

The Constitution of the
Government.

Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date the second of March, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-two, in the Second year of the Reign of His late Majesty King William the Fourth, and by Instructions under his Royal Signet and Sign Manual bearing date the Twenty-seventh day of July One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-two, his said late Majesty did authorise and empower SIR THOMAS JOHN COCHRANE, Knight, then Governor of Newfoundland, to summon General Assemblies of the Freeholders and Householders within the said Island. And whereas General Assemblies were afterwards elected and holden in and for the said Island, under and by virtue of the said last mentioned Commission and Instructions, and under and by virtue of other Commissions and Instructions from time to time issued by Us. And whereas by an Act passed in the Sixth year of Our Reign, intituled "An Act for amending the Constitution of the Government of Newfoundland," it was enacted among other things that it should be lawful for Us, in the manner therein provided, to establish a qualification in respect of income or property, in right of which any person might thereafter be elected to serve as a Member of the said Assembly; and in manner aforesaid to determine the length of the period of residence which should be required in addition to any other qualification for voting at such elections, or for being elected to serve as a Member of the Assembly; and to restrain, in manner therein provided, appropriations of monies to the public service by the said Assembly; and to require that all Elections of Members to serve in the said Assembly should be simultaneous. And whereas by the said last mentioned Act it was provided and enacted that no change which should be made thereby in the Constitution of the said Island should continue for a longer time than the First day of September, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-six, unless Parliament should otherwise determine. And whereas by an Act passed in the Session of Parliament holden in the Ninth and Tenth years of Our Reign, intituled "An Act to continue till the First day of September, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-seven, certain of the provisions of an Act of the Fifth and Sixth years of Her present Majesty's Reign for amending the Constitution of the Government of Newfoundland," it was enacted that the changes made in the Constitution of the said Island under the said recited Act, should continue in force until the First of September One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-seven: And whereas by a Commission under the Great Seal aforesaid, bearing date the Twenty-seventh of August One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-two, and by Instructions under Our Signet and Sign Manual, bearing date the First of September One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-two, We did, in pursuance of the powers reserved to Us by the said first recited Act, make certain changes in the Constitution of the Government of Newfoundland, in respect to the qualifications of Members of the Assembly, and the period of residence necessary to qualify Electors for and Members of such Assembly, and in respect of holding elections for such Assembly simultaneously, and limit-