

ing his first voluntary contribution, state to the shipping master that he intends to be a voluntary contributor, and must produce his old register ticket to that officer, who will give him directions for procuring a new register ticket in exchange, called a fund ticket. If the master has no register ticket he must procure a fund ticket, for which purpose the shipping master will give him the necessary directions. This fund ticket must, on every occasion on which the contributor pays any contribution, be produced to the shipping master to whom he pays it, and the shipping master will enter on the back of the ticket each amount so paid. Masters and seamen who become voluntary contributors should take especial care to procure fund tickets, and to see that the amount of their contributions is entered on the back thereof, as the ticket will be a proof of the contributions having been paid, and they will be required to produce it upon applying for pensions.

13. Men-of-war's men who have contributed to the fund, and desire to continue their contributions, may do so at the rate herein-before fixed for seamen who are not discharged before a shipping master. Arrangements will be made as to the manner in which these contributions are to be received.

Grant of Pensions.

14. In every case in which a pension is claimed, it must be proved that the master or seaman who, or whose widow or children, make the claim, has contributed to the fund in the manner pointed out in the above rules as to contributions. No claim can be entertained by the trustees or local managers of the fund when the failure mentioned in rule 8 has taken place, or if the conditions contained in rule 10 are not strictly fulfilled. In case of any slight departure from the conditions contained in rules 7 and 9, the trustees or local managers are at liberty to state the circumstances for the consideration of the Board of Trade.

If the pension has not been forfeited under rule 8, but some arrears of contribution are due under rule 9, the pension may be granted; but the time for commencing payment of the pension will be deferred, or the rate will be diminished, so as to cover all arrears.

15. No pensioner is to be considered fully and finally entitled to his or her pension until the claim and the evidence in support of it have been submitted to the Board of Trade and approved by that Board, as noticed in rule 28.

16. The number of pensions granted at one port in one year to each of the different classes of pensioners herein-after mentioned must not exceed the average yearly number of similar pensions granted at the same port during the five years ending with 1851, except by the special direction of the Board of Trade.

When there is danger of exceeding the above-mentioned limit, those of the worn-out seamen who have contributed longest to the fund are to be first provided for.

17. Subject to the foregoing general conditions, pensions may be granted to the following classes of applicants:

- (a.) Masters and seamen who can prove that they are rendered permanently incapable of service by sickness, wounds, or other accidental misfortune.
- (b.) Masters and seamen who have become decrepit or worn-out by age.
- (c.) Widows whose husbands have lost their lives in the merchant service, either by casualty, or by sickness incident to the nature of the service, or by drowning.

(d.) Widows whose husbands have contributed to the fund for twenty-one years, provided they were married before the time at which their husbands would have been entitled to receive pensions, in other words, before they became worn-out or decrepit, or incapable of service.

(e.) Widows whose husbands are at the time of their deaths receiving or entitled to receive a pension, provided they were married before the time at which the husbands were entitled to receive pensions, in other words, before they became worn-out, decrepit, or incapable of service.

(f.) Children whose fathers lose their lives in the merchant service, either by casualty, or by sickness incident to the nature of the service, or by drowning, provided such children are under fourteen years of age, or are from infirmity incapable of getting a livelihood.

(g.) Children whose fathers die after contributing for twenty-one years to the fund, provided that such children are under fourteen years of age, or are from infirmity incapable of getting a livelihood, and provided their mothers are, or if living would be, entitled to pensions.

(h.) Children whose fathers at the time of their deaths are in receipt of or entitled to receive pensions, provided that such children are under fourteen years of age, or are from infirmity incapable of getting a livelihood, and provided their mothers are, or if living would be, entitled to pensions.

18. The amount of pensions to be granted to each of the above classes will be as follows:

	£	s.	d.	
Masters	6	16	0	a year.
Seamen	3	8	0	„
Widows of Masters	4	8	0	„
Widows of Seamen	2	4	0	„
Children of Masters, each child	2	4	0	„
Children of Seamen, each child	1	2	0	„

But pensions are not to be granted to more than four children in one family, unless they are orphans.

19. Pensions may be granted to the above, notwithstanding that the pensioner is in receipt of other income derived from either wages, or public or private charity, or private property, or from a benefit society.

20. If men, after remaining in the service for the better part of their lives, quit the sea at an advanced age, but before becoming actually worn-out, and then earn a subsistence for a few years on shore, they are not on this account to be considered as forfeiting any claim on the fund for themselves, their widows or children, to which they would otherwise be entitled.

If, however, men quit the sea service when still of age and strength sufficient to turn permanently to some other work or business, they are to be considered to have ceased to be seamen, and no pension is to be granted to them when worn-out or decrepit, or to their widows or children.

Commutation of Claims.

21. Pensions already granted may be commuted, and gross sums of money may be granted in lieu of pensions in any special cases in which the money