

## C A P. LXXXV.

An Act for removing Doubts as to the Powers of the Registrar of Her Majesty's Privy Council to administer Oaths, and for providing for the Performance of the Duties of such Registrar in his Absence. [20th August 1853.]

‘ WHEREAS Doubts are entertained as to the Extent of the Powers of the Registrar of Her Majesty's Privy Council appointed under an Act of the Session holden in the Third and Fourth Years of King *William the Fourth*, intituled *An Act for the better Administration of Justice in His Majesty's Privy Council*, for taking Evidence and administering Oaths: And whereas it would be for the public Convenience if such Registrar were empowered to take Affidavits and other Evidence and administer Oaths in all Matters pending before Her Majesty in Council or before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and if Provision were made for the Appointment of a Person to act in the Absence of such Registrar:’ Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows:

I. It shall be lawful for the Registrar for the Time being of Her Majesty's Privy Council appointed under the said Act, or such other Person or Persons as shall be appointed for this Purpose by Her Majesty in Council or by the said Judicial Committee, to examine Witnesses and take Affidavits and Depositions upon Oath in all Appeals, Causes, and Matters whatsoever pending before Her Majesty in Council or before the said Judicial Committee, and to administer Oaths accordingly.

Registrar may examine Witnesses upon Oath.

II. In case of the Absence of the said Registrar it shall be lawful for the President of Her Majesty's Privy Council to appoint a Person to act for the said Registrar during such Absence, and such Person while so acting shall have the same Powers in all respects as are vested in the said Registrar.

President of the Council may appoint a Person to act for Registrar in his Absence.

III. Nothing herein contained shall be taken to affect the Power of Her Majesty under the said Act or otherwise, to direct or limit the Duties to be performed by the said Registrar, or any other Authority which might have been exercised by Her Majesty or by Her Privy Council or the said Judicial Committee in case this Act had not been passed.

Saving of existing Powers of Her Majesty, Her Council, and the Judicial Committee.

## C A P. LXXXVI.

An Act to remove Doubts as to the Rights of the liberated *Africans* in *Sierra Leone*. [20th August 1853.]

‘ WHEREAS Doubts have been entertained whether *Africans* who have been liberated, or taken and received under the Protection of the Crown, under the Provisions of the Acts for the Abolition and Suppression of the Slave Trade, and are domiciled in the Colony of *Sierra Leone* and its Dependencies, are *British* Subjects, and Doubts have been also entertained as to the Authority of the local Legislature of that Colony in legislating in relation to the Rights and Obligations of such *Africans*:’ Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows:

I. All liberated *Africans* domiciled or resident, or who hereafter may be domiciled or resident, in the Colony of *Sierra Leone* or its Dependencies, shall be deemed to be and to have been for all Purposes as from the Date of their being brought into or of their Arrival in the said Colony natural-born Subjects of Her Majesty, and to be and to have been capable of taking, holding, conveying, devising, and transmitting any Estate, real or personal, within the said Colony of *Sierra Leone* and its Dependencies: Provided always, that it shall be

Liberated *Africans* in *Sierra Leone* to be deemed for all Purposes in *Africa* natural-born Subjects.