

and, at the same time to ensure, that all persons warranted as Masters in His Majesty's Navy, be men of experience and judgment.

That no person shall be warranted as Master, until the number of Masters on the list be reduced below the number of ships on the list of the navy (exclusive of such as are building, and have not been launched), and that no more Masters shall be ever appointed, than the number of such ships at the time that any appointment of Master is to be made.

That no person shall be allowed to pass an examination touching his qualifications to serve as Master in the Royal Navy before he shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, or after the age of thirty-five years, and have been at least seven years at sea, two of which must have been served in His Majesty's Navy in the quality of Acting Master by order, Second Master, Master's-Mate, or Midshipman, or being within the aforesaid ages, and having served seven years at sea, shall have actually been one year or more Chief-Mate, and two years Master, or two years Chief-Mate, and one year Master of a merchant ship; and shall produce certificates of diligence, sobriety, and good conduct, from the owners, for the time he served as Master, and from the Owners and Master for the time he served as Mate.

That no Master shall be permitted to pass his examination for a higher rate, until he shall have served one complete year in a ship in commission, under his last qualification. J. W. CROKER.

REGULATIONS IN RESPECT TO THE HALF-PAY, APPOINTMENT, AND RANK, OF PURSERS OF THE ROYAL NAVY.

Admiralty-Office, July 26, 1814.

HIS Royal Highness the Prince Regent having been graciously pleased to approve of certain regulations proposed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, for the encouragement and reward of Pursers of the Royal Navy, and for regulating the appointment, and fixing the rank of this useful and deserving class of Officers: Notice is hereby given, that the following regulations have been established by Order in Council, dated the 23d instant; and that orders have been in consequence given for the immediate discharge of all Pursers from ships in ordinary and the cheque of the several yards.

I. That Pursers of the Royal Navy, instead of being considered as *standing* Warrant Officers of His Majesty's ships, and borne in ships in ordinary, or on the cheque of the several dock-yards for personal pay and allowances of provisions, as at present, shall, when the ships to which they are warranted may be paid off, be immediately discharged, and allowed in lieu of their present wages and provisions, half-pay according to the following scale, viz.

To the first 100 Pursers on the Seniority List, 5s. per diem.

The next 200, 4s. per diem.

The remainder, 3s. per diem

The said half-pay of Pursers shall commence from the 1st of July instant, and be subject to the same regulations and restrictions as the half-pay of the Commissioned Officers of His Majesty's fleet, and be allowed to all Pursers, who shall have been five years in His Majesty's service, either as Clerk or Purser, from the day on which their respective ships may be put out of commission.

That all pursers coming on half-pay shall report themselves to this Office, without loss of time, in order to be placed on the Quarterly half-pay Lists, on pain of forfeiting the half-pay for the time not reported.

II.—In order to prevent any improvident or unnecessary increase of the number of Pursers, and at the same time to ensure the appointment of such persons only as may be duly qualified for the duties of the situation, no person shall be warranted as purser, until the number of Pursers be reduced below the number of ships on the list of the Royal Navy, (exclusive of such as are building, and have not been launched), and that hereafter the number of Pursers shall never exceed the number of such ships.

That no person shall be appointed a Purser who shall be less than twenty-one, or more than thirty-five years of age.

That no person shall be appointed a Purser of any of His Majesty's ships, unless he have been rated as, and actually discharged the duty of, Captain's clerk in one or more of His Majesty's ships for two complete years; or has discharged the said duty of Captain's Clerk for one complete year, and the duty of Clerk to the Secretary of a Flag-Officer for one other year; and shall, in every case, produce a certificate of his good conduct, pass the usual examination, and give such security for an honest and faithful discharge of his duty, as may from time to time be required.

That no person shall be capable of being appointed to a fourth or fifth rate, who shall not have been two years a Warranted Purser on the list, nor to a first, second, or third rate, till he shall have been five years on the list of Warranted Pursers.

III.—In order to give a greater respectability to the situation of this class of Officers, His Royal Highness has been graciously pleased to confer on Pursers of the Royal Navy the same rank as granted by His Majesty's Order in Council of the 25th of January 1805, to the Surgeons of the Fleet.

J. W. CROKER.

Royal Marine Pay-Office, No. 29, Parliament-Street, August 2, 1814.

PURSUANT to the directions of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the Paymaster of His Majesty's Royal Marine Forces hereby gives notice, that on Wednesday next will be issued at this Office, six months half-pay due to the Reduced Officers of the said Forces from the 1st of January to the 30th June 1814, inclusive.

N. B. No affidavit with any erasure or interlineation will be accepted from any person whatsoever.