

1917, We have made, ordained, and established and by these Presents, sealed with the Seal of the said Order, do make, ordain, and establish the following Statutes and Ordinances which shall from henceforth be inviolably observed and kept within the said Order:—

1. It is ordained and enjoined that this Order of Chivalry shall be styled and designated in all Acts, proceedings, and pleadings The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire as in Our said Letters Patent is directed, and by no other designation.

2. It is ordained that the said Order shall consist of the Sovereign and a Grand Master and of five several classes:—I. "Knights Grand Cross" and "Dames Grand Cross." II. "Knights Commanders" and "Dames Commanders." III. "Commanders." IV. "Officers." V. "Members."

3. It is ordered that We, Our heirs and successors, Kings or Queens Regnant of Our said United Kingdom, are and for ever shall be Sovereigns of this Order, to whom doth and shall belong all power of annulling, interpreting, explaining, or augmenting these and every part of these Statutes.

4. We do hereby ordain, direct, and appoint that a Prince of the Blood Royal or such other exalted personage as We, Our heirs and successors shall hereafter appoint shall be Grand Master of the said Order, and shall in virtue thereof be the First or Principal Knight Grand Cross of the said Order, to whose custody shall be confided the Great Seal of the Order, which he shall affix to all Statutes, Ordinances, and Instruments according to the regulations touching the issue of every of the said Instruments; and it is further ordained that it shall be his special duty to enforce the due observance of the Statutes and Ordinances of this Order, and that he shall likewise direct the issue of all letters of Summons whenever the Sovereign shall be pleased to command an Investiture of the said Most Excellent Order.

5. It is ordained that the persons to be admitted to this Order shall be such persons, male or female, as may have rendered or shall hereafter render important services to Our Empire, and that Foreign persons upon whom We may think fit to confer the honour of being received into this Order shall be deemed to be, and described as, Honorary Knights Grand Cross or Honorary Dames Grand Cross, Honorary Knights Commanders or Honorary Dames Commanders, Honorary Commanders, Honorary Officers, and Honorary Members, according to the classes in the Order to which they belong.

6. It is ordained that when We, Our heirs or successors shall be pleased to nominate and appoint any person to this Order such appointment shall be made by Warrant under Our Royal Sign Manual sealed with the Seal of this Order and countersigned by the Grand Master of the said Order.

7. It is ordained that this Order shall rank next to and immediately after Our Royal Victorian Order, and before Our Distinguished Service Order, that in all solemn Ceremonies, places and assemblies the Knights Grand Cross of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Knights Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, that the Dames Grand Cross of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the wives of Knights Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath,

and may on all occasions have, use and enjoy the appellation and style of Dame before their Christian or first names, that the Knights Commanders of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Knights Commanders of the Royal Victorian Order, that the Dames Commanders of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the wives of Knights Commanders of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and may on all occasions have, use and enjoy the appellation and style of Dame before their Christian or first names, that the men who are Commanders of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Members of the Third Class of the Royal Victorian Order and the women who are Commanders of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the Wives of Companions of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, that the men who are Officers of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Members of the Fourth Class of the Royal Victorian Order and the women who are Officers of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the wives of Members of the Fourth Class of the Royal Victorian Order, that the men who are Members of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately after the Members of the Fifth Class of the Royal Victorian Order and that the women who are Members of this Order shall have place and precedence next to and immediately before the wives of Members of the Fifth Class of the Royal Victorian Order.

8. It is ordained that the Insignia of the Sovereign of this Order shall be of the same material and fashion as are hereinafter appointed for the Knights Grand Cross, save only with those alterations which distinguish Our Royal Dignity.

9. It is ordained that the Grand Master shall wear the Insignia of a Knight Grand Cross, the badge of which for the Grand Master shall be augmented in accordance with the commands of the Sovereign.

10. It is ordained that the Knights and Dames Grand Cross of this Most Excellent Order shall upon all great and solemn occasions wear the badge of the Order, which shall consist of a cross patonce, enamelled pearl, fimbriated or surmounted by a gold medallion with a representation of Britannia seated within a circle gules inscribed with the motto. "For God and the Empire," in letters of gold ensigned with the Imperial Crown or, the whole suspended from a purple riband of the breadth of three inches and three-quarters, passing from the right shoulder to the left side, and they shall wear on the left side of their coats or outer garments an oval Star composed of eight points and charged with a medallion as above.

11. It is ordained that the Knights Commanders shall wear around their necks a riband of the same colour and pattern as that of the Knights Grand Cross of the breadth of one inch and three-quarters and pendent therefrom the badge of the Knights Commanders of the Order, which shall be of similar form and pattern to that appointed for the Knights Grand Cross, but of a smaller size, and also that they shall wear on the left side of their coats or outer garments a silver Star composed of four equal points and four lesser, charged