

CHAPTER 13.

NOTARIES PUBLIC.

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.

SECTION.

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SCHEDULE.

CHAPTER 13.

NOTARIES PUBLIC.

An Ordinance to make provision for the appointment of Notaries Public and for the enrolment of Notaries Public authorised to act as such by the Master of Faculties and for other purposes in relation to the performance of Notarial Functions.

27 of 1936.
2 of 1939.

[1ST JANUARY, 1937.]

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Notaries Public Ordinance, and shall apply to the Colony and Protectorate.

Short title.

2. (1) The Chief Justice may appoint any fit and proper person being a legal practitioner of not less than ten years standing to be a Notary Public, hereinafter referred to as a "Notary" or as a "Notary Public."

Appointment
of Notary
Public.

(2) Notaries may be appointed for Sierra Leone or for the Colony or for the Protectorate as the case may be.

(3) A Notary appointed by the Chief Justice shall perform the same duties and exercise the same functions as a Notary Public in England.

Persons appointed to take oath and be enrolled.

3. (1) Every person so appointed shall before entering upon the duties of his office be sworn before the Chief Justice or before a Judge of the Supreme Court well and faithfully to discharge the duties of such office, and shall cause his name to be enrolled in the Roll of Court kept in the office of the Master and Registrar of the Supreme Court and shall pay into the Treasury a fee of two pounds.

(2) Every person so enrolled shall be entitled to a certificate of enrolment under the seal of the Court, and no person whose name shall not be enrolled as aforesaid shall be entitled to perform the duties of a Notary Public within Sierra Leone.

Notaries Public to be officers of Supreme Court.

4. Every Notary Public shall be deemed to be an officer of the Supreme Court.

Revocation of appointment and suspension of Notaries Public.

5. A Court constituted by not less than two Judges of the Supreme Court shall have power for reasonable cause to suspend any Notary from practising during any specified period, or to order his name to be struck off the Roll of Court, and any Judge shall have power to suspend any Notary in like manner temporarily, pending a reference to and confirmation or disallowance of such suspension by a Court so constituted.

Penalty for unqualified persons, etc., acting as Notaries Public.

6. Any person who is suspended from practising as a Notary or whose name is not on the roll as a Notary who shall make, do, exercise or perform any act, matter or thing appertaining or belonging to the office, function or practice of a Notary Public or who being suspended from practising as a Notary Public purports to act in any capacity as a Notary Public shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty pounds or to imprisonment for four months.

Notary Public to refuse to act in certain cases, subject to appeal to Court.

7. (1) In all cases where the circumstances shall appear to a Notary Public to be suspicious or not warranting the protest or other notarial act demanded, the said Notary shall refuse to act.

(2) Any person who considers himself aggrieved by such refusal may apply to the Supreme Court for an order calling upon the Notary to act in the execution of his office. Before applying for such order such person shall cause reasonable notice of the application to be given to the Notary refusing to act and to such persons in Sierra Leone, if any, as may be interested in the subject of the protest or other notarial act demanded.

(3) Upon receipt of any such application the Supreme Court may require the Notary refusing to act either to record