



The Edinburgh Gazette.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1851.

FOREIGN OFFICE, December 4, 1851.

THE Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint John Augustus Lloyd, Esq. to be Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires and Consul-General to the Republic of Bolivia.

MERCHANT SEAMEN'S FUND.

Board of Trade, Naval Department,
December 8, 1851.

Notice is hereby given, that the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have, in pursuance of the Act for winding up the Merchant Seamen's Fund, 14 and 15 Vict., c. 102, issued the following Rules:—

T. H. FARRER, Secretary.

RULES for contributions to the Merchant Seamen's Fund, and for the granting of Pensions from that Fund.

To come into operation on the 1st January 1852.

Contributions to the Fund.

1. All Masters and Seamen who have contributed to the fund before the 8th August 1851, may, if they choose so to do, continue to contribute; but those who did not contribute before that day cannot now contribute or establish any claim upon the fund.

2. All future contributions are to be paid to the shipping masters appointed under the Mercantile Marine Act.

3. In the case of men who are discharged before a shipping master, the contributions are to be paid at the time of the discharge, and are to be proportioned to the length of the voyage, reckoning from the day of signing articles to the day of discharge inclusive, and are to be after the following rates, viz:—

- (a.) For a Seaman,
 - 1s. for each calendar month of the voyage or engagement, and for any broken period of a month exceeding 20 days;
 - 6d. for any broken period of a month exceeding 10 and not exceeding 20 days;
 - 4d. for any broken period of a month not exceeding 10 days;
- (b.) For a Master,
 - Double the above rates.

4. In the case of men who are not discharged before a shipping master, the contributions may be paid to any shipping master before whom the contributors may find it convenient to attend, and may be paid to him at such times as may be fixed by him. These contributions are to be after the following rates, viz:—

- (a.) For a Seaman,
 - 8s. for one year;
 - 6s. for nine calendar months;
 - 4s. for six calendar months;
 - 2s. for three calendar months;

- (b.) For a Master,
 - Double the above rates.

These contributions must be paid quarterly in advance.

5. In the case of Foreign-going ships which arrive after the 1st January 1852, having commenced the voyage before that day, the contribution will be payable for the whole period of the voyage, according to Rule 3 above. In the case of Home-trade ships, no contribution will be payable for the period intervening between the 8th August 1851 and the 1st January 1852.

6. If a contributor serves for part of any one year in Foreign-going ships, and the remainder of the year in Home-trade ships, he is to pay as follows:—If he contributes 8s. or upwards whilst in Foreign-going ships no further contributions will be required. If he contributes less than 8s. whilst in Foreign-going ships, the sum which he pays in such ships is to be reckoned as a portion of the 8s. or 16s. as the case may be, which he would, if serving all the year in Home-trade ships, have had to contribute, and, upon payment of the balance, his contribution for the year is to be considered complete.

7. Any man who has once contributed as Master, or who once contributes as Master after the 1st January 1852, may continue to contribute thenceforth as Master, and establish a Master's claim on the fund, although acting as a Seaman; but if, after once contributing as Master he ceases so to do, and contributes as a Seaman, he will not be entitled to claim as a Master.

8. If any Master or Seaman for three consecutive years previous to the termination of his service at sea, fails to pay any contribution to the fund, he will no longer be allowed to contribute, and will forfeit all claim upon the fund, whatever his previous contributions may have been.