

AT the Court at *Buckingham-Palace*, the 30th day of *July* 1838.

## PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS on the twenty-second day of June one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, an Ordinance for the better regulation and enforcement of the relative duties of masters, employers, and articted servants, tradesmen, and labourers, in British Guiana, was enacted by the then Lieutenant-Governor of the said colony, by and with the advice of the Court of Policy thereof; and whereas on the first day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, His late Majesty King William the Fourth, by a certain Order in Council of that date, made various provisions for the amendment of the said recited Ordinance, and did Order, that so much of the said Ordinance as was in any manner repugnant or opposed to the provisions aforesaid, or any of them, should be, and the same was, thereby disallowed; and that, save as aforesaid, the said Ordinance should be, and the same was, thereby confirmed and allowed, and finally enacted; and whereas on the twelfth day of July one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, Her Majesty did make a certain Order in Council of that date, whereby provision was made for the amendment, in certain respects, of the said Order in Council of the first day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven; and whereas on the eleventh day of December one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, Her Majesty did make a certain other Order in Council of that date, whereby provision was made for the further amendment of the said Order in Council of the first day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven; and whereas it is expedient that, subject to the exceptions hereinafter-mentioned, the said recited Ordinance, and the said several Orders in Council, should be repealed and revoked, it is, therefore, hereby ordered by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, that, save as hereinafter is excepted, the said recited Ordinance of the twenty-second day of June one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, and the said recited Orders in Council of the first day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, of the twelfth day of July one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, and of the

eleventh day of December one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, shall be, and the same are, hereby repealed and revoked; provided always, and it is hereby further ordered, that nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to annull or alter any contracts which, before the arrival of this present Order within the said colony, shall have been entered into in pursuance and under the authority of the said recited Ordinance and Orders in Council, or any of them, and that, during the continuance of any such antecedent contracts, the said recited Ordinance and Orders in Council shall, in reference to such contracts, and to the parties who have entered into the same, remain in full force:

And whereas, under the said recited Ordinance and Orders in Council, certain powers were vested in the justices of the peace holding special commissions under the Act of Parliament for the abolition of slavery; and whereas, by the abolition of the term of apprenticeship created by the said Act before the time therein limited for that purpose, the said special commissions may cease and determine during the continuance of the contracts before mentioned, or some of them; it is, therefore, hereby ordered, that, in respect of the contracts which, before the arrival of this present Order within the said colony, shall have been entered into, in pursuance and under the authority of the said recited Ordinance and Orders in Council, or any of them, and in respect of the parties to any such contracts, the powers and jurisdiction by the said Ordinance and Orders in Council vested in the magistrates having such special commissions as aforesaid, shall be, and the same are hereby, vested in any stipendiary magistrates appointed, or to be appointed, for the said colony, or for any district or districts thereof, by Her Majesty, or on Her Majesty's behalf, by the governor, or officer for the time being administering the government thereof:

And it is hereby ordered, that, on the arrival of this present Order within the said colony, the governor, or the officer for the time being administering the government thereof, shall, and he is hereby required to issue a Proclamation, reciting at length this present Order, and stating the day of the month and year on which the same was received by him, and, upon and from such Proclamation, this present Order shall have the force and effect of law within the said colony:

And the Right Honourable Lord Glenelg, one of