CHAPTER 80.

An Act to enable Her Majesty to provide for the Establishment of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh and Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrovna of Russia, and to settle an annuity on Her Imperial Highness. [5th August 1873.]

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled, having taken into consideration Your Majesty's most Gracious Message, that Your Majesty has agreed to a marriage proposed between Your Majesty's second son, His Royal Highness Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Edinburgh, and Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Marie Alexandrovna, only daughter of His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, do most humbly beseech Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Power to Her Majesty to grant an additional annuity of 10,000*l.* for life to Prince Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Edinburgh.

1. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty, in order to provide for the establishment of His Royal Highness and Her Imperial Highness, by letters patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to grant unto His said Royal Highness or to such persons as Her Majesty may think fit to name in the said letters patent on trust for His said Royal Highness, and subject to such conditions as Her Majesty may direct, an annuity of ten thousand pounds for his life, such annuity to commence from the day of the marriage of His said Royal Highness with Her said Imperial Highness, to be free from all taxes, assessments, and charges, and to be paid quarterly on the fifth day of January, the fifth day of April, the fifth day of July, and the tenth day of October, and to be in addition to the annuity heretofore granted to him by Parliament.

Payment of proportionate part of annuity.

2. The first payment of such portion of the said annuity as may have accrued between the date of the said marriage and the first of the said quarterly days which happens after the said marriage shall be made on such last-mentioned quarterly day, and a proportionate part shall be payable for the period between the last quarterly day of payment and the day of the determination thereof: Provided that in the event of His said Royal Highness succeeding to any sovereignty or principality abroad it shall be lawful for Her Majesty or her successors, with the consent of Parliament, to revoke or reduce the said annuity by warrant under the sign manual.

Power to Her Majesty to grant an annuity of 6,000*l.* to Her said Imperial Highness in the event of her surviving His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

3. It shall be lawful for Her Majesty, by letters patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to grant unto Her said Imperial Highness, in case of her surviving His said Royal Highness, or to such persons as Her Majesty may think fit to name in the said letters patent in trust for Her said Imperial Highness, in the event of her so surviving, an annuity of six thousand pounds, to commence from the day of the death of His said Royal Highness, and to continue from thenceforth during the life of Her said Imperial Highness, and to be payable on the quarterly days aforesaid, the first payment to be made on such of the said quarterly days as happens next after the death of His said Royal Highness, of such portion of the said annuity as may have accrued between the date of the said death and the said quarterly day, and a proportionate part thereof to be payable for the period from the last quarterly day of payment to the day of the determination thereof.

Annuities granted by this Act to be charged on the Consolidated Fund.

4. The annuities granted in pursuance of this Act shall, if Her Majesty think fit so to direct, be personal and inalienable provisions, and the same shall be charged on and payable out of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or the growing produce thereof, after paying or reserving sufficient to pay such sums as may have been directed to be paid out of the said fund by former Acts of Parliament, but with preference to all other payments which may hereafter be charged on the said fund.