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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1879.

At the Court at Balmoral, the 23th day of
October 1879.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act of Parliament made and passed in the 25th year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled 'An Act to enable Her Majesty to issue Commissions to the Officers of Her Majesty's Land Forces and Royal Marines, and to Adjutants and Quartermasters of the Militia and Volunteer Forces without affixing Her Royal Sign Manual thereto,' after setting forth therein that every Officer appointed or promoted by Her Majesty in Her Land Forces or Marines, and every Adjutant or Quartermaster in Her Militia or Volunteer Forces, receives a Commission from Her Majesty with Her Royal Sign Manual thereon, and that it was expedient to regulate from time to time the mode of authenticating the said Commissions granted by Her Majesty, it was enacted, that it should be lawful for Her Majesty, by Order in Council, from time to time, as occasion might require, to direct that all or any Commissions for Officers prepared or to be prepared under the authority of Her Majesty's Royal Sign Manual might be afterwards issued without Her Royal Sign Manual, but having thereon, in the case of Her Majesty's Land Forces, except as hereafter mentioned, the signatures of the Commander-in-Chief or the General Commanding in Chief and of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and in the case of the Royal Marines, of

the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and in the case of Military Chaplains, Commissariat and Store Officers, and of Adjutants and Quartermasters in the Militia and Volunteer Forces, of one of Her Majesty's said Principal Secretaries; and that every such Commission issued and signed in pursuance of such Order in Council should be conclusive evidence that the Officers named in any such Commission had been appointed or promoted by Her Majesty to the rank or office named therein;

And whereas by the Regulations of the Forces Act, 1871, it was amongst other things enacted that, after a day to be named by Orders in Council, all 'Officers in the Militia, Yeomanry, and Volunteers of England, Scotland, and Ireland shall hold Commissions from Her Majesty, and that such Commissions shall be prepared, authorized, and issued in the manner in which Commissions of Officers in Her Majesty's Land Forces are prepared, authorized, and issued according to law or custom for the time being in force.' And whereas by two several Orders in Council made in pursuance of the first recited Act, and bearing date respectively the 7th day of June 1862 and the 12th day of March 1866, directions were given as to the issuing and signing of Commissions as are mentioned therein. And whereas Her Majesty was pleased, in pursuance of the provisions contained in the secondly recited Act, by an Order in Council, bearing date the 5th day of February 1872, to declare that after the 31st day of March 1872, all 'Officers in the Militia, Yeomanry, and Volunteers of England, Scotland, and Ireland should hold Commissions