CAP. LXXXV.

An Act for removing Doubts as to the Powers of the Registrar of Her Majesty's Privy Council to administer Oaths, and for providing for the Performance of the Duties of such Registrar in his Absence. [20th *August* 1853.]

'WHEREAS Doubts are entertained as to the Extent of the Powers of the Registrar of 'Her Majesty's Privy Council appointed under an Act of the Session holden in the 'Third and Fourth Years of King *William* the Fourth, intituled *An Act for the better* 3 & 4 W. 4. c. 41. '*Administration of Justice in His Majesty's Privy Council*, for taking Evidence and administering Oaths: And whereas it would be for the public Convenience if such Registrar were 'empowered to take Affidavits and other Evidence and administer Oaths in all Matters 'pending before Her Majesty in Council or before the Judicial Committee of the Privy 'Council, and if Provision were made for the Appointment of a Person to act in the Absence 'of such Registrar:' Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows:

Registrar may examine Witnesses upon Oath.

I. It shall be lawful for the Registrar for the Time being of Her Majesty's Privy Council appointed under the said Act, or such other Person or Persons as shall be appointed for this Purpose by Her Majesty in Council or by the said Judicial Committee, to examine Witnesses and take Affidavits and Depositions upon Oath in all Appeals, Causes, and Matters whatsoever pending before Her Majesty in Council or before the said Judicial Committee, and to administer Oaths accordingly.

President of the Council may appoint a Person to act for Registrar in his Absence.

II. In case of the Absence of the said Registrar it shall be lawful for the President of Her Majesty's Privy Council to appoint a Person to act for the said Registrar during such Absence, and such Person while so acting shall have the same Powers in all respects as are vested in the said Registrar.

Saving of existing Powers of Her Majesty, Her Council, and the Judicial Committee.

III. Nothing herein contained shall be taken to affect the Power of Her Majesty under the said Act or otherwise, to direct or limit the Duties to be performed by the said Registrar, or any other Authority which might have been exercised by Her Majesty or by Her Privy Council or the said Judicial Committee in case this Act had not been passed.

CAP. LXXXVI.

An Act to remove Doubts as to the Rights of the liberated *Africans* in *Sierra Leone*. [20th *August* 1853.]

'WHEREAS Doubts have been entertained whether *Africans* who have been liberated, 'or taken and received under the Protection of the Crown, under the Provisions of 'the Acts for the Abolition and Suppression of the Slave Trade, and are domiciled in the 'Colony of *Sierra Leone* and its Dependencies, are *British* Subjects, and Doubts have been 'also entertained as to the Authority of the local Legislature of that Colony in legislating 'in relation to the Rights and Obligations of such *Africans*:' Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, as follows:

Liberated Africans in Sierra Leone to be deemed for all Purposes in Africa natural-born Subjects.

I. All liberated *Africans* domiciled or resident, or who hereafter may be domiciled or resident, in the Colony of *Sierra Leone* or its Dependencies, shall be deemed to be and to have been for all Purposes as from the Date of their being brought into or of their Arrival in the said Colony natural-born Subjects of Her Majesty, and to be and to have been capable of taking, holding, conveying, devising, and transmitting any Estate, real or personal, within the said Colony of *Sierra Leone* and its Dependencies: Provided always, that it shall be

Local Legislature may make Laws in relation to the Property in Land in the Colony.

lawful for the Legislature of *Sierra Leone* by any Ordinance to be passed in the Manner subject to the Conditions which are or may be by Law required in respect of such Ordinances, to alter or repeal any of the Provisions of this Act, so far as they relate to Rights to Real Property within the Colony of *Sierra Leone* and its Dependencies, and generally to make such Provisions in relation to such Rights as to such Legislature may seem expedient.

Liberated Africans to be British Subjects for the Purposes of Treaties with Native Chiefs.

II. 'And whereas Treaties have been from Time to Time entered into, by or on the 'Behalf and with the Sanction of Her Majesty, with the Kings and Chiefs of certain *African* 'Territories and Tribes in the Neighbourhood of the said Colony of *Sierra Leone*, for the Pur- 'pose (amongst others) of providing for the Security of the Persons and Property of *British* 'Subjects, and for the Surrender of Criminals, being *British* Subjects, guilty of any Offence 'cognizable by the Laws of *England*, for Trial in such Colony as Her Majesty may appoint:' In all such Treaties as aforesaid made or which may be made between the Officer administering the Government of *Sierra Leone* for the Time being and such Kings or Chiefs as aforesaid, and sanctioned by Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, the Terms "*British* Subjects" and "Subjects of the Queen of *England*" shall be held for the Purposes of such Treaty to comprehend all liberated *Africans* domiciled or residing in *Sierra Leone* and its Dependencies.

Governor may appoint Officers to demand or take charge of British Subjects under these Treaties.

6 & 7 Vict. c. 94.

III. Any Magistrate or other Officer whom the Officer administering the Government of *Sierra Leone* shall appoint to demand or to take charge of any *British* Subject who shall be surrendered according to the Provisions of any such Treaty for Trial in *Sierra Leone* shall be deemed and taken to be an Officer of Her Majesty, to whom the Cognizance of the Crime or Offence with which such *British* Subject may be charged appertains, within the Meaning of the Act of the Sixth and Seventh Year of the Reign of Her present Majesty, Chapter Ninety-four, entitled *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.*

Who to be deemed Liberated Africans.

IV. For the Purposes of this Act the Words "liberated *Africans*" shall mean and include all Persons dealt with or detained as Slaves who heretofore have been or hereafter may be seized or taken, under any of the Acts for the Abolition or Suppression of the Slave Trade, by Her Majesty's Ships of War or otherwise, and liberated or delivered to the Officers appointed to protect, receive, or provide for such Persons, and all other Persons who, as having been dealt with, carried, kept, or detained as Slaves, may have been taken and liberated, or received, protected, or provided for, under any of the said Acts.

Provisions of Acts against Slave Trade not to be affected.

V. Provided always, That nothing in this Act shall in anywise prejudice or interfere with any of the Provisions in relation to such liberated *Africans* as aforesaid of the Laws in force for the Abolition or Suppression of the Slave Trade.

CAP. LXXXVII.

An Act to give to the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings extended Time and further Powers for completing the Embankment of the River *Thames* between *Vauxhall* and *Battersea* Bridges, and a new Street from *Lower Sloane Street* in connexion therewith. [20th *August* 1853.]

9 & 10 Vict. c. 39.

'WHEREAS by the Thirty-ninth Chapter of the Statutes made in the Session of Par- 'liament held in the Ninth and Tenth Years of Her Majesty Queen *Victoria*, and 'which received the Royal Assent on the Third Day of *August* One thousand eight hundred 'and forty-six, the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Woods, Forests, Land Revenues, Works, 'and Buildings were empowered to construct and complete an Embankment and Roadway 'along the North Bank of the River *Thames* from *Battersea Bridge* to *Vauxhall Bridge*, and 'to construct and complete a Bridge across the said River from a Point near to *Chelsea* 'Hospital to a Point near the Public House called the *Red House*, with convenient Ap- 'proaches