

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 360.

The following Bill, which was read a first time at a Meeting of the Legislative Council held this day, is published.

R. F. JOHNSTON,
Acting Clerk of Councils.

Council Chamber, Hongkong, 27th June, 1899.

A BILL

ENTITLED

An Ordinance for the Naturalization of WONG
PING LAM, alias WONG Ü KAI.

Whereas WONG PING LAM (黃炳林), alias WONG Ü
K'AI (黃雨溪), a native of Canton City (省城), in
the province of Kwong Tung (廣東), in the Empire of
China, is now employed as comprador to Messrs.
BELLIOS & Co. and is a partner in the Kwan On (均安)
and Kwan T'ai (均泰) shops at Nos. 41 and 161,
Hollywood Road, Victoria, in this Colony, and has
continuously resided and done business in this Colony for the
last twenty-two years and is possessed of landed property
in this Colony and has declared his intention of residing
here permanently, and has petitioned to be naturalized as a
British Subject within the limits of this Colony, and whereas
it is expedient that he should be so naturalized:

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

Naturaliza-
tion of WONG
PING LAM.

1. WONG PING LAM (黃炳林), alias WONG Ü K'AI
(黃雨溪) shall be, and he is, hereby, naturalized as a
British subject, within this Colony, and shall enjoy therein,
but not elsewhere, all the rights, advantages and privileges
of a British subject, on his taking the Oath of Allegiance
under the Promissory Oaths Ordinance, 1869.

HENRY E. POLLOCK,
Acting Attorney General.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 361.

The following Petition from the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, against the second reading of the Bill entitled the Piers Ordinance, 1899, is published.

By Command,

J. G. T. BUCKLE,
Clerk of Councils.

Council Chamber, Hongkong, 29th June, 1899.

To the Honourable

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF HONGKONG.

The Humble Petition of the Hongkong and Kow-
loon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.

Respectfully Sheweth:—

- (1.) That your Petitioners are desirous of being heard before this Honourable Council by Mr. J. J. FRANCIS, q.c., their counsel, on the motion for the second reading of a Bill read a first time at the meeting of this Honourable Council held on the 20th instant entitled "The Piers Ordinance, 1899," or at such other time as may be appointed for the purpose,
- (2.) That the rights and interests of your Petitioners in the Piers and Wharves owned by them in Victoria and at Kowloon and in their property generally is peculiarly affected by the proposed Bill and that they claim to be heard by your Honourable Council under the provisions of paragraph 52 of the Standing Orders of the Legislative Council of Hongkong.
- (3.) That your Petitioners are the Assignees of certain rights, powers, and privileges granted and conferred by this Honourable Council to and upon FRANCIS BULKELEY JOHNSON and CATCHICK PAUL CHATER respectively by Ordinances Nos. 18 and 19 of 1884 respectively, and that if the Bill now before this Honourable Council should become law, your Petitioners will be thereby

deprived of many of the rights, powers, and privileges secured to them by the said Ordinances and will be grievously affected and injured in their properties and possessions.

By the said Ordinances your Petitioners as Assignees of the said FRANCIS BULKELEY JOHNSON and CATCHICK PAUL CHATER have the right for twenty years from the date of the said Ordinances, that is to say, until the 12th day of June, 1904, to do all or any of the things hereinafter mentioned free from all rents, fees and charges whatsoever, ordinary rates and taxes only excepted:—

- (i.) To construct such and so many Wharves and Piers extending into the harbour of Hongkong as they may think requisite and proper at and from any part or parts of the Public Praya lying directly opposite Marine Lots 95, 96, 97 and 98 in Victoria and Kaulung Marine Lots 9, 11, 20 and 21.
- (ii.) To make such alterations and additions to such Wharves and Piers as they may at any time think requisite and proper.
- (iii.) To have for themselves and their Assigns the exclusive use of such Wharves and Piers with full power to mortgage, sell and assign, or to demise and let the said Piers as they shall think fit.
- (iv.) To make Rules and Regulations for the maintenance and use of the said Wharves and Piers and have the same enforced by fines and penalties.
- (v.) To hold and exercise all the rights, powers, and privileges granted by the said Ordinances free from all rents and charges in the nature of rents or license fees and subject only to stipulations and conditions in the said Ordinances expressly reserved and contained and to the general law.

Your Petitioners respectfully submit that by the provisions of the Bill read a first time on the 20th June and entitled "The Piers Ordinance, 1899," they will, contrary to the rights, powers, and privileges conferred upon and secured to them and their assigns by the said Ordinances 18 and 19 of 1884, be made subject to the payment of rent calculated upon a scale far in excess of any rent now paid for any Marine Lot let under lease from the Crown for 999 years. They will be deprived of the exclusive use of the Wharves and Piers constructed by them at an immense expense for the special purposes of their business in reliance upon the provisions of the said Ordinances and of the good faith of the Government of Hongkong. They will be prevented from increasing the number of, or in any way adding to, or altering, their said Wharves and Piers. They will be deprived of their right to cover in their said Wharves and Piers if the necessities of their business should render it expedient for them so to do, and of their power and privilege to make Rules and Regulations for the maintenance and use of their said Wharves and Piers. They will be extremely hampered in the conduct of their business as Wharfingers and Godown Keepers by the proposed regulations in the said Bill contained by which access by water to their Wharves and Piers is or may be restricted and by the prohibitions therein contained as to storing or keeping materials thereon.

They will, lastly, be deprived of their right to mortgage, sell, assign, or demise their said Wharves and Piers as the requirements of their said business may render advisable or necessary.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray

That they may be heard by their Counsel against the said Bill upon its second reading or at such other time as Your Honourable Council may think fit to hear them.

And Your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c., &c.,

J. J. KESWICK,
Chairman of the Board of Directors.

C. P. CHATER,
Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors.



EDWARD OSBORNE,
Secretary of the Company.
HONGKONG, 24th June, 1899.