

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.--PAWNBROKERS.

ACT No. XL. OF 1850.

[Passed on the 22nd November, 1850.]

Recites expediency of amending law regarding Pawnbrokers.

1. Repeals R. 7, 1830 of G. of P. of W. Island, &c. and Bengal R. 11, 1832.
- 2, 3. Pawnbrokers to take out licence, for which a fee may be required, and licence may be suspended when Superintendent of Police thinks fit; and (3) no person to exercise the trade without a licence, and unlicensed person to be subject to a penalty.
- 4, 5, 6. Pawnbroker taking pledges between sunset and sunrise, and (5) taking pledge from European or Native soldier without leave of his Commanding Officer, and (6) taking pledge from child apparently under 14 years of age for loan to such child, to be liable to specified penalty.
- 7, 8. Pawnbrokers to report their place of residence to Superintendent of Police; and to give information of persons offering property under circumstances of suspicion, and to keep registers of all lower pledges, &c. and (8) to produce such registers when required to J. P. &c.; and neglecting these duties to be subject to penalty.
9. Penalty may be imposed on conviction before 2 Justices, and levied by warrant against the goods of the offender, and in case no goods, offender may be imprisoned.
10. Act to take effect from 1st May, 1851.

An Act for Licencing Pawnbrokers in the Settlements of Prince of Wales' Island, Singapore and Malacca.

Whereas it is expedient to amend the Law regarding Pawnbrokers in the Settlements of Prince of Wales' Island, Singapore and Malacca, It is enacted as follows:

I. Regulation VII. 1830, passed by the Governor of Prince of Wales' Island, Singapore and Malacca in Council, and Regulation XI. 1833, of the Bengal Code, are repealed from and after the first day of May 1851, except as to convictions and the enforcement of penalties for contraventions of the said Regulations.

II. Every Pawnbroker shall take out a Licence from the Superintendent of Police of the station or place at which his Shop is situated, for the grant and registration of which a Fee shall be paid to the Superintendent of Police, on account of Government, of such amount as shall be from time to time fixed by the Governor of the Straits Settlements; and every such Licence may be annulled, whenever the Superintendent of Police shall think fit.

III. No person shall exercise the trade of a Pawnbroker within the said Settlements, without a Licence; and every unlicensed person who shall take in pledge, or keep in deposit any Goods or Chattels as security for the loan of any sum of money under One Hundred and Fifty Dollars, shall forfeit for each offence a penalty not exceeding Fifty Dollars.

IV. Every Licenced Pawnbroker, who shall take any Goods or Chattels on pawn from any person, between sunset and sunrise on the following morning, shall forfeit a penalty not exceeding Fifty Dollars.

V. Every Licenced Pawnbroker, who shall knowingly take from any European or Native Soldier any article whatsoever, as a pawn, pledge or security for any sum of money lent or advanced to such Soldier, or who shall knowingly buy from any European or Native Soldier any article whatsoever, without authority in writing in each case from the Commanding Officer of such Soldier, shall forfeit a penalty not exceeding Fifty Dollars.

VI. Every Licenced Pawnbroker, who shall take from any child, apparently under the age of fourteen years, any article whatsoever, as a pawn, pledge or security, for any sum of money lent or advanced to such child, or who shall buy from such child any article whatsoever, shall forfeit a penalty not exceeding Fifty Dollars.

VII. All Pawnbrokers are required to report to the Superintendent of Police of the station or place in which they severally reside, all cases in which there is reason for them to suspect any person offering any article to be pawned of having unlawfully obtained possession thereof: and the said Pawnbrokers shall keep proper Registers in writing, specifying the nature and value of every article pawned; the name and dwelling-place of the person pawning the same; the date and the hour of the day in which the same was offered and taken in pawn; the amount lent and the time within which the same is to be repaid; and shall give a duplicate of the entry in such Registers to the person pawning the article respecting which the entry is made, and in default thereof shall forfeit a penalty not exceeding Fifty Dollars.

VIII. All such Registers shall be produced for inspection by the said Pawnbrokers, whenever they shall be thereto required by any Justice of the Peace, Superintendent of Police, or any Peace

Officer; and any Pawnbroker failing to keep and produce his Registers when so required, shall forfeit his Licence, and also forfeit a penalty not exceeding Fifty Dollars.

IX. All penalties under this Act may be imposed on conviction of the offence by confession of the offender, or by the oath of one or more witnesses before two Justices of the Peace, and in case of nonpayment of any pecuniary penalty forfeited under this Act, any two Justices may issue a warrant under their hands, directed to any Peace Officer, to levy the amount of such penalty by seizure and sale of any goods of the offender which may be found within the jurisdiction of such Justices; and if no such property shall be found, any Justice of the Peace, by warrant under his hand, may commit the offender either to the House of Correction or to Her Majesty's Gaol at the station where the conviction is had, for any period not exceeding four calendar months.

X. This Act shall take effect from and after the first day of May 1851.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

ACT No. XLI. OF 1850.

[Passed on the 22nd November, 1850.]

Recites that inconvenience has arisen from decrepit persons being landed in the settlements.

1. *Captains, Commanders, &c. of Ships, &c. landing decrepit persons not having the means of subsistence on the Islands without leave, &c. to be liable on conviction to fine not exceeding 100 dollars.*

2. *Any two Justices may remove any person who has not resided one month in the settlement and has been begging or has become chargeable, to place from which he was brought to the settlement. Cost of removal to be paid by the Master of Ship who brought person to the settlement.*

3. *Captain, &c. of every vessel to deliver to Master Attendant a true list of all passengers on his vessel at time of arrival, on pain of forfeiting 500 dollars.*

An Act to prevent the landing and leaving of decrepit Beggars, in the Settlements of Prince of Wales' Island, Singapore and Malacca.

Whereas much public inconvenience has arisen by Masters of Ships and Nakodas of Junks and other Vessels landing and leaving in the Settlements of Prince of Wales' Island, Singapore and