

point seawards to which such channels or approaches respectively, are, for the time being, buoyed on both sides.

And whereas the said Mersey Docks and Harbour Board have applied to Her Majesty in Council to make, and have submitted for approval, certain new rules concerning lights and signals to be carried, and the steps for avoiding collision to be taken, by vessels navigating the River Mersey and the sea channels or approaches thereto within certain specified limits, to be substituted for and in lieu of the rules set forth in the Schedule to the said recited Order in Council of the thirteenth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, and in such new rules there are embodied, subject to certain exceptions and additions therein mentioned, the "Regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea," made in pursuance of the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1894," and which may from time to time be in force.

And whereas the provisions of section one of "The Rules Publication Act, 1893," have been complied with.

And whereas the new rules so submitted as aforesaid appear to be reasonable and proper.

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue of the powers in Her vested by the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1894," and by the "Mersey Channels Act, 1897," and of any other powers Her thereunto enabling, and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to declare that the said Order in Council of the thirteenth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, shall, as from the seventeenth day of September, one thousand nine hundred, be revoked, and Her Majesty is further pleased to make the rules set forth in the Schedule hereto, and to direct that the same shall continue in operation as from the said seventeenth day of September, one thousand nine hundred.

A. W. FitzRoy.

SCHEDULE.

RULES concerning the Lights or Signals to be carried, and concerning the steps for avoiding collision to be taken, by vessels navigating the River Mersey and the Sea Channels or approaches thereto, between the Rock Lighthouse and the furthest point seawards to which such Sea Channels or approaches respectively are for the time being buoyed on both sides.

1. Every vessel, of whatever description, used in navigation, when in any part of the River Mersey, or in the Sea Channels or approaches thereto as above defined shall, on and after the seventeenth day of September, one thousand nine hundred, observe and obey the "Regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea," made in pursuance of the "Merchant Shipping Act, 1894," hereinafter called "the General Regulations," which may from time to time be in force, with the exceptions and additions mentioned in the following Rules.

2. A vessel when lying at any stage shall carry the lights prescribed by Articles 2 and 5 of the General Regulations and Rule 5 hereof.

3. A vessel being towed shall, in addition to the lights prescribed by Article 5 of the General Regulations, carry the white light at her stern prescribed by Rule 5 hereof, and if such vessel is a steam vessel with steam up she shall, although being towed, also carry the masthead light prescribed by Article 2 (a), and may carry the

additional light allowed by Article 2 (e) of the General Regulations.

4. (a) A steam vessel when towing another vessel or vessels or when attached for the purpose of towing or manœuvring such vessel or vessels, shall carry the compulsory lights prescribed by Article 3 of the General Regulations, and such steam vessel when towing or attached as aforesaid to a vessel of four hundred and fifty feet or upwards in length shall carry the additional bright white light prescribed by the said Article 3.

(b) Further, a steam vessel when towing or attached as aforesaid shall carry abaft the funnel or after-mast a small white light fixed and carried in a lantern so constructed, fitted and screened that it shall throw an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of twelve points of the compass, viz., for six points from right aft on each side of the vessel, and such steam vessel if less than one hundred and sixty feet in length shall not carry the stern light prescribed by Rule 5 hereof, but if she is one hundred and sixty feet or upwards in length she may carry such stern light.

The length of a vessel shall be deemed to be the length appearing in her certificate of registry.

5. In lieu of Article 10 of the General Regulations, a vessel under way shall carry at her stern a white light. The light shall be fixed and carried in a lantern so constructed, fitted and screened that it shall throw an unbroken light over an arc of the horizon of twelve points of the compass, viz., for six points from right aft on each side of the vessel, so as to be visible at a distance of at least a mile. Such light shall be carried as nearly as practicable on the same level as the side lights.

Provided that a vessel within Article 7 of the General Regulations (viz., steam vessels of less than forty, and vessels under oars or sails of less than twenty, tons gross tonnage respectively, and rowing boats), shall not be obliged to carry the light prescribed by this Rule, but if they do not carry such light they shall, when being overtaken by another vessel, show from the stern a white light or a flare up light as required by Article 10 of the General Regulations.

6. In lieu of Article 11 of the General Regulations, a vessel when at anchor, except when lying at any stage, shall carry in the forward part of the vessel, at a height of not less than twenty, and not exceeding forty, feet above the hull, a white light, in a lantern so constructed as to show a clear, uniform and unbroken light visible all round the horizon at a distance of at least a mile, and at or near the stern of the vessel and at such a height that it shall not be less than fifteen feet lower than the forward light, another such light.

Provided that a vessel within Article 7 of the General Regulations (viz., steam vessels of less than forty, and vessels under oars or sails of less than twenty, tons gross tonnage respectively, and rowing boats) when at anchor shall not be obliged to carry the lights prescribed by this Rule, but if they do not carry them each of such vessels shall carry in a place where it can best be seen, and at a height above the gunwale of not less than nine feet, a white light in a lantern so constructed as to show a clear, uniform and unbroken light visible all round the horizon at a distance of at least a mile.

7. A steam vessel when at anchor, except when lying at any stage, shall, between sunrise and sunset, carry in the forward part of the vessel, at a height of not less than twenty, and not exceeding forty, feet above the hull, a black ball not less than two feet in diameter. Provided that in the case of a steam vessel within Article 7 of the General Regulations, such black ball may be

NOTE.—The numbers quoted in these Rules refer to the Articles in the General Regulations made on the twenty-seventh of November, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six.