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FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1900.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 27th day of *December*, 1899.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty.
His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught
and Strathearn.
Mr. Balfour.
Mr. Ritchie.

WHEREAS the territories of West Africa situate within the limits of this Order, as hereinafter described, are under the protection of Her Majesty the Queen :

And whereas by Treaty, grant, usage, sufferance, and other lawful means, Her Majesty has power and jurisdiction in the said territories :

And whereas by Her Majesty's Royal Charter dated the tenth day of July one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six the National African Company, Limited (in the said Charter and hereinafter referred to as "the Company"), was authorized and empowered to hold and retain the full benefit of the several cessions of territories in the basin of the River Niger in Africa therein recited to have been made to the Company by the various Acts of cession or treaties specified in the Schedule to the said Charter or any of them, and all rights, interests, authorities, and powers for the purpose of government, preservation of public order, protection of the said territories or otherwise of what nature or kind soever, under or by virtue thereof or resulting therefrom and ceded to or vested in the Company in, over, or affecting the territories, lands, and property comprised in those several cessions, or in, over, or affecting any territories, lands, or property in the neighbourhood of the same, and to hold, use, enjoy, and exercise the same territories, lands, property, rights, interests, authorities, and powers respectively, for the purposes of the Company and on the terms of the said Charter :

And whereas the said Company were further authorized and empowered, subject to the approval of a Secretary of State, to acquire and take by purchase, cession, or other lawful means other rights, interests, authorities, or powers of any kind or nature whatever, in, over, or affecting the territories, lands, or property comprised in the several Treaties aforesaid, or any rights, interests, authorities, or powers of any nature or kind whatever in, over, or affecting other territories, lands, or property in the region aforesaid, and to hold, use, enjoy, and exercise the same for

the purposes of the Company, and on the terms of the said Charter :

And whereas by the said Charter it was declared that in case at any time it should be made to appear to Her Majesty in Council expedient that the said Charter should be revoked, it should be lawful for Her Majesty, Her heirs and successors, and Her Majesty did thereby expressly reserve the right and power by writing under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, to revoke the said Charter :

And whereas pursuant to the authority in that behalf given to the Company by the said Charter, the Company, with the approval of a Secretary of State, acquired by Treaties, cessions, or other lawful means divers further rights, interests, authorities, or powers in, over, or affecting the territories, lands, and property comprised in the several Treaties mentioned or referred to in the said Charter, and divers rights, interests, authorities, and powers in, over, or affecting other territories, lands, and property in the region aforesaid :

And whereas the name of the Company was, with the previous approval of a Secretary of State, changed from the National African Company, Limited, to the Royal Niger Company, Chartered and Limited :

And whereas it appeared to Her Majesty in Council expedient that the said Charter should be revoked, and Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, in exercise of the power for that purpose given or reserved to Her by the said Charter and of every other power thereunto enabling Her, has revoked the said Charter and all the powers, rights, liberties, and authorities thereby given to the Company, and every clause, matter, and thing in the said Charter contained, without prejudice to anything duly or lawfully done or any rights, interests, authorities, or powers duly or lawfully acquired by the Company under or by virtue of the said Charter, or any of the powers, rights, liberties, and authorities thereby given to the Company previously to the revocation thereof :

And whereas it is necessary to provide for the peace, order, and good government of the territories aforesaid, and to appoint a High Commissioner for the said territories :

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers by "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890," or otherwise in Her Majesty vested, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her