

Circular No. 514 A.

RESERVE CORPS.

VICTORIA R.

WHEREAS by an Act passed in the 22nd and 23rd years of Our Reign, entitled "An Act to provide for the Establishment of a Reserve Force of Men who have been in Her Majesty's Service," We are authorized to cause to be enrolled for this purpose any number not exceeding 20,000 men, who, after having served in Our other Forces, or in the Forces of the East India Company, may voluntarily engage to enter such Reserve Force; and further, to make regulations concerning the term or terms of Service of these men, and the Declarations in relation thereto; as also regarding their Pay and Allowances, their Arms, Clothing, Equipment, and Pensions, and for the government of the said force, and for the infliction of Fines and Penalties, for absence or misconduct. Our Will and Pleasure therefore is, that the following Rules and Regulations be established on these heads, and that all persons whom it may in any way concern do strictly observe and obey the same.

Given at Our Court at St. James's, this ninth day of December, 1859, in the 23rd year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,
SIDNEY HERBERT.

REGULATIONS.

CLAUSE 1. Any Person who, as a Non-commissioned Officer or Soldier, shall have completed the term of Service for which he was originally enlisted, not being less than 10 years in Infantry, or 12 in Cavalry, Artillery, or Engineers, or who, after 5 years' Service, has been discharged for any cause other than Misconduct, without a permanent Pension, may, provided he is approved, and engages for such Service by a Declaration in the Form hereto annexed, be enrolled to serve in the Reserve Force, under the authority of the Act noted in the margin,* for such period as may be wanting to complete 21 years, if he originally enlisted in the Infantry, or 24 years if he enlisted in Cavalry, Artillery, or Engineers, reckoning two years' Service in such Reserve Force as one towards the attainment of these several periods of Service, provided that such person shall be enrolled within 5 years after his discharge from the Army.

2. Till other arrangements are authorized, the persons composing this Reserve Force shall be attached during periods of Training and Exercise, or when called out for the other purposes specified in the said Act, to any Infantry Regiment or Depôt, or to the Enrolled Pensioner Force, whichever may, by the Secretary of State for War, be considered most convenient, and shall obey all Orders of the Officers or Non-commissioned Officers of such Regiment, Depôt, or Enrolled Pensioner Force, while so attached.

3. Every person thus enrolled shall be bound to register his place of abode in the Books of the Pension District in which he receives Enrolment Money, and to abide thereat, and not remove therefrom, without giving due notice; and the distance of his residence is not, in any case, except by special authority, to exceed 30 miles from the Head Quarters of such Pension District.

4. All persons enrolled in this Reserve Force shall be bound to attend regularly at the hour and place of assembly, when called out for Training and Exercise, either with the Regiment Depôt or Pensioner Force to which they may have been attached as aforesaid, for a period not exceeding 12 days in each year, or at any time and place, when called on for the preservation of the public peace, or during such period as Her Majesty may require their services within the United Kingdom, in the event of invasion or imminent danger thereof, or in case of War; on all which occasions they will be under the command of the General Commanding in Chief of Her Majesty's Forces, and subject to the Articles of War.

5. All persons failing to attend on these occasions without reasonable cause, or when they have volunteered their services for permanent duty, or who may be convicted of any serious misconduct or breach of discipline while so employed, or of violence or disrespect at any time towards the Officers entrusted with their payment and superintendence, or who shall be guilty of any fraudulent statement at their enrolment, shall, in addition to any other penalty, be liable to dismissal from the Force, with the forfeiture wholly or in part of the several advantages authorized by this Warrant.

6. On the termination of the period of Service for which these men have engaged in the Reserve Force, and on the fulfilment of the other conditions, they shall be entitled to the same rates of Pension as they would have attained by the Warrants under which they originally enlisted, had they continued to serve in the Corps from which they were discharged till they completed the period of 21 and 24 years respectively, and they shall be permitted to add to such Pension an amount equal to the Good-conduct Pay of which they had been in continuous receipt for two years immediately preceding the date of their discharge. Such Pension, however, shall in no case exceed Tenpence a day for a Private, One Shilling for a Corporal, or One Shilling and Threepence for a Serjeant or other superior Non-commissioned Officer; but except by special authority no Service shall be reckoned for any year in which the person enrolled has not resided at his registered place of abode, or has unlawfully absented himself during any portion of the exercise for which he shall have been called out in terms of the Act before referred to.

7. All persons enrolled in the Reserve Force who may be wounded or disabled in the execution of their duty, shall be entitled to the same Pension as, under similar circumstances and for the like service, would have been granted in the Regular Forces of Her Majesty, and when called out on permanent or continuous Duty for any period exceeding Three months, the whole of such period shall be reckoned according to the usual Regulations of the Service, and not at the rate of two years for one.

8. The Staff-Officer of the Pension District in which persons have been enrolled for this Reserve Force, or such other Officers as may be appointed for that purpose, shall keep a record of the number of days' Service performed by each person in the course of the year, as ascertained either from that Officer's own knowledge, or the report of the Commanding Officer of the Regiment or Depôt with which such person may have been trained, and also of the extent of his Service prior to leaving his Regiment, so that he may be enabled to report to the Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital when the right to Pension has been attained in each case; and the Officer or Officers by whom such person has been trained, shall also note on a Certificate to be

* 22 and 23 Vict., c. 42.