

sular officer with or without the aid of assessors: Provided always, that in any case in which the assessors or either of them shall dissent from the decision of a subordinate Consular officer, such decision shall not be subject to revision by the superior Consular officer, but, in the event of no appeal being entered as aforesaid, shall be submitted to the Chief Superintendent for revision in the same manner as if such decision had been made by the superior Consular officer.

VIII. And it is further ordered, That any party tried and convicted before a Consul for a breach of treaties between Her Majesty and the Emperor of China, or for a breach of rules and regulations for the observance of such treaties, or for a breach of rules and regulations other than those relating to the observance of treaties, may appeal, after sentence given by such Consul, to the Chief Superintendent, who shall have power to confirm, or vary, or reverse such sentence, as to him may seem fit, and to adjudge the expenses of such appeal, and from whose decision there shall be no appeal; and upon notice given of such appeal, which notice must be given to the Consul in writing, signed by the party appealing, within fifteen days the Consul shall be entitled to require reasonable security from the party so appealing, which security shall in part consist of one or two sufficient sureties to be approved by the Consul, to the intent that if the Chief Superintendent should confirm or vary the sentence passed by the Consul, the appellant shall submit to such sentence, and likewise pay what shall be adjudged by the Chief Superintendent for expenses: Provided always, that the Consul shall forthwith report such appeal and transmit a copy of the proceedings of such trial to the Chief Superintendent, and the party appealing against the sentence of the Consul shall be required to prosecute his appeal before the Chief Superintendent within such time as shall be by the Consul, with the approval of the Chief Superintendent, assigned for the prosecution of such appeal; and if the party appealing shall not duly prosecute his appeal within such time as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the Consul to enforce his sentence in the same manner as if such appeal had not been interposed.

IX. And it is further ordered, That if any party charged with an offence committed against such treaties, or such rules and regulations as aforesaid, shall escape or remove from the Consular district within which such offence was committed, and shall be found within another Consular district, it shall be lawful for the Consul within whose district such party shall be found, to proceed against him in the same manner as if the offence had been committed within such district.

X. And it is further ordered, that it shall be lawful for the Consul of the district, within which the party sued shall be found, to hear and determine any suit of a civil nature against a British subject, arising within any part of the dominions of the Emperor of China, whether such suit be instituted by a subject of the Emperor of China or by a subject or citizen of a foreign State in amity with Her Majesty; and if either or any party in such suit shall be dissatisfied with the decision given by such Consul, it shall be lawful for such party within fifteen days to give to the Consul notice of appeal to the Chief Superintendent; whereupon the Consul shall, with as little delay as possible, transmit all the documents which were produced before him, and none other, together with a statement of the grounds on which he has formed his decision, to the Chief Superintendent, and shall forthwith notify to the several parties the transmission of the process; and saving the provision contained

in Article XV of this Order, the Chief Superintendent shall decide on such documents and on such statement, and shall communicate his decision to the Consul, who shall forthwith proceed to carry the same into execution; and against such decision of the Chief Superintendent there shall be no appeal: Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the Consul to require from any party appealing to the Chief Superintendent, or to the Supreme Court of the Colony of Hong-Kong in the case hereinafter mentioned, reasonable security, which shall consist, in part, of one or two sufficient sureties to be approved by the Consul, that such party shall abide by the decision to be given respectively by the Chief Superintendent, or by the said Supreme Court.

XI. And it is further ordered, That it shall be lawful for the Consul of the district, within which the party sued shall be found, in like manner to hear and determine any suit of a civil nature, arising within any part of the dominions of the Emperor of China, instituted by a British subject against a subject of the Emperor of China, or against a subject or citizen of a Foreign State in amity with Her Majesty, provided that the defendant in such suit shall consent to submit to his jurisdiction and give sufficient security that he will abide by the decision of the Consul, or in case of appeal by that of the Chief Superintendent, and will pay such expenses as the Consul or Chief Superintendent shall adjudge; and if either or any party in such suit shall be dissatisfied with the decision given by such Consul, it shall be lawful for such party within fifteen days to give to the Consul notice of appeal to the Chief Superintendent, and the proceedings in such a suit, or in an appeal arising therefrom, shall be conformable to and under the same conditions as the proceedings in a suit, or in an appeal arising therefrom, in which a British subject is defendant, and a subject of the Emperor of China, or a subject or citizen of a foreign State in amity with Her Majesty, is plaintiff.

XII. And it is further ordered, That in the event of any suit of a civil nature arising between British subjects within the dominions of the Emperor of China, it shall be lawful, upon the application of a party, for the Consul of the district, within which the party sued shall be found, to hear and determine such suit, subject to an appeal to the Chief Superintendent in any case where the sum in dispute shall not exceed one thousand dollars; and every such appeal shall be made and conducted in the same manner and form and under the same conditions as in cases in which the defendant only is a British subject: Provided always, that when the sum in dispute shall exceed one thousand dollars, the appeal shall lie to the Supreme Court of the Colony of Hong-Kong, and not to the Chief Superintendent.

XIII. And it is further ordered, That it shall be lawful for any of Her Majesty's Consuls, before whom any suit whatever of a civil nature is brought for decision, to summon two, and not more than four, British subjects of good repute, residing within his district, to sit with him as assessors at the hearing of such suit; and in case the sum sought to be recovered shall exceed five hundred dollars, such suit shall not be heard by the Consul without assessors, if within a reasonable time such assessors can be procured; and the assessors aforesaid shall have no authority to decide on the merits of such suit, but in the event of such assessors or any or either of them dissenting from the decision of the Consul, the Consul shall enter the fact of such dissent and the grounds thereof in the minutes of the proceedings, and in case of appeal