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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1838.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 7th day of *September* 1838,

PRESENT,

The **QUEEN's** Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS since the abolition of slavery throughout the British colonies, plantations, and possessions abroad, the marriage laws of the said colonies, plantations, and possessions have been found inappropriate to the altered condition thereof, and inadequate to the increased desire for lawful matrimony therein: and whereas it is expedient and necessary to amend the said marriage laws, and to adapt the same to the altered state and condition of society in the said colonies, plantations, and possessions, it is, therefore, hereby ordered by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, that, from and after the taking effect of this Order, it shall be lawful for any minister of the Christian religion, ordained or otherwise set apart to the ministry of the Christian religion, according to the usage of the persuasion to which he may belong, to publish, within the colonies of British Guiana, Trinidad, St. Lucia, the Cape of Good Hope, and Mauritius, or any of them, banns of marriage between persons desirous of being joined together in matrimony, and such publication shall be made in an audible manner some time during public divine service on a Sunday, in the face

of the congregation before whom such minister shall officiate in the parish in which both or one of the parties to be married shall dwell, and shall contain the Christian and other name and surname and place of abode of each of the said parties, and shall be so published by some such minister for three Sundays preceding the solemnization of the marriage, during the morning service, if there be service in the morning, or if there shall be no morning service then during the evening service; and if the parties to be married shall dwell in different parishes the banns shall be published in like manner in both such parishes; and if the said parties shall be of different persuasions the banns shall be published in like manner before each of the congregations to which the said parties may respectively belong, whether both the said congregations shall assemble in the same parish or not. And where one or both of the parties shall dwell in any extra-parochial place, then if there be a congregation of the persuasion to which any such party shall belong assembling for public divine worship as aforesaid in such extra-parochial place, the banns of the party or parties dwelling in such extra-parochial place shall be published in manner aforesaid in such extra-parochial place; and if there shall be no such congregation in such extra-parochial place, then the banns of such of the parties to be married as shall dwell in such extra-parochial place shall be published in manner aforesaid in some parish next adjoining to such extra-parochial place; and in cases where the banns shall