

be recommended to direct, by Order in Council, that the Colonial Attorneys Relief Act (20 and 21 Victoria, c. 39) may come into operation as regards the Colony of Queensland.

The Queensland rules require the service and examination prescribed by the 3rd section of the Imperial Act, but except from the obligation not only English solicitors, but persons who have served five years as Judge's Associates, solicitors of New South Wales and Victoria, and matriculated members of certain Universities.

The exceptions, I do not doubt, are in themselves proper and sensible, but they are in addition to the exception prescribed by the Imperial Act; and as they therefore raised a technical question whether Her Majesty could be advised to issue the Order, I consulted the Law Advisers of the Crown upon the point, and I am advised that the doubt suggested is well founded,—that Queensland is not a colony in which to use the words of section 3: "Full service under articles of clerkship to an attorney—at-law for the space of five years at the least, and an examination to test the qualification of candidates, are or may be required previous to admission, save only" in the case of English attorneys or solicitors, and that, therefore, the Queen cannot properly extend the 20 and 21 Vict. c. 39 to it by Order in Council.

The Officer Administering the Government, Queensland.

I have, &c.,
KIMBERLEY.

No. 23.

COPY of DESPATCH from the Right Hon. the Earl of KIMBERLEY to
Governor the Right Hon. Sir J. FERGUSSON, Bart.

(General.)

SIR,—

Downing Street, 24th October, 1873.

I have received your Despatch No. 61, of the 25th July last, respecting the precedence to be assigned to gentlemen who have retired from the Executive Council, and who have received Her Majesty's permission to retain the title of honorable within the Colony.

I had already conveyed to you, by my Despatch General of the 23rd ultimo, my approval of the adoption by your Government of the rule already in force in New South Wales.

This rule was adhered to as being in accordance with the precedence assigned to the members, for the time being, of the Executive Council, in clause 5 of the Royal Instructions which accompanied your Commission; but I concur with you in the opinion that some modification of this rule is advisable, in order to meet the case of those former members of the Executive Council on whom a special privilege has been permanently conferred; and I have to convey to you the Queen's pleasure that former members of the Executive Council, who have been permitted to bear the title of honorable permanently within the Colony, shall take precedence next after the actual members of the Executive Council, according to the dates at which they respectively became qualified, by length of service, to receive such privilege.

I have, &c.,
KIMBERLEY.

Governor the Right Hon. Sir J. Fergusson, Bart.

No. 24.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. the Earl of KIMBERLEY to
Governor the Right Hon. Sir JAMES FERGUSSON, Bart.

(No. 84.)

SIR,—

Downing Street, 28th November, 1873.

I have to inform you that I received, on the 24th instant, from the Governor of Victoria, a copy of a telegram from you, of the 1st October, in the following words:—

"Please inform Secretary of State on my behalf by mail that two hundred and fifty pounds is voted by New Zealand Parliament towards establishment at "Somerset Island."

I have, &c.,
KIMBERLEY.

Governor the Right Hon. Sir J. Fergusson, Bart.