

force-pump is also to be provided for the purpose of throwing water in all directions.

4. An examining room is to be provided for each magazine, which is to be situated on the deck, with strengthened flooring below it; and it is to be used for no other purpose than for shifting powder, and heading-up or unheading the barrels. Magazine shoes are to be worn in this room.

5. The owners of each magazine are to appoint a storekeeper, in whose charge the magazine is to be placed, and who is to be bound, together with two competent sureties, to such owners in the sum of £1,000 for the proper execution of his duty, to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State, and he is to be responsible for any assistant storekeeper or storekeepers he (the storekeeper) may appoint. He is also to appoint all workmen and boatmen required for this service, who are to be examined before they begin their work, and strict surveillance is to be exercised over them during the performance of their duty to see that they are perfectly sober and well conducted.

6. No lights (except the signal one, and a second for the watch, which is to have water under it, and a temporary light in an approved hand-lantern, to be brought from the shore for the purpose of lighting the signal and light for the watch, and then to be extinguished), also no fires or smoking, are to be allowed, and under no pretence whatsoever is any lucifer match to be permitted on board; and to guard against the infringement of this order, the clothes with pockets in them are to be taken off in the changing-room, or examined before beginning the work.

7. The storekeeper or other person in charge is not to allow more than one powder vessel on each side of the magazine at the same time, and he is to provide good and suitable boats, duly licensed, for conveying the powder to and from the magazine.

8. No barrel containing gunpowder is to be received or placed in these magazines unless it be free from grit and well coopered. No defective barrel is to be taken into the magazine; and no barrel is to be received having any other hoops than those of wood or copper, or having any other metal in or about it.

9. Great care is to be taken in sweeping up the loose gunpowder, and, on the appearance of an approaching thunder storm or of lightning, all the ports and doors are to be closed.

10. All powder vessels bringing gunpowder are, before entering the Mersey, to hoist a red flag, which is to be kept up until the whole of the powder is discharged, and before approaching the magazines, all fires are to be completely extinguished, and they are not to be relighted until the vessel is moved a quarter of a mile off; and the respective owners of each magazine are to be responsible for their respective vessels bringing powder from their works being provided with the red flag, and for its being hoisted at all times when their vessels have powder on board on the Mersey. All vessels coming to receive powder from the magazines are to extinguish their fires and lights before they arrive within a distance of a quarter of a mile from the magazines, and are to keep them extinguished while within that distance.

11. The owners of each magazine, storekeeper, and assistant-storekeepers are to be responsible for the due examination of the vessels before they are warped alongside, either by themselves or by a competent person of the powder establishment.

12. No boats but those belonging to the storekeeper, excepting boats of ships bringing powder, part of ship's stores to be deposited, or the boat conveying the inspecting officer, are to be allowed

to go alongside the powder vessel, nor is any boat to be allowed to communicate with any vessel or vessels which are receiving or discharging powder alongside the powder vessel.

13. On the approach of a steamer, the officer in charge of the working party in the vessel or vessels alongside the magazines will, if he deem it necessary, direct the hatches of the vessels to be covered with a material provided for the purpose, the hatches to remain covered until the same officer shall direct the removal of the coverings. The order to cover the hatches will depend on the proximity of the steamer, and the direction and force of the wind, but under any conditions they should be covered, should the steamer approach within 100 yards.

14. The same precautions as above will be observed in regard to the magazines by closing the ports.

15. A bright light is to be placed in each of the magazines every night, in such a position as is customary for signal lights, and two men are to be placed in each magazine for further security as a watch.

16. No powder is to be received or issued at the magazines, unless the storekeeper or assistant-storekeepers be present.

17. All persons, of whatsoever degree of rank, employed in the receipt, issue, or custody of powder at the magazines, are to point out to all concerned any proceeding which may have a tendency to cause danger.

18. The inspecting officer, appointed by the Secretary of State, is empowered to enforce these regulations, and is at all times to have access to the magazines.

19. The storekeeper or assistant storekeepers are to report to the inspecting officer any deviation from these rules and regulations which may occur, as well as any other circumstances affecting the security, especially as regards the due efficiency of the mooring chains and tackle.

20. An account of the receipts and issues is to be kept, either on board the magazines, respectively by the storekeepers or assistant storekeepers, or at the storekeeper's office in Liverpool, in a day journal, which journal is to be open to the examination of the inspecting officer at any time, and such officer is empowered to make such extracts as he may think proper.

21. Any vessel used as a magazine for gunpowder must be moored so as to swing inside that portion of the site set apart by the Admiralty in 1851 which is marked by red dotted lines in the Chart Appendix H. of the Report of the Admiralty Committee in August, 1881.

22. The maximum quantity of gunpowder to be stored in any one vessel used as a magazine shall not exceed at any one time 200,000 lbs., and all the gunpowder so stored shall be below the level of the surrounding water.

23. The distance between each vessel used for the storage of gunpowder shall be such as will afford a reasonable security against communicated explosion, which, in the case of vessels containing 200,000 lbs. of gunpowder, should not be less than 200 yards.

Printed copies of these regulations are to be placed in such places in the powder vessels as the inspecting officer may direct, and are to be renewed so often as it may be necessary to insure their being always perfectly legible.

By order of the Secretary of State for War,

Ralph Thompson.