

5. In cordially reciprocating your Excellency's kind expressions, we can only hope that every administration of the Government of Hongkong will be marked by an observance of the same sound constitutional rules which have invariably guided you, by the same healthful freedom of speech and abundant opportunity for debate, and by the same avoidance of any tendency to infuse private views and individual fancies into the legitimate current of public business.

6. With these words we respectfully bid your Excellency Farewell, hoping that you may long enjoy the rest earned by more than a quarter of a century's service, and that your unequalled experience may be found of service in the Councils of the Empire.

His Excellency replied as follows:—

I can only say a few words in thanking my Honourable Friend, the Senior Un-official Member, for the extremely kind terms in which he has spoken of me; and I thank the Council for this most gratifying reply to my address. I shall always as long as I live treasure it as one of the most precious heirlooms of my family.

There being no other business on the Order of the Day, the Council adjourned until Wednesday, the 6th proximo, at 4 P.M.

W. H. MARSH,
Administering the Government.

Read and confirmed, this 6th day of January, 1886.

ARATHOON SETH,
Clerk of Councils.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 7.

The following Bills, which were read a first time at a Meeting of the Legislative Council held this day, are published for general information.

ARATHOON SETH,
Clerk of Councils.

Council Chamber, Hongkong, 6th January, 1886.

A BILL

ENTITLED

*An Ordinance to repeal the Usury Laws and
to fix a legal rate of interest.*

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Usury Ordinance 1886."

Short Title.

2. Ordinance No. 7 of 1844, and so much of Ordinance No. 5 of 1856 as relates to the Act of the 17th and 18th years of Her Majesty the Queen Victoria chapter 90, are hereby repealed, but such repeal shall not be deemed or taken to revive the Law and Statutes of England relating to Usury, as they existed prior to the passing of the Ordinances hereby repealed, or of the said Act of the 17th and 18th years of Her said Majesty.

Repeal of
No. 7 of 1844,
No. 5 of 1856,
in part and
Exclusion of
English Law.

[Re-enact-
ment of No. 7
of 1844, s. 1.]

3. Where interest is payable on any contract, express or implied, or on any debt or sum of money, but the rate of such interest is not fixed by the contract or by the parties or rule of Law, the rate thereof shall not exceed \$12 per centum per annum. Provided always that it shall be lawful for the Supreme Court of Hongkong and every other Court having jurisdiction within the Colony, in awarding interest in any action suit or matter, to allow a lower rate of interest, if the circumstances of the case render it just and expedient.

Rate of
interest where
no agreement,
&c. [17 and
18 V. c. 90 s. 2.]

4. Nothing herein shall be taken to affect or repeal any Ordinance relating to Pawnbrokers.

Not to affect
Ordinances
relating to
Pawnbrokers.
[Ibid. s. 3.]

A BILL
ENTITLED
An Ordinance to regulate the printing of Newspapers and Books and the keeping of Printing Presses within the Colony.

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

PART I.—*Preliminary.*

Short Title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as “The Printers and Publishers Ordinance, 188 .”

Repeal.

2. Ordinance No. 2 of 1844 and No. 16 of 1860 are hereby repealed, provided that such repeal shall not affect the past operation of such Ordinances or either of them or anything done or suffered or any obligation or liability incurred thereunder.

Interpretation.
[44 and 45 V. c. 60, s. 1.]

3. In the construction of this Ordinance, unless there is anything in the subject or the context repugnant thereto, the several words and phrases hereinafter mentioned shall have and include the meanings following, that is to say:—

The word “Registrar” shall mean the Registrar of the Supreme Court of Hongkong or either of the Deputy Registrars thereof for the time being.

The words “Newspaper” “Paper” shall mean any paper or work containing public news, intelligence, or occurrences, or any remarks or observations thereon, printed for sale and published in the Colony periodically or in parts or numbers at intervals not exceeding twenty-six days between the publication of any two such papers, parts, or numbers, also any paper, printed in order to be distributed and made public weekly or oftener or at intervals not exceeding twenty-six days, containing only or principally advertisements.

