

manner and form of adjudicating thereupon, and otherwise however respecting the method, form, and manner of proceeding to be observed, either by them, the said Assistant Commissioners, or by the parties to any proceedings before them, their agents, or witnesses; and which rules should from time to time be liable to be amended, altered, varied, or renewed as occasion might require, in such manner as is therein before directed:

And whereas, in pursuance of the said Act of Parliament, His Majesty, by a Commission under the Great Seal, bearing date the seventh day of October in the fourth year of His Majesty's reign, did constitute Charles Christopher Pepys, James Lewis, John George Shaw Lefevre, Samuel Duckworth, Thomas Amyott, Hastings Elwin, and Henry Frederick Stephenson, Esqrs. to be Commissioners of Arbitration for the purposes in the said Act mentioned.

And whereas, in pursuance of the said Act, the said Commissioners did draw up and frame such general rules as therein mentioned for the apportionment of the compensation money therein mentioned amongst the persons seized of, or entitled to, or having, any mortgage, charge, incumbrance, judgment, or lien upon, or any claim to, or right or interest in, any slave or slaves so to be manumitted, as in the said Act is mentioned, at the time of such their manumission;

And whereas, in pursuance of the said Act, the said Commissioners did also frame such general rules as in the said Act are mentioned, prescribing the form and manner of proceeding to be observed by any claimant or claimants preferring any such claims as are therein mentioned:

And whereas the said general rules when so framed, being subscribed with the respective hands and seals of certain of the said Commissioners, were by them on the first day of April last transmitted to the Lord President of His Majesty's Council to be by him laid before His Majesty in Council;

And whereas the said rules so transmitted as aforesaid to the Lord President have been published in the manner and form in the said Act in that behalf required, together with a notice that all persons interested in or affected by any such general rules might, within six months from the date of such notice, appeal against any such rules to His Majesty in Council:

And whereas such notice bore date the seventeenth day of April one thousand eight hundred and

thirty-four, and the said term of six months expired on the seventeenth day of October one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four:

And whereas by a further notice, dated the seventh day of July one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, and published as by the said Act is in that behalf required, three of the Lords of His Majesty's Privy Council did, in so far as related to the colonies of the Cape of Good Hope and Mauritius, enlarge the time for receiving appeals against certain of the said general rules to the period of nine months from the date of the said notice of the seventeenth day of April one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, but no appeal, except as hereinafter mentioned, hath been preferred against any of the said general rules:

And whereas the several parties hereinafter mentioned did, within the time limited for that purpose by the said notice of the seventeenth day of April one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, prefer their respective appeals to His Majesty in Council against certain of the before mentioned rules:

And whereas His Majesty was pleased by His Order in Council of the twenty-ninth day of October one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, to refer the said last mentioned appeals unto a Committee of the Lords of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, who have made a report thereupon to His Majesty in Council, dated the fourteenth day of February instant, in the words following, videlicet:

"Your Majesty having been pleased, by your Order in Council of the twenty-ninth day of October one thousand eight hundred and thirty-four, to refer unto this Committee the humble petition and appeal of William Burge, Esq. of Lincoln's-inn, Barrister at law and Agent for the Island of Jamaica, appointed by an Act of the Governor, Council and Assembly of that island, passed in the fourth year of the reign of your present Majesty, setting forth that by the Act of the Imperial Parliament for the Abolition of Slavery throughout the British colonies, for promoting the industry of the manumitted slaves and for compensating the persons hitherto entitled to the services of such slaves, the sum of twenty millions pounds sterling was granted by Parliament as a compensation to the persons entitled to the services of the slaves thereby manumitted, for the loss of such services, provided the Legislatures of the said several colonies should pass such Acts as your Majesty, with the advice of your Majesty's Privy Council, should declare to be adequate and satisfactory for