

AT the Court at Brighton, the 31st of  
January 1823,

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the fifty-seventh year of the reign of His Majesty King George the Third (chapter 1), intituled "An Act to continue and extend the provisions of an Act of the forty-ninth year of His present Majesty, for regulating the trade and commerce to and from the Cape of Good Hope, until the fifth day of July one thousand eight hundred and twenty; and also for regulating the trade of the Island of Mauritius" (which said Act has since been continued by an Act passed in the first year of His present Majesty), His Majesty is authorised, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, by any Order or Orders to be issued from time to time, to give such directions, and to make such regulations touching the trade and commerce to and from any islands, colonies, or places, and the territories and dependencies thereof, to His Majesty belonging or in His possession, in Africa, or Asia to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, excepting only the possessions of the East India Company, as to His Majesty in Council shall appear most expedient and salutary, any thing contained in an Act, passed in the twelfth year of the reign of His Majesty King Charles the Second, intituled "An Act for the encouraging and increasing of shipping and navigation;" or in an Act, passed in the seventh and eighth years of the reign of His Majesty King William the Third, intituled "An Act for preventing frauds and regulating abuses in the plantation trade," or any other Act or Acts of Parliament now in force relating to His Majesty's colonies and plantations, or any other Act or Acts of Parliament, law, usage, or custom to the contrary, in anywise notwithstanding; His Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after the date of this present Order, British vessels arriving at any port of the Island of Ceylon, from any country in amity with His Majesty, laden with any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of such country (excepting all articles composed of cotton, iron, steel, or wool of foreign manufacture,) shall be permitted to enter and land their cargoes, and dispose of the same in the said ports, subject to such duties as may be there payable thereon:

And it is further ordered, that British vessels arriving as aforesaid shall be permitted to export to any such foreign country in amity with His Majesty, cargoes consisting of any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of the Island of Ceylon, or of any other articles which shall have been legally imported there, on payment of such duties as may be payable thereon:

And it is hereby further ordered, that vessels belonging to the subjects of any foreign state in amity with His Majesty, which foreign state shall allow British vessels to carry on trade as aforesaid between the ports of such state and the Island of Ceylon, shall be permitted, in like manner, to

import into the ports of the said Island, from any port of the state to which such vessel shall belong, any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of such foreign state (excepting all articles composed of cotton, iron, steel, or wool, of foreign manufacture), and to dispose of the same in the ports of the said Island, on payment of the same duties as shall be payable on the like articles when imported from such foreign state in British vessels:

Provided, however, that if higher duties are charged on such goods when exported from any such foreign state to the Island of Ceylon, in British vessels, than are charged thereon when exported to that Island in ships of such foreign state; or if higher tonnage duties are charged on British vessels exporting such articles from such foreign state to the Island of Ceylon, than are charged on the vessels of such state exporting similar articles to that Island; a countervailing duty shall be charged on the said articles on importation into the said Island, in vessels of such foreign state, over and above the duties payable on the like articles when imported from such state in British vessels; and also a countervailing duty on such foreign vessels importing such articles equal in amount to the difference of duty charged on British vessels exporting similar articles to the Island of Ceylon, from such foreign state as compared with the duty charged on vessels of such state exporting such articles to that island:

And it is hereby further ordered, that every such foreign vessel shall be permitted to export a cargo consisting of any articles of the growth, production, or manufacture of the Island of Ceylon, or of any other articles which shall have been legally imported there, on payment of a duty of eight per cent. ad valorem, over and above the duties charged on the like goods when exported from the said Island to such foreign state in a British vessel; provided, however, that in cases where satisfactory proof shall be given, that the said articles, when imported into such foreign state from the Island of Ceylon, in British vessels, are charged with no higher duties than are charged on the like articles when imported in vessels of such foreign state, and that such articles, when imported in British vessels, are entitled to the same privileges and advantages with respect to warehousing and internal consumption, or otherwise, as when imported in vessels of such state, then and in such case no higher duties shall be charged on the export of such articles from the Island of Ceylon, in vessels of such foreign state than shall be charged on the export of the like articles in British vessels to such foreign state:

It is, however, hereby further ordered and declared, that no foreign vessel, allowed by the terms of this Order to export a cargo from the Island of Ceylon, shall be permitted to export such cargo to any of His Majesty's possessions, or to any other place than a port or place belonging to the state or power to which the vessel itself shall belong:

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are to give the necessary directions herein, as to them may respectively appertain.

*Jas Buller.*