

enquire what oaths, affirmations, and declarations are required to be taken or made by any of Her Majesty's subjects in the United Kingdom, other than those required to be taken or made by members of either House of Parliament, or by prelates or clergy of the Established Church, or by any person examined as a witness in any Court of Justice, or in any criminal or other proceeding before Justices, or otherwise of a judicial nature; and to report their opinion whether any, and which of such oaths, affirmations, and declarations may be dispensed with, and whether any or what alteration may be made in the terms of such as it may be necessary to retain.

India Office, May 24, 1866.

THE Queen, taking into Her Royal consideration the expediency of making certain changes in the constitution of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, as well by altering the designation of the present Knights of that Order as by adding thereto two additional Classes, so as to enable Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, to reward a greater number of persons of conspicuous merit who have rendered, or may render, important services to the Crown in India, has been graciously pleased, by letters patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date the twenty-eighth day of March last, to revoke and abrogate so much of the letters patent, bearing date the twenty-third day of February, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, by which the said Order was instituted, as limits the same to the Sovereign, a Grand Master and twenty-five Knights, and as is inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of the now recited letters patent.

And to ordain, direct, and appoint, that the said Order shall be henceforth, as heretofore, styled and designated in all acts, proceedings, and pleadings as "The Most Exalted Order of the Star of India."

And to ordain, direct, and appoint, that the said Order shall consist of the Sovereign, a Grand Master, and one hundred and seventy-five ordinary Companions or Members, which last shall be divided into three classes, together with such Extra and Honorary Members as Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, shall from time to time appoint:

And to ordain, direct, and appoint, that Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, Kings or Queens Regnant of the said United Kingdom, shall be successively the Sovereign of the said Order, and that the Viceroy and Governor-General of India for the time being shall be the Grand Master of the aforesaid Order, and shall in virtue thereof be the first and principal Knight Grand Commander of the Order:

And to ordain, direct, and appoint, that the said one hundred and seventy-five ordinary Companions or Members shall be divided into three Classes, and that the first or highest of the said three Classes shall consist of twenty-five members, to be styled and designated Knights Grand Commanders of the said Order; and that the Second Class shall consist of fifty members, to be styled and designated Knights Commanders of the said Order; and that the Third or lowest Class shall consist of one hundred Members, to be styled and designated Companions of the said Order:

And to ordain, direct, and appoint, that the said Order shall continue to be governed by

Statutes and Ordinances to be from time to time made and ordained by Her Majesty, Her Heirs, and Successors, Sovereigns of the same.

In pursuance of the power so vested in the Queen, as Sovereign of the said Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Her Majesty has also been pleased to issue new Statutes for the government of the said Order, and therein to ordain, direct, and appoint that it shall be competent for the Sovereign of the said Order to confer the dignity of a Knight Grand Commander of the same upon such Native Princes and Chiefs of India as shall have entitled themselves to the Royal favour, and upon such British subjects as have by important and loyal services rendered by them to the Indian Empire merited such Royal favour; and that as regards the Second and Third Classes of the said Order, no person shall be nominated thereto who shall not by their conduct or services in the Indian Empire have merited such Royal favour.

The Queen has been further pleased to make the following appointments to the Second and Third Classes of the said Most Exalted Order of the Star of India:—

To be Knights Commanders.

- The Rajah Shreemun Maharajah Chuttraputtee Shahabe Dam Altafhoor, of Kolhapoor.
 Cecil Beadon, Esquire, Bengal Civil Service, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal.
 The Nawab Salar Jung Bahadoor, of Hyderabad, in the Deccan.
 Donald Friell McLeod, Esquire, C.B., Bengal Civil Service, Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.
 The Maharajah Jeypercash Singh Bahadoor, of Deo, in Behar.
 Henry Ricketts, Esquire, Bengal Civil Service (Retired), late Member of the Council of the Governor-General of India.
 The Maharajah Mirza Gajapati Raz Maune Sultan Bahadoor, Zemindar of Vizianagram, Member of Council of the Governor-General of India for making Laws and Regulations.
 Henry Byng Harington, Esquire, Bengal Civil Service (Retired), late Member of the Council of the Governor-General of India.
 The Maharajah Dig Bijye Singh, of Bulrampoor.
 Walter Elliot, Esquire, Madras Civil Service (Retired), late Member of the Council of the Governor of Madras.
 Sharf-ul-Omrah Bahadoor, Member of the Council of the Governor-General of India for making Laws and Regulations.
 Thomas Pycroft, Esquire, Madras Civil Service, Member of the Council of the Governor of Madras.
 The Rajah Jymungul Singh, of Gidhore, in Monghyr.
 John Macpherson Macleod, Esquire, Madras Civil Service (Retired), Member of the Indian Law Commission.
 The Rajah Dinkur Rao, late Member of the Council of the Governor-General of India for making Laws and Regulations.
 Major-General Isaac Campbell Coffin, Madras Army, late Commanding the Hyderabad Subsidiary Force.
 The Rajah Radhakanth Deb.
 Major-General George St. Patrick Lawrence, C.B., Bengal Staff Corps, late Agent to the Governor-General of India at Rajpootana.
 The Rajah of Drangadra.