

Whitehall, April 6, 1870.

The Queen has been pleased to grant unto the Reverend Henry Parry Liddon, M.A., the place and dignity of a Canon Residentiary of the Cathedral Church of Saint Paul in London, void by the promotion of Doctor Thomas Dale to the Deanery of Rochester.

Whitehall, April 6, 1870.

The Queen has been pleased to present the Reverend William Josiah Irons, D.D., to the Rectory and Parish Church of Wadingham, in the county and diocese of Lincoln, void by the cession of the Reverend Lewis Welsh Owen.

VICTORIA, R.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith :

- To Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor Sir George Grey, Baronet, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath ;
- To Our right trusty and well-beloved Cousin and Councillor William Reginald, Earl of Devon ;
- To Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor Lieutenant-General Jonathan Peel ;
- To Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor George Ward Hunt, Esquire ;
- To Our trusty and well-beloved Sir William Milbourne James, Knight, Vice-Chancellor ;
- To Our trusty and well-beloved Sir James Yorke Scarlett, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-General of Our Forces ;
- To Our trusty and well-beloved Thomas M. Steele, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Major-General in our Army ;
- To Our trusty and well-beloved Samuel Whitbread, Esquire ;
- To Our trusty and well-beloved Philip Henry Muntz, Esquire ;

Whereas it is alleged that, in those Corps in Our Army in which Regimental Promotions are made by Purchase, a practice exists of paying in respect of promotions, and of receiving in respect of retirements, sums in excess of those sanctioned by Our Royal Warrant, dated the 3rd February, 1866.

And whereas we have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire into and report upon the said alleged practice, together with any incidents of the legalized purchase system which may be found to be connected with the same ;

Now know ye, that we, reposing great trust and confidence in your zeal, discretion, and ability, have authorized and appointed, and do by these presents authorize and appoint, you the said Sir George Grey, William Reginald Earl of Devon, Jonathan Peel, George Ward Hunt, Sir William Milbourne James, Sir James Yorke Scarlett, Thomas M. Steele, Samuel Whitbread, and Philip Henry Muntz, or any three or more of you, to be Our Commissioners for making the inquiry aforesaid. And We do hereby authorize and empower your Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, to obtain information thereupon by

the examination of all persons most competent by reason of their knowledge, habits, or experience, to afford it : and also by calling for all documents, papers, and records which may appear to you, or any three or more of you, calculated to assist your researches, and to promote the formation of a sound judgment on the subject.

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 ;

The extent and manner in which the said practice may have been carried on.

The incidents of the practice, and the circumstances under which the person who may have paid any such sum has been accustomed to receive the like sum back on the sale of his Commission, or otherwise, and the circumstances under which the sum paid has been irrecoverable.

The degree of recognition which this practice may have received from any of Our public departments or officers, and how far any statutes which now or heretofore may have prohibited the said practice, and any Royal Warrants and Regulations affecting the same, have been actually enforced.

And generally to report upon the facts of the whole case.

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 these presents, We have made choice of Our trusty and well-beloved Ralph Henry Knox, Esquire, to be Secretary to this Our Commission, and to attend you, whose service and assistance We require you to use from time to time as occasion shall require.

In witness whereof we have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

Given at Our Court at *Windsor Castle*, this fifth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy, and in the thirty-third year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,

Edward Cardwell.

War Office, Pall Mall,

8th April, 1870.

2nd Regiment of Dragoon Guards, Francis James Ashburner, Gent., to be Cornet, by purchase, vice Charles A. De Neufville Lucas, permitted to receive the value of his Commission, on transfer to the Indian Staff Corps. Dated 9th April, 1870.

Dudley Albert Hambrough, Gent., to be Cornet, by purchase, vice Henry F. E. Lucas, permitted to receive the value of his Commission, on transfer to the Indian Staff Corps. Dated 10th April, 1870.

4th Dragoon Guards, Cornet Mervyn Chaloner Stephen Tynte to be Lieutenant, by purchase, vice Edwin Black Hawkins, who retires. Dated 9th April, 1870.