



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1899.

War Office, March 17, 1899.

THE name of Captain and Brevet Major H. S. Walker, Scottish Rifles, should be added to the list of Officers whose services in the Northern Territories of the Gold Coast were brought to notice in the Colonial Office letter of February 22, 1899, published in the London Gazette of March 7, 1899, as deserving of special recognition.

Whitehall, March 16, 1899.

THE Queen has been pleased to appoint Major-General Michael Henry Seward, R.A., to be Lieutenant-Governor of the Island of Guernsey, in the room of General Nathaniel Stevenson, whose period of service has expired.

SCALE AND REGULATIONS issued by the Admiralty and Board of Trade under the Merchant Shipping (Mercantile Marine Fund) Act, 1898, for the grant of Money Allowances to Shipowners in respect of "Boy Sailors."

I. An allowance equal to 20 per cent. of the Light Dues paid in any one year in respect of any one vessel will be granted at the end of each financial year (during which the vessel must have been not less than nine months with Articles of Agreement running) to the then owner of that vessel, provided it carries on each voyage "Boy Sailors" according to the following scale:—
 Under 500 tons net ... 1 boy,
 500 and under 1,000 tons net 2 boys,
 1,000 and under 2,000 tons net 3 boys,
 and an additional boy for every 1,000 tons or portion of 1,000 tons net.

NOTE.—Any vessel, no matter what its tonnage, carrying six Boy Sailors shall be entitled to the maximum allowance of 20 per cent. of the Light Dues paid.

II. The owner of a vessel who has employed a smaller number of boys than that required by the scale for a vessel of its tonnage will be granted an allowance as if the vessel had been of the maximum tonnage of vessels for which that number of boys is assigned in the scale, e.g., if a vessel of 1,950 tons carries two boys, the owner will receive an allowance calculated as if her tonnage was 999 tons; and when a boy's period of service commences or terminates otherwise than at the commencement or termination of a financial year, a proportionate allowance may, if the Board

of Trade are satisfied as to the circumstances, be granted in respect of such period.

III. In order that the allowance may be obtained, each "Boy Sailor" must—

- (1.) be a British subject (not being a Lascar), able to speak and understand English;
- (2.) be enrolled in a Special Class of the Naval Reserve, to be called the "Probationer" Class, and undertake to join the "Seaman" Class Reserve under the Reserve Volunteer Force Act, 1859 (22 and 23 Vict., c. 40), as soon as qualified;
- (3.) be over 15 and under 18 years of age at time of first enrolment;
- (4.) be a deck hand;

N.B.—No allowance will be granted in respect of any paying apprentices or midshipmen carried with a view to being trained to become certificated officers, nor in respect of boys carried as Mess Room Stewards either in the Engineers' or Stewards' Department. This is not, however, to be understood as directed against the advancement of any boy sailor to any rank for which he may qualify himself.

IV. A boy will not be medically examined prior to enrolment unless he appears to the Superintendent of a Mercantile Marine Office to be undersized as regards both height and chest measurement, or to be weakly and apparently unfit for sea life.

NOTE.—The cost of the examination will be paid out of voted monies.

V. Boys enrolled in this Special Class will not be liable to be "called out." They will not be called upon to attend drill until they have passed into the "Seaman" Class Reserve, and will not be paid retainers or receive uniform.

NOTE.—Probationers will be eligible for advancement to the "Seaman" Class when they reach the age of 18 years, provided they have followed a seafaring life for two years. The advantages offered are as follows:—

- (1.) Each man enrolled in the "Seaman" Class will receive £3 5s. a year as a retainer, two suits of clothes during his five years' engagement, and whilst on drill 2s. 9d. a day, drill pay and allowances.
- (2.) As soon as he has performed 28 days' drill, he will, if favourably reported upon, be allowed to commence 6 months' Naval Training, upon the satisfactory completion of which he will be advanced to the "Qualified Seaman" Class at the age of 20,