

At the Court at Buckingham Palace,
THE FOURTH DAY OF APRIL, 1856.

Present---THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY. His Royal Highness PRINCE ALBERT, Lord Privy Seal, Viscount Palmerston, Duke of Wellington, Sir George Grey, Bart., Lord Chamberlain, Mr. Vernon Smith, Marquis of Lansdowne, Sir Charles Wood, Bart., Marquis of Abercorn, Mr. Baines, Lord Steward.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the Session of Parliament, held in the 12th and 13th years of Her Majesty's reign, entitled: "An Act to provide for the administration of Justice in Vancouver's Island," it is amongst other things provided that it shall be lawful for Her Majesty, from time to time to make provision for the administration of Justice in the said Island, and for that purpose to constitute such Court or Courts of Record, and other Courts, with such Jurisdiction in matters Civil and Criminal, and such Equitable and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, subject to such limitations and restrictions, and to appoint and remove, or provide for the appointment and removal of such Judges, Justices, and such ministerial and other Officers for the administration and execution of Justice in the said Island as Her Majesty may think fit and direct.

And whereas it is expedient that provision should be made for the administration of Justice in Civil cases in the said Island.

It is therefore ordered, by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, that there shall be within Her said Island, a Court which shall be called the Supreme Court of Civil Justice of the Colony of Vancouver's Island.

And the said Supreme Court is hereby constituted to be a Court of Record.

And it is hereby further ordered that the said Supreme Court shall be holden before a Chief Justice, and that the said Chief Justice shall be called and known by the name and style of "the Chief Justice of the Colony of Vancouver's Island," and shall from time to time be nominated and appointed to such his office by Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors by Letters Patent, under the Public Seal of the said Colony, to be issued in pursuance of any Warrants or Warrant to be from time to time for that purpose granted by Her Majesty, Her Heirs and Successors, under Her or Their sign manuel.

And it is hereby declared, that upon the death, resignation, sickness, or incapacity of the said Chief Justice, or in the case of his absence from the said Colony, or in case of any such suspension from office as hereinafter mentioned, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Governor of Her Majesty's said Colony for the time being by Letters Patent