

PROCLAMATION.

PROCLAMATION 12TH NOVEMBER 1811.

WHEREAS His Majesty by His Royal Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland dated at Westminster the Sixth day of August in the Fiftieth Year of His Majesty's Reign, hath been Graciously pleased to make certain alterations and further provisions for the more speedy and due administration of Justice in His Majesty's Settlements in the Island of Ceylon and the Territories and Dependencies thereof, and hath ordained that the said Letters Patent should be notified and made public as in and by the said Letters Patent is directed.

Now I The Honorable JOHN WILSON &c. do hereby notify and declare that the said Letters Patent were immediately upon their delivery to me to wit on the 8th day of November instant published and read with all due Solemnity, in the

presence of His Majesty's Civil and Military Servants and others of His Majesty's Subjects assembled for that purpose at Colombo.

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And I do further Notify and Proclaim that by the said Letters Patent it is amongst other things ordained that the Supreme Court of the Island of Ceylon should from and after the publication thereof sit in two divisions—the first division thereof consisting of the Chief Justice to sit in Colombo and make circuits throughout the Provinces of Colombo, Chilaw, Negombo, Caltura, Point-de-Galle, Matura, Tangalle and Hamlantotte, and the second consisting of the Puisne Justice to sit at Jaffnapatam, and make Circuits throughout the Provinces of Jaffnapatam, Mannaar, Putlam, Wanny, Trincomalie, and Batticaloa.

And I do further notify and proclaim that by the said Letters Patent the benefits of Trial by Jury in Criminal Cases are under certain modifications therein specified and set forth, extended to all His Majesty's Subjects in the British Settlements in the Island of Ceylon and its dependencies.

And Whereas by the said Letters Patent it is directed that the several Courts in this Island called Provincial Courts, should, after the publication of the said Letters Patent be abolished—and the Courts of Landraad re-established; I do hereby notify that the said Provincial Courts are and they here y are declared to be abolished—and that I will forthwith cause the Courts of Landraad to be re-established under such modifications and with such Jurisdiction as by the Chief Justice shall be deemed expedient—and with such necessary rules of proceeding and tables of fees as the said Chief Justice shall with my concurrence direct and that such Courts of Landraad are to consist of such Members as I shall deem proper to appoint.

And I do hereby strictly charge and Command all Magistrates, Officers, and Ministers, Civil and Military, and all His Majesty's faithful and liege Subjects whatsoever, in and throughout the British Settlements in the Island of Ceylon with the Territories and Dependencies thereof, that in the Execution of the several Powers Jurisdictions and Authorities by the said Letters Patent erected and made or modified revised and enforced, they be aiding and assisting and obedient in all things as they will answer the contrary at their peril.

Colombo 12th November 1811.

By His Honor's Command,

JOHN RODNEY,
Chief Sec. to Govt.