

giving effect to the said Act of Abolition in such colonies by such further and supplementary enactments as therein mentioned; that an Act has been passed by the Governor, Council and Assembly of the said island of Jamaica, entitled "An Act for the Abolition of Slavery in this island, in consideration of compensation and for promoting the industry of the manumitted slaves, and to declare the fifty-second George the Third, cap. 155, in force in this island;" which your Majesty, with the advice of your Privy Council, has been pleased to declare adequate and satisfactory for giving effect to the said Act of Abolition in the island of Jamaica by such further and supplementary enactments as therein mentioned; that your Majesty, in pursuance of the power given by the said Act of the Imperial Parliament, has appointed Commissioners for enquiring into and deciding upon the claims to compensation; that the petitioner is the agent in Great Britain for the island of Jamaica, being duly appointed by an Act of the Governor Council and Assembly of that island, passed in the fourth year of your present Majesty, to solicit the passing of such laws and to transact such other public matters as shall from time to time be committed to his care for the good of the island; that amongst the general rules for the government of the Commissioners, drawn up and framed under the forty-seventh section of the said Act of the Imperial Parliament, the petitioner objects to the fourth and sixth; that by the fourth rule it is required, 'that in cases in which any such compensation moneys, or any interest therein, shall belong to, or be vested in, any married woman, infant, lunatic, or person of insane or unsound mind, or person beyond the seas, or labouring under any other legal or natural disability or incapacity, for the protection of whose rights and interests it may be necessary to make provision, and in all other cases in which it may appear to be necessary for protecting any estates or interests and securing the due application of the compensation monies to be awarded in respect thereof, the Commissioners shall direct the appointment of trustees to be nominated on behalf of the parties interested and to be approved by the Commissioners, and shall cause the necessary deeds to be prepared for declaring the rights and interests of the parties, and the trusts and limitations in pursuance thereof, together with all necessary provisions for the indemnity of the trustees, and shall direct the compensation moneys to be invested in the public funds, in the names of such trustees, for the benefit of the parties entitled thereto,

in pursuance of such trusts and according to such respective rights and interests; and the petitioner objects to the said fourth rule:

Because the appointment of trustees by the Commissioners can never be free from risk to the parties interested, and the execution of a trust-deed would cause unnecessary expence, and which expence must be repeated as often as a new trustee becomes necessary, whereas a more secure, and at the same time a less expensive, mode would be to invest such monies in the name of the Accountant-General of the Court of Chancery or the Court of Exchequer, or in the name of the Receiver-General of the island of Jamaica, and make the payment by him be subject to the order of the said Court of Chancery or Court of Exchequer, or Court of Chancery in the said island; that by the sixth rule it is required 'that the apportionment of the compensation moneys 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 to be manumitted by the said Act at the time of such their manumission shall be made according to the priority which such mortgage, charge, incumbrance, judgment or lien, claim, right, or interests may respectively have in or upon such slave or slaves according to the laws and usages in force in the particular colony in which such slave or slaves may be registered or settled:

And the petitioner objects to the said sixth rule because no provision is made for the owner or second incumbrancer, while the whole compensation is to be given to the mortgagee or prior incumbrancer, and that the compensation granted by way of indemnity to all persons interested in slave property operates only as an indemnity to one class of persons, whereas it never was or could be intended that one person interested should receive the whole compensation and thus be exempted from any loss, whilst another person, interested in the same slaves, should receive no part of the compensation and thus sustain the whole loss, and yet such is the obvious effect of the sixth rule; because it is wholly inconsistent with the second general rule which precedes it, and which, in accordance with the intention of Parliament, provides that the compensation money should be deemed to be of the same nature and impressed with the same character as the slaves in respect of whom such money should be allotted; whereas the effect of the sixth rule is to give the mortgagee or incumbrancer an advantage which he did not enjoy before, while the owner will