

ACT No. XV OF 1899.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 14th July, 1899.)

An Act to validate certain marriages solemnized in the Native States of Pudukkottai and Travancore in India.

V of 1865. WHEREAS the Reverend Carl Manthey-Zorn, an ordained Minister of the Leipzig Evangelical Lutheran Mission, was, in or about the month of April, 1872, licensed by the Governor of Fort Saint George in Council, under the provisions of sections 8 and 47 of the Indian Marriage Act, 1865, to solemnize marriages and to grant certificates of marriage between Native Christians within the territories subject to the said Governor in Council, and the said Carl Manthey-Zorn did, in the years 1874 and 1875, solemnize certain marriages and grant certain certificates of marriage between Native Christians in Pudukkottai, which is a Native State beyond the said territories;

XV of 1872. And whereas the late Reverend Ludvig Traugott Paesler, of the Leipzig Evangelical Lutheran Mission, was, in the month of August, 1876, licensed by the said Governor in Council, under the provisions of sections 6 and 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, to solemnize marriages and to grant certificates of marriage between Native Christians "within the territories subject to the Government of Madras", and the said Ludvig Traugott Paesler did, both before and after he was licensed as aforesaid, solemnize certain marriages and grant certain certificates of marriage between Native Christians in the said Native State of Pudukkottai;

And

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and Travancore]).*

And whereas Catechist Visuvasam Solomon, of the London Missionary Society, Nagercoil, Travancore, was in the month of June, 1877, licensed by the said Governor in Council, under the provisions of section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, to grant certificates of marriage between Native Christians "within the territories subject to the Government of Madras", and the said Visuvasam Solomon did, in the years 1877 to 1894, grant certain certificates in respect of marriages between Native Christians in Travancore, which is a Native State beyond the said territories; XV of 1

And whereas the Reverend Friedrich Karl Alwin Gehring, of the Leipzig Evangelical Lutheran Mission, Kambakonam, Tanjore District, was, in the month of May, 1879, licensed by the said Governor in Council, under the provisions of section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, to grant certificates of marriage between Native Christians, and the said Friedrich Karl Alwin Gehring did, in the years 1884 and 1885, grant certain certificates in respect of marriages between Native Christians in the said Native State of Pudukkottai; XV of 18

And whereas the Reverend Ernst Leberecht Dachsel was, in the month of November, 1886, licensed by the said Governor in Council, under the provisions of section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, to grant certificates of marriage between Native Christians, and the said Ernst Leberecht Dachsel did, both before and after he was licensed as aforesaid, grant certain certificates of marriage between Native Christians in the said Native State of Pudukkottai; XV of 18

And whereas the Reverend Karl Traugott Rueger, a Missionary of the Leipzig Evangelical Lutheran Mission, Madras, was, in the month of March, 1888, licensed by the said Governor in Council, under the provisions of section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, to grant certificates of marriage between Native Christians, and the said Karl Traugott Rueger XV of 187

Rueger did, in the year 1895, grant a certificate in respect of a marriage between Native Christians in the said Native State of Pudukkottai ;

And whereas the Reverend Theodor Meyner, a Missionary of the Leipzig Evangelical Lutheran Mission, Trichinopoly, was, in the month of March, 1888, licensed by the said Governor in Council, under the provisions of section 9 of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, to grant certificates of marriage between Native Christians, and the said Theodor Meyner did, in the years 1889 to 1891, grant certain certificates in respect of marriages between Native Christians in the said Native State of Pudukkottai ;

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And whereas there is no reason to doubt that the said Carl Manthey-Zorn, Ludvig Traugott Paesler, Visuvasam Solomon, Friedrich Karl Alwin Gehring, Ernst Leberecht Dachselt, Karl Traugott Rueger and Theodor Meyner acted as aforesaid in good faith in the belief that they were authorized to solemnize marriages or to grant certificates of marriage between Native Christians, as the case may be, in the Native State of Pudukkottai or Travancore, as the case may be ;

And whereas there is no reason to doubt that the parties to the said marriages all in good faith believed that their marriages were being duly solemnized or certified, as the case may be, and that their marriages were valid in law ;

And whereas it is doubtful whether the said marriages, or any of them, were duly solemnized or certified, as the case may be, so as to be valid in law, and it is expedient that they should be validated ;

It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Marriages Validation (Pudukkottai and Travancore) Act, 1899 ; and

(2) It shall come into force at once.

(3) It extends to all persons and places for whom and

and for which the Governor General in Council has power to make laws.

2. In this Act all expressions used shall have the same meaning as in the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872.

Construction.

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3. All marriages which have been solemnized, or in respect of which certificates have been granted, in the Native State of Pudukkottai or Travancore, as the case may be, by the said Carl Manthey-Zorn, or the said Ludvig Traugott Paesler, or the said Visuvasam Solomon, or the said Friedrich Karl Alwin Gehring, or the said Ernst Leberecht Dachselt, or the said Karl Traugott Rueger, or the said Theodor Meyner, shall be, and shall be deemed to have been on and with effect from the date of the solemnization of each respectively, or the date of the certificate granted in respect of each respectively, as good and valid in law as if they had been solemnized, or the certificates in respect of them had been granted, by persons duly authorized under section 6 or section 9, as the case may be, of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, to solemnize marriage or grant certificates of marriage between Native Christians in the Native State of Pudukkottai or Travancore, as the case may be.

Validation of certain irregular marriages.

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4. Certificates of marriages which are declared by section 3 to be good and valid in law, and register-books and certified copies of true and duly authenticated extracts therefrom deposited in compliance with the provisions of the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, in so far as the register-books and extracts relate to such marriages as aforesaid, shall be received as evidence of such marriages as if such marriages had been duly solemnized under Part I or Part VI, as the case may be, of the said Act.

Validation records of the said irregular marriages.

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5. Act XVII of 1895 (*an Act to validate certain marriages solemnized in the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore*) may, without prejudice to any other mode of citation, be cited for all purposes as the Marriages' Validation (Bangalore) Act, 1895.

Short title conferred Act XVII 1895.