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FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1854.

At the Court at *Buckingham Palace*, the 3rd day of *July*, 1854,

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Act, passed in the session of Parliament holden in the sixth and seventh years of Her Majesty's reign, entitled "An Act to remove doubts as to the exercise of power and jurisdiction by Her Majesty within divers countries and places out of Her Majesty's dominions, and to render the same more effectual," it was enacted, that it is and shall be lawful for Her Majesty to hold, exercise, and enjoy any power or jurisdiction which Her Majesty now hath, or may at any time hereafter have within any country or place, out of Her Majesty's dominions, in the same and as ample a manner as if Her Majesty had acquired such power or jurisdiction by the cession or conquest of territory. And whereas Her Majesty hath power and jurisdiction in the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte, and the same or certain parts thereof, hath heretofore been exercised by Her Majesty's Ambassadors, Consuls, and other officers resident within the said dominions. And whereas the right of levying hospital duties on British and Ionian merchant vessels entering the ports of the Levant, was within the powers conferred upon the late Levant Company by its Charter. And whereas under and by virtue of certain rules and regulations duly made and issued by the authority of the late Levant Company, and before the surrender of the Charter of the said company, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five, a certain tonnage rate, or duty, was imposed and levied upon all British and Ionian merchant vessels entering the port of Smyrna, by the British Consul at that port, for the maintenance and support of the sick Seamen's Hospital there. And whereas the said tonnage rate, or duty, has ever since continued to be so levied and applied as aforesaid. And whereas under and by virtue of a certain statute made and passed in the sixth year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Fourth, entitled "An Act to repeal certain Acts relating to the Governor and Company of Merchants of England trading to the Levant seas, and the duties payable to them, and to authorize the transfer and disposal of the possessions and property of the said Governor and Company for the Public

"Service," it is enacted, that from and immediately after the enrolment of a certain deed or instrument therein mentioned (which deed or instrument has been since enrolled), all such rights and duties of jurisdiction and authority over His Majesty's subjects resorting to the ports of the Levant, for the purpose of trade or otherwise, as were lawfully exercised and performed, or which were by certain letters patent and Acts of Parliament (therein more particularly referred to), or any of them, authorized to be exercised and performed, by any Consuls or other officers, appointed by the said company, or which such Consuls or other officers lawfully exercised and performed, under and by virtue of any power or authority whatever, shall, from and after the enrolment of such deed or instrument as aforesaid, be and become vested in, and shall be exercised and performed by, such Consuls and other officers respectively as His Majesty may be pleased to appoint, for the protection of the trade of His Majesty's subjects in the ports and places respectively mentioned in the said letters patent and Acts, or any or either of them.

And whereas the right of levying hospital dues on ships trading to the Levant was one of the rights theretofore exercised by the said company and its Consuls, and the same may now be lawfully exercised and performed by Her Majesty's Consuls in and throughout the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte. And whereas it is expedient to provide for the establishment, support, and maintenance of British hospitals for sick seamen coming in British or Ionian merchant vessels within the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte.

Now, therefore, under and by virtue, and in pursuance of the premises, and of the said recited Acts of Parliament, and of all or any power, jurisdiction, or authority whatsoever, thereby or otherwise vested in or belonging to Her Majesty in this behalf, Her Majesty is pleased by and with the advice of Her Privy Council to order, and it is hereby ordered, that it shall be lawful for Her Majesty's Consuls residing within the said dominions, and they are hereby authorized, to levy upon all British or Ionian merchant vessels, which may enter any of the ports within their respective jurisdictions, a tonnage duty or dues, not exceeding one penny per ton on each vessel; and they are hereby authorized, directed, and required to apply all the said duty or dues, and all monies raised or received by them on account thereof, for and towards the establishment, main-