

Governments have continued unbroken. But the Daimio Prince of Satsuma refused to comply with the just and moderate demands which were made upon him.

His refusal rendered measures of coercion necessary, and Her Majesty regrets that while those measures have brought this Daimio to an agreement for compliance, they led incidentally to the destruction of a considerable portion of the town of Kagosima.

Papers on this subject will be laid before you.

The insurrection which broke out last year among some portion of the native inhabitants of New Zealand still unfortunately continues, but there is reason to hope that it will, before long, be put down.

Her Majesty commands us to inform you that She has concluded a Treaty with the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of Russia, by which Her Majesty consents to give up the Protectorate of the Ionian Islands, and also agrees to the annexation of those islands to the Kingdom of Greece. This Treaty shall be laid before you. Her Majesty is also negotiating a treaty with the King of the Hellenes for regulating the arrangements connected with the union of the Ionian Islands with the Kingdom of Greece.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

Her Majesty has directed the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you. They have been prepared with every attention to economy, and with a due regard to the efficiency of the public service.

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

Her Majesty commands us to inform you that the condition of the country is, on the whole, satisfactory. The revenue has fully realised its expected amount; the commerce of the United Kingdom is increasing; and while the distress in the manufacturing districts has been in some degree lessened, there is reason to look forward to an increased supply of cotton from various countries which have hitherto but scantily furnished our manufacturers with this material for their industry.

Her Majesty has directed that a commission shall be issued for the purpose of revising the various forms of subscription and declaration required to be made by the Clergy of the Established Church. A copy of that commission will be laid before you.

Various measures of public usefulness will be submitted for your consideration.

Her Majesty commits, with confidence, the great interests of the country to your wisdom and care; and She fervently prays that the blessings of Almighty God may attend your deliberations and prosper your councils for the advancement of the welfare and happiness of Her loyal and faithful people.

AT the Court at *Osborne House, Isle of Wight*, the 3rd day of *February*, 1864.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the rules and practice observed for the purpose of preventing collisions at sea, which were formerly adopted by maritime

nations, have proved insufficient to satisfy the requirements of modern navigation; and whereas various alterations in such rules and practice have from time to time been made by different nations, but the rules so altered have been found to be in some cases inconsistent with each other, and in other cases to have the force of municipal law only; and whereas certain regulations for the purpose aforesaid have been sanctioned by "The Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Act, 1862," and are contained in the Table C, in the schedule to that Act; And whereas for the purpose of correcting certain clerical errors the said regulations have, in pursuance of the provisions in the said Act contained, been modified by an Order in Council bearing date the 9th day of January, 1863, and the said regulations, so modified, are appended to the said Order, and to this Order; And whereas by virtue of the said Act and of the said Order the said regulations so appended as aforesaid, so far as relates to British and French ships and also so far as relates to certain other foreign ships when within British Jurisdiction, came into operation on the first day of June, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three; And whereas it is provided by the same Act, that, whenever it is made to appear to Her Majesty that the Government of any foreign country is willing that the regulations for preventing collisions, contained in Table C in the schedule to the said Act, or such other regulations for preventing collisions as are for the time being in force under the said Act, should apply to the ships of such country when beyond the limits of British Jurisdiction, Her Majesty may by Order in Council direct that such regulations shall apply to the ships of the said foreign country, whether within British Jurisdiction or not. And it is further provided by the said Act that whenever an Order in Council has been issued applying any regulation made by or in pursuance of the said Act to the ships of any foreign country such ships shall, in all cases arising in any British Court, be deemed to be subject to such regulation, and shall for the purpose of such regulation be treated as if they were British ships: And whereas it has been made to appear to Her Majesty, that

The Government of His Majesty the King of Denmark

is willing that the said Regulations appended to the said Order, and to this Order should apply to ships belonging to Denmark Proper, and to ships belonging to the Duchy of Schleswig, when beyond the limits of British jurisdiction:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue of the power vested in Her by the said recited Act, and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to direct,

That the said regulations appended to the said Order in Council, bearing date the ninth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and to this Order, shall from the date of this Order apply to ships belonging to

Denmark Proper, and the Duchy of Schleswig,

whether within British jurisdiction or not.

*Edmund Harrison.*

REGULATIONS REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING ORDER.

REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING COLLISIONS AT SEA.

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Article 1. Preliminary.