

The next step was the removal of the collections to South Kensington, and their installation in the present buildings.

This was largely due to the instrumentality of Your Majesty's Illustrious and Lamented Consort, who, as Chairman of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851, proposed that the surplus of £150,000 should be expended on the purchase of land to be devoted to Institutions for promoting Science and Art.

By the co-operation of Parliament, an estate of 88 acres was procured, and the Museum erected, which was opened by Your Majesty, accompanied by the Prince Consort, on June 22nd, 1857, and has since been declared to be under Your Majesty's "special and personal protection."

Upon the benefits conferred by such an Institution on the various industries, to which Art is a handmaid it is unnecessary to dwell. They have been abundantly recognized by the manufacturers of this country, and the testimony and imitation of our principal competitors abroad.

By the unexampled bounty of private donors and the liberality of Parliament the collections have increased so enormously, and the educational functions of the Museum, in connection with local ancillary institutions have been so widely extended, that the task of completing the building could no longer be delayed with safety to its contents or proper arrangements for their exhibition, and Your Majesty is now asked to take the initial step towards housing them in a manner which shall be adequate for their accommodation, and worthy, from an architectural point of view, of the priceless value and importance of the objects themselves.

In praying Your Majesty to associate yourself with this, the crowning act of a long series of beneficent labours for the peaceful progress and industrial enlightenment of Your people, and to give the Museum a name that shall commemorate the august influences by which it was established and fostered, it is our earnest hope that, when complete, it may for successive generations witness to the silent yet persuasive supremacy of those educational and moral forces the growth of which has so emphatically signalized the long and prosperous reign of our most gracious Sovereign.

To which Address Her Majesty was pleased to return the following Most Gracious Answer:—

"I THANK you for your Loyal and Dutiful Address.

"It is a great pleasure to Me to be here to lay the Foundation Stone of the Building which will worthily contain the magnificent Collection of objects illustrating the Fine and Industrial Arts which have been brought together on this site during the period of My Reign.

"My interest in this great Institution, which, in its inception and during its early days, I shared with My dear Husband, has grown with its progress and development; and I rejoice that I have been able to take a personal part in the completion of a Scheme which will be not the least Distinction of My Reign, and which will, I trust, continue to be a powerful factor in the industrial enlightenment and the artistic training of My people.

"I am pleased that the priceless Collection of treasures which the munificence of private persons and the Public Spirit of Parliament have brought together will always be associated with My name and My dear Husband's. In compliance with your Prayer, I gladly direct that in future this Institution shall be styled 'the Victoria

and Albert Museum'; and I trust that it will remain for ages a Monument of discerning Liberality and a Source of Refinement and Progress."

Privy Council Office, May 19, 1899.

MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1894.

NOTICE is hereby given that, after the expiration of forty days from the date hereof, it is proposed to submit to Her Majesty in Council, in pursuance of the above-mentioned Act, the draft of an Order in Council approving certain Pilotage Bye-laws made by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the City of Bristol.

And notice is hereby further given that, in accordance with the provisions of the Rules Publication Act, 1893, copies of the proposed draft Order in Council can be obtained by any public body, within forty days of the date of this notice, at the Privy Council Office, Whitehall.

Foreign Office, May 8, 1899.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint—

Richard Ponsonby Maxwell, Esq., to be an Acting Secretary of Legation in Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service; and

Ronald James Hamilton, Esq., to be an Acting Second Secretary in Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service.

Admiralty, 15th May, 1899.

Royal Naval Reserve.

Sub-Lieutenant Herbert Gordon Hill Lewellin to be Lieutenant. Dated 12th May, 1899.

Admiralty, 16th May, 1899.

Clerk Ernest William Spencer Pellowe has been promoted to the rank of Assistant-Paymaster in Her Majesty's Fleet. Dated 10th April, 1899.

Admiralty, 17th May, 1899.

IN accordance with the provisions of Her Majesty's Orders in Council of 22nd February, 1870, 30th April, 1877, and 26th February, 1897—

Fleet Engineer Edward Robert Vine has been placed on the Retired List, with permission to assume the rank of Inspector of Machinery. Dated 5th May, 1899.

Royal Naval Reserve.

Acting Sub-Lieutenant Reginald Hasler Browne has been confirmed in the rank of Sub-Lieutenant. Dated 1st April, 1896.

Admiralty, 18th May, 1899.

Captain William Henry May, M.V.O., has been appointed Naval Aide-de-Camp to Her Majesty, in place of the late Captain John Pakenham Phipps, C.B., C.M.G. Dated 7th May, 1899.

Commander George John Scott Warrander has been promoted to the rank of Captain in Her Majesty's Fleet. Dated 13th May, 1899.

War Office, Pall Mall,

19th May, 1899.

The undermentioned Officers to be Second Lieutenants. Dated 20th May, 1899:—

2nd Dragoon Guards, Lieutenant Dulas Bentley Parry, from 4th Battalion the Connaught Rangers, in succession to Lieutenant M. S. B. Gubbins, resigned.