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**A**T the Court at *St. James's*, the 31st day of *July* 1835,

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

**W**HEREAS 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 registers 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 any other deed or instrument for that purpose, become and be an apprenticed labourer; 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 of pounds sterling; towards compensating 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 by 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 go-