ACT No. XX of 1876.

Passed by the Governor General of India in Council, (Received the assent of the Governor General on the 16th of December 1876).

An Act to give better effect to certain agreements with the Thákur of Bhaunagar.

WHEREAS the villages mentioned in the Schedule Preamble, hereto annexed (hereinafter called the Scheduled villages) are the property of the Thákur of Bhaunagar, and were by the Treaty of Bassein dated the thirty-first day of December 1802, separated from the Native State or States known as the territory of Káthiáwár and ceded to the British Government:

And whereas, by Regulation VI of 1816 of the Governor of Bombay in Council, the Regulations in force throughout the Presidency of Bombay were extended to the said villages, and such villages thereby became subject to the jurisdiction of the Revenue, Civil and Criminal Courts established in that Presidency:

And whereas the said Thákur of Bhaunagar is also the proprietor of divers villages, forming part of the said territory, and hereinafter called the Káthiá-

wár villages:

And whereas the British Government have exercised certain powers of government over the said territory, but such territory has never been treated as being British territory, nor as having been vested in the East India Company, nor in Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and Empress of India, and the said Káthiáwár villages have consequently never been subject to the laws in force in the Presidency of Bombay:

 \mathbf{And}

[Price two annas.]

And whereas in the year 1820 the British Government established a Political Agency for the said territory of Káthiáwár:

And whereas in the year 1857 the said Thákur was, by an order of the British Government, invested in respect of the same villages with certain powers of sovereignty limited by and subject to the rules laid down for the government and conduct of the said Káthiáwár Political Agency:

And whereas for divers reasons of State affecting the welfare of British India, the British Government became desirous of ceding to the Thákur of Bhaunagar the Scheduled villages, to be held by him on the same conditions as those on which he holds the Káthiáwár villages, and for that purpose certain agreements were made and certain notifications published which were intended to operate as a cession of the Scheduled villages:

And whereas on the twenty-ninth day of January 1866, the Governor of Bombay in Council published a notification declaring that, in accordance with the agreement last hereinbefore recited, the Scheduled villages were from and after the first day of February 1866 removed from the jurisdiction of the Revenue, Civil and Criminal Courts of the Bombay Presidency and transferred to the supervision of the said Political Agency in Káthiáwár on the same conditions as to jurisdiction as the said Káthiáwár villages:

And whereas the intention of the said agreements and notifications was that the villages comprised therein should be ceded to and vested in the Thákur of Bhaunagar, to be held by him on the terms on which he holds the Káthiáwár villages:

And whereas ever since the first day of February 1866, the Scheduled villages have been governed according to the intention of the said agreements, and acts of executive authority have been done, proceedings taken and decrees and sentences passed by the Thákur of Bhaunagar and his officers, and by the

officers

officers of the said Political Agency, and by the Courts of Justice appointed to exercise jurisdiction within the limits of the said Political Agency:

And whereas it now appears that such agreements and notifications were not worded so as to express their true intention, and that the Scheduled villages did not thereby cease to be British territory, or to be subject to the laws in force in the Presidency of Bombay:

And whereas by a notification dated the fifth day of December 1876, after reciting to the effect above recited, and reciting that the Secretary of State for India had on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Empress of India, given his sanction to the cession intended to be thereby effected, the Governor General in Council, with the sanction aforesaid, did thereby cede and grant to the said Thákur of Bhaunagar, his heirs and successors, the said Scheduled villages, to hold the same unto the said Thakur his heirs and successors, on the terms and subject to the rules on and subject to which he holds the said Káthiáwár villages: but it was thereby provided that, in case the said Thákur his heirs or successors should commit any acts of misgovernment which, in the opinion of the Governor General in Council, rendered it inexpedient that the said Thákur his heirs and successors should continue to hold the said Scheduled villages, the Governor General in Council might resume the villages thereby ceded and reannex the same to Her Majesty's dominions:

And whereas it is expedient (so far as relates to any past or future proceedings in British India) to ratify the aforesaid acts, proceedings and sentences of the Thákur of Bhaunagar and the officers and Courts against any liability in respect thereof, and to provide that no title to property shall be disturbed by any act, proceeding or sentence of any other authority; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. This Act may be called "The Bhaunagar Act, Short title. 1876:"

Local extent.

Commence-

ment. Scheduled villages excluded from jurisdiction of Bombay Courts.

It extends only to British India;

And it shall come into force at once.

2. The said Scheduled villages shall be deemed to have been, on and after the said first day of Febru ary 1866, excluded from the jurisdiction of the Reve nue, Civil and Criminal Courts of the Bombay Pre sidency.

Validation of acts done after 1st February 1866.

3. All acts of executive authority, proceedings decrees and sentences which have been done, taken or passed subsequently to the first day of February 1866 and which would have been valid if the Scheduleo villages had been ceded according to the intention of the said agreements and notification, shall be as valid and operative in British India as if such cession had

Bar of suits. actually been effected; and no suit or other proceeding shall be maintained or continued against any person whatever on the ground that the Scheduled villages did not cease to be British territory on the first day of February 1866.

Saving of personal jurisdictiou

4. Nothing in this Act shall affect any jurisdiction which any Court of Justice in British India may for the time being be entitled to exercise over persons British India. resident or being beyond the limits of British India.

SCHEDULE.

Bhaunagar Taluqa.

Bhaunagar. Wadwá. Ruhá. Akwárá. Adhiwárá. Tarsamía. Jaspará. Phulsar. Karmadiu. Surká. Tarak Pálrí. Nárí. Budhel.

Málanka. Bhutesar. Bhumlí. Ratanpur Juná. Ratanpur Nuwá. Koliak, Kobri. Bhurí. Bhundariu. Churi.

Sánkrásar. Bhádole. Nágdhaníba.

Háthab. Khadsuliu. Bhadbadiu. Alápur. Thalsar. Lákhanka. Sultánpur.

Wávri. Rámpura. Bhenswari Jhánjrá

waste.

 $Sih \acute{o}r$

Bhaunagar.

Sihór Taluqa.

Sihór. Usrad. Agiáli. Táná. Bordi.

Kájáwadar.

Ratanpur near Táná. Wadiu. Waláwad. Megwadar. Ghángli.

Nesra. Chirora (waste). Rájpura. Khakhriu. Kardej. Surká. Jámbálu.

Kuchotiu (waste).

New Villages.

Gundi. Mándwá. Sosiá. Paniálí.

Trápaj. Bapárá. Pánchpíplá. Rájpura. Khadarpur Mitiverdi.

Píthalpur. Khántarí. Deogána. Thordí.

Inám Villages.

Wartej. Sidhsar. Sámpura. Phariadku. Kálví (waste). Sodwadra. Sedhawadar.

Dantretía.

Kariání.

Samandiála.

Láthídhar.

Weláwadar.

DHANDUKA PARGANA.

Pátna. Bharbír. Chakampur. Sarwui. Jhinjhawadar. Pátí.

Keria near Pátí. Bhámbhan. Samandeála, 2. Tájpur.

Pátna Taluga. Kánutalao. Ratanwau. Keriá. Jamrála. Ujalwau. Jotingra.

Shírthali. Dhíkwáli. Wajelí. Lundrá. Málpur.

Vírdhi *or* Rájghar. Sajelí. Oteriá. Sándberá. Nágalpur.

RANPUR PARGANA.

Botád Taluga.

Botád. Hardar. Sírwániu. Dánkniá. Khankói. Turkhá.

Kániád. Rájpura. Juriá.