CHAPTER 47.

An Act to make provision for the Government of the Islands of St. Vincent, Tobago, and Grenada, and their Dependencies. [11th August 1876.]

PART I.

GRENADA.

WHEREAS on the 9th of February, 1876, the President and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Island of Grenada and its Dependencies passed an Address in the following terms; that is to say,

"To Her most Gracious Majesty the Queen.

"The humble Address of the President and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Island of Grenada and its Dependencies showeth as follows:

"We, the President and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Island of Grenada and its Dependencies, desire to approach Your Majesty with feelings of the most unbounded loyalty and respect, knowing as we do that Your Majesty has the welfare and well-being of all Your subjects at heart, and satisfied that it is expedient that the entire control and government of this island and its dependencies should be vested in Your Majesty, we have caused an Act repealing the present constitution of the Colony to be passed: And should Your Majesty be graciously pleased to assent thereto, we leave it entirely to Your Majesty's wisdom and discretion to erect such form of Government as Your Majesty shall deem most desirable for the welfare of the colony. And we remain, as in duty bound, Your Majesty's most dutiful and most devoted loving subjects and servants.

"(Signed) HY. B. BECKWITH,
"*President of the Assembly.*

"*House of Legislative Assembly,*
"*Grenada, 9th February* 1876.

"(Signed) JOHN WELLS,
"*Clerk of the Assembly.*"

And whereas doubts have arisen as to the validity and effect of the said Act in the said Address referred to, and it is expedient to remove such doubts, and to give effect to the said Address under the authority of Parliament, by enabling Her Majesty to erect such form of Government in the Island of Grenada and its Dependencies as Her Majesty shall deem most desirable for the welfare of the colony:

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:

The Queen empowered to create a constitution for the Island of Grenada and its Dependencies.

1. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty by Order in Council to create and constitute a Government and Legislature for the Island of Grenada and its Dependencies in such form and with such powers as to Her Majesty may seem fit, and from time to time in like manner to alter or amend the constitution of such Government and Legislature; and it shall be lawful for Her Majesty in like manner to amend or repeal any Act of the Legislature of the said Island of Grenada and its Dependencies now in force, in so far as the same may be repugnant to the terms of any Order in Council passed in pursuance of this Act.

PART II.

SAINT VINCENT AND TOBAGO.

Whereas Acts have been passed by the Legislatures of the Islands of Saint Vincent and Tobago respectively, during sessions held in the present year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled, in the case of Saint Vincent, "An Act to alter and amend the Political Constitution of this Island and its Dependencies," and in the case of Tobago, "An Act to alter

" and amend the Political Constitution of this Island :" And whereas doubts have arisen as to whether it was competent for the Legislatures of the said islands to pass the said Acts: And whereas it is expedient to remove such doubts, and that the said Acts should be brought into operation under the authority of Parliament:

And whereas the said Acts are set out in the schedule hereunto annexed:

Acts passed by Legislatures of Saint Vincent and Tobago respectively to be valid.

2. Be it therefore enacted that the said Acts set forth in the schedule to this Act shall be and the same are hereby declared to be valid and of full force, and shall come into operation in the Island of Saint Vincent and its Dependencies and in the Island of Tobago respectively so soon as they shall have been confirmed by Her Majesty in Council, and such confirmation shall have been duly published within the island to which the same relates.

Meaning of terms "Government" and "Island."

3. In construing the said Act of the Island of Saint Vincent the term "Island" in the title thereof shall mean "the Island of Saint Vincent and its Dependencies," and the term "Government" shall mean the Government of the Island of Saint Vincent and its Dependencies, and in construing the said Act of the Island of Tobago the term "Island" shall mean the Island of Tobago.

Short title.

4. This Act may be cited for all purposes as "The Saint Vincent, Tobago, and Grenada Constitution Act, 1876."

SCHEDULE.

SAINT VINCENT.

"AN ACT TO ALTER AND AMEND THE POLITICAL CONSTITUTION OF THIS ISLAND AND ITS DEPENDENCIES."

Whereas it is necessary to alter the present political constitution of this Government, be it enacted by the Governor and Legislative Assembly of the said Government as follows:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as "The Constitution Act, 1876."

Repeal of Acts.

