

*Commission signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Essex.*

Eliot Howard, Esq., to be Deputy Lieutenant.  
Dated 18th December, 1896.

#### RULES PUBLICATION ACT, 1893.

The following draft Rule of the Supreme Court is published pursuant to the above-mentioned Act. Copies of the draft may be obtained from the Permanent Secretary, Lord Chancellor's Office, House of Lords, S.W. :—

Order XXII, Rule 17A.

THE Rule of the Supreme Court, November, 1888 (as to Investment of Funds in Court), shall be read as if in the paragraph commencing "Nominal Debentures or Nominal Debenture Stock" there were inserted after the words "Local Loans Act, 1875," the words "or under the Isle of Man Loans Act, 1880."

#### TENDERS FOR LOANS ON TREASURY BILLS.

1. THE Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury hereby give notice that Tenders will be received at the Chief Cashier's Office, at the Bank of England, on Wednesday, the 30th instant, at one o'clock, for Treasury Bills to be issued under the Acts 40 Vic., cap. 2, and 52 Vic., cap. 6, to the amount of £1,000,000, in replacement of Bills falling due on the 4th January 1897.

2. The Bills will be in amounts of £1,000, £5,000, or £10,000. They will be dated the 4th January, 1897, and will be payable at three months, or six months, or twelve months, after date (at the option of the persons tendering); viz. :—on the 4th April or 4th July, 1897, or 4th January, 1898, respectively.

3. The Tenders must specify the net amount per cent. which will be given for the amounts applied for; and the Tenders of private individuals must be made through a London Banker.

4. The Bills will be issued and paid at the Bank of England.

5. The persons whose Tenders are accepted will be informed of the same on Thursday, the 31st instant, and payment in full of the amounts of the accepted Tenders must be made to the Bank of England not later than three o'clock, on Monday, the 4th proximo.

6. The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury reserve the right of rejecting any Tenders.

Treasury Chambers, December 18, 1896.

#### COAL MINES REGULATION ACT, 1896.

ORDER of the Secretary of State under section 6 :—

WHEREAS by section 6 of the "Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896," it is enacted that a Secretary of State, on being satisfied that any explosive is, or is likely to become, dangerous, may by order prohibit the use thereof in any mine or in any class of mines either absolutely or subject to conditions :

I hereby, in pursuance of the power conferred on me by the aforesaid section, make the following Order :—

##### *Absolute Prohibition of certain Explosives in Unsafe Mines.*

1. In all coal mines of the following classes, viz. :—

(1.) All coal mines in which inflammable gas

has been found within the previous six months;

and

(2.) All coal mines which are not naturally wet throughout,

on and after the 1st July, 1897, the use of any explosive, other than a permitted explosive, as hereinafter defined, is absolutely prohibited in the roads, and on and after the 1st January, 1898; the use of any explosive, other than a permitted explosive, is absolutely prohibited in every part of the mine.

##### *Conditional prohibition of other Explosives in Unsafe Mines.*

2. In all such coal mines as aforesaid, on and after the 1st day of January, 1898, the use of permitted explosives is prohibited unless the following conditions are observed :—

(a.) Every charge of the explosive shall be placed in a properly drilled shot hole and shall have sufficient stemming not in any case less than 9 inches :

(b.) The apparatus or method, whether electrical or otherwise, used to ignite the charge in the firing of any shot shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, be incapable of igniting inflammable gas or coal dust :

(c.) Every charge shall be fired by a competent person appointed in writing for this duty by the manager of the mine, and not being a contractor for any work in the mine involving the use of explosives, nor a person paid by such contractor, nor a person whose wages depend on the amount of mineral to be gotten :

(d.) Each explosive shall be used in the manner and subject to the conditions prescribed in the Schedule hereto, or in any Schedule substituted therefor by any future Order :

Provided that nothing in this Order shall prohibit the use of a safety fuze in any mine in which no inflammable gas has been found within the previous six months.

##### *Conditional Prohibition of all Explosives in Main Roads.*

3. In every coal mine on and after the 1st day of July, 1897, the use of any explosive is prohibited in the main haulage roads and in the main intakes unless the following condition is observed, viz. :—That all workmen have been removed from the seam in which the shot is to be fired and from all seams communicating with the shaft on the same level, except the men engaged in firing the shot, and such other persons, not exceeding ten in number, as are necessarily employed in attending to the ventilating furnaces, steam boilers, engines, machinery, winding apparatus, signals, or horses, or in inspecting the mine.

##### *Application of Order.*

4. This Order shall not apply to mines of clay, or stratified ironstone, nor to shafts in course of being sunk from the surface.

Where a mine contains several separate seams this Order shall apply to each seam as if it were a separate mine: provided that several seams communicating with the shaft at the same level shall be deemed to be one seam.

##### *Definitions.*

5. In this Order the term "permitted explosives" means such explosives as are named and defined in the schedule hereto or in any schedule substituted therefor by any future Order: provided that where the composition, quality or character of any explosive is defined in such schedule, any article alleged to be such explosive