

is bestowed for military or naval services performed by the command or with the sanction of Her Majesty. But no permission is necessary for accepting a foreign medal, if such medal is not to be worn.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Foreign Office, May 10, 1855.

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
May 17, 1855.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the subjoined copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Varna, enclosing copy of a Despatch addressed by him to Sir Edmund Lyons, respecting the existence of a dangerous current which prevails to the northward of Kalakria.

(Copy.)

MY LORD, *Varna, April 25, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of your Lordship, a copy of a Despatch which I have addressed to Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons respecting the general belief which prevails among sea-faring men with whom I have had the opportunity of conversing, respecting a current which is stated to set into the westward and north-westward, by which vessels navigating from Odessa, or the mouths of the Danube, to Varna or the Bosphorus, or from the Crimea to Varna, have been frequently drawn upon the shoals at Shabla.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. ST. JNO. NEALE.

The Earl of Clarendon, &c. &c. &c.

(Copy.)

SIR, *Varna, April 23, 1855.*

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that six merchant vessels have been wrecked during the last month, between Shabla and Mangolia, on this coast, all bound from Kamiesh to Varna. Of these, three were British--the "Edinburgh," steamer, the "Banshee," barque, and the "Economy," schooner, and were all wrecked on the 15th ultimo.

H. M. steam sloop "Inflexible," being then at Varna, Commander Popplewell most promptly went to the assistance of the crews, consisting of about sixty persons, and brought them off. They were subsequently transferred, at Burzhas, from the "Inflexible" to H. M. S. "Harpy," which conveyed them to Constantinople.

The log-book of these vessels not having been brought to Varna, I am unable to state the precise circumstances attending the loss of these vessels. I deem it, however, to be my duty to bring under your notice the frequently expressed opinion of masters of merchantmen of all nations, and pilots, navigating the Black Sea, respecting the predominating causes of the shipwrecks, which have so continually occurred in the locality referred to.

In the month of December, 1852, no less than thirteen vessels, English, French, Austrian, and Sardinian, within the space of a week, went on shore near Point Shabla; and the masters of those vessels, who came to Varna, were unanimously of opinion, that a strong current sets into the westward and north-westward, drawing vessels navigating southwards from Odessa or the Mouths of the Danube, and bound for Varna or the Bosphorus, upon Shabla.

In the opinion of seafaring men, long resident on this coast, vessels so bound, and encountering northerly or north-easterly gales, incur the risk of being drawn, by the current, upon Shabla, while endeavouring to seek shelter under Cape Kalakria; the force of the current not being generally known, shipwrecks have occurred in that locality in dark and foggy weather, even without the prevalence of stormy weather.

In like manner vessels bound from the Crimea to Varna, and not steering a sufficiently S. W. course to allow for the current, are liable in thick or stormy weather, to be set to the northward, and to fall into the influence of the current referred to as prevailing to the northward of Kalakria.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. ST. JNO. NEALE.

Rear-Admiral Sir Edmund Lyons, Bart.

&c. &c. &c.

War-Office, 18th May, 1855.

MEMORANDUM.

BREVET.

Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Thomas St. Vincent Hope Cochrane Troubridge, Bart., of the 7th Foot, to be one of Her Majesty's Aides-de-Camp, with the rank of Colonel in the Army. The appointment to take place from this day.

War-Office, 18th May, 1855.

1st Regiment of Dragoons, Lieutenant St. John William Chiverton Charlton to be Captain, by purchase, vice Sykes, who retires. Dated 18th May, 1855.

Cornet John Glas Sandeman to be Lieutenant, by purchase, vice Charlton. Dated 18th May, 1855.

12th Light Dragoons, Charles Talbot Goff, Gent., to be Cornet, by purchase, vice Blunt, promoted. Dated 18th May, 1855.

Grenadier Regiment of Foot Guards, Lieutenant and Captain and Brevet-Lieutenant-Colonel His Serene Highness Prince William Augustus Edward of Saxe Weimar to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel, by purchase, vice Reeve, who retires. Dated 18th May, 1855.

Ensign and Lieutenant the Honourable William Francis Forbes to be Lieutenant and Captain, by purchase, vice Prince William A. E. of Saxe Weimar. Dated 18th May, 1855.

1st Regiment of Foot, Ensign J. J. Heywood to be Lieutenant, without purchase. Dated 14th May, 1855.

Anthony Gardner, Gent., to be Ensign, by purchase, in succession to Lieutenant Smith, promoted. Dated 18th May, 1855.

6th Foot, John Thomson Bowers, Gent., to be Ensign, without purchase. Dated 18th May, 1855.

8th Foot, Frederic Anderson Stebbing, Gent., to be Ensign, without purchase, vice Lillicrap, promoted. Dated 18th May, 1855.

23rd Foot, Lieutenant W. H. Poole to be Captain, by purchase, vice Vane, whose promotion by purchase on the 30th March, 1855, has been cancelled. Dated 18th May, 1855.

Frederick Woollaston Hutton to be Ensign, by purchase, in succession to Lieutenant Poole, promoted. Dated 18th May, 1855.