

War Office, March 18, 1879.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to signify Her intention to confer the decoration of the Victoria Cross on the undermentioned Officer, whose claim to the same has been submitted for Her Majesty's approval, for his gallant conduct at the Peiwar Kotal, in the East Indies, as recorded against his name, viz. :—

Corps.	Rank and Name.	Act of Gallantry for which recommended.
Bengal Staff Corps ...	Captain John Cook ...	For a signal act of valour at the action of the Peiwar Kotal on the 2nd December, 1878, in having, during a very heavy fire, charged out of the entrenchments with such impetuosity that the enemy broke and fled, when, perceiving, at the close of the mêlée, the danger of Major Galbraith, Assistant Adjutant-General, Kurum Column Field Force, who was in personal conflict with an Afghan soldier, Captain Cook distracted his attention to himself, and aiming a sword cut which the Douranee avoided, sprang upon him, and, grasping his throat, grappled with him. They both fell to the ground. The Douranee, a most powerful man, still endeavouring to use his rifle, seized Captain Cook's arm in his teeth, until the struggle was ended by the man being shot through the head.

Windsor Castle, March 13, 1879.

HER Royal Highness The Duchess of Connaught and Strathearne has been pleased to make the following appointments, with the approval of Her Majesty :—

The Lady Adela Larking to be Lady of the Bedchamber to Her Royal Highness:

The Honourable Mrs. Alfred Egerton,  
Lady Elphinstone,

to be Honorary Ladies in Waiting on Her Royal Highness.

Westminster, March 14, 1879.

THIS day the Lords being met a message was sent to the Honourable House of Commons by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, acquainting them, that *The Lords authorized by virtue of a Commission under the Great Seal, signed by Her Majesty, for declaring Her Royal Assent to several Acts agreed upon by both Houses, do desire the immediate attendance of the Honourable House in the House of Peers to hear the Commission read;* and the Commons being come thither, the said Commission, empowering the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and several other Lords therein named, to declare and notify the Royal Assent to the said Acts, was read accordingly, and the Royal Assent given to

1. Exchequer Bonds (No. 1) Act, 1879.
2. Consolidated Fund (No. 1) Act, 1879.
3. Spring Assizes Act, 1879.

Whitehall, March 6, 1879.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to grant unto Henry Boghurst, of Hook Farm, in the parish of Southfleet, and county of Kent, Gentleman, her Royal licence and authority that he and his issue may take and use the surname of Fisher in addition to and after that of Boghurst; and to

direct that the said licence and concession be recorded in Her Majesty's College of Arms, otherwise to be void and of none effect.

(H. 2250.)

Board of Trade (Harbour Department),  
Whitehall Gardens, March 15, 1879.

THE Board of Trade have received through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General in Egypt, reporting that the Egyptian Board of Health have decided that vessels arriving in that country with clean bills of health from Turkey, Montenegro, and Tripoli, are no longer to be repelled, but are to be subjected instead to seven days' quarantine of observation, with disinfection of susceptible goods and effects.

Vessels in quarantine will be allowed to unload and to load merchandise, but loading may only be commenced after the discharge of the whole cargo and the fumigation of the vessel, when passengers may also be taken on board.

The Agent and Consul-General further reports that, the pilgrimage season being over, the quarantine on arrivals from the Hedjaz prescribed by the regulations of the 31st August last will no longer be maintained. Such arrivals will, however, be subjected to seven days' quarantine in consequence of Turkish ports in the Red Sea imposing no quarantine on arrivals from those in the Mediterranean.

Vessels from Ottoman ports in either the Mediterranean or the Red Sea which pass through the Suez Canal must do so in quarantine.

(H. 2333.)

Board of Trade (Harbour Department),  
Whitehall Gardens, March 17, 1879.

THE Board of Trade have received through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs a copy