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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1884.

*Lord Chamberlain's Office, St. James's Palace,
November 4, 1884.*

NOTICE is hereby given, that the State Apartments of Windsor Castle will be closed after Friday next, the 7th instant, until further orders.

Whitehall, November 3, 1884.

THE Queen has been pleased to direct Letters Patent to be passed under the Great Seal granting the dignity of a Baron of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland unto the undermentioned persons, and the heirs male of their respective bodies lawfully begotten, namely:—

The Right Honourable John George Dodson, by the name, style, and title of Baron Monk Bretton, of Conyboro, and of Hurstpierpoint, in the county of Sussex.

Sir Walter Charles James, Bart., by the name, style, and title of Baron Northbourne, of Betteshanger, in the county of Kent, and of Jarrow Grange, in the county palatine of Durham.

Whitehall, November 4, 1884.

THE Queen has been pleased to issue a Commission under Her Majesty's Royal Sign Manual, to the following effect:—

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 right well beloved Cousin John Campbell, Earl of Aberdeen, Chairman; Our most dear Son and Councillor His Royal Highness Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Edinburgh, Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter, &c., Vice-Admiral in Our Fleet; Our right trusty and well beloved Councillor Joseph Chamberlain, President of the Board of Trade; Our trusty and well beloved Sir Charles Parker Butt, Knight, one of the Judges of the Probate, Divorce, and Admiralty Division of Our High Court of Justice; Our trusty and well beloved John Eldon Gorst, Esquire, one of Our Counsel Learned in the Law; Our trusty and well beloved Thomas Charles Baring, Esq.; Our trusty and well beloved Thomas Burt, Esquire; Our trusty and well beloved Henry Green, Esquire; Our trusty and well beloved James Kennedy, Esquire; Our trusty and well beloved James McGregor, Esquire; Our trusty and well beloved William Pearce,

Esquire; Our trusty and well beloved Lawrence Douglas Smith, Esquire; Our trusty and well beloved Leonard Charles Wakefield, Esquire; and Our trusty and well beloved William Walton, Esquire; greeting!

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire into the extent and cause of the loss of ships and lives at sea since the Report of Our Commission on Unseaworthy Ships, and to report on the remedies for such losses, having special but not exclusive regard to the following subjects, viz:—

The Laws concerning Marine Insurance and the Liability of Shipowners, the functions and administration of the Marine Department of the Board of Trade, the functions of the Courts before whom Wreck Inquiries are conducted, the condition and efficiency of Merchant Officers and Seamen, and the best means of improving the same:

Now know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your ability and discretion, have nominated, constituted, and appointed, and do by these presents nominate, constitute, and appoint you, the said John Campbell, Earl of Aberdeen, Chairman, together with you, Alfred Ernest Albert, Duke of Edinburgh, Joseph Chamberlain, Sir Charles Parker Butt, John Eldon Gorst, Thomas Charles Baring, Thomas Burt, Henry Green, James Kennedy, James McGregor, William Pearce, Lawrence Douglas Smith, Leonard Charles Wakefield, and William Walton to be Our Commissioners for the purpose aforesaid.

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do hereby authorize and empower you, or any five or more of you, to call before you, or any five or more of you, all such persons as you may judge most competent by reason of their situation, knowledge, or experience to afford you correct information on the matters herein submitted for your consideration, and every matter connected therewith, and also to call for, have access to, and examine all such books, documents, registers, and records, as you shall judge likely to afford you the fullest information on the subject of this Our Commission, and to enquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do further by these presents authorize and empower you, or any five or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places in Our United Kingdom as you may deem expedient for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid, and to employ such persons as you may