



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1874.

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, James Plaisted, Baron Penzance ;
- Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor, John Somerset, Baron Hampton, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath ;
- Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor, Edward Pleydell Bouverie, Esquire ;
- Our trusty and well-beloved Edwin Beaumont Johnson, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and Major-General in Our Army ;
- Our trusty and well-beloved Arthur James Herbert, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and Major-General in Our Army ;
- Our trusty and well-beloved Reginald Earle Welby, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath ;
- Our trusty and well-beloved Charles John Foster, Esquire, Major-General in Our Army ;

Greeting :

WHEREAS by Our Royal Warrant, dated the twentieth day of July, in the thirty-fifth year of Our reign, We did cancel and determine all regulations made by Us or any of Our Royal predecessors, or by any Officers acting under Our authority, regulating or fixing the prices at which any Commissions in Our Forces might be purchased, sold, or exchanged, or in any way authorizing the purchase or sale or exchange for money of any such Commissions :

And whereas such regulations being cancelled, all traffic in Commissions became illegal, and any Officer or person buying or selling a Commission became liable to penalty under the Act passed in the session holden in the fifth and sixth years of the reign of King Edward the Sixth, chapter 16, intituled "Against buying and selling of Offices," and the Act passed in the forty-ninth year of the reign of King George the Third, chapter 126, intituled "An Act for the prevention of the sale and brokerage of Offices :

And whereas by the Act passed in the session holden in the thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth years of Our reign, chapter 86, intituled "An Act for the better regulation of the Regular and Auxiliary Land Forces of the Crown," rules were enacted

for compensating Officers in certain circumstances, by the payment to them of the value of the Commissions they might severally hold at the time of the cessation of Purchase in the Army :

And whereas, in Our Royal Warrant, dated the 30th day of October, 1871, in providing for certain changes then necessary in respect of First Appointments, Regimental Promotion, and Exchanges, We did premise that such provision was pending a more complete revision of that section of Our Warrant of the 27th December, 1870, which governed the promotion of combatant Officers :

And whereas certain Officers of Our Army did memorialize Us, alleging certain grievances which they stated that they suffered in consequence of the abolition of Purchase :

And whereas an humble address was presented to Us by the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled, praying Us to issue Our Royal Commission for enquiry into the allegations of the said Officers :

And whereas by Our Royal Commission, dated the 11th day of October, 1873, We did appoint Sir William Milbourne James, James Plaisted, Baron Penzance, and George Ward Hunt, to be Our Commissioners for the purpose of examining the allegations contained in the memorials of the Officers aforesaid :

And whereas the said Commissioners, in their report to Us, dated the 1st day of June, 1874, did represent that the question of compensation to Officers ought not to be dissociated from that of promotion ; but that the general question of the means proper to maintain the flow of promotion in the Army for the future was not before them :

And whereas an assurance was given by Our responsible Minister, that notwithstanding the Abolition of Purchase, a reasonable rapidity of promotion, not differing essentially from that which obtained before such abolition, should be maintained for the future :

And whereas it is desirable to make a full enquiry with a view to ascertain the best means of ensuring such rapidity of promotion, and making adequate provision for promotion throughout the Army :

Now know ye, that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your zeal, ability and discretion, have authorized and appointed, and by these Presents do authorize and appoint, you, the said James Plaisted, Baron Penzance, John Somerset, Baron Hampton, Edward Pleydell Bouverie,