

At the Court at *Saint James's*, the 7th day of *May*, 1910.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

HIS Majesty being this day present in Council was pleased to make the following Declaration:—

“ My Lords and Gentlemen—

My heart is too full for Me to address you to-day in more than a few words. It is My sorrowful duty to announce to you the death of My dearly loved Father the King. In this irreparable loss which has so suddenly fallen upon Me and upon the whole Empire, I am comforted by the feeling that I have the sympathy of My future subjects, who will mourn with Me for their beloved Sovereign, whose own happiness was found in sharing and promoting theirs. I have lost not only a Father's love, but the affectionate and intimate relations of a dear friend and adviser. No less confident am I in the universal loving sympathy which is assured to My dearest Mother in her overwhelming grief.

Standing here a little more than nine years ago, Our beloved King declared that as long as there was breath in his body He would work for the good and amelioration of His People. I am sure that the opinion of the whole Nation will be that this declaration has been fully carried out.

To endeavour to follow in His footsteps, and at the same time to uphold the constitutional government of these Realms, will be the earnest object of My life. I am deeply sensible of the very heavy responsibilities which have fallen upon Me. I know that I can rely upon Parliament and upon the People of these Islands and of My Dominions beyond the Seas for their help in the discharge of these arduous duties, and for their prayers that God will grant Me strength and guidance. I am encouraged by the knowledge that I have in My dear wife one who will be a constant helpmate in every endeavour for our people's good.”

Whereupon the Lords of the Council made it their humble request to His Majesty that His Majesty's Most Gracious Declaration to Their Lordships might be made public, which His Majesty was pleased to Order accordingly.

*Almeric FitzRoy.*

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PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty.

His Royal Highness Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein.

Archbishop of Canterbury.

Lord Chancellor.

Lord Privy Seal.

Earl Marshal.

Duke of Devonshire.

Duke of Marlborough.

Duke of Argyll.

Duke of Fife.

Marquess of Cholmondeley.

Marquess of Londonderry.

Lord Steward.

Earl of Derby.

Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery.

Earl of Chesterfield.

Earl of Kintore.

Earl of Rosebery.

Earl Waldegrave.

Earl Carrington.

Earl of Halsbury.

Earl of Plymouth.

Lord Walter Gordon-Lennox.

Lord Chamberlain.

Viscount Cross.

Viscount Knutsford.

Viscount Morley of Blackburn.

Lord Arthur Hill.

Lord Bishop of London.

Lord Denman.

Lord Belper.

Lord Sandhurst.

Lord Revelstoke.

Lord Ashbourne.

Lord Macnaghten.

Lord Ashcombe.

Lord Burghclere.

Lord James of Hereford.

Lord Rathmore.

Lord Farquhar.

Lord Avebury.

Lord Alveistone.

Lord Waleran.

Lord Haversham.

Lord Courtney.

Lord Eversley.

Lord Pentland.

Lord Gorell.

Lord Shaw.

Lord Ashby St. Ledgers.

Mr. Secretary Churchill.

Secretary Sir E. Grey.

Hon. Sir Spencer Ponsonby-Fane.

Mr. A. J. Balfour.

Mr. J. W. Mellor.

Mr. A. Akers-Douglas.

Mr. Arnold Morley.

Mr. Arthur H. Dyke Acland.

Sir Frank C. Lascelles.

Mr. W. H. Long.

Mr. Charles B. Stuart Wortley.

Sir Horace Rumbold.

Sir John H. Kennaway.

Sir George Taubman-Goldie.

Mr. W. G. Ellison-Macartney.

Mr. T. F. Halsey.

Sir Dighton Probyn.

Sir Herbert Cozens-Hardy.

Sir J. W. Bonser.

Mr. George Wyndham.

Sir A. C. Lyall.

Sir Ernest Cassel.

Sir Joseph E. Dimsdale.

Mr. Charles Scott Dickson.

Sir Henry Brackenbury.

Sir Charles Hardinge.

Mr. James Parker Smith.

Mr. Arthur Cohen.

Mr. J. S. Sandars.

Sir Charles Dalrymple.

Lt.-Colonel Mark Lockwood.

Mr. John Burns.