(3) knowing that any soldier, sailor, or marine is about to desert, aids or assists him in deserting; or

(4) knowing any soldier, sailor, or marine to be a deserter, conceals such deserter, or aids or assists such deserter in concealing himself,

shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, on summary conviction, be liable for every such offence to a fine not exceeding 1,000 dollars.

Portion of penalty payable to informer.

4. A portion not exceeding one-half of every such fine shall be payable to the person by whose information or evidence the conviction of such offender is made.

Forfeiture of licence on conviction. *

5. Any publican or keeper of a boarding-house who is convicted of any one or more of the above mentioned offences shall, in addition to the penalty above provided, forthwith forfeit any licence then held by him as a publican or boarding-house keeper, and he shall be and is hereby declared incapable of holding thereafter any licence as such publican or boarding-house keeper.

Case may be referred to Supreme Court. *

6. Nothing in this Ordinance shall prevent a Magistrate acting under this Ordinance from sending any case arising out of any of the said offences for trial to the Supreme Court, which he may consider should be investigated there.

— 1853. —

No. 1 of 1853.

For the removal of doubts regarding the right of aliens to hold and transfer property within this Colony.

[17th Nov., 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 the power inherent in the said Governor and Council, as follows:— †

Short title.

1. The Aliens (Rights of Property) Ordinance, 1853.

Right of alien to acquire

2. It shall be lawful for any alien, and he is hereby declared entitled, by grant, conveyance, lease, assignment, or bequest or

* As amended by No. 50 of 1911.

† 10 & 11 Vict. c. 83 *rep.* 33 & 34 Vict. c. 14 s. 18 *see* No. 31 of 1911 s. 15.

immovable property like natural-born subject. *

otherwise, to take, acquire, hold, and possess any lands or other immovable property situated in this Colony 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 were a natural-born subject of His Majesty residing in this Colony.

Validation of acts done by aliens.

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.

— 1856. —

No. 1 of 1856.

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:—

Short title.

1. The Chinese Wills Validation Ordinance, 1856.

Validation of Chinese wills made according to Chinese law. †

2. Any written will or testamentary writing made or acknowledged by a Chinese testator (whether a native of or domiciled in this Colony or 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 the laws in force in this Colony.

Saving as to past decisions. **

3. This Ordinance shall not affect or apply to any judgment or decree heretofore made by any Court, or affect any right hereto-

* As amended by No. 51 of 1911 and No. 8 of 1912.

† As amended by No. 50 of 1911, No. 51 of 1911 and the Final Revision Ordinance 1912.

** As amended by No. 50 of 1911 and No. 51 of 1911.