

but a certain supervision over your proceedings must be exercised by the Imperial Government, in order that you may not assume powers which conflict with its constitutional rights or with those of foreign countries; with them, as with us, you may have free commercial intercourse; but, having no relations of a diplomatic character, the Imperial Government is answerable to foreign powers for you. Your legislation, therefore, must be subject from time to time to approval from the Home Government."

That approval follows as of course, it is submitted, in all cases where, as in the present instance, the subjects legislated upon are of a strictly local character, and where the laws of the Imperial or foreign governments are not, as a consequence of such local legislation, infringed or disregarded.

While, therefore, in framing Colonial Acts, due regard should be had to the limits of Colonial jurisdiction, it is equally important that, in reference to the administration of local affairs and interests, with all powers incident thereto, Colonial Legislation should be left to its fullest operation.

We have seen that between friendly foreign States the extra-territorial administration of their respective local laws is permitted on a principle of International Comity; and that an analogous system of legislation and local self-government prevails in Great Britain and her North American Colonies.

It will be conceded, also, that the Acts in question relate strictly to the private local interests of the respective Colonies.

With due deference, therefore, to the eminent authorities who have officially passed upon them, the conclusion appears inevitable, that in authorizing the appointment of Commissioners by the Acts under consideration, the Colonial Legislatures have not exceeded the just limits of their Constitutional Powers.