

Edwin Beaumont Johnson, Arthur James Herbert, Reginald Earle Welby, and Charles John Foster, or any three or more of you, to be Our Commissioners for the purpose of enquiring into the said matter :

And We do give and grant to you, or to any three or more of you, full power and authority to call before you such persons as you may deem necessary, and to obtain information from them upon the subject of your enquiry, and of every matter connected therewith, and also to call for, have access to, and examine all such official books, documents, papers, and records, as may appear to you, or to any three or more of you, likely to be of use in affording you the fullest information :

And We do hereby require and command you, or any three or more of you, to report to Us under your hands and seals, with all convenient speed, upon the questions which by these Presents We do refer to you ; namely—

What rapidity of promotion should be considered as having obtained, on the average, in the several arms under the Purchase System ;

And by what means such rapidity may be best secured in the future with justice to the Officers of all ranks in those corps which were under the Purchase System :

And, further, in what manner adequate promotion of Officers to maintain the efficiency of the whole army in all its combatant branches may most effectively be obtained :

And, in what way the relations of the Officers of Our British Forces to Officers of Our Indian Staff Corps may be so adjusted as to do justice to each :

And We will and command, and by these presents ordain, that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you, Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment :

And for your assistance in the due execution of this Our Commission, We have made choice of Our trusty and well-beloved Thomas Digby Pigott, Esquire, to be Secretary to this Our Commission, and to attend you, whose services and assistance, as well as the services and assistance of such clerks and other persons as may appear to you to be necessary, We require you to use from time to time, as occasion shall require.

Given at Our Court at *Balmoral*, this seventh day of *November*, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, in the thirty-eighth year of Our reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,
Gathorne Hardy.

Foreign Office, August 10, 1874.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Nicholas Roderick O'Connor, Esq., now a Third Secretary, to be a Second Secretary in Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service.

Foreign Office, November 1, 1874.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint the Honourable James St. Vincent Saumarez, now a Third Secretary, to be a Second Secretary in Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service.

Downing Street, November 7, 1874.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Charles Cameron Lees, Esq., the Administrator of the

Settlement of Lagos, to be Lieutenant-Governor of the Gold Coast Colony.

BY virtue of an Act passed in the twenty-fourth year of the reign of His Majesty King George III, intituled "An Act to repeal so much of two Acts made in the tenth and fifteenth years of the reign of His present Majesty, as authorizes the Speaker of the House of Commons to issue his Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown for making out writs for the election of Members to serve in Parliament, in the manner therein mentioned, and for substituting other provisions for the like purposes ;" and of an Act passed in the twenty-sixth year of the reign of Her present Majesty, intituled "An Act to further limit and define the time for proceeding to Election during the Recess :"

I do hereby give notice, that the death of John Laird, Esq., late a Member serving in this present Parliament for the borough of Birkenhead, hath been certified to me in writing, under the hands of two Members serving in this present Parliament ; and that I shall issue my Warrant to the Clerk of the Crown to make out a new writ for the electing of a Member to serve in this present Parliament for the said borough, at the end of six days after the insertion of this notice in the *London Gazette*.

Given under my hand this seventh day of
November, 1874.

HENRY BRAND, Speaker.

Admiralty, 6th November, 1874.

Richard Denton Mason, Esq., C.B., has been promoted to the rank of Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets in Her Majesty's Fleet, with seniority of 3rd November, 1874.

Admiralty, 7th November, 1874.

In accordance with the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 5th February, 1872—
Sub-Lieutenant Henry John Wodehouse has been placed on the Retired List of his rank from the 4th instant.

War Office, Pall Mall,
10th November, 1874.

Royal Regiment of Artillery, Captain William Norton Perssé to be Major, vice M. P. Eden, who retires on temporary half-pay. Dated 11th November, 1874.

Lieutenant Alexander Campbell to be Captain, vice E. G. B. Gattey, deceased. Dated 17th October, 1874.

Lieutenant William Ogle Carlile to be Captain, vice W. N. Perssé, promoted. Dated 11th November, 1874.

Captain Robert Alexander (late Madras) to be Adjutant, vice W. Wyndham (late Madras), who resigns the Adjutancy only. Dated 22nd September, 1874.

Lieutenant Vincent Reynolds Woodland retires upon temporary half-pay. Dated 11th November, 1874.

The Christian names of Veterinary-Surgeon Hinge appointed to the Royal Artillery in the *London Gazette*, dated 20th July, 1855, are Daniel Isaac, and not Daniel only, as therein stated.