

No. 1 of 1902.

## An Ordinance to authorize the making of Regulations with regard to Rats.

(LS) W. J. GASCOIGNE,  
*Officer Administering the Government.*

[5th March, 1902.]

WHEREAS there is reason to believe that, in certain circumstances, rats are instrumental in spreading the plague; and whereas it is expedient to minimize their numbers and to destroy them both on shore and in vessels in the harbour and to prevent their access to the shore from vessels, or to vessels from the shore, etc.

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

- Short title. 1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Rats Ordinance, 1902.
- Interpretation. 2. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires:—  
“Vessel” includes any ship or boat or other description of vessel used in navigation.
- Power to make Regulations. 3. It shall be lawful for the Governor-in-Council to make, from time to time, such Regulations as he may deem expedient—  
(a.) With regard to rats, and the means and precautions to be taken on shore or on board vessels in the waters of the Colony, to minimize their numbers and to destroy them and to prevent them from passing from such vessels to the shore or from the shore to such vessels; and  
(b.) for the better prevention of the danger of the spreading of infection by rats.
- Penalty. 4. If any person commits a breach of any of such Regulations, that person shall, for each offence, be liable, on summary conviction, to a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars and, in default of payment, to imprisonment with or without hard labour, for a period not exceeding one month.
- Regulations to be published in the Gazette. 5. No Regulations made under the provisions of this Ordinance shall take effect until they have been published in the Gazette.

Passed the Legislative Council of Hongkong, this 27th day of February, 1902.

R. F. JOHNSTON,  
*Acting Clerk of Councils.*

Assented to by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, the 5th day of March, 1902.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 134.

It is hereby notified that, in consequence of instructions received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, no refund of rates will, as from the 1st of January, 1902, be granted on rateable tenements occupied by Military Officers within this Colony.

Government Notification No. 340 of the 28th August, 1896, is hereby cancelled.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 5th March, 1902.