

MALABAR WAR-KNIVES.

ACT No. XXIV. OF 1854.

[Received assent of G. G. on the 28th October, 1854.]

1, 2. Prohibits the use of the Ayudha Cutty or war-knife in Malabar, and requires such knives to be given up: and (2) establishes fine for possessing, buying, selling or manufacturing such knife or similar weapon.

3. Empowers Magistrate to cause search to be made for such weapons, &c.

An Act to prohibit the possession of certain offensive Weapons in Malabar.

Whereas it is expedient to prohibit the possession of certain offensive weapons in the District of Malabar in the Presidency of Fort St. George, It is enacted as follows:

I. The use of the Ayudha Cutty or war-knife, or of any similar offensive weapon, is hereby prohibited throughout the District of Malabar;

Use of Ayudha Cutty or any similar weapon prohibited.

and every person possessing a weapon of the description so designated, or any similar weapon, is required to surrender it, on or before the date which shall be appointed

Such weapons to be surrendered by a certain date.

for the above provisions taking effect, and according to such orders as shall be published in that behalf by the Magistrate.

II. After such date, any person, who shall be found in possession of an Ayudha Cutty, or war-knife, or of a similar offensive weapon, or who shall purchase, or sell, or manufacture, or

Fine for possessing, purchasing, selling, or manufacturing, after date.

cause to be manufactured, any Ayudha Cutty or war-knife, or similar weapon, shall be liable, on conviction before a Magistrate, to a fine not exceeding fifty Rupees, or to imprisonment, with or without hard labor, for a period not exceeding six months, or to both; and the said war-knife or weapon shall be confiscated.

III. It shall be lawful for the Magistrate of Malabar to cause

Magistrate may search for prohibited weapons.

search to be made by his Police Officers, acting under his warrant in any house or other place in which any Ayudha Cutty or war-knife, or any similar offensive weapon, may be supposed to be, contrary to this Act; and any such Ayudha Cutty or war-knife, which shall be found, may be seized and confiscated. It shall also be competent

to the Magistrate, at his discretion, to delegate to any of his European Assistants the powers conferred by this Section. Any person, who shall resist or oppose such search or seizure, or forcibly withstand any Police Officer charged with such warrant, shall be liable to the same penalties, as if such person had opposed or resisted the execution of a warrant for the search after stolen goods.

Penalty for resisting search.