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Foreign Office, July 12, 1886.

THE travelling public are reminded of the notice which appeared in the London Gazette of April 15, 1881, pointing out that all British subjects intending to reside in Switzerland must be provided with a passport or certificate of birth; and further, that, in various cases, travellers have sustained much inconvenience from not being able to produce a passport when required.

It is, therefore, advisable for British subjects in general who are proceeding to Switzerland not to do so without providing themselves with a Foreign Office passport.

Foreign Office, July 12, 1886.

THE following Charter has been granted to the National African Company Limited, upon a Petition to Her Majesty in Council:—

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith.

To all to whom these presents shall come greeting:

WHEREAS an Humble Petition has been presented to Us in Our Council by the National African Company Limited, of 34 to 40, Ludgate-hill, in the city of London, hereinafter referred to as "the Company."

And whereas the said Petition states (among other things) that the Petitioner Company was incorporated in the year 1882, under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1880, as a Company limited by shares. And that the capital of the Company is £1,000,000, divided into 100,000 shares of £10 each, with power to increase. And 91,675 of such shares have been subscribed for and issued; and a further 6,000 of such shares have been subscribed for, and are about to be issued, making in all 97,675 of such shares. And that the objects of the Company as declared by the Memorandum of Association of the Company are (amongst others) the following, that is to say:—

To carry on business and to act as merchants, bankers, traders, commission agents, ship-owners, carriers, or in any other capacity, in the United Kingdom, Africa, or elsewhere, and to import, export, buy, sell, barter, exchange, pledge, make advances upon or otherwise deal in goods, produce, articles, and merchandize, according to the custom of merchants, or otherwise.

To form or acquire and carry on trading stations, factories, stores, and depôts in Africa or elsewhere, and to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire, carry on, develop, or improve any business, or any real or personal property in the United Kingdom, Africa, or elsewhere, or any undivided or other interest whatsoever therein respectively.

To apply for, acquire, and hold any charters, Acts of Parliament, privileges, monopolies, licences, concessions, patents, or other rights or powers from the British Government, or any other Government or State, or any potentate or local or other authority in Africa or elsewhere; to exercise, carry on, and work any powers, rights, or privileges so obtained; and to constitute, or incorporate the Company as an anonymous or other Society in any foreign country or State.

To purchase or otherwise acquire, open, and work mines, forests, quarries, fisheries, and manufactories; and to stock, cultivate, and improve any of the lands of the Company, erect buildings thereon, and sell the produce thereof.

To do all other things whatsoever, whether of the like or other nature, which the Company may consider in any way incidental or conducive to the foregoing objects or any of them.

And whereas the Petition further states, that the Kings, Chiefs, and peoples of various territories in the basin of the River Niger in Africa, fully recognizing, after many years' experience, the benefits accorded to their countries by their intercourse with the Company and their predecessors, have ceded the whole of their respective territories to the Company by various Acts of Cession specified in the schedule hereto.

And whereas, in consideration of such Cessions the Company agreed, amongst other things, not to interfere with any of the native laws and not to encroach on or to interfere with any private property unless the value should be agreed upon by the owner and the said Company, and payment made of such value.

And whereas the petitioners further state that the Company since their incorporation have been actively engaged in carrying into effect the objects stated in the aforesaid Memorandum of Association, and have purchased the business of all European traders in the regions aforesaid, and are now the sole European traders there, and are now engaged in developing the resources of such