Council of the Governor General of India for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations on the 15th July 1898:—

No. 7 of 1898.

A Bill to make better provision for the regulation of the importation of live-stock.

Whereas it is expedient to make better provision for the regulation of the importation of live-stock which is liable to be affected by infectious or contagious disorders; it is hereby enacted as follows:

- 1. (1) This Act may be called the Live-stock Short title, local extent Importation Act, 1898. and commencement.
- (2) It extends to the whole of British India; and
 - (3) It shall come into force at once.
 - 2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—
 - (a) the expression 'infectious or contagious
 h orders' includes tick-pest, anthrax,
 aganders, farcy, scabies and any other
 lisease or disorder which may be specified
 by the Governor General in Council by
 notification in the Gazette of India; and
 - (b) "live-stock" includes horses, kine, camels, sheep and any other animal which may be specified by the Governor General in Council by notification in the Gazette of India.

3. (1) The Governor General in Council may, [cf. VIII of by notification in the Ga-1878, s. 19.]

Power to regulate importation of live-stock, section of live-s

strict or prohibit, in such manner and to such extent as he may think fit, the bringing or taking, by sea or land, into British India or any specified place therein, of any livestock which may be liable to be affected by infectious or contagious disorders, and of any fodder, dung, stable-litter, clothing, harness or fittings appertaining to live-stock or that may have been

in contact therewith.

(2) A notification under sub-section (1) shall [Cf. IV of operate as if it had been issued under section 19 of 1834, s. 6(2).]

the Sea Customs Act, 1878, and the officers of VIII of 1878. customs at every port shall have the same powers in respect of any live-stock or thing, with regard to the importation of which such a notification has been issued, and the vessel containing the same, as they have for the time being in respect of any article the importation of which is regulated, restricted or prohibited by the law relating to sea customs and the vessel containing the same; and the enactments for the time being in force relating to sea customs or any such article or vessel shall apply accordingly.

4. (1) The Local Government may, subject to the control of the Government to make rules.

Power for Local Government may, subject to the control of the Government may are control of the Government m

tion, inspection, disinfection or destruction of imported live-stock, and of fodder, dung, stable-litter, clothing, harness or fittings appertaining to imported live-stock or that may have been in contract therewith, and for regulating the powers and duties of the officers whom it may appoint in this behalf.

(2) In making any rule under this section the Local Government may direct that a breach thereof shall be punishable with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees.

5. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceed- [Cf. III of shall lie against any 1897, s. 4.]

Protection to persons acting under Act.

person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done under this Act.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

The importation into one of the seaports of British India of a cargo of horses from Australia, which proved to be infected with the tick disease—a disease very fatal to cattle and capable of being conveyed by other animals, such as horses, themselves immune from it—led to an examination of the existing legal powers of the Government to prevent the importation of live-stock liable to be affected by infectious or contagious disorders. As these powers were found to be defective it has been decided, in consultation with the Governments of Madras, Bombay and Bengal, to take the necessary powers. Instead of amending the Indian Ports Act (X of 1889), it is thought preferable to proceed by way of a self-contained Act.

- 2. The provisions of the Bill are general in character, and empower the Governor General in Council to regulate, restrict or prohibit the importation into British India by land or sea of any live-stock which may be liable to be affected by infectious and contagious disorders. The Bill confers necessary powers on officers of Customs at every port, and enables Local Governments to make rules for detention, inspection, disinfection or destruction of such stock, and for the guidance of officers appointed under the rules.
- 3. It is not intended to interfere with the inland trade, except so far as to prevent the removal of live-stock, the importation of which has been prohibited, from one part of British India to another.

The 13th July 1898.

(Signed) C. M. RIVAZ.

J. M. MACPHERSON, Secretary to the Government of India,