

lawful for Her Majesty to hold, exercise, and enjoy any power or jurisdiction which Her Majesty now hath, or may at any time hereafter have, within any country or place out of Her Majesty's dominions, in the same and as ample a manner as if Her Majesty had acquired such power or jurisdiction by the cession or conquest of territory.

And whereas Her Majesty hath power and jurisdiction in the islands included between the different branches of the River Danube, at its mouth, and forming, and commonly designated as the Delta of the Danube, which by the Treaty between Her Majesty, His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Austria, His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, His late Majesty the King of Prussia, His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, His Majesty the King of Sardinia, and His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, signed at Paris, on the nineteenth day of June one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, were replaced under the immediate sovereignty of the Sublime Ottoman Porte.

And whereas it is expedient to provide for the efficient exercise of the said power and jurisdiction, for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, in like manner as the same have been customarily and of right exercised on behalf of Her Majesty by Her Majesty's Ambassadors, Ministers, Consuls, and other officers within the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte.

And whereas by the fifteenth Article of the General Treaty of Peace between Her Majesty, His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Austria, His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, His late Majesty the King of Prussia, His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, His Majesty the King of Sardinia, and His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, signed at Paris on the thirtieth day of March one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, it was provided as follows: "The Act of the Congress of Vienna having established the principles intended to regulate the navigation of rivers which separate or traverse different States, the contracting powers stipulate among themselves that those principles shall in future be equally applied to the Danube and its mouths. They declare that this arrangement henceforth forms a part of the public law of Europe, and take it under their guarantee."

"The navigation of the Danube cannot be subjected to any impediment or charge not expressly provided for by the stipulations contained in the following Articles: in consequence, there shall not be levied any toll founded solely upon the fact of the navigation of the river, nor any duty upon the goods which may be on board of vessels. The regulations of police and of quarantine to be established for the safety of the States separated or traversed by that river, shall be so framed as to facilitate as much as possible the passage of vessels. With the exception of such regulations, no obstacle whatever shall be opposed to free navigation."

And whereas by the sixteenth Article of the said last-mentioned Treaty, it was further provided as follows: "With the view of carrying out the arrangements of the preceding Article, a Commission, in which Great Britain, Austria, France, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Turkey, shall each be represented by one delegate, shall be charged to designate, and to cause to be executed, the works necessary, below Isatcha, to clear the mouths of the Danube, as well as the neighbouring parts of the sea, from the sands and other impediments which obstruct them, in order to put that part of the river and the said parts of the sea in the best possible state for navigation."

"In order to cover the expenses of such works, as well as of the establishments intended to secure and to facilitate the navigation at the mouths of the Danube, fixed duties, of a suitable rate, settled by the Commission by a majority of votes, may be levied, on the express condition that in this respect, as in every other, the flags of all the Nations shall be treated on the footing of perfect equality."

And whereas in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, by virtue of the said Articles of the said last-mentioned Treaty, a Commission was accordingly established for the purposes therein mentioned.

And whereas the said Commission, under the power and authorities given to it by the said Articles or otherwise, in and by the said last-mentioned Treaty, has from time to time made and promulgated certain rules, orders, and regulations, and is authorised and empowered from time to time to make and promulgate further and other rules, orders, and regulations, as well concerning the navigation of the said River Danube, and the conduct and government of masters, seamen, and others navigating the same, as concerning the payment of duties to be levied and taken in respect of the navigation of the said river, and the enforcing of penalties for the breach of such rules, orders, and regulations respectively, or any of them.

And whereas it is expedient that power should be given to Her Majesty's Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents exercising jurisdiction over British subjects and Ionian within the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte, to enforce the rules, orders, and regulations so made and to be made by the said Commission as aforesaid.

Now therefore, in pursuance of the above-recited Act of Parliament, and in execution of the powers thereby vested in Her Majesty in Council, Her Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order and declare, and it is hereby ordered and declared as follows:—

I. All rules, orders, and regulations so made and to be made by the said Commission, as hereinbefore mentioned, shall, from and after the date of these presents, or from and after the making of such rules, orders, and regulations respectively, be binding and in force, and shall have the force and effect of law, upon and against all British subjects, and Ionians, and other persons subject to the jurisdiction of Her Majesty's Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents, within the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte.

II. For all the purposes mentioned in the said fifteenth and sixteenth Articles of the said Treaty, and for the purpose of enforcing, so far as Her Majesty's subjects and such other persons as aforesaid are concerned, the provisions of the said Articles, and all rules, orders, and regulations made or to be made by the said Commission, under the powers and authorities given to them by the said Articles, or either of them, or otherwise, in or by the said last-mentioned Treaty, and all acts, payments, matters, and things, which, in and by such rules, orders, or regulations shall have been or shall be ordered under such powers or authorities as aforesaid to be made, done, or performed, or otherwise in relation thereto, the said Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents of Her Majesty, within the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte, shall, from and after the date of these presents, have, possess, and enjoy, all and every the powers, jurisdiction, authorities, rights, privileges, and immunities which, in and by a certain Order in Council, bearing date the twenty-seventh day of August one thousand eight hundred and sixty, are or is vested in, or belongs to, or is exercisable