

Commission signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County Palatine of Lancaster.

3d Regiment of the Duke of Lancaster's Own Militia.

William Ford Hulton, Esq. to be Captain, vice Tomkinson, resigned. Dated 10th April 1835.

AT the Court at *St. James's*, the 1st day of April 1835,

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by a certain Act of Parliament, passed in the session of Parliament held in the third and fourth years of His present Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act 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," after reciting that it was necessary that provision should be made for the apportionment, amongst the proprietors of the slaves to be manumitted by virtue of the said Act in each of the said colonies respectively, of that part of the said compensation fund which should be so assigned as in the said Act is therein before recited to each of the respective colonies; and reciting that the necessary rules for that purpose could not be properly or safely established, until after full enquiry should have been made into the several circumstances which ought to be taken into consideration in making such apportionment; it was, amongst other things, enacted, that the said Commissioners should, and were thereby required to, proceed to draw up and frame all such general rules, regard being had to the laws and usages in force in each colony respectively, as to them might seem best adapted in each colony respectively for securing the just and equitable distribution of the said funds amongst or for the benefit of such several persons as aforesaid, and for the protection of such funds, and for the appointment and indemnification of such trustees as aforesaid; and such general rules, when so framed and when agreed upon by the said Commissioners, should by them be subscribed with their respective hands and seals and transmitted to the Lord President of His Majesty's Council, to be by him laid before His Majesty in Council, and so from time to time as often as any further general rules should be so framed and agreed to for the purposes aforesaid, or any of them:

And it was also enacted, that the general rules to be transmitted as aforesaid to the said Lord President should be forthwith published in the London Gazette on three several occasions at least, together with a notice that all persons interested in or affected by any such general rules might, by a time to be in such notice limited, appeal against any such rules to His Majesty in Council; and that it should be lawful for the Lords and others of His Majesty's Privy Council, or for any three or more of them, by

any further notice or notices to be for that purpose published in the London Gazette, to enlarge, as to them might seem meet, the time for receiving any such appeals:

And it was further enacted that if, within the time so to be limited for receiving such appeals, any person or persons should prefer any petition of appeal to His Majesty in Council against any such general rule so published as aforesaid in the London Gazette, it should be lawful for His Majesty in Council, or for any Committee of Privy Council, to hear such appeal, and to cause notice thereof to be served upon the said Commissioners, who should thereupon undertake the defence of such appeal; and upon hearing any such appeal it should be lawful for His Majesty in Council to confirm and annul, or to rescind and disallow, any such general rule as aforesaid, or thereupon to alter, amend, or vary any such rule in such manner as to His Majesty might seem just, or to remit the same to the said Commissioners for further consideration and revision:

And it was also enacted that, at the expiration of the time limited for receiving such appeals as aforesaid, it should be lawful for His Majesty in Council to confirm and allow, or to rescind and disallow, in the whole or in part, or to amend, alter, or vary any such general rule or rules, though not so appealed against, as to His Majesty might seem just, or to remit such rules to the said Commissioners for further consideration and revision:

And it was also enacted that, when and so often as any such general rule or rules as aforesaid should by His Majesty in Council have been confirmed and allowed, an Order should be made by His Majesty in Council reciting at length any such rule or rules, with any alterations or amendments which might have been made therein as aforesaid; and a copy of every such Order in Council should be duly certified by the Lord President of His Majesty's Council for the time being, to the Lord High Chancellor or Keeper of the Great Seal, or to the Master of the Rolls for the time being, and should be duly enrolled among the records of the High Court of Chancery, and should there remain and be of record:

And it was further enacted that, for ensuring method, regularity, and dispatch in the mode of preferring and proceeding upon such claims, the said Commissioners should and were thereby authorised, by general rules to be framed and published, confirmed, allowed, and enrolled as aforesaid, to prescribe the form and manner of proceeding to be observed by any claimant or claimants preferring any such claims, and to authorise the Assistant Commissioners, so to be appointed as therein before mentioned, in the said several colonies to receive and report upon the same; or any of them, in such manner and form, and under such regulations as to the Commissioners, so to be appointed by His Majesty as aforesaid, should seem meet; and to prescribe the manner, the time or times, the place or places, and the form or forms in which notices of such claims shall be published for general inform-