[3 and 6 V. c. 45, s. 2.]

The word “Book” shall mean every volume, part or division of a volume, pamphlet, sheet of letter press, sheet of music, map, chart, or plan, separately printed or published in the Colony, containing literary, scientific, artistic, or musical composition, matter or work.

[44 and 45 V. c. 60, s. 1.]

The word “Proprietor” shall mean and include as well the sole proprietor of any newspaper or paper as also, in the case of a divided proprietorship, the persons who as partners or otherwise represent and are responsible for any share or interest in the newspaper or paper as between themselves, and the persons in like manner representing or responsible for the other shares and interest therein and no other person.

The phrases “Place of Residence” “Place of Business” shall include the street, square, or place, where the person to whom it refers shall reside or shall carry on business as the case may be, and the number (if any) or other designation of the house in which he shall so reside or carry on business.

The words “Newspaper Register” shall mean the books to be kept by the Registrar for the purpose of making and registering all Declarations required or permitted to be made by this Ordinance and such books shall contain printed copies of the forms prescribed by this Ordinance to be filled up by the Registrar and signed by the party making the Declaration.

PART II.—*Printers, Publishers and Proprietors.*

No Newspaper to be published save in accordance with the provisions herein. [Re-enactment No. 2 of 1844, s. 1.]
Declaration. [2 of 1844, s. 6.] [44 and 45 V. c. 60, s. 9.]

4. From and after the expiration of seven days from the commencement of this Ordinance no newspaper or paper shall be printed or published within the Colony except in conformity with the provisions hereinafter contained.

Change of place, printing or publishing. [Ibid.]
Printer or Publisher leaving Colony. [Ibid.]

(1.) The Printer and Publisher of every newspaper or paper shall appear before the Registrar and shall make and subscribe in the Newspaper Register a Declaration according to the form No. 1 in the Schedule hereunto annexed.

(2.) As often as the place of printing or publication is changed, a new Declaration shall be necessary.

(3.) As often as the printer or publisher who shall have made the aforesaid Declaration shall leave the Colony temporarily, a Declaration from another Printer or Publisher resident within the Colony shall be necessary.

5. Whoever shall print or publish any newspaper or paper without conforming to the provisions in Section 4, or whoever shall print and publish or cause to be printed or published any newspaper or paper knowing that the said provisions have not been complied with, shall on conviction be liable to a penalty of not exceeding \$3,000 and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

Penalty for non observance of s. 4. [*Ibid.* s. 5.]

6. If any person, who has made and subscribed the Declaration prescribed by Section 4, ceases to be the printer or publisher of the newspaper or paper mentioned in such Declaration, he may appear before the Registrar and may make and subscribe a Declaration in the Newspaper Register according to the form No. 2 in the Schedule hereunto annexed.

Declaration on person ceasing to be Printer, &c. [*Ibid.* s. 5.]

7. Upon every change of the proprietor of any newspaper or paper, or upon every transfer or transmission of or dealing therein whereby any person ceases to be a proprietor or any new proprietor is introduced, it shall be the duty of the printers and publishers for the time being of such newspaper or paper, within 21 days from the time of such change, transfer or transmission as aforesaid, to appear before the Registrar and subscribe a Declaration in the Newspaper Register according to the form No. 3 in the Schedule hereunto annexed.

Change of proprietorship. [44 and 45 V. c. 60, s. 9.]

8. If within the said period of twenty-one days such Declaration shall not be made, then each printer and publisher of such newspaper or paper shall on conviction be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$150.

Penalty for omission to make the Declaration in s. 7. [44 and 45 V. c. 60, s. 10.] (£25.)

9. Any party to a transfer or transmission of or dealing with any share of or interest in any newspaper or paper whereby any person ceases to be a proprietor or any new proprietor is introduced, may at any time make or cause to be made the Declaration prescribed by Section 7 of this Ordinance.

Power for party on change of proprietorship to make Declaration. [44 and 45 V. c. 60, s. 11.]

