

mencing date. Unless Provincial Commissioners, who do not reach Freetown till 20th September, have strong reasons to the contrary, propose to carry Bill through subsequently unchanged. Your concluding sentence noted with thanks.—LUKE.

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No. 18.

*Extract from telegram from the Officer Administering the Government of Sierra Leone to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.*

(Dated 22nd September, 1927.)

After full but harmonious debate, Slavery Bill unanimously passed third reading to-day and has received my assent. Compensation issues raised in debate by Elected Members but not by Chiefs. Ordinance comes into force 1st January, 1928, and repeals Ordinance No. 9 of 1926. Transmission of copy follows by mail of 28th September.—LUKE.

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No. 19.

*Extract from despatch from the Officer Administering the Government of Sierra Leone to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.*

[Answered by No. 20.]

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
SIERRA LEONE.

23rd September, 1927.

SIR,

In continuation of my telegram of yesterday's date,\* informing you of the passage of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to Abolish the Legal Status of Slavery in the Protectorate." I have the honour to transmit herewith two authenticated copies of Ordinance No. 24 of 1927† of the Legislature of this Colony, together with a detailed report thereon by the Attorney-General,‡ for the signification of the King's pleasure.

It will be observed that this Ordinance, which is to come into force on the 1st January, 1928, besides abolishing the legal status of slavery throughout the Protectorate, repeals Ordinance No. 9 of 1926 and makes certain consequential and drafting amendments in Part II of the Protectorate Ordinance, 1924, and in the Protectorate Courts Jurisdiction Ordinance, 1924.

I will forward a complete report of the proceedings on all the stages of the Bill as soon as it is in print. I need only say now that the debate on the second reading was full but harmonious, and

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\* No. 18.

† Enclosure 1.

‡ Enclosure 2.