2. The Acts whose titles are set forth in the schedule hereto annexed are hereby repealed.

Legislative Assembly abolished.

3. From and after the coming into operation of this Act, the present Legislative Assembly, and all and every the functions and privileges thereof, shall cease and determine absolutely.

Her Majesty in Council may create new Legislature and amend same.

4. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty the Queen in Council to create and constitute a Legislature for this Government in such form and with such powers as Her Majesty in Council may determine, and from time to time to alter or amend such Legislature, or any of the forms or powers thereof.

Public trust, &c. now vested in President of Assembly to vest in Governor.

5. Where any public trust, office, or responsibility is vested by any law in the President of the Legislative Assembly (whose functions are abrogated by this Act), such public trust, office, or responsibility shall, after the passing of this Act, devolve upon the Governor.

Colonial Secretary to have custody of records of Legislative Assembly.

6. The records and documents of and belonging to the Legislative Assembly shall remain in the custody of the Colonial Secretary and his successors, who shall be responsible for the proper preservation of the same.

Act not to operate until confirmed by Her Majesty.

7. This Act shall have no force or operation until the same shall have been confirmed by Her Majesty, and such confirmation duly published in this Government.

SCHEDULE.

No. of Act.	Title or Short Title of Act.	Date when passed.
269	The Election Act, 1867 - - - - - -	17th October 1867.
278	The Constitution Act, 1868 - - - - -	2nd July 1868.
322	The Amended Constitution Act, 1869 - - - -	23rd November 1869.
342	An Act to provide for the Future Performance of the Duties of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.	26th January 1871.

TOBAGO.

"AN ACT TO ALTER AND AMEND THE POLITICAL CONSTITUTION OF THIS ISLAND."

Whereas it is necessary to alter the present political constitution of the Government of this Island:

Be it enacted by the Governor and Legislative Assembly of the Island of Tobago as follows:

1. From and after the coming into operation of this Act, the present Legislative Assembly, and all and every the functions and privileges thereof, shall cease and determine absolutely.

2. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty the Queen in Council to create and constitute a Legislature for this Government in such form and with such powers as to Her Majesty in Council may best seem fit, and from time to time to alter or amend such Legislature, or any of the forms or powers thereof.

3. This Act may be cited as "The Constitution Act, 1876."

4. The Acts and parts of Acts whose titles are set forth in the schedule hereto annexed are hereby repealed.

SCHEDULE.

Extent of Repeal.	Title of Act.
The whole, with the exception of sections two and three.	23 Vict. c. VII. The Act entitled "An Act to extend the Franchise and otherwise provide for the better Representation of the People."
The whole - -	27 Vict. c. 2. "An Act to amend the Franchise Act, 1860, 23 Vict. c. 7."
The whole - -	35 Vict. c. 1. "An Act to extend the provisions of the Franchise Act, 1860."
The whole - -	38 Vict. c. 9. "An Act to amend and simplify the Legislature of the Island of Tobago."

CHAPTER 48.

An Act to amend the Law with reference to Bankers' Books Evidence.

[11th August 1876.]

WHEREAS serious inconvenience has been occasioned to bankers and also to the public by reason of the ledgers and other account books having been removed from the banks for the purpose of being produced in legal proceedings:

And whereas it is expedient to facilitate the proof of the transactions recorded in such ledgers and account books:

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:

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Bankers' Books Evidence Act, 1876.

Interpretation clause.

2. The word "bank" in this Act shall mean any person or persons, partnership or company, carrying on the business of bankers, and who at the commencement of each year shall have made their return to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, and any savings bank certified under the Act of 1863.

The words "legal proceedings" in this Act shall include all proceedings, whether preliminary or final, in courts of justice, both criminal and civil, legal and equitable, and shall include all proceedings, whether preliminary or final, by way of arbitration, examination of witnesses, assessment of damages, compensation, or otherwise, in which there is power to administer an oath.

The words "the court" in this Act shall mean the court, judge, magistrate, sheriff, arbitrator, or other person authorised to preside over the said legal proceedings for the time being, and shall include all persons, judges, or officers having jurisdiction and authorised to preside over or to exercise judicial control over the said legal proceedings or the procedure or any steps therein.