

the approval of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, as Consul-General, Consul, or Vice-Consul, shall be competent to hold a Consular Court.

IV.—JURISDICTION AND POWERS OF THE CONSULAR COURTS.

i.—*In General.*

13. All Her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, exercisable in the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte shall, for and within the district of the Consulate-General of Constantinople, be vested exclusively in the Supreme Consular Court as its ordinary original jurisdiction.

14. All Her Majesty's jurisdiction, civil and criminal, exercisable in the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte beyond the district of the Consulate-General of Constantinople, and not under the present Order vested exclusively in the Supreme Consular Court, shall, to the extent and in the manner provided by the present Order, be vested in the several Provincial Consular Courts each for and within its own district.

15. Where a suit or proceeding of a civil nature instituted in a Provincial Consular Court does not relate to money, goods, or other property of the amount or value of three hundred pounds sterling, or upwards, or does not relate to or involve, directly or indirectly, a question respecting any civil right or other matter at issue of the amount or value of three hundred pounds sterling, or upwards, or is not brought for the recovery of damages of the amount of three hundred pounds sterling or upwards, the Court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine the case without Assessors.

In all cases other than those hereinbefore described, the Court shall hear and determine the case with Assessors.

16. The Supreme Consular Court shall have, in all matters civil and criminal, a concurrent jurisdiction with the several Provincial Consular Courts, such jurisdiction to be exercised subject and according to the other provisions of the present Order.

17. The Judge of the Supreme Consular Court may, as and when he thinks fit, visit, or appoint the Legal Vice-Consul Counciller, or the Law Secretary of the Supreme Consular Court to visit, in a judicial or magisterial capacity, any Provincial Consular Court, and there inquire of, hear, and determine any case, civil or criminal, pending in that Court, or arising within its jurisdiction.

18. A Provincial Consular Court may of its own motion, or on the application of any person concerned, report to the Supreme Consular Court the pendency of any case, civil or criminal, which appears to the Provincial Consular Court fit to be heard and determined by the Supreme Consular Court. The Supreme Consular Court shall thereupon direct in what mode and where the case shall be heard and determined, and the same may and shall be so heard and determined accordingly.

19. The Supreme and every other Consular Court shall, in the exercise of every part of its respective jurisdiction, be a Court of Record.

20. Each Provincial Consular Court may and shall execute any writ or order issuing from the Supreme Consular Court, and take security from any person named in any writ or order for his appearance personally or by attorney, and may, in default of such security being given, or when specially ordered by the Supreme Consular Court so to do, send the person named to Constantinople on board one of Her Majesty's vessels of war, or if there shall be no such vessel available for the purpose then on board any British or other fit vessel.

The order of the Supreme Consular Court shall be sufficient authority to the commander or master of any such vessel of war or other vessel to receive and detain such person, and carry him to and deliver him up at Constantinople in obedience to and in pursuance of such order.

21. The Supreme and every other Consular Court shall be auxiliary to one another in all particulars relative to the administration of justice, civil or criminal.

ii.—*In Civil Matters.*

22. The Supreme Consular Court and its several officers and every other Consular Court shall, as far as there may be proper opportunity, promote reconciliation and encourage and facilitate the settlement in an amicable way, and without recourse being had to litigation, of matters in difference between persons over whom the Court has jurisdiction.

23. The Supreme and every other Consular Court may promote reconciliation, and encourage and facilitate the settlement, in an amicable way, of any suit or proceeding pending before it.

24. The Supreme or other Consular Court may, with the consent of the parties, refer to arbitration the final determination of any suit or proceeding pending before it, or of all matters in difference between the parties to the suit or proceeding, on such terms and with such directions as to appointment of an arbitrator and other things as may seem fit, and may, if it thinks fit, take from the parties, or any of them, security to abide by the result of the reference.

In any such case the award shall be final and conclusive.

On the application of any party a decree of the Court may be entered in conformity with the award, and no such decree shall be open to any appeal or re-hearing whatever.

25. Every agreement for reference to arbitration or submission to arbitration by consent between or by British subjects, may, on the application of any party, be made a rule of the Supreme or other Consular Court having jurisdiction in the matter of the reference or submission, which Court shall thereupon have power and authority to enforce the agreement or submission, and the award made thereunder, and to control and regulate the proceedings, before and after the award, in such manner and on such terms as may be just.

26. The Supreme and every other Consular Court shall be a Court of Law and of Equity; and (subject to the other provisions of the present Order) shall have and may exercise all jurisdiction, power, and authority, legal, equitable, or other, which any Consul of Her Majesty by custom has or may exercise in the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte.

27. The Supreme and every other Consular Court shall be a Court of Bankruptcy and Insolvency, and as such shall, as far as circumstances will admit, have, each for and within its own district, with respect to British subjects and to their debtors and creditors, being British subjects, or being subjects of the Sublime Ottoman Porte, or subjects or citizens of any other State, and submitting to the jurisdiction of the Court, all such jurisdiction as for the time being belongs to the Court of Bankruptcy, the Court for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors, and the County Courts respectively, in England, or to such other judicial authority or authorities as for the time being has or have jurisdiction in England in matters of Bankruptcy, Insolvency, or Protection.

28. The Supreme Consular Court shall, as far as circumstances will admit, have in itself exclusively for and within the dominions of the Sublime