10. Where in the opinion of the Governor in Council inconvenience would arise or be caused in any case from making a Declaration of the names of all the proprietors of the newspaper or paper (either owing to minority, coverture, absence from the Colony, minute subdivision of shares or other special circumstances) it shall be lawful for the printers or publishers of such newspaper or paper, upon the order of the Governor in Council, to make such declaration with the name or names of some one or more "representative proprietors."

Authority to make Declaration of some only of proprietors. [44 and 45 V. c. 60, s. 7.]

11. The provisions hereinbefore contained in reference to the proprietor of any newspaper or paper shall not extend or apply to any newspaper or paper which belongs to a Joint-stock Company duly incorporated under the Ordinances relating to Joint-stock Companies.

Exception as to Newspapers and Papers of Companies. [44 and 45 V. c. 60, s. 12.]

12. Every person who shall print any newspaper, paper or book for hire, reward, gain or profit, shall carefully preserve and keep one copy (at least) of every newspaper, paper or book so printed by him, on which he shall write or print or cause to be written or printed in legible characters the name and place of residence of the person or persons by whom he is employed to print the same and shall keep and preserve the same for the space of six months after the printing thereof and shall produce and show the same to a Police Magistrate of the Colony if required to do so within the said six months, and every person who shall omit or neglect any of the provisions of this Section shall on conviction be liable to a penalty of one hundred Dollars.

Printers to keep copy of Newspapers and Books and to produce on request of Magistrate. [39 Geo. III c. 79, s. 29, 32 and 33 V. c. 24.]

[Month means Calendar, s. 1 of 67.]

Penalty.

(£50.)

13. Every person who shall print any newspaper, paper or book, intended to be distributed or made public, shall print upon the front of every such newspaper or paper, if the same shall be printed on one side only, or upon the first or last leaf of every newspaper, paper or book, which shall consist of more than one leaf, in legible characters his name and usual place of residence or business, and every person who shall distribute or publish or assist to distribute or publish any such newspaper, paper or book, without fulfilling the requirements of this Section, shall upon conviction be liable to a penalty of \$25, for every copy of such newspaper, paper or book, so printed distributed or published by him.

Printers to print their names and addresses on Newspapers and Books. [3 and 3 V. c. 12, s. 2; 32 and 33 V. c. 24 sch.]

Penalty.

(£5.)

14. Every person who shall print or publish or cause to be printed or published any newspaper or paper, shall prior to such printing or publishing enter into a Bond before the Registrar, together with two sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Registrar, such printer or publisher or printer and publisher in the sum of twelve hundred dollars and such sureties jointly in a like sum, conditioned that such

Bond to be given by Printer or Publisher [No. 15 of 1920, 60 Geo. III c. 9, I. W. 4 c. 73, repealed by 32 and 33 V. c. 24.] (£250.)

printer or publisher or printer and publisher shall pay every fine or penalty as may at any time be imposed upon or adjudged against him by reason of any conviction for printing or publishing or printing and publishing any Libel at any time after the entering into such Bond and also all costs of such conviction; and further conditioned that every such printer or publisher or printer and publisher shall pay all such damages and costs as may be recovered or arise in any action for Libel published in such newspaper or paper; and every person who shall print or publish or cause to be printed or published any newspaper or paper without having entered into such Bond with such sureties as aforesaid shall upon conviction for every such offence be liable to a penalty of \$100 together with the costs of conviction.

15. Every Bond so given as aforesaid may be sued upon in the name of the Attorney General of the Colony in cases of indictment or information and of the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs in any action for Libel in which damages may be recovered.

16. In every case in which any surety in any such Bond as aforesaid shall have been required to pay and have paid the whole or any part of the sum for which he shall have become Surety; or in case he shall become Bankrupt or shall cease to reside in the Colony, then and in every such case the person for whom such Surety shall have been bound shall not print or publish any newspaper or paper until he shall have entered into a new Bond with sufficient Sureties in the manner and to the amount aforesaid; and in case he shall print or publish any such newspaper or paper without having executed such new Bond as aforesaid, he shall be liable on conviction for every such offence to a penalty of \$100 together with the costs of conviction.

