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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1907.

Whitehall, September 12, 1907.

The KING has been pleased to issue a Commission under His Majesty's Royal Sign Manual to the following effect:—

EDWARD, R. & I.

EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India, to

Our trusty and well-beloved:—

Sir Henry William Primrose, Knight Commander of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Companion of Our Most Exalted Order of the Star of India, Companion of the Imperial Service Order;

Sir Frederic Styles Philpin Lely, Knight Commander of Our Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, Companion of Our Most Exalted Order of the Star of India;

Sir Steyning William Edgerley, Knight Commander of Our Royal Victorian Order, Companion of Our Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire;

Romesh Chunder Dutt, Esquire, Companion of Our Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire;

William Stevenson Meyer, Esquire, Companion of Our Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire; and

William Lionel Hichens, Esquire; Greeting!

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to enquire into the relations now existing for financial and administrative purposes between the Supreme Government and the various Provincial Governments in India, and between the Provincial Governments and the authorities subordinate to them, and to report whether, by measures of decentralization or otherwise, those relations can

be simplified and improved, and the system of Government better adapted both to meet the requirements and promote the welfare of the different provinces, and, without impairing its strength and unity, to bring the executive power into closer touch with local conditions:

Now know ye, that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have authorized and appointed, and do by these Presents authorize and appoint you, the said Sir Henry William Primrose (Chairman); Sir Frederic Styles Philpin Lely; Sir Steyning William Edgerley; Romesh Chunder Dutt; William Stevenson Meyer; and William Lionel Hichens to be Our Commissioners for the purposes of the said enquiry.

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do by these Presents give and grant unto you, or any three or more of you, full power, at any place in Our said United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or in India, to call before you such persons as you shall judge likely to afford you any information upon the subject of this Our Commission; and also, whether in Our said United Kingdom, or in India, to call for, have access to and examine all such books, documents, registers and records as may afford you the fullest information on the subject, and to inquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do by these Presents authorize and empower you, or any three or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid.

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this, Our Commission, shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you, Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof; and of every matter and thing therein