

Salt, Opium Licensing &c.

Weights and Measures.

every such auctioneer shall from every sum received by him on the sale of any article by him in that capacity deduct the sum sanctioned under this Ordinance and pay the amount thereof into the Colonial Treasury quarterly and it is hereby declared that any such auctioneer failing duly to comply with the provisions of this section shall be considered to have forfeited his licence and such licence shall be absolutely void by such neglect or default.

Table of official fees to be levied after the passing of this Ordinance.

11. And be it further enacted and ordained that the following official fees as set forth in the annexed table shall be levied and made payable from and after the passing of this Ordinance all fees so levied to be paid into the Colonial Treasury.

TABLE OF FEES TO BE LEVIED AS FOLLOWS:—

| | |
|---|------|
| For granting a marriage licence - - - - - | \$ 5 |
| For the signature of the Governor - - - - - | „ 5 |
| For the signature of the Colonial Secretary - - - - - | „ 2 |

A fee amounting to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the annual value or salary of any commissions or appointments by His Excellency the Governor.

[Repealed by Ordinance No. 5 of 1845.]

No. 22 of 1844.

Title.

An Ordinance for establishing Standard Weights and Measures, and for preventing the Use of such as are False and Deficient.

[30th December, 1844.]

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is necessary to provide against the use of fraudulent weights and measures in Hongkong and its dependencies, and for that purpose to establish certain standards by which all other weights and measures may be regulated, and to prohibit the use of any other weights and measures than such as shall agree with such standards: And whereas certain weights and measures of the standard now in force and in use in China and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland (schedules whereof marked with the letters A. and B. are hereunto annexed) have been deposited in the Colonial Treasury in the town of Victoria:

Certain weights and measures in the Colonial Treasury, Victoria, declared to be standards.

1. Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice of the Legislative Council thereof, that the said several weights and measures deposited in the Colonial Treasury in Victoria as aforesaid shall be there safely kept, and shall be, and they are hereby declared to be, the standard weights and measures of Hongkong.

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2. And be it further enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor of the said Colony to cause copies and models of the several weights and measures so deposited in the Colonial Treasury in Victoria as aforesaid to be carefully made, and upon every such weight or measure being verified before such Governor, and approved of by him, to cause a mark or stamp to be legibly impressed or engraven thereon, to shew that the same hath been so verified and approved: and such mark or stamp shall consist of such letters and figures as are commonly used to signify Her Majesty's name or mark, together with S. W. or S. M. signifying standard weight or standard measure as the case may be, and the number of pounds or other denomination of such weight or measure; and such copies or models, after being so verified, approved, and marked, shall be deposited with all Magistrates of Police, and such other proper persons as may be appointed, and shall be by them respectively, safely and securely kept for the purpose of reference as hereinafter directed; and if any such person shall falsify or otherwise wilfully injure such copies or models so deposited with him as aforesaid, he shall, on conviction thereof in a summary manner, forfeit and pay for every such offence the sum of one hundred dollars.

Copies of such standards to be made by order of the Governor, and having been verified and marked, to be deposited with the Magistrate of Police and others.

Penalty if Magistrate or other person shall falsify or wilfully injure such copies.

3. And be it further enacted, that in case any of the said standard weights or measures, or the copies or models thereof, shall be lost, destroyed, defaced, or otherwise injured, another weight or measure shall be provided with the approbation of the Governor for the time being, of the same size and weight or measure as the weight or measure so lost, destroyed, defaced, or otherwise injured, and the same shall thereupon be deemed to be a true and genuine weight or measure to all such and the like intents and purposes as the weight or measure which shall have been lost, destroyed, defaced, or otherwise injured.

In case of standards or copies being lost, others to be supplied.

4. And be it further enacted, that all persons who may be desirous of comparing and adjusting any weights and measures, shall have access to all such copies and models of the standards so deposited as aforesaid at all reasonable times; and it shall be the duty of the respective Magistrates of Police, and such other persons as aforesaid, to compare every such weight and measure as shall be brought before them respectively with such copies or models as aforesaid, and to stamp them accordingly with such marks as are herein aforesaid, without taking any fee or reward therein.

Persons to have access to such copies at all reasonable times.