17. If any Surety as aforesaid shall be desirous of withdrawing from such Bond, it shall be lawful for him to do so upon giving twenty days previous notice in writing to the Registrar and also to his principal; and in every such case such Surety shall upon the expiration of such notice cease to be liable upon such Bond except for any penalty or penalties damages or costs for or in respect of any Libel which may have been printed or published in such newspaper or paper previous to the expiration of such notice and for which he would otherwise have been liable under such Bond; and in every such case the person for whom such Surety shall have been bound shall not print or publish any newspaper or paper until he shall have executed a new Bond with sufficient Sureties in the manner and to the amount aforesaid; and in case he shall print or publish any such newspaper or paper without having entered into such new Bond as aforesaid, he shall be liable on conviction for every such offence to a penalty of \$100, together with the costs of conviction.

18. All Bonds entered into in pursuance of this Ordinance shall upon execution be deposited with the Registrar for safe custody.

PART III.—*Printing Presses.*

19. From and after the expiration of seven days from the commencement of this Ordinance no person shall within the Colony keep in his possession any press for the printing of newspapers books or papers who shall not have made and subscribed before the Registrar in the Newspaper Register a Declaration according to the form No. 4 in the Schedule hereunto annexed, such Declaration to be made in like manner as is prescribed for the Declarations hereinbefore mentioned, and whoever shall keep in his possession any such press without making such Declaration shall on conviction be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$3,000, and imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years.

PART IV.—*General.*

20. All persons shall be at liberty to search and inspect the Newspaper Register from time to time during the hours of business of the Supreme Court on payment of \$1, for every such search and inspection, and any person may require a copy of any entry or an extract from the said book to be certified by the Registrar under the seal of the Court on payment of \$2 for every such copy.

21. Every copy of an entry in or extract from the Newspaper Register as aforesaid purporting to be certified by the Registrar under the seal of the said Court shall be received as conclusive evidence of the contents of the said Register so far as the same appear in such copy or extract without proof of the signature thereto or of the seal of the Court affixed thereto and every such certified copy or extract shall in all proceedings civil or criminal be accepted as sufficient *prima facie* evidence of all the matters and things thereby appearing unless and until the contrary thereof be shown.

Attorney General or Plaintiff to sue upon Bonds. [S. 1, No. 16 of 1860.]

New Sureties in certain cases. [*Ibid.* s. 3.]

Withdrawal of Sureties. [*Ibid.* s. 4.]

Custody of Bonds. [S. 6 of No. 16 of 1860, altered.]

Declaration by possessor. [S. 3 of No. 2 of 1844.]

Search, Inspection, Certified copies. [No. 2 of 1844, s. 3, 4 and 45 Y. c. 60 s. 13.]

Copies of entries, &c. in Register to be evidence of contents. [44 and 45 Y. c. 60, s. 13, substituted for No. 2 of 1844, ss. 3, 5 in part.]

[This covers s. 6 of No. 2 of 1844.]

22. If any person shall knowingly and wilfully make or cause to be made any Declaration by this Ordinance required or permitted to be made in which there shall be any untruth or misrepresentation or from which there shall be any omission in respect of any of the particulars by this Ordinance required to be contained therein whereby such Declaration shall be misleading, or if any proprietor of a newspaper or paper shall knowingly and wilfully permit any Declaration under Sections 4 and 7 of this Ordinance to be made which shall be misleading with reference to his own name occupation place of business (if any) or place of residence, every such offender being convicted thereof shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding \$500.

Penalty for making wilful misrepresentation in Declarations. (S. 9 of No. 2 of 1844, s. 17 of 44 and 45 V. c. 50.)

23. This Ordinance shall not extend or apply to the impression of any engraving or to the printing by letter press of the name or of the name and addresses or business or profession of any person or of the article he deals in or of any paper containing an advertisement alone, of the sale by auction of any estates furniture effects or other things whatever or of ordinary business notices or advertisements.

