

and patrons as required by the said Acts, and such incumbents and patrons have respectively consented thereto;

And whereas the said scheme has been approved by Her Majesty in Council; now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her said Council, is pleased hereby to ratify the said scheme, and to order and direct that the same, and every part thereof, shall be effectual in law immediately from and after the time when this Order shall have been duly published in the London Gazette, pursuant to the said Acts; and Her Majesty, by and with the like advice, is pleased hereby to direct that this Order be forthwith registered by the Registrar of the diocese of Manchester.

C. C. Greville.

Foreign-Office, December 4, 1851.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint John Augustus Lloyd, Esq. to be Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General to the Republic of Bolivia.

MERCHANT SEAMEN'S FUND.

Board of Trade, Naval Department,
December 8, 1851.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have, in pursuance of the Act for winding up the Merchant Seamen's Fund, 14 and 15 Vict. c. 102, issued the following rules:—

T. H. Farrer, Secretary.

RULES for contributions to the Merchant Seamen's Fund, and for the granting of Pensions from that Fund.

To come into operation on the 1st January 1852.

Contributions to the Fund.

1. All masters and seamen who have contributed to the fund before the 8th August 1851 may, if they choose so to do, continue to contribute; but those who did not contribute before that day cannot now contribute or establish any claim upon the fund.

2. All future contributions are to be paid to the shipping masters appointed under the Mercantile Marine Act.

3. In the case of men who are discharged before a shipping master, the contributions are to be paid at the time of the discharge, and are to be proportioned to the length of the voyage, reckoning from the day of signing articles to the day of discharge inclusive, and are to be after the following rates, viz.:—

- (a.) For a seaman,
- 1s. for each calendar month of the voyage or engagement, and for any broken period of a month exceeding 20 days;
 - 6d. for any broken period of a month exceeding 10 and not exceeding 20 days;
 - 4d. for any broken period of a month not exceeding 10 days;
- (b.) For a master,
Double the above rates.

4. In the case of men who are not discharged before a shipping master, the contributions may be paid to any shipping master before whom the contributors may find it convenient to attend, and

may be paid to him at such times as may be fixed by him. These contributions are to be after the following rates, viz.:—

- (a.) For a seaman,
8s. for one year;
6s. for nine calendar months;
4s. for six calendar months;
2s. for three calendar months;
- (b.) For a master,
Double the above rates.

These contributions must be paid quarterly in advance.

5. In the case of foreign-going ships which arrive after the 1st January 1852, having commenced the voyage before that day, the contribution will be payable for the whole period of the voyage according to Rule 3 above. In the case of home-trade ships, no contribution will be payable for the period intervening between the 8th August 1851 and the 1st January 1852.

6. If a contributor serves for part of any one year in foreign-going ships, and the remainder of the year in home-trade ships, he is to pay as follows: if he contributes 8s. or upwards whilst in foreign-going ships no further contributions will be required. If he contributes less than 8s. whilst in foreign-going ships, the sum which he pays in such ships is to be reckoned as a portion of the 8s. or 16s., as the case may be, which he would, if serving all the year in home-trade ships, have had to contribute, and, upon payment of the balance, his contribution for the year is to be considered complete.

7. Any man who has once contributed as master, or who once contributes as master, after the 1st January 1852, may continue to contribute thenceforth as master, and establish a master's claim on the fund, although acting as a seaman; but if after once contributing as master he ceases so to do, and contributes as a seaman, he will not be entitled to claim as a master.

8. If any master or seaman for three consecutive years previous to the termination of his service at sea fails to pay any contribution to the fund, he will no longer be allowed to contribute, and will forfeit all claim upon the fund, whatever his previous contributions may have been.

9. But if any master or seaman, who has not contravened Rule 8 by failing for three consecutive years previous to the termination of his last service at sea to pay any contribution to the fund, fails to pay the appointed contributions at the proper times, he will be required, before he can be allowed to make another payment, to pay up all arrears; and no claim for a pension can be established until such arrears are paid for the whole period previous to the termination of his last service at sea.

10. No pension can be granted to any master or seaman, or to his widow or children, upon any ground whatever, unless he has contributed for a period of at least sixty months, such contribution to have been made either before the 8th August 1851, or partly before and partly after that date.

11. If a master or seaman who has before the 8th August 1851 paid dues for sixty months or upwards, goes to sea again, and is, within three years from the 31st December 1851, killed or drowned in the merchant service without having in the meantime paid any voluntary contributions to the fund, his widow and children shall not on account of his so failing to become a voluntary contributor, lose their rights to pensions, provided their claims are in all other respects established as required by these rules.

12. Every master and seaman must, on pay-