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TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1844.

AT the Court at *Buckingham-Palace*, the
17th day of *April* 1844,

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by a certain Act of Parliament, made and passed in the session of Parliament holden in the sixth and seventh years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for the better government of Her Majesty's subjects resorting to China," it is, amongst other things, enacted, that it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by any Order or Orders made, with the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Council, to ordain for the government of Her Majesty's subjects, being within the dominions of the Emperor of China, or being within any ship or vessel at a distance of not more than one hundred miles from the coast of China, any law or ordinance which to Her Majesty in Council may seem meet, as fully and effectually as any such law or ordinance could be made by Her Majesty in Council for the government of Her Majesty's subjects being within the island of Hong Kong:

And whereas by a certain other Act of Parliament, made and passed in the session of Parliament holden as aforesaid, intituled "An Act to remove doubts as to the exercise of power and jurisdiction by Her Majesty within divers countries and places out of Her Majesty's dominions, and to render the same more effectual," it is, amongst other things, enacted, that it is and shall be lawful for Her Majesty to hold, exercise, and enjoy any power or jurisdiction which Her Majesty now hath, or may at any time hereafter have, within any country or place out of Her Majesty's dominions, in the same and as ample a manner as if

Her Majesty had acquired such power or jurisdiction by the cession or conquest of territory:

And whereas Her Majesty hath power and jurisdiction in the dominions of the Emperor of China; now, therefore, in pursuance of the above recited Acts, or either of them, Her Majesty is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and is hereby ordered, that Her Majesty's Consuls and Vice-Consuls resident within the said dominions, or such other persons, as by warrant under the hand and seal of the Chief Superintendent of the trade of Her Majesty's subjects in China for the time being, shall be appointed to act provisionally as Consuls or Vice-Consuls, shall severally, in the districts within which they may respectively be appointed to reside, have and hold all necessary power and authority to exercise jurisdiction over British subjects within such districts as aforesaid, for the repression and punishment of crimes and offences by them committed within the dominions of the Emperor of China, and for the arrangement and settlement of all and all manner of differences, contentions, suits, and variances that may or shall happen to arise between them, or any of them; and shall moreover have power and authority, as far as in them lies, to compose and settle all and all manner of differences, contentions, suits, and variances that may or shall happen to arise between British subjects and the subjects of the Emperor of China, and between British subjects and the subjects of any foreign power, and which may be brought before them for settlement:

And whereas, by the above first recited Act, it is enacted, that it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by any commission or commissions under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, or by any instructions under Her Majesty's signet and sign manual accompanying and referred to in any such com-