(£100.)

General exceptions. (39 Geo. III c. 79, s. 1, re-enacted in 22 and 23 V. c. 24 sub.)

24. It shall be lawful for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to fix a scale of such further or other fees and to make such rules and regulations for the purposes of this Ordinance as he may think fit and such scale of fees rules and regulations from time to time to alter amend add to or revoke as occasion may require: Provided always that no such scale of fees rules and regulations alterations amendments additions or revocation shall be deemed binding until the same shall have been approved by the Legislative Council of the Colony and published in the *Gazette*.

Power to make rules and regulations.

25. All penalties under this Ordinance may be recovered summarily before a Police Magistrate according to the Laws for the time being in force within the Colony regulating Summary Procedure.

Recovery of Penalties. (44 and 45 V. c. 50, s. 16.)

26. No person shall be prosecuted or sued for any penalty imposed by this Ordinance unless such prosecution shall be commenced or such action shall be brought within 6 months next after such penalty shall have been incurred; nor unless such prosecution or action be commenced prosecuted entered or filed in the name of the Attorney General for the time being of the Colony.

Limitation of prosecution or action. (39 Geo. III c. 79, s. 34.)

27. This Ordinance shall commence and come into operation on a day to be proclaimed by the Governor.

Commencement of Ordinance.

THE SCHEDULES ABOVE REFERRED TO.

Form I.

I, [full name and address] declare that I am the Printer [or Publisher or Printer and Publisher as the case may be] of the Newspaper [or Paper] entitled _____ and Printed [or Published or Printed and Published as the case may be] at Hongkong, the premises where such printing [or Publication or Printing and Publication] is carried on are situate at [here describe them precisely] and I further declare that [here state the full name of the proprietor or proprietors or "representative proprietors," (see s. 10),] is (or are) the proprietor [or proprietors or "representative proprietors"] of the said Newspaper [or Paper], [here state their respective occupations, places of business (if any) and places of residence.]

Form of Declaration by Printer and/or Publisher under s. 4.

[Signature of Printer and Publisher, &c.]

Declared, &c.

[Signature of Registrar and Seal of the Court.]

Form II.

I, [then follows as in last form] declare that I have ceased to be the Printer [or Publisher or Printer and Publisher] of the Newspaper [or Paper] entitled [here insert name of paper.]

Form of Declaration under s. 6.

[Signature and Declaration as in last form.]

Form III.

I, [then follows as in Form I] the Printer [or Publisher or Printer and Publisher] of the Newspaper [or Paper] entitled [state name] declare that [state full name] has ceased to be the proprietor [or a proprietor] of the said Newspaper [or Paper] entitled [state name] and that [state full names with his or their occupation, place of business (if any) and place of residence] is [or are] now the proprietor [or proprietors] thereof.

Form of Declaration under ss. 7, 9.

[Signature of Person making Declaration.]

Declared as in Form I.

Form IV.

I, [state name and place of residence] declare that I have a Press for Printing at [here state the place where the Press is kept giving a true and precise description of the premises.]

Form of Declaration under s. 19.

[Signature and Declaration as in Form I.]

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance to empower the Colonial Treasurer to pay otherwise than to Executors or Administrators small Sums due on account of Pay or Allowances to Persons deceased.

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

Treasurer, &c. may, on Death of Persons in Civil Service entitled to Sums under \$500, direct Payment thereof without Production of Letters of Administration. [31 and 32 V. c. 90, s. 1.]

1. On the Death of any Person or Persons to whom respectively any Sum or Sums of Money not exceeding five hundred Dollars may be payable by a Public Department within the Colony in respect of Civil Pay or Allowances or Annuities granted either under the Authority of the Government of the Colony or of the Imperial Parliament, it shall be lawful for the Treasurer on being satisfied of the Expediency of dispensing with Probate or Letters of Administration, to authorize the Payment of such Sum or Sums to such Person or Persons as the Treasurer may consider entitled thereto, without requiring the production of Probate or of Letters of Administration, payment to be made under such Regulations as the Treasurer may direct.

