

*Chancery of the Royal Victorian Order,
St. James's Palace, August 11, 1905.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to make the following promotions in, and appointments to, the Royal Victorian Order, on the occasion of the visit of the French Fleet:—

To be Honorary Member of the Fourth Class :

Captain Henri Maurice, Baron Mercier de Lostende, Naval Attaché to the French Embassy in London.

To be Knights Grand Cross :

Admiral Sir Arthur Knyvet Wilson, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., V.C., Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Fleet.

Admiral Sir Archibald Lucius Douglas, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth.

To be Knight Commander :

Vice-Admiral Sir Arthur William Moore, K.C.B., C.M.G., Second in Command of the Channel Fleet.

To be Commanders :

Rear-Admiral Sir Richard Poore, Bart.

Rear-Admiral Robert Leonard Groome, Rear-Admiral Commanding the Reserve Division, Portsmouth.

Rear-Admiral Henry Deacon Barry, Admiral Superintendent of His Majesty's Dockyard, Portsmouth.

Rear-Admiral George Neville, M.V.O., Commanding First Cruiser Squadron.

Commodore Spencer Henry Metcalfe Login, Ad.C.

To be Members of the Fourth Class :

Captain Edward Eden Bradford, R.N., Chief of the Staff of the Channel Fleet.

Captain Frederick Robert William Morgan, R.N., Naval Attaché to the British Embassy in Paris.

Captain Henry Francis Oliver, R.N., Commanding His Majesty's ship "Mercury."

Captain Richard Fortescue Phillimore, R.N., Flag Captain, Portsmouth.

Whitehall, August 4, 1905.

The following Address was presented to His Majesty on the occasion of the opening by Their Majesties, on Saturday, the 15th July, of the Homes for Officers' Widows and Daughters, at Queen Alexandra's Court, Wimbledon:—

To the King's and Queen's Most Excellent Majesties.

May it please Your Majesties,

I am deputed by the Committee especially appointed for this work to express our humble and grateful thanks to Your Majesties for Your gracious presence here this afternoon, to open these Homes for the Widows and Daughters of Your Majesty's Naval and Military Forces, who have been left with but scanty provision for their maintenance.

The great need for such Homes was little known or realized, when, five years ago, twelve ladies were temporarily provided for in apartments, rent free, in Chelsea, by a member of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association and his friends.

The extension of the scheme, its present location, and the buildings now erected for sixty ladies and their families, is largely due to Your Majesties' never-failing sympathy and personal

support in everything connected with the well-being of all ranks of the Services.

Her Majesty—knowing the benefits already derived by the twelve ladies referred to, of their testimony to the relief to their very small incomes, from the payment of rent, rates, and taxes—most graciously devoted the Coronation Gift of ten thousand pounds, presented to Her Majesty by Mr. Lucas Tooth, to the extension of the scheme; as also, subsequently, making a grant of five thousand pounds from the balance of Her Majesty's private War Fund.

Further, through Her Majesty's interest, a sum of ten thousand pounds was obtained from the part balance of a Fund specially subscribed during the late War for the families of Officers.

With Her Majesty's support, and that of other contributors, we are glad to be able to inform Your Majesties that the buildings now erected, and the freehold property of three acres and a half on which they stand, have all been paid for, and that we start these Homes clear of any debt or liability, the upkeep being provided for by Annual Subscriptions, chiefly of Officers on the active and retired lists.

If evidence were wanted as to the necessity for such provision and the benefits conferred, it is found in the number of further applications (now over one hundred and daily increasing) for admission to the Homes, and Your Majesties' presence here this afternoon is not only a gracious recognition and approval of what, so far, we have been permitted, by God's help, to accomplish; but will also, we trust, be an incentive to others to come forward, either with laud, donations or subscriptions, to extend the scheme for the benefit to so many more, most of whom will otherwise pass the remainder of their years in surroundings of peculiar hardship for ladies of their position.

James Gildea, Chairman.

To which Address His Majesty was pleased to return the following gracious Answer:—

"I thank you heartily for your Address.

"It has given the Queen and Myself great pleasure to come here to-day to open these Homes. The excellent work done by this Institution in assisting the widows and daughters of those who have served in My Navy and Army has always had Our most cordial sympathy. The Queen desires Me to thank you for your references to the help which She was enabled to give towards the extension of this work, and to say that She observes with special satisfaction its continued growth and its present sound position.

"I congratulate you on the success which you have attained, and I trust that your efforts, which have already borne such good fruit, may receive the support needed for the continuance and the desired development of your work."

Whitehall, August 4, 1905.

The following Addresses were presented to His Majesty, on the occasion of His Majesty's visit to Chatham, on Wednesday, July 26, to unveil the Royal Engineers' South African War Memorial Arch and open the Royal Naval Hospital:—

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty,

We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of the City of Rochester, desire to offer to Your