

the Lord Chamberlain at the Levees, in order that there may be no difficulty in announcing them to His Royal Highness.

LATHOM,
Lord Chamberlain.

Foreign Office, February 10, 1891.

THE Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. S. R. B. Centeno as Portuguese Consul-General in Bombay; of Mr. C. Pedrorena as Spanish Consul-General at Montreal; and of Mr. W. Burrell as Austrian Consul at Glasgow.

Whitehall, February 12, 1891.

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 well-beloved Councillor, Joseph Chamberlain, Chairman; Our right trusty and well-beloved John William, Baron Rayleigh; Our trusty and well-beloved Sir William Thomas Lewis, Knight; Our trusty and well-beloved Harold Baily Dixon, Esquire, Master of Arts, Professor of Chemistry and Metallurgy at the Owens College, Manchester; Our trusty and well-beloved Emerson Bainbridge, Esquire; and Our trusty and well-beloved Charles Fenwick, Esquire; Greeting!

Whereas it hath been represented unto Us that with respect to many large explosions which have taken place in coal mines it has not been sufficiently ascertained to what extent they were due to coal dust, and that the subject of danger from coal dust in mines requires further investigation:

And whereas we have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire into the effect of coal dust in originating or extending explosions in mines, whether by itself or in conjunction with fire-damp; and also to inquire whether there are any practicable means of preventing or mitigating any dangers that may arise from the presence of coal dust in mines:

Now know ye, that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have authorized and appointed, and do by these presents authorize and appoint, you, the said Joseph Chamberlain; John William, Baron Rayleigh; Sir William Thomas Lewis; Harold Baily Dixon; Emerson Bainbridge, and Charles Fenwick, to be Our Commissioners for the purposes of the said inquiry.

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do by these presents give and grant unto you, or any three or more of you, full power to call before you such persons as you may judge necessary by whom you may be the better informed of the matters herein submitted for your consideration and every matter connected therewith, and to inquire of and concerning the premises by the investigation of past explosions and by experiment, and by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever; and also to call for, have access to, and examine, all such books, documents, registers, and records as may afford you the fullest information on the subject.

And We do further by these presents authorize and empower you, or any three or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect, for the more

effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid, and to employ such persons as you may think fit to assist you in conducting any enquiry which you may hold.

And We do further by these Our presents will and 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 and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And We do further ordain that you or any three or more of you, have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time if you shall judge it expedient so to do.

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do, with as little delay as possible, report to Us under your hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of any three or more of you, your opinion upon the matters herein submitted for your consideration.

Given at Our Court at *Saint James's*, the ninth day of *February*, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one, in the fifty-fourth year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,
Henry Matthews.

Westminster, February 10, 1891.

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 an Act 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 Act, was read accordingly, and the Royal Assent given to

Tramways Order in Council (Ireland) (Atheury and Tuam Extension to Claremorris Railway) Confirmation Act, 1891.

Crown Office, February 13, 1891.

MEMBER returned to serve in the present
PARLIAMENT.

Borough of Northampton.

Moses Philip Manfield, Esq., in the place of Charles Bradlaugh, Esq., deceased.

Admiralty, 10th February, 1891.

IN accordance with the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of 15th September, 1887—

Chief Gunner James Hills has been granted the rank of Lieutenant, on retirement. Dated 10th February, 1891.

Gunner Dennis Sullivan has been promoted to the rank of Chief Gunner in Her Majesty's Fleet. Dated 10th February, 1891.

Admiralty, 11th February, 1891.

The promotion of Captain Charles Compton Rising to the rank of Rear-Admiral on the Retired List, announced in the London Gazette of the 27th January, 1891, is hereby cancelled, at his own request.