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FRIDAY, JULY 5, 1878.

At the Court at *Windsor*, the 29th day of *June*, 1878.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS there was this day read at the Board a Memorial from the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, dated the 27th of June, 1878, in the words following, viz. :—

“Whereas by Your Majesty's Orders in Council, dated the 9th day of September 1865 and 4th day of February 1875, which Orders in Council were embodied in the Revised Pension Regulations for Your Majesty's Navy and Marines established by Your Majesty's Order in Council of the 12th day of February 1876, Your Majesty was graciously pleased to appoint Pensions of five pence a day at the age of 55 and an additional four pence a day at the age of 65 to be given, out of the Funds of Greenwich Hospital, at our discretion, and under certain conditions, to Seamen and Marines who are in receipt of Naval Pensions for Life, but without restriction as to the number of such Pensions to be in force at any one time, or as to the amount of combined Pensions to be enjoyed together. And whereas, in consequence of the rapid increase which is taking place in the annual charge for these Pensions, and which increase will, it is estimated, continue to attain greater proportions, we are of opinion that, having regard to the Funds of Greenwich Hospital available for these Pensions, it is absolutely necessary to diminish the annual charge on account thereof.

“We do, therefore, beg leave to submit that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased, by Order in Council to direct that, for the future, the number of such Pensions in force at any one time shall not exceed 7,500; and that the following regulations be established with a view to limiting combined Pensions from Public and Greenwich Hospital Funds to two shillings and sixpence a day.

“I. The Greenwich Hospital Age Pension to be awarded at the ages of 55 and 65 as at present, provided it does not, together with any other Pension or Pensions which a man may have from Public Funds, cause the combined Pensions to exceed two shillings and sixpence a day.

“II. If the grant of the full amount of the Greenwich Hospital Age Pensions should cause such excess, only so much shall be awarded as will

make the combined Pensions up to two shillings and sixpence a day.

“III. In the event of a Pensioner having already two shillings and sixpence a day, Pension, or Pensions, from Public Funds, the Greenwich Age Pension, or any part of it, shall not be awarded in addition thereto.

“IV. In the event of a Pensioner, who has been granted a Greenwich Hospital Age Pension under these regulations, obtaining an increase of Pension, or an additional Pension, from other Public sources, which would cause his combined Pensions to exceed two shillings and sixpence a day, his Greenwich Hospital Age Pension shall be reduced, or altogether cease, in order to preserve the limit of two shillings and sixpence a day.

“V. Vacancies to be filled up, by selection, at our discretion, regard being had to the circumstances of each man's case.

“VI. These regulations to take effect from the 1st day of January last, but not to affect any Pensioner who at the date of Your Majesty's Order in Council approving the same, shall be in receipt of a Greenwich Hospital Age Pension; or any Pensioner who, being already in receipt of five pence a day, will be eligible for the additional four pence a day on attaining the age of 65: nor to affect any Pensioner who has joined the Seaman Pensioner Reserve Force prior to the issue of these Regulations, and who is thereby entitled, under certain conditions, to the Greenwich Hospital Age Pension of five pence a day at the age of 50.

“And whereas we are further of opinion that men who have been discharged from Your Majesty's Corps of Royal Marines with claims to Deferred Pensions on attaining the age of 50, should not be eligible for Greenwich Hospital Age Pensions in addition thereto, as they cannot be considered as entitled to Naval Pensions for life within the meaning of Your Majesty's previous Orders in Council before quoted.

“We beg leave to submit that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased, by Order in Council, to declare them to be ineligible accordingly.”

Her Majesty, having taken the said Memorial into consideration, was pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to approve of what is therein proposed. And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

C. L. Peel.