Sxhelet 38 Referring to Hansard, page 1437 of the debate which took

place on April 22, 1889, it will be seen that Sir John Thompson spoke
as follows in reference to the Bill:- "I think it is, as the Honourable gentleman; (Mr. Mills) has said, mostly declaratory of the common law .... It frequently is the case to declare the common law
with respect to matters which are offenses..... I have said candidly to the honourable gentleman who has had charge of this Bill from
the first that I think his bill, as now framed, would add no new
penalty, no penalty which could not already be enforced, and will
not create any new offence."

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