Indemnity. [31 and 32 V. c. 90, s. 2.]

2. Any Payment made in pursuance of this Ordinance shall be valid against all Persons whatever, and all Persons acting under its Provisions shall be absolutely discharged from all Liability in respect of any Monies duly paid or applied by them under this Ordinance.

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance for the better Apportionment of Rents and other Periodical Payments.

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

Short Title. [33 and 34 V. c. 35, s. 1.]

1. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Apportionment Ordinance, 188 ."

Rents, &c. to accrue from day to day, and be apportionable in respect of time. [Ibid. s. 2.]

2. From and after the commencement of this Ordinance all Rents, Annuities, Dividends, and other periodical Payments in the nature of income (whether reserved or made payable under an instrument in writing or otherwise shall, like interest on money lent, be considered as accruing from day to day, and shall be apportionable in respect of time accordingly.

Apportioned part of rent, &c. to be payable when the next entire portion becomes due. [Ibid. s. 3.]

3. The apportioned part of any such Rent, Annuity, Dividend, or other Payment shall be payable or recoverable in the case of a continuing Rent, Annuity, or other such Payment, when the entire portion of which such apportioned part shall form part, shall become due and payable, and not before; and in the case of a Rent, Annuity, or other such Payment determined by re-entry, death, or otherwise, when the next entire portion of the same would have been payable if the same had not so determined, and not before.

Persons shall have the same remedies for recovering apportioned parts as for entire portions. [Ibid. s. 4.]

4. All persons and their respective Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, and also the Executors, Administrators, and Assigns respectively of persons whose interests determine with their own deaths, shall have such or the same remedies at law and in equity for recovering such apportioned parts as aforesaid when payable (allowing proportionate parts of all just allowances) as they respectively would have had for recovering such entire portions as aforesaid if entitled thereto respectively; provided that persons liable to pay Rents reserved out of or charged on Lands or other Hereditaments of any tenure, and the same Lands or other Hereditaments, shall not be resorted to for any such apportioned part forming part of an entire or continuing Rent as aforesaid specifically, but the entire or continuing Rent, including such apportioned part, shall be recovered and received by the person who, if the Rent had not been apportionable under this Ordinance, or otherwise, would have been entitled to such entire or continuing Rent, and such apportioned part shall be recoverable from such person by the Executors or other parties entitled under this Ordinance to the same by suit or action.

Proviso as to rents reserved in certain cases.

5. In the construction of this Ordinance,—

The word "Rents" shall include all periodical payments or renderings in lieu of or in the nature of Rent.

The word "Annuities" shall include salaries and pensions.

The word "Dividends" shall include (besides dividends strictly so called) all payments made by the name of Dividend, Bonus, or otherwise out of the revenue of Trading or other Public Companies, divisible between all or any of the members of such respective Companies, whether such payments shall be usually made or declared at any fixed times or otherwise; and all such divisible revenue shall, for the purposes of this Ordinance, be deemed to have accrued by equal daily increment during and within the period for or in respect of which the payment of the same revenue shall be declared or expressed to be made, but the said word "Dividends" shall not include payments in the nature of a return or reimbursement of capital.

6. Nothing in this Ordinance contained shall render apportionable any annual sums made payable in Policies of Assurance of any description.

7. The provisions of this Ordinance shall not extend to any case in which it is or shall be expressly stipulated that no apportionment shall take place.

Interpretation of terms. [*Ibid.* s. 5.]

Ordinance not to apply to Policies of Assurance. [*Ibid.* s. 6.]

Nor where stipulation made to the contrary. [*Ibid.* s. 7.]

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Larceny and Embezzlement.

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Larceny and Embezzlement Amendment Ordinance 1886," and shall be read and construed with No. 7 of 1865 and all Ordinances amending the same.

