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FRIDAY, 10 DECEMBER, 1920.

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 3rd day of December, 1920.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS there was this day read at the Board a Memorial from the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, dated the 9th day of November, 1920 (N.P. (2) 2725/20), in the words following, viz.:—

ing, viz.:--"Whereas by Section 3 of the Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions Act, 1865, it is enacted, *inter alia*, that all pay, pensions, and other allowances in the nature thereof, payable in respect of services in Your Majesty's Naval or Marine Force to a person being or having been an Officer, Seaman, or Marine therein, shall be paid in such manner, and subject to such restrictions, conditions, and provisions as are from time to time directed by Order in Council:

"And whereas Your Majesty was graciously pleased by Your Order in Council bearing date the 25th day of March, 1920, to sanction the grant of Gratuities to men of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Royal Naval Reserve, and Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, who have served during the present war, in respect of such service; and similarly to men of Colour entered under Naval Non-Continuous Service Engagements, provided they were borne on Ships' Books on the 1st December, 1919: "And whereas we are of opinion that

"And whereas we are of opinion that Native Ratings who served during the war under similar conditions, but were discharged prior to the 1st December, 1919, are equally deserving of this reward: "We beg leave humbly to recommend that

"We beg leave humbly to recommend that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased, by Your Order in Council, to sanction the payment to such Native Ratings of Gratuities on the prescribed scale, and subject to the same conditions.

"The Lords Commissioners of Your Majesty's Treasury have signified their concurrence in these proposals."

His Majesty, having taken the said Memorial into consideration, was pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to approve of what is therein proposed.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

Almeric FitzRoy.