Magistrates and others to compare and stamp such weights and measures as shall be brought before them for that purpose.

5. And if any such Magistrate or other person shall fail, neglect, or refuse to compare or stamp any such weights and measures at all such reasonable times as he or they shall be thereunto required, he shall on conviction forfeit and pay the sum of fifty dollars, to be recovered in a summary manner in manner aforesaid.

Penalty if they shall neglect or refuse.

6. And be it further enacted, that as soon as conveniently may be after the taking effect of this Ordinance, the * Chief Magistrate of Police in Hongkong shall be, and he is hereby directed to appoint one or more person or persons, who shall have power to examine the balances, weights, and measures in Hongkong, and shall be duly sworn well and faithfully to execute the office in him or them reposed by virtue of such appointment and of this Ordinance, which oath the said Chief Magistrate of Police is hereby directed and empowered to administer.

Persons to be appointed to examine balances, weights, and measures. [* See Ord. No. 6 of 1862.]

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Examiners, when so directed, to visit shops, &c., and seize false or deficient balances, weights, and measures.

Upon conviction false weights and measures to be destroyed.

And offender to forfeit a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars.

Penalty on persons obstructing examiners, or refusing to produce balances, weights, or measures for examination.

No person to sell by any other than the standard weights and measures.

Not to apply to contracts made previous to commencement of Ordinance.

7. And be it further enacted, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the person or persons so to be appointed examiners as aforesaid, and they are hereby required, as often as may be necessary, in the day-time to enter into the shop, house, mill, store, outhouse, and other places near to such shop, mill, store, or house, and into the stall or standing-place of any person or persons who shall sell by weight or measure any wares, provisions, goods, or merchandise, or any liquid or dry goods, or other articles whatsoever, and then and there to search for, view, and examine all balances, and all weights and measures of length and capacity therein, and to seize any false or unequal balance or balances, and any weight or weights, measure or measures, being fraudulently stamped, or not being according to the standards, or the copies or models thereof, as hereinbefore is mentioned, which shall upon such search be found therein and to detain the same to be produced before any Justice of the Peace for the district or place within which any such balance, weight, or measure shall have been seized as aforesaid; and such Justice of the Peace is hereby authorized and required to inquire into, hear, and determine in a summary way, all informations, matters, and things touching such seizures, and the person or persons in whose shop, house, mill, store-house, outhouse, premises, stall, or standing-place, any such false, deficient, or fraudulently stamped balance or balances, weight or weights, measure or measures, shall be found, shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit all such false, deficient, or fraudulently stamped balances, weights, and measures, which balances, weights, and measures, so forfeited, shall be broken or otherwise disposed of, as such Justice before whom such conviction shall have taken place shall order and direct, and shall also forfeit and pay for every such false, deficient, or fraudulently stamped balance, weight, or measure, such sum of money, not exceeding the sum of one hundred dollars, as the said Justice before whom any such person or persons shall be convicted shall in his discretion order and adjudge.

8. And be it further enacted, that if any person shall wilfully obstruct, hinder, resist, or in anywise oppose any of the persons hereby authorized and empowered to view and examine such balances, weights, and measures, in the execution of his office, or if any person, selling by weight or measure shall refuse to produce his balances, weights, or measures, in order to be viewed or examined, he shall for every such offence forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding two hundred dollars, nor less than fifty dollars.

9. And be it further enacted, that from and after the first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, it shall not be lawful for any person to bargain, sell, deliver in payment, barter, or exchange, any goods, wares, merchandise, or other thing, by any other weights and measures than by such as shall agree with the said standard weights and measures, or the copies or models thereof, as aforesaid (except as hereinafter excepted,) upon pain of forfeiting for each and every such offence the sum of one hundred dollars, to be recovered in a summary way; Provided, however, that nothing hereinbefore contained shall apply to contracts or bargains for the sale, exchange, or delivery of any goods, wares, merchandise, or other thing *bonâ fide* made

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and entered into before the said first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five; but that all goods, wares, merchandise, and other thing so contracted and bargained for, as last aforesaid, shall and may be sold and delivered according to the ratio and proportion which the weights or measures in use in the Colony at the time such contracts or bargains shall have been made shall bear to the standard weights and measures established by this Ordinance.

