

AT the Court at *St. James's*, the 19th day of March 1834,

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament, made and passed in the third and fourth year of the reign of His present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the abolition of slavery throughout the British colonies; for promoting the industry of the manumitted slaves; and for compensating the persons hitherto entitled to the services of such slaves," it is enacted, that from and after the first day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, all persons who, in conformity with the laws now in force in the said colonies respectively, shall, on or before the first day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, have been duly registered as slaves in any such colony, and who, on the said first day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, shall be actually within any such colony, and who shall by such registries appear to be, on the said first day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, of the full age of six years or upwards, shall, by force and virtue of the said Act, and without the previous execution of any indenture of apprenticeship, or other deed or instrument for that purpose, become and be apprenticed labourers; and whereas by the said Act it is further enacted that, subject to the obligations imposed by the said Act, or to be imposed as therein mentioned, upon such apprenticed labourers as aforesaid, all and every the persons who, on the said first day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, shall be holden in slavery within any such British colony as aforesaid, shall, upon, and from, and after the said first day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, become and be, to all intents and purposes, freed and discharged of and from all manner of slavery, and shall be absolutely and for ever manumitted; and that the children thereafter to be born to any such persons, and the offspring of such children, shall in like manner be free from their birth; and that from and after the said first day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, slavery shall be and is thereby utterly and for ever abolished and declared unlawful throughout the British colonies, plantations, and possessions abroad; and whereas by the said Act it is provided that the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury may raise the sum of twenty millions sterling towards compen-

sating the persons entitled to the services of the slaves to be manumitted and set free by virtue of the said Act for the loss of such services:

And whereas in the said Act it is recited, that various rules and regulations are or may be necessary for the purposes therein specified, and that such regulations could not, without great inconvenience, be made, except by the respective Governors, Councils, and Assemblies, or other local Legislatures of the said respective colonies, or by His Majesty, with the advice of His Privy Council, in reference to those colonies to which the legislative authority of His Majesty in Council extends: And it is, therefore, by the said Act enacted and declared, that nothing in the said Act contained should extend, or be construed to extend, to prevent the enactment by the respective Governors, Councils, and Assemblies, or by such other local Legislatures as aforesaid, or by His Majesty, with the advice of His Privy Council, of any such Acts of General Assembly, or Ordinances, or Orders in Council, as might be requisite for making and establishing such several rules and regulations as aforesaid, or any of them, or for carrying the same, or any of them, into full and complete effect:

And whereas it is by the said Act further enacted, that no part of the said sum of twenty millions sterling shall be applied, or shall be applicable, to the purposes therein aforesaid, for the benefit of any person entitled to the services of any slave in any of the colonies therein aforesaid, unless an Order shall have been first made by His Majesty, with the advice of His Privy Council, declaring that adequate and satisfactory provision hath been made by law in such colony for giving effect to the said Act, by such further and supplementary enactments as therein mentioned; nor unless a copy of such Order in Council, duly certified by one of the Clerks in Ordinary of His Majesty's Privy Council, shall, by the Lord President of the Council, have been transmitted to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, or to the Lord High Treasurer for the time being, for their or his guidance or information; and every such Order shall be published three several times in the London Gazette, and shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament, within six weeks next after the date thereof, if Parliament shall be then in session, and if not, within six weeks from the then next ensuing session of Parliament:

And whereas in order to carry into effect the