ORDINANCE No. 1 OF 1853.

A.D. 1853.

Ordinance No. 2 of 1853.

AN ORDINANCE for the Removal of Doubts regarding the Right of Aliens to hold and transfer Property within this Colony.

[17th November, 1853.]

WHEREAS doubts have arisen regarding the right of aliens to hold and transfer property within this Colony:

BE it therefore enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, in pursuance of the Act of Parliament 10 & 11 Victoria Chapter 83, entitled "An Act for the Naturalization of Aliens," and of the power inherent in the said Governor and Council, as follows:

Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Aliens (Rights of Property) Ordinance, 1853.

Right of alien to acquire, hold, and dispose of immovable property like natural-born subject.

2. It shall be lawful for any alien, and he or she is hereby declared entitled, by grant, conveyance, lease, assignment, or bequest, or otherwise, to take, acquire, hold, and possess any lands or other immovable property situated in this Island, and the said lands or other property as aforesaid to sell, transfer, assign, or bequeath to any other person, as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes, and with the same rights, remedies, exemptions, and privileges, as if he or she were a natural-born subject of Her Majesty residing in this Island.

Validation of acts done by aliens in relation to immovable property.

3. Every such grant, conveyance, lease, assignment, bequest, sale, transfer, or other act heretofore made or done by or with any such alien shall be deemed in law as valid and effectual as if it had been made or done by or with any natural-born British subject.

ORDINANCE No. 1 OF 1856.

A.D. 1856.

Ordinance No. 4 of 1856.

AN ORDINANCE relating to Wills made by Chinese People.

[5th March, 1856.]

WHEREAS the laws relating to wills and testamentary writings prescribe certain formalities touching the signing, acknowledging, and attesting thereof, and for avoiding all wills and testamentary writings signed, acknowledged, or attested in any other manner; and whereas the provisions of the said laws in that behalf, if enforced, will tend to the avoidance of all wills and testamentary writings made in the Chinese manner:

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

Short title. 1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Chinese Wills Validation Ordinance, 1856.

Validation of Chinese wills and testamentary writings made according to Chinese law. 2. Any written will or testamentary writing heretofore or to be hereafter made or acknowledged by a Chinese testator or testatrix (whether a native of or domiciled in this Colony or the Empire of China) shall, if the same is proved to have been made or acknowledged and authenticated according to the Chinese laws or usages, so as to be effectual for the transmission of property according to such laws or usages, be deemed and taken to be lawfully made and acknowledged, and to have the same virtue and effect as if the same had been made and acknowledged according to Act of Parliament.

Saving as to past decisions and pending proceedings. 3. This Ordinance shall not affect or apply to any judgment or decree heretofore made by any Court, or any action or suit now pending therein, in which action or suit the validity of any will or testamentary writing has or shall come in question, or any rights heretofore acquired under and by reason of the laws in force relating to wills or testamentary writings at the commencement of this Ordinance.

ORDINANCE No. 2 OF 1856.

A.D. 1856.

Ordinance No. 7 of 1856.

AN ORDINANCE for extending to this Colony certain Enactments of the Imperial Parliament.

[17th March, 1856.]

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 as the Imperial Enactments Extension Ordinance, 1856.

Extension of certain enactments to the Colony. Schedule. 2. The enactments of the Imperial Parliament specified in the Schedule to this Ordinance shall (to the extent in the said Schedule defined, but not otherwise) extend to and come into force and effect within this Colony from the commencement of this Ordinance.

Construction of extended enactments. 3. For the purposes of this Ordinance, the words "Great Seal" in the said enactments shall be interpreted to include the Seal of the Supreme Court of this Colony, and all the provisions thereof which respect the Lord Chancellor, or the Court of Chancery, or any Superior Court of Equity, or any Judge in England shall be interpreted to include the said Supreme Court in Equity and the Judges thereof, and every officer (howsoever designated) of the said Supreme Court or Judge thereof having or exercising functions of the like kind or analogous to the func-