

Downing Street, March 7, 1893.

THE following Proclamation and Notice respecting claims to land grants and to mineral and other concessions in the Bechuanaland Protectorate have been issued by Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

High Commissioner's Notice.

His Excellency the High Commissioner has been pleased, in accordance with Section I of his Proclamation of the 10th January, 1893, to make the following appointments to "The Concession Commission for the Bechuanaland Protectorate":—

W. H. Surmon, Esq., to be President of the said Commission.

J. Vincent, Esq., and Major F. W. Panzera to be Commissioners.

J. Anchtel Ashburnham, Esq., to be Secretary to the Commission.

By Order of His Excellency the High Commissioner,

GRAHAM BOWER,

Imperial Secretary.

Government House, Cape Town,
16th January, 1893

Bechuanaland Protectorate.

PROCLAMATION

By His Excellency Sir Henry Brougham Loch, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, in South Africa, and of the Territories and Dependencies thereof, Governor of the Territory of British Bechuanaland, and Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa, &c., &c., &c.

WHEREAS it is expedient to appoint a Commission to inquire into and report upon certain alleged land grants and mineral and other concessions claimed in the Bechuanaland Protectorate:

Now, therefore, under and by virtue of the powers, authorities, and jurisdictions vested in and conferred upon me, I do hereby proclaim, declare, and make known as follows:—

1. A Commission shall be constituted, to be styled "The Concession Commission for the Bechuanaland Protectorate," which shall be composed of a President, two Commissioners, and a Secretary, to be appointed by the High Commissioner, by Government Notice in the Government Gazette of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

2. Any change in the person of the President, either Commissioner, or the Secretary, shall be notified in like manner.

3. The Commission shall have power and authority from time to time, and at one or more meetings or sittings, or adjourned meetings or sittings, to inquire into and report upon alleged land grants and mineral or other concessions claimed in respect of any part of the territories, exclusive of the Tati District, which are included under Section 3 of my Proclamation of date the 27th day of September, 1892.

4. The powers and authorities conferred upon the Commission by this Proclamation shall be exercised, such inquiry as aforesaid shall be pursued, and such report as aforesaid shall be made within or during such time, subject to such conditions and in accordance with such directions and instructions as may be defined by law or by the terms of any commission or letter of instructions given or granted from time to time to the President by the High Commissioner.

5. All proceedings before or by the Commission shall be subject to such rules of procedure or practice as may be not inconsistent with the law of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, or to such rules and practice as may be laid down or decided upon by the Commission.

6. The Commission shall, by notices signed by the Secretary, and published in the Government Gazettes of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope and of British Bechuanaland, prescribe the period within which claims must be filed with the Secretary, and also the time and place of the first meeting or sitting of the Commission for the hearing of claims, and with regard to further or adjourned meetings or sittings, such notice shall be given in manner aforesaid or otherwise as the Commission shall direct.

7. No claim not duly filed within the period aforesaid, or such further period as the Commission may allow by like notice shall be entertained or shall thereafter be recognised as of any validity, save by special permission of the High Commissioner.

8. The Commission shall cause sufficient notices to be given from time to time to any native chief or other person interested in the inquiry into any claim, and such notices shall be given either by personal service or by publication in one or more of the Government Gazettes aforesaid or otherwise as the Commission may direct.

9. The claimant and, by special leave of the Commission, any native chief or other person interested as aforesaid, may at the inquiry into any claim appear personally or by Counsel, attorney, or agent authorized, in writing, and may produce evidence before the Commission in connection with such inquiry, subject to such rules of procedure and practice as aforesaid.

10. The Commission may grant at the instance of a claimant or any native chief or interested person, or may issue for the purposes of any inquiry, subpoenas or summonses calling upon any person to appear and testify before the Commission concerning any claim being the subject of inquiry, and all persons shall be bound and obliged duly to conform to and obey all summonses or orders under the hand of the Secretary acting with the authority of the Commission, whether such summons or order be issued for the purpose of calling any such person to give evidence or for the furtherance of any other purpose within the scope of the powers and authorities conferred upon the Commission.

11. The penalty for wilful default in complying with any such summons or order as aforesaid shall be by way of summary fine in any sum which the Commission may assess, or by way of summary attachment and imprisonment for contempt for any term not exceeding twelve months, or by way of both such fine and imprisonment.

12. For the purposes of the last preceding section the Commission shall be clothed with all powers conferred by the law of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope on the Supreme Court.

13. For the purpose of proceeding to take any of the evidence in connection with any enquiry, the President or one Commissioner, with the Secretary, or his locum tenens, shall form a quorum, with all the powers in that behalf hereby conferred.

14. The Commission shall have power to administer an oath to any witness, but may in its discretion admit affidavits or take an oral statement in lieu of evidence upon oath from any witness, but all witnesses, whether testifying on oath or not, shall be liable for false testimony to prosecution before any Court having jurisdiction, and on