

3. The intention of a foreign sovereign to confer upon a British subject the insignia of an Order, must be notified to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, either through the British minister accredited at the court of such foreign sovereign, or through his minister accredited at the court of Her Majesty.

4. If the service for which it is proposed to confer the Order has been performed during war, the notification required by the preceding clause must be made not later than two years after the exchange of the ratifications of a Treaty of Peace.

If the service has been performed in time of peace, the notification must be made within two years after the date of such service.

5. After such notification shall have been received, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs shall, if the case comes within the conditions prescribed by the present regulations, and arises from naval or military services before the enemy, refer it to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the War Department, previously to taking Her Majesty's pleasure thereupon, in order to ascertain whether there be any objection to Her Majesty's permission being granted.

A similar reference shall also be made to the Commander-in-chief, if the application relates to an officer in the Army, or to the Lords of the Admiralty, if it relates to an officer in the Navy.

6. When Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs shall have taken the Queen's pleasure on any such application, and shall have obtained Her Majesty's permission for the person in whose favour it has been made to accept the Foreign Order, and wear the insignia thereof, he shall signify the same to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, in order that he may cause the Warrant required by clause 1 to be prepared for the Royal Sign Manual.

When such Warrant shall have been signed by the Queen, a notification thereof shall be inserted in the Gazette, stating the service for which the Foreign Order has been conferred.

7. The Warrant signifying Her Majesty's permission, may, at the request and at the expense of the person who has obtained it, be registered in the College of Arms.

8. Every such Warrant as aforesaid shall contain a clause providing that Her Majesty's licence and permission do not authorize the assumption of any style, appellation, rank, precedence, or privilege appertaining to a Knight Bachelor of Her Majesty's realms.

9. When a British subject has received the Royal permission to accept a Foreign Order, he will at any future time be allowed to accept the decoration of a higher class of the same Order, to which he may have become eligible by increase of rank in the foreign service, or in the service of his own country; or any other distinctive mark of honour strictly consequent upon the acceptance of the original Order, and common to every person upon whom such Order is conferred.

10. The preceding clause shall not be taken to apply to decorations of the Guelphic Order which were bestowed on British subjects by Her Majesty's predecessors, King George IV and King William IV, on whose heads the crowns of Great Britain and of Hanover were united.

Decorations so bestowed cannot properly be considered as rewards granted by a foreign

sovereign for services rendered according to the purport of clause 2 of these regulations. They must be rather considered as personal favours bestowed on British subjects by British Sovereigns, and as having no reference to services rendered to the foreign crown of Hanover.

Regulations respecting Foreign Medals.

1. Application for permission to accept and wear medals which, not being the decoration of any foreign Order, are conferred by a foreign sovereign on British subjects in the Army or in the Navy for military or for naval services, should be addressed, as the case may be, to the Commander-in-chief, the Master-General of the Ordnance, or the Lords of the Admiralty, who, if they see fit, may submit the same to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for Her Majesty's sanction; upon obtaining which, they may grant such permission without any other formality.

2. Permission to wear a foreign medal cannot be granted to a British subject, unless such medal is bestowed for military or naval services performed by the command or with the sanction of Her Majesty. But no permission is necessary for accepting a foreign medal, if such medal is not to be worn.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

Foreign Office, May 10, 1855.

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
May 12, 1855.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations have issued the following Notice on the subject of Examinations for Certificates of Masters and Mates, under the provisions of the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1854," and also as to Voluntary Examinations in Steam.

NOTICE OF EXAMINATIONS of Masters and Mates of "Foreign-going Ships," and of "Home Trade Passenger Ships," and of Voluntary Examinations in Steam.

1. UNDER the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1854, no "Foreign-going Ship*" or "Home Trade Passenger Ship*" can obtain a clearance or transire, or legally proceed to sea, from any port in the United Kingdom unless the Master thereof, and in the case of a Foreign-going Ship the First and Second Mates or Only Mate (as the case may be), and in the case of a "Home Trade Passenger Ship," the First or Only Mate (as the case may be), have obtained and possess valid Certificates, either of Competency or Service, appropriate to their several stations in such ship, or of a higher grade; and no such ship, if of one hundred tons burden or upwards, can legally proceed to sea unless at least one officer besides the Master has obtained and possesses a

* By a "Foreign-going Ship" is meant one which is bound to some place out of the United Kingdom beyond the limits included between the River Elbe and Brest; and by a "Home Trade Passenger Ship" is meant any Home Trade Ship employed in carrying Passengers; and it is to be observed that *Foreign Steam Ships when employed in carrying Passengers between Places in the United Kingdom* are subject to all the Provisions of the Act, as regards Certificates of Masters and Mates, to which British Steam Ships are subject (s. 291).