10. And be it further enacted, that in every sale, barter, and exchange of any goods, or things which are not commonly or which shall not be contracted or agreed to be delivered by heaped measure, the measure shall not be heaped, but shall be stricken with a round stick or roller straight and of the same diameter from end to end.

For stricken measures.

11. And be it enacted, that all fines and penalties provided by this Ordinance shall (except when it is otherwise specially provided) be recovered, levied, and distributed, on the offender being convicted in a summary way before any Magistrate of Police, or before any two Justices of the Peace, in the manner provided by Ordinance No. 10 of 1844.

Fines &c. to be levied and distributed in manner provided by Ordinance No. 10 of 1844.

12. And be it further enacted, that nothing in this Ordinance contained shall be deemed or taken to extend or apply to the sale of medicines or precious metals, or precious stones, nor to the weights or measures *bona fide* used for the sale thereof.

Not to apply to the sale of medicines or precious metals or stones.

13. And be it further enacted, that this Ordinance shall commence and take effect from and after the first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five.

Commencement of Ordinance.

SCHEDULES TO WHICH THIS ORDINANCE REFERS.

A.

WEIGHTS.

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---------------|---|----------------|
| 10 Candareen or | 分 | Fun, make one | 錢 | Tseen, (Mace.) |
| 10 Mace | 錢 | Tseen, " | 兩 | Leang, (Tael.) |
| 16 Taels | 兩 | Leang, " | 斤 | Kin, (Catty.) |
| 100 Catties | 斤 | Kin, " | 担 | Tam, (Picul.) |
| 1½ Picul | 担 | Tam, " | 石 | Shik, (Stone.) |

MEASURES OF LENGTH.

| | | | | |
|-----------|---|----------|---|------------------|
| 10 Fun, | 分 | make one | 寸 | Tsun. |
| 10 Tsun, | 寸 | " | 尺 | Chih. (or Coid.) |
| 10 Chih, | 尺 | " | 丈 | Chang. |
| 10 Chang, | 丈 | " | 引 | Yin. |

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MEASURES OF GRAIN.

| | | | | |
|-------------------|---|----------|---|-----------------------------|
| 6 <i>Suh</i> , | 粟 | make one | 圭 | <i>Kwei</i> . |
| 10 <i>Kwei</i> , | 圭 | " | 撮 | <i>Tsoh</i> , (or Pupil.) |
| 10 <i>Tsoh</i> , | 撮 | " | 抄 | <i>Chau</i> , (or Handful.) |
| 10 <i>Chau</i> , | 抄 | " | 勺 | <i>Choh</i> , (or Ladle.) |
| 5 <i>Choh</i> , | 勺 | " | 侖 | <i>Yoh</i> , (or Cup.) |
| 2 <i>Yoh</i> , | 侖 | " | 合 | <i>Koh</i> , (or Gill.) |
| 10 <i>Koh</i> , | 合 | " | 升 | <i>Shing</i> , (or Pint.) |
| 10 <i>Shing</i> , | 升 | " | 斗 | <i>Taw</i> . |
| 5 <i>Taw</i> , | 斗 | " | 斛 | <i>Hoh</i> . |

B.

LIST OF STANDARD WEIGHTS AND MEASURES DEPOSITED IN THE
COLONIAL TREASURY, HONGKONG.

| <i>Standard Weights, English.</i> | | <i>Standard Measures of Length.</i> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Avoirdupois | Fifty-six Pounds. | One Yard. |
| | Twenty-eight Pounds. | One Foot. |
| | Fourteen Pounds. | One Inch. |
| | Seven Pounds. | |
| | Four Pounds. | <i>Standard Measures of Capacity.</i> |
| | Two Pounds. | One Bushel. |
| | One Pound. | One Half Bushel. |
| | One Half Pound. | One Peck. |
| | One Quarter Pound. | One Gallon. |
| | | One Half Gallon. |
| Troy | Two Ounces. | One Quart. |
| | One Ounce. | One Pint. |
| | Eight Drams. | One Half Pint. |
| | Four Drams. | One Gill. |
| | Two Drams. | One Half Gill. |
| | One Dram. | |

[Repealed by Ordinance No. 8 of 1885.]