

soon after as may be, take possession of his personal property within the particular jurisdiction, or put it under the seal of the Court (in either case, if the nature of the property or other circumstances so require, making an inventory), and so keep the property until it can be dealt with according to law.

31.—(1.) In a case of apparent intestacy, where the circumstances of the case appear to the Court so to require, for reasons recorded in the minutes, the Court having probate jurisdiction may, if it thinks fit, of its own motion, or otherwise, grant administration to an officer of the Court.

(2.) Any officer so appointed shall act under the direction of the Court, and shall be indemnified thereby.

(3.) A commission of 2½ per cent. may be charged on an estate administered under this Article.

(4.) All expenses incurred on behalf of the Court in the execution of this Article, and the said commission, shall be the first charge on the personal property of the deceased in Siam; and the Court shall, by sale of part of that property or otherwise, provide for the discharge of those expenses and the payment of the said commission.

32. Where it appears to the Court having probate jurisdiction that the value of the property or estate of a deceased person does not exceed one hundred pounds, the Court may, without any probate or letters of administration, or other formal proceedings, pay thereout any debts or charges, and pay, remit, or deliver any surplus to such persons in such manner as a Secretary of State from time to time directs, and shall not be liable to any action, suit, or proceedings in respect of anything done or purporting to be done under this Article.

#### PART VI.—CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE.

33. The crimes punishable under this Order are:—

(1.) Any acts or omissions which are for the time being punishable in England, on indictment, by death, penal servitude, or imprisonment, as treasons, felonies, or misdemeanours.

(2.) Acts or omissions by this Order, or by any regulations made by virtue of this Order, declared to be punishable as offences against this Order.

In case an act or omission is punishable both as a crime under the law in force in England and as an offence against this Order, the accused person may be tried and punished for such act or omission either as a crime, as aforesaid, or as an offence against this Order, but he shall not be liable to be tried or punished in both ways.

34. Any British subject being in Siam may be proceeded against, tried, and punished under this Order for the crime of piracy wherever committed.

If the Court before which a British subject charged with the crime of piracy is brought is a district Court, the Court shall report to the Consul-General the pendency of the case.

The Consul-General shall thereupon direct in what mode and where the case shall be heard and determined, and (notwithstanding anything in this Order) the case shall be so heard and determined accordingly.

35.—(1.) If any British subject does any of the following things without Her Majesty's authority, that is to say:—

Levies war, or takes any part in any operation of war against, or aids or abets any person in

carrying on war, insurrection, or rebellion against the Kings of Siam;

Every person so offending shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order, and on conviction thereof shall be liable (in the discretion of the Court before which he is convicted) to be punished by imprisonment for any term not exceeding one year, with or without hard labour, and with or without a fine not exceeding one thousand pounds, or by a fine not exceeding one thousand pounds, without imprisonment.

In addition to such punishments, every such conviction shall of itself, and without further proceedings, make the person convicted liable to deportation; and the Court before which he is convicted may order that he be deported from Siam to such place as the Court directs.

(2.) If any British subject, without the authority of Her Majesty (proof whereof shall lie on the party accused), takes part in any operation of war in the service of the Kings of Siam against any persons engaged in carrying on war, insurrection, or rebellion against the Kings of Siam, he shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order, and on conviction thereof shall be liable (in the discretion of the Court before which he is convicted) to be punished by imprisonment for any term not exceeding one year, with or without hard labour, and with or without a fine not exceeding one thousand pounds, or by a fine not exceeding one thousand pounds, without imprisonment.

(3.) If the Court before which any person charged with having committed such a misdemeanour as in this Article mentioned is brought is a District Court, the Court shall report to the Consul-General the pendency of the case.

The Consul-General shall thereupon direct in what mode and where the case shall be heard and determined, and (notwithstanding anything in this Order) the case shall be so heard and determined accordingly.

36. If any British subject is guilty of publicly deriding, mocking, or insulting any religion established or observed in Siam, or of publicly offering any insult to any religious service, feast, or ceremony established or kept in any part of Siam, or to any place of worship, tomb, or sanctuary belonging to any such religion, or to the ministers or professors thereof, or of wilfully committing any act tending to bring any such religion, or its ceremonies, mode of worship, or observances into hatred, ridicule, or contempt, and thereby to provoke a breach of the public peace, he shall be deemed guilty of an offence against this Order, and shall be liable (in the discretion of the Court before which he is convicted) to imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months, with or without hard labour, and with or without a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds, or to a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds, without imprisonment.

Notwithstanding anything in this Order, every charge against a British subject of having committed any such offence shall be heard and determined in a summary way, and any District Court shall have power to impose the punishment aforesaid.

Her Majesty's Consular officers shall take such precautionary measures as seem to them proper and expedient for the prevention of such offences.

37. If any person subject to the criminal jurisdiction of any Court exercising jurisdiction in Siam under this Order does any of the following things, namely:—

(i.) Wilfully by act or threat obstructs any