2. If any person, being a member of any copartnership or being one of two or more beneficial owners of any Money, Goods or Effects, Bills, Notes, Securities, or other property, shall steal or embezzle any such Money, Goods or Effects, Bills, Notes, Securities, or other property belonging to any such copartnership or to such joint beneficial owners, every such person shall be liable to be dealt with, tried, convicted and punished for the same as if such person had not been or was not a member of such copartnership or one of such beneficial owners.

Short Title.

Member of Partnership guilty of converting to his own use, &c. partnership property, liable to be tried as if not a Member. [31 and 32 V. c. 116, s. 1.]

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to the Custody of Infants.

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Infants Custody Ordinance, 1886."

2. From and after the commencement of this Ordinance it shall be lawful for the Supreme Court upon the petition presented in a Summary way of the mother (by her next friend if necessary) of any infant or infants under the age of sixteen years to order that the Petitioner shall have access to such infant or infants at such time and subject to such regulations as the Court shall deem proper or to order that such infant or infants shall be delivered to the mother and remain in or under her custody or control or shall if already in her custody or under her control remain therein until such infant or infants shall attain such age not exceeding sixteen years as the Court shall direct; and further, to order that such custody or control shall be subject to such regulations as regards access by the father or guardian of such infant or infants and otherwise as the Court shall deem proper.

3. No agreement contained in any separation deed made between the father and mother of an infant or infants shall be or be deemed to be invalid by reason only of its providing that the father of such infant or infants shall give up the custody or control thereof to the mother: Provided always that no Court shall enforce any such agreement if the Court shall be of opinion that it will not be for the

Short Title.

Supreme Court may order mother to have access to and custody of infants under 16 years. [36 V. c. 12, s. 1.]

Separation deed agreement to give up custody. [36 V. c. 12, s. 2.]

A BILL

ENTITLED

(31 V. c. 4.)

An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Sales of Reversions.

BE it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:—

Short Title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited for all purposes as "The Sales of Reversions Ordinance, 1886."

No bona fide purchase of Reversions to be set aside for undervalue merely. (Ibid. s. 1.)

2. From and after the commencement of this Ordinance no Purchase made *bona fide* and without fraud or unfair dealing of any Reversionary Interest in property of any kind within the Colony shall hereafter be opened or set aside merely on the ground of undervalue.

Interpretation. (Ibid. s. 2.)

3. The word "Purchase" in this Ordinance shall include every kind of Contract, Conveyance or Assignment under or by which any beneficial interest in any kind of property may be acquired.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 8.

Notice is hereby given that Messrs. ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co., have complied with the requirements of Ordinances 16 of 1873, and 13 of 1885, for the registration in this Colony of their Mark as applied to all kinds of Piece Goods, Manchester Goods, Cloths, Shirtings, T-Cloth, and other Woolen Goods, and Cloths of every quality and description; and also boxes of Matches of various sizes, descriptions, and qualities, and that the same has been duly registered.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 5th January, 1886.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 9.

A competitive examination for the post of Clerk and Interpreter in the Botanical and Afforestation Department will be held on Thursday, the 21st instant, at 2 P.M., in the Council Chamber, Government Offices.

Duties.—To take charge of the correspondence and accounts of the department.

Qualifications.—Good handwriting, accuracy in calculation, knowledge of the Hakka dialect, and ability to translate English into Chinese and *vice versa*.

Salary.—\$240 per annum.

The examination will be held in accordance with the Regulations made by the Governor in Council, and published in *Government Gazette* No. 26 of 1883.

Applications, with copies of testimonials as to *character*, and certificates of *age and health*, to be sent to the Colonial Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 19th instant, at noon.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 9th January, 1886.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 10.

Tenders will be received at this Office until Noon of Thursday, the 21st January, 1886:—

1. For constructing 1,128 feet lineal of sewers from No. 1 Tank, Robinson Road to Bonham Road.
2. For taking up and rebuilding 100 feet lineal of sewer at the lower end of Eastern Street.
3. For taking up and rebuilding 300 feet lineal of sewer at the upper end of Central Street.

For form of tender, apply at this Office.

For specification and further particulars apply at the Surveyor General's Office.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 9th January, 1886.