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FRIDAY, 28 JULY, 1944

Westminster, 28th July, 1944.

This day, the Lords being met, a message was sent to the Honourable House of Commons, by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, acquainting them that *The Lords, authorised by virtue of a Commission under the Great Seal, signed by His Majesty, for declaring His Royal Assent to the Acts agreed upon by both Houses, do desire the immediate attendance of the Honourable House in the House of Peers to hear the Commission read;* and the Commons being come thither, the said Commission, empowering the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and several other Lords therein named, do declare and notify the Royal Assent to the said Acts, was read accordingly, and the Royal Assent given to:—

Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944.
 Isle of Man (Customs) Act, 1944.
 Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1944.
 Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944.
 Gillingham Corporation Act, 1944.
 Ascot District Gas and Electricity Act, 1944.
 Wisbeck Corporation Act, 1944.
 Loughborough Corporation Act, 1944.

Whitehall, July 26, 1944.

The KING has been pleased to direct the issue of Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Realm to the following effect:—

GEORGE THE SIXTH by the Grace of God of Great Britain Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas KING Defender of the Faith Emperor of India To all Archbishops Dukes Marquesses Earls Viscounts Bishops Barons Baronets Knights Citizens and Burgesses and all other Our faithful Subjects whatsoever to whom these Presents shall come Greeting WHEREAS by section six of an Act passed in the first year of Our Reign intituled "The Regency Act 1937" it is amongst other things enacted that in the event of Our absence or intended absence from Our United Kingdom We may in order to prevent delay or difficulty in the despatch of public business by Letters Patent under the Great Seal delegate for the period of that absence to Counsellors of State such of the Royal functions as may be subject to the exceptions provided in the said Act be specified in the Letters Patent AND WHEREAS it is Our intention to be absent from Our United Kingdom for the purpose of visiting Our Forces beyond the Seas AND WHEREAS the Counsellors of State to whom Royal functions may by virtue of the said section as amended by an Act passed in the seventh year of Our Reign intituled "The Regency Act 1943" now be delegated by Us as aforesaid are Our Most dearly beloved Consort The Queen Our Most dearly beloved Daughter Her Royal Highness Princess Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Our Most dear and entirely beloved Brother and Most faithful Counsellor His Royal Highness Prince Henry William Frederick Albert

Duke of Gloucester Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter Knight of Our Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle Knight of Our Most Illustrious Order of Saint Patrick Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order Our Most dear and entirely beloved Sister Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal Victoria Alexandra Alice Mary Lady of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India Dame Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order Dame Grand Cross of Our Most Excellent Order of the British Empire and Our Most dear and entirely beloved Cousin Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra Victoria Alberta Edwina Louise Duchess of Fife (Princess Arthur of Connaught) KNOW YE that We do hereby by virtue of the provisions of the said Act delegate for the period of Our said absence to the said Counsellors of State that is to say to Our Consort The Queen The Princess Elizabeth The Duke of Gloucester The Princess Royal and Princess Arthur of Connaught the Royal functions hereinafter specified to be exercised jointly by not less than two of their number subject to the condition that they shall not act in any matter or thing on which it is signified by Us or appears to them that Our special approval should previously be obtained and accordingly We do by these Presents delegate and grant unto the said Counsellors of State or any two of them full power and authority during the period of Our said absence to summon and hold on Our behalf Our Privy Council and to signify thereat Our approval of any matter or thing to which Our approval in Council is required and further to approve and sign on Our behalf commissions for signifying the Royal Assent to Acts of Parliament except an Act touching any of the matters for which provision is made in the Act of Settlement or touching Our Royal Style and Titles and to approve and sign on Our behalf any proclamation warrant fiat submission or other document requiring Our Signature which relates to the affairs of Our United Kingdom India Burma and Our Colonies and Protectorates or Territories administered under Mandate by Our Government in the United Kingdom and to do on Our behalf any matter or thing required to be done in relation to any such proclamation warrant fiat submission or other document and further to do on Our behalf any matter or thing which by virtue of Our Royal Prerogative or of any statutory or other power We are authorised to do for the safety and good government of Our United Kingdom India Burma Our Colonies and Protectorates and the said Territories save only that as provided in the said Act they the said Counsellors of State shall not have power to dissolve Parliament otherwise than on Our express instructions transmitted by Us and shall not grant any rank title or dignity of the peerage and further that they shall not receive any homage required to